



Fotos:

S. 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 (nederst),  
20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38,  
42, 44: iStockphoto.

S. 18 (øverst), 40: Polfoto

*Susan Moves To Denmark*

by Helle Granhøj

Illustrations by Jørgen Eivind Hansen

English translation by Mike Simpson

1. edition

© 2011 TURBINE

Layout by Birgitte Herkild

All rights reserved

ISBN 978-87-7090-597-8

[www.turbine.dk](http://www.turbine.dk)

# SUSAN MOVES TO DENMARK



Written by Helle Granhøj  
Illustrations by Jørgen Eivind Hansen

Translated by Mike Simpson

 **TURBINE**



If Denmark consisted of ten people, four of them would live in a house, four would live in a flat, one would live in a row house and the last perhaps in a farmhouse, in the countryside or in student housing. On average there are two residents living in each household.



## Just arrived in Denmark

“Mum, where are my thick felt pens?” asks Susan. “We didn’t bring them,” replies Mum.

“Aw, I was going to use them.” Susan has just moved to Denmark. Her father is going to work for a large company in Denmark, and they are going to be there for three years.

“When will we get all our stuff?” asks Susan.

“The moving company is not going to bring all our things before we have found a house to live in,” replies Mum, and explains that they will be staying in the apartment until they have found a house, which they can rent for three years.





Denmark has 406 islands. The largest island is called Sealand. This is where Copenhagen is. No Dane lives more than 52 kilometres from the sea.



