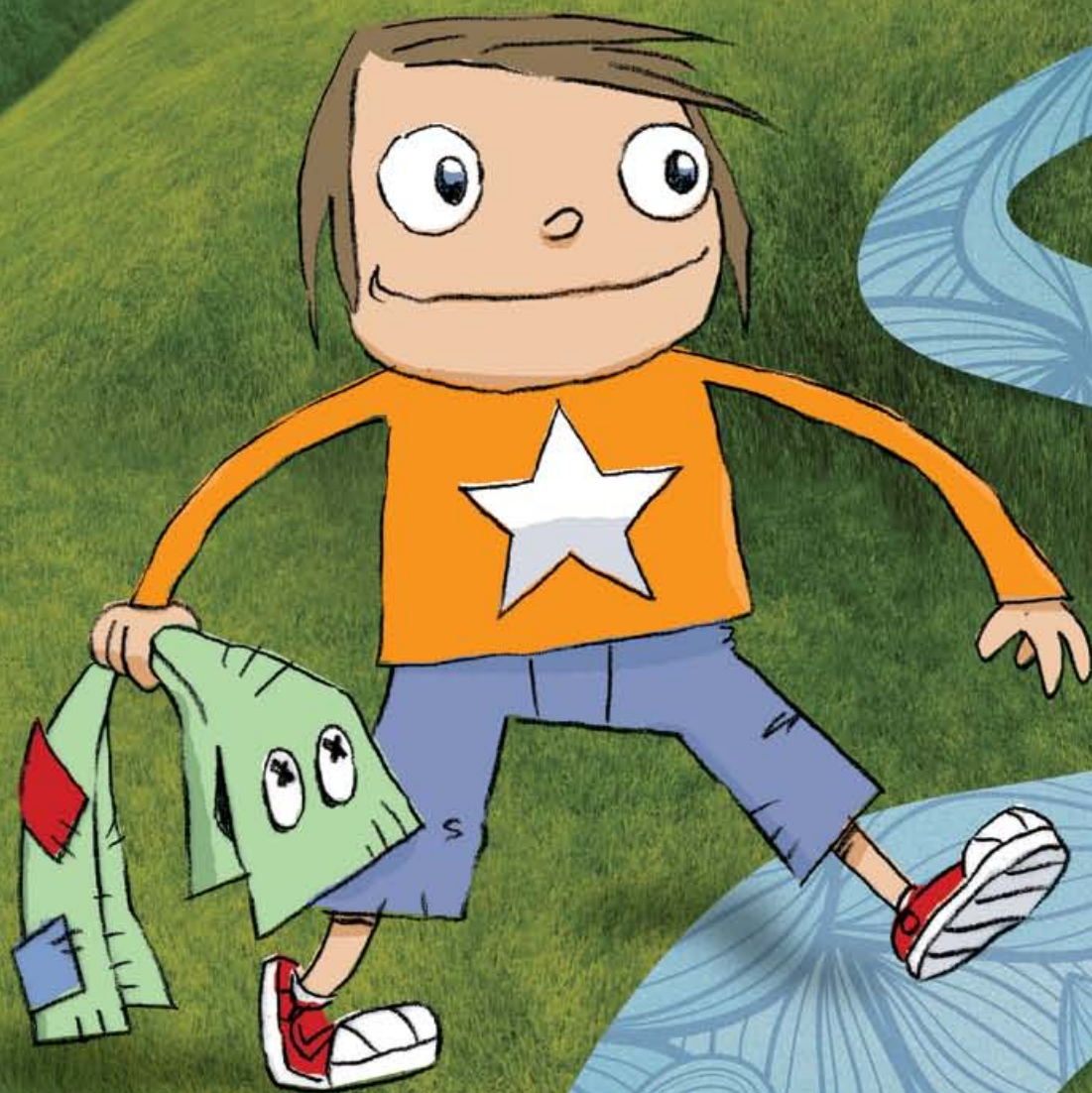


a New Home for SAM

by the boys and girls from the TACTIC group
and ALAN NOLAN

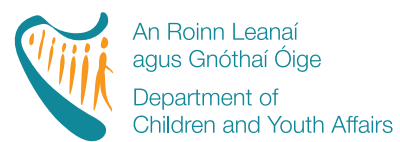




a New Home for **SAM**

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and ALAN NOLAN





