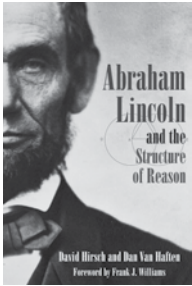


BRIGHTEN YOUR WINTER DAYS!

If the wintery weather is making you blue, just head to your local library. In addition to a great selection of books and movies for just \$1, your library offers dozens of storytimes for children, afterschool programs for teens and tweens, computer classes, and so much more. Our librarians are always ready to assist you with research, provide homework help, and offer suggestions on good books for you and your family.



IN HONOR OF PRESIDENTS DAY.

Meet **David Hirsch** and **Dan Van Haften**, authors of *Abraham Lincoln and the Structure of Reason* on Monday, February 20 at 6:30 PM at the Central Library. In their book, the authors persuasively argue that it was Lincoln's in-depth study of geometry that gave our sixteenth president his verbal structure. Although Lincoln's fascination with geometry is well documented, most historians have concluded that his study of the subject was little more than mental calisthenics. In fact, conclude the authors, Lincoln embedded the ancient structure of geometric proof into many of his most famous works.

AMERICA'S HISTORY COMES TO LIFE.

Share history with your family at a Civil War re-enactment at the Franklin Avenue Library, presented by the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum on Saturday, February 25 at 2:00 PM. Civil War re-enactors and weapons experts will bring the war to life as museum staff provide a narrated overview of the causes of the US Civil War. Learn the historical context for Iowa units who served in the Western



Theater during the conflict, listen to quotes of Iowa soldiers describing their experiences, and consider the losses that were incurred by Iowans in support of the Union victory

MAKING SENSE OF THE CIVIL WAR.



Franklin Avenue Library will host a free five-part reading and discussion series on Tuesday evenings from 5:30-8:00 PM beginning March 1 and continuing on March 15, March 29, April 12, and April 26, developed by the American Library Association and the National Endowment for the Humanities. The readings will include *March*, by Geraldine Brooks, *Crossroads of Freedom: Antietam*, by James McPherson, and *America's War: Talking About the Civil War and Emancipation on Their 150th Anniversaries*, edited by Edward L. Ayers. Simpson College Professor Nick Proctor will lead a discussion of the book at each session. Proctor holds a Ph.D in American History from Emory University in Atlanta, GA, where he wrote his dissertation, *Bathed in Blood: Hunting Culture in the Old South*. For further information, contact Kate Young at: keyoung@dmpl.org.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR
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ALL IOWA READS AUTHOR TO KICK OFF AVID 2012

Pulitzer Prize-winning author **Tracy Kidder** will visit Des Moines on Tuesday, March 27 to discuss his book,

Strength in What Remains, selected this year by the Iowa Center for the Book as its All Iowa Reads title. Kidder's talk is open to the public and will begin at 7:00 PM at Hoyt Sherman Place Theater.

Tracy Kidder attended the Iowa Writers' Workshop and obtained his MA from the University of Iowa in 1974. Prior to attending college, he served as a lieutenant in Vietnam, for which he was awarded a Bronze Star, an experience chronicled in his memoir, *My Detachment*.

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the American Book Award, *The Soul of a New Machine* was a bestseller on its first publication in 1981. His other books include *Mountains Beyond Mountains*, *Home Town*, *Old Friends*, *Among Schoolchildren*, and *House*. He has also won the National Book Award, the Robert F. Kennedy Award, and many other literary prizes.

Strength in What Remains is the true story of Deogratias, a young physician from Burundi, who survives genocide only to find himself a homeless émigré in America. Deo draws on inner strength to overcome all odds, graduate from Columbia University, and return to his native land to open health clinics there. Dark, but not without hope and full of forgiveness, this is a must read for all Iowans.

The AVID Author Series is made possible with funding from the Des Moines Public Library Foundation with generous support from Humanities Iowa, Douglas and Deborah West, Drake University, the Iowa History Center at Simpson College, and many others.

Watch our web site for further announcements!

