

julia pastrana the tragic story of the victorian a Textbook

julia pastrana the tragic story of the victorian a is a haunting tale that continues to captivate and evoke sympathy centuries after her death. Often referred to as the "world's most sensational freak" during the Victorian era, Julia Pastrana's life was marked by extraordinary physical features that both fascinated and marginalized her. Her story is one of tragedy, exploitation, and resilience, shedding light on the dark history of how society treated individuals who were perceived as different. In this article, we explore the life, struggles, and enduring legacy of Julia Pastrana, a woman whose story remains a poignant reminder of human dignity and the need for compassion.

Early Life of Julia Pastrana

Birth and Background

Julia Pastrana was born in 1834 in Mexico, in the small town of Sinaloa. From birth, she exhibited distinctive physical features, including a pronounced jaw and facial hair, which are characteristic of a rare condition known as hypertrichosis. Her parents, who were of indigenous descent, recognized her unique appearance early on, though the societal perception of her was far from compassionate.

Physical Features and Medical Conditions

Julia's condition caused her to develop excessive facial hair, along with a prominent jaw and other facial abnormalities. Additionally, she was reported to have a condition called mandibular prognathism, which contributed to her striking facial features. Despite her physical differences, Julia was said to possess a gentle temperament and a keen intelligence, though societal attitudes often overshadowed her personality.

The Rise to Fame in the Victorian Era

Exhibition and Performance Career

In the 1850s, Julia Pastrana's life took a dramatic turn when she was discovered by traveling showmen. They showcased her as a spectacle, often under the label of a "wild woman" or "savage" from the New World. Her unique appearance drew crowds across Europe and North America, and she became a sensation in Victorian circuses and freak shows.

Exploitation and Public Perception

While her performances brought her fame, they also subjected her to exploitation and dehumanization. She was often displayed in cages or glass cases, forced to perform acts that emphasized her physical differences. The Victorian public's fascination with "the other" led to her being treated more as an object of curiosity than as a human being with dignity.

Marriage to Theodore Lent

In 1861, Julia married Theodore Lent, an American showman who claimed to love her. Their relationship was complex; some accounts suggest Lent exploited her, while others hint at genuine affection. Tragically, their union was marred by exploitation and suffering, culminating in Julia's untimely death.

Tragic Death and Aftermath

Death in 1863

Julia Pastrana died in 1863 in Russia at the age of 28, due to complications related to childbirth. She was pregnant at the time, and her death was a significant loss to her husband and to those who viewed her as a mere spectacle. Her body was embalmed, and her remains were exhibited alongside her husband's performances for years afterward.

Posthumous Exhibitions and Ethical Controversies

For decades after her death, Julia's body was displayed in traveling shows, often mistaken for a preserved specimen. It wasn't until the late 20th century that her remains received respectful treatment. Her case raised important ethical questions about consent, exploitation, and respect for individuals with physical differences.

Legacy and Modern Recognition

The Fight for Dignity and Respect

In recent years, Julia Pastrana's story has been reclaimed as a symbol of human rights and dignity. Her remains have been repatriated to Mexico, and efforts have been made to honor her memory. Her story has inspired discussions about the exploitation of marginalized groups and the importance of compassionate representation.

Representation in Media and Popular Culture

Julia's life has been depicted in documentaries, books, and theater productions that aim to shed light on her tragic story. These portrayals seek to humanize her beyond her physical appearance

and acknowledge her as a person who endured tremendous adversity.

Recognition as a Historical Figure

Today, Julia Pastrana is recognized not just as a victim of Victorian spectacle but as a historical figure who challenges society to reflect on issues of body image, exploitation, and human rights. Her story continues to resonate, reminding us of the importance of empathy and respect for all individuals, regardless of their differences.

Conclusion

The tragic story of Julia Pastrana is a stark reminder of the darker chapters of history—an era where curiosity often overshadowed compassion. Her life, marked by extraordinary physical features and profound suffering, highlights the importance of recognizing human dignity beyond superficial appearances. Julia Pastrana's legacy persists as a call for greater empathy, respect, and acknowledgment of the rights of individuals with differences. Her story encourages us to remember that behind every spectacle is a human being deserving of kindness and dignity, a lesson that remains relevant today.

FAQs about Julia Pastrana

- **What was Julia Pastrana's condition?** Julia had hypertrichosis and mandibular prognathism, which caused her facial hair and prominent jaw.
- **How did Julia Pastrana become famous?** She was exhibited in circuses and freak shows across Europe and North America during the Victorian era.
- **What happened after Julia's death?** Her body was embalmed and displayed for many years, but recent efforts have aimed to give her a respectful resting place.
- **Why is Julia Pastrana remembered today?** As a symbol of the importance of human dignity and the need to challenge exploitation based on physical differences.
- **How can we honor Julia Pastrana's legacy?** By promoting awareness about human rights, respecting diversity, and educating others about her story and its lessons.

