



In the time shortly after the Civil War, cemeteries like Rutherfordton City Cemetery were filled with elaborate tombstones, monuments, and wrought iron fences. Cemeteries went from being simply a place to bury the dead to being a place for the public to enjoy open space, gorgeous gardens, and elaborately decorated works of art. Cemeteries were the original public park. In Rutherfordton in the 1890s, the whole town would celebrate Memorial Day with a parade through town that concluded at the cemetery with speeches and a grand community-wide picnic. During the Victorian period, using symbolic imagery on tombstones and monuments was a common way to honor the life of the person buried there. Messages were coded in the images. For example, a tree trunk symbolizes the "brevity of life," clasped hands can represent being greeted in heaven by your loved ones or saying farewell. There is a language of meaning hidden within those symbols & images.

Please keep the historical context of this cemetery in mind as you explore. Ask yourself not only about who is buried here, but ask yourself who isn't.

Cemetery Etiquette

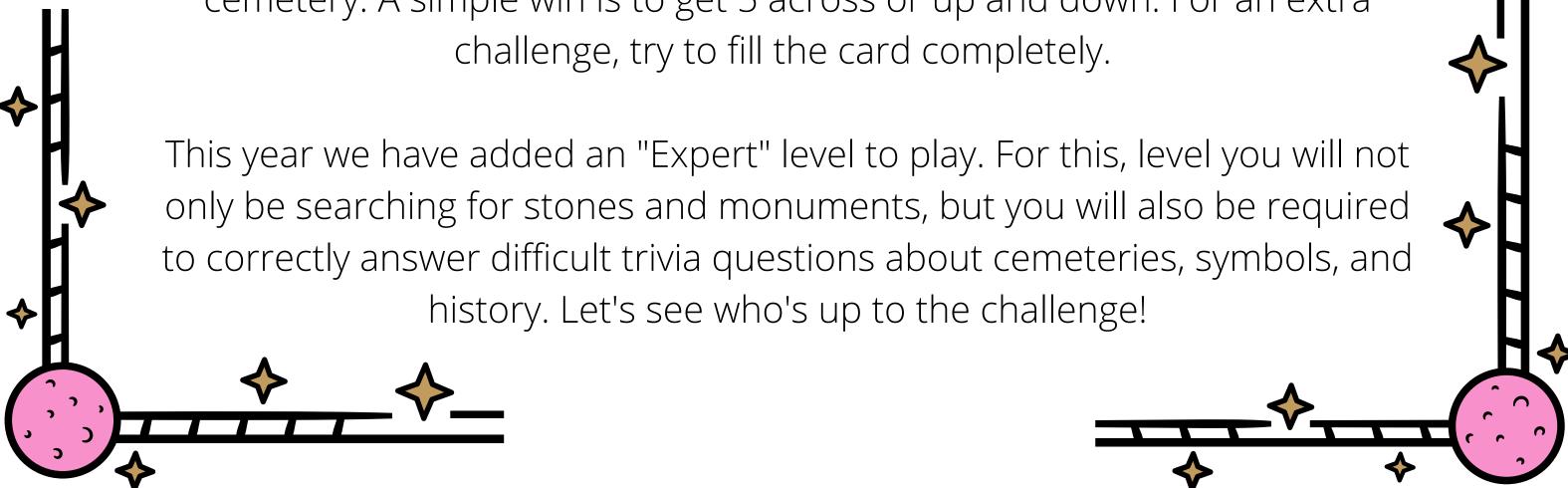
While you are in the cemetery today, please be cautious and courteous to other people. Remain socially distanced from the living, so that everyone stays that way. Wear masks and sanitize your hands..

Please be mindful of the uneven ground, stones and other hazards, and fire ant mounds. Running is not advised, nor is reading, writing, or texting while walking. You might trip over stones hidden in the grass.

Do not sit, stand, lean on, or otherwise disrupt the monuments or stones. Do not remove flowers or other keepsakes left by loved ones. Do not damage or deface the stones.

How to Play

Mark your clue card like you would a BINGO card as you walk through the cemetery. A simple win is to get 5 across or up and down. For an extra challenge, try to fill the card completely.





