

G Pence

JP

I ride my bicycle everyday
sitting upside
down
on the handlebars
I turn the pedals in my hands

I am interested in
the revolution
of wheels
spokes turning within spokes
the pattern of sun and
rain on my upturned face

the bicycle is white
has lamps
and a bell which sometimes rings
I operate the brakes
sparingly
and make the dynamo shine at night
it is not exciting

but sometimes
people gather to watch
they ask why ?
questions I cannot answer
expecting
reasons for my behaviour
wanting me always
to pump the tyres
to oil the joints
for what ?
appearances
I smile, uncaring
tell them there is a mystery
which one day will be explained

I go with my pedals the wheels
spin in the air reflect sun
in my face
turn the rain aside
I ride
everyday my white bicycle
the work continues.

Address for all correspondence to FLY :-

Julian Grain, 9 Stafford Rd., Brighton, 5.

EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

- till 13 Dec : Paintings by Balraj Khanna. Afras Common Room of Sussex University.
- till 13 Dec : Paintings by Oliver Bevan and Lois Matcham. Room 112 Falmer House, Sussex University.
- till 20 Dec : Contemporary Ceramics, Jewellery and Woven Wall Hangings. Gardner Centre Gallery.
- till 14 Dec : "Christine Is Love" presented by the Portable Theatre. Brighton Combination.

MUSIC

- Thurs 11 Dec : Blossom Toes plus Light Show. 7.30 at Thomas Bennet School, Crawley. 6/-
- Thurs 11 Dec : Jon Hiseman's Colosseum at Worthing.
- Fri 12 Dec : Sister Rae at Eastbourne Art College. And Light Show.
- Tue 16 Dec : Sister Rae, Jenlemon and Light Show. 7.30 at Hove County for Girls, 4/-
- Mon 22 Dec : FAMILY and friends, with Emily Muff at Dome. 7.45
8/- 10/- 13/- 15/-
- Mon 12 Jan : Colosseum and Juicy Lucy at Dome.
- Thurs 15 Jan : East of Eden at University of Sussex Blues Society, Jimmys.
- Mon 19 Jan : Pink Floyd at Dome.
- Thurs 22 Jan : Piblokto ! at Jimmys.
- Fri 23 Jan : Quintessence, Mott the Hoople, Daddy Longlegs, Fox .
Sussex University.
- Thurs 29 Jan : Keef Hartley at Jimmys.

PLUS some time in January at the Dome : Third Ear Band, Al Stewart.
Strong rumours still for a Dome performance by Led Zeppelin.

PRINCIPAL

There is no definition of Principal Edwards Magic Theatre that is valid for more than a few days, hours, minutes Nor do they want to be straitjacketed by definitions.

They comprise diverse dimensions; music, poetry, dancing and lights. The Principal Edwards community unites them to form the coherent dramatic experience called the Magic Theatre. Their performances are brimming with creativity. Though perhaps their ideas may be slightly ahead of their musical ability, P.E.M.T.'s joyful music is full of unusual chord progressions and time changes. Their dancing is similar to modern ballet and the light show is probably the best in the country, combining all the usual visual effects plus film clips and slides, synchronised to relate to each particular song.

This unique group concept would be impossible if they were not a very close-knit community. They intend to stay that way and have therefore rented a seventeenth century farmhouse near Kettering, big enough to house them all and to afford adequate practice facilities. Their extraordinary size is a problem. To keep them all housed and fed, they need to play at least four dates a week, at 75 pounds a time.

The original nucleus of the group was at Exeter, with Martin at Bristol. But after meeting John Peel they were encouraged to progress and expand. Hence the present multitude of members: - Root -guitars and music; Binky -violin, recorder, piano, and harmonies; Martin -lyrics and singing; Vivienne -singing; David -hand drums and assorted percussion; Jeremy -bass; Lyn -drums; Monica and Eva dance; Gillian -choreography; John -running up and down walls (!) and dancing; Chris, Leslie and his dog Suzi work the lights; Harry does the artwork, and Paul is the roadie. And I'm told there may be many more!

Their first LP, aptly named "Soundtrack", has just been released on the Dandelion label - the first step towards the realisation of their ambition to establish their own permanent theatre, the only suitable media for such multi-talented people.

D.J.



September

Mother September - gold-dust of centuries
Sleeps on the willow-tops, self-forgotten.

Scattered in thickspun sunlight's soft old age
The dazzled children lose themselves, red tunes
That tinkle on the river's splintered reaches.

Mother September - brown with the moon's sweat
The blotchy hours fade on her open blue sleeve.

