

CURRICULUM GUIDE



ERIC DEAN SEATON

GRADES 9-12

Legend of the Mantamaji: Bloodlines Book 1 Curriculum Guide 9th-12th

To create a graphic novel it takes more than just an idea, it takes the work of the author, illustrator, colorist, and a letterer

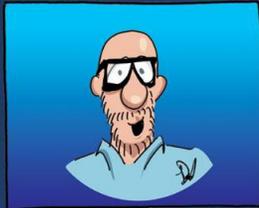
BEHIND THE LEGEND...



ERIC DEAN SEATON | CREATOR/WRITER

Eric Dean Seaton has directed a plethora of television episodes for ABC, CBS, NBC, Netflix, TBS, BET, TV-One and TV Pilots for Disney Channel and Nickelodeon, since his directing debut in 2004, but he's dreamt of being a comic book creator since his childhood in Cleveland, Ohio.

Eric, his wife, son and daughter live in Los Angeles, California. You can see Eric's work at www.ericdeanseaton.com or follow him @ericdeanseaton on Twitter and Instagram.



DAVID ELLIS DICKERSON | WRITER

David Ellis Dickerson is an Emmy-nominated TV writer and humorist whose work has appeared on This American Life, Studio 360, and other public radio shows. He also draws a daily cartoon (Slightly More Pleasant) on Facebook and Instagram.



BRANDON PALAS | ARTIST

"Brandon Palas lives the comics life in SoCal with his lady and their cats. See more of his work at <http://brandonpalas.deviantart.com>."



ANDREW DALHOUSE | COLORIST

Andrew has had a passion for coloring since high school when he started buying comics. He pursued his passion and broke into the comic book industry over 10 years ago, and has been enjoying the ride ever since. He has colored comics for a variety of publishers, from DC, Valiant, Marvel, Boom, and Dark Horse.



DERON BENNETT | LETTERER

Eisner and Harvey Award-nominated letterer, Deron Bennett, has been providing lettering services for various comic book companies for over a decade. His clients include DC, Boom, IDW, Dark Horse, Image, Lion Forge, and many more.



SHEILA UNWIN | CURRICULUM GUIDE'S AUTHOR

Sheila Unwin has spent many years teaching students English. She's taught bachelor and master level students how to teach. Currently, she teaches English and computers to students in Bangkok, Thailand. She has written curriculum for several university courses as well as curriculum guides for multiple New York Time's best selling authors.

Sheila has a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Ottawa University. In addition, she holds a Masters of Education in Curriculum, Instruction and Design. She is always seeking the next challenge in her career and in life!

Key Concepts of this Study Guide:

- Justice
- Government
- Right & Wrong
- Doing your part for society
- Family

Key Terms

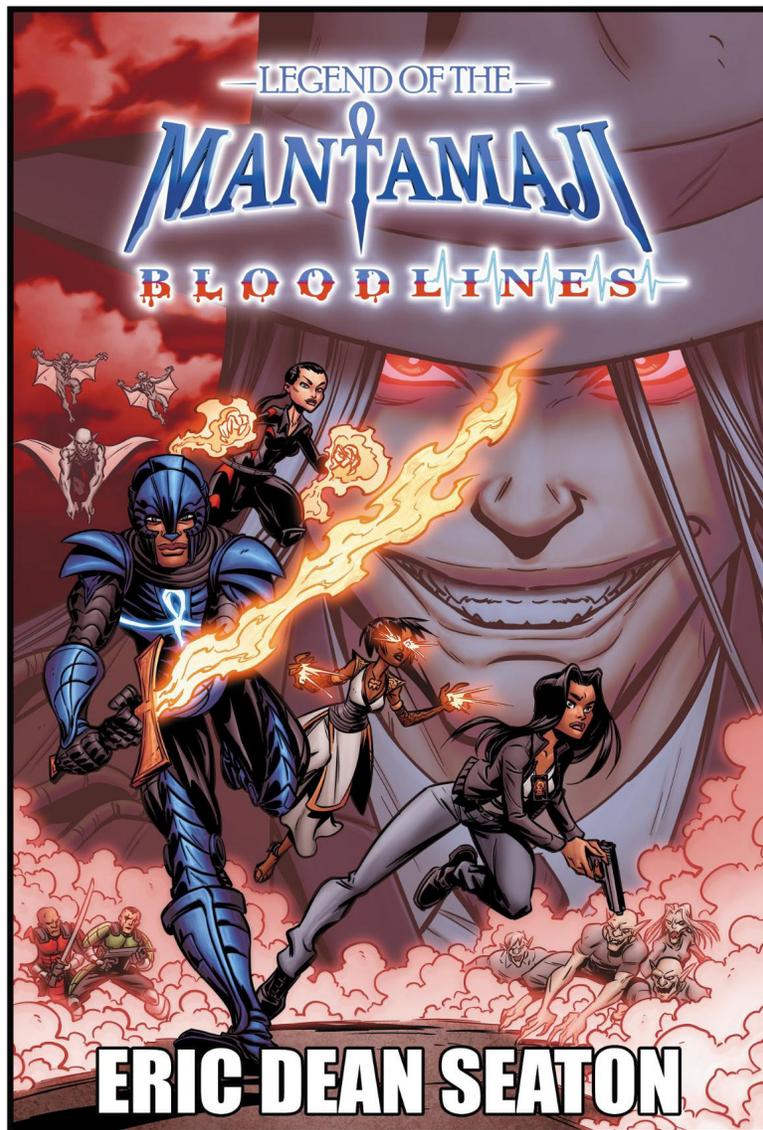
unfold	auction	mic	recon	reign
human trafficking	Bitcoin	pirate sites	anonymous	oath
Antikythera mechanism	prosecutor	apocalypse	papyrus	culture
translate	interpret	millennia	reflected	authorized
inscription	acquire	artifacts	encrypted	elaborate
surrender	victor	menace	unreliable	eyewitnesses
vortex	defense	prosecution	testimony	committing
sorcerers	reasonable doubt	conclusion	deliberate	verdict
coincidence	vigilante	wavered	confession	resurrected
digitized	mocked	memento	mortality	immortal
crucify	neglect	betrayed	miseries	reception
optimism	scandal	prime minister	monarchs	isolationism
diplomatic mission	suppression	torture	illusion	sham
dictatorship	exploit	tolerated	reunite	conspiracy
cancel	United Nations	hostages	shambolic	benighted
cultured	ushered	embassy		

