



Act V  
Scene 2

# Hexagrams

*Authors: Gareth White & Sean Gardiner*



**Z**u was a bizarre place. It seemed to be under a perpetual sandstorm, yet the sand on the air never seemed to land on beautifully smooth marblestone. The terrain was riddled with treacherous crevasses and sharp outcrops.

As the sandstorm became stronger, I began to encounter eerie silent stone statues with gaping holes for their eyes and mouth. I followed them, hoping they would lead me away from a lonely lost death rather than to it.

My map had only a vague idea of Castle Zu's location. Experiencing these nightmarish conditions for myself, I now understood why. When I did finally reach (or rather, almost walked into) the castle walls, I had no idea how far I had travelled beyond the border.

Yellow sand piled against the wall like the roots of a huge tree, but was impossible to walk on. The statues were everywhere now - and somehow, it seemed that no matter where I stood, almost all of them were looking straight at me. I followed the wall to the east until I found a guarded, gated entrance.

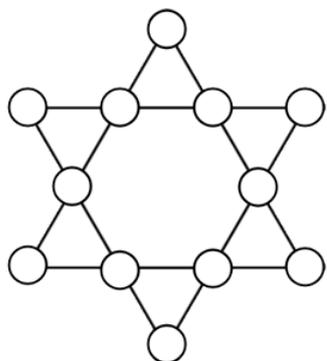
Or at least, I thought they were guards. On closer inspection, they were just taller versions of the same statues carrying stone spears and shields. I had still not encountered a single living person. Frustrated, I yelled through the gate until my throat began to itch, then continued on.

I rounded a corner. The sandstorm was just as punishing, but did not pile as heavily against this face of the castle, revealing messages carved into its white stone.

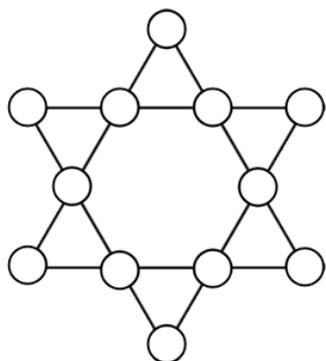
Many of them were written in local languages I spoke reasonably well, but had not yet learned to read. One in the Tongue of Yorovash did strike me as odd:

“The house of Apmurk prays for pity to fall upon the trapped, who feel not the winds of the great ocean. Rylus. Lorwen. Zorra. Faeletti. Silvia. Fabrax.”

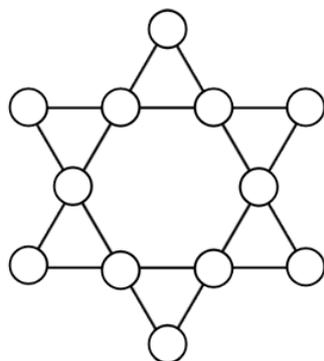
After passing two more locked entrances guarded by soldiers of stone, I gave up, and fought my way back to Mornstallinar to charter a ship.



