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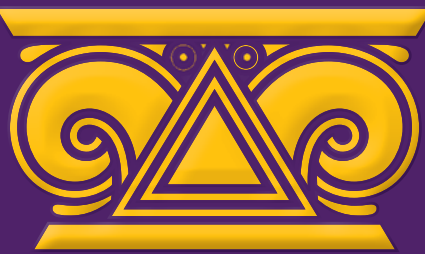
Fall 2009

## **Fall 2009 DigSight Newsletter**

Southern Adventist University

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# DIGSIGHT

INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY LYNN H. WOOD ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

## MUSEUM DEBUTS AUDIO GUIDE

The Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum staff recently completed the production of an audio tour for the museum's permanent exhibition, "Vessels in Time: A Journey into the Biblical World." The tour features the voices of Dr. William Dever, one of America's foremost Near Eastern archaeologists and Dr. Michael Hasel, the museum's curator. In this 52-minute recording, Dever and Hasel take the visitor on an in-depth exploration of the exhibition's artifacts and displays, highlighting the most important pieces in the collection.

The idea of recording Dr. Dever and producing an audio guide was originally suggested by Dr. Robert Folkenberg, former president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, after a preview tour of the museum in 2004 with Dr. Dever. Having personally excavated several of the artifacts himself, Dever gives invaluable insights and anecdotal remarks about their discovery.

The tour is organized as an audiobook, with 16 chapters and an introductory track. Each chapter represents a display case in the museum. This setup allows the visitor to go in order from case to case or to selectively listen to chapters of interest. Visitors can

go at their own pace—pausing, skipping ahead, or rewinding to a previous chapter. The narration is accompanied by professionally produced production music.

The Apple iPod Nano, was chosen for its relatively low cost, pervasiveness in the market, and simplicity of operation. Though podcast technology has been used for walking tours and other outdoor venues, iPod tours for museums are relatively new. "I've traveled to dozens of museums all over the world, and I haven't encountered another museum that uses iPods for their tours . . . I think we're using cutting-edge tech-

nology," said Hasel.

An advantage to using iPods is their ability to show pictures along with the audio. Rather than numbering the artifacts, the iPod displays an image of the artifact as it is discussed in the tour. "Sometimes if they're just describing something, it's hard to grasp what they're talking about. With a picture you know for sure what's being talked about," said student Chelsea Glass, after taking the tour.

The iPod audio tour is available to museum visitors free of charge but a valid photo ID is required.



Student with audio guide

Fall 2009

Issue 11

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SOUTHERN  
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

Power for Mind & Soul

# LIBRARY CATALOG AVAILABLE ONLINE

In March of last year, Dr. William Dever placed his personal library at Southern Adventist University. Although he received many offers from other academic institutions, Dever felt that his artifacts would be best studied together with his library. The William G. Dever Research Library was officially inaugurated last November, an event that was celebrated with a banquet in Dever's honor.

The Dever Library has been an invaluable resource for students and faculty doing research in Near Eastern archaeology, Egyptology, and ancient art history. The library contains more than Dever's books. Several volumes from Egyptologist Kent Weeks' personal library, as well as those obtained for the Dever library by the Archaeology Synchronisms Research Foundation make up the collection of more than 2,600 book, academic journals, and periodicals. The library is one of the most comprehensive collections on Egyptian and Near Eastern

studies in the southeastern United States.

This October the Institute of Archaeology staff, with the help of the McKee Library staff, finished integrating the majority of the Dever Library catalog with McKee's online database. Dever Library records are accessible online through the McKee Library's website:

[library.southern.edu](http://library.southern.edu) (see instructions below.)

The Dever Library is a noncirculating resource available to Southern's students, faculty, and visiting students and scholars from other academic institutions. The library is housed in Hackman Hall, adjacent to the Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum and the archaeological laboratory. Contact [museum@southern.edu](mailto:museum@southern.edu) to schedule a visit.