Julia Pastrana: The Tragic Story of the Victorian A

The story of Julia Pastrana is one of the most haunting and poignant tales from the Victorian era, intertwining themes of exploitation, misunderstanding, and human compassion. Often referred to as "The Ugliest Woman in the World" during her lifetime, Julia's life was marred by profound tragedy, yet her story also reflects the complexities of societal attitudes towards physical differences during the 19th century. Her narrative continues to evoke both sympathy and reflection on issues of human dignity, medical ethics, and the exploitation of vulnerable individuals.

Introduction to Julia Pastrana

Julia Pastrana was born in 1834 in Sinaloa, Mexico. She was a woman of Indigenous and African descent, and from a young age, her physical appearance drew attention due to a rare condition called hypertrichosis, resulting in excessive hair growth across her face and body. She also had mandibular prognathism, which contributed to her distinctive facial features. Despite her physical differences, Julia was a talented singer and performer, captivating audiences with her voice. Her life story is a tragic blend of societal prejudice, medical curiosity, and personal resilience.

The Early Life and Medical Conditions

Background and Early Years

Julia Pastrana was born into a humble family, and her early life was marked by her striking appearance and the subsequent social challenges. Her physical traits made her a target of curiosity and sometimes cruelty, but she developed a passion for singing and performing at local events.

The Medical Conditions

Julia's unique physical features were caused by hypertrichosis terminalis, a rare condition characterized by abnormal hair growth, and mandibular prognathism, which led to her prominent jaw. These conditions, while physically disabling, did not impede her talent or her desire to express herself through music.

Features of Julia's medical condition:

- Excessive hair covering her face and body
- Prominent jaw and facial asymmetry
- No indications of life-threatening health issues, but her appearance caused social stigma

Pros:

- Her voice and musical talent were remarkable, transcending her physical appearance
- Her conditions brought awareness to rare medical anomalies

Cons:

- Faced significant social discrimination and exploitation

- Her conditions were often used for entertainment rather than medical understanding

Rise to Fame and Exploitation

Performing Career

In her twenties, Julia was discovered by a traveling showman who recognized her unique appearance as a means of entertainment. She became part of a traveling exhibition, performing in circuses and sideshows across North America and Europe. Her singing talent was often overshadowed by the spectacle of her appearance, but she managed to gain some recognition for her artistic abilities.

Exploitation and Objectification

Julia's life was characterized by exploitation. She was often displayed as a freak show attraction, her performances reduced to mere spectacle. Despite her talent, she was commodified and treated as an object of curiosity. Her husband and manager, Theodore Lent, was complicit in her exploitation, controlling her appearances and income.

Features of her exploitation:

- Displayed publicly in exhibitions and circuses
- Forced to perform for entertainment, often against her will
- Her personal agency was severely limited

Pros:

- Gained international recognition for her singing and unique appearance
- Her story brought awareness to issues of exploitation and human rights

Cons:

- Lived under constant objectification and control
- Suffered emotional and physical tolls from her treatment

The Tragic End and Posthumous Recognition

Her Death and Aftermath

Julia Pastrana died in 1860 at the age of 26 in a European hotel, reportedly from complications related to childbirth?she was pregnant at the time. Her husband, Theodore Lent, was devastated but also faced legal issues regarding her body and estate. After her death, her body was embalmed and displayed in a traveling exhibition, where her preserved form continued to be exhibited for many years.

Controversy and Ethical Issues

The display of her embalmed body raised significant ethical questions about dignity and respect for individuals with disabilities or physical differences. Eventually, her remains were returned to Mexico, where they became a national symbol of both tragedy and resilience.

Modern Recognition and Repatriation

In recent decades, Julia Pastrana's story has gained renewed attention as an example of the exploitation faced by individuals with disabilities and differences. Her remains were repatriated to Mexico in 2013 and reburied with dignity. Scholars, human rights advocates, and the general public now see her as a symbol of the need for compassion and ethical treatment of all individuals.

Legacy and Cultural Impact

In Literature, Film, and Art

Julia's story has inspired numerous works across various media, highlighting themes of human rights, beauty, and the cruelty of exploitation. Documentaries and plays have been produced to shed light on her life, emphasizing her humanity beyond her physical appearance.

Advocacy and Awareness

Her story continues to serve as a powerful reminder of the importance of respecting individuals regardless of their differences. Human rights organizations have used her story to advocate for better treatment of disabled and marginalized individuals worldwide.

Historical Significance

Julia Pastrana's life exemplifies the Victorian fascination with the exotic and the other, revealing the darker side of scientific and entertainment pursuits of the era. Her tragic tale underscores the importance of ethical considerations in medicine, entertainment, and societal attitudes.

Pros and Cons Summary

Pros:

- Brought awareness to rare medical conditions and the challenges faced by those with physical differences
- Demonstrated remarkable talent and resilience despite societal obstacles
- Her story has inspired advocacy for human rights and dignity

Cons:

- Subjected to exploitation, objectification, and dehumanization
- Lived a life marked by societal prejudice and cruelty
- Her remains were used for display long after her death, denying her dignity in death

Conclusion

Julia Pastrana's life is a compelling testament to the complexities of societal perceptions of beauty, disability, and humanity. While her physical differences subjected her to exploitation and tragedy, her innate talent and enduring legacy challenge us to reflect on how society treats those who are different. Her story encourages ongoing dialogue about ethics, respect, and compassion, reminding us that behind every physical difference lies a person with dreams, talents, and dignity deserving of respect. Julia Pastrana's life, tragic yet inspiring, continues to resonate as a poignant reminder of the importance of human compassion and ethical treatment for all individuals, regardless of their appearance or condition.