Vocabulary Lessons

- **Word Search** - Have students create a word search using graph paper. Then share them around the classroom.
- **Story** - Create a story with 15 words. Be sure to include a beginning, a middle, and an end.
- **Crossword Puzzle** - Have students create a crossword puzzle using graph paper. Then share around the classroom.
- **Matching** - Place the words on one side and definitions or sentences with the word missing on the other. Have students draw lines to connect the answers.
- **Post-It Bingo** - Give students a stack of Post-It notes on which to write a vocabulary word. Then call out the definitions and have students mark with pennies or other types of markers.
- **Grammar Squares** - Create a laminated board with four squares, each square has a part of speech (noun, verb, adverb, and adjective), write the vocabulary words on small strips of paper and fold. Students pull a vocabulary word from a hat or container and place the word in the appropriate square; they must then use it in a sentence.
- **Vocabulary Find** - Have students search for the vocabulary word in the text. Once found, review the context in which it is used, part of speech, and determine the definition.
- **Book** - Create an illustrated book using the vocabulary words that they would share with a younger sibling. Spend an afternoon swapping books.
- **Quizlet** - Quizlet is an app that lets students study words and play games to reinforce their learning.
- **20 Clues** - Students give clues about the vocabulary word until the word is guessed.
- **Vocabulary Advertisements** - Each student is assigned a word and they must create a poster. The poster must show what the word means, how to pronounce it, and must be signed by the artist. Show the positive side of the word. Display all signs around the room.
- **Find the Word** - Each student has a different word taped to their back. Students must ask other students questions to determine what word is taped to their back.
- **Hangman** - Play hangman with the vocabulary words.
- **Riddle Me This** - Have students select five words and create a riddle for each of the words. Students will read the riddles in class and see if their classmates get the answers.

Pre-reading Activities

- Review the elements of the cover, copyright page, and back cover.
- Have you heard of the author?
- Predict what the graphic novel will be about based on the cover.
- What does the word “bloodlines” mean?
- What does the word “family” mean to you?
- Explain what the picture on the cover tells you about the story?
- What feeling do you get from the cover?
- Is this story fiction or nonfiction? Why?
- What does justice look like and feel like?
- What is your idea of a hero?
- What does a hero look like?



Surveillance

Our story starts with Elijah, Sydney, and crew keeping watch over a private auction event. He and the crew are listening in, while Sydney is at the event giving first hand accounts of what is happening. This surveillance is being done in the hopes of recovering some important papers someone has stolen.

Elijah and crew are not working with the police during this surveillance, but are instead acting alone. Is this a good thing or not? Should they have gone to the police? What would the police have said? Would the police have initiated their own surveillance or even assisted Elijah?

There is a lot of controversy about surveillance -- especially in the last few years -- in the United States. In 2013, Edward Snowden leaked documents about government surveillance programs. Many people were outraged when the information came out, while others weren't surprised as they had assumed the government had been spying all along.

Some countries have extensive surveillance throughout their main city areas. Traffic cameras are becoming quite normal for many countries. However, some take it even further. The United Kingdom is reported to have more than 6 million video cameras in use throughout cities. Police use the cameras to assist in catching criminals because eyewitness accounts cannot always be trusted. There are times where several eyewitnesses will recall very different events.

Schools are even getting into the surveillance game as well. Schools in Thailand have cameras in the classrooms and hallways. Administrators can go back and look at what happened in the classrooms. This cuts down on items being stolen and inappropriate behavior.

Surveillance comes in many different forms from cameras, access to cell phone records, medical records, and even cameras with sophisticated facial recognition. When is surveillance good and when is it bad? When is it too much?

Activity: Surveillance Tomorrow

Write a story centered around government surveillance. In your story, decide how much control the government has and how the surveillance is conducted. Pick a side (in favor or in opposition of surveillance) and have your main character defend that position. Keep in mind the writing process by prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing your story. Remember a story has a beginning, a middle, and an ending.

Human Trafficking

As Sydney does surveillance at the private auction, she and the rest of the team are talking about some of the attendees of the event. Elijah says, “That is the man who knows things. Contracts all over the world, weapons, human trafficking.” However, none of the charges have ever been proven in court. Each of these is a really bad offense.

However, the worst offense is human trafficking. It is the act of taking a human being by force from one area (usually a different country) to another for the purposes of forced labor, but most often for sexual exploitation. We like to think slavery doesn’t happen in 2017 but it does! It is estimated that more than [45 million people](#) are currently enslaved around the world. Every country has some kind of human trafficking, even in the United States. In 2014, [Kevin Bales](#) reported that approximately 14,500 and 17,500 people are trafficked into the U.S each year.

The life of someone imprisoned by slavery is extremely traumatic. Victims go with little or no food, often receive branding, suffer poor living conditions, endure emotional and physical abuse, and worse. Benjamin Skinner wrote in his 2008 book, *A Crime So Monstrous: Face-to-Face with Modern-Day Slavery*, that victims face drug and alcohol addiction, pregnancies, miscarriages, sexually transmitted diseases, as well as depression, suicidal tendencies, and more.

Recognizing and identifying a victim of trafficking can be difficult. However, there are tell-tale signs: specific tattoos (the words “cash” and “Daddy”), missing a lot of school, malnutrition, broken bones, bruises, hotel room keys, and “dating” an older and very controlling man are just a few of the signs.

Activity: Human Trafficking Epidemic

Watch the following videos on human trafficking: *10 Tragic Facts about Human Trafficking* - <https://youtu.be/sj0ajJ0HQLs>, *Human Trafficking Awareness - Learn the Signs!* - <https://youtu.be/TQFQqU3O9GM>, *Children for Sale: The Fight to End Human Trafficking (2015)* - <https://youtu.be/oXjxeQuhdAs>, *Iana’s Story - Human Trafficking in Romania* - <https://youtu.be/FCld8kfAbx8>

Research one of the following countries: Burma, Cambodia, Thailand, United States, China, Russia, Brazil, Belize, Ghana, Uganda, Nepal, Pakistan, or Bangladesh. Document the slave/human trafficking problem of the country. Discuss the signs or ways to identify someone who is in slavery. In groups of three or four, create a four-minute video discussing the research and how to prevent and identify human trafficking.

Currency

The auctioneer starts by explaining what currencies are accepted. *“If you are paying in Bitcoin, please only use our approved pirate sites. If you are paying in diamonds, have your certified appraisal ready for inspection. And if you’re paying in cash, I hope you brought many, many suitcases.”*

To date, there are 180 recognized currencies in the world. Currencies in different places have different names while some use common names. Several countries call their paper money *dollars*. For example, the United States, Canada, Australia all use *dollar* as the name for their currency (USD, AUD, CAD) to name a just a few. Other countries vary in the names used. Thailand has the *baht* (BHT), Sweden uses a *krona* (SEK), where Norway uses a *kroner* (NOK) and Japan uses the *yen* (JPY). Currently the U.S. dollar is the most widely used currency in the world.