LOOK INSIDE FOR OUR
FY 10-11 ANNUAL REPORT



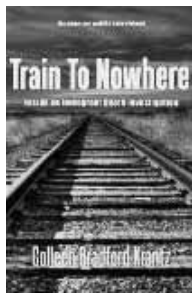
LINDA ROE NAMED AS NEW DEPUTY DIRECTOR

If you frequent the Forest Avenue Library or the North Side Library, you likely recognize the friendly face of Linda Roe, who has served as manager for both branch locations the past year. Linda assumed her new duties as Deputy Director following Sally Wisdom's retirement on December 30. In announcing his choice, Library Director Greg Heid stated, "Linda brings to the position the knowledge of the library system, library management experience, and a wealth of experience from her work in the private sector before obtaining her degree as a librarian."

Linda first began her career at the Des Moines Public Library as a Professional Librarian Substitute, a job she greatly enjoyed because it gave her a "wonderful overview of all the buildings and how they were unique." She then worked at the Central Library as Youth Services Librarian and later as Senior Librarian. In April 2009, she became the manager of the Forest Avenue Library and subsequently took on the pilot project of managing two branches, which may serve as a model for dealing with further budget cuts.

In beginning her new role, Linda shared that she "believes access to information is a big part of equality. It levels the playing field for everyone, regardless of background. Becoming the Deputy Director of the Des Moines Public Library, to support a profession where that is one of the primary goals, is a dream come true."

Prior to receiving her MLS from the University of Iowa, Linda had more than ten years of experience in staff and organizational development. Linda and her husband, Steve, live in Des Moines and have six grown children and five (soon to be six) grandchildren. In her spare time, Linda enjoys being with her family, learning new crafts, and spending time at the lake.



MEET THE AUTHOR OF *Train to Nowhere*

The Iowa International Center and the Des Moines Public Library will host a free author program featuring journalist **Colleen Bradford Krantz** on Tuesday, January 24 at 6:30 PM in the Central Library Grand Meeting Wing.

Krantz is a former Des Moines Register reporter. She spent several years researching and writing about the 2002 deaths of eleven Central Americans and Mexicans, whose bodies were found inside a railcar in Denison, Iowa. She will discuss why she felt a neutral tone was important for her book, *Train to Nowhere: Inside an Immigrant Death Investigation*, which provides insight into the nation's immigration issue. She'll discuss other lessons she learned while writing the book and the award-winning documentary of the same name.



ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE STUDENTS LOVE NORTH SIDE LIBRARY

Stop in to the North Side Library on Wednesday and Friday mornings and you will see a group of eager learners practicing new language skills. The U. S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI), a national non-profit with field offices throughout the country, has teamed with the library to provide free English classes to their refugee clients and others in the community. Through USCRI volunteers, these newly arrived refugees of all levels and

languages are able to begin, improve, and perfect their English skills.

Utilizing the large space the library provides allows the class to be separated according to language level. The students, as well as the volunteers, appreciate the quiet space offered at the library.

"Having class at the library means we can really provide a great learning environment that is quiet and void of distractions. I love being able to share my language and culture, as well as learn about each of the people I work with in class," says ISU student and USCRI volunteer, Michelle Brown.

A GIFT WELL RECEIVED

The East Side Library received a very special gift from the children of Charles and Adele Anolik who recently donated their parent's personal book collection. Our staff was stunned to receive such a generous gift. Many of the books have been added to our collection and others will be offered at the East Side Library's annual book sale held in April.

Charles Anolik was a Holocaust survivor who was interviewed many years ago by librarian Dave Crabill as part of the library's Oral History Project. Charles was also interviewed by the Shoah Foundation and his story continues to be used by students and researchers. (A DVD copy is available from the library's collection.) Adele Anolik, Charles' wife, was the author of two works about the Holocaust which we have in the library's collection: *The Liberation of the Concentration Camps 1945: The Des Moines Iowa Survivors* and *The Guide to Yale University Library Holocaust Video Testimonies-Des Moines Holocaust Survivors Project*.

The Des Moines Public Library has benefited from a special relationship with the Anoliks for many years and will continue to benefit in the future thanks to their kind donation. The Anolik family may rest assured that their parents' legacy will live on in a place where many will use the resources they have bestowed upon us.