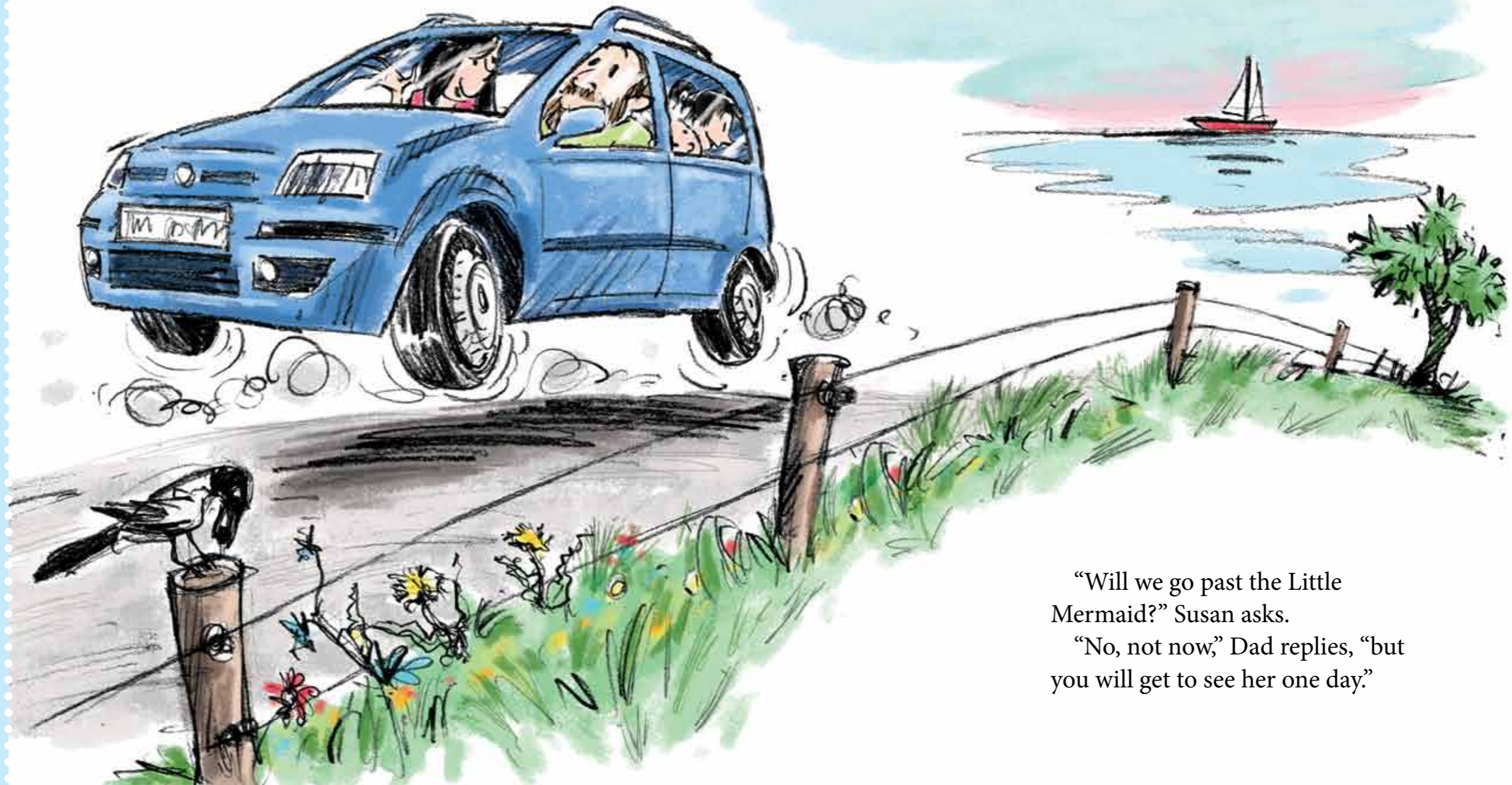
## Close to the Water

The next day the whole family has gone for a drive.

“Look at the sea!” Susan yells, thrilled. “I want to swim!” says Max. “We’ll get to the beach, but not right now.”

First we must look at houses,” says Dad. Susan has been told that Denmark is a very small country, but she doesn’t think it seems that small ...

“Dad, is it not true that the guy with the fairy tales comes from Denmark?” Susan asks. “Yes, Hans Christian Andersen is from Denmark,” Dad replies.



“Will we go past the Little Mermaid?” Susan asks.

“No, not now,” Dad replies, “but you will get to see her one day.”

Almost all Danes have a bike, and some have several, for example a city bike to cycle in the city, and a mountain bike to ride in the woods.



In Denmark many children cycle to school on their own bike. There are bicycle paths along many roads, so it's safe to cycle. On average, every Dane cycles 958 km per year.

