

Welcoming Ceremony for Amina Wolf and Nick De Los Reyes

Blessing of Oils

Eucharist of Justice and Diaconate Ordination of Adina Meyer and Suzie Knapp

Presiding Bishop: Jane Via

Roman Catholic Womenpriests, USA Region for the Holy Margins June 4, 2023 Northern California

Welcoming Ceremony

(Amina and Nick stand in the center of a circle of Region for the Holy Margin members)

ALL SING: Spirit of the Living God

Daniel Iverson

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us (2x) Melt us, mold us, fill us, heal us.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us

#1

Indwelling God, Compassionate One, Source of All Being,

#2

Everlasting Wisdom-Sophia, Word, and Holy Spirit,

Jane:

At Amina and Nick's ordinations by the laying on of hands, You released the graces, gifts, and integrity of the priesthood within them.

#3

You continue to hold them close to You in unfailing love.

#4

At their ordination they embraced the Gospel, proclaiming they believe what they read,

#5

would teach what they believed,

#6

and would practice what they taught.

ALL:

As they now come to us in the Region for the Holy Margins, We embrace them as one of us.

#7

Amina and Nick, you are trusted friends and dear colleagues. Each of you bring to our region your culture, your voice, your talents, your gifts, your whole self.

#8

We promise that your presence, gifts and perspectives will be visible and valued.

#9

We know that our community's identity, values and structures will be influenced by you.

#10

We are enriched by your presence and the integrity of your priesthood.

(RHM members in circle, right hand on shoulder + left hand holding worship aid move toward Amina + Nick, and away, towards and away)

#11

May we nurture you.

#12

May you nurture us.

#13

May we change you.

#14

May you change us.

#15

Together may we embody and enact Christ in the world.

ALL

Here in the Region for the Holy Margins!

#16

Together we will sing Sophia's praises.

ALL

Here in the Region for the Holy Margins!

#17

We honor you!

ALL

Here in the Region for the Holy Margins!

#18

We are grateful for each of you!

ALL

Here in the Region for the Holy Margins!

AMINA + NICK

Today and for all the days to come!

(Amina and Nick join the circle)

ALL SING: Ubi Caritas

Jacques Berthier

Ubi caritas et amor.

Ubi caritas;

Deus ibi est.

(following the Welcome ritual and Ubi Caritas, we continue with singing "Spirit of the Living God")

ALL SING: Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us (2X) Melt us, mold us, fill us, heal us.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us

(During the singing, open the circle, table with oils is presented in center and group is divided into two)

Blessing of the Oils

Jane:

Loving God, we ask you to bless these oils of the olive tree. (ALL raise hands in blessing)
Send your Holy Spirit upon these oils and transform them making for us your Sacred Chrism, your Oil of Catechumens, and your Oil of Healing.

Group 1

Bless this Chrism. Make this Chrism a sign of life and enlightenment, a garment, a perfect seal, for those who are to be born again in the waters of baptism.

Group 2

Bless this Oil of Catechumens.

Make it a sign and symbol of Your Wisdom and Cosmic Energy.

May those who await their baptism live the Gospel,

embracing joy in service and the challenges of a Christian Life.

Group 1

Bless this Oil of Healing. Make it a precious anointing, a safeguard for life, a balm of strength, a renewal of souls and bodies, an oil of gladness.

Group 2

May these Sacred Oils, be an imprint of your Divine Love on the hearts of all who receive them.

ALL:

May all who are touched by these Sacred Oils be radiant with the goodness of life that has its source in you.

Jane

We pray through Jesus the Christ, in unity with the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen

ALL SING: Let Justice Like Waters Roll Down

Jann Aldredge-Clanton

Let justice like waters roll down on our land; help us, Christ-Sophia, to join in your plan. Let righteousness like everflowing streams rise; come fill and anoint us, O Spirit most wise.

Pure wisdom and justice flow forth from your hand; with you as our guide evil forces disband. Give us, Christ-Sophia, the grace to prevail O'er systems and powers that keep captives held.

