

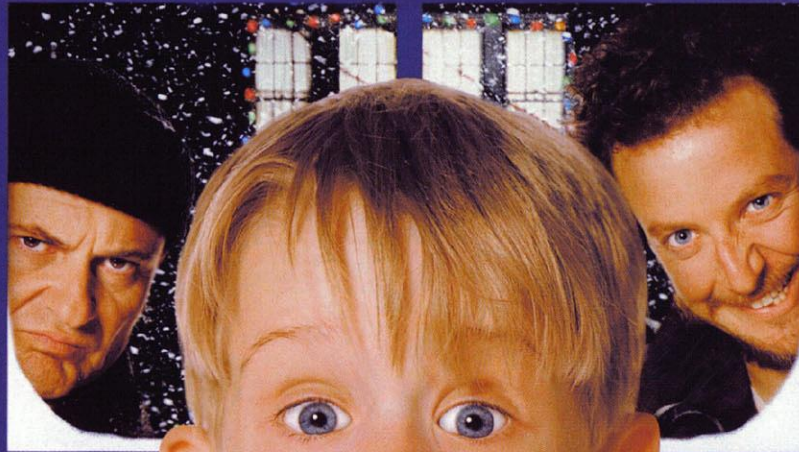
# CHRISTMAS B.C.

(NOT A CONTRADICTION)



