



The TATTLER

Established 1893

Spring 2021

From the Director

This June will be filled with big doses of nostalgia and big deep exhales as campers and staff see the calendar days tick by, slowing passing important dates of familiar summer schedules. When you have been looking forward to a moment or an adventure for 10 months or 2 years, only then to lose it to what dually feels unjust and understandable circumstances, the loss of another summer can still weigh upon us.

I had hoped to be writing about where the Hudson Bay trips be heading to this summer, and how many fish Section D and 3 would reel into shore in western Ontario or Manitoba. I had hoped to be sending out welcoming messages to new campers and families. We are still processing the loss of another Keewaydin summer in our home, our kids wondering “can we still go on a canoe trip, somewhere?”, or questions like “can I go for a paddle?” or “when will this all be over?”.

As I imagine packing up our van for a summer on Lake Temagami, I think about heading down the Mine Road with a very different kind of anticipation for what lies ahead. This June, John, Dylan, and I will roll up our sleeves and take a walk around Devil’s Island, slowly familiarizing our

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Looking south over center of camp

Did you know?

Did you know, Ontario is home to five of the largest undammed rivers in North America? The grand list is the Severn, Winisk, Albany, Attawapiskat, and Moose Rivers. World Water Day celebrates the free flowing fresh water of our world, an annual United Nations day of observance. The day is meant to highlight the need for sustainable management of freshwater resources.

As a canoe tripping camp, we are connected to these undammed rivers of Ontario. Many staff and campers have stared in wonder at their steady continual rhythmic flow of a river, and listened to the reassuring whooshing

and roaring sound of millions of gallons of free flowing water.

If you pause for a moment and close your eyes, you can imagine the vast amount of water pumping into the northern ocean waters of James Bay and Hudson Bay, feeding the land and animals as they flow. All of these rivers traversing through the Hudson

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From the Director *continued from page 1*

senses to the island, the water, and the breeze. I know I will breathe in the pine filled air and slowly exhale out the last years' worth of worry and frustration. Then we will make our lists and get to work. We'll team up with our small crew and set out to take care of Devil's Island and Ojibway.

I'm sure you can visualize the buildings that need fresh paint, the doors and windows that will need some tender loving care, and the layers of dust and pine needles to sweep away. Beyond that will be more projects. New outdoor faucets, platforms for new canvas tents to build, screens to repair, decks to level, and some valuable long term planning conversations to round out our days. We'll travel around to nearby campsites to clean them up. We'll evaluate the gear, review our inventory, organize, and keep the daily ins and outs of Keewaydin traditions cemented in our minds. In a summer that we never hoped to be having, we'll talk and talk and strategize on the ways we can prepare for 2022. How might we mark our return? How might we celebrate welcoming campers back? How will next summer be different?

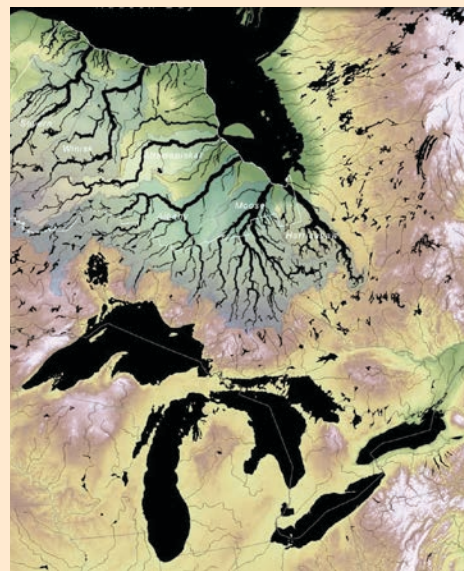
I'm sure we'll also feed the black flies, mosquitoes, and no-see-ums. We'll take lots of photos and share them with our Keewaydin community. Next September, we know Ontario and Canada will be in a much healthier place and Keewaydin can charge ahead toward 2022, shouting our Keewaydin cheer and celebrating our triumphant return.



Did You Know? *continued from page 1*

Bay and James Bay lowlands. A neat fact about these lowlands, made up of peat and muskeg and carbon, is that these rivers make up the **third largest wetland in the world!**

These rivers are historic to Canada but also to Keewaydin.