Currencies allow us to purchase items and services. Money gives us an understanding of the value of an item. When we buy a loaf of bread or a box of cereal, we know what cost to expect. A loaf of bread is just under \$2.50 in the U.S. but in Thailand that same loaf of bread only costs 37 baht, which converts to just over \$1. Both prices are affordable and people don’t typically think twice when they need to buy bread.

The materials used to make currencies differ between countries. Currency can be made of paper, indestructible plastic/polymer, and even metal. Some have images of kings, queens, presidents, political leaders, poets, artists, animals, monuments, and even prominent buildings featured. Some are more colorful than others.

Take a good look at the money in your pocket right now. I’m sure you have a \$1 bill. Really, look at it:

- You can see our first U.S. President George Washington is on the front in the center.
- Bay laurel leaves are at the bottom of the oval.
- On the left is the Federal Reserve District Seal along with information from the Federal Reserve Bank (there are 12 different banks throughout the country) to indicate which bank issued the note. If you see a capital B in this section, it means the bill was printed (minted, actually) in Boston.
- The open spaces on the bill contain the official number of the bank and the Treasury Department Seal.
 - The Treasury Department Seal is designed to embody justice, the original 13 colonies, along with authority and trust. The signature of the Secretary of the Treasury is displayed as well. Olive branches presenting peace wind their way around the ones. Money is a representation of its country.

Activity: Create Your Own Currency

Think about your school. What key things are important?

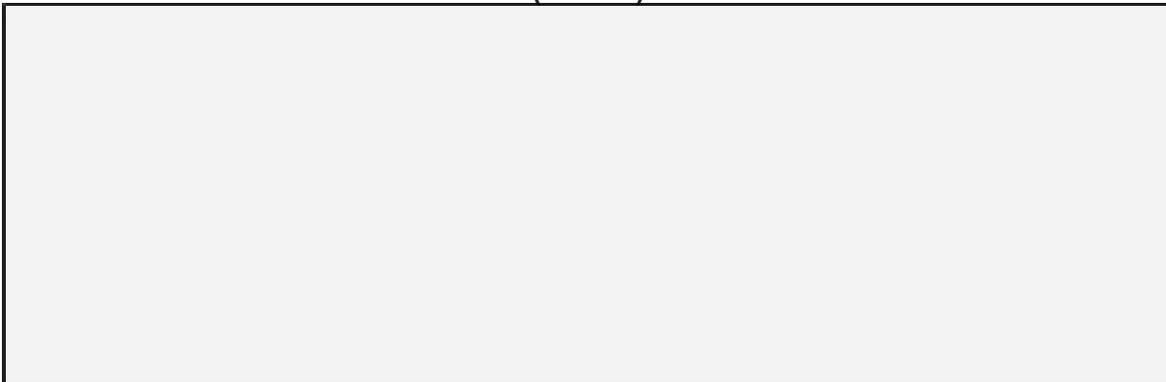
List the important people, building/monuments, animals, and anything else you think is especially key to your school. Also, what other elements will you have on your currency?

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Important People	Buildings/Monuments	Animals	Other

Now highlight at least six items from the list that you feel would be good to represent your school. Draw one of the each highlighted items in the boxes below. Add in the denomination of the money and the other items. Be detailed in your drawings. Then on a separate sheet of paper explain what each item means.

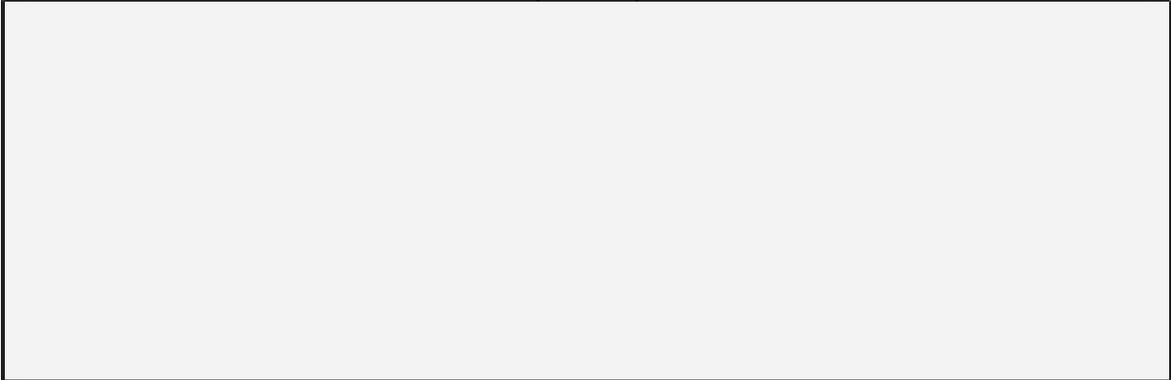
(front)