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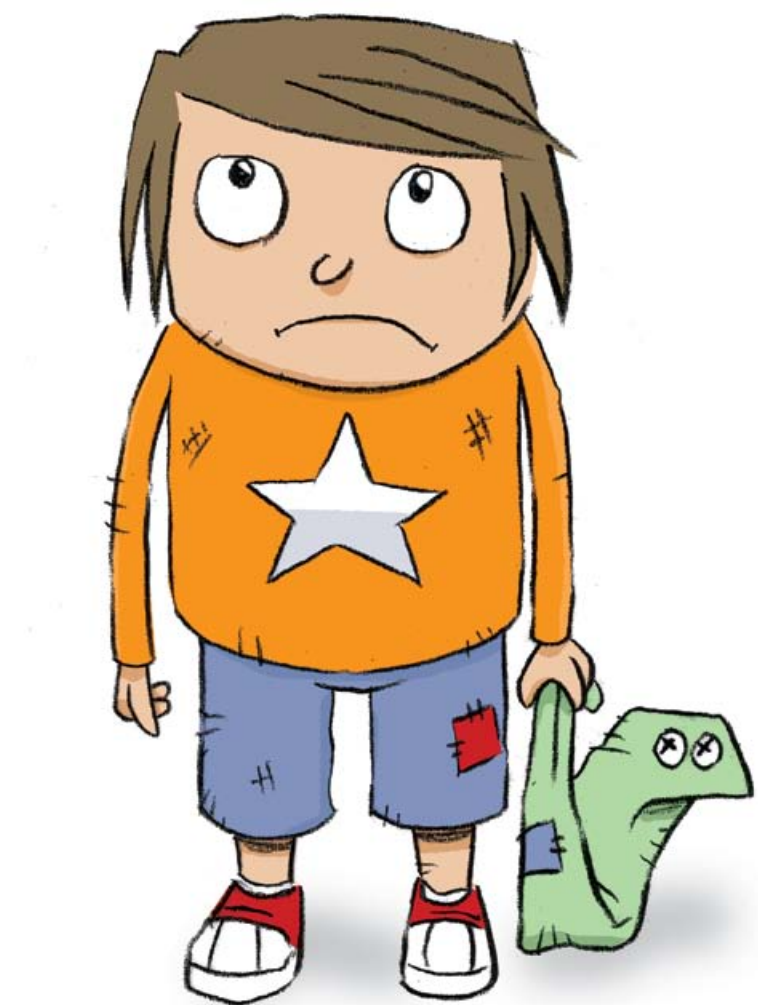
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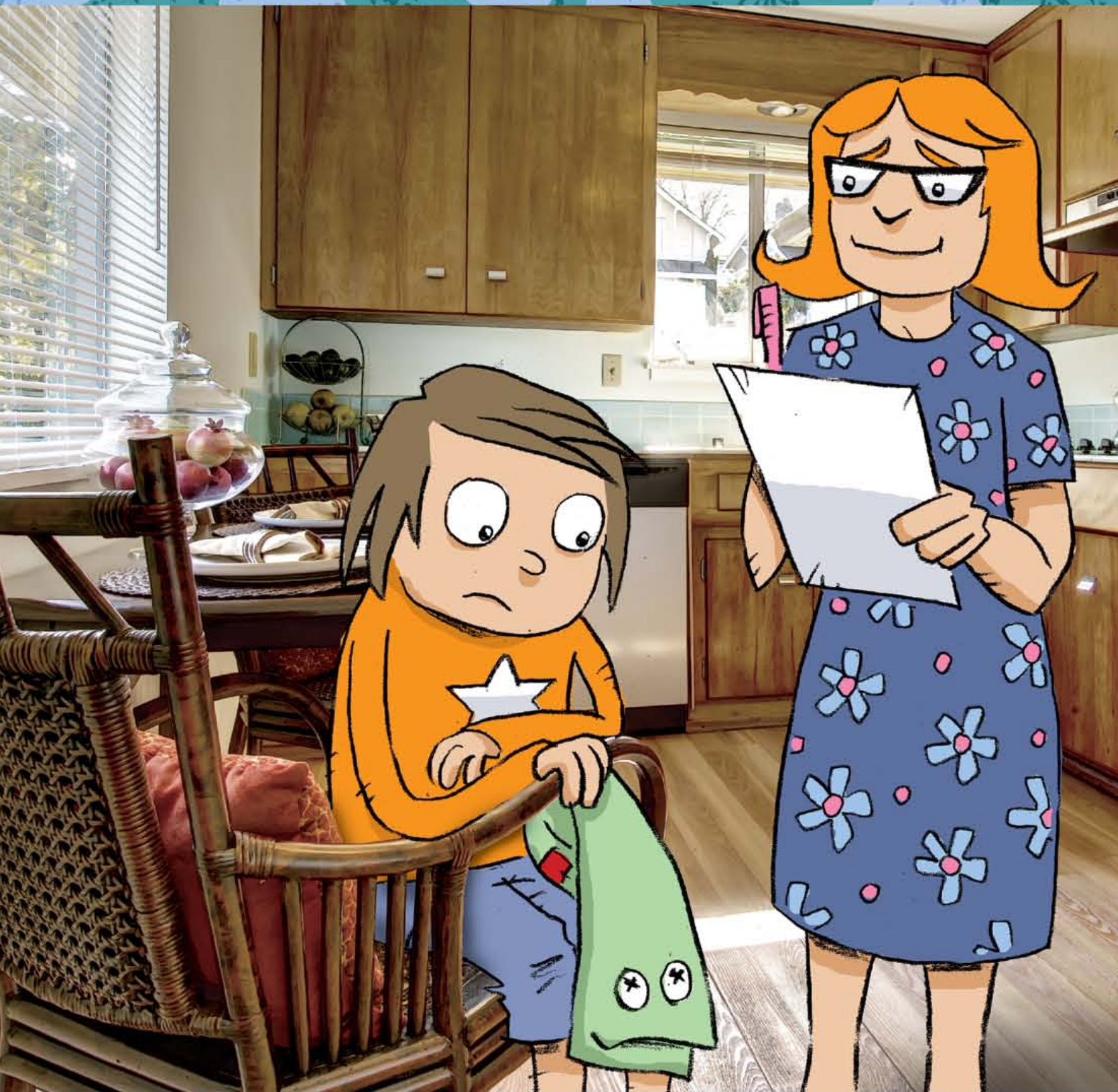
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Sam is confused...





