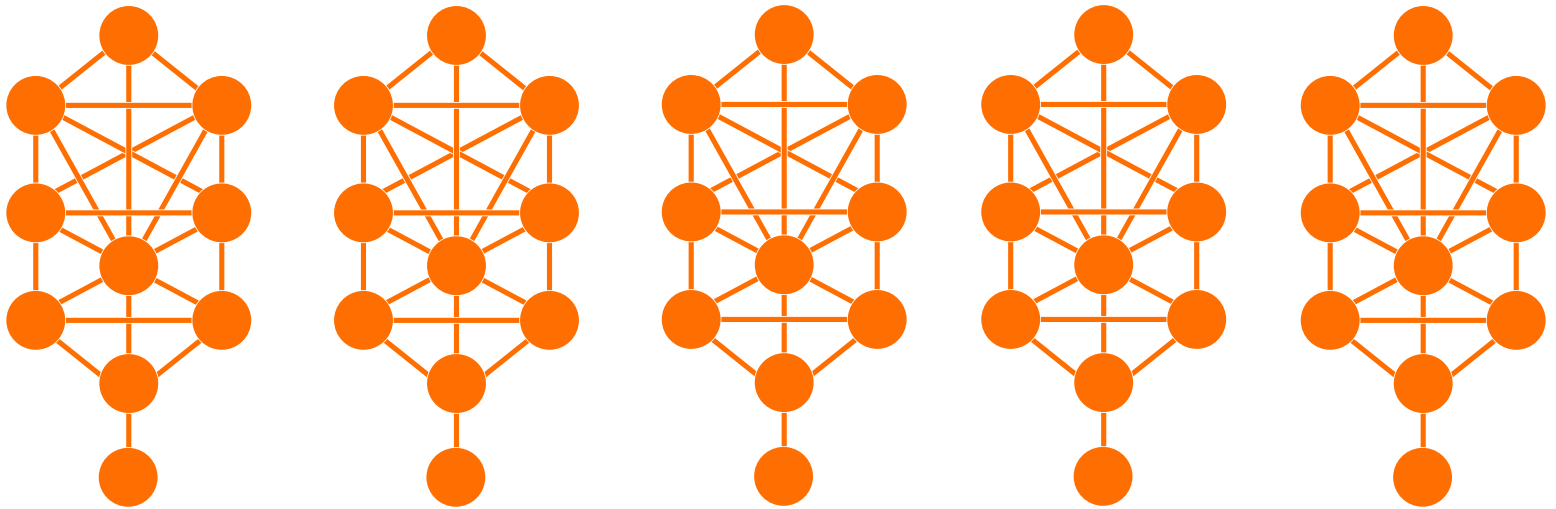


# CELESTIAL JEWS AND TERRESTRIAL REALITIES

*Kabbalah as the Search for Meaning in the Middle Ages*



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Hartley Lachter is the Phillip and Muriel Berman Professor of Jewish Studies at Lehigh University, where he is also director of the Berman Center for Jewish Studies. Lachter's scholarship focuses on medieval Kabbalah, Jewish mysticism, with a particular emphasis on the relationship between Jewish historical experiences and the development of kabbalistic discourses. His recent book is *Kabbalistic Revolution: Reimagining Judaism in Medieval Spain*. In both his work and his teaching, Lachter invites readers and students to consider how religious identities are negotiated through the production of public discourses that shape, and are shaped by, the interactions across identity boundaries.