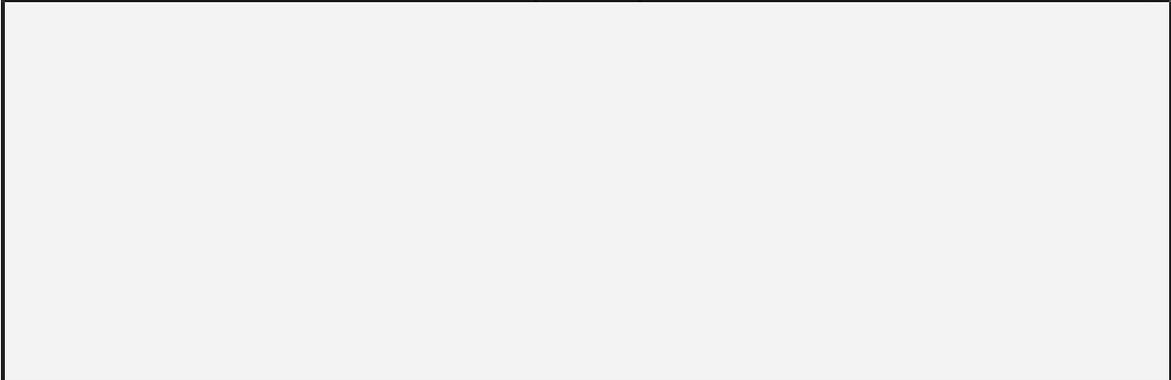
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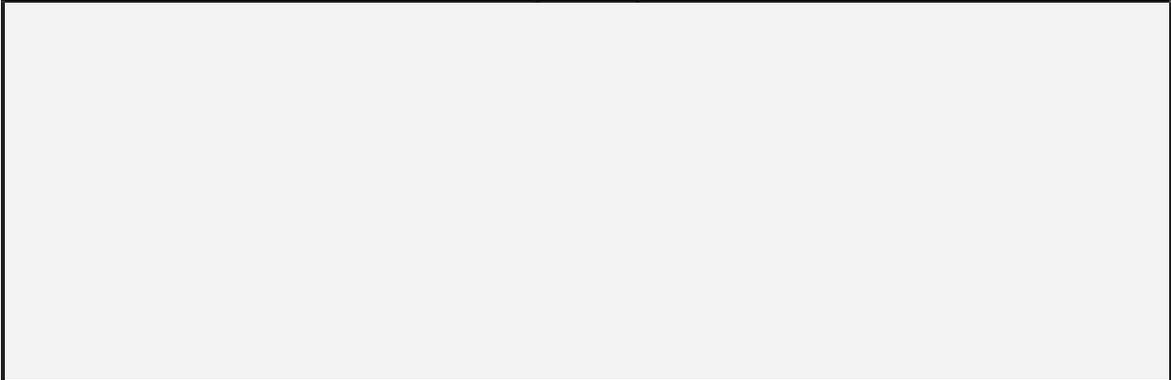
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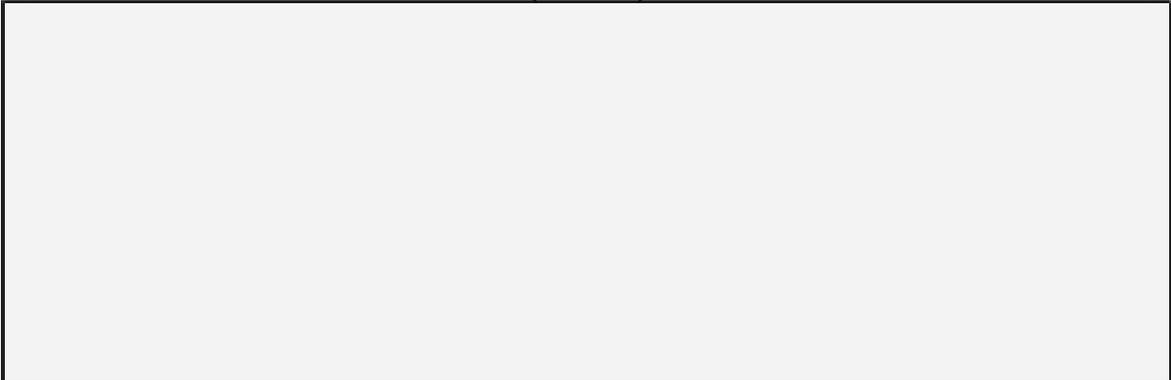
(back)



(front)



(back)



Antikythera Mechanism

The first item up for bid at the auction is an ancient Antikythera mechanism. This ancient device allowed the people of the time to have an understanding of astronomical positions, including when eclipses would occur.

Our solar system is an intricate web of moving solar bodies. Each of our eight planets (Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune) and five dwarf planets (Ceres, Pluto, Haumea, Makemake, and Eris) orbit around the sun. The planets orbit in an elliptical rotation around the sun. Elliptical means “egg shaped” though some planets’ orbits are close to being circular.

For Mercury’s elliptical orbit, the planet’s distance from the sun can range from 28.58 million miles at its closest to 35.98 million miles at its farthest. Venus follows a much more circular path with its distance ranging from 66.78 million miles to 67.69 million miles respectively. Simply put, the sun’s gravitational pull, mass of the smaller solar body, and velocity (speed) are what causes the orbit and each plays a factor in the shape as well.

Now think about Earth. Which is true - the sun revolves around Earth, or vice versa? How much bigger is the sun than the earth (mass)? Does the size of the sun and the size of the Earth make a difference in the orbit? The sun is 300,000 times larger than the Earth. What if they were the same mass? How would it change the orbit?

Activity: Chart Earth’s Rotation Around the Sun

Use Algodoo (<http://www.algodoo.com/download/>) to create a representation of the Earth’s orbit around the sun. Algodoo is a online physics program which allows for the creation of solar bodies and adjusts the gravity and velocity associated with each.

Download the program (it’s free). Click “File”, then click “New” and select the black pane. Create a large polygon by selecting the “Sketch too” along the left tool bar, when you draw a shape it will close the lines so as to become a solid shape. Press play.

Turn off gravity and air friction and delete the ground at the bottom of the screen. When this is done the object will not fall. There is no gravity to pull it.

Create a smaller polygon the same as when you created the large one. Add attraction to both bodies ($1.0 \text{ Nm}^2/\text{kg}^2$). One now falls into the other. Select all the planets/moons in the simulation, double-click one of them, and click Material. This brings up the material options palette. The attraction slider is at the bottom. It doesn’t really matter what value you will choose - higher values will make for faster orbits. The simulation can be “rewound” to the initial state with Undo.

Add vertical (Y) velocity to the smaller body. Tune Y velocity until it orbits, using Undo to reset to the starting state. This is a planet. The original body is the sun. Add a tracer to get a visual of the shape of the orbit.

Add a third body (moon) that orbits the planet. Add a tracer to the moon as well.

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Answer the following:

1. What shape is a perfect orbit - where the objects stay the same distance from each other? _____
2. What shape is an eccentric orbit - where the object gets closer and further? _____
3. When does an object travel the fastest and slowest? _____
4. Does the sun move too? How much? _____
5. Which is easier to set up - a moon orbiting in the same direction or opposite direction as its parent orbits its sun? _____
6. What happens to objects that travel too slow to orbit? Too fast to orbit? _____

Take a video of your orbit using Quicktime Player or other recording application.



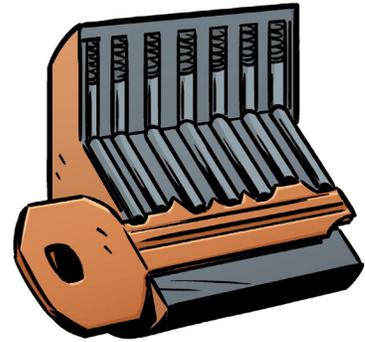
Thanks to Andrei Androssoff for the specific orbits and lesson idea.

Safes, Locks, and Vaults

Early in the story at the private auction there are many valuable items available for bid. Elijah arrives outside of the vault, which he assumes will hold those valuables. He has never cracked a bank vault before and doesn't have the slightest idea how to even begin.

Locks are part of our daily lives. We live in a society where locks help to keep us safe. Have you ever thought about how a lock works? Well, it depends on the type of lock. Bank vaults, combination locks, and key locks all work on different principles.

