

Monthly Title Information

AI Sheets - June 2021

AUP Marketing; Lucia Dove (l.dove@aup.nl)

18/02/2021

Amsterdam University Press

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| 9789462985933 | Monagle, <i>The Intellectual Dynamism of the High Middle Ages</i> |
| 9789463721929 | Amsler, <i>The Medieval Life of Language</i> |
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- | | |
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| 9781641891004 | Dunn, <i>Arianism</i> |
| 9781641891684 | Nicholson, <i>The Knights Templar</i> |
| 9781641892148 | Williams, <i>Polynesia, 900-1600</i> |
| 9781641892926 | Nordvig, <i>Volcanoes in Old Norse Mythology</i> |
| 9781641894708 | Abbott et al., <i>Beowulf by All</i> |
| 9781641894715 | Abbott et al., <i>Beowulf by All (PB ed.)</i> |

Catalogue cover image: View of Hörgá river, Iceland (Image courtesy of Eric Bryan).

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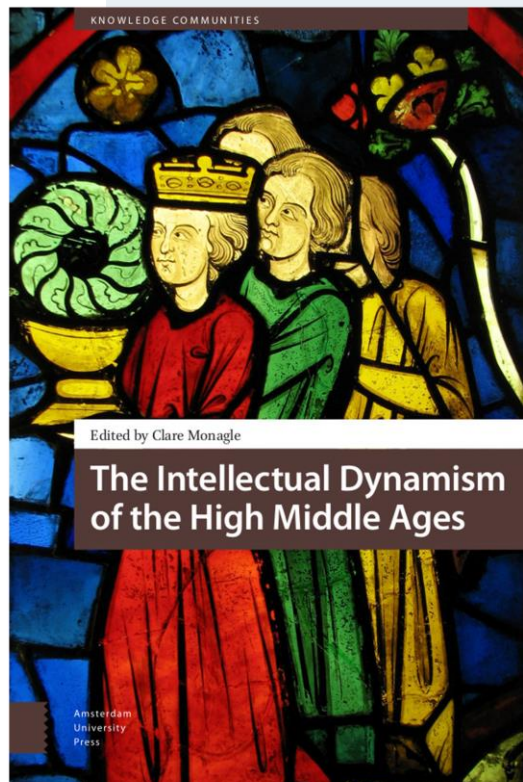
Edited by Clare Monagle

The Intellectual Dynamism of the High Middle Ages

Constant J. Mews's groundbreaking work reveals the wide world of medieval letters. Looking beyond the cathedral and the cloister for his investigations, and taking a broad view of intellectual practice in the Middle Ages, Mews demands that we expand our horizons as we explore the history of ideas. Alongside his cutting-edge work on Abelard, he has been a leader in the study of medieval women writers, paying heed to Hildegard and Heloise in particular. Mews has also expanded our knowledge of medieval music, and its theoretical foundations. In Mews' Middle Ages, the world of ideas always belongs to a larger world: one that is cultural, gendered and politicized. The essays in this volume pay tribute to Constant, in spirit and in content, revealing a nuanced and integrated vision of the intellectual history of the medieval West.

BIOGRAPHY

Clare Monagle is Associate Professor and Discipline Chair (Modern History) in the Department of History and Archaeology at Macquarie University. She is a scholar of medieval thought, the history of emotions, and, gender studies.