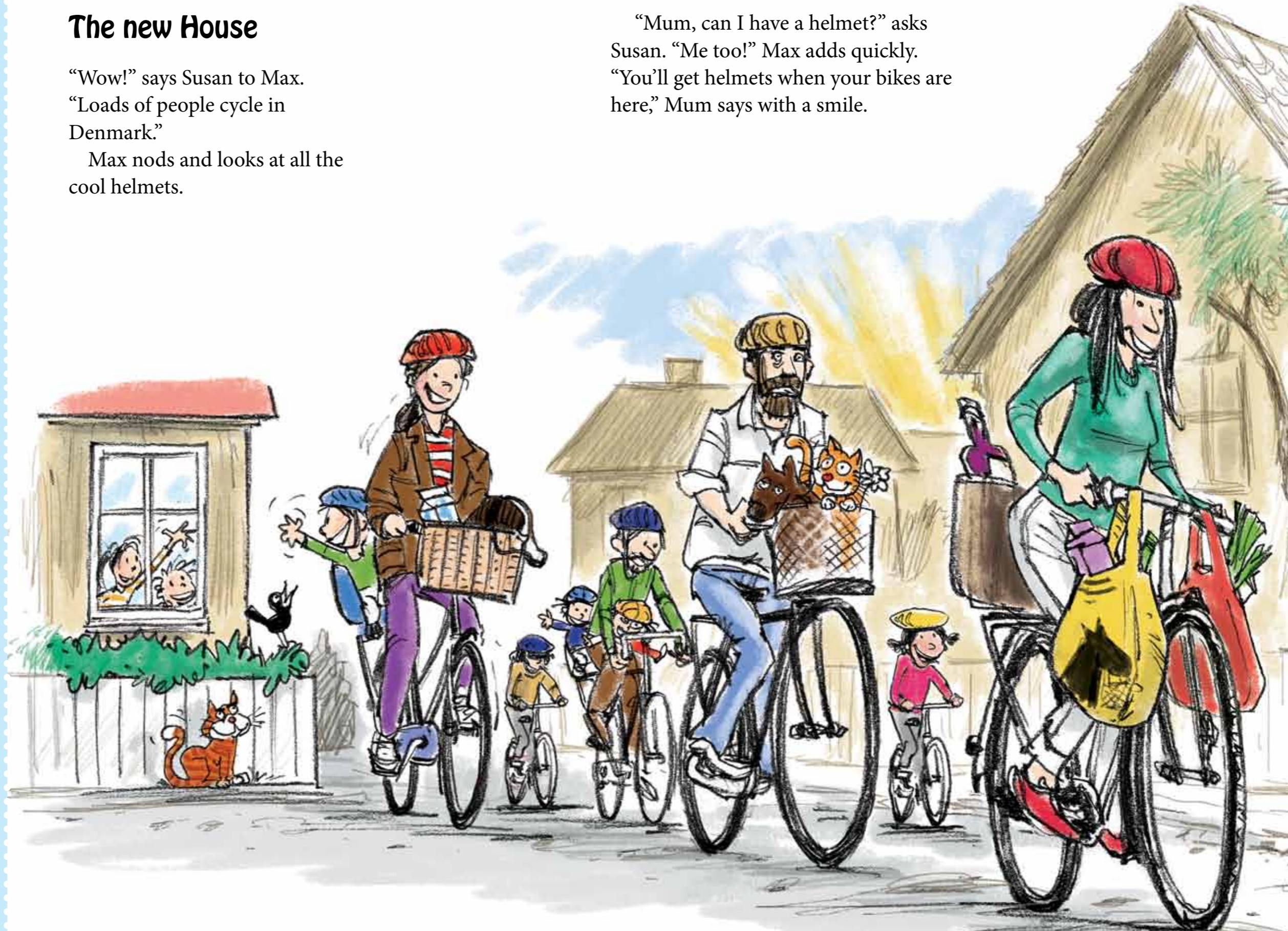


## The new House

“Wow!” says Susan to Max.  
“Loads of people cycle in Denmark.”

Max nods and looks at all the cool helmets.

“Mum, can I have a helmet?” asks Susan.  
“Me too!” Max adds quickly.  
“You’ll get helmets when your bikes are here,” Mum says with a smile.