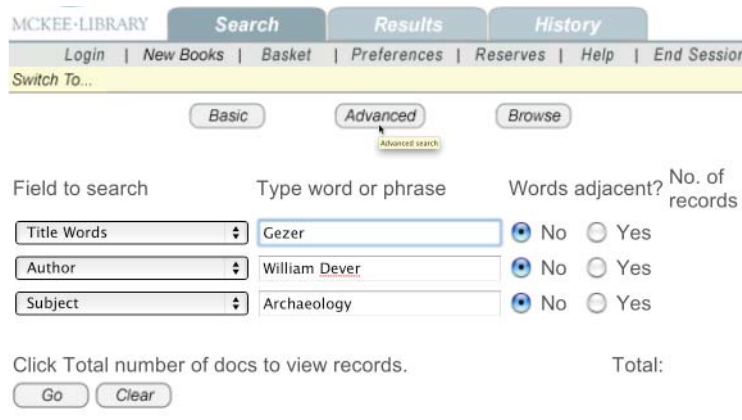
## SPECIAL THANKS:

<b>DEVER LIBRARY</b>	<b>MCKEE LIBRARY</b>
Janelle Junn	Stan Cottrell
Clay Perez	Dan Maxwell
Jasmine Saxon	Ron Miller
Heather Tonsberg	Joe Mocnik

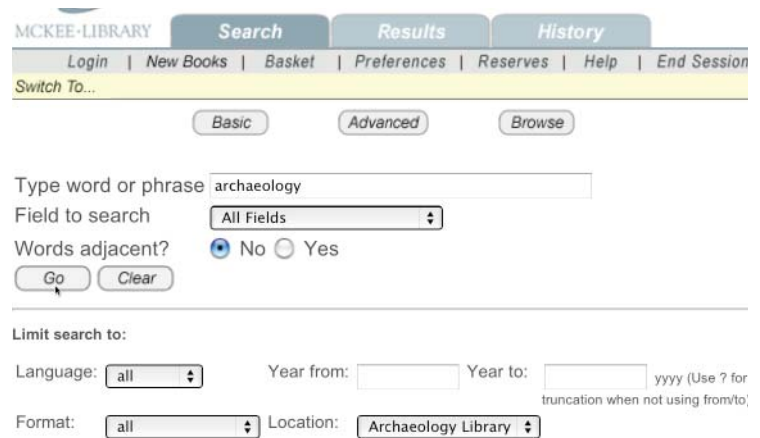
**Step 1: Go to the McKee Library's website and click on "Our Catalog" to search the database.**



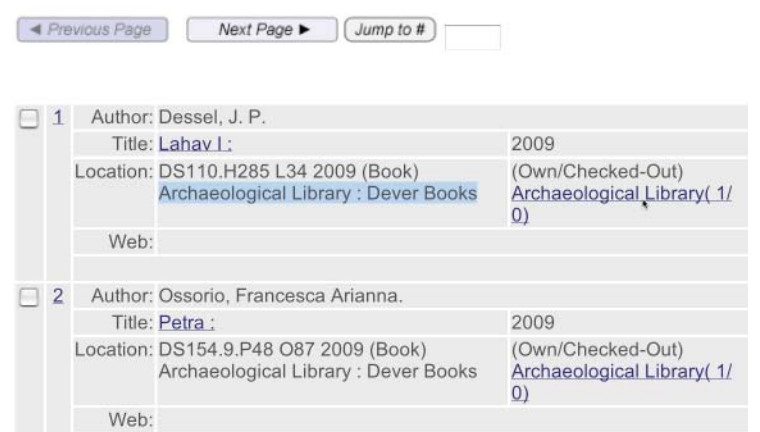
**Step 3: Click on "Advanced Search" to define your search fields further. You may also limit this search by location.**



**Step 2: Enter your keyword. You can limit the search by location (Archaeology Library) to see only Dever Library books.**



**Step 4: Browse the search results. Notice that a Dever Library book will list "Archaeological Library" under its location.**





# KHIRBET QEYafa LECTURES

## Museum Lecture, October 20

In keeping with its commitment to continuing education and scholarship, the Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum sponsored two academic lectures this Fall semester. On October 20 Dr. Michael Hasel talked about “**The Future of Biblical Archaeology**” and shared Southern Adventist University’s plan for long-term excavations in the Middle East.