Come now, Christ-Sophia, with blessings and peace to calm us and stir us our visions release, Good News for the poor and fresh sight for the blind; your voice calls us on the oppressed to unbind.

O may we flow freely like waters and streams to heal and restore broken hearts and lost dreams. Awaken us fully to all we can be, reclaiming our souls as we set people free.

Eucharistic Celebration and Diaconate Ordination will begin at 10AM.

Eucharistic Celebration and Diaconate Ordination

Amina and Nick:

Land Acknowledgement:

We acknowledge the Indigenous peoples of this country. We live, work, and learn on the land that was stolen from them. May we make amends for the wrongs we have done to First Nation peoples especially the Coastal Miwok tribes of California and the Suquamish Tribe of Marin County.

ALL SING: Here We Are, LoveDaniel Schutte

Verse 1

I, the God of sea and sky
I have heard my people cry
All who dwell in fear and pain
My hand will bless.

Chorus

Here we are, Love! You are calling. We have heard you calling in the night We will go where you will lead us We will hold your people in our hearts.

Verse 2

I, who made the stars of night I will make their darkness bright Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Verse 5

Chorus

I, the God of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame
I will set a feast for them
My hand will bless.

Chorus

Welcome by Celebrant. (Bishop Jane)

Opening Prayer. (Bishop Jane)

1st Reading:

A Reading from the First Book of Samuel 3:1-10, 19

Hannah's boy, Samuel, was ministering to the Holy One under Eli. The word of God was rare in those days. Visions were not widespread.

One night, Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his usual place. The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the Tabernacle of God, where the ark of God was. Then God called, "Samuel! Samuel!" who responded, "Here I am!" Samuel ran to Eli, and said, "You called me? Here I am." But Eli said, "I did not call you. Go back to bed." So, Samuel went and lay down. God called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "You called me. Here I am." But Eli said, "I did not call you, my child. Go back to bed." Now Samuel did not yet know God, and the word of God had not yet been revealed to him. God called Samuel again, a third time. He got up and went to Eli, and said, "You called me. Here I am." Then Eli perceived that God was calling Samuel. Therefore, Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down. If you hear God's voice again, say, 'Speak, Holy One. Your servant is listening." So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Then God came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak. Your servant is listening."

The Word of An Israelite Court Historian. *Thanks be to God.*

ALL SING: God of the Women Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (to the traditional tune of "Be Thou My Vision")

God of the women who answered your call, Trusting your promises, giving their all, Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth — Give us their courage to live in your truth.

God of the women who walked Jesus' Way, Giving their resources, learning to pray, Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more — May we give freely as they did before.

God of the women long put to the test, Left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed, Quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?" — In Jesus' dying you show us our worth.

God of the women who ran from the tomb, Prayed with the others in that upper room, Then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day — May we so gladly proclaim you today.

O God of Phoebe and ministers all, May we be joyful in answering your call. Give us the strength of your Spirit so near That we may share in your ministry here.

2nd Reading:

A reading from Freedom is a Constant Struggle by Angela Davis.

During the 1950s, some 90 percent of all Black women were domestic workers. Thus, the majority of people who rode buses in Montgomery, Alabama in 1955 were Black domestic workers. So why is it so difficult to acknowledge these Black women domestic workers had an amazing collective imagination of a future world without racial, gender and economic oppression?

Even though we may not know the names of those women who refused to ride the bus from poor Black communities to affluent white communities in Montgomery, it seems that we should at least acknowledge their collective accomplishment. That Montgomery bus boycott would not have been successful without the critical refusals of Black women domestic workers . And thus, a figure like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. might never have emerged into prominence.

Fannie Lou Hamer—prominent in the history of the US civil rights movement, the US freedom movement--Fannie Lou Hamer— she was a sharecropper and a domestic worker. She was a timekeeper on a cotton plantation in the 1960s. And she emerged as a leader of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and as a leader of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party. She said, "All my life, I have been sick and tired. Now I am sick and tired of being sick and tired."