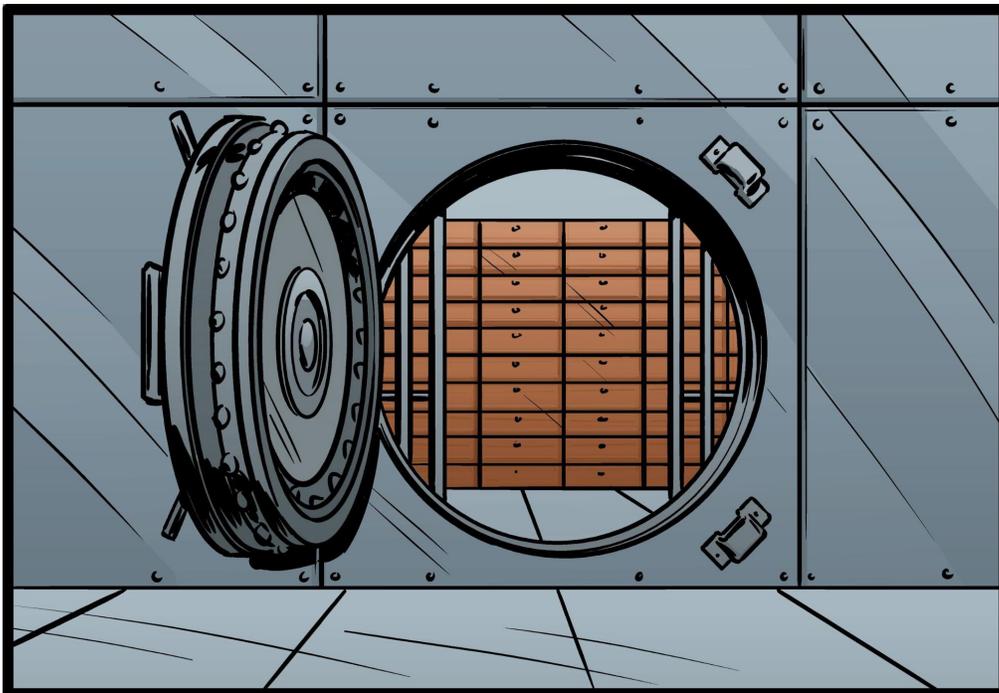
Key locks work on a pin-and-tumbler system. A pin-and-tumbler system relies on the raised area and the depressed notches on a key to move the pins up and down until they line up with the track in the lock. When the pins are perfectly aligned, the cylinder can turn and the lock will open.



Combination locks typically work on a combination dial. That dial is attached to a spindle. The spindle moves the wheels which allow the notches to align producing a gap allowing the locking mechanism called the fence to fall into place. Once in place, the lock will open.

Bank vaults use several massive metal bolts or cylinders that extend from the door into the door frame. There are several types of locks that can be used to move the bolts:

- Combination lock
- Dual control - a combination lock with two dials
- Key locks specifically used for vault doors and high security
- A time lock



Activity: Can You Crack This Safe

If we have a two digit combination lock (using 0-9 as digit options), there are only a certain number of combinations or permutations that can occur within the two digits. You might start with 00, 01, 02, 03, 04, etc... but there is an easier way to see just how many permutations there really are. Take a look at this video [Introduction to Permutations and Combinations](#). Now calculate the following locks permutations. On the lines below, show your formula and be sure to show your work on a separate sheet of paper.

3 digit combination (0-9 as digit options): _____

4 digit combination (0-9 as digit options): _____

5 digit combination (0-9 as digit options): _____

7 digit combination (0-9 as digit options): _____

10 digit combination (0-9 as digit options): _____

25 digit combination (0-9 as digit options): _____

16 digit combination (0-9 as digit options): _____

36 digit combination (0-9 as digit options): _____

50 digit combination (0-9 as digit options): _____



Reasonable Doubt

Early in the story, Elijah is in court hoping to convince a jury that the defendant is guilty of a shootout at the Hope Temple. Because Elijah is the prosecutor, he has the burden of proof, meaning he must prove to the jury that the defendant is guilty. Gutierrez has the responsibility of casting doubt on that proof. Elijah, in this particular case, makes it quite easy for Gutierrez with his talk of magic, glowing crystals, time-travel, and flaming swords. How do you prove esoteric ideas?

The jury must have an unanimous verdict, meaning all jurors must agree to a guilty or not guilty decision. The prosecution's case must have no other suspects, a tight timeline, strong evidence and credible testimony. The burden of proof is solely on the prosecution. The jury must analyze each element of the facts presented to determine if they are believable.

Juries receive the following instruction: "Reasonable doubt is an honest doubt of the defendant's guilt for which a reason exists upon the nature and quality of the evidence. It is an actual doubt, not an imaginary doubt. It is a doubt that a reasonable person, acting in a matter of this importance would be likely to entertain because of the evidence that was presented or because of the lack of convincing evidence."

Not guilty doesn't always mean innocence or that nothing happened. It simply means that a reasonable doubt was formed during the testimony, either by a lack of evidence or doubts about the evidence itself.

Activity: Find the Holes in the Case

In the summer of 1994, Nicole Brown Simpson and a friend were murdered in Nicole's home. Much evidence was produced by the prosecution. Watch the following clip from the defense for OJ Simpson from 1995: (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NH-VuP_5cA4). The defense attorney is giving his closing arguments. Write down the points that might provide reasonable doubt to a jury.

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

Next time you see a courtroom drama or watch clips on TV be aware of reasonable doubt.

Both Your Actions & Words Are Yelling

After Elijah meets with his boss and is told he will not be getting a case he really wants, he is not in the best of moods. When he encounters Gutierrez in a local pub, Gutierrez torments Elijah because of how Elijah previously treated him years ago. To retaliate, Gutierrez gives Elijah a napkin with the words “Certified Loser” written on it (which Elijah had given Gutierrez in college) a reference to something that happened years ago but has had a lasting effect on Gutierrez. He hasn’t forgotten about it and likely never will.

What you say and do have an impact on those around you. How we treat others defines who we are as people. If you are mean and cruel to others, you will be thought of as mean and cruel. If you are kind and helpful, people will seek your company and friendship.

Many people like to talk big or say they are going to do something when in reality they have no intention of following through. Telling your parents you are going to clean your room week after week but never actually doing it makes a huge impression. The lack of action by not following through on the words actually says more than the words themselves. Promises mean nothing without action or proof.

Activity: Actions & Words Are Yelling

Create a poster (Canva.com) for one if the following: actions speaking louder than words; your words can have a long-term effect on others; or being kind to others is always the best approach. The poster should contain an image, a slogan, and be visually pleasing.

To create a slogan, brainstorm feelings and actions for one of the three possibilities (highlight the one you choose: actions speaking louder than words; your words can have a long-term effect on others; or being kind to others is always the best approach).

Feelings	Actions

Write down at least three slogans which incorporate the feelings and actions. Select the best one for the poster.

Who Are You?

Sydney and Cornerstone discuss Sydney's situation. At the Hope Temple, Sydney's powers presented themselves and she was not able to control them. With the new powers, she isn't comfortable with who she is because she doesn't know how to control them or even when they will appear. She knows what to expect as a detective but not as a sanctuant.

