

# PLAYBILL

LEXINGTON CHILDREN'S THEATRE • 2019-2020



ANNIE

July 18 - 28, 2019

A black silhouette of a girl stands to the left of the word 'ANNIE' in large, white, block letters. The background is a gradient from red to pink.



OFRENDA

Sept. 19 - 28, 2019

A monarch butterfly is at the top, with a dotted line leading down to the word 'OFRENDA' in white, block letters. The background is a gradient from yellow to orange.



THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR  
AND OTHER ERIC CARLE FAVOURITES

Oct. 6 - 12, 2019

A green caterpillar is at the top right. The text is in various colors and fonts. The background is a gradient from light green to green.



HOLES

Oct. 30 - Nov. 15, 2019

A circular frame shows silhouettes of people looking at a bright light. The word 'HOLES' is in large, gold, block letters. The background is a gradient from brown to black.



Best Christmas Pageant  
EVER

Nov. 30 - Dec. 9, 2019

Decorative Christmas ornaments and a star are around the text. The word 'EVER' is in large, white, block letters. The background is a gradient from red to orange.

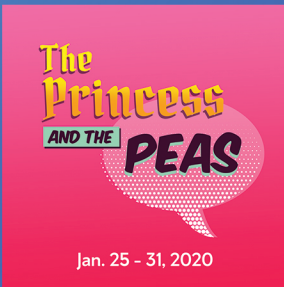


Aesop's FABLES

onstage

Dec. 12 - 19, 2019

A rabbit and a sun are part of the design. The word 'FABLES' is in large, blue, block letters. The background is a gradient from light blue to blue.



The Princess AND THE PEAS

Jan. 25 - 31, 2020

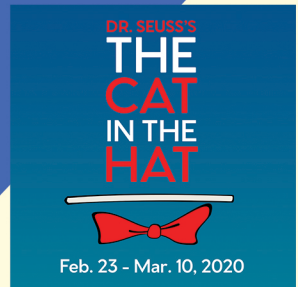
The text is in a pink speech bubble. The background is a gradient from pink to red.



Long Road to  
FREEDOM

Feb. 1 - 7, 2020

A hand holding a lit candle is in the center. The background is a gradient from purple to black.



DR. SEUSS'S  
THE CAT IN THE HAT

Feb. 23 - Mar. 10, 2020

A red bow tie is at the bottom. The background is a gradient from dark blue to teal.

THE STORY OF YOU!



The Hundred Dresses

March 19 - 27, 2020

Three dresses are hanging on a string. The background is a gradient from purple to black.



ELLA ENCHANTED

April 14 - 26, 2020

Decorative flourishes are around the text. The background is a gradient from green to dark green.



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# The Princess AND THE PEAS

Based on the Story by Hans Christian Andersen  
Adapted for Lexington Children's Theatre by Vivian Snipes

Saturday, January 25 - 11:00am (Sensory Friendly)  
Saturday, January 25 - 2:00pm  
Saturday, January 25 - 7:00pm (Pay What You Can)  
Sunday, January 26 - 2:00pm

Tuesday - Friday, January 28-31, 10:00am & 11:45am

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# THE Princess AND THE PEAS

Based on the story by Hans Christian Andersen  
Adapted for Lexington Children's Theatre Spring Tour 2020  
by Vivian Snipes

## ONCE UPON A TIME

In a galaxy far, far a – wait. No.  
In a time not so long ago, in a kingdom not so far from here.

## MERRY MINSTRELS

Narrator.....	Cody Taylor
Pei, the Courtier.....	Alex Reeves
The Queen.....	Danae DeShazer
Prince Charming.....	Derek Brookens
Princess Eliza.....	Danae DeShazer
Princess Leascelyn.....	Danae DeShazer
Highwayman.....	Danae DeShazer