--Davis, Angela Y. Freedom Is a Constant Struggle: Ferguson, Palestine, and the Foundations of a Movement, 2016.

ALL SING: Alleluia Hal Hopson

Halle, halle, hallelujah (3x)

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Gospel:

A Reading from the Gospel Attributed to Luke: 8:1-8

Jesus journeyed from one town and village to another, preaching and proclaiming the good news of the kin-dom of God. Accompanying him were the Twelve and some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out; Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward, Chuza; Susanna, and *many others* who provided for them out of their resources.

When a large crowd gathered, with people from one town after another journeying to him, Jesus taught with a parable:

"A sower went out to sow seed. While sowing, some seed fell on the path, was trampled, and the birds of the sky ate it up. Some seed fell on rocky ground, and when it grew, it withered for lack of moisture. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some seed fell on good soil; and, when it grew, it produced fruit a hundredfold." Jesus concluded saying, "Whoever has ears to hear let them hear."

The Gospel of God **Praise to You, Jesus the Christ**

DIACONATE ORDINATION RITE

Examination

Mary Alice: We invite the candidates for the diaconate to come forward: Suzie Knapp and Adina Meyer.

Adina and Suzie come forward, stand in the center and face the assembly.

Jane moves to the front of the Assembly or into the aisle and turns to face the Candidates.

Nancy moves to the Ambo microphone, faces Bishop:

Dear Bishop, the holy Church asks you to ordain these candidates.

Jane:

Do you know if they are prepared and sincerely committed to service as deacons?

Nancy:

Those responsible have been asked. They testify that they are gifted by the Spirit to serve in this ministry.

Nancy:

I invite those who have accompanied these candidates to the diaconate to come forward and speak about why these women should be ordained.

Sponsors give testimony

Election by the Bishop and Consent of the People

Jane: In the name of Jesus, the Christ, we choose you,

Adina and Suzie, as deacons.

All: Thanks be to God.

Applause

Candidates remain standing, facing the assembly.

Sponsors return to their seats.

Invocation of the Holy Spirit

Nancy:

As the People of God gathered in hope and love, we now invoke the Holy Spirit upon these women called to serve as deacons, and upon us all.

Please stand.

Veni Sancte Spiritus

Jacques Berthier

ALL SING: Veni Sancte Spiritus.

Cantor: Come, God of the poor, come, generous Spirit, come, light of our hearts.

ALL SING: Veni Sancte Spiritus.

Come from the four winds, O Spirit, come breath of God;

disperse the shadows over us, renew and strengthen your people.

ALL: Veni Sancte Spiritus.

At conclusion, Nancy: Please be seated.

Examination of the Candidates

Jane:

My dear sisters, before you receive the Order of Deacon, you are asked to proclaim before this assembly, that you willingly take on this office and ministry.

So I ask you: Are you prepared to commit to be ordained for the ministry of deacon in the church by the laying-on-of our hands and the gift of the Holy Spirit?

Adina & Suzie: I am.

Nancy: Are you committed to carry out the ministry of

deacon in humility and love, to assist the priests and

bishop in selfless dedication, and to serve

the people of God?

Adina & Suzie: I am.

Jane: Are you committed to cherish the treasure of our faith, and to boldly proclaim this faith in word and deed according to the Gospel and the tradition of the Church?

Adina & Suzie: I am.

Nancy: Are you committed to

live from the Spirit within, to be a woman of prayer and, in this Spirit, to pray with and for the People of God, and for the whole world?

Adina & Suzie: I am.

Jane: Are you committed to support those who are poor and those

who are sick, to help those who are without a place to live

and all those in need?

Adina & Suzie: I am.

Nancy: Are you committed to shape your life after the model and

example of Christ, whose body and blood are entrusted to

you to share with the people of God?

Adina & Suzie: I am, with the help of God.

Jane: May God who has begun the good work in you bring it to

fulfillment.