His social worker, Maria, has told him he has to go into care, but Sam is not sure about it.

"Where will my Mam and Dad go?" says Sam.

"They will be here, Sam," says Maria, "Just like always."

"And where will I be?" says Sam.

"Not too far away," says Maria, "You will be staying with another family for a while."

Sam gives his blankie a big hug.



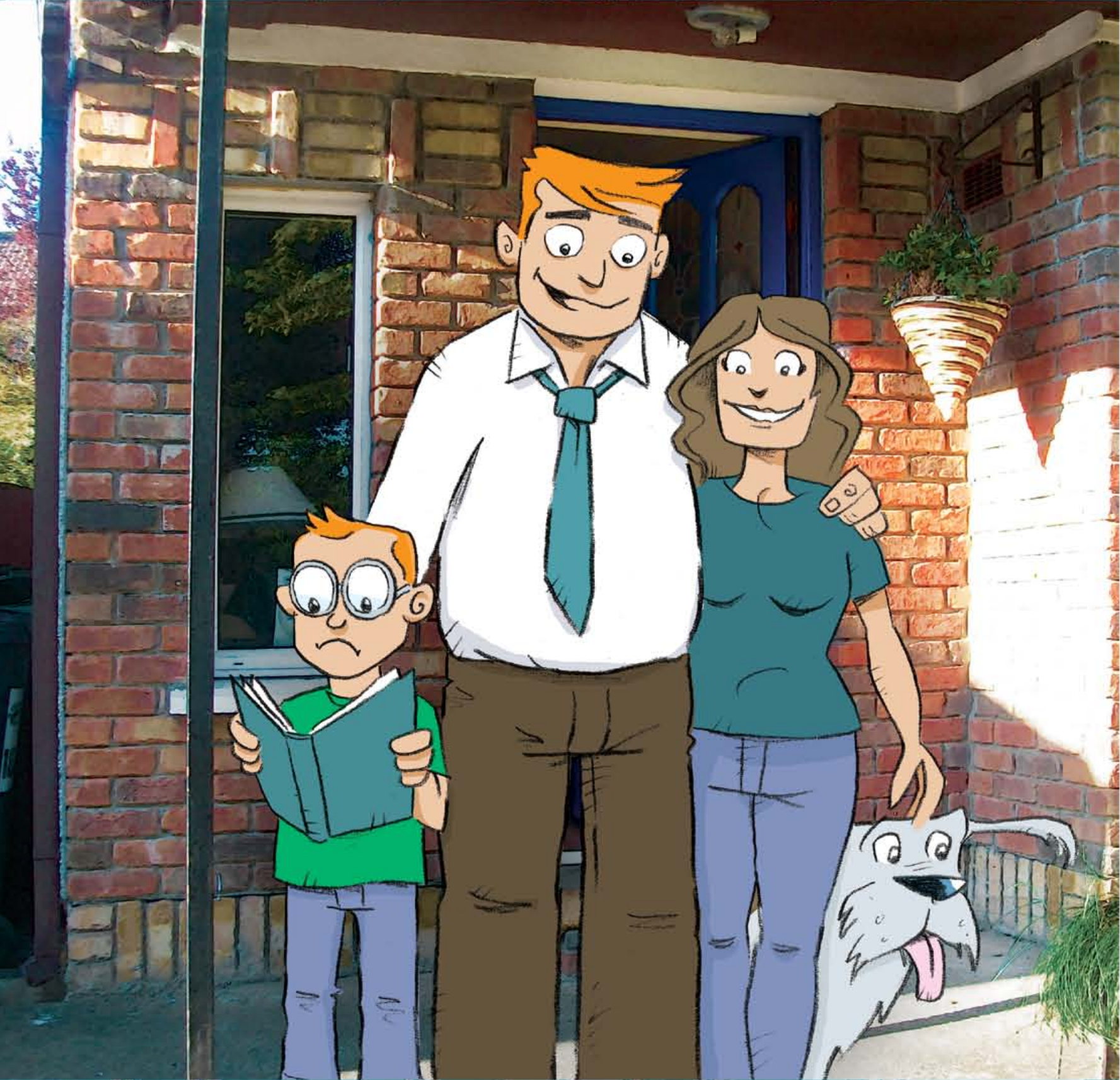


Sam packs his favourite things: his clothes, his toothbrush, his goldfish, and of course, his Blankie, and Maria takes him to his new foster home.

Sam is worried that he will be lonely in his new home, but at least he has Blankie to talk to!

"Don't worry, Sam," says Blankie, "It's gonna be great!"





Sam's new foster family are waiting at the door when he and Maria arrive.

Their names are Sean and Kate, and their little boy is called Luke.

Luke is busy reading a really big book and doesn't look up at Sam.

"Hello, Sam," says Sean,
"You are very welcome!"

Sam hides behind Blankie.

"Don't be shy, Sam,"
says Blankie, "Say hello!"





Kate gives Sam a tour of his new home.

"This is the kitchen, the most important room in the house," says Kate, "It's where Tex the dog sleeps!"