Five largest undammed rivers in North America

Keewaydin's connection to these rivers began in 1911 with our first Bay trip to Moose Factory. A small hearty crew paddling north to the Moose River onto James Bay and the HBC Moose Factory Post, only to then turn south and paddle back to Lake Temagami, using the T&NO railway in part of their journey. 5 more decades of tripping in Quebec occurred before Keewaydin navigated northwest to the Albany River in 1963, and another decade until Keewaydin paddled the Winisk River. Shortly following the exploration of the Winisk River came the Attawapiskat River. In 1982

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Rivers

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Keewaydin made its way to the Severn River, with its big water, swift moving current, and a unique accomplishment for the most northern river yet traveled by a Keewaydin section.

Check out this amazing map and learn more about the water we share by visiting the Wildlife Conservation Society. <https://www.wcscanada.org/Resources/The-Water-We-Share.aspx>

Map and information comes from the Wildlife Conversation Society and *The Keewaydin Way*.



Poles will have to do when there are no trees around.



It's true, teamwork makes the dream work.

~ FAN FAVORITES ~

When Keewaydin joined the ranks of social media, we did not know if alum and campers would like what we had to share. We soon came to realize that our photos and videos not only resonated with our community, but that they were also a great dose of "aaahhhh". A good feeling to be reminded of a place we love. Some Keewaydin alum are not on Facebook or Instagram, so we decided to bring some Fan Favorites to you in this newsletter. These are a few of our most favored photos of this last year.



Stacked and rockin'!



Mirror mirror on the lake, who's the coolest of them all?



~ Historian's Corner: Flagged! ~



Harter Collection: Peeking into the past

There are a number of beautiful flags hanging in the Ridgeway Lodge and the Keewaydin Dining Hall. The American flag in this 1937 camp photo from the Harter Collection, is rather unique. What might you notice that tells us a piece of American history?

Email your answer to emily@keewaydin.org

*If you have a historic camp question you would love the answer to, let us know and we'll ask our Camp Historian Brian Back.



Shoreline revealed this past winter

Winter on Devil's Island is gone in a flash!

Dave Wilfong, Keewaydin caretaker and Director of Maintenance, spent the winter hunkered down, expanding his ice fishing skills, baking by the fire, and enjoying many hikes to the top of Devil's Mountain. Not to keep idle, walks around the island, and snow machine visits to see local lake friends were apart of the weekly routine. The bush and lake did not receive a lot of snow this past winter, which could be great, helping bug season quickly come and go. It did allow for any early ice out and a return to boating down the lake.

~ THE KEEWAYDIN ANNUAL FUND ~

**Each time we overcome an obstacle,
we grow in ways we never dreamed possible.**

At camp each summer, our campers learn to stand strong when faced with obstacles and challenges. With grit and determination, through teamwork and hard work, with a sense of humor and belief in oneself, obstacles are overcome.



We continue to face Covid-related challenges in 2021: the closure of camp at Temagami, restrictions limit who can stay at Ojibway, and reduced enrollment at Dunmore and Songadeewin. Your support of the Annual Fund will help us stand strong in the face these obstacles, while we continue to offer our kids the best camp experiences as ever.

Please give today at [Keewaydin.org/give](https://www.keewaydin.org/give)

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

Lights, Camera, Action! Wood on Water premiered online for our Keewaydin community

What a thrilling and exhilarating evening we had this past March! Keewaydin alum and families were invited to a one time early showing of **Wood on Water**. We had the pleasure of hosting a viewing via Zoom and the YouTube premiere platform. Filmmaker Hannah Maia and producer Maxine Christopher joined us for a short Q & A following the film. Over 300 households tuned in, and the response to the film was fantastic. We are excited for more folks to see it in the future.