## COURTIERS AND CROOKS

Director/Playwright.....	Vivian Snipes
Scenic Designers.....	Maggie Foley, Gabriel Slusser
Lighting Designer.....	Aaron Bowling
Composer/Sound Designer.....	Lorne Dechtenberg
Choreographer.....	Kathryn Henriques
Fight Choreographer.....	Adam Luckey
Assistant Director.....	Esther Neel
Stage Manager.....	Ariel Tatum
Technical Director/Master Carpenter .....	Gabriel Slusser
Scenic Charge Artist/Properties Master.....	Maggie Foley
Master Electrician.....	John Ruml
Production Construction Artist.....	Katie Adler
Costume Design.....	A Costume Shop Collaboration
Costume Shop Manager.....	Scarlett Kellum
Costume Construction and Cutter/Drapers.....	Addison Goan, Scarlett Kellum, .....Max Shmate, Jamie Taylor
Front of House Manager .....	Ashlee Collins
Box Office Personnel.....	Colleen Byron, Megan Kinney, .....Erin McGuire-Thompson
Educational Materials.....	Rhonda Bell, Zachary Fryman, Jeremy Kissing, .....Courtney Joy Miller, John Perine

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*Congratulations to the cast and crew of  
The Princess and the Peas!*

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## PREPARING A PLAY ABOUT PRINCESSES AND PEAS

Proceed with caution to ye local library. Peruse the shelves for copies of the prototype plot. Read plenty of interpretations. Start the first drafts of the script exploring a young girl named Princess who doesn't like her name or peas. Have her mother share stories about plenty of princesses, but have the protagonist turn the princesses into super heroes. You'll rapidly learn you don't know enough about the genre to script that play in the amount of time available no matter how much research you do. Nor do you wish to imply we shouldn't eat our vegetables. Reopen the original story. Rethink the predicaments of the people. There's a prince pursuing the perfect princess. What does that mean in contemporary society? Perhaps the prince is a single dad and his daughter, princess, pursues the perfect person for him. The princess stories surface as we meet each potential match — wait. Stop. With whom does your audience relate? The adults? No. Scrap that idea. Maybe Princess wants to find her prince. What if Prince is a puppy? Better yet, she wants to adopt a puppy from the pound. The adventures she and each potential puppy undergo are loosely based on folk tales, but it is the one who appears on her doorstep in the middle of the night that is the perfect fit. Hold it. Wait. Where do the peas come in? Please proceed back to the original story. What is it about? Sensitivity ... Compassion ... Kindness ... Feelings! It's about feelings! And being human! Making mistakes and struggling with everyday dilemmas which may or may not be blown out of proportion depending on how we feel about them. Sometimes we handle our feelings well, other times we hide them, or we don't share them appropriately. It's a play about people who have a lot of feelings, learning to deal with their feelings, while being honest, compassionate, and kind. The perfect play for today's world as we could always use more kindness and truthfulness in our lives. May this play provide you all the feelings.

*Vivian Snipes*  
Director/ Playwright

## PEA - KING THROUGH THE PORTICULLIS WINDOW

Designing a show  
lets a person use  
Un-conventional  
means to tell  
the story in  
new and  
interesting  
ways.

For  
*Princess  
& the Pea,*  
that meant  
finding a way to  
create a versatile  
and compact set  
that could act as  
many different  
areas and places.

Each aspect of  
the design  
should enhance  
the story  
that we are  
telling, as  
well as re-  
flect the  
director's  
Vision.

**Gabriel Slusser,**  
Scenic Designer

## LCT PROFESSIONAL STAFF

**Larry Snipes**, Producing Director  
**Vivian Snipes**, Artistic Director  
**Rachel Ray**, Development Director  
**Tiffany Dupont Novak**, Marketing and Sales Director  
**Kathryn Henriques**, Marketing and Sales Manager  
**Jeremy Kisling**, Associate Artistic Director in Charge of Education  
**Rhonda Bell**, Resident Teaching Artist  
**Zachary Fryman**, Resident Teaching Artist  
**Octavia Biggs**, Program Director of Shooting Stars Youththeatre (SSYT)  
**Erin McGuire-Thompson**, Finance and Box Office Manager  
**Megan Kinney**, Audience Experience Associate  
**Courtney Sheffield**, Production Stage Manager  
**Ariel Tatum**, Resident Stage Manager  
**Maggie Foley**, Charge Artist / Technical Director  
**Gabriel Slusser**, Technical Director / Master Carpenter  
**John Ruml**, Assistant Technical Director / Lighting & Sound Technician  
**Scarlett Kellum**, Costume Shop Manager / Designer  
**Esther Neel**, Associate Director

## MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS



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## JOYFUL JESTERS



**DEREK BROOKENS**  
(*Prince Charming*)  
Originally from Pennsylvania, Derek escaped to earn his BFA at Ohio Northern University, then continued to work and travel around the country. He's been happy to work in theatre

for young audiences with The National Theatre for Children and Prairie Fire Children's Theatre over the past six years. This is his first LCT experience and his first time in Lexington. For the next few months you can find Derek enjoying the area's hiking, restaurants, farmer's market, and anything barrel-aged.



**DANAE DESHAZER**  
(*Queen/Princess Eliza/Princess Leascelyn/Highwayman*) is happy to make her debut with Lexington Children's Theatre! Originally from Overland Park, Kansas, Danae stays busy as a freelance

director, choreographer, and actor across the United States. Recent directing credits include: ...*Spelling Bee*, *Polkadots!*, *The Cool Kids Musical*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, and *9 to 5! The Musical*. As an actor, Danae has worked with McLeod Summer Playhouse, National Theatre for Children, Prairie Fire Children's Theatre, Blue Gate Musicals, Venice Theatre, TheatreZone, Show Palace, and RWS & Associates. Thank YOU for supporting live theatre and for keeping the arts alive!  
[www.DanaeDeShazer.com](http://www.DanaeDeShazer.com)



**ALEX REEVES (Pei)** loved collaborating with Lexington Children's Theatre on another wonderful play! She graduated from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting. You may have seen her on the LCT stage as, Archie in *The Snowy Day and Other Stories*, Jane in *Sacagawea: Discovering History* or as Hen in *Why Mosquitoes Buzz*. DC credits include, Ensemble / Puppeteer in *The Velveteen Rabbit* (Adventure Theatre), *Rebel in Columbinus* (1<sup>st</sup> Stage Theatre), Mela in *The Goodies: A New Devised Piece* (Iron Crow Theatre), Marcy Park in *25<sup>th</sup>... Spelling Bee* (Starstuff Theatre Collective) and Slank in *Peter and the Starcatcher*.  
Contact: [artistalexreeves@gmail.com](mailto:artistalexreeves@gmail.com)



**CODY TAYLOR**  
(*Narrator*) Taylor is a graduate of the BFA physical theatre program at Coastal Carolina University, in association with the Accademia dell'Arte in Arezzo, Italy. Aside from his many years with LCT, he has

worked as an actor for many companies including the Unto These Hills Outdoor Drama, the National Theatre for Children, Brian Clowdus Experiences, AthensWest Theatre Company, the Sterling Renaissance Festival, and various others. He is also a musician, playwright, clown, and Commedia dell'Arte instructor.

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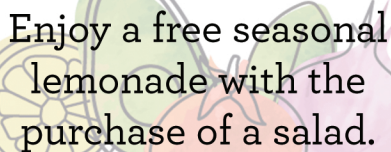
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## WELL MET!

**KATIE ADLER (*Production Construction Artist*)** Katie is excited for her first season at Lexington Children's Theatre! All the way from Pittsburgh PA, she is a recent graduate from Seton Hill University with her BFA in 2-D Art. In addition to her love of theater and paints, she enjoys cosplaying and metalsmithing.

**SARAH JO ATWOOD (*Stage Management Intern*)** Sarah Jo is thrilled to join LCT as their Stage Management Intern for the 2019-2020 season. She is a recent graduate of New York University with a BFA in Drama with a focus in stage management. She is ecstatic to begin her career with this amazing company.

**RHONDA BELL (*Resident Teaching Artist*)** Rhonda, a Nashville native, is excited to continue her experience at LCT as a Resident Teaching Artist. She holds an MA in Theatre from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and a BA from Berea College. Although she is a stage manager by trade, Rhonda enjoys teaching and spending time with kids.