And sometimes, when the gusty Western ocean
Slurps its cold ruffled fat across the sky,
And the slow greasy river snuffles like an upset sow,
I sit along small roads and see,
Behind the watery lamps that mark the wind's white gate,
What flickers in next year's eye.

Nero.

J.S.

Art is Feeling Good,

(or "1984", "Brave New World" here we come!)

There is one particularly evil misconception concerning the nature and understanding of living which has imperceptibly established itself particularly with the coming of industrialism. It is a misconception concerning basic human requirements and its effects are monstrous. To quote D.H. Lawrence (speaking through Mellors in "Lady Chatterley's Lover" about the midland colliers).

"Look! look at yourselves! one shoulder higher than t'other, legs twisted, foot all lumps! What have yer done ter yerselves, wi' the blasted work? Spoilt yerselves. No need to work that much. Look at yourselves. Yer ought ter be alive an' beautiful, an' yer ugly an' half dead. So I'd tell 'em. An' I'd get my men to wear different clothes: 'appen close red trousers, bright red. Why, if men had red, fine legs, that alone would change them in a month. They'd begin to be men again, to be men!"

My point is and I want to state this categorically that the greatest aspects of our civilisation are the creative activities, writing, music, painting, etc. and not those areas of study encouraged by the establishment; mathematics, science, economics, etc. etc. which inevitably perpetuate a corrupt and nasty industrial backlog. The nature of education as it stands is based simply upon the transfer of information as an end in itself. Each area of study is narrowed down to a specific syllabus and examined; the information is never related to the here and now. A mechanical reaction is encouraged. The abandonment of ones social life is often essential (at least in part) during the fifth and sixth forms in grammar schools in order to achieve ones O' and A' levels. The system seems intent from the very beginning to produce extremely dull people, who would never even consider questioning their own environment. The not so uncommon combination of normal adolescent withdrawal and an imposed elimination of ones social life can produce violently introverted and disturbed people. Our society breeds neuroses but if one should crack up one ends up in a mental hospital, prison, or the electric chair. We cannot see the forest for the trees (or perhaps it's a matter of too many cooks .)

Of course there are adequately adjusted and apparently happy people within our society and some working men have come right through this terrible industrial system and still have a smile on their faces. These are heroic characters and have my deepest respect; but this is human resilience coming through at its strongest and should be recognised as such. There are far more maladjusted, violently disillusioned and extremely bitter people around; each the product of their environment and those should be our concern.

(continued on page 13)



Jay Gayn.

BRIGHTON FREE SCHOOLS CAMPAIGN

The role of schools should not be to manufacture pawns which fit into the established system, but to serve the best interests of the community through producing creative, compassionate, self-governing individuals. Therefore the Brighton Free Schools Campaign have adopted the following aims :-

They demand the abolition of :-

1. School uniform.
2. Prefect system.
3. Corporal and other forms of punishment. Complaints to be handled by a School Council whose action depends on unanimous decisions, including the offender.
4. Board of Governors.
5. Compulsory religious instruction and acts of worship in schools. Morning assemblies should be a time for remarks, complaints, notices and criticism by any member of the school community.
6. Compulsory attendance.
7. Exam system in present form.
8. Military training groups in schools.
9. Headmaster's power over pupils outside school.
10. Monosexual schools, streaming, and segregation by sex, class or race.

They want the introduction of :-

1. Personal choice of timetable and activity.
2. Freedom of speech and assembly, and the right to organise independent groups inside schools ; no censorship of school magazines , clubs or societies.
3. School councils to decide and conduct the running of the school, composed of teachers and pupils elected by the total school community on the basis of proportional representation. Each class to have its own elected representative whose position is subject to instant recall by the majority vote of that class. More than one school council could function on a decentralist basis in schools with a large number of pupils.
4. Smaller classes, the size being kept down to 15 . If the State cannot provide this, then it is acting contrary to the law (Education Act of 1944, Part IV, Article 36) which states that each child should " receive efficient full-time education suitable to his age, ability and aptitude."
5. Evening educational establishments open to all, regardless of age.
6. Full maintenance grants to all receiving full-time education over minimum school leaving age.

Contact :- Tat Brennan & John Harraway,
c/o Flat 2, 230 Eastern Rd., Brighton, Sussex.

Edited highlights from a Brighton Free Schools Campaign propoganda leaflet.