ALL: Amen.

Litany of Saints

Mary Alice: Adina and Suzie will now lie prostrate during the litany

of saints, in an act of surrender, of worship and awe before God, and in vulnerability before the people of

God, mindful of those they will serve.

Those selected spread candidate's cloth on the floor.

Together the candidates lie prostrate on the cloth.

Mary Alice:

We now call upon those who have gone before us in the communion of saints, friends and prophets of God, all people of faith, and the angels and saints to surround Adina and Suzie as a great cloud of witnesses and to intercede for them and for us during this solemn moment.

Litany of the Saints

Cantor: God have mercy. *All:* God have mercy.

Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy

God have mercy. God have mercy

Cantor:

Angels and archangels, All: Pray for us. (after each)
Abraham and Sarah

Isaac and Rebecca

Jacob, Leah and Rachel

Moses and Miriam,

Deborah, Judith and Samuel,

Ruth, David and Solomon,

Isaiah, Jeremiah,

ALL: All you holy people pray for us.

Cantor:

Anna and Elizabeth,

All: Pray for us.

Joachin and Zechariah

Mary and Joseph,

Mary Magdalene Apostle

Peter, Andrew, James and John,

Martha, Mary and Lazarus,

Susanna and Joanna

Paul, Barnabas, Veronica

ALL: All you holy people pray for us.

Cantor:

Therese of Lisieux

All: Pray for us.

John XXIII and Bernadette,

Dorothy Stang, Oscar Romero,

Ita, Maura, Dorothy, Jean

Rosa Parks and Dorothy Day,

Martin and Correta,

Raymond Hunthausen

Rosemary Radford Ruether,

ALL: All you holy people pray for us.

Cantor:

God, give new life. All: Pray for us.
Show forth your Spirit
In its fullness
In all your people
Guide us in your peace
Lead us in justice
Sustain us in your presence
As you remain with us always

ALL: Christ, hear us. Christ Jesus, hear our prayer

At conclusion of litany,

Jane extending hands over Adina and Suzie:

Let us pray:

Indwelling God, Compassionate One,

Source of All Being,

Everlasting Wisdom and Word,

and Holy Spirit,

hear our prayers and those of all holy people.

Pour out upon Adina and Suzie the blessings

of your wisdom and grace, and the integrity of the diaconate.

Companioning Presence

hold them close to You in Your unfailing love.

Be with them now and always.

We pray in Jesus' name.

All: Amen.

Together the Candidates rise. When all are standing, the Candidates go to their place before the laying on of hands.

Laying on of Hands

Mary Alice: We now come to the central moment of the rite of ordination. The bishop will lay hands on the candidates. The gesture is the prayer itself.

No words are spoken.

To recognize the work of the Holy Spirit in us, we hold this moment in humble silence.

Jane moves to her place for the laying on of hands.

Jane lays hands on Adina and Suzie.

Jane returns to stand at her chair or is seated.

Mary Alice: The People of God, the Body of Christ, now come

forward in silence to continue this sacred action of laying hands on these chosen women. Recognizing the presence of the Holy Spirit in this action, we do this in silence as each person briefly lays on hands, touching

the ordinand's head.

Rod assists the Assembly in their procession for the laying on of hands.

Prayer of Consecration

When the last person has laid on hands and returned to their seat,

Jane:

Holy Mystery, Source of all that is,

You are the source of honor and dignity, of stability and change.

In communion with all the saints, Your friends and prophets, You are present in all creation and Your people. You support Your people with gifts of wisdom and organization.

In the desert, You extended Your Spirit to Moses, Miriam and Aaron.

You chose seventy wise persons to help them lead an exiled community from slavery to freedom.

As the people grew, the numbers of servant leaders grew. You appointed priests to serve Your people in rites of worship.

As generations passed, You sent prophets, judges, sovereigns and wise individuals to protect and serve Your people.

Throughout the generations, You blessed Your people with servant leaders. Both men and women served Jesus as disciples, helping in his work of teaching and healing.