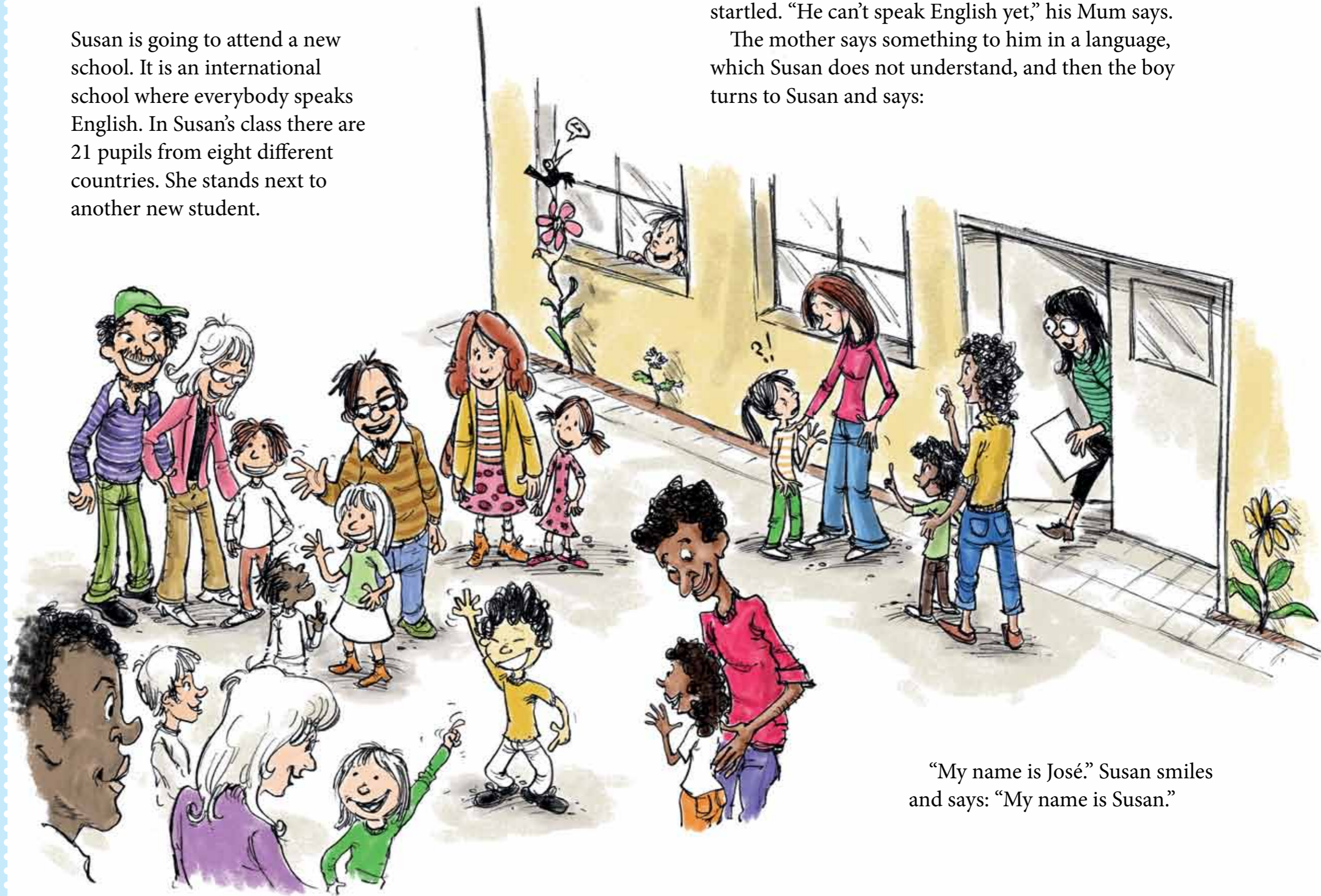


In Denmark, most children attend public school, which is free. But there are also private schools and international schools.



## The new School

Susan is going to attend a new school. It is an international school where everybody speaks English. In Susan's class there are 21 pupils from eight different countries. She stands next to another new student.



“Where are you from?” asks Susan. He looks at her, startled. “He can’t speak English yet,” his Mum says.

The mother says something to him in a language, which Susan does not understand, and then the boy turns to Susan and says:

“My name is José.” Susan smiles and says: “My name is Susan.”



In Denmark, about 1 in 10 people are immigrants and descendants of immigrants.