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction: Communities of Learning (Clare Monagle)

Section 1: Twelfth-century Learning

Chapter 1: Carnal Compassion: Peter Abelard's conflicted approach to empathy (Juanita Feros Ruys)

Chapter 2: From Wisdom to Science: A witness of the theological studies in Paris in the 1240s (Riccardo Saccenti)

Chapter 3: Authority and Innovation in Bernard of Clairvaux's *De gratia et libero arbitrio* (Marcia Colish)

Chapter 4: Words of Seduction - a Letter from Hugh Metel to Bernard of Clairvaux (Rina Lahav)

Chapter 5: The Emotional Landscape of Abelard's *Planctus David super Saul et Ionatha* (Carol Williams)

Section 2: Sanctity and Material Culture

Chapter 6: Dirty Laundry: Thomas Becket's hair-shirt and the making of a Saint (Karen Bollermann and Cary Nederman)

Chapter 7: Relics in Thomas Aquinas and Jean de Meun (Earl Jeffrey Richards)

Chapter 8: The Cult of Thomas Aquinas's Relics at the Dawn of the Dominican Reform and the Great Western Schism (Marika Räsänen)

Section 3: Theological Transmissions: Intellectual Culture after 1200

Chapter 9: Food for the Journey: The thirteenth-century French version of Guiard of Laon's sermon on the twelve fruits of the Eucharist (Janice Pinder)

Chapter 10: A Sense of Proportion: Jacobus extending Boethius around 1300 (John Crossley)

Chapter 11: *Utrum sapienti competat prolem habere?* An Italian debate (Sylvain Piron)

Chapter 12: Attuning to the Cosmos: The ethical man's mission from Plato to Petrarch (Eva Anagnostou-Laoutides)

Section 4: Gender, Power and Virtue in Early Modernity

Chapter 13: The *Miroir des dames*, the *Chapelet des vertus*, and Christine de Pizan's *Sources* (Karen Green)

Chapter 14: In Praise of Women: Giovanni Sabadino degli Arienti's *Gynevera de le clare donne* (Carolyn James)

Chapter 15: The Invention of the French Royal Mistress (Tracy Adams)

Epilogue (Peter Howard)

Index

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Mark Amsler

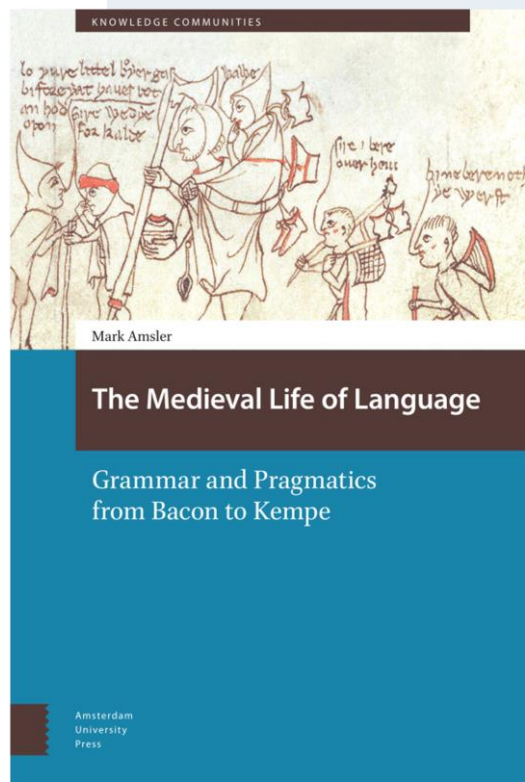
The Medieval Life of Language

Grammar and Pragmatics from Bacon to Kempe

The Medieval Life of Language: Grammar and Pragmatics from Bacon to Kempe explores the complex history of medieval pragmatic theory and ideas and metapragmatic awareness across social discourses. Pragmatic thinking about language and communication are revealed in grammar, semiotics, philosophy, and literature. Part historical reconstruction, part social history, part language theory, Amsler supplements the usual materials for the history of medieval linguistics and discusses the pragmatic implications of grammatical treatises on the interjection, Bacon's sign theory, logic texts, Chaucer's poetry, inquisitors' accounts of heretic speech, and life writing by William Thorpe and Margery Kempe. Medieval and contemporary pragmatic theory are contrasted in terms of their philosophical and linguistic orientations. Aspects of medieval pragmatic theory and practice, especially polysemy, equivocation, affective speech, and recontextualization, show how pragmatic discourse informed social controversies and attitudes toward sincere, vague, and heretical speech. Relying on Bakhtinian dialogism, critical discourse analysis, and conversation analysis, Amsler situates a key period in the history of linguistics within broader social and discursive fields of practice.