Everyone has strengths and weaknesses. Every person is unique. Embracing your uniqueness can sometimes feel like you are going upstream. Look around you. Take note of who is wearing tennis shoes, who is wearing a striped shirt, who has brown hair, who likes to play sports, who enjoys reading books, who likes everything organized, etc... People are not the same. Even between you and your very best friend there are differences; and that is perfectly ok.

We wouldn't all want to be the same. That would be quite boring. If everyone's favorite meal was pepperoni pizza and loved to play soccer, the world would be so very dull. Think about it, your best friend might like soccer while you like basketball and that's ok. It's precisely because some people like artichokes and black olives on their pizza but don't like sports at all that makes for an interesting world.

Diversity is being composed of differing elements or qualities or ideas. We should be celebrating diversity every day!

Some people look at their differences as weakness. Understanding that what is seen as a weakness isn't always one. Read [The Cracked Pot](#) to understand this concept better.

Activity: Understanding Who You Are

Draw a circle. In the middle of the circle write your name. Now draw lines out from the circle where you can write out your likes (music, food, sports, books, etc...). List as many items as you can. Then use a different color pen/pencil to list the things you dislike on new lines.

Fold a piece of 8 ½ x 11 paper in half lengthwise. Write your name on the front in block letters. Around your name, draw your list of likes and dislikes (show your dislikes with a circle and a slash), coloring each item. Keep going with your drawing, making sure to color each item as well as your name. Add in doodles around the blank spots. When you are done, the entire front of the paper should be covered in your name and drawings.

Doing My Part

Elijah greets Sydney when she comes home after working out. After a hug and a kiss, Elijah starts telling Sydney how frustrated he is that he can't prove the bad guys are guilty without revealing who he really is. Now that Elijah knows who he is and what he is capable of, he just wants to do his part to make the world a better place.

Elijah wants to be able to put the bad guys behind bars but there are other ways to make the world a better place, like tutoring other students, creating a recycling project for your school, or volunteering.

Volunteering means to freely do something without receiving compensation. If you volunteer to clean your room without your mom or dad asking you and without getting something in return, you volunteered to do it. But volunteering is bigger than just cleaning your room. It can be helping to feed the homeless at a homeless shelter, cleaning up the local park in your neighborhood, or sending a care package to deployed military personnel.

There are many volunteer organizations that improve the quality of life for others. A great place to begin is to look at [Do Something](#). There are programs like the one in Massachusetts that helps special needs kids or adults through the organization [The Friendship Circle](#). Donating is just as helpful as volunteering. [Meals on Wheels](#) is always in need of nonperishable items. Visit a retirement home and spend time with the elderly who do not have family. There are so many ways to make a difference, and if you can't find one that fits your interests create one on your own.

We all can't be superheroes like Elijah but we can make an impact on the world we live in. What will you do today?

Activity: Doing My Part

Think about how you can do your part for the world. Think about the questions below or simply go to [Do Something](#) and find something you are interested in.

- What are you passionate about?
- What do students need?
- What things need to be done around the school?
- What things need to be done in your community?
- What things need to be done in your city?

Volunteer at least twice. Create a video explaining your experience. Think of the video as an advertisement for volunteering.

**Always have your parents permission before volunteering.*

Coming Out Party

Elijah receives an invitation to an event at The Royal Embassy for the Al'La-Makan, where the Prime Minister and his daughter will make their first ever public appearance. Sydney refers to this event as a “coming out party”. What is a coming out party?

Cotillion ball, debutante ball, quinceanera, and sweet 16 parties are all parties for young women who are coming of age. These parties celebrate a young girl’s journey from childhood into adulthood.

Cotillion and debutante balls are parties designed for a girl or young woman of an upper-class family who has reached maturity and, as a new adult, comes out or “debuts”.

Quinceanera is the Hispanic traditional coming of age party.

These parties have food, music, and dancing. Some have one girl debuting on their own, while others have a group of girls celebrating together.

These “coming of age” parties are not just for girls though. The Jewish community celebrates their boys maturing with Bar Mitzvahs, while girls have a Bat Mitzvah. However, this is not all fun and games as the young person must prepare with reciting various parts of the Torah (the first five books of the Tanakh or central reference of Judaism).

What is the custom in your area or family?

Activity: What Are the Traditions?

Research one of the following coming of age traditions: Bullet Ant Initiation of the Sateré-Mawé tribe in Brazil, Rumspringa of the Amish, Inuit boys on North Baffin Island, Malaysia’s Khatam Al Koran, Vanuatu Island’s land divers, or Maasai of Kenya and Tanzania warrior class. Write a 500 word paper describing the traditions, where the tradition originated from, what the participants are required to do, and your thoughts on the practice. Be sure to cite your sources.



Rules Around the World

As Elijah and Sydney arrive at the Al'La-Makan event for the Prime Minister and his daughter, a reporter mentions how very few people know anything at all about the country since the people of the country rarely travel and how it has been illegal for anyone to take photos of any member of the royal family. Countries, states, and cities have different laws with the intention of protecting their citizens.

The lèse-majesté laws in Thailand have been around since the early 1900s and make it a criminal offense to defame, insult, or threaten the king, queen, heir-apparent, or regent. Basically, you cannot say negative things about the royal family. Other countries have similar rules about speaking out against the ruling party.

Laws are created for a variety of reasons. Often a specific event prompted the law to come into existence. For instance, in Mobile, Alabama women may not wear pumps with sharp, high heels. This law was created due to a woman whose sharp high heeled shoes got stuck in a sidewalk grate and injured herself. In Singapore, gum is not allowed to be imported. This became a law because chewed or spent gum was found all over the country, and not just on the streets where it would stick to the bottom of your shoe, but in mailboxes, keyholes, and even elevator buttons.

Sometimes it is difficult to determine exactly why a law was created as they seem a little ridiculous, but keep in mind there was always some reason that prompted the law to be created. Sometimes a law is created and then forgotten. There are still laws that were created many years ago and are not relevant today but are still in the law books, though they are rarely (if ever) enforced.

Activity: Know Your Rights

Understanding your rights is important. Research educational laws from either the federal government (<https://www2.ed.gov/policy/landing.jhtml?src=ln>) or in your own state or area. Pick one and write a 500 word report. Include information about when it was signed into law, has it been effective, and your own opinion of the law. Interview a teacher about the law. Cite your sources.



Culture

Elijah and Sydney attend an event at The Royal Embassy for the Al'La-Makan, where the Prime Minister and his daughter will make their first ever public appearance. During the event, Sydney is impressed with the music, the people, and the style of dress of the dancers.

What defines the culture of a people? The ideas, customs, and social behaviors of a people is the definition of culture. Music, films, dance, art, festivals, and food are elements of culture. The U.S. is made up of a great many different cultures and therefore some American culture derives from others.

