



#128 *The Monkey Villages*



A group of monkeys set out to make a new life in a new village on a new mountain. They were an enterprising sort, always looking to progress. They just loved to create new versions of themselves through the inventions of new devices that they would design, ostensibly to make life more efficient and fun. Most monkeys thought development of their race meant seeking new forms of progress. They also thought that all technology is art.

One day, they decided to break out of their rut and venture off to new horizons. In a meeting to plan their new village, it quickly became evident that there were two separate factions among them. One group saw their inspiration coming from the MIND, the other saw it coming from NATURE. So, when they arrived at the new mountain, the mind group found a cave to work and live in, whereas, the nature group built thatched huts in the woods.

Life went on, and the enterprising monkeys did indeed make progress. Several seasons passed until finally, the two groups decided to get together for a festival to compare how each had progressed.

The mind group who lived in a cave, had much to show. They had produced a plethora of devices to fill their need for entertainment. Since they were cut off from the outside world, they invented many ways to have artificial light and sound. They hungered for devices that told stories with ever increasing volume, suspense, intrigue, and danger. And since they had no windows, their devices imitated inventions of their minds. Since the cave monkeys were not observing nature, the characters in the stories could not imitate nature. Therefore, their stories featured heroes that appeared more and more mechanical, much like the devices themselves.

The nature group had also been working hard on new and inventive ways to accomplish life's tasks and pleasures. They, too, had the natural tendency of all monkeys to develop themselves. Unlike the cave monkeys, though, their technology imitated the world around them. One new technology was a way to cook using light. Another allowed them to heat and cool with portals that resembled the shape of pinecones. One monkey figured out how to build huts with rocks that became transparent to let light in through the roof, while keeping rain and cold air out. For entertainment, they listened to the birds and the wind. For recreation, they swam in the waterfalls, climbed the trees and watched the incredible plants around them go through the metamorphosis of the seasons.

*After enough time, one group flourished and the other did not.
Do I have to tell you which was which?*

**TECHNOLOGY IS AN ART
THAT WILL IMITATE WHATEVER YOU OBSERVE**