JJ Sanchez, Section 2, 2019, sterning on the Tichegami River

Here is what a few friends had to say following the event:

Kirk Sponaugle- *I've never been more proud to be associated with Keewaydin. Never.*

Barry King- *Thank you SO much for persisting to get us on Zoom. We loved it! Brought back so many memories, especially for Warren. I teared up watching those girls and how they survived in such style and humor and wish I could have done it as a teenager. Warren teared up remembering times and places on his many trips that he paddled along a lakeshore in the rain. I can't wait until this film gets wider distribution so our daughters can watch it. It'll be wonderful to let them get a sense of this crucial aspect of their dad's life - mine, too of course!*

Seth Gibson- *I really enjoyed the film. It brought back a lot of memories for me.*

Joe Feely- *Hannah's film captured perfectly the hard work, camaraderie, joy and personal triumphs of a canoe trip - the "ness" of the experience. What a wonderful way to announce the wonderful future for Temagami!*

Mark Amstein (parent)- *We tuned into the Wood on Water viewing Sunday evening. Pretty amazing stuff. Our quiet Libby could not stop talking about it, she loved it! We are all feeling very optimistic about camp being a "go".*

John Cawley- *Wonderful movie. I'm from Temagami Section C, 1965. K Temagami is even BETTER now than it was when I tripped down the Dumoine! And, the women's program is such a great addition!*

Martha Bautista-Biddle- *So amazing! Only thing - wish it was longer and showed MORE!*



Ojibway Family Lodge is Opening!



Alas, this joyful title is served with a pinch or splash of sadness. For many of our loyal and dedicated friends, Ojibway will not be on their travel calendar this summer, and we are really going to miss them!

With the US/Canada border remaining closed for a while yet, the Ojibway team has zeroed in on a new opportunity; local and regional visits. We know folks from Ontario will fall in love with the peace, food, sunsets, and superb hosts when they arrive. We look forward to welcoming them to the comfortable cabins and nap inviting docks.

Ojibway has made modifications to its plans, shifting arrival days to Fridays and offering a 3 or 6-night stay. With restraints on dining capacity in place, Ojibway will also keep guest stays limited to cabins with baths. This ensures everyone is comfortable and we have plenty of room for guests to enjoy their meals in the dining room. If you have a Canadian friend that is really wanting a few days away, encourage them to visit ojibwayfamilylodge.com to book their stay.

We are grateful and excited to have Ojibway opening! And we will miss our American friends very much. The loons will be calling you back in 2022.

In Pursuit of Local Food

First printed in the *Temagami Times* Spring 2021, by Kay Chornock

Situated on a small island on the north arm of Lake Temagami, Ojibway Family Lodge must approach feeding our guests with creativity and adaptability. We live in the shadow of Devil's Mountain where we work towards serving healthy, heavenly meals. We also work hard at sourcing as many local ingredients as possible. Blueberries, lake trout and the occasional moose may pass through our kitchen though never in a quantity that is sufficient for meals that fluctuate between twenty and a hundred hungry diners throughout the summer. Our main supplier is Sysco Foods, augmented by Costco, but each



Ojibway team: Creative, delicious, wholesome local food

year our relationship with local food sources grows.

Thornloe Cheese, on Highway 11 north of New Liskeard, crafts a large variety of cheeses, both grass-fed cow and goat, from aged cheddars to their artisanal varieties. Almost all our cheese products, including the

curds for our famous fireside poutine, come from Thornloe. We have been purchasing happy free range chickens and lamb from Liskeard's Louise Grant for years. How do we know those chickens are happy? They don't get that big and plump and taste that

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Local Food

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good if they didn't live a good life! Having enjoyed mouthwatering smoked BBQ brisket prepared by our friend Nick at Camp Temagami last summer, we are following his recommendation to Yves' Prime Cut Meats in New Liskeard and plan to purchase more of our meat from this local butcher.

To the south are our sweet suppliers of maple syrup - Bella Hill in Powassan and Sugarstone Farms in Trout Creek. While in the area, we stock up our Ojibway dockside store with Bad Dog Glassworks products, beautiful handmade glass bead jewelry and colourful wool socks - food for the soul, if not the belly. Our honey is produced by the busy bees at Board's Honey Farm in Restoule. When a vegetable emergency or special need arises, we have often turned to Orchards Fresh Foods in North Bay and they never fail us.