**OCTAVIA BIGGS (*Director Shooting Stars Youth Theatre*)** Tavia has worked hard over the last 19 years to bring children's theatre to eastern Kentucky. She believes strongly that all children have the ability to be creative and through that creativity will discover the gifts they possess. She would like to thank LCT and the W. Paul and Lucille C. Little Foundation!

**AARON BOWLING (*Lighting Designer*)** Aaron began his theatrical career performing in LCT's *Snow White*. Aaron is a graduate of UK and spent eight years working freelance across South Florida. Aaron worked as LCT's Technical Director and Resident Lighting Designer for over three years and continues to freelance in the Lexington area.

**COLLEEN BYRON (*Arts Administration Intern*)** Colleen received her B.A in theatre from Morehead State University. She has previously worked with LCT as an education intern and Shooting Stars Youth theatre as a teaching artist. Colleen has worked on several productions including *9 to 5*, *Richard III*, and *Little Shop of Horrors*.

**ASHLEE COLLINS (*Front of House Manager*)** is thrilled to be back at LCT after two years working with Chicago Children's Theatre and Broadway in Chicago. You may remember Ashlee from LCT's *Duck for President*, *Old Dry Frye*, and *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. Ashlee is a Discovery Educator at The Living Arts and Science Center.

**LORNE DECHTENBERG (*Composer/Sound Designer*)** Lorne Dechtenberg, award-winning composer, pianist, and singer-actor, has performed in venues ranging from piano bars to opera houses, and from live music festivals to network television. His output includes four operas, four musicals, original music for three plays, two articles on the musical ear, a symphony, and numerous other works. You've heard his music on the LCT stage in *Gossamer*, *Rapunzel*, *Where the Red Fern Grows*, and *The Snow Queen*. The Artistic Director of The Bluegrass Opera, he also founded Upbeat Arts, a firm that provides creative and production services for live and recorded events.

**MAGGIE FOLEY (*Scenic Designer/Scenic Charge Artist*)** Maggie Foley is thrilled to be at LCT for another season of creative fun. She received her BA in Theatre with minors in English and Art History from North Central College in Naperville, IL and is glad to put it to use at such a great place.

**ZACHARY FRYMAN (*Resident Teaching Artist*)** Zachary was born and raised in Dry Ridge, KY and graduated with a B.A. in Theatre from Morehead State University. During his time at MSU, Zachary toured with The Little Company as an actor and teaching artist, directed *The Giver*, and choreographed pieces for the dance department.

**ADDISON GOAN (*Costume Construction/Cutter/Draper*)** is a senior at Lafayette High School. She feels privileged to intern in the costume shop and looks forward to new experiences with Lexington Children's Theatre. Addison currently trains at Lexington Ballet and hopes to pursue ballet in college while continuing her work with costumes.

**KATHRYN HENRIQUES (*Marketing and Sales Manager*)** Kathryn began her journey with LCT in 2015 as an Arts Administration Intern. Since then, she has become a full-time staff member, choreographed a few shows (including *James and the Giant Peach Jr*), and performed in a few more (including this year's Summer Family Musical, *Annie!*)

**SCARLETT KELLUM (*Costume Shop Manager*)** Scarlett is excited to join the LCT team. She started her career in theater in Northern California where she was the costume shop manager/costume designer at Theatre Rhinoceros, Second Wind Theater, Custom Made Theater, Berkeley Youth Theater, Dragon Theater, and others.

## WELL MET!

**MEGAN KINNEY (Audience Experience Associate)** Megan, a graduate of Lee University, has spent the last three summers with LCT! She began as an Education Intern (summer 2017) and returned for the 18-19 season as an Admin Intern. Back for the 19-20 season, Megan is so grateful to work at LCT for another year!

**JEREMY KISLING (Associate Artistic Director in Charge of Education)** Welcome to LCT! Jeremy is so grateful for the community's continued support of our theatre. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Northern Iowa and his M.F.A. in Drama and Theatre for Youth from the University of Texas at Austin. He hopes you take time to stretch your imagination!