DECEMBER 2019

FROM JOHN HUGHES  
**HOME ALONE**  
A FAMILY COMEDY WITHOUT THE FAMILY







NATIONAL  
**LAMPOON's**  
**CHRISTMAS VACATION**











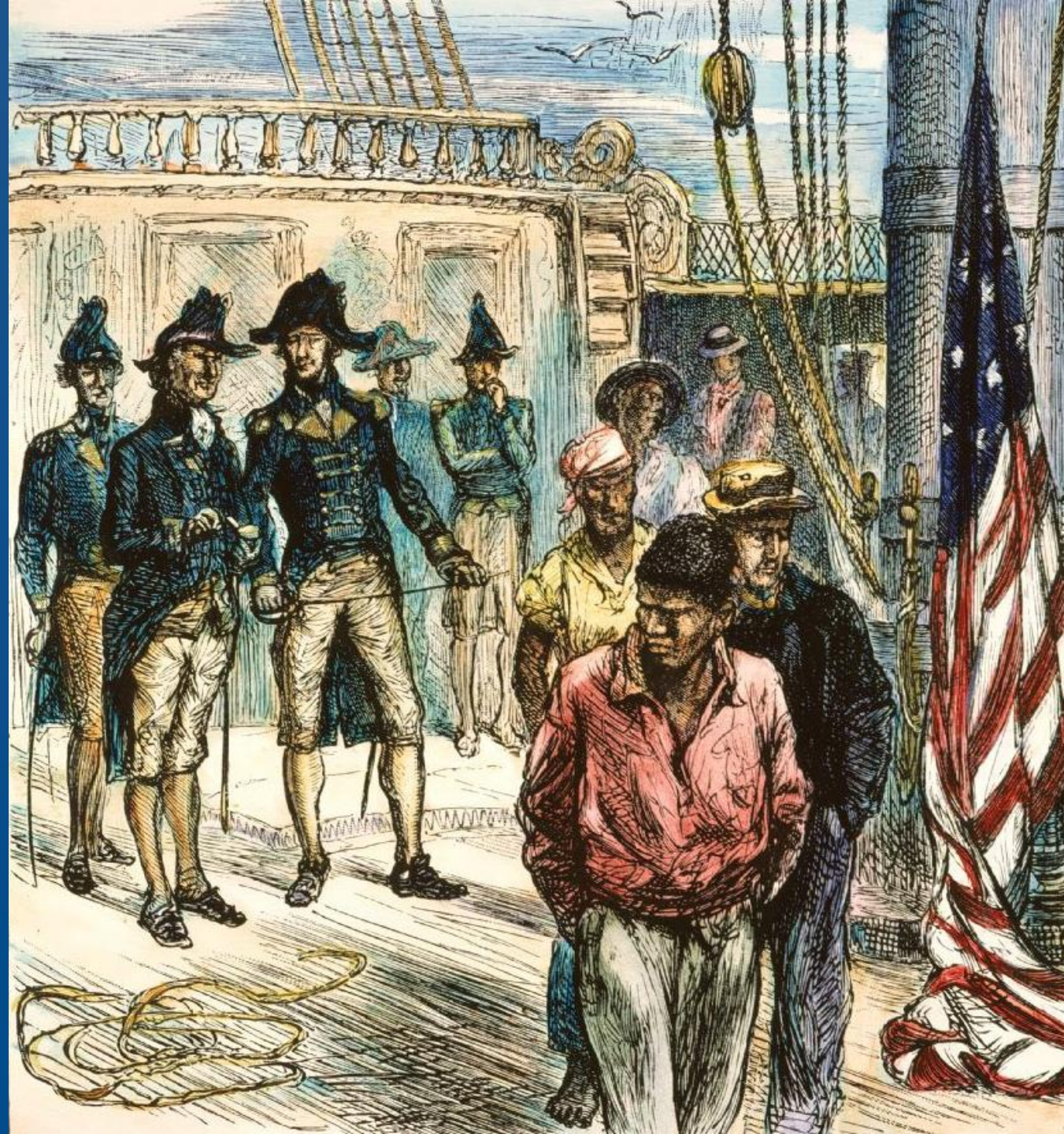
























Abraham G.  
Hunter  
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SLOW NEWS  
IS

GOOD NEWS

MARK 1:1-15 12/22/2019





Luke 2:10-14 (ESV): “And the angel said to them, ‘Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. **11** For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. **12** And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.’ **13** And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, **14** ‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!’”



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Micah 5:2 (ESV): “But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.”



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IS

GOOD NEWS

MARK 1:1-15 12/22/2019





Mark 1:1-15 (ESV): “The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. **2** As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, ‘Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, **3** the voice of one crying in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”’ **4** John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. **5** And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sin....”



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“...6 Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. 7 And he preached, saying, ‘After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. 8 I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’ 9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove....”



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“...**11** And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.’ **12** The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. **13** And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him. **14** Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, **15** and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.’”

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Luke 2:1-5 (ESV): “In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered.  
**2** This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. **3** And all went to be registered, each to his own town. **4** And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, **5** to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.”



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Matthew 2:13-14 (ESV): “An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, ‘Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.’ **14** And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt **15** and remained there until the death of Herod.”



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Matthew 2:19-23 (ESV): “But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, **20** saying, ‘Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.’ **21** And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. **22** But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee.”



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Luke 16:16 (NASB): “The Law and the Prophets were proclaimed until John; since that time the gospel of the kingdom of God has been preached.”



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MARK 1:1-15 12/22/2019



CHRISTMAS IS  
AS MUCH ABOUT THE SAVIOR'S  
ACTIVITY  
AS IT IS ABOUT HIS  
NATIVITY.



MAIN POINT



Galatians 4:4-5 (ESV): “But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.”



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Matthew 11:13 (ESV): “For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John.”



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Luke 4:14-21 (ESV): “Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. **15** He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him. **16** He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, **17** and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:...”



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“...**18** ‘The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, **19** to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.’ **20** Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. **21** He began by saying to them ‘Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.’”

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John 18:36 (ESV): “Jesus answered, ‘My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.’”



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Matthew 4:17 (ESV): “From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.’”



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Matthew 11:2-5 (ESV): “Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples **3** and said to him, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’ **4** And Jesus answered them, ‘Go and tell John what you hear and see: **5** the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them.’”



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Matthew 6:10 (ESV): “Your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as it is in  
heaven.”



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Mark 1:15 (ESV): “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.””



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Galatians 3:8-9 (ESV): “And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, ‘In you shall all the nations be blessed.’ 9 So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.”



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Titus 3:5-7 (ESV): “He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”