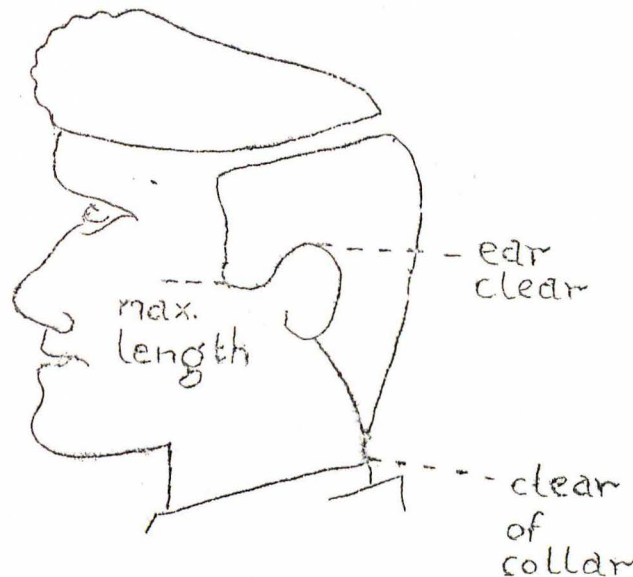
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Though the BFSC seems to have gone to ground, FLY does not mean this as a patriotic revival. Anyone with strong feelings about any of these aims is quite free to do what he thinks fit and proper.

Love FLY

A schools' strike has been called for the 19th December by the Schools' Action Union, to which the BFSC is/was affiliated, in protest against general school conditions, eg.- The overall headmaster of Varndean Grammar School for Boys, a certain Mr Mollison, has now sent round a circular to the parents of Varndean pupils, "to clarify our regulations about hair styles". It demands that "hair must always be clear of the collar, and clear of the ears", and states that "The whole head must look tidy - and the school be the judge of what is tidy."

To emphasise the point, Mr Mollison produced a poster, which we dutifully reproduce below. (We hope our copy does not in any way detract from the originals' essential aesthetic beauty.)



INSANITY BREEDS CONTEMPT
WHAT COULD POSSIBLY MATTER?
SABRE FLAMED A CANDLE
MEANS AS MUCH AS TWENTY'S CHATTER.

Steve Brayne

RECORDS ♦ RECORDS

QUINTESSENCE - "In Blissful Company". Island.

Quintessence came out into the open at the last Hyde Park happening of the summer, when they were in the company of the Deviants and the Soft Machine amongst others.

The play monthly at the All Saints Church Hall, Notting Hill, which was, in the pre-UFO days the home of both the Soft Machine and the Pink Floyd. It's probable that Quintessence will follow in their footsteps towards the goal of deserved recognition.

"In Blissful Company" is their debut album, and their music, says leader Raja Ram from Melbourne, is drawn from many sources, and is held together by the groups deep involvement in eastern religions. The eastern influence is very apparent in their music, especially on 'Gunga-Mai' and 'Midnight Mode'. It is mystical and cosmic in concept and is full of philosophical anecdotes.

Raja plays some very fine flute throughout, as well as numerous percussion instruments, including bells. Lead guitar is played by Alan whose original style shows that not all Gibson 335's have to be subjected to monotonous hackneyed rock-riffs, to which they so often are. Shambu's bass lines are prominent and interesting, especially on 'Body'.

On 'Notting Hill Gate', two of the group's associates play some nice sitar and tamboura, and on 'Pearl and Bird', Shiva, who is lead vocalist, makes a rare contribution of some subtle piano augmentation. The overall effect creates a mesmeristic atmosphere aided by a mystical pattern on the cover leaflet designed to induce a hypnotic trance.

N.W.

SYD BARRETT - "Octopus/Golden Hair" Harvest HAR5009.

This single comes from Syd Barret's LP 'The Mad Cap Laughs' which is to be released in January. 'Octopus' is a typical Barret song and like 'Gnome', 'Bike', 'Flaming', 'Apples and Oranges' and from his Floyd days is a well written nonsense song to subconsciously sing along to. Hey Ho, Acoustic guitar, occasional echo, and a simple backing. 'Mossy Seats' and 'Mystic Shining FEET' are Presented to one with an insane sort of logic.

'Golden Hair' is a James Joyce poem set to music. It is short but effective and the mysterious poem's connotation of an alluring supernatural maiden is enhanced by its medieval style. I wonder whether the album produced and assisted by members of the Pink Floyd will be equally strange.

G.S.T.

EXSPANTION RECORDS MIDDLE STREET.

FOR:- LIVE PEACE IN TORONTO 1969--Plastic Ono Band and
LIEGE AND LIEP--Fairport Convention as well as
DEEP PURPLE IN LIVE CONCERT AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL

MADAME MAGICAL -- by Steve Brayne

Madame Magical
Will give you love
And writhes in soft implosions.