Kate tells Tex to shake hands with Sam, and, because Tex is a clever dog, he does!

Kate shows Sam his new bedroom and the TV room.

"Cool! A TV!" says Blankie, "I bet they get all the channels! This is gonna be great!"





After a snack, Sam gets ready to go to bed.

He brushes his teeth in the bathroom, but forgets to turn off the tap.



Uh oh! What a mess!

The bathroom floor is all wet!

"Don't worry, Sam," says Blankie, "Use me to mop up the puddle!"

Sam mops up the puddle, but poor Blankie gets very wet...





Sam is sad.

He is in his nice and comfy new bed, but Blankie is too wet to be beside him.

When Sam goes to sleep, Kate sees Blankie at the end of the bed and washes him in the washing machine.



The next morning, Sam wakes up and Blankie is clean and dry!

"I missed you, pal," says Blankie.





Sean has brought Sam and Luke to the playground.

Sam is having a great time, but Luke won't play. All Luke wants to do is read his big book.

"Never mind, Sam," says Blankie, "Let's have a go on the roundabout!"

Uh oh! Silly Blankie spins too fast and gets very dizzy!





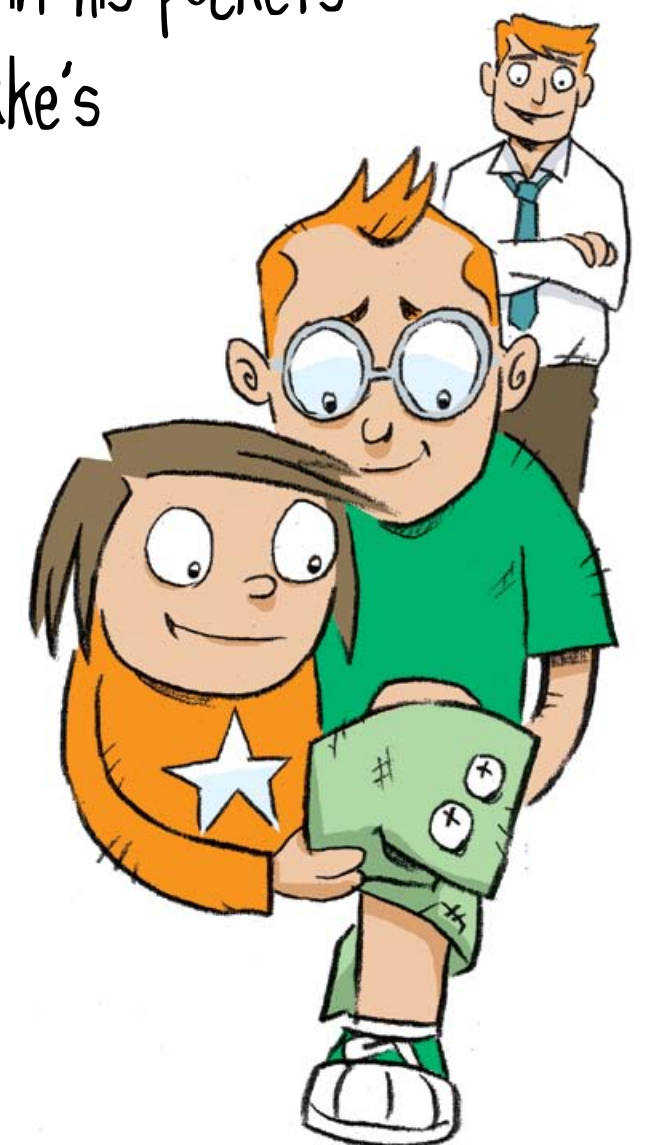
Uh oh again!

