



The full moon comes out completely from behind the clouds, and the creatures complete their metamorphosis, emerging from and shedding their skin - sticky and pulsing, each deformed spirit resembles a blood clot, glowing like a radiator in the darkness.

“Ori... this isn’t good.”

“Oh, really?” The two of you are backing towards the lake, and the sound of the hissing snakes, flitting between the sharp stones circling the water.

Another drum of steps on branches can be heard - and you see Jill approaching from the trees. Her hair is matted against her forehead, and her dress torn and dirty.

The monsters, uninterested in her, continue closing in on the lake. Frantic, you look back at Ori - who is taking off her shirt.

“Um?” You say.

“We’re going into the lake.” She says, straightforwardly. “We’ve got nowhere else to go. Besides, I have a hunch about what we’ll find at the bottom.”

The snakes bare their fangs as the two of you edge ever closer to the water.

“We’ll just have to jump for it.” She says. “You ready?”

Jill is thrashing a branch into the creatures, forcing her way through the circle.

“Yup.” You nod. You inhale sharply, and you and Ori rush forwards, leaping over the rocks and the snakes - their heads dart upwards to your legs, spitting into the air - and you both land in the water, deep already at the very edges.

You can make out only blackness beneath you.

And that might just be what you’re looking for.



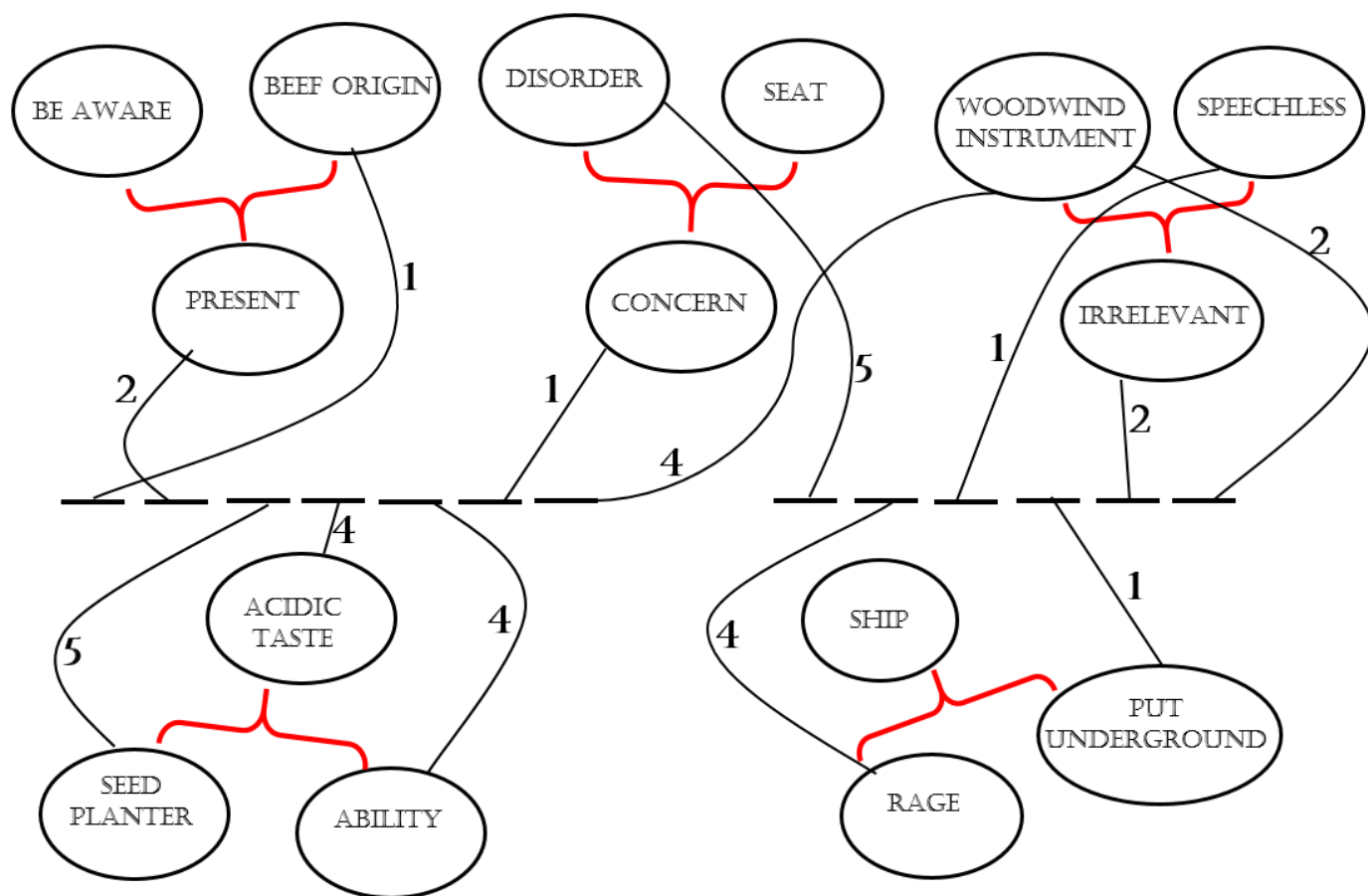
Sound it Out

Author: William Hu, Wen Zhang



CLIMBING PLANT (+9)
 PIRATE AFFIRMATIVE (+11)
 ROT (+1)

EXIST (+6)
 LINE (+3)
 WHICHEVER (+0)
 NOTICE (+2)
 LEGUME (+4)
 STATUE (+2)
 HOT DRINK (+11)





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I	A	H	R	O	W	N	H	A	A	W	L	D
S	T	R	F	I	G	H	T	R	C	A	E	I
W	D	T	U	U	E	O	H	O	E	I	W	B
E	E	T	L	B	E	R	M	Q	H	A	E	A
R	Y	C	E	N	I	N	O	U	T	T	R	R
L	E	W	Y	N	C	E	I	E	A	S	S	A
R	R	L	G	I	G	T	S	T	E	I	N	W
R	B	E	L	T	A	Y	L	A	R	T	L	H
N	S	O	U	A	T	E	H	L	W	R	I	E
T	O	F	S	E	P	P	A	E	M	A	K	E
S	E	A	L	W	S	K	L	P	T	O	R	H
O	Y	O	E	S	O	L	C	N	U	D	U	E
I	S	T	H	S	E	A	N	S	W	E	R	R

BEFORE WORDS:

- _CONSUME
- _CREATIVE PERSON
- _ENCIRCLE
- _FANATICAL
- _HIT OTHER'S BALL
- _OPEN
- _OPEN SORE
- _OVENS
- _PERSPIRATION
- _PRECIOUS STONES
- _SHIELD-SHAPED
- _WASP

STEAL OR SEIZE
 ???
 ENGAGE OR SOAK
 BRACKEN-LIKE

ROCK FACE	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
PROPOSITION	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
CHARGED PARTICLE	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
"__-BITSY"	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>