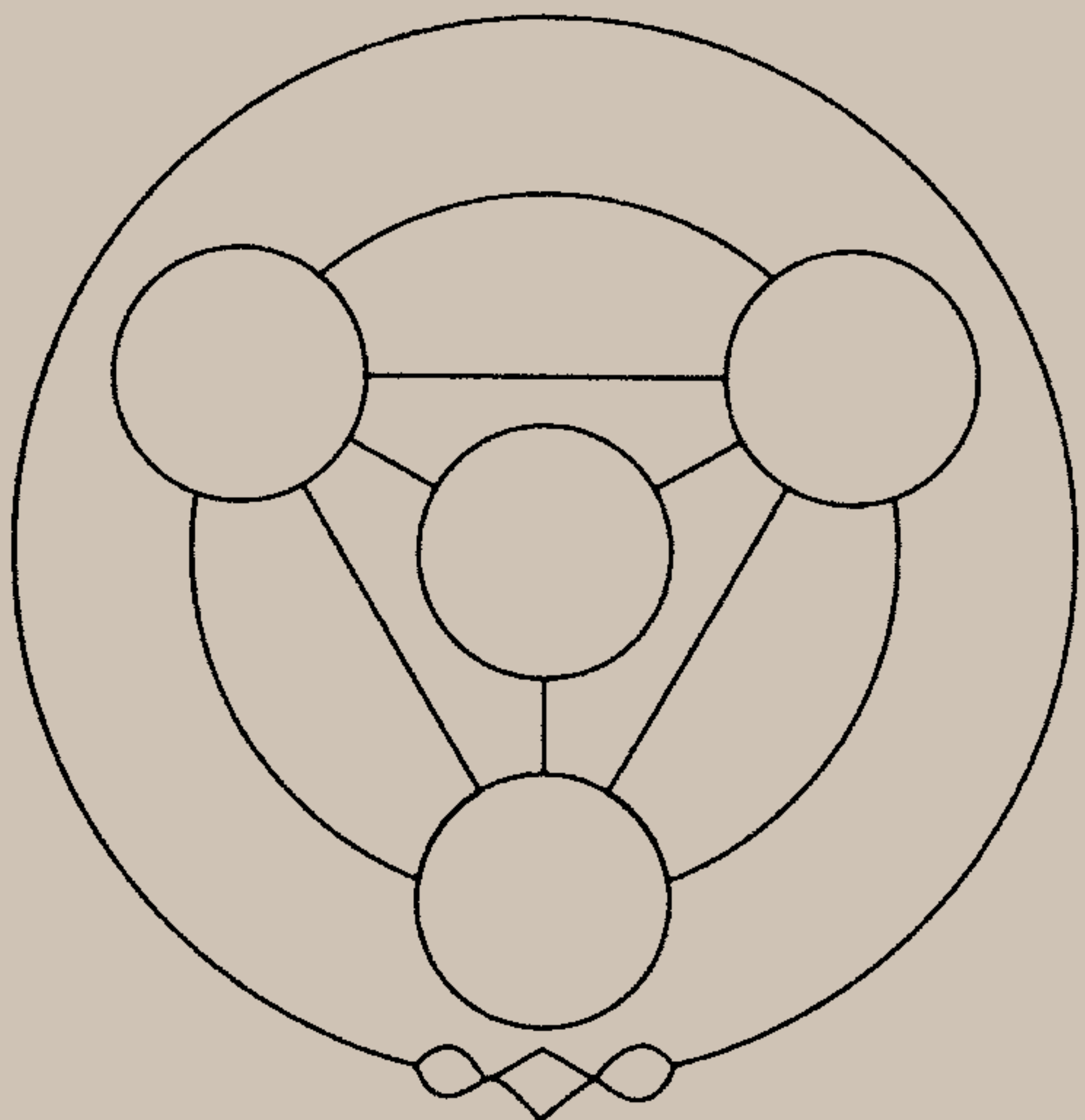


relatively solid grounding in the theory at hand, we may proceed to a preliminary diagram.



The most important part of a sigil is its **BINDING POINT** and protective circle. Every sigil must be surrounded by a perfect circle, interrupted only by a binding point. If the circle and binding point are not correctly included, dire consequences may follow. Further treatment of binding points and their use can be found in §5.

At their most simple, the meaningful parts of a sigil can be read as a sentence. As the reader may recall, a simple English sentence can be formed as follows: **SUBJECT — VERB — OBJECT**

The **SUBJECT** of a sigil is the symbolic name of, or other referent to, the one enacting the sigil. Any practitioner of magic must define their own sigillographic name before beginning spellwork. One may occasionally substitute a name of a group or category. Defining a symbol for oneself is a simple process: once it has been drafted and a sigil has been drawn which incorporates the symbol, one's identity will be contained within the symbol.

The **VERB** of a sigil is the action which is being taken. There is a great deal of variety among verbs, and they are frequently the most complex part of a sigil. However, there also exist many simple verbs. This part of the sigil can be used to protect; to siphon power; to transform; and any number of other applications. More on complex verbs can be found in §6 and §12.

The **OBJECT** of a sigil refers to the literal, metaphorical, or magical entity which is affected by the sigil. An index of sigils is included in the first Appendix of this textbook. It is possible for a given working to require an object more complex than a single symbol; see §4 for more.

The final essential part of a sigil is the **POWER SOURCE**. This one does not fit into the sentence framework, but is nonetheless an essential part of the sigil. It indicates the place from which power will be drawn to work the sigil's purpose. Common sources include the four alchemical elements, one's own body, or a supernatural entity.

Other sections, such as a conditional, may be present in a more complex sigil. However, these five are the only elements which are present in every sigil. The locations of these elements are constant: the subject of a sigil is always