ENJOY THE MAJESTY OF OUR NATIONAL SYMBOL

Local photographer **Ty Smedes** will present a fascinating slide show with photos from his new book, *The Return of the Bald Eagles*, on Tuesday, February 21 at 6:30 PM at the Franklin Avenue Library. The book chronicles the conservation measures taken to save bald eagles from extinction and features spectacular color photographs that capture their power and grace.



WRITERS WORKSHOP HOSTS AUTHOR VISIT VIA SKYPE

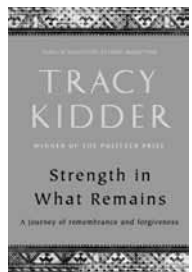
Nelle Davy's debut novel, *The Legacy of Eden*, has been described as a "cross between works by Daphne DuMaurier and Jane Smiley," and as "a wonderful Gothic read about an Iowa farm family."

Intrigued? If so, join us at the Central Library on Monday, February 6 for a unique Skype author visit as part of the Central Library Writers Workshop on Monday, February 6 at 6:00 PM. Davy's novel tells the story of a young woman who returns to her family's once-grand Iowa farm as it is being sold at auction to settle her

late cousin's debts, intending to collect the few possessions that once belonged to her parents. Nelle Davy was born in Grenada and raised in London within an Anglo-Caribbean family.

SOUL FOOD FESTIVAL—ALWAYS THE FIRST SATURDAY IN MARCH!

The Forest Avenue Library's annual Soul Food Festival will be held Saturday, March 3 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Don't miss this chance to come and enjoy foods like fried chicken, greens, red beans and rice, jambalaya, black eyed peas, corn, sweet potato pie, cakes and cookies, -- even macaroni and cheese! There will also be hot dogs for the little ones. If you love soul food, you won't want to miss this annual traditional event!



TWEET, TELL, OR TYPE ABOUT IT!

If you are already a customer of the DMPL, you KNOW what a great place it is. But believe it or not, there are still lots of folks who don't! During the month of February, the DMPL is asking for your help in spreading the word about our great services and programs. Stop by the library to pick up an entry form. Then share with us, how you have SHARED your love for the DMPL with others! Six winning entries will be selected, one per library location, to receive a copy of the 2012 All Iowa Reads book, *Strength in What Remains*, by AVID Author Tracy Kidder.

FIND AN EREADER IN YOUR STOCKING THIS YEAR?

If you are new to the world of eBooks, your local library can help! Free downloads are available for Kindles, Nooks, and more! Use your library card to download eBooks from your home or office computer, at any hour of the day!

Visit the library's web site at www.dmpl.org and click on eBooks / Audiobooks to find all the information you need. For the tablet computers, there are apps in both the iOS (iPad, iPhone, iPod Touch) and the Android app stores; search for "Overdrive." For the Kindle and Nook, connect to our website and download our step-by-step guides showing you exactly what you need to do. There are a few "one-time-only" steps with any of the e-Readers, which will get you set up for all future downloads. Then choose your eBook online and check it out on your usual library card. You have two weeks for your eBook loan and there are no late fees -- ever! There are almost 5,000 books available through our membership in the statewide WILBOR consortium.



TECH TALKS SANDWICHED IN

We've had such a great response that the folks at Geosync Global have offered to continue their noon programs at the Central Library. Each session is free, designed for non-techies, and less than one hour long, so bring your lunch to the Central Library from Noon - 1:00 PM.

February 2 and March 29: 4 Anyone: New Technology: Learn all about emerging devices, innovative software, and exciting solutions from around the world.

February 16: 4 Anyone: Mobile Applications: See a variety of devices and demonstrations of apps.

March 1: 4 Anyone: Skype's The Limit: Learn how to use this application to speak to people on the other side of the world via the internet without using your phone minutes.

March 15: 4 Anyone: Above The Cloud: Central Library from noon to 1:00 PM. Heard of the "Cloud" and wonder what is so special up there? Learn how to apply it to real life tools and work challenges.