Up until this last year we were ordering the best of Ontario fresh produce through our friend Reina Lee who runs the exquisite gallery Blooms and Loons on Island 212 in the hub of Lake Temagami. Although she has stopped her weekly fruits and vegetables supply service, she still has bedding plants, flower pots and fresh flower arrangements for sale - perhaps the most beautiful lilies in the north - as well as the many local artists' creations that grace the walls of her boutique shop. Through Reina, we learned of Craig Haven for farm fresh eggs as well as a local source of greens at Feom Brubacher, both in the Liskeard area. We are looking forward to bringing many local foods to our guests this summer!



Projects on the Horizon

**Septic problems are NO FUN!
Time to take care of business,
infrastructure is important.**

A new Keewaydin septic system was completed in May. It will be great to have an important system ready to go. Our kitchen staff rely upon a functioning system to keep them focused on preparing awesome meals for campers and staff, and we are glad to bring this project forward.

Ojibway's septic continues to be an important piece of our planning process. We know talking about the septic can be an unappealing subject, but it is important to us! With a new approved application and plan, we can continue to take care of keeping the lake healthy and our guests comfortable. Living on an island has its perks, and also its complications.



Equipment arrives



Pipe prepper



Laying the pipe



Project complete

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Projects

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Platform Tents

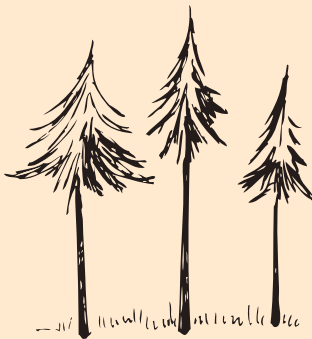
Three new custom canvas tents sewn by TentSmith will be heading to the island. Over the years Keewaydin has been replacing old and weather worn tents. The look and charm of the tents is really wonderful and proves to be a great place for trip staff and campers to sleep.



Tree Surgeons to the Rescue!

Trees do reach their age limit on Devil's Island, and this past winter, a local tree service stopped by for a tour with David Wilfong. A plan has been created and this summer trees that are dead or beginning to threatened a structure will be removed.

A wood splitting crew will be put to work and we'll have a nice supply of firewood for campfires, and Ojibway cabins.



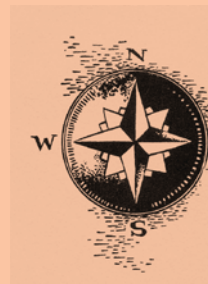
~ We're the Comeback Kid! ~

We are in it to bring it.

To bring campers and YOU back to Lake Temagami. We might be licking our wounds, from a second summer lost to the circumstances of Covid, but that will not last. We are eager to plan for our triumphant return to our beloved lake and canoe trips.

To be in great shape, we'll need YOU, our seasoned and passionate camp community to help us connect with amazing campers and families. Dust off your contact list and sharpen your elevator pitch. Keewaydin will be ready to recruit new campers, and with your help, we'll charge full steam ahead!

In the fall, you can expect more virtual open houses, and if we are lucky, a few in person gatherings. If you would like to host a virtual gathering with Emily or host an in person gathering, let us know.





Keewaydin Club **CAMPING, CANOEING, AND FISHING IN THE CANADIAN WOODS**



Looking ahead, adult canoe trips for the summer of 2022.

Open to Keewaydin alum, parents, Ojibway guests and anyone who is ready to experience a Keewaydin canoe trip. Registration for the Keewaydin Club will open this fall.

For men and women, offerings may include local destinations, seeking out prime fishing spots, secret lakes, and cooling waterfalls. We also plan to navigate some kilometers of historic and beautiful rivers Keewaydin has traveled over the last 128 years.

Most trippers begin their adventure arriving in the early evening, with 2 nights at Devil's Island, providing time to acclimate, jump into learning or remembering tripping skills, paddling, and portaging gear. On the second morning, trip staff will ready the crew for their canoe trip, paddling away from the main dock after a belly filling Keewaydin breakfast. Upon your return with a hearty Keewaydin cheer, trippers can take a hot shower, enjoy cocktails and dinner.