In the past 40 years, biblical archaeology has sustained a number of attacks from inside and outside the discipline. In the 70s and 80s, William Dever called for a reexamination of the methodology and purpose of biblical archaeology as it was practiced at the time. The debate that ensued was fruitful because it gave the discipline a

more scientific and interdisciplinary approach. Many scholars, however, challenged the need for an archaeology of the Bible, calling for a more academic approach that is divorced from any biblical focus.

A second challenge came a few years later from biblical scholars known as historical minimalists. Skeptical of the historical worth of the biblical record, these scholars misuse the archaeological data (or lack thereof) to argue that there is no such thing as biblical archaeology. Since the 80s, a few archaeologists have joined the minimalist camp in arguing that the United Monarchy of David and Solomon is nothing but fiction. Though David may have been a real historical figure, his kingdom was not at all the way the Bible describes it.

Recent excavations at the site of Khirbet Qeiyafa in Israel have seriously undermined the minimalist position, providing evidence of a fortified city in Judah during the tenth century BC. Given its location, material culture, and evidence of early Hebrew writing, this site was probably occupied by Judahites of David’s time. Last summer a group of 20 staff members opened four excavation squares in Area D, a new field designed for the Southern team.

Next summer the Institute of Archaeology is planning to take about 50 participants for a six-week season. If you would like to join the expedition and rediscover the ancient world of the Bible, contact Susan Brown at 423.236.2977 or <[sbrown@southern.edu](mailto:sbrown@southern.edu)>.





# KHIRBET QEYAF A LECTURES, CONT.

## Museum Lecture, November 17



Yosef Garfinkel

Israeli archaeologist Dr. Yosef Garfinkel (Hebrew University of Jerusalem) delivered the second Qeiyafa lecture on November 17. His presentation, “Excavating the Biblical City of Sha’arayim,” drew over a hundred student, faculty, and community visitors. Garfinkel made a strong argument for why Khirbet Qeiyafa should

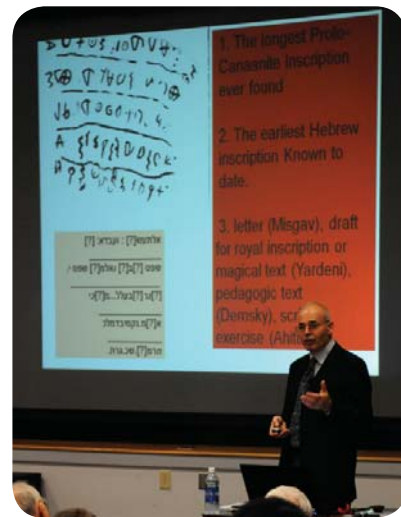
be identified as the biblical city of Sha’arayim, a city associated with the reign of King David. He also shared the latest findings from the 2009 season at Khirbet Qeiyafa.

The excavation team worked on four different areas in 2009: A, the central fortress; B, the area north of the western gate; C, the southeast gate; and D, the area south of the western gate. Area A was excavated for the first time by Dr. Guy Stiebel, a Roman/Byzantine period specialist and excavator of Masada. Garfinkel directed excavations in Area B, and co-director Saar Ganor worked in Area C. The Southern team, under the direction of Dr. Michael Hasel, dug in Area D. The most important development this season came from Area C, where the eastern gate was completely uncovered. Excavators were able to date the construc-

tion of this gate to the early part of the tenth century BC, the same period as the other gate. This indicates that both gates were indeed in use during the time of King David.

Garfinkel also discussed the Qeiyafa ostrakon (pottery sherd with writing) found at the site in the 2008 season. This discovery made headlines because it is the oldest Hebrew inscription found to date. Although the reading of the text is unclear, scholars who have examined it agree that this was not just another common receipt or inventory. Words like “servant,” “king,” “judge,” “land,” and “Baal” have been identified, making it clear that the text had a meaningful message. The proposed reading of the inscription has already been published in Hebrew, and the English version will be published in a chapter of the *Khirbet Qeiyafa Vol. 1: Excavation Report 2007-2008* (out in publication next month).