WORDS FROM OUR CUSTOMERS

Overheard: Recently, I was sitting in a small, divided waiting room waiting for my name to be called, and I heard an interesting conversation. A woman, whom I could not see, was telling her friend about her Kindle and her reading patterns, in general. She reads regular books and bought some for her Kindle on Amazon. She then went on to say that she could now download from the library. She likes this but was going to have to adjust to the fact that it would disappear at some point. She was sure that this would not be a problem, however. Then my name was called. I just love it when I hear people talk about the library in their everyday life.

- Library Employee Chris Shelton

Twitter: LISALAVIA: Impressed with the @dmpl. Sent some feedback Tues & they've already put a new process in place that solves my issue. Great customer service!

Letter: "As consultants for not-for-profit organizations, we have found the Des Moines Public Library to be a great resource when researching potential funding opportunities through "Foundation's Directory". Thanks to the services provided by the Des Moines Public Library, organizations seeking grants have a chance to improve the lives of those in need. We will continue to utilize the services of the Des Moines Public Library, as we attempt to provide additional funding opportunities for organizations designed to make the world a better place."

-Trevor Pinegar

Email: Ashley Ansah at North Side Library recently conducted a class visit with a Harding Middle School English Language Learning class. This was part of the email she received from the teacher after the visit: "Today was wonderfully successful, and the kids LOVED their gifts. (Ashley had given each student a KnowHow2Go backpack and lunch cooler from the grant's funds.) Working with you to schedule our library visits is one of the most important and beneficial teaching tasks I do. Bottom line—my students are better prepared and greatly blessed because they meet you! Thanks again."

—Sarah



IT'S A BIRD, IT'S A PLANE,
NO...WAIT....

IT'S A BIG RED DOG!

Clifford, everyone's favorite Big Red Dog, is preparing for his annual visit to Des Moines. He will arrive on Saturday, February 11 and be here through Saturday, February 18. Of course, Clifford's favorite local TV personality, Dan Wardell of IPTV, will be on-hand as well. Dan will read some stories about Clifford's many adventures and then the two of them will be available for photos. The programs are scheduled for:

Saturday, February 11
Central Library, 10:30 AM

Monday, February 13
South Side Library, 6:30 PM

Tuesday, February 14
North Side Library, 10:30 AM

Tuesday, February 14
Franklin Avenue Library, at 4:00 PM

Wednesday, February 15
Forest Avenue Library, 10:15 AM

Thursday, February 16
East Side Library, 10:30 AM

Thursday, February 16
South Side Library, 4:00 PM

Friday, February 17
Central Library, 10:00 AM

Saturday, February 18
Franklin Avenue Library, 10:30 AM



Link members pictured, from left: Shirley Daniels, Adrienne Jennings, Renee Hardman, Jacquie Easley McGhee, Rosie, Linda Carter Lewis, Mary Lynne Jones, Des Moines chapter president, Valeska Buie.

LINKS LOVE LITERACY AND ROSIE AT EDMUNDS SCHOOL

The Des Moines chapter of the Links, Inc., chartered in 1957, is one of the oldest and largest volunteer service organizations of women who are committed to enriching, sustaining, and ensuring the culture and economic survival of African Americans and other people of color. Throughout the years, the Links have served the Des Moines area with signature programs including I Am Somebody mentoring, the black doll project, and a reading room at the Forest Avenue Library. Currently, the Links are supporting Edmunds School with several initiatives including Links Love Literacy!

DMPL PART OF NATIONAL MEDIA LITERACY PROJECT

The American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom received a grant from the Open Society Foundations to develop a Media Literacy Project for high school students throughout the United States. Iowa has the honor of being one of the states selected to participate in this project. An even greater honor is that Des Moines Public Library was asked to select three students from the community to participate.

The goal of the project is to teach high school students how to distinguish fact from propaganda and manipulation in this digital age. Students are being selected from both U.S. urban and rural areas as well as from Alexandria, Egypt (where social media played a role in the Arab Spring revolutions). All participants had to attend a day-long workshop taught by librarians and journalists. During the two years of the project, students will team up and communicate with their counterparts via an exclusive website and will be mentored by bloggers, traditional journalists, and media librarians. Each student also receives a flip camera and a MacBookPro to use as they continue to work on their projects. At the conclusion of the project, the electronic equipment will become the property of the library.

