

Chapter One

Mandi and her little brother, Brad, are in the family room of their home. Mandi is on the sofa and Brad is in front of the TV just before bedtime. Mom and Dad walk into the room to say goodnight to the children. They tell Mandi and Brad that it's time for bed, but the children ask if they could watch the end of their cartoon show for just a few more minutes.

Mandi joins Brad sitting on the floor. Mandi is 11 years old, and her brother Brad is just 9. They have plenty of friends of their own, but they still enjoy spending time with each other; especially watching TV. Mandi enjoys reading, collecting butterflies and playing soccer. Brad plays as many sports as he can. He also enjoys his Pokémon cards.

The children are still in their play clothes; they haven't yet changed for bed. Dad sets the timer on the TV to go off in 15 minutes. After saying goodnight to their parents, Mandi and Brad watch the end of their show.

After a while, they could not believe their eyes when they see one of the characters on the TV show begin talking directly to them.

"Come, children; come into the TV and join me in my world," the cartoon character says. "Closer now.... come closer."

Mandi and Brad are scared at first. The character on the TV show repeats his request. "That's it, come just a little bit closer and I will grab hold of both of you and bring you in."

By this time, Mandi and Brad think it's funny. They decide to sit closer and closer to the TV as they laugh at one another. Suddenly, the cartoon character yells out, "Gotcha!" Mandi and Brad are slowly dragged into the TV show as laughter from the cartoon character fills the air. As they fall into the show they yell for help, but no one hears them.

All of a sudden, they end up lying down in Turtletown; a very pleasant place, with flower beds all around. There are paved streets of colorful bricks and tall trees that outline the city. Two characters from town, Gumball and Lollipop, are walking by and see the two children lying there. Gumball is yellow, rather round with white gloves and white sneakers. He also wears a bowtie. Lollipop is

thin with long pants and flower-like hair. She also wears white gloves and white sneakers.

Gumball is surprised at what he sees. He says, "Look, Lolli pop; there are two... two 'somethings' sleeping here or something." Gumball is totally confused at what he is seeing.

Lollipop says, "Don't touch them! What are they, Gumball?"

Gumball answers, "I don't know; they don't look like anything I've ever seen before."

"But what are they doing?" asks Lollipop again. Gumball says, "I don't know; sleeping, I guess."

"Should we wake them?" Lollipop asks. She then steps back for a moment, "Do you think they're Minipeeps?" she asks in a frightened voice.

"Minipeeps?" Gumball is surprised by what Lollipop has asked. "If they are, we'd better be very careful."

As Gumball and Lollipop continue to ask each other questions about Mandi and Brad, other characters from Turtletown begin to gather round. They, too, have questions about these new arrivals in their town; unusual-looking characters coming from who knows where. A lot of loud noises begin to disturb the peaceful surroundings of this little city.

The Mayor of Turtletown and his Deputy arrive. The mayor is a rather stout fellow, barely fitting into his clothes. He wears a funny little hat which sits upon his round head. The deputy is dressed in cowboy clothes complete with cowboy hat and boots.

"Here, here; what's all this noise?" asks the mayor. He continues, "I was working when I heard all the noise out here; now what's this all about?"

The deputy says, "Yes, yes; what's goes on out here?"

Gumball very nervously approaches the mayor and says, "Well, mayor.... I mean.... you see, Lollipop and I were just walking down the road, just walking down the road minding our own business..."

Lollipop interrupts, "Look, mayor; Minipeeps!" All the characters standing there begin to back up in fright. Just the word "Minipeeps" has them all in fear. The mayor cries out, "Minipeeps?" The deputy says, "Sir, they're not Minipeeps."

The mayor sighs a breath of relief. He asks the deputy, "Well, if they're not Minipeeps, what are they?"

The deputy says, "They're just a couple of children.... I think." The mayor says, "Well, whatever they are, they've never been seen in Turtletown before."