

# Faraway Beach

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**Special award. Young writers section (Primary school). 2022 Marysville BookNest Writing Competition**

Once, at a faraway beach, there was a rock pool. It was a tiny rock pool, about the size of your head. Everything in it was miniature. Then one day, out of some Neptune's Pearls there came a tiny water nymph, no bigger than the top part of your pinkie. This water nymph was called Shelly.

One stormy day when Shelly was chatting with her friend Turtlensh, a baby turtle, a little wave washed over the rock pool. It was soon gone, but when it went, it took Shelly with it!

Turtlensh was very worried and set about looking for Shelly immediately. Shelly meanwhile had been deposited on the sand a little way off. For us, it would not have been even a step, but Shelly was tiny and she could not just glide over as she could do in the water. So hoppity skip, Shelly slowly began the long trek to the rock pool.

Shelly had finally reached her rock, and was looking for a foothold when she heard a sound that shook her bones. "Eeecaw." It was the cry of a seagull who had spotted something tasty to eat! Shelly looked around wildly and saw that it was heading straight for her! She quickly splashed into a hole in the rock. The seagull missed her by mere millimetres. Beak wide, eyes flashing – Shelly shivered at the thought of being its next meal. She decided to wait for a good ten minutes till she was sure the bird was gone.

Shelly finally exited her hole, and immediately started where she left off, but after circling the whole rock, Shelly soon realised that there was nowhere she could get up. She sank to her knees in despair. "Shelly, there you are!" the gravelly voice that had spoken filled Shelly with hope. "Turtlensh you're here!" she cried, a delighted edge to her voice. "Do you know how I could get up?" Turtlensh chuckled and said, "I sure do. Hop on my back and I'll take you." "Thank-you, thank-you, thank-you!" exclaimed Shelly. "Let's go straight away," she said. And so they did.

So if you ever see a little rock pool the size of your head, and everything in it is miniature, don't be afraid if you see a little water nymph the size of the top of your pinkie.