The three enthusiastic students from Des Moines who are participating in this project are Elena Hildebrandt, who uses all of the libraries in Des Moines; Elizabeth Lockin, who is a library aide at Franklin Avenue Library; and Octavio Lopez, a regular at South Side Library teen programs. Sarah Scholten, the Youth Services Librarian at the South Side Library, will act as the staff liaison. She attended the November 19 workshop with the students and reported, "The teens were thrilled to be there. They all thanked me at the end of the day, saying how much fun they had and how excited they are to be part of the project."



FREE FAFSA ASSISTANCE

Get free help filling out your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Local financial aid volunteers will help families with the FAFSA, the government-required form for many types of financial aid for college. This event is part of the national College Goal Sunday program held in 39 states and the District of Columbia.

Iowa College Goal Sunday's main focus is helping low-income and first-generation students attain the financial resources necessary to make college possible. For more information, call ICAN at (877) 272-4692, e-mail CGS@ICANSucceed.org, or attend the events at:

Forest Avenue Library, Saturday, February 18, from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Central Library, Saturday, February 25, from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM



BRIGHT STARS OVER DES MOINES

Teens from all over Des Moines will want to head over to the East Side Library to join in the fun of a Film Camp during Spring Break. Thanks to a grant from the H. Dale and Lois Bright Foundation, up to twenty-four teens will have a chance to participate in this new program.

There will be five days of classes beginning on Monday, March 19 from 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM. Participants will learn various aspects of creating, producing, filming, and editing to produce a three to four minute video of "What Makes Des Moines a Great Place!" The public is invited to view the videos at a special event on Friday, March 23 at 5:00 PM. For more details and to participate, contact East Side Library Branch Manager Carolyn Greufe at: cegreufe@dmpl.org

LOVE YOUR LIBRARY? YELP ABOUT IT!

A social media savvy mom recently "yelped" about the great programs at the Franklin Avenue Library and more specifically the storytelling by Children's Specialist Donna Jordan. The five-star review stated, "we went today for 'storytime' and it was wonderful! There were over twenty toddlers, and the story teller was awesome! It was very light interaction with the other toddlers! I will be returning!"

NEED A GOOD BOOK FOR YOUR CHILD?

Suggested reading lists for all ages are now available on the library's "Need a Good Book?" online pages. If you are looking to encourage your child to read but don't know what kind of books to suggest, visit our web site often for a variety of lists for children and teens, from teen fiction about dystopian societies (think *Hunger Games*) to teen read-alikes (if you liked *Twilight* then try...) and children's lists as *Wimpy Kid* readalikes and suggested reading by grade level. Of course, our librarians are always happy to recommend great books, too!

TUMBLEBOOKS NOW AVAILABLE ON APPLE™ DEVICES

iPad and iPhone 4 users may now access the library's TumbleBook Library! There are more than fifty TumbleBooks available, with fifty more coming soon! To find them, go to the Kids Page on the library's web site, select the blue box that says TumbleBooks, then click on Story Books and select the green button called "iPad Books" ... or you can use the TumbleSearch feature: type in "iPad" and hit GO. To launch a book from your iPad, simply click on the iPad icon!



LOOKING AHEAD TO SPRING BREAK

You may just be packing away all the Christmas decorations, but the library always thinks ahead. In fact, we already have several programs set for the Des Moines Public School spring break week. There will be a wide variety of programming available for kids of different ages. In addition to our weekly story times, we will offer some special programs, such as:

Create Your Own Beautiful Bird, Central Library, Saturday March 17, 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Sabotage at the Science Fair, Central Library, Tuesday, March 20, 3:00 PM. Students ages 8-12 must preregister to attend this mystery party.

The Bobcat and Lynx in Iowa, Franklin Avenue Library, Thursday, March 22, 2:00 PM. The Pella Wildlife Company will present a special program for children ages 3-11 on these incredible "cats" who live in our state.

Check our brand new online calendar for more program listings and join in the fun this spring break.