Together, they preached the Gospel to the whole world.

Holy One, guide Adina and Suzie as they now become servant-deacons. Give them strength, wisdom and the gifts of Your Spirit. Inspire their service.

Shower them with grace.

Keep them faithful in their ministry.

Sustain them as they model discipleship to all.

Through their service, may they bring Christ's love into the world. May they call the family of humanity to embrace the oneness of all creation.

ALL: Amen.

I now invite you, the assembly, to extend your hands over Adina and Suzie as we embrace the Spirit in them and in and among us.

Jane and All raise their hands over Suzie and Adina

Sacred Mystery, quicken the hearts of Your servants Adina and Suzie. Bless them with grace and the gifts of the diaconate. In their faith and ministry, support them with Your unfailing love.

Jane slowly brings back her hands indicating that the Assembly do the same.

We ask this through Jesus the Christ, who lives in unity with You and the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

Jane returns and is seated in her chair.

Adina & Suzie move to the place for their investiture.

Investiture

Mary Alice:

We invite those who have been selected to represent us all to assist in the vesting of these newly ordained.

Presentation of the Gospel Book

Rod The Gospel Book is brought to Jane.

Adina and Suzie hold the book with Jane.

Jane: Adina and Suzie, receive the Gospel of Christ,

whose messenger you continue to be.

Believe the Good News.

Teach the Good News.

Live the Good News.

Rod takes the Gospel book.

Jane, with Adina and Suzie on each side of her says:

It is with great joy,

that we welcome our deacons, Suzie and Adina

<u>APPLAUSE</u>

Offering of the Gifts

Adina & Suzie stand together and receive the gifts brought forward. They then bring them to the altar and they prepare the altar.

Rod then motions Jane to approach the altar.

Instrumental music.

Eucharistic Prayer for Justice

Jane:

Generous Giver of Gifts, here with us and within us. In your presence we place on the table this bread and this fruit of the vine--as symbols of all our joys and concerns, our strengths and weaknesses, our gifts and our poverty. We are grateful for the hands that have prepared these gifts for your blessing and our nourishment.

#1

Loving Creator who brings to birth the world of our dreams for mutual respect and partnership, we do well always and everywhere give you praise.

#2

Give us courage to act justly and work collaboratively to change systems that keep women poor and marginalized in our society.

#3

We thank you for all people who are working for justice and equality in our church and our world.

#4

Each day your love embraces us. With thankful hearts, in the company of the angels and saints, we praise you, God of Abundance who welcomes ALL.

#5

You are holy indeed O nurturing One, You are the Heart of Love. You affirm women's bodies as holy and women's stories as sacred.

ALL extend their hands over the gifts.

Jane

Pour out your Spirit upon this bread and wine so that through these gifts we may become the body and blood of Jesus.

ALL:

On the night before he died, Jesus came to the table with those he loved. Jesus took bread and praised you, God of compassion. He blessed and broke the bread and gave it to his friends and said:

ALL:

Take and eat, this is my Body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

ALL:

After supper Jesus, poured the final cup of wine, blessed it, shared the cup with his friends and said:

ALL:

This is my love poured out for you. As often as you drink it, remember Me.

Jane: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

ALL:

Christ, our love, has died in every woman who has been beaten. Christ, our hope, is risen in all who work for justice and equality. Christ, our life, will come again.

#6

In memory of Jesus, who showed us the path to liberation and empowerment, we offer you, Loving Creator, the bread of life, this cup of love.

#7

We give you thanks for the loving relationships that have helped us grow more aware of our goodness, strength, and passion.

#8

We give you thanks that we live in your Enfolding Presence and serve you with grateful hearts.

#9

May we be advocates for those in need of your justice.

#10

May we be advocates for survivors of violence, abuse and rape.

#11

May we accompany all on their journey to empowerment, forgiveness, and wholeness.

#12

May all of us who share in this sacred banquet of Christ, be brought together as one in the Holy Spirit.