For more information about past or upcoming museum lectures and how to obtain a DVD of them, visit our website at <[archaeology.southern.edu](http://archaeology.southern.edu)>.



Lecturing about the ostrakon



Aerial view of the western gate, Area B (left), and Area D (right) at Khirbet Qeiyafa.



# ARCHAEOLOGY DIG AND STUDY TOUR

## TRAVEL TO ISRAEL & JORDAN

Tiberias	Jerusalem	Jericho
Hazor	Via Dolorosa	Bethlehem
Caesarea Philippi	Holy Sepulchre	Shrine of the Book
Banias	Western Wall	Jewish Synagogue
Sea of Galilee	St. Anne's Church	Citadel Museum
Boat Ride	Mount of Olives	Masada
Capernaum	Pool of Bethesda	Dead Sea
Tabgha	Garden Tomb	Qumran
Dan	City of David	Eilat Resort
Golan	Hezekiah's Tunnel	Red Sea Swimming and Snorkeling
Beth Shean	Pool of Siloam	Petra
Wadi Qelt	Israel Museum	

**JUNE 16 — JULY 29, 2010**

### TOTAL COST\*

(includes airfare from Atlanta to Tel Aviv)

**6-weeks: \$4,995.00** (10 spots left)

**3-weeks: \$3,670.00** (limited availability)

\* Compare to 6 hours of undergraduate tuition (\$4,200+).  
\$500 deposit (nonrefundable) due by January 15, 2010.

### GENERAL EDUCATION CREDIT\*

**RELB 455** Archaeological Fieldwork (3 hrs)

**RELB 340** Middle East Study Tour (3 hrs)

**ARTH 344** Ancient Art History (3 hrs)

\* Must choose 6-week option to earn (up to) 6 hours.  
Graduate religion credit (3-6 hrs) is also available.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact **Susan Brown** at 423.236.2977 or <[sbrown@southern.edu](mailto:sbrown@southern.edu)>



## LOOKING BACK: 2009

The holiday season always gives time for reflection as we look back at the year and see the many things for which we can be thankful. As you read past issues of the newsletter, you can see this has been a very significant year for a number of reasons.

Last week I returned from Europe, where I spoke in the Czech Republic to ASI (Adventist-laymen's Services & Industries) businessmen, church leaders, and lay people who have a desire to see the church's work grow in that part of the world. In a country where the large majority of people are diehard atheists, it is hard to interest people in the Bible. I shared some of the recent discoveries made through archaeology and the challenges we face. Wherever I travel and speak on this subject, people are anxious to know whether they can trust the Bible in an age of skepticism. Archaeology can be a tremendous bridge.

This year I spoke at scientific conferences in Haifa, Israel; Dallas, Texas; and New Orleans. We also conducted "Discoveries of a Lifetime" seminars in Idaho, Oklahoma, Michigan, and California. But all of this would not be possible – in fact, we would have so much less to share – if it were not for the generous ways in which you support biblical archaeology. Without the research and excavation projects, what new discoveries would there be?

- **Khirbet Qeiyafa Excavations.** This year we launched a new project in conjunction with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem at Khirbet Qeiyafa. Our first season was successful and we are now planning diligently for the coming year. We plan to take about 50 participants to excavate the Elah Fortress, a city from the time of David and Alexander the Great. We are looking forward to expanding our area and putting to further use some of the new technologies that we began experimenting with last summer. For this coming year, we have a new database planned and will be working with staff members from the School of Visual Art and Design on drawing ceramics for publications. Come join us on the excavation!
- **Museum Audio Guide.** The completion and launch of the new museum audio tour on iPod technology has brought new interest and a new avenue of education to the museum. Community visitors, school groups, and Southern students have all benefited from hearing the voice of William Dever guiding them through the exhibit. Thank you for making this possible!
- **William G. Dever Research Library.** The holdings of the William G. Dever Research Library, which opened last year at this time, are now available online through the McKee Library catalog. We are thankful to the library staff and numerous student workers who helped in that process. What a resource to answer questions and dig deeper into the past!