BIOGRAPHY

Mark Amsler has taught medieval and comparative literature, linguistics, and writing at universities in the US and New Zealand. He is author of *Etymology and Grammatical Discourse*, *Affective Literacies*, and numerous essays on medieval literature, history of linguistics, English linguistics, and critical theory.



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter 1: Where is medieval pragmatics?

Grammar and Public Pragmatics

Chapter 2: Does affect have grammar?

Chapter 3: Dissenting pragmatics

Chapter 4: Margery Kempe and strategic vague language

Textual Pragmatics

Chapter 5: Textual pragmatics around 1215

Chapter 6: Genre and Code in Abelard's *Historia calamitatum*

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Chapter 8: "That am nat I": Wife of Bath and Women's Power

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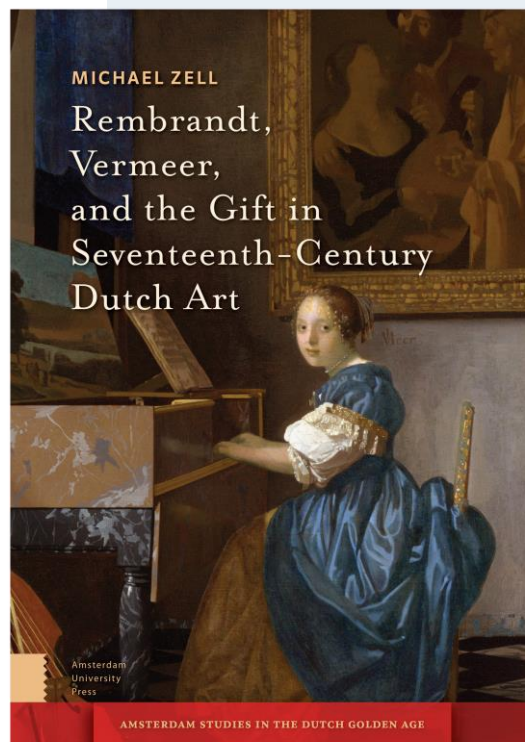
Michael Zell

Rembrandt, Vermeer, and the Gift in Seventeenth-Century Dutch Art

This book offers a new perspective on the art of the Dutch Golden Age by exploring the interaction between the gift's symbolic economy of reciprocity and obligation and the artistic culture of early modern Holland. Gifts of art were pervasive in seventeenth-century Europe and many Dutch artists, like their counterparts elsewhere, embraced gift giving to cultivate relations with patrons, art lovers, and other members of their social networks. Rembrandt also created distinctive works to function within a context of gift exchange, and both Rembrandt and Vermeer engaged the ethics of the gift to identify their creative labor as motivated by what contemporaries called a "love of art," not materialistic gain. In the merchant republic's vibrant market for art, networks of gift relations and the anti-economic rhetoric of the gift mingled with the growing dimension of commerce, revealing a unique chapter in the interconnected history of gift giving and art making.

BIOGRAPHY

Michael Zell is Associate Professor of Art History at Boston University. He is the author of *Reframing Rembrandt: Jews and the Christian Image in Seventeenth-Century Amsterdam* (2002), and co-editor of *Rethinking Rembrandt* (2002) and *'Ut pictura amor': The Reflexive Imagery of Love in Artistic Theory and Practice, 1500-1700* (2017).