With too much love
She flows smiling
Flowing smiling flowing.

Amazing amazed eyes
Never cease to give
And warm and glowing
She floats in slow motion
To the ground through daffodils.

Blazoning herald sun
Radiates the yeast of life
Living
Treading in soft awe of living
Yet living and loving life.

at skeleton hovel 2 - by G. Runt

the laugh of land (ribaudred sky)
were interesting:
your head was reinfesting

the eptness of this place, of course
was pure affection
no! con-jection

there's no need now to grovel
hovel and land
are - grand

MIKE MACRO-THE INNER MAN - by Amos Sauerkraut

A strange unease is in my blood
Gnawing the nerves into a frenzy
And making me rage.
Those hands hang distant at these sides
Unused, still, and in agony
They scorch inside.
Severely engorged by this room
The passageway denies escape for
Streets exist outside.
The locks are keyless, their chains knit
Hopelessness in a tight vein web
For this blood's passage.
A strange unease is in this blood
Gnawing the nerves into a frenzy
And making - this.

FOR FOX SAKE

The FOX are fortunately not one of the new breed of "incredibly heavy underground" groups which are forming throughout the country with monotonous regularity. They are quite happy with the 'pop group' tag though they probably have more musical ability than any other group to emerge from the Brighton area in the last few years.

They consist of : Alex Lane (once with the Urchins, who have played on 'Top Gear') - Hammond Organ; Steve Brayne - guitar; Dave Windross - bass; Timothy Reeves on drums, and the second guitarist is Winston B. Weatherill (ex of the T-Bones, who backed tours by such people as John Lee Hooker, Sonny Boy Williamson, Mose Allison and Howlin' Wolf, and whose line-up also included Keith Emerson and Lee Jackson). Nick Apostolides is a great friend of the group, having been the singer with the group at their conception, and he now writes some of the lyrics.

Their music is refreshingly melodic and unpretentious, not relying on mammoth instrumentals or any other gimmicks, though Steve Brayne has been known to be electrocuted on stage ! There is a slight jazz feel to Alex's organ playing but the FOX are basically a good tight pop group. However they are anxious to further extend their musical boundaries and to progress to a more varied overall sound. Thus Alex is now playing tenor sax, Dave - the flute, and Steve and Winston intend eventually to incorporate their acoustic guitars into the act.

The FOX also insist on using all original material, with the exception of an occasional slowed-down rendition of 'Ticket To Ride'. They are careful to ensure that their lyrics are good enough to stand in their own right, and many of their songs are in fact adapted

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from poems. Their first LP called 'For Fox Sake' and due for American release on the Crew label later this month, consists of 13 self-penned numbers, from Alex, Nick and Steve. Then in January the group start work on their second album, which will probably be the first to be released in this country.

They are not relying on a massive publicity build-up but rather prefer to let their reputation spread by word of mouth. They made many friends recently at the Dome where they had the unenviable task of opening the bill which featured the Edgar Broughton Band, David Bowie and the Straws amongst others, so that they are now receiving quite a regular flow of bookings, as their name becomes more widely known throughout the South. They seem to be one local group whose future is assured.

D.J.

INSTRUMENTALISTS WANTED

Phone : MEDICINE (Dave)
Brighton: 36877

FOR ALL THEIR HELP
WE WISH TO THANK

UMA

LIGHT SHOW

phone richard : bri. 25367

ART IS FEELING GOOD contd.

A sinister and artificial discipline has been imposed throughout the entire strata of society and education should be concerned with something more than simply the transfer of information which inevitably perpetuates this situation.

To see the art lesson reduced to a buffer period between academic subjects when it should be the liveliest, most socially concious and exciting department in the school amounts to sacrilege. (This argument of course applies in varying degrees to each of the creative activities mishandled in schools.) The art department should be concerned with looking at our enviroment with a greater intensity than is normally required of us and with thinking out things afresh. Great works of art have always been the product of an intense awareness of the artists environment. The side effects are, and the establishment realises this, that once you start to look at things as they are and not how we have been taught/conditioned to see them; one cannot help but become very socially concious and society will not tolerate this. There has been a highly successful infiltration of peoples minds and any leaning towards the arts is stifled quickly and efficiently.

The arts should and could be mans salvation; I repeat "1984", "Brave New World" here we come!

BIG BROTHER

... .. Essential reading; D.H.Lawrence's "Sons and Lovers"
"The Rainbow"
"Women in Love"
"Lady Chatterley's
 " Lover"

George Orwell's "1984"
and Aldous Huxley's "Brave New World"

("Sons and Lovers" and "1984" are particularly readable.)

