# A Box of Chocolate

Mrs. Helen Gray is going to New York City. She is going to see her grandson, Stanley. Helen is riding the bus from Houston, Texas, to New York, New York. She likes to fly, but the bus is cheaper.

The bus ride is long. The bus stops in many cities. The people can get off to buy food in the bus station. She usually buys a sandwich, some fruit and something to drink. She also buys postcards to send to her friends back home in Houston.

The bus driver says, "We are coming into Raleigh, NC. We are staying here one hour. If anyone is hungry, there is a restaurant in the station."

Helen was very hungry. She bought a chicken sandwich, an orange and cup of coffee. She also bought a small box of chocolate. These candies are called *Hershey's Kisses*. Helen likes them very much.

Helen sat at a table and ate her lunch. There are many people in the restaurant. A man comes to Helen's table. He is a very big man. He has two sandwiches, two oranges, and two drinks. There is no place to sit. He asks Helen, "Is it OK if I sit here?"

"Yes, it's OK," she says. But she is thinking, "Oh, why don't you sit at another table? I don't like your face. You don't look like a good person.”

The man eats his sandwiches. He doesn't look at Helen. She doesn't look at him. She remembers she wants to buy postcards. She gets up and goes to get them. When she comes back the big man is eating a chocolate out of a little box of *Hershey's Kisses*.

Helen is furious. He is eating her candy. She wants to say something to him, but she is afraid. He is so big and she is so small. She is very angry. She takes the box of candy away from him, removes the silver paper from one candy, and puts it in her mouth. The man looks at Helen. He is surprised. Then he pulls the box from her, eats the last candy, and throws the box away. He stands up.

"Lady," he says, "I think you are sick. I think you are really sick in the head." He walks away. Helen is still very angry when it is time to get on the bus. She thinks, "I'm right. That man is a criminal. I think he is crazy, and he looks dangerous."

She opens her purse to look at the postcards. There, under the cards, is a little box of *Hershey's Kisses*.

**Questions:**

1) Why is Helen going to New York?

2) Why isn't she flying?

3) Why does Helen buy postcards?

4) Helen bought something extra today for a snack. What did she buy?

5) Why does the big man ask Helen if he can sit at her table?

6) Why is Helen mad at the man?

7) Why is the man mad at Helen?

8) Have you ever been made at someone for a silly reason?

9) What do you like to eat for lunch?

10) Would you rather travel by plane, train, car or bus?