Amsterdam Studies in the Dutch Golden Age
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Illustrations

Acknowledgments

Introduction

Chapter 1: The Gift in Early Modernity

Chapter 2: Art as Gift in the Seventeenth Century

Chapter 3: Artists' Gifts in the Seventeenth Century

Chapter 4: Rembrandt's Art as Gift

Chapter 5: Art and Leisure: Amateur Artists, Rembrandt, and Landscape Representation

Chapter 6: For the Love of Art: Vermeer and the Poetics of the Gift

Conclusion

Bibliography

Index

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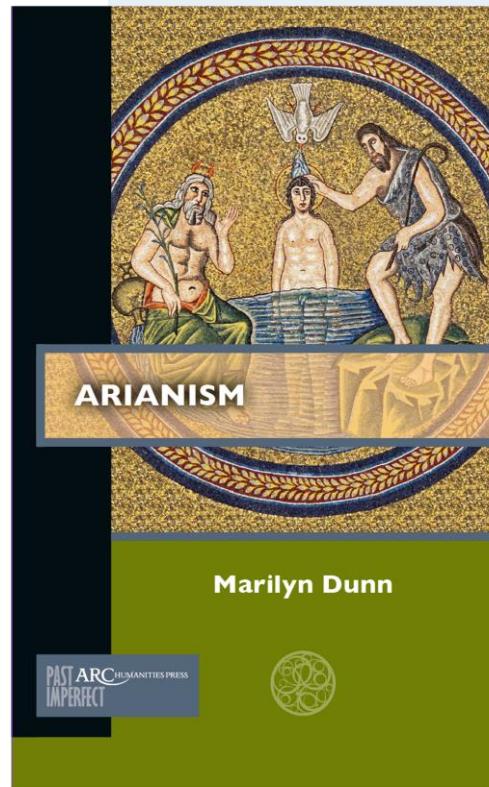
Marilyn Dunn

Arianism

This book surveys Arianism, a Christian creed of tremendous historical importance that once served as the faith of Roman emperors and the barbarians on the frontiers alike, while it simultaneously advances existing scholarship by integrating the approaches of history and theology with those drawn from the cognitive science of religion. This paradigm shift allows us to understand the initial support for the Arian creed and its eventual rejection by Roman emperors; to recognize the nature of intuitions of divinity amongst Germanic peoples before their conversion; to discern the way in which these were translated into Christian belief; and to differentiate the beliefs of Arius from those called "Arians" by their opponents.

BIOGRAPHY

Marilyn Dunn is Senior Lecturer in Medieval History at the University of Glasgow. She has written extensively on religion and belief ca. 350-750.



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction: What Was Arianism?

Chapter 1: Was Arius an Arian?

Chapter 2: Entry-Level Christianity

Chapter 3: Barbarian Homoianism after 381

Chapter 4: Barbarian Homoianism in the Fifth and Sixth Centuries

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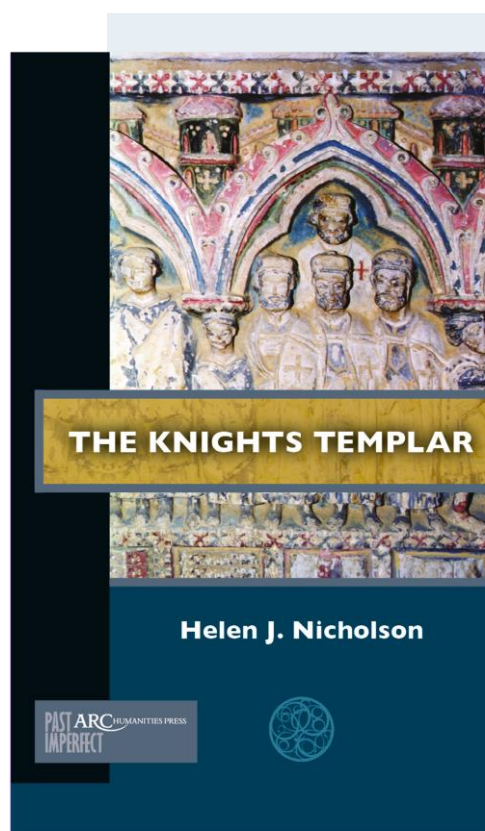
Helen J. Nicholson

The Knights Templar

Over seven hundred years after the pope dissolved their Order, the Templars remain as controversial as ever. How could warriors also be monks? What did they really believe in? Why did they fail to protect the Holy Land? What impact did they have on society? Why were they dissolved—were they really heretics? Based on the medieval evidence and the latest research by modern scholars, this book surveys some key areas of the Templars' history. It argues that despite their wide landholdings and apparent power the Templars' influence depended on the patronage of popes and kings, and that they were destroyed when their most powerful patron had more to gain than lose from their dissolution.