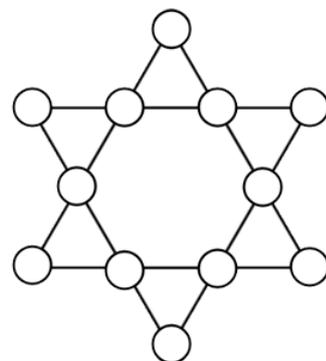
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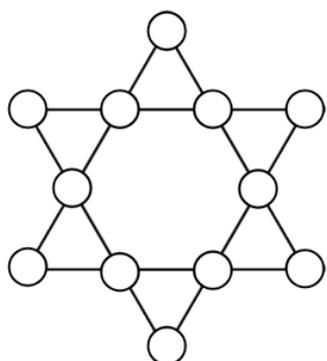
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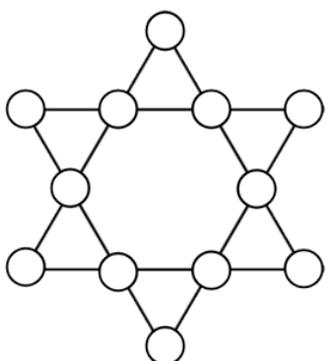
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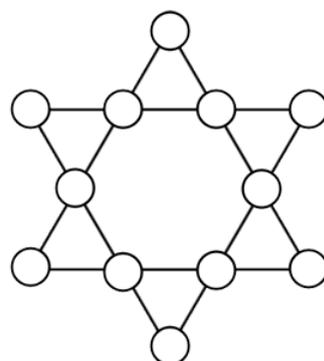
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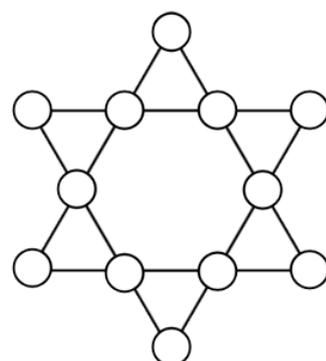
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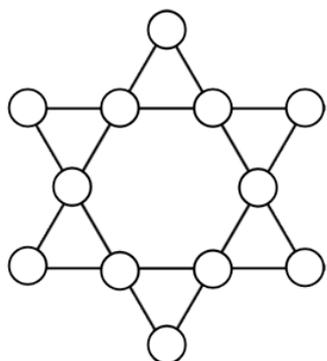
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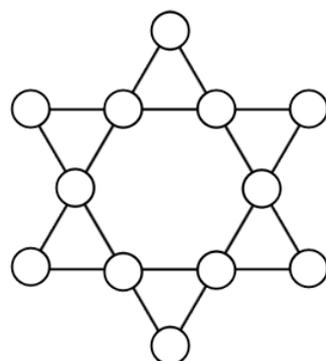
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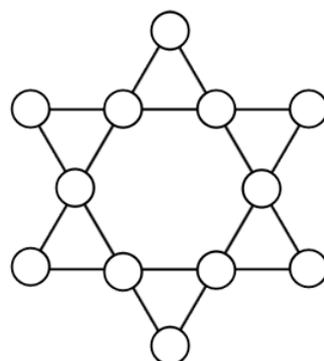
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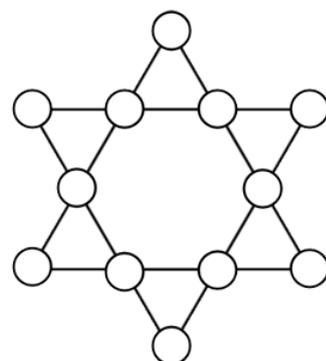
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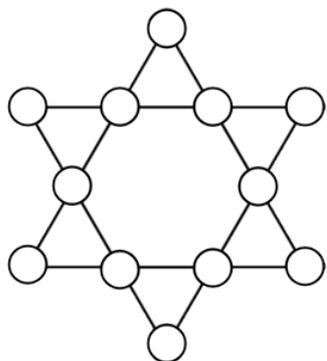
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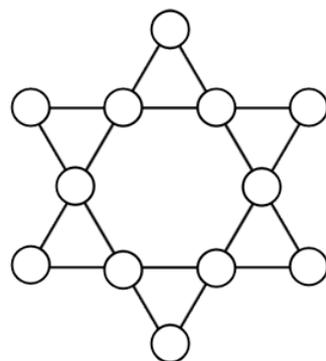
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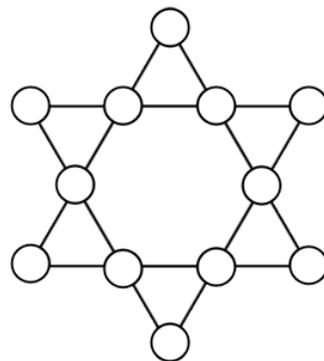
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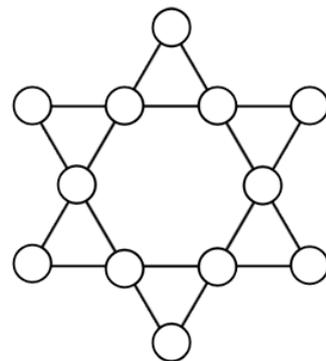
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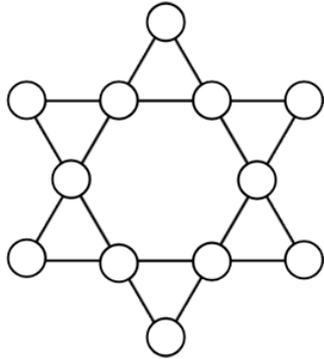


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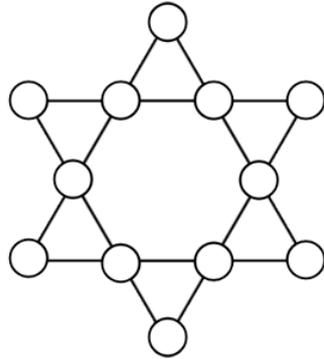
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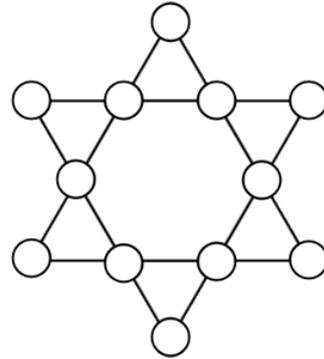
*Authors: Gareth White & Sean Gardiner*



