A very, very long time ago, somewhere, at the bottom of a deep well, in a tiny village in Mesopotamia, a tiny little water drop was born. He was so cute and shiny and when a stray light beam penetrated the depths of the dark well, he would twinkle like a star in the night sky. His mum and dad were so very proud of him. Whenever his uncles or aunties came over for afternoon tea they would gently pat his shiny head and make silly baby sounds like goo-goo-ga-ga.

He soon grew to be a big, strong and very transparent little water drop boy. His days were spent bobbing up and down on the surface of the water, learning to stay afloat. Every once in a while tiny dark shapes would start clattering down from above, getting larger and noisier until they blocked out the last ray of sunlight and then SPLASH!! They would submerge themselves making huge waves and then quick as a flash would rise up again full of thousands and thousands of terrified screaming drops of water. It was terrible hearing their screams getting softer and softer as they disappeared into the distance up above.

Whenever the dark shapes began descending his parents would grab him by both hands and taking deep breaths dive as far down as they could to avoid getting sucked in and carried away. They would often float back up in time to see the aftermath and hear the poor screams of the captured water drops.

On the other hand, some of the teenaged water drops with scraggy hair would scream with delight at the sight of the shadowing shapes descending. They would quickly gather together any floating sticks, bits of straw or anything they could get their hands on. The following minutes of mayhem would be minutes of sheer exhilaration and manic joy as they risked all surfing the gigantic waves that belted around the surface of the well.

Not long after his fifth week birthday he woke up one morning with a start. His first big question had entered his tiny little head: “*WHAT WERE THOSE HORRIBLE SHADOWY THINGS AND WHERE WERE THEY TAKING ALL OUR FELLOW WATER DROPS TO?”*