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Gravity Falls: Tourist Trapped

Olivia Noli

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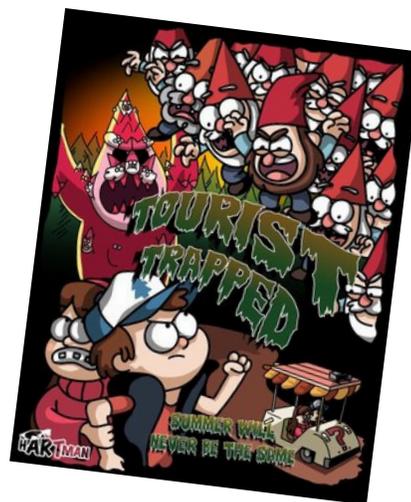
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TV Show Review

Title: Gravity Falls: Tourist Trapped
Main Performers: Jason Ritter, Alex Hirsch, and Kristen Schaal
Studio/Network: Disney Channel
Reviewer: Olivia Noli
Season/Episodes: 1-1
Air Date: June 15, 2012
TV Rating: TV-Y7
Interest Level: Primary, Intermediate, Young Adult
Rating: Excellent



Review

Dipper and Mabel Pines, twelve year old twins, have been sent to live with their great-uncle Stan for the summer in Gravity Falls, Oregon. Dipper finds a hidden journal out in the woods that tells all the paranormal details of Gravity Falls. The journal warns to trust no one. Meanwhile, Mabel has her first boyfriend, but his haggard appearance and groaning leads Dipper to believe her boyfriend is a zombie. Mabel, out in the woods with Norman, discovers that Norman isn't a boy at all, but a bunch of gnomes who want her to become their queen. Dipper comes in the nick of time to help Mabel escape, but they are pursued by thousands of gnomes who have joined to make one large monster. Mabel is able to fight off the gnomes by turning a leaf blower on them.

This first episode is a fun, middle-grade episode for children to enjoy. The humor can be obvious, but should make children laugh. The story deals with the supernatural; however, the gnomes are not very scary. In the end, Dipper learns that while the journal said to trust no one, he can always count on his sister. This episode, along with the first few in the series, does not accurately portray the events and tones that show up later in the series. Also, the side characters are not as fleshed out as they become in later episodes. They seem flat in this first episode, and almost different from how they appear in later episodes. This is a light first introduction into the series; however, the theme of trusting in your friends and siblings in common throughout the entire show.

*Contains mild sexual content.