Some cultures speak really fast, while others speak incredibly slow. Lisps are common in some cultures, while others work to get rid of any evidence of one. The accent one has can show people where you are from. People from the South in the U.S. draw out vowel sounds in their words, while those in the Northeast of the U.S. have a tendency to drop the "r"s from common words.

Personal space is an issue in some cultures and much less so than in others. In Brazil for example, it is not uncommon to find strangers on public transportation touching. However, in the U.S. this would not be the case. U.S. citizens tend to keep distance between those we do not know. Even when we are familiar with someone, there is still a general distance that is kept when speaking to someone.

Public displays of affection (PDA) are also cultural. In India, it is completely unacceptable to hold hands or kiss in public. What is it like where you live?

What do you think is uniquely American? What defines the U.S. culture? Why?

Activity: Other Cultures

Answer the following questions:

- Where are you from?
- How many generations has your family lived there?
- What are the traditional clothes worn?
- What important holidays do you celebrate?
- Is there a special dance?
- Are there any special speech patterns? What are they?
- What foods are specific to your culture?
- What is the music of the culture?
- Is holding hands or kissing in public acceptable? If not, what happens?

Now seek out someone who is not from your area and ask the same questions.

Bodies of Water

The Prime Minister and his daughter, Princess Yola Kesh, have come to New York City for the reception of the Al'La-Makan at The Royal Embassy. To do so, they had to cross the Atlantic Ocean. Depending on how they crossed, it could have been a long flight or a multiple day journey on a boat.

There seems to be a romanticism when it comes to bodies of water. People love spending time on a boat, on the beach, or taking pictures of the sunset over the water. Bodies of water come in different shapes, sizes, and composition (salt vs. fresh water).

Oceans cover the mass majority of the the Earth at 71% coverage. There are five different oceans (Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, Arctic, and the Southern). Oceans are the largest bodies of water. All oceans are made up of saline (salt) water.

Gulfs and bays are openings from larger bodies of water. They provide harbors for ships and boats to dock.

Lakes are bodies of water (either salt or fresh) completely surrounded by land. Often the water from a lake will end up in the ocean but not always. Not all lakes are naturally constructed, some are man-made.

Rivers take water from a source (often snow melt) or sources to another body of water, typically an ocean. Rivers have been used for transportation for many, many years.

Which type of body of water do you like? Have you seen the ocean, a river, or a lake?

Activity: How Big Is That Body of Water?

Create a presentation in Canva explaining the different types of bodies of water and what distinguishes each from the other. Make sure to give examples of each, like the Atlantic would be an ocean. Give statistics for each. Be detailed about the information. Tell how deep and long each example is.

Additionally, find a blank map of your state, print it, label, and color all of the bodies of water.

Isolationism

At the Al'la-makan Reception, Princess Yola Kesh introduces her father, the Prime Minister, and during her introduction she speaks briefly about her country. "Our country likes its privacy and its traditional ways. But we live in a global village and isolationism is no longer practical. We have come to America as our first step onto the world stage..."

Leaders of countries must make decisions to protect their country and land against possible threats. When a country keeps itself away from other countries or if stays out of world affairs, it's called isolationism. There are many reasons why a country might do this. After World War I, isolationism was America's policy. President Woodrow Wilson and the American people did not want to be involved in other countries' politics and issues. The Great Depression and WWI had affected the U.S. people greatly. America wanted to take care of its own people. The President and Congress set limits on the number of immigrants allowed into the country each year, raised tariffs on foreign goods in order to help the economy, enacted treaties regarding disarmament, and more. All in the name of isolationism.

Congress and the President have many decisions to make for the American people each and every day. Just a few of the many current decisions that affect the American people are border walls, Social Security, gay marriage, NSA domestic surveillance, term limits for Congress, and so much more. The President considers many factors when making those decisions.

Activity: Making Decisions for a Nation

The following are some current issues our Nation are facing. Research one of the following and advise the President of how to proceed. Give the reasons why the President should follow your plan.

Gun control - Should Americans be allowed to carry guns? Should there be more restrictions when purchasing a gun?

Welfare drug testing - Should welfare recipients be required to submit to a drug test in order to receive benefits?

Mandatory vaccinations - Should the government mandate all children be vaccinated against preventable diseases?

Mandatory military service - Should all 18 year olds be required to serve at least one year of service?

Term limits - Should Congress be subjected to term limits similar to the President?

Censorship

While at the Al'La-Makan event, one of the Guardians of Faith stormed the Embassy and took control of the event. The Guardians felt the Prime Minister hadn't taken care of his people and, in fact, they felt he was a traitor, had tortured his people, and did not have the best interest of the country at heart.

The Guardian asks, "If you weren't afraid of the truth, why do you censor the internet in our country?"

The Prime Minister responds with, "Because we are only safe--all of us--if we keep our secrets. Please! Think about what you're doing! Anything you reveal you can never take back."

Censorship comes in various forms: banned books, music, media, the internet, speech, and more. Different countries handle censorship differently. Some, like China, block Facebook. North Korea is one of the most restrictive in terms of repressing what the press says. But censorship does not necessarily always come from the government. Schools censor what books are in the school library or read in class.

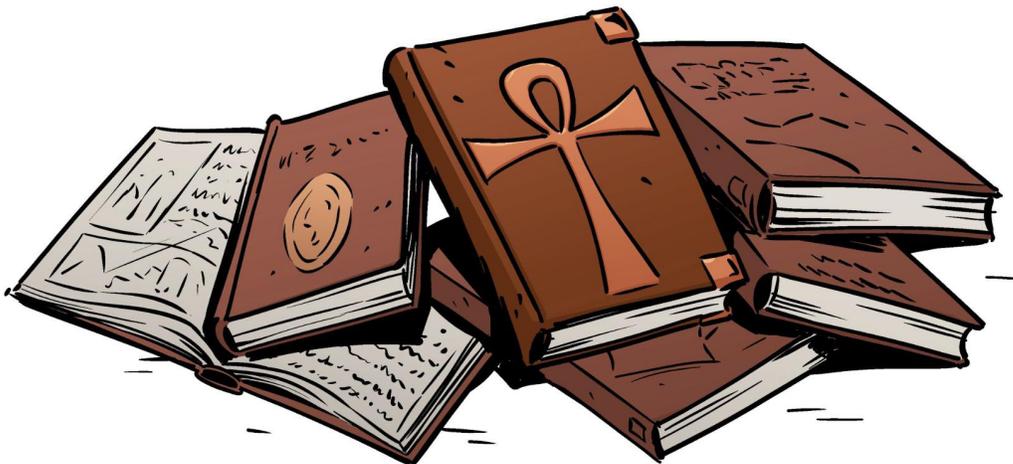
Books have a long history of being banned. Books can be banned for foul language, sex, religious viewpoints, violence, graphic images, and more. Who should have the say on what people write, read, or browse?