#13

May we be filled with courage to live Gospel equality in inclusive communities working for justice and peace in our church and world.

#14

Remember all who are homeless, hungry, sick, lonely, in prison. and abused.

#15

Remember those who face oppression, discrimination and joblessness, those who have lost homes, partners and hope.

#16

Remember those who work for justice and who have given their lives for the needs of people who suffer injustice and have died. Bring them to everlasting rest in You.

#17

Have compassion on us and make us one with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, our sister and champion of the oppressed, as well as the apostles throughout the ages from Mary Magdalen to Malala to Thea Bowman.

#18

May their courage inspire us to confront patriarchal systems that discriminate against women.

#19

Let us praise you in union with people of every generation who are free at last---free at last! from all bondage and injustice.

ALL:

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, may our work for justice and equality, give you glory and honor, now and forever.

AMEN

PRAYER OF JESUS

ALL:

Cosmic Birther of all radiance and vibration! Soften the ground of our being and carve out a space within us where your Presence can abide. Fill us with your creativity so that we may be empowered to bear the fruit of your mission. Let each of our actions be in accordance with your desire. Endow us with the wisdom to produce and share what each being needs to grow and flourish. Untie the tangled threads of destiny that bind us as we release others from the entanglement of past mistakes. Do not let us be seduced by that

which would divert us from our true purpose, but illuminate the opportunities of the present moment. You are the ground and the fruitful vision. You are the birth power and fulfillment. And in You all are gathered and made whole once again. AMEN

(Adapted from M. Hathaway, based on work of Neil Douglas-Kurt, Harper & Row, 1990)

Jane

Holy is your compassionate presence throughout the cosmos and in everyone. Your Love surrounds us forever and ever.

ALL: (sung) AMEN

Marty Haugen

Deacons

Jesus said to his friends, peace be with you. Because we believe that God is with us and that we meet God in every person, let us greet each other with a sign of God's Peace.

ALL:

Loving One, You call us to live the Gospel of peace and justice.

We will live justly.

Loving One, You call us to be your presence in the world.

We will love tenderly.

Loving One, You call us to speak truth to power. We will walk with integrity.

Jane:

Jesus invites us to be partners and equals, to liberate, heal, and transform our world.

ALL:

We are the Body and Blood of Christ.

Communion Song: Who Will Speak if We Don't Marty Haugen

Who will speak for the poor and the broken? Who will speak for the peoples oppressed? Who will speak so our voices will be heard? Oh, who will speak if we don't?

Refrain:

Who will speak if we don't?
Who will speak if we don't?
Who will speak so our voices will be heard?
Oh, who will speak if we don't?

Who will speak for the ones who are voiceless? speak the truth in the places of power? Who will speak so our voices will be heard? Oh, who will speak if we don't *(Refrain)*

Who will speak for the children of violence? Who will speak for the women abused? Who will speak so our voices will be heard? Oh, who will speak if we don't *(Refrain)*

Prayer after Communion:

Deacons

Through the power of Sophia, let us go forth as love, more deeply aware of our communion with you and all creation.

Let us go out with joy!

Recessional: The Canticle of the Turning

Rory Cooney

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great, And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the one who waits.

You fixed your sight on the servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn, So from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn. Wipe away all tears,
For the dawn draws near,
And the world is about to turn.

Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me.

And your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.

Your very name puts the proud to shame, and those who would for you yearn,

You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn. (Refrain)

From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.

Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne.

The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;

There are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn. (Refrain)

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Thank You!

Cantor and flautist: Chris Fahrenbach Cantor and guitarist: Lawson Barnes The Ritual and Liturgy Committee: Jeannette Love, Mary Grace Crowley and Victoria Rue

Eucharistic Liturgy adapted from: Bridget Mary's "Celebrate Justice, Partnership and Equality for Women in Church and Society" *Living Gospel Equality Now: Loving in the Heart of God,* (pp.180-183)

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