Woman whose

name sounds

like a vegetable

Column carved

into a

headstone

Laurel Wreath

Flower Vase

Carved into

Stone

Unusual or

Outdated Term

for Wife

Hand with

Finger Pointing

Up

Scroll Shaped

Headstone

Masonic

Symbol

Obelisk

Col. Champion

Davis, who died

in 1862, during

the American

Civil War

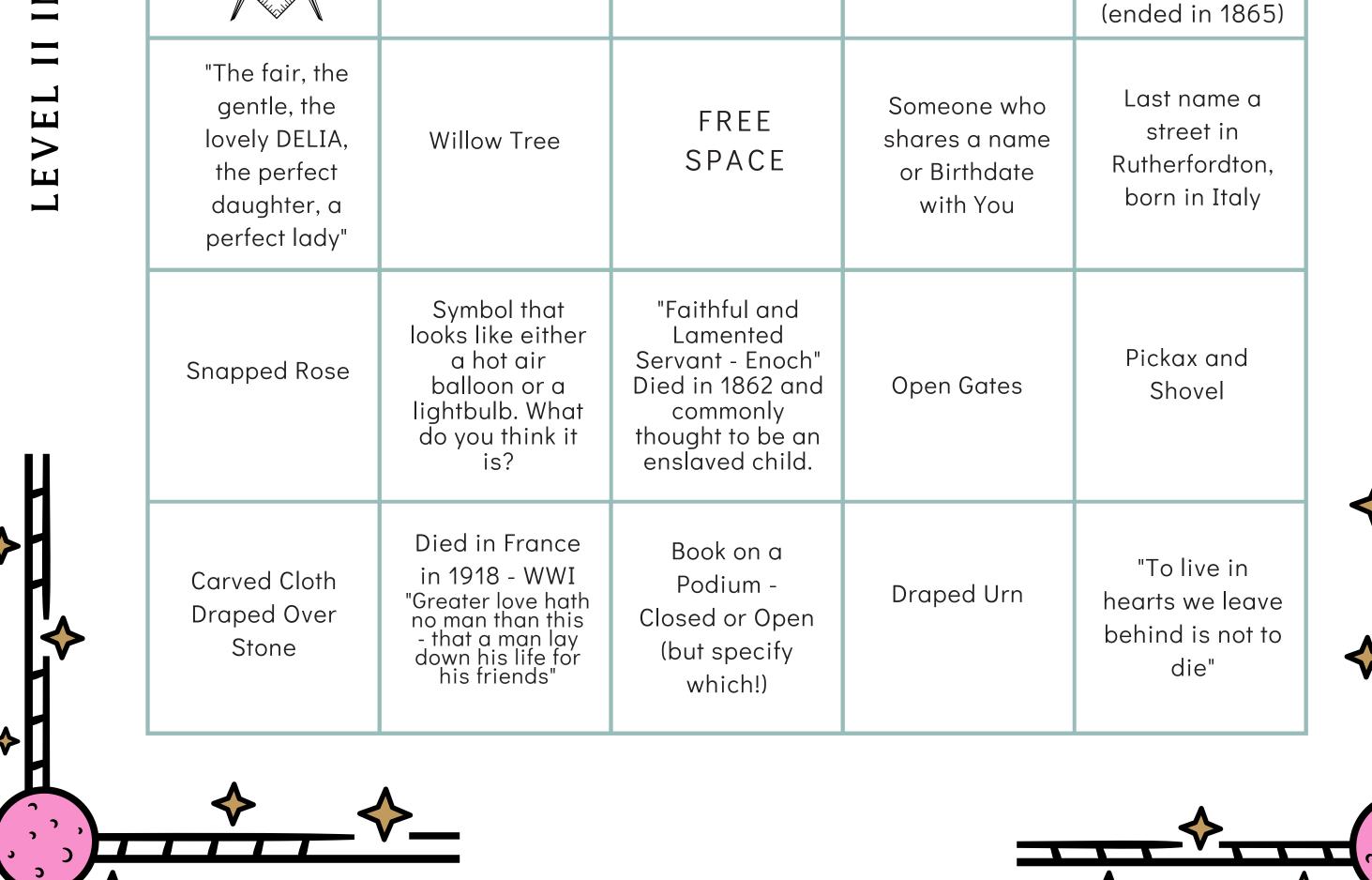