None of these major projects would have been possible without the generous gifts that have come from friends who believe in the mission of conducting quality scientific research that illuminates and enriches our understanding of the biblical world. We are most grateful and dependent on people like you who make these educational resources available. Times may be difficult, but there is no better time in earth's history to support the message and its proclamation in all venues of the work!

Have a happy holiday season,



Michael G. Hasel

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael G. Hasel".

Director, Institute of Archaeology



# ANNUAL APPEAL

## Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum

This was an eventful year for the Museum as we extended the “Faces of Power” coin exhibit and launched the new audio guide. As we move toward accreditation from the American Association of Museums, we need to raise an additional **\$15,000** per year to support the production of future special exhibits, maintain conservation, and provide funds for student employees. One of the major goals of the museum this year is to archive and digitize the William G. Dever slide collection, containing about 10,000 slides. Once completed, it will provide the public with an amazing resource of images from the last 50 years of biblical archaeology.

## Archaeological Excavation & Publication

Last month Dr. Yosef Garfinkel, Yigael Yadin Professor of Biblical Archaeology at the Hebrew University, visited our campus and held one of our annual museum lectures. As we flew together the next day to the American Schools of Oriental Research professional meetings in New Orleans, Professor Garfinkel said, “We need to apply for a permit for our next project before someone else beats us to it. Now that a final report has been published, we need to approach the authorities in Israel and apply this coming January.”

Our collaboration together at Khirbet Qeiyafa is a training phase for our team to launch its own project in 2012-13. To launch a major project such as this one, the Institute will require an additional faculty member to coordinate and ensure that scientific publications continue to be produced in an efficient and timely manner. Our agreement with the Hebrew University states that before such a project begins, we need to have raised \$350,000 for the new project. Currently we have raised \$200,000 toward that goal. But the reality is that this will only cover the first two seasons of excavation at the new site. The Institute Board has set a **\$1,000,000** fundraising goal over the next three years before we launch a new twelve-year excavation/publication project starting in 2012-13.

Thank you for considering the needs of the Museum, Dever Library, and the future excavation project of the Institute of Archaeology at this time!

**We need your help! The goal for the Museum budget in 2010 is \$15,000. The Institute also needs to raise \$1,000,000 over the next three years to fund the second stage of the excavation and publication project. Please consider making a tax-deductible gift, as together we bring the biblical world alive.**

I am interested in biblical archaeology and would like the opportunity to support the Institute of Archaeology in the following area(s):

- Institute of Archaeology \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Archaeological Excavation & Publication \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

### Credit Card Information:

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Card# \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

- My check is enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(made payable to Southern Adventist University)

**Mail to: Institute of Archaeology  
Southern Adventist University  
P.O. Box 370  
Collegedale, TN 37315**



# RECENT SIGHTINGS

## THE VANISHED ARMY: SOLVING AN ANCIENT EGYPTIAN MYSTERY (*Time*)

In 525 BC, the Persian Emperor Cambyses dispatched 50,000 of his soldiers to lay waste to an oasis temple in the Sahara because its oracle had spoken ill of his plans for world domination. The punitive expedition proved to be one of antiquity's most dramatic episodes of imperial overreach . . .

[Click here to read more](#)



## ISRAEL DISPLAYS COINS EXCAVATED FROM JEWISH TEMPLE SITE (*USA Today*)

Israel displayed for the first time Wednesday a collection of rare coins charred and burned from the Roman destruction of the Jewish Temple nearly 2,000 years ago. About 70 coins were found in an excavation at the foot of a key Jerusalem holy site . . .

[Click here to read more](#)

## DIGITIZED INSCRIPTIONS REVEAL ANCIENT MESSAGES (*San Francisco Chronicle*)

Four thousand years ago, a government bureaucrat in Mesopotamia jotted down a tally of slave laborers on a clay tablet. The bureaucrat left behind the count in wedge-shaped symbols that proved hard to fully decipher with the naked eye. Until now. Researchers at the University of Southern California's West Semitic Research Project have helped uncover its hidden narrative . . .