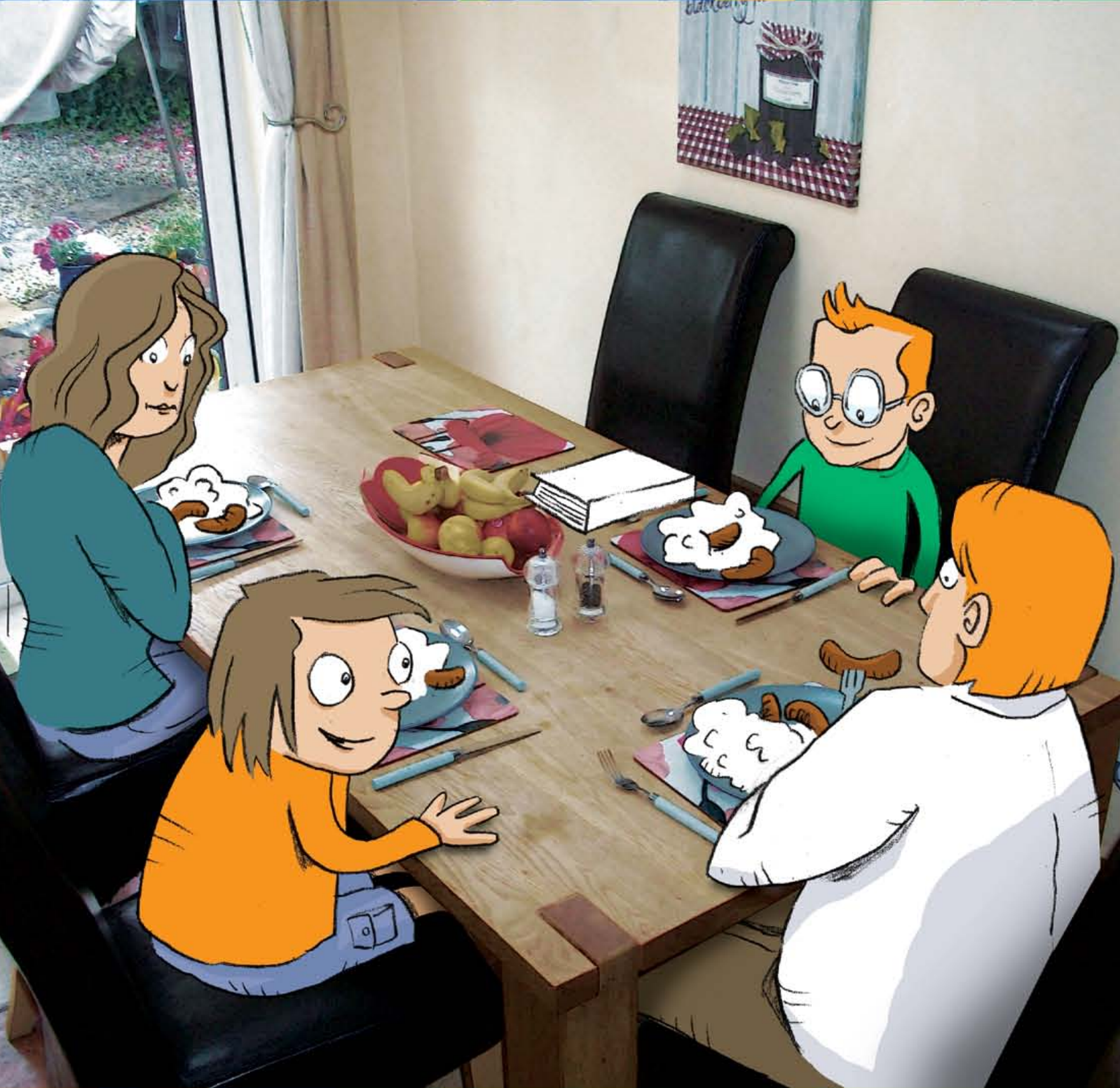
Sam hears Luke crying!

Luke tried to get on a swing by himself
and fell. Poor Luke has hurt his knee!

Sean has no sticking plasters in his pockets
so Sam ties Blankie around Luke's
knee to make a bandage
until they all get home.

"It's great to be useful!"
says Blankie.





For dinner, Kate has made sausages and mashed potatoes.

"Yummy," says Sam.

"Super yummy," says Luke.

"Mega yummy," says Sam, "Sausages are Blankie's favourite."

Sam reaches down to show Blankie the sausages, but uh oh...





Blankie has disappeared!
Oh no!