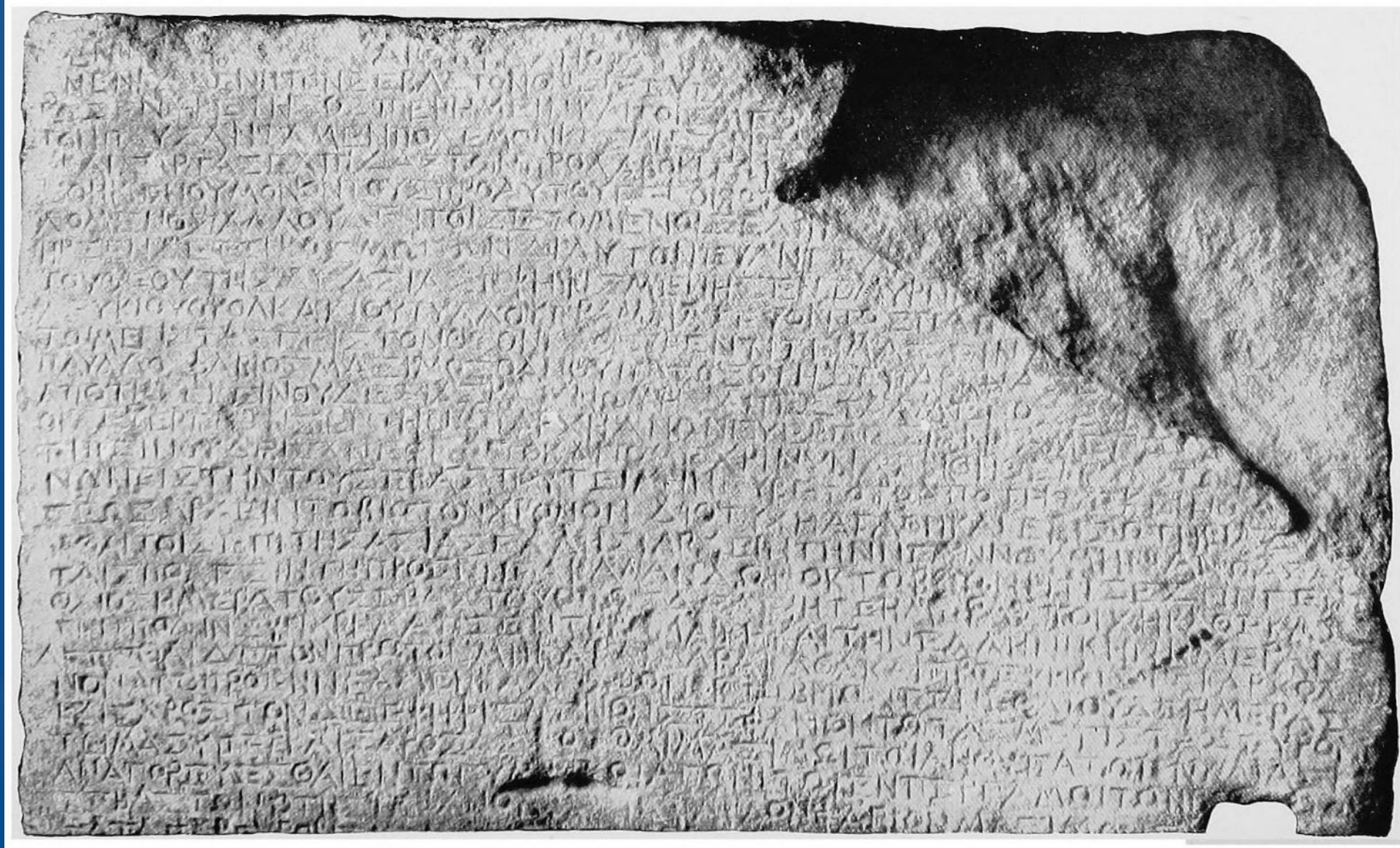
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SLOW NEWS IS GOOD NEWS





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“Since Providence...has set in perfect order by giving us Augustus...sending him as a savior, both for us and for our descendants, that he might end war and arrange all things, and since he, Caesar, by his appearance excelled even our anticipations, surpassing all previous benefactors, and not even leaving to posterity any hope of surpassing what he has done, and since the birthday of the god Augustus was the beginning of the good news [*euaggelion*] for the world that came by reason of him, which Asia resolved in

Smyrna.” (From the Priene Calendar Inscription, lines 6-26)

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Mark 1:1 (ESV): “The beginning of the gospel [*euaggelion*] of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.”



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SLOW NEWS

IS

GOOD NEWS

MARK 1:1-15 12/22/2019





WE

SHOULD CHOOSE

THE

GOOD NEWS

OF CHRISTMAS.



APPLICATION

Acts 14:15 (ESV): “We bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God.”



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Luke 1:19 (ESV): “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news.”



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