A LETTER FROM OUR READER -

Dear Fly,

Having just picked up a copy of you I thought I'd write as you seem to be one of the more encouraging art mags to come out of this town.

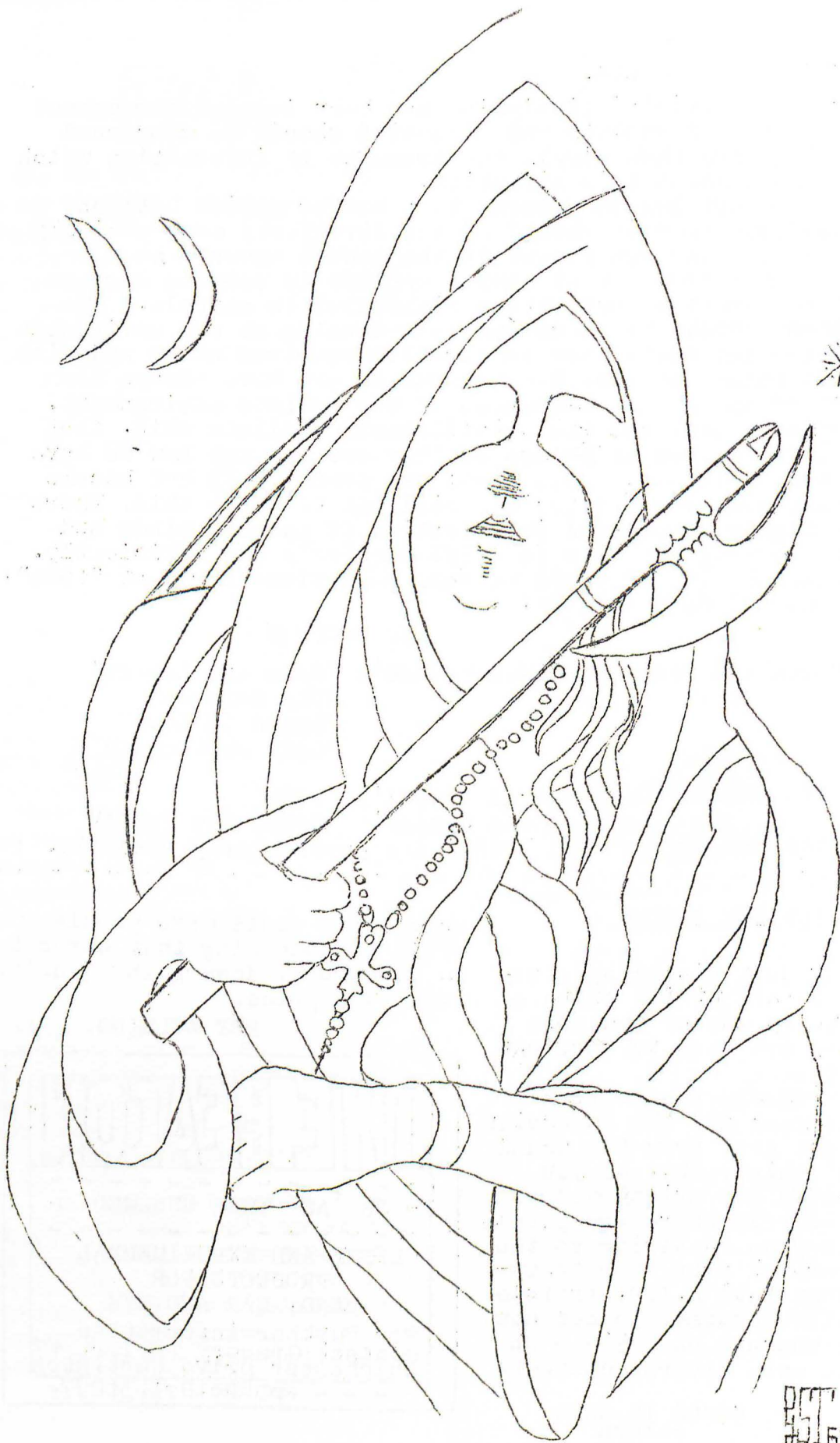
For a change the poetry is not stereotyped and the interview actually got away from the usual 'yeah man' thing. But, do you have to be so pop orientated (as you say) -surely there are people willing to give an airing to the less commercial arts. For instance the John Peel R.I.P. article though well executed, is not new to anyone whereas an article on any of the more diverse contemp-

orary arts would make people aware of something they weren't on to before. Keep going, you're worth the price.

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