

◆ Step 1 – "Welcome to the climb! This is your first step. Lace up your boots—Susie's adventure begins!" 🧗

SUSIE. HUNTER. ADVENTURE!

🧗 PART.001 – Background Story

As a co-creator of *Susie's Family Story*, I, June, am also a founding member of **Matrix Kids Cards**.

During my junior high years, I spent nearly every lunchtime at my grandparents' apartment. Their modest balcony, only 5 or 6 square meters, served as my grandfather's makeshift studio. Here stood a sturdy desk, as resilient as my grandfather, who used it daily for reading newspapers and monitoring stock investments. At this same desk, I completed my homework, often imagining myself as a teacher, instructing imaginary pupils. The green door on the balcony, half-painted and half-windowed, served as my chalkboard.

Looking back, I realize those afternoons were the early blueprint for **Matrix**, a project that six educators first mapped out on a whiteboard in a tiny warehouse behind **Grandpa Ken's grocery store**.

Early childhood education isn't just a career path for me; it's a mission that extends far beyond making a living. It's about planting the seeds of curiosity, nurturing creativity, and unlocking a world of possibilities for young minds.

In **2019**, this passion burst back into my life with a wild thought: *Why not open the finest kindergarten in France?* A small, seemingly absurd question that ended up reshaping my entire future. Without that single moment of inspiration, I might still be trapped in corporate law—an admirable field, but one that was slowly eating away at my soul. I knew I had to **break free** and pursue what truly set my heart on fire: early childhood education.

Susie's dilemmas mirror my own. While **Q** is a fictional character, he embodies so many of my own personal reflections. The six educators behind **Matrix** are very real, and in time, they will reveal themselves to you.

The story of *Susie's Family* isn't just mine—it belongs to **families around the world**, all of us navigating the unpredictable, beautiful chaos of raising young children. My hope is that this tale serves as the first stepping stone in our shared journey, crafting stories that belong to you and your loved ones. Together, we can build a world where **early childhood education** is not a privilege but a right, where every child can dream freely and learn without limits.

And with that, I officially stamp today's date—**March 3, 2025**—as the final version of this introduction. (Well, at least until I decide to rewrite it again. 😊)

With lots of love,

June.W.