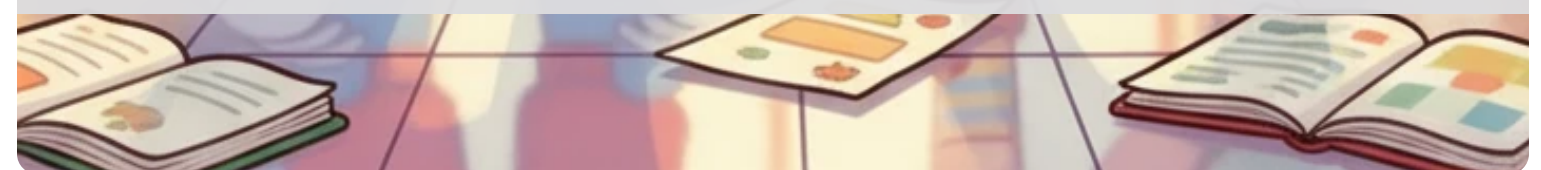




A Sweet Bump in the Hallway

Cheater





Nikodem, a bundle of energy, zoomed down the school hallway with a joyful bounce. His bright blue track suit highlighted his super athletic build, as he playfully dodged imaginary obstacles. A wide, cheerful grin spread across his face, radiating pure fun.



Around the corner, Ji Yeon watched him approach, a small, knowing smile playing on her lips. Her eyes twinkled with affection, though a hint of playful mischief swirled within them. She leaned against a locker, pretending to be engrossed in a book, but her gaze was fixed on him.



The hallway was a vibrant blur of students, all chattering and laughing, creating a lively symphony of school life. Nikodem, still full of zest, navigated the bustling crowd with ease, his steps light and quick. Ji Yeon slowly pushed off the locker, ready for their usual playful encounter.



Suddenly, Nikodem spun around to greet a friend, not realizing Ji Yeon was now directly behind him. Boop! He playfully bumped right into her, a soft, unexpected collision of two happy hearts. She let out a surprised, giggly squeak.



Their eyes met in a moment of bright, cartoonish stars and sparkles. Nikodem, momentarily flustered, quickly steadied her with a gentle hand on her arm. A blush crept onto his cheeks, while Ji Yeon's smile widened, her eyes sparkling with amusement and affection.



Before Nikodem could fully apologize, Ji Yeon playfully wrapped her arms around his athletic waist, pulling him close with a possessive squeeze. She looked up at him with a mischievous pout, silently declaring to the world that this energetic boy was all hers. Nikodem chuckled, melting into her embrace.



Nikodem responded with a beaming smile, a playful wink, and a quick, exaggerated flex of his bicep. He loved her playful jealousy, finding it utterly charming. He gently squeezed her hand, assuring her with his loving gaze.



Hand-in-hand, they continued their stroll down the hallway, their fingers playfully intertwined. Their steps were synchronized, a happy rhythm echoing their connection. They exchanged soft whispers and shared secret smiles, completely engrossed in each other.



As they reached the exit, Ji Yeon impulsively leaned in and planted a quick, sweet peck on Nikodem's cheek. He blinked in surprise, a bright red blush spreading from his cheeks to the tips of his ears. Ji Yeon giggled, skipping a little ahead.



Nikodem caught up, wrapping an arm around her shoulder. They walked out into the sunshine, their faces alight with joy and affection, their playful bond shining brightly for all to see. Their sweet, cartoonish love story was just beginning.