Luke, Sean and Kate look
all over the house for
Blankie.

They look in the living room,
they search the kitchen, they
check the bedrooms, they look
under the stairs, they even
check the attic, but there is
NO SIGN of Blankie.

Where can Blankie be?





Luke decides to get Tex the dog to help find Blankie. "Dogs are good at finding things," says Luke, "I read that in a book."

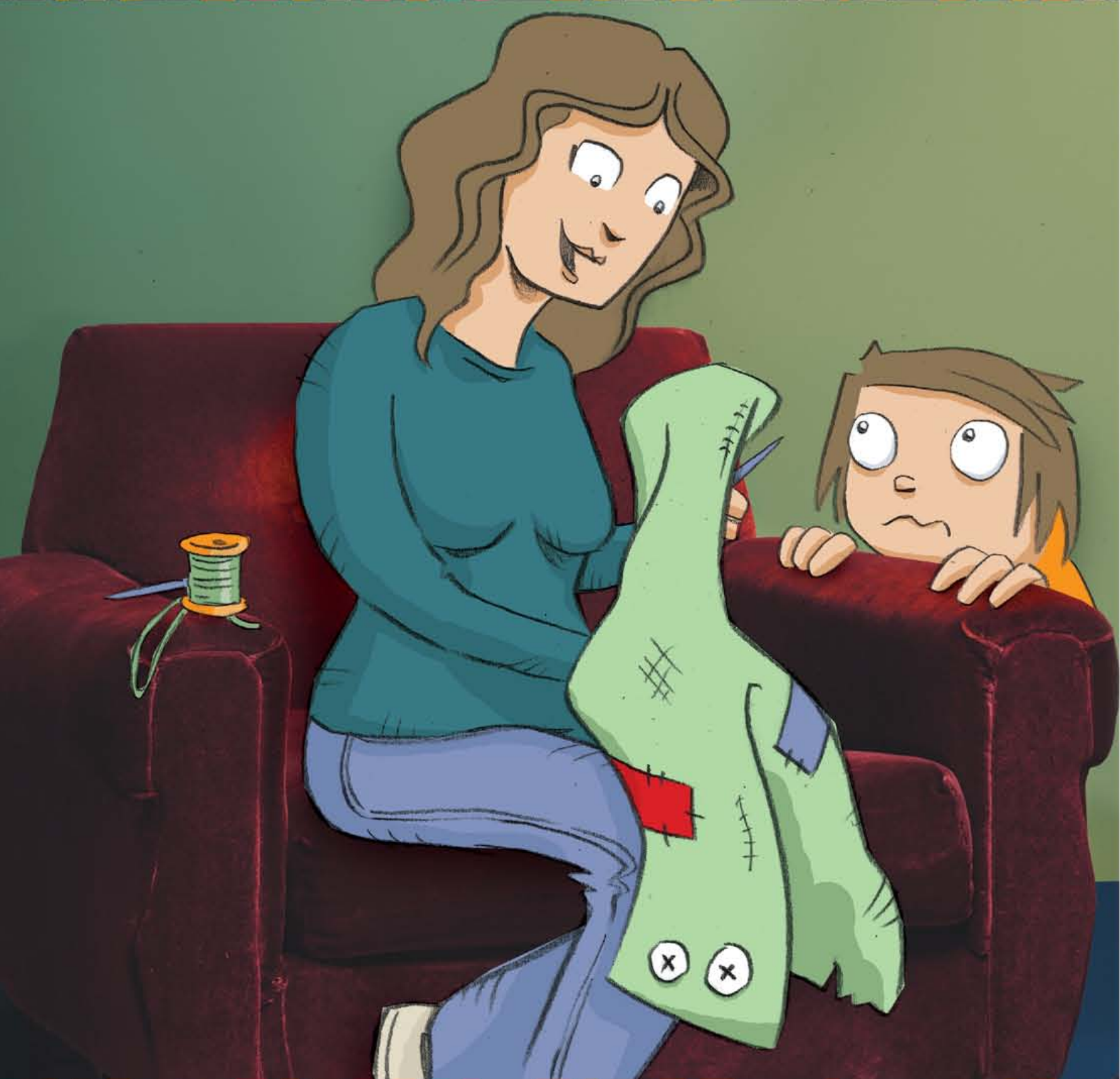
But when Luke goes to the dog basket, Tex is fast asleep... cuddling Blankie!

Uh oh. Blankie is covered in dog hair and a bit chewed up. Sam is sad.

"Don't worry," says Kate, "I can mend Blankie!"

"I'll be... fine..." says brave Blankie.