BIOGRAPHY

Helen J. Nicholson is Professor of Medieval History at Cardiff University and has published widely on the Knights Templar and Hospitaller, the Crusades, and medieval warfare.



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction

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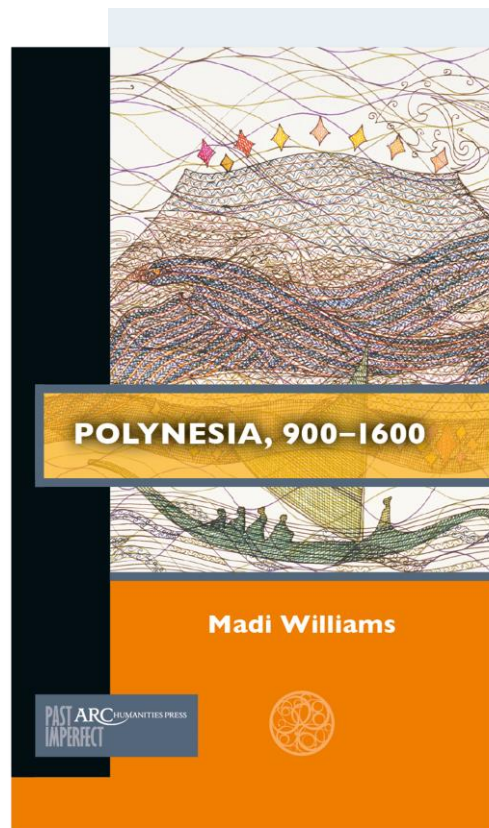
Madi Williams

Polynesia, 900-1600

This book provides a concise overview of the history of Polynesia, focusing on New Zealand and its outlying islands, during the period 900–1600. It provides a thematic examination of Polynesia to avoid placing the region's history into an inaccurate, linear Western chronology. The themes of movement and migration, adaptation and change, and development and expansion offer the optimal means of understanding Polynesia during this time. Through this innovative and unique perspective on Polynesian history, which has not been previously undertaken, the reader is encouraged to think about regions outside Europe in relation to the premodern period.

BIOGRAPHY

Madi Williams (University of Canterbury) researches the boundaries of history and the inclusion of Indigenous and non-Western perspectives into New Zealand/Aotearoa and South Pacific histories.



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Preface

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Part 3: Complexity and Culture

Conclusion

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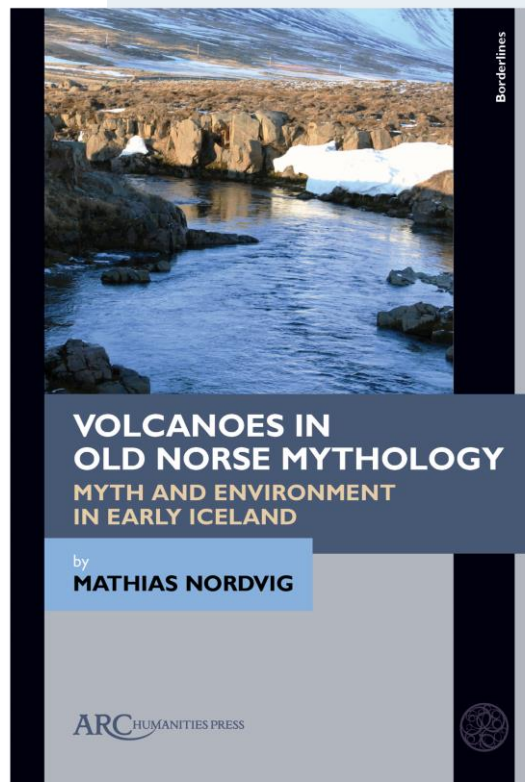
Volcanoes in Old Norse Mythology

