

One warm summer morning in Sunshine Heads, the Murphy family was surprised to feel the earth beneath their house suddenly shake.

All three of the Murphys—six-year-old Kaylan, twelve-year-old Suzie and their mum—immediately stopped what they were doing and looked at each other.

When the windows finally stopped rattling, Kaylan asked his mum, “What was that?”

“I’m not sure, darling,” said Mum. “I think it was an **earthquake**, but we don’t normally get them here.”

Suzie was about explain that she’d recently learned in school that earthquakes can happen anywhere, but the rumbling began again before she could speak. This time it was louder. It even moved the kitchen table.

“It is an earthquake!” said Suzie. “We’re meant to get under the table. That’s the safest place.”

Under the table, Kaylan started singing a little song to calm his nerves:

*“Got a crisis on your hands? Disaster Dan!  
Nature ru-in-ing your plans? Disaster Dan!  
If a quake is on its way,  
He will come and save the day.  
Disaster Dan, Disaster Dan, Disaster Dan.”*

“What are you singing?” asked Mum.

“It’s an ad for Disaster Dan,” explained Suzie. “You call him if there’s a disaster.”

Mum reached up and grabbed her phone from the kitchen table. She left a message for Disaster Dan to come and help. The moment she ended the call, the rumbling stopped.

The Murphys had barely climbed out from under the table when Kaylan noticed a red van pulling into the driveway.

The family rushed outside to find that Disaster Dan had arrived.