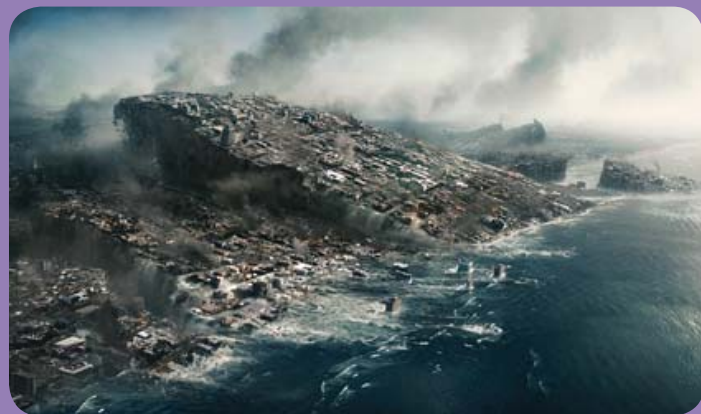
[Click here to read more](#)



## 2012: SIX END-OF-THE-WORLD MYTHS DEBUNKED (*National Geographic*)

The end of the world is near—December 21, 2012, to be exact—according to theories based on a purported ancient Mayan prediction and fanned by the marketing machine behind the soon-to-be-released 2012 movie. But could humankind really meet its end in 2012 . . .

[Click here to read more](#)



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## MUSEUM HOURS

**Sunday**, 2 – 5 p.m.

**Monday**, closed

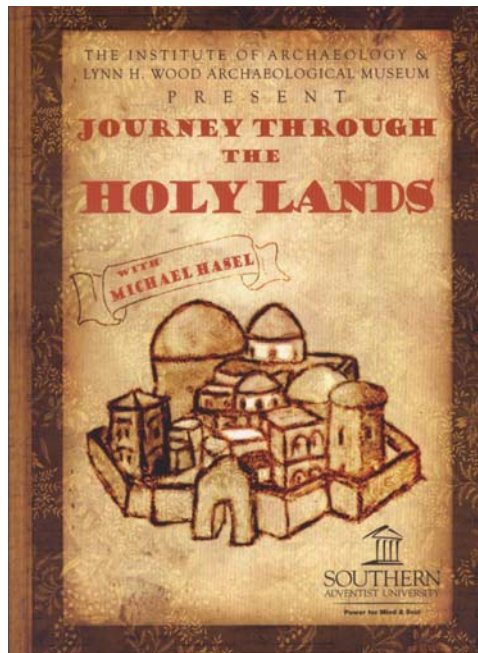
**Tuesday – Thursday**, 9 a.m. – 12 noon and 1 – 5 p.m.

**Friday**, 9 a.m. – 12 noon

**Saturday**, 2 – 5 p.m.

To schedule a tour, contact **Justo Morales** at 423.236.2030 or [<museum@southern.edu>](mailto:museum@southern.edu)

Come check out our new **iPod audio tour**. It's free!



## HOLY LANDS DVD

Travel in time with Southern Adventist University professor Michael Hasel as he takes you to many landmarks found in the Old and New Testaments.

**Cost: \$15** each (+ \$2.50 S&H)  
Send your cash, check, or money order (made payable to Southern Adventist University) to the address below.

## “DISCOVERIES OF A LIFETIME” SCHEDULE

March 4–6, 2010  
Lisbon, Portugal

April 9–11, 2010  
Boston

April 29–31, 2010  
Chicago

## MUSEUM LECTURE SERIES

**March 17, 2010, 7:30 p.m.**  
Lynn Wood Hall Chapel

Dr. K. Lawson Younger  
“Aramean Astral Religion in Light of Recent Discoveries”

## SUMMER EVENTS

**Archaeological Fieldwork  
Middle East Study Tour**

June 16 – July 29, 2010  
Khirbet Qeiyafa, Israel



INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY LYNN H. WOOD ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM



Power for Mind & Soul

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