Question Who was Julia Pastrana and why is her story considered tragic? Julia Pastrana was a 19th-century performer known for her unique physical features caused by a rare condition. Her story is tragic because she was exploited as a spectacle, and after her death, her body was displayed in a museum, highlighting the exploitation and lack of dignity she faced. What medical condition did Julia Pastrana have that contributed to her appearance? Julia Pastrana suffered from a condition called hypertrichosis combined with mandibular prognathism, which caused excessive hair growth on her face and a prominent jaw, leading to her distinctive appearance. How did Victorian society perceive Julia Pastrana during her lifetime? Victorian society often viewed Julia Pastrana as a freak or curiosity, exploiting her appearance for entertainment in circuses and sideshows, reflecting the era's fascination with exotic and unusual individuals. What efforts have been made in recent years to honor Julia Pastrana's legacy? In recent years, efforts have been made to repatriate her remains and give her a proper burial, as well as to recognize her story as a tragic example of exploitation, raising awareness about the importance of dignity and respect for individuals with disabilities. What is the significance of Julia Pastrana's story in discussions about ethics and human rights? Her story highlights the historical exploitation of individuals with disabilities

and raises ongoing ethical questions about consent, dignity, and the treatment of marginalized individuals in entertainment and society. Are there any known descendants or relatives of Julia Pastrana today? There are no publicly known descendants of Julia Pastrana, but her story continues to resonate as a symbol of the need for respect and human rights for people with disabilities and those who have been exploited.

Related keywords: Julia Pastrana, Victorian era, tragic story, freak show, sideshow performer, botanical horror, 19th century, human anomaly, performer exploitation, historical tragedy

ESL STORY SEQUENCE STRIP STORY

ESL story sequence strip story

In the realm of English as a Second Language (ESL) teaching, engaging students in meaningful and interactive activities is essential for effective language acquisition. One highly effective tool for improving comprehension, sequencing skills, and storytelling abilities is the ESL story sequence strip story. This innovative activity involves students working with visual and textual cues to organize and retell stories, fostering critical thinking, vocabulary development, and confidence in language use. In this comprehensive guide, we will explore what an ESL story sequence strip story is, its benefits, how to create and implement it in the classroom, and tips to maximize its effectiveness.

What Is an ESL Story Sequence Strip Story?

An ESL story sequence strip story is a pedagogical activity where students are provided with a series of illustrated or textual strips that depict different parts of a story. These strips are typically cut into segments and designed to be rearranged in the correct chronological order. The activity helps learners understand story structure, improve their sequencing skills, and practice using appropriate language to describe events.

The core components of a story sequence strip story include:

- Visual or textual story segments
- Strips or cards that can be shuffled and reordered
- Guidance for retelling or summarizing the story

This activity can be tailored to various proficiency levels, from beginner to advanced ESL learners, making it a versatile tool in the classroom.

Benefits of Using ESL Story Sequence Strip Stories

Implementing story sequence strip stories in ESL instruction offers numerous benefits:

1. Enhances Comprehension Skills

Students develop a deeper understanding of story elements, such as beginning, middle, and end, by actively engaging in organizing story parts.

2. Improves Sequencing and Logical Thinking

Rearranging story strips fosters critical thinking and teaches students how to logically order events, a vital skill both in language learning and cognitive development.

3. Expands Vocabulary and Language Structures

Describing story events encourages learners to use new vocabulary and various grammatical structures, enriching their language repertoire.

4. Boosts Speaking and Retelling Abilities

Once students have ordered the strips, they practice retelling the story aloud, building fluency and confidence.

5. Supports Differentiated Learning

Activities can be adapted to suit different proficiency levels, making them suitable for diverse classrooms.

6. Promotes Collaborative Learning

Group work during sequencing activities encourages peer interaction, discussion, and cooperative learning.

How to Create an Effective ESL Story Sequence Strip Story Activity

Creating a successful story sequence strip story activity involves several key steps:

1. Select an Appropriate Story

Choose a story that aligns with your students' proficiency level and interests. It should have clear,

distinct events and a straightforward sequence.

Considerations when selecting a story:

- Age-appropriate content
- Cultural relevance
- Vocabulary level
- Length and complexity

2. Break the Story into Segments

Divide the story into logical parts or scenes. Typically, this involves 4-8 segments, depending on the story's length.

Tips for segmentation:

- Identify natural story pauses
- Highlight key events
- Ensure each segment contains enough detail for comprehension

3. Create Visual or Textual Strips

Design strips that visually depict each story segment using illustrations, photos, or drawings. Alternatively, use brief textual descriptions if visuals are not feasible.

Design considerations:

- Use clear, simple images
- Include minimal but descriptive text
- Ensