

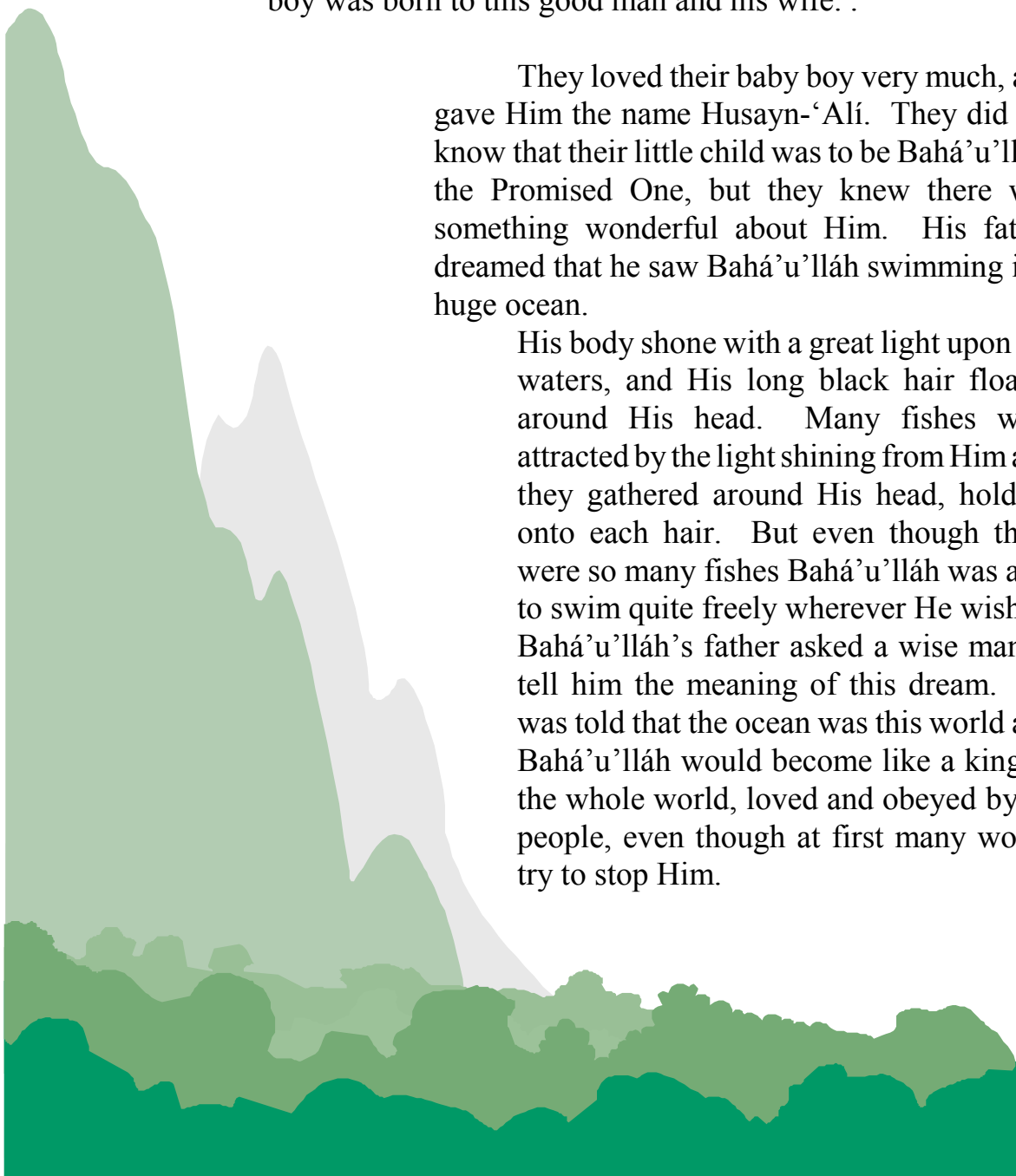
The Dream of Many Fishes

In the land of Persia there was a rich king who lived in a fine palace. Many important people worked for the king, and they too were rich and lived in grand houses. One of these important people was a good man, who, though he had a lot of money, was generous to the poor and there was much happiness among the people who lived in his villages and worked on his farms.

Early one morning , on the twelfth of November 1817, a baby boy was born to this good man and his wife. .

They loved their baby boy very much, and gave Him the name Husayn-‘Alí. They did not know that their little child was to be Bahá’u’lláh, the Promised One, but they knew there was something wonderful about Him. His father dreamed that he saw Bahá’u’lláh swimming in a huge ocean.

His body shone with a great light upon the waters, and His long black hair floated around His head. Many fishes were attracted by the light shining from Him and they gathered around His head, holding onto each hair. But even though there were so many fishes Bahá’u’lláh was able to swim quite freely wherever He wished. Bahá’u’lláh’s father asked a wise man to tell him the meaning of this dream. He was told that the ocean was this world and Bahá’u’lláh would become like a king of the whole world, loved and obeyed by all people, even though at first many would try to stop Him.



As Bahá'u'lláh grew older it was plain for everyone to see that He knew things that no-one else knew. He did not go to school but knew more than any teacher. He was very clever and wise. One day the king of Persia asked Bahá'u'lláh's father for a lot of money which he had no right to ask for. Even though Bahá'u'lláh was only seven years old, He went to the king and explained so well the unfairness of the demand, that the king realised this was true, and changed his mind completely.

Although He was brought up surrounded with fine things and important people, Bahá'u'lláh preferred to spend His time in the woods and countryside, praying to God and helping the poor.

And so Bahá'u'lláh quietly grew up, only a very few people knowing that He was the 'Glory of God' on earth, until one day it was time for everyone to know.