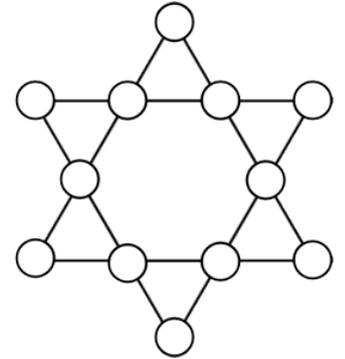
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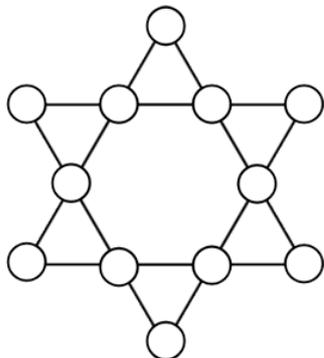
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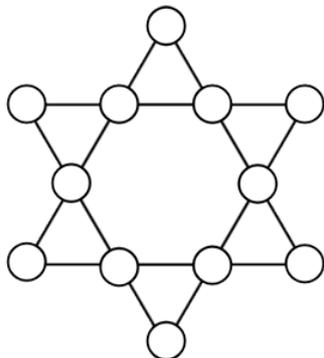
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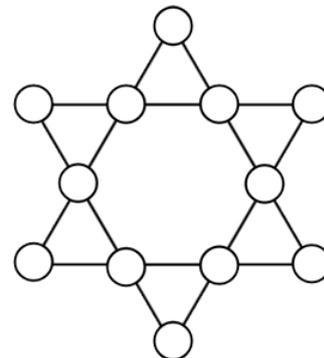
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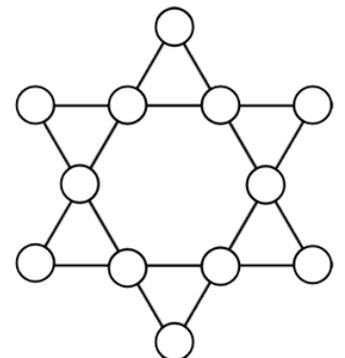
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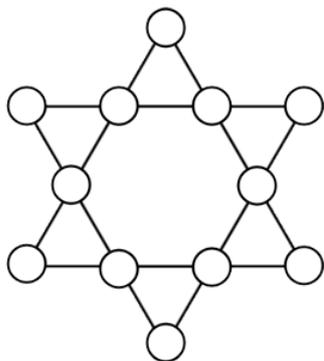
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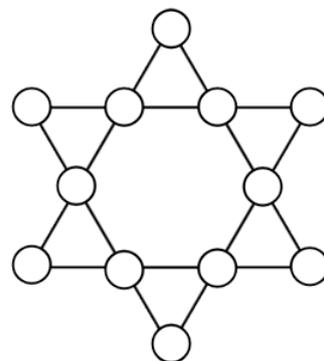
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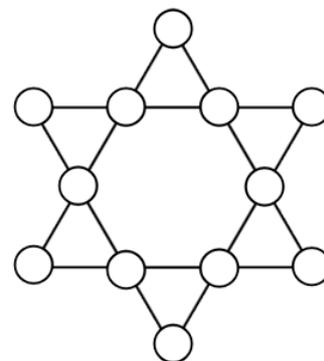
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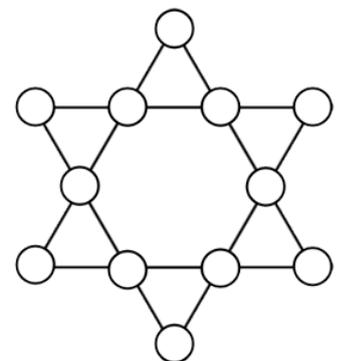
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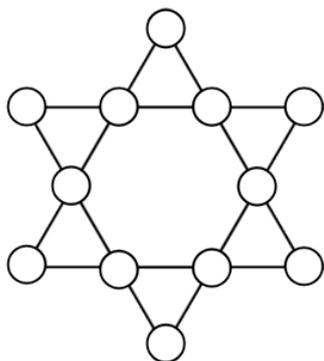
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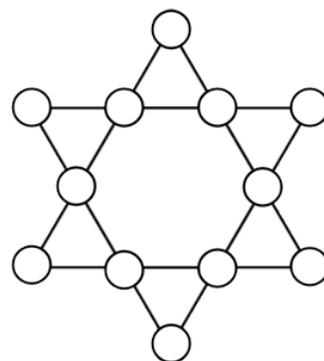
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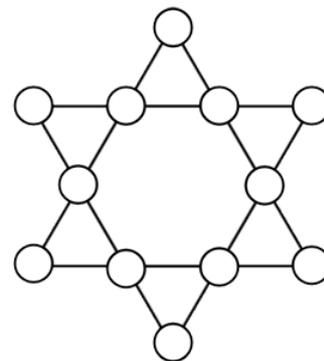
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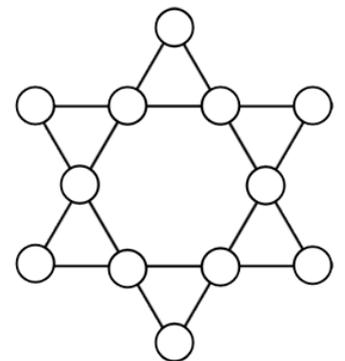
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