

📌 PART.020 – The Scientist, The Shopkeeper, and The Root of Everything 🔍

Where Susie and Tanya dig deeper, Hunter asks bigger questions, and a sleepy town holds more answers than they ever imagined. But this isn't just about their story. It's about ours too.

🌙 Scene 1: Midnight Notes and a Golden Egg

Outside, the snowy town slept.

A few streetlights flickered against the frost-dusted rooftops. The sound of gentle wind against windowpanes filled the quiet air, the kind of hush that only comes when the world has settled.

Inside, Susie sat by her desk, the soft glow of her lamp illuminating the mess of thoughts sprawled across her notebook.

She flipped through pages filled with scribbled questions, half-finished ideas, and Hunter's sketches. A maze. A rocket. A question mark the size of a mountain.

She tapped her pen against the paper.
What was the real root of the problem?

She yawned, stretching, feeling the comforting weight of her growing belly.
The golden egg wobbled.

Susie smiled, resting a hand on it.
"Alright, little one. I get it. Time to sleep."
She patted the notebook gently, like a scientist closing a final report.
Tomorrow, she'd call Eggshell Lawyer.

Scene 2: The Call – Asking the Right why's

"The key to solving problems, Susie," Eggshell Lawyer said, sipping his tea over video call, "is finding the right 'why.'"

Susie, balancing the laptop on Grandpa Ken's counter, nodded.

Hunter, perched beside her, listened intently, as if preparing for an intergalactic mission.

"Sometimes," Eggshell continued, "we think the problem is one thing, but when we dig deeper, we realize it's something else entirely."

He smiled.

"That's why we ask 'why' five times."

Hunter gasped. "Like a superpower?"

Eggshell chuckled. "Like science."

Scene 3: The Five Whys – And a Very Unexpected Answer

Susie grabbed her pen.

"Alright," she said. "Let's test this."

She wrote:

 **Problem:** Paul can't come home because he doesn't

have a job here.

Then she turned to Hunter. "Why?"

Hunter tilted his head. "Because there are no carpenter jobs in town."

Susie wrote it down. "Okay. Why?"

Tanya leaned in, watching.

Hunter twirled his fork in his pasta. "Because people don't need new furniture right now."

Susie nodded. "Why?"

Hunter frowned. "...Because the town is small. People don't buy furniture often."

Susie tapped her pen. "Why?"

Hunter's eyes lit up. "BECAUSE EVERYONE ALREADY HAS ENOUGH STUFF."

Silence.

Tanya raised an eyebrow.

Susie blinked.

...That was it.

That was the answer hiding under all the other answers.

❖ Scene 4: Flipping the Question – The Scientific Experiment Begins

Outside, the afternoon sun glowed over the snow-covered rooftops, and a few tourists wandered the town square, snapping photos of the charming old shopfronts.

Inside, the air smelled like cinnamon tea and old books.

Susie tapped her pen against the notebook.

"Okay," she said. "If people aren't buying new furniture, then finding Paul a stable job isn't the answer."

Tanya nodded. "So what happens if we flip the question?"

Susie grinned. "Instead of asking 'Where can Paul work?', let's ask—"

Tanya tapped the table. "—what does this town need?"

It felt different now.

Like they weren't just thinking.

They were investigating.

Testing a hypothesis.

The notebook filled up fast:

- ✓ What's missing here that Paul can create?
- ✓ What can he do that the town hasn't realized it needs yet?
- ✓ Where's the 'sock' hiding that no one's checked for?

Susie leaned back. "So... what does the town need?"

Tanya flipped through her notes. "Tourism's the big one. People come here for the scenery. The charm. The 'old-world' feel."

Susie scribbled:

- Handmade wooden souvenirs?
- Historical walking tour benches?
- Custom wooden toy sets?

Tanya nodded. "Good. But let's take it further."

Susie blinked. "Further?"

Tanya grinned. "What if we remove geography from the equation?"

Susie's eyes widened. "A virtual store."

They both scribbled at the same time:

💡 Paul's Workshop – Handmade Wooden Pieces from Snow Mountain Town

💡 A story behind every piece.

💡 Small-town charm, worldwide shipping.

💡 A 'Wood & Warmth' Collection – Each set comes with a handwritten note from Paul.

💡 Special 'Tour in a Box' – A wooden map of the town, with each landmark as a hand-carved piece.

Susie stared at the page, breathless.

This wasn't just about Paul getting a job anymore.

This was bigger.

This was about bringing a small town to the world.

This was about keeping their history alive, one wooden piece at a time.

Tanya leaned back, arms crossed. "Now tell me that's

not better than just looking for a job."

Susie let out a slow breath, grinning like she had just cracked a code.

"...This is a mission."

Tanya winked. "Welcome to the experiment."

Scene 5: The Future is Kicking

That night, snowflakes drifted lazily past the window, catching the glow of the streetlights.

Inside, the room was warm, filled with the soft hum of the radiator and the quiet scratching of Susie's pen.

She flipped through Hunter's sketches:

The maze. The rocket. The mountain-sized question mark.

She traced the words in her goal book:

"What if Paul makes a job that doesn't exist?"

A tiny flutter.

She placed a hand over her belly.

Another small kick. A reminder.

This wasn't just about her.

It was about their future.

Paul. Hunter. The baby.

And maybe...


It was about everyone reading this too.

What are the questions we don't realize we should be asking?

What's the sock hiding in the dryer of our own lives?

What happens if we stop searching for what already exists—

—and start creating what doesn't?

 END OF EPISODE 17 – BUT THE EXPERIMENT
CONTINUES... 