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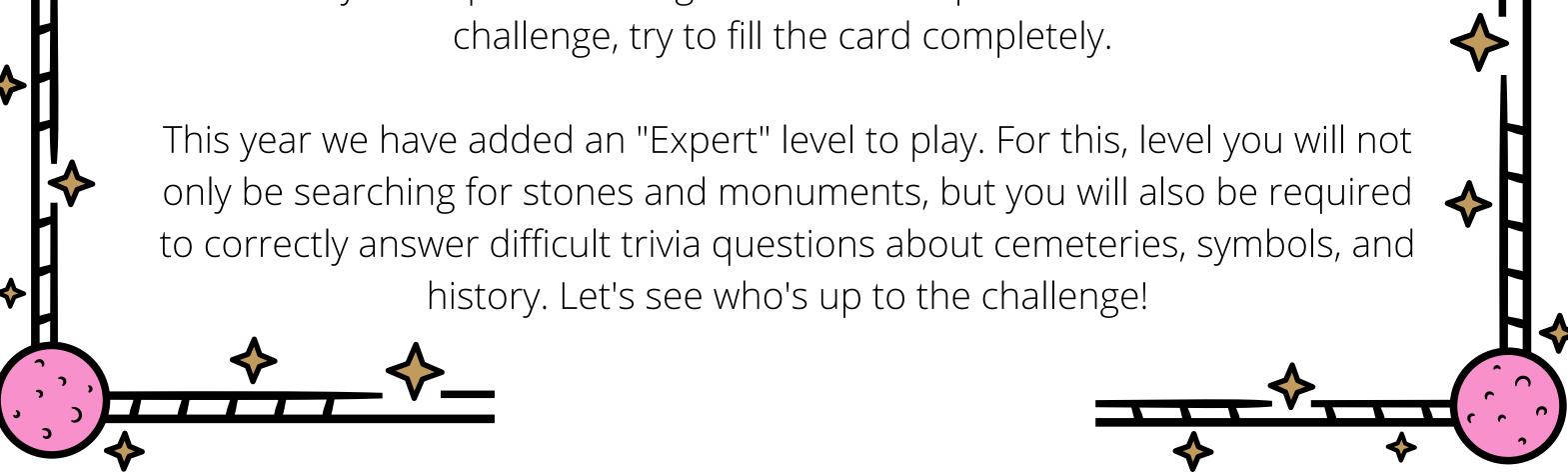
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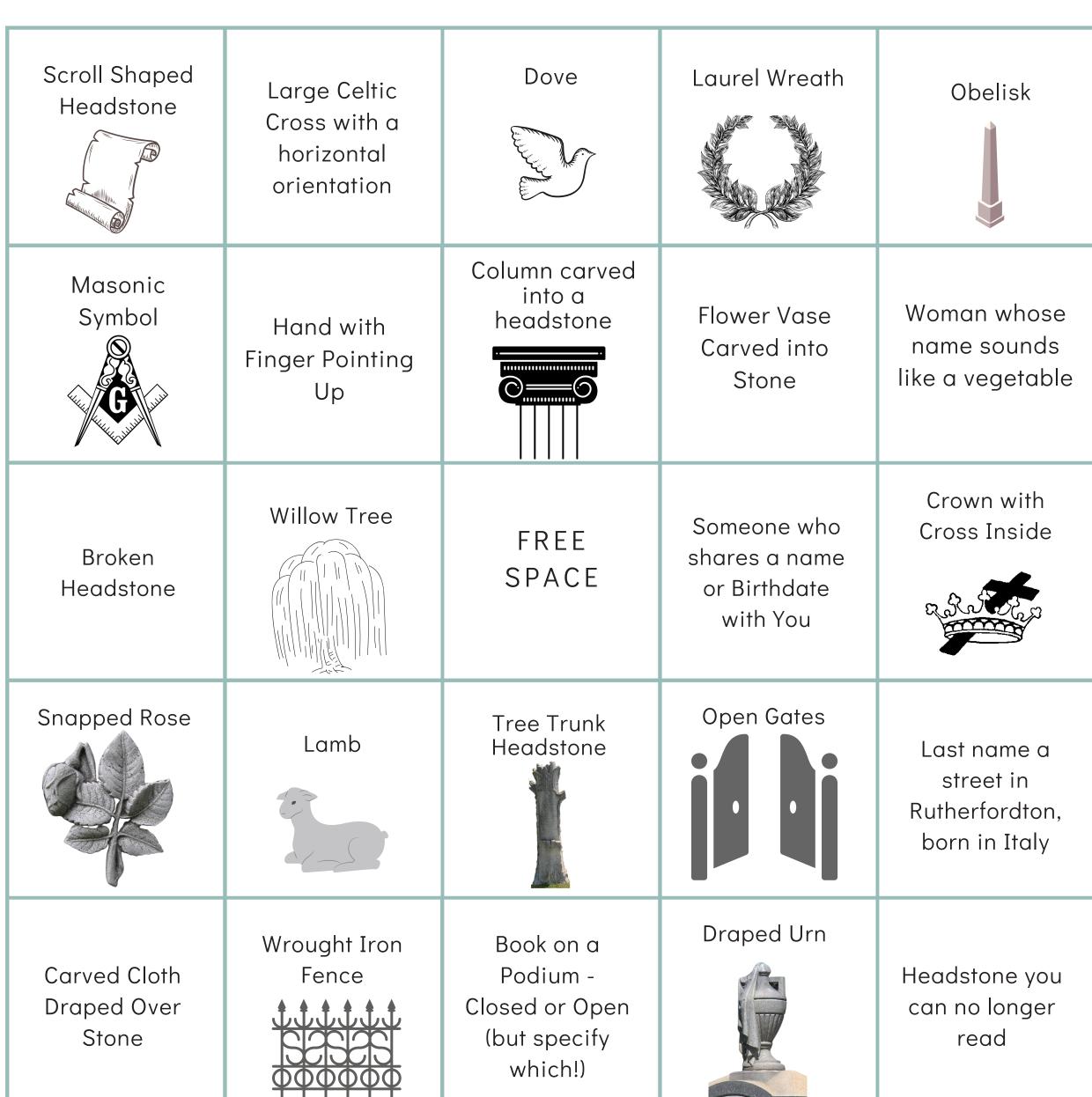
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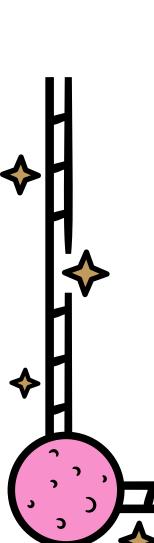




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