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order-chaos

Order and chaos are certainly entrenched in our binary universe (and perhaps in the multiverse).... I think, as I enjoy gardening in the summer sun, about the order and chaos in my daily life, and whether order and chaos can coexist in my flowerbeds, and then I wonder if order and chaos exist in my stained glass art? This sounds silly at first, but I think too much order is rather boring, and too much chaos is disturbing, so a balance is good. I wonder if different personalities are prone to preferring “greater order and less chaos” or “greater chaos and less order”.

It could be that individually, we prefer more or less of each depending upon where we are in other aspects of our lives. To plant various species together...co-cultures...doesn't always work for me. I prefer to see only ONE kind of leaf in any flower bed, but others may like to have several, and flowers that bloom at different times. I find that co-cultures often become monocultures because one species will survive best, and eventually the other will die out, at least in my back yard. In some places I can not even attempt to conquer chaos, but can only bring some low level of order into the system... order in the margin between my grass and my flower beds, or a path or stone wall.

It seems not too far a stretch to move the order-chaos idea into designs for stained glass, cross stitch and beading patterns. Too many repeats, similar size pieces, the same color glass throughout, or patterns with mostly vertical and horizontal lines.... might be just the perfect amount of order that some people need, while curves, and energy and dramatic color and high texture are favorites of others. I think the key to good design spans both the highly ordered and highly chaotic, making those lines whether calm or vibrating, look like intentional events, and reflecting our collective desires to see evidence that someone made an attempt to bring some level of order from chaos. We all like to see progress against the inevitable...entropy.

Making a pattern that just has any old cut lines connecting the foreground and the background might seem like a good idea and it doesn't take much time, but to the observer it might look disconcerting, as if someone didn't really “think” about the lines.

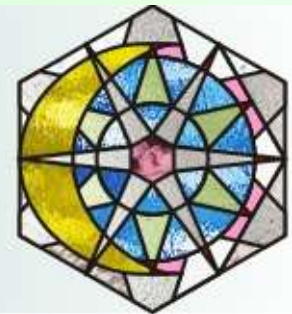
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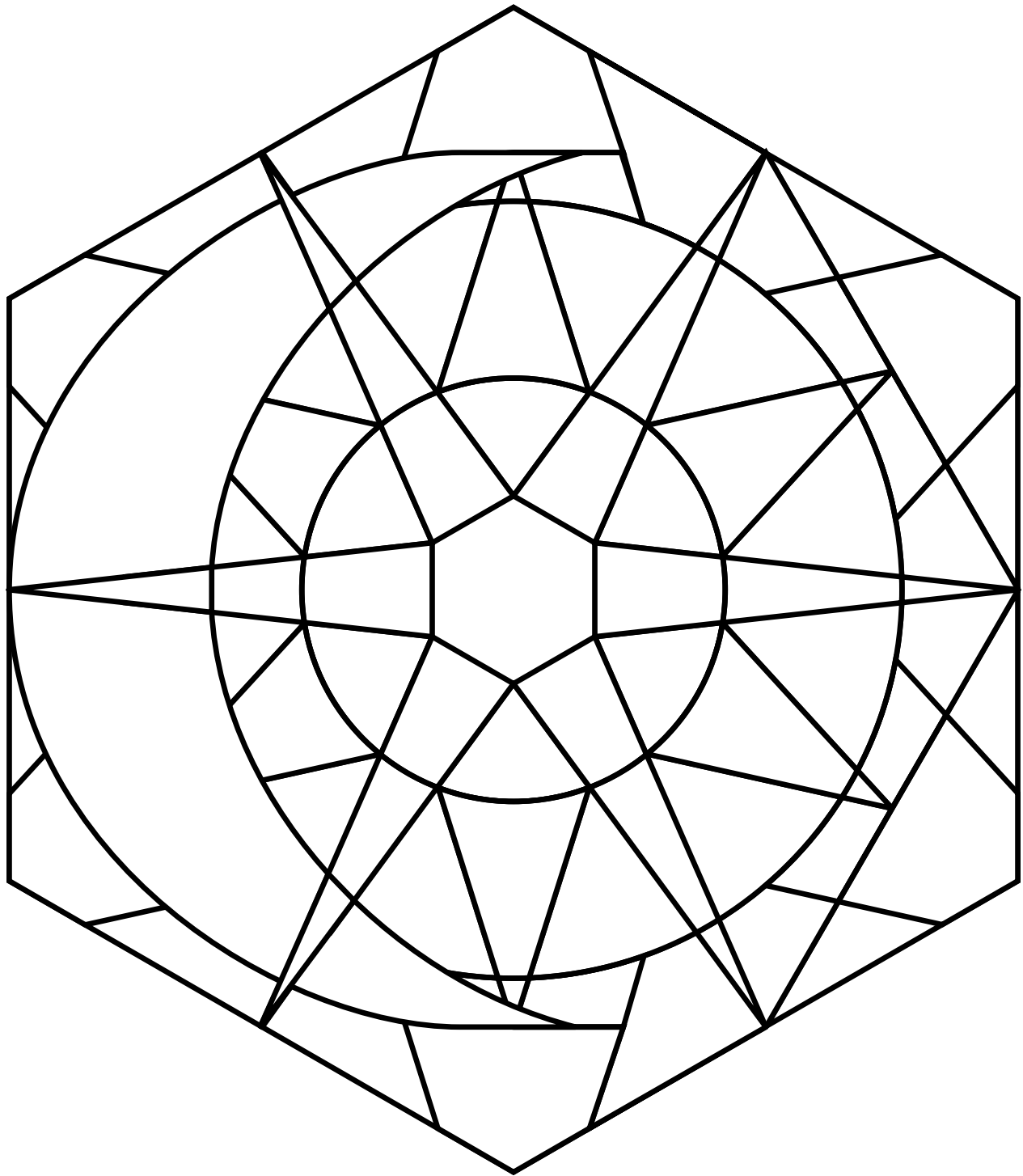
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free pattern for July



COUPON send me the email address of friend who does beading—and get three free stained glass patterns

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