As the sun dips on the western horizon, Keewaydin's tradition of trippers sharing stories around a fire is an essential and wonderful finale for a life changing event. We are confident you will have some wonderful and likely comical stories to share! The next morning, after one last perfect sleep under the Canadian sky, trippers will head home after breakfast.



Keewaydin Club: Sarah Bourdelais '15, Jess Desrochers '19, Maddie McClure '14, Lauren Moye '19, Sarah Robbins '18, Tonya Howard '19, Lilly Krenn '19, Sarah Ingersoll '06

Why join us? Because...

Keewaydin Club adult trips provide the opportunity to hit the reset button by immersing oneself into beautiful paddling of the Temagami region, cooking over an open fire, taking in the beauty of the tall pines and clean water, and SLOWING down. Trippers embrace the Keewaydin Way and feel the support and guidance of our veteran Keewaydin staff as you learn new or regain old skills, form connections, unplug, grow stronger, face challenges, build resilience and adapt and learn. Most trips are open to all abilities and will be strenuous at times.

According to Jess Desrochers K'19, "The women's trip was a great way to feel connected with nature, with the amazing women I met, and also with myself. It came at a perfect time in my life where I needed to refocus and balance myself. It did just that."

~ CLASSIC CAMP MEAL: MEXICAN RICE ~

Serves a section of 8-10 happy hungry campers

This summer, if you can, cook over an open fire, your senses will love the sound of sizzling bacon and onions, and the mixing smells of wood smoke and sautéing garlic over a hot fire.



Fire cookin' with a view

Ingredients

- 2-3 pannikins dry white rice
- 2" slice of slab bacon, diced = $\frac{3}{4}$ pound
- 1-2 cans tomato paste
- 1 green or red pepper, diced
- 1-2 yellow onions, diced
- $\frac{1}{2}$ head of garlic, minced
- 1 TBS cumin
- 1 tsp chili powder (mindful cooking, campers usually prefer it less spicy!)
- 1 can whole tomatoes
- $\frac{1}{2}$ pound cheddar cheese, shredded
- 1 can corn niblets (optional)
- 1 can black beans (optional protein)

1 pannikin = 2 cups

How to Prepare

Boil the rice water (1:2 ratio) salt the water and cook rice at a simmer. While the rice is cooking, cook and brown bacon in a little bacon grease and set aside. In the bacon pan, sauté the garlic, green peppers, and onion, and spices in olive oil or bacon grease, stir in tomato paste and cook for a minute. Next, add in tomatoes, bring pot to a simmer. When the rice is done, mix in the cheese, then add the bacon, sautéed vegetables, and corn. Season with salt, and pepper to taste.

Breadline! Bring forth the Tabasco or Frank's for some extra heat.

Compliment this simple camp meal with homemade cornbread. Or make some tortillas and roll up for a burrito!



~ Enrollment was Strong for 2021 ~

150 Friends to see, 150 friends to make

*We will miss greeting each and every one of you on the main dock this summer.
Remember campers, you are a part of a really amazing group of people, who share an
eagerness for adventure, independence, and overcoming challenges.*

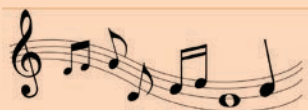
Joaquin Abarca Ameena Alsikafi Libby Amstein Max Andrews Charles Atkeson Charlie Bishop Henry Black Henry Blaxter
Jasper Booth Margaret Budd Blessed Byerly Eugene Calligeros Ava Carere Gordon Carr Kristina Cash Lachlan Chaisson Margot
Champigneulle Cooper Charyna Cilia Conley Maxine Cromis Lillian Day Nora Deeds Corbin DeVilbiss Edan DeVilbiss Sophie
Direla Nate Divila Amos Dotson Gus Dotson Larissa Fitzhugh Mason Fitzhugh Toby Fleischer Joe Foster Colbie Freese Nithya
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Lechner Julia
Levasseur Jean
Lieber Robin
Ben Maschler
Michael McKane
McWilliams
Bryn Morgan Mia
Mosle Dorothea
Alex Nicholson
Nicholson Stuart
Abigail Nix Lila
O'Brien Kathy
O'Shea Gabe
Patton Anna