Myth and Environment in Early Iceland

Volcanoes in Old Norse Mythology details how Viking Age Icelanders, migrating from Scandinavia to a new and volcanically active environment, used Old Norse mythology to understand and negotiate the hazards of the island. These pre-Christian myths recorded in medieval Iceland expound an indigenous Icelandic theory on volcanism that revolves around the activities of supernatural beings, such as the fire-demon Surtr and the gods Odin and Thor. Before the Icelanders were introduced to Christianity and its teachings, they formulated an indigenous theory of volcanism on basis of their traditional mythology much like other indigenous peoples across the world.

BIOGRAPHY

Mathias Nordvig is a Visiting Assistant Professor at University of Colorado, Boulder. He specializes in Nordic mythology and has published on the eco-humanities in Iceland and Scandinavia.



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction

Old Norse Mythology Between Environment and Literature
Old Norse Mythology in a Comparative Perspective
Indigenous Perspectives on Myth and Environment
Interpretations of Old Norse Mythology in Context of Environment
Mode of Interpretation
An Indigenous Theory of Volcanism in Iceland
A History of Icelandic Volcanism
Volcanism in Icelandic Literature
Geomythology
Hallmundarkvida: An Indigenous Icelandic Theory of Volcanism
Hallmundarkvida: Between Pre-Christian and Christian Tradition
Volcanism in Old Norse Cosmogony
The Sources to the Creation Myth
The Volcanic Nature Image in Snorri's Creation Myth
The Indigenous Theory of Volcanism in Snorri's Creation Myth
Volcanoes in the Social Order of Old Norse Mythology
The Mead Myth
The Indigenous Theory of Volcanism in the Mead Myth
iórr and Hrungnir's Duel
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Edited by Jean Abbott, Elaine Treharne and
Mateusz Fafinski

Beowulf by All

Community Translation and Workbook

This is a community translation of the earliest English epic poem. *Beowulf* tells the story of a mythical hero in northern Europe in, perhaps, the sixth century. Alongside his story, multiple other shorter narratives are told and many other voices are heard, making it a rich and varied account of the poet's views of heroism, conflict, loyalty, and the human condition. The poem is widely taught in schools and universities, and has been adapted, modernized, and translated dozens of times, but this is the first large-scale polyvocal translation.

Readers will encounter the voices of over two hundred individuals, woven together into a reading experience that is at once productively dissonant, yet strangely coherent in its extreme variation. We hope that it turns the common question "Why do we need yet *another* translation?" on its head, asking instead, "How can we hear from *more* translators?," and "How can previously unheard, or marginalized voices, find space, like this, in the world of Old English Studies?" With this in mind we invite a new generation of readers to try their own hand at translating *Beowulf* in the workbook space provided opposite this community translation.

It is often through the effort of translating that we see the reality of the original.

BIOGRAPHY

Jean Abbott obtained her doctoral degree on Names and Naming in Early England from the Department of English at Stanford University in 2020.

Mateusz Fafinski is a Postdoctoral Fellow at Stanford Text Technologies and teaches medieval history at Freie Universität Berlin.

Elaine Treharne is Roberta Bowman Denning Professor of Humanities and Professor of English at Stanford University.



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface

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Citation Practice

The Story: Elaine Treharne

On Translation: Jean Abbott

A Polyvocal Epic and Editorial Policy: Mateusz Fafinski

Translation of the poem known as Beowulf, with accompanying workbook

Glossary

Bibliography

Alphabetical Index of Translators with line numbers

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