FICTION 2 FILM WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Last fall the DMPL hosted a contest in celebration of Teen Read Week. Six lucky entries were drawn, and each winner received a \$25 gift card to Carmike Cinemas. Here are the books that the winners thought would make great movies:



Central Library: *Hawksong*, by Amelia Atwater-Rhodes: The story is really good, and considering all the expression the characters possess, especially the serpente, it would bring imagination to life in a movie, and the shape-shifting would be beautiful."



East Side Library: *The House of the Scorpion*, by Nancy Farmer: "It would captivate the audience and could most likely surpass *Avatar*/*Titanic* or be on the same level because this book has it all: drama, action, romance, comedy, etc."



Forest Avenue Library: *Suspicion*, by Sasha Campbell: "Because the book keeps you going. It's like a Tyler Perry movie, which gets really famous!



Franklin Avenue Library: *First They Killed My Father*, by Loung Ung: This nonfiction book would make a great movie "because it is a beautiful and powerful story that deserves to be on film."



North Side Library: *Maximum Ride*, by James Patterson: The book "has lots of action and yet a family feel along with teen and family appropriateness."



South Side Library: *Looking For Alaska*, by John Green: As a fan of Green's books, the winner struggled with only picking one to nominate. In the end, he decided to go with his favorite.



Opening doors. Books. Minds.

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It is my pleasure to wish you a Happy New Year as I begin my term as president of the Des Moines Public Library Foundation. As a board member I have had the opportunity to experience firsthand how the Foundation helps fund many of the wonderful programs and services that the library system provides to our community. As we turn the page to the new year, I'm looking forward to the many opportunities the Foundation will have to continue and expand those programs.

I'm writing to you today to thank you for your previous contribution to the Des Moines Public Library Foundation. You have shown that this organization and the Des Moines Public Library system are important to you. I'm asking for your continued support for the 2012 calendar year, during which the library will have added challenges due to city budget constraints.

Please help us keep the special programs supported by the Foundation strong by renewing your gift or by making a new gift to the Des Moines Public Library Foundation Annual Fund. On behalf of the Board of Directors, and all who benefit from the Des Moines Public Library Foundation, thank you for your generous support.

Sincerely,
 Tom McKlveen
 President | Des Moines Public Library Foundation



REMODELED FRANKLIN AVENUE LIBRARY SCORES HIGH ON ACCESSIBILITY

Iowa Public Radio producer Rob Dillard recently presented a weeklong series called *Being Physically Disabled in Iowa*. One program considered accessibility issues in public buildings in central Iowa, including the newly re-opened Franklin Avenue Library. Dillard accompanied a wheelchair bound woman who found the building easy to navigate. Staff members directed the woman to a public access

computer that was within easy reach for her to use. Her only negative comment was with regard to the soap dispensers in the restroom, which library administrators had already identified as needing to be re-installed. The woman noted there had been great attention to accessibility details and that even the hooks for her handbag were placed "at just the right height!"

The Franklin Avenue Library underwent an extensive remodeling with a budget of \$8.2 million. It reopened on August 21, 2011, and has received rave reviews from library customers. In addition to addressing accessibility challenges, the library offers hundreds of environmentally friendly features and is projected to qualify for LEED Platinum certification.



A SWEET CREATION NOW ON DISPLAY

Stop in to see a model of the Central Library in gingerbread, created by Invision and Carefree Patisserie, it's one of several public buildings featured in a holiday contest sponsored by Salisbury House.

The details are remarkable. From the copper-colored sugar windows to the trees made of grape vines dipped in chocolate, it's a delicious rendition. There is even a green roof! Sorry, the Starburst candy books inside are not available for checkout.

PLEASE GIVE IN A MANNER THAT IS COMFORTABLE FOR YOU:

- Give to us online - OR -
- Use the enclosed envelope and mail it to us at: 1000 Grand Avenue Des Moines, Iowa 50309
- Contact the Des Moines Public Library Foundation at (515) 248-6401 or 248-6402 to charge a gift to your VISA or MasterCard.

The following donations were received by the Des Moines Public Library Foundation between October 1 through December 29, 2011

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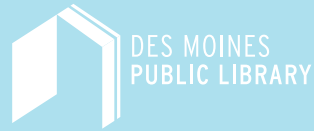
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Insight newsletter is edited by Jan Kaiser and designed by Toni Sarcone.

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