Piasecki Noé Pigeau Sam Pigeau Ella Pradhan Trent Pradhan Lillard Preschlack Maren Prothro Nora Prothro Simon Ramos
Cecily Reed George Reed Joe Richmond Julia Richmond Hattie Robbins Fleury Robbins Jed Rosenblum Giada Rossi Sam
Ryland Justine Sanchez Sky Sanchez Lola Sands Erin Schneider Bronson Schoelzel Evelyn Schoelzel Harrison Seeley Max
Segler Allie Sharp Katie Sharp Alexis Shepardson William Shepardson Maeve Shepardson Connor Shillington Reed Sikowitz
Adam Slemmer Hazel Slemmer Naomi Smedley Eleanor Smedley James Sparks William Sparks Page Sparks Eliza Spence Henry
Spence Logan Stephenson Lilly Strle Zebediah Stewart Jed Stockdale Sam Sundin Caroline Swayze Margo Swayze Karsten
Vun Maren Walker Anson Walker Peter Walsh Ben Warner Felix Welch William White Zach Wilkerson Zoe Wilmerding
Zeineddine Zuberi



Gustafson
Gersick Viso
Hallemeier
MacKenzie
Hussey Marie
Ingley Cielo
Johnson Sarah
Katri Micah
Kenney Owen
Knowles James
Lafayette
Harper
Laskey Walter
Harrison
Andrew
Lechner Louis
Levasseur Max
MacAusland
Livia McGeorge
Barlow
Harrison Moore
Mosle Gus
Mulcahy
Margaret
Nicholson
Nolan Bridger
O'Shea Alexy
Otridge Hazel
Pepall James

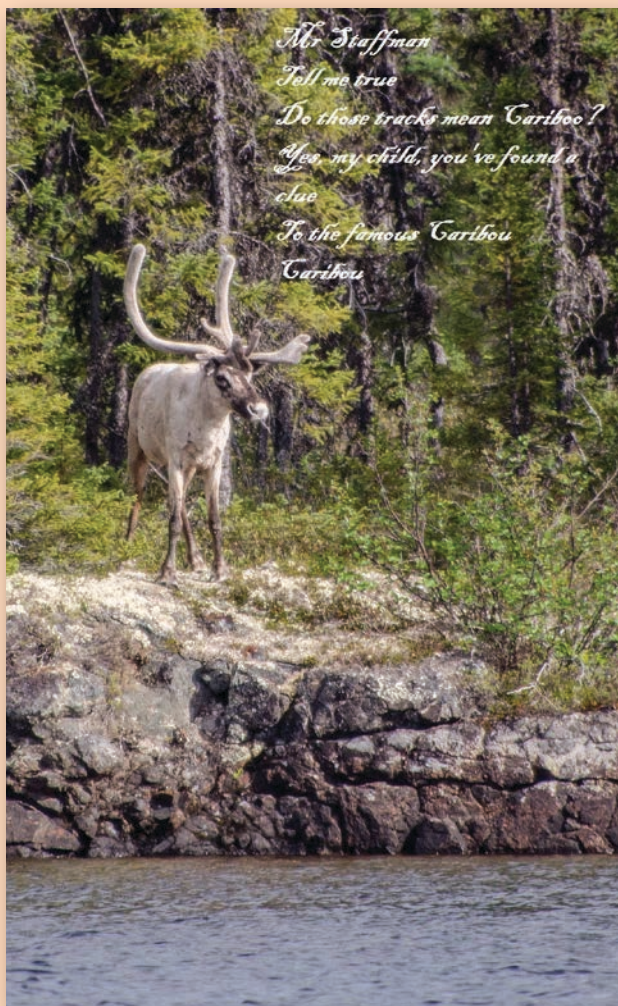


STAFF, OH' STAFF, OUR MIGHTY TRIP STAFF



We know, whole heartedly, Keewaydin's longevity and camp heartbeat comes from the dedicated, professional, caring members of our trip staff. THANK YOU for sticking with us. We will miss you this summer!

ALI CORKRAN
JEWEL SAXTON
MADDIE WILDMAN
JO GRANAY
SADIE MCCLEAN
KYRA MCCLEAN
MONROE CROMIS
KATYA OGDEN-LORD
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