Prime Minister Amun Kesh has the final say for his people. He ultimately wants to keep his people safe from the outside world. Those that censor typically have the same goal: to keep people safe but it can be taken too far.

Activity: Censorship

Review the current banned book list (<http://www.ala.org/bbooks/frequentlychallengedbooks/classics>)

Pick one and research why it has been banned. Explain your thoughts on banning this book? Create a poster (<https://www.canva.com/>) to promote either a pro or con approach to banning books.



United Nations

When the Guardians of Faith took over the Al'La-Makan event, a Guardian threatens to share information with the United Nations. The Prime Minister says he doesn't want that to happen. He even says he would see the Guardian dead before he allows it.

The United Nations (UN) is an intergovernmental organization that works to create and maintain order internationally. It was created in October of 1945 after World War II to assist establishing peaceful relationships between all nations and to ensure the issues of WWII didn't happen again. Originally, only 51 countries were part of the UN. Today, all 193 countries are members of the UN, working together to determine political negotiations.

The UN works to bring all nations together to ensure world peace, human rights, and sustainable development. The UN uses a Charter that acts as the constitutional document to outline the structure and power of the organization.

The UN has many different initiatives but their biggest push is to eliminate poverty. By 2015, the first of the UN's initiatives was to reduce the number of people living on less than \$1.25 USD a day. In 2000, the UN set up 8 Millennium Development Goals to help reduce and eliminate poverty:

- 1) Eradicate extreme hunger and poverty
- 2) Ensure primary education for everyone
- 3) Promote gender equality and empower women
- 4) Reduce child mortality
- 5) Improve maternal health
- 6) Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases
- 7) Ensure environmental stability
- 8) Develop a global partnership for development.
 - People living on less than \$1.25 a day has decreased - 400 million from 1990 to 2005.
 - Overall, enrollment in education reached 89% in 2009, up from 82% in 1999.
 - Deaths of children under 5 have declined - 12 million in 1990 to 8 million in 2009.

Because of the UN, more than 500 treaties have been enacted throughout the world addressing international crimes, agriculture, refugees, poverty, oceans, and much more.

Activity: \$1.25 A Day

Could you live on \$1.25 a day? For a week, write down everything you spend money on. Now cross out the things you do not absolutely need to live. Many of the things we want are not the things we need. Write a 500 word report describing your thoughts and feelings on living with less. Explain what you could do without, what you would keep, and how you made each decision.

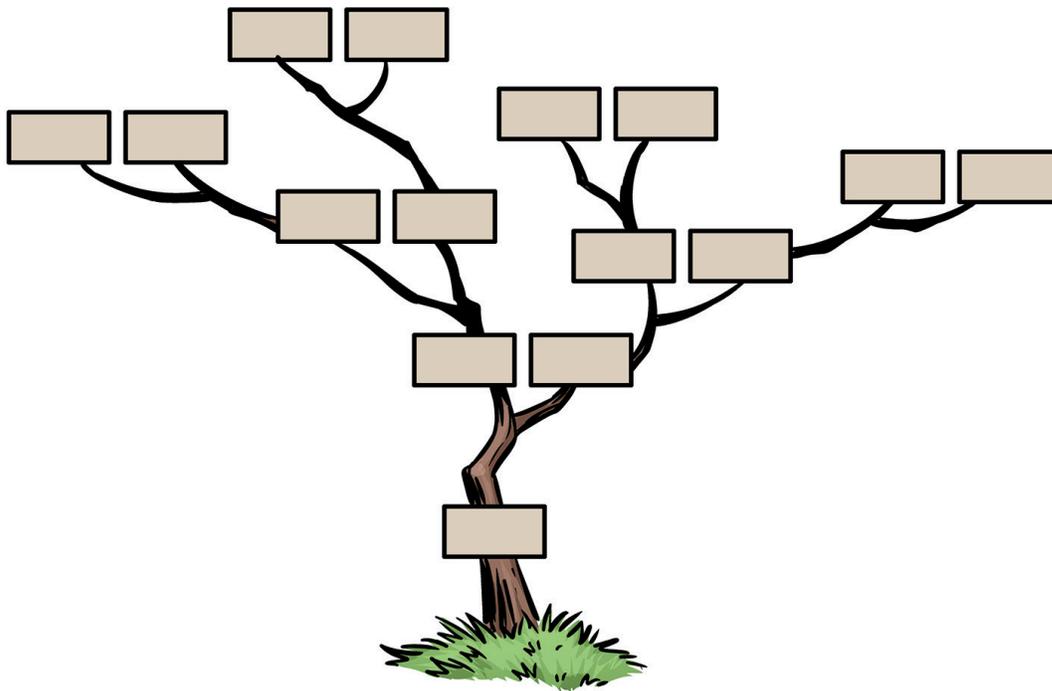
Bloodlines

Understanding our families is key to learning who we are as people, our history, and where we come from. We may not have magical powers like Elijah but understanding our heritage is important. In America, people ask others all the time where their ancestors came from and their answers vary: Italy, Spain, England, Germany, Mexico, and more.

Tracking our family history is called *genealogy*. It is history on a personal level. Our ancestors have tales to tell.

Activity: Tracing Your Bloodlines and Fascinating Tales

Trace your family history back at least three generations. Ask your parents who their parents and siblings were. Then ask your grandparents who their parents and siblings were, and so on. Try to go back as far as possible. Use the chart below to document. This may get a tad difficult as you go further back as many may have passed away. Go back as far as you can since it can be quite fascinating.



Once your family tree is complete, ask one of your oldest relatives to tell a story about their childhood. If possible record video as they tell their story. If not, take good notes and later write down their story.

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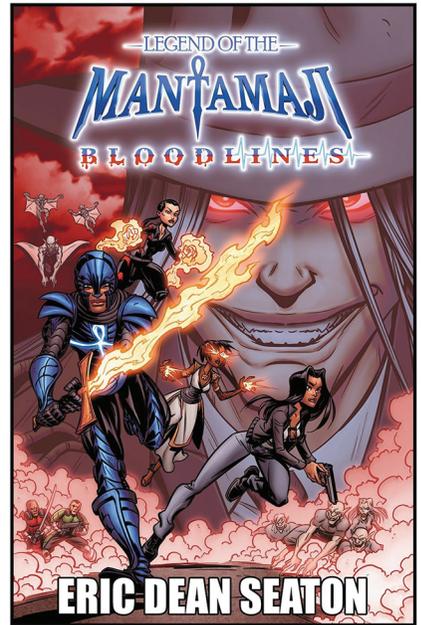
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