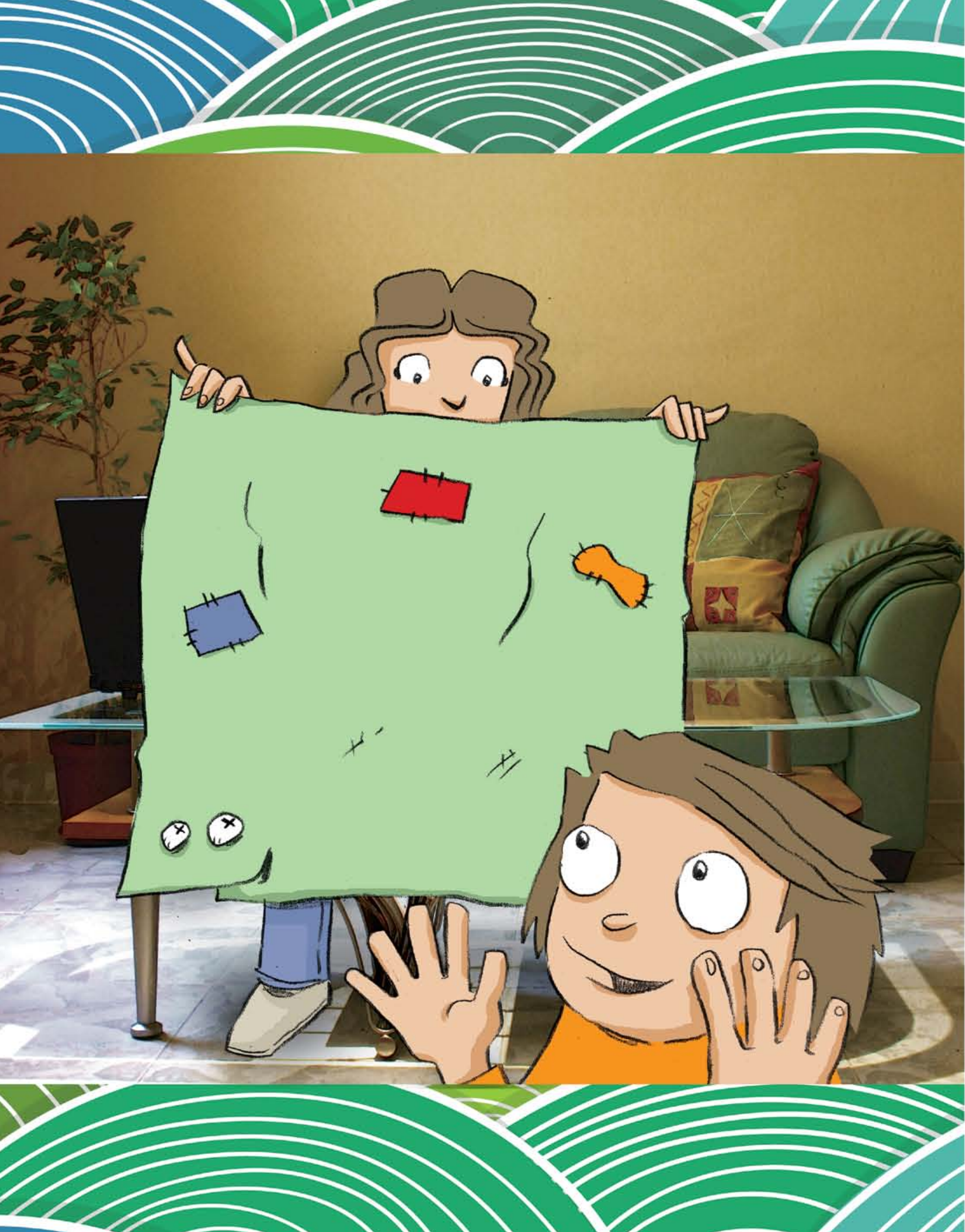
"When I was a little girl," says Kate,
"My mum taught me how to sew."

"My mam taught me how to draw,"
says Sam, "But she can sew too."

"So I see," says Kate, "Your Blankie
is covered in lovely patches."

"Blankie helps me remember
all my favourite things,"
says Sam.





After a little while, Kate has mended Blankie!

"There we are, Sam," says Kate,
"Good as new! Just the same as before."

Sam is very happy, and so is Blankie.

"It's time to get ready for your
new school tomorrow, Sam,"
says Kate.

"I will help you, Sam!"
says Luke.



