



Ever since creation, this stone had been shone on by the sun and the moon and moistened by rain and dew. One day there was suddenly a great noise as the stone split and a stone egg jumped out. When the wind blew on it this egg turned into a stone monkey.

The Beginnings of Monkey



Everything was new to the baby monkey. He was curious about everything and learned to crawl and walk. Soon he was able to run and jump, eat wild fruit and drink from streams.

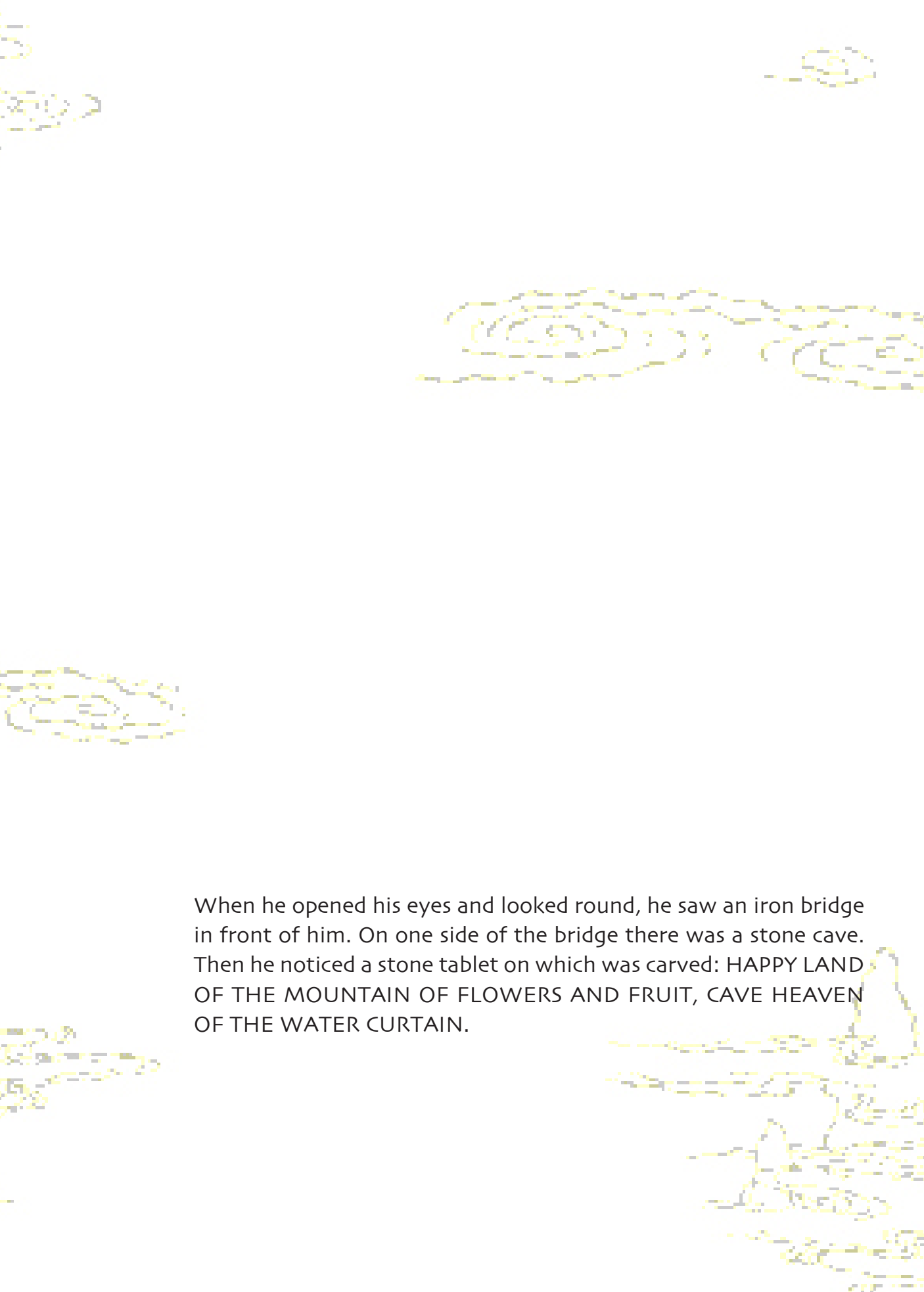


The stone monkey made friends with other monkeys. One day they saw a waterfall just like a door curtain in front of a cliff. One monkey said, "If anyone is clever enough to go through the fall, find where the water comes from and get out again in one piece, let's make him our king."

The Beginnings of Monkey



When this challenge had been shouted three times, the stone monkey leaped out from the crowd and answered at the top of his voice, "I'll go, I'll go!" Then he shut his eyes, crouched, and sprang straight into the waterfall.



When he opened his eyes and looked round, he saw an iron bridge in front of him. On one side of the bridge there was a stone cave. Then he noticed a stone tablet on which was carved: HAPPY LAND OF THE MOUNTAIN OF FLOWERS AND FRUIT, CAVE HEAVEN OF THE WATER CURTAIN.