We suggest a certain problem involving a specific action of a group on a graph and as a solution to this problem we obtain classical groups along with some sporadic groups. In fact the classical and sporadic solutions are sometimes so close that one can obtain the sporadic one as a result of a 'twist' the classical one. Here 'twist' means applying a certain exceptional automorphism to the intersection of two sugroups generating the action in question. I am planning to concentrate on one particular example where the Mathieu group M_{24} comes as a twist of the amalgam of maximal parabolic subgroups in the general linear group of dimension 5 over the field of two elements. The intention is to make the exposition of the M_{24} story as transparent as possible. Although, in order to appreciate the general setting and the importance of the original problem it is helpful to be familiar with basic theory of the locally finite vertex- and edge-transitive actions of groups on trees.