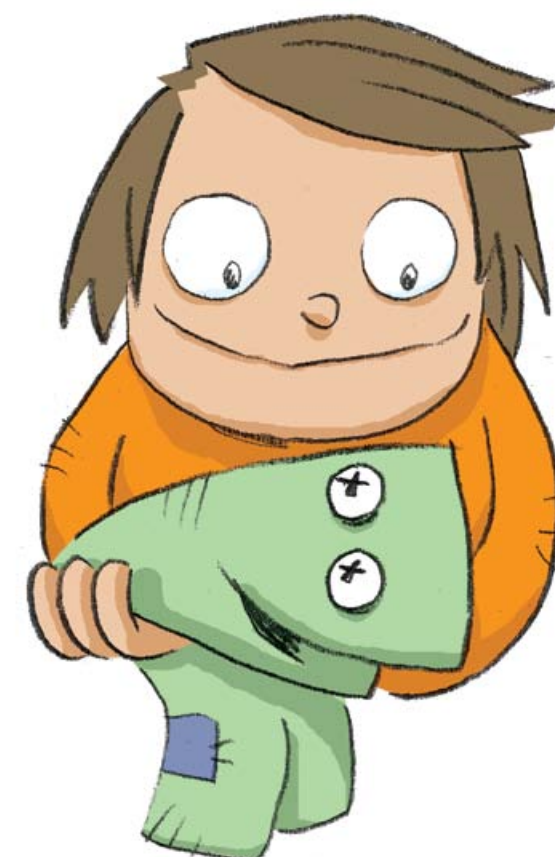


Later on, Sean, Kate, Luke and Sam are watching TV.

"I can't wait to show you your new school tomorrow, Sam," says Luke.

"I will have to stay here, Sam. You can't bring Blankies to school..." says Blankie.

"Don't worry, Blankie," says Sam, "It's gonna be great!"



Mam

Kate

SEÁN

DAD

Luke

Goldie

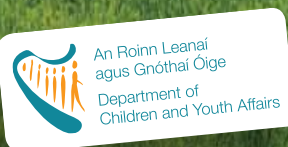
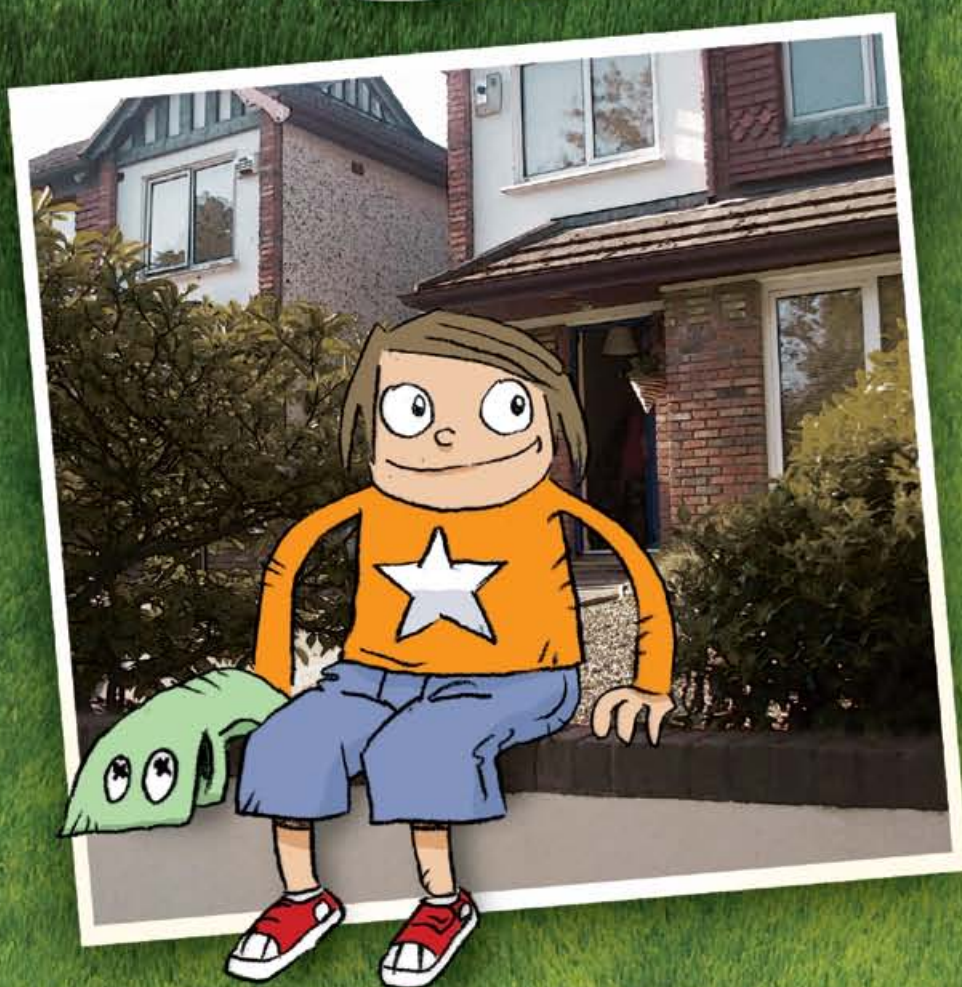
Maria



a New Home for SAM

Sam is going into care and is a little bit worried.

But with the help of his Blankie, Sam makes new friends and settles in to his new home.



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