## The Class Room

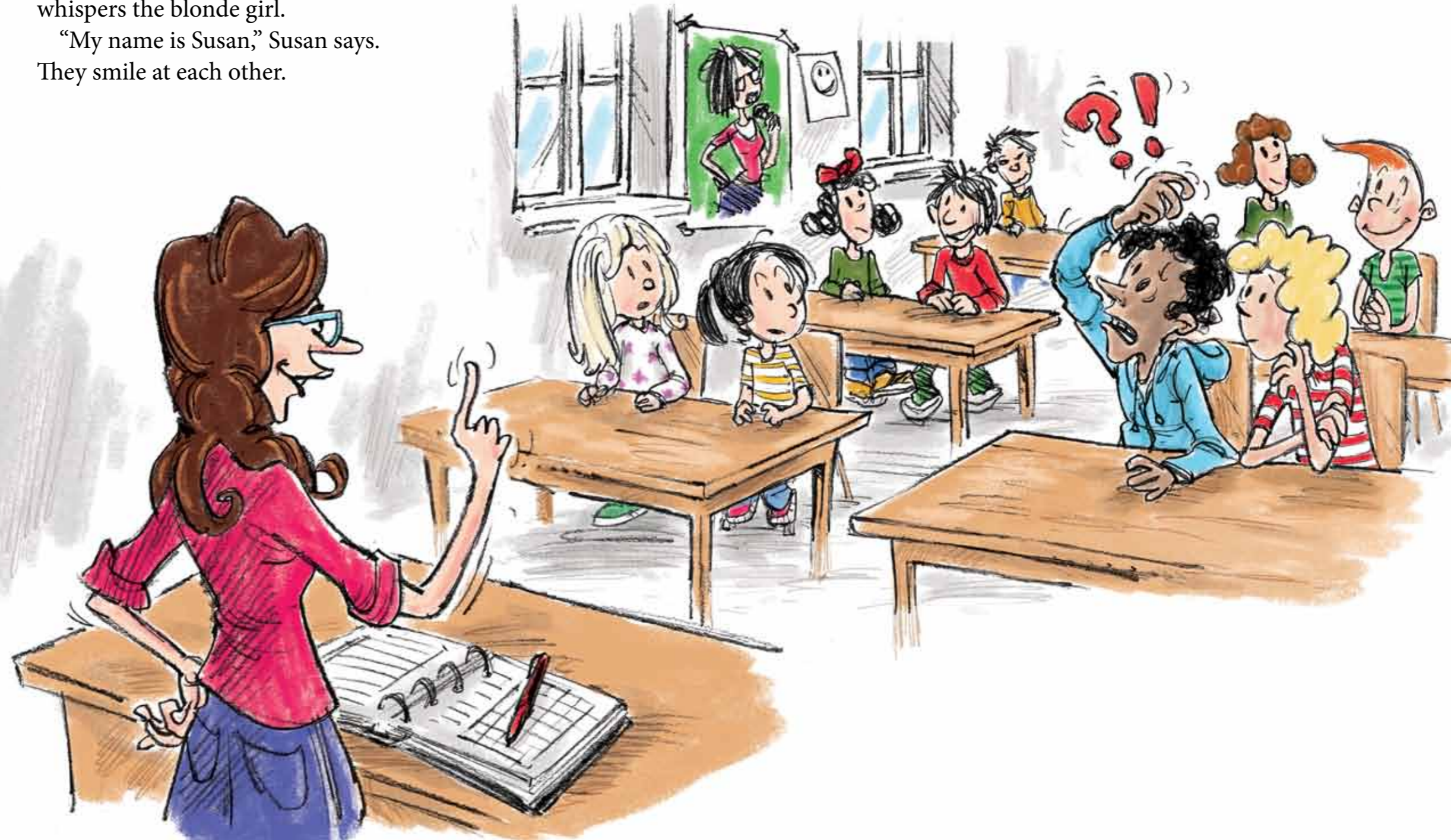
Susan has butterflies in her stomach as she sits in her new classroom. The blond girl next to her looks nice.

“Hi. My name is Amalie,” whispers the blonde girl.

“My name is Susan,” Susan says. They smile at each other.

“Welcome, everybody,” says the teacher. “My name is Mrs. Grøndahl.”

Susan looks over at Jose. He can't understand anything the teacher says. Susan feels sorry for him.





Most children in Denmark start learning English in the third grade. In the seventh grade they start learning German or French.



## Playtime

It's playtime, and Susan and Amalie are in the school yard.

"Where are you from?" asks Susan. "I'm Danish," Amalie replies. Susan looks at her, surprised. "Why do you go to an international school if you're Danish?" she asks.



"I've lived abroad for six years and went to an international school in Holland," Amalie replies.

"But do you also speak Danish then?" Susan wants to know.



"Sure, I'm a Dane, and my parents are Danish, so we speak Danish at home," replies Amalie.

"Cool," says Susan. She thinks it's cool to speak more languages.