**ADAM LUCKEY (Fight Choreographer)** Adam is an actor, director, and educator living in Lexington. Previous LCT credits include *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *The Velveteen Rabbit*, *Where the Red Fern Grows*, *Witness*, *Tales of Edgar Allan Poe*, *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* and *Cat in the Hat* among many others! Versatility is his middle name.

**ERIN MCGUIRE-THOMPSON (Finance and Box Office Manager)** Erin received her BA in Dramatic Arts from Centre College and her MFA in Dramatic Media from the University of Georgia. By night she develops her work as a book illustrator and fine artist. She loves her hubby, her dogs, her art, and her work at LCT!

**COURTNEY JOY MILLER (Education Intern)** Courtney is a born and raised Montana native, and is honored to join LCT for the first time in their 2019-2020 Season. She earned her BA in Acting & Directing from the University of North Dakota and has also served as an Education Intern with Seattle Children's Theatre.

**ESTHER NEEL (Assistant Director)** Esther holds a BA in Theatre Arts with a concentration in Scenic Art from Taylor University in Indiana. Her first year with LCT was as a Scenic Charge Artist. Now in her sixth year with LCT (and the new title of Associate Director). Esther has directed *Fancy Nancy the Musical*, *Peter Pan Jr.*, *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, and most recently, *Charlotte's Web* among many others.

**TIFFANY DUPONT NOVAK (Marketing and Sales Director)** Tiffany is currently pursuing her Masters in Community and Leadership Development at the University of Kentucky and has the honor of volunteering with incredible community organizations like Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bluegrass, the Lexington Pride Festival, and the Leadership Lexington Youth Steering Committee. Theatre has a special kind of magic - Tiffany hopes that you enjoy that magic today and that you will support LCT in ensuring that every young person in the Bluegrass has access to that special magic, too!

**JOHN PERINE (Education Intern)** is originally from right outside of Nashville, Tennessee, and is a recent BFA Theatre for Youth graduate from Samford University, where he trained as a director, performer, and educator. He is thrilled to spend his first year in the professional world as a part of the Lexington Children's Theatre team!

**RACHEL RAY (Development Director)** Rachel has a BA in English and a BS in Speech Therapy from U.K. In her free time, she likes to hang out with her husband, Bobby, and their three dogs (Ruby, Sadie, and Biko), read, and knit. She is a proud volunteer for and board member of Girls on the Run Central Kentucky and First Generation Women Achievers of the Bluegrass, an organization that supports first generation women college students.

**JOHN RUMML (Master Electrician)** is a theatrical technician and sound designer born in Redlands, CA. His previous work includes the 18/19 season at Richmond Ballet and two summers at Stagedoor Manor, where he designed more than forty productions. This is his inaugural season at LCT, and he looks forward to new experiences and challenges.

**COURTNEY SHEFFIELD (Production Stage Manager)** Courtney graduated with a B.A. in Theatre Arts from the University of Minnesota. She worked with many companies in Minnesota including The Children's Theatre Company and CLIMB Theater. After completing an internship with Omaha Theater Company, she moved to Lexington to join the staff at LCT!

**MAX SHUMATE (Costume Construction Cutter/Draper)** is excited to be doing an internship at LCT! Max is 23 years old and from Clayton, NC. Max is fresh out of college with a BA in Theatre Studies with a focus in costume design.

**GABRIEL SLUSSER (Scenic Designer/Technical Director)** Gabriel Slusser is thrilled to join the LCT family. Originally from Georgia, he earned a B.A. in Theatre from Piedmont College. He has worked at theatres across the eastern United States, including Titusville Playhouse, Georgia Ensemble Theatre, and Stagedoor Manor.

## WELL MET!

### **LARRY SNIPES (Producing Director)**

Larry has served as LCT's Producing Director since 1979. After completing his MA in theatre for young audiences at Alabama's University of Montevallo, he worked for two years as a professional actor and director in the Washington DC, metropolitan area. He has directed a multitude of productions for LCT and written several plays including *Jack and the Wonder Beans*, *Cows Don't Fly* and other known facts, and *Old Dry Frye*.

### **VIVIAN SNIPES (Director / Playwright)**

Vivian has worked at LCT for 40 years wearing whatever hat is required to help the theatre move forward and grow. She loves her job and the challenges that each new day brings. A true believer that everyone is an artist (especially when observing and interacting with other people) she challenges you to live an art full life. Be daring – try something new – apply your personal artistry in everything you do, enjoy being unique, and always breathe with purpose and act in kindness. Thank YOU for being pART of the ART! Viv is deeply indebted to Esther for being the Prince to her Pei as we undertook the quest of script development. Gather ye good friends 'round ... and listen to what they have to say. It can be influentially eye opening. <3

### **ARIEL TATUM (Stage Manager)**

Ariel is proud to join LCT for another season! She holds a B.S. in Child and Family Studies from Freed Hardeman University in Tennessee. Ariel enjoyed finding her family here at LCT last year and is excited to create new stories to share with you.

### **JAMIE TAYLOR (Costume Construction / Cutter / Draper)**

Jamie graduated from Mississippi State University and is excited to start her career with LCT. Jamie studied fashion design and found her home in the theatre costume shop. She plans to pursue an MFA. Jamie is passionate about TYA and can't wait to pour into the next generation of theatre artists.

Thank you to the Lexington Children's Theatre  
**2019/2020 Board of Directors** for their dedication to  
providing arts opportunities for young people.

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# ELLA ENCHANTED

By Karen Zacarias  
Music by Deborah Wicks La Puma  
Adapted from the book by Gail Carson Levine

Performed on the LCT Main Stage

**Sunday, April 19 at 2:00pm**

**Saturday, April 25 at 2:00pm**

**Saturday, April 25 at 7:00pm (Pay What You Can)**

**Sunday, April 26 at 2:00pm**

\$20 for Adults, \$15 for Children

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Lexington Children's Theatre 2019/20

## QUALITY TIMES

Extend your production experience of *The Princess and the Peas* by taking the time to discuss the play and the experience of attending live theatre. Below are some questions and activities to guide your exploration.

### **Sneaky Dancing**

*The Princess and the Peas* features a retelling of the lesser-known tale “The Twelve Dancing Princesses.” In this story, twelve princesses secretly go to an underground palace in the middle of the night in order to dance with twelve princes that the girls’ father has forbidden them to marry.

See if you and your family can dance different styles of dance influenced by various types of music. Turn the activity into a “Freeze Dance” contest. Choose one member of the family to be the “Suspicious King” to try and catch the dancers moving.

### **Create your own Fairy Tale**

Fairy tales are a type of folklore that has been passed down for centuries from one generation to the next and have changed with each retelling. Create your own fairy tale using the outlined five-sentence story structure below. Have each member of your family share a story. Discuss the similarities and differences. Make it fun!

#### **First create a story using this five-sentence story structure.**

1. Once upon a time...
2. One day...
3. Then...
4. Suddenly...
5. Finally...

**READING LIST** - If you liked *The Princess and the Peas* - try these books!

#### ***The Princess and the Pea* by Hans Christian Andersen**

This fairytale story is about a young woman’s royal identity is established by a test of her sensitivity.

#### ***The Twelve Dancing Princesses* by Brothers Grimm**

Twelve princesses are locked in their rooms by their father. The princesses are sneaking off to a grove of trees and meeting twelve princes to dance all night.

#### ***The Wild Swans* by Hans Christian Anderson**

A widowed king, with eleven sons and one daughter, marries a wicked queen. Out of spite, the queen turns the eleven boys into swans and tries to curse the daughter but cannot. Elisa must find a way to overcome the wicked queen.

## WRITE US!

Please know as actors, directors, and designers, we want to hear from you! You are encouraged to draw pictures, ask us questions, and write letters in response to the LCT production you just experienced. Feel free to respond to the acting, to the scenery or costumes, or to anything you saw or felt about the play. Individual or group mailings should be sent to:

### **Lexington Children’s Theatre**

Critic’s Corner  
418 West Short Street  
Lexington, KY 40505  
or reach us on-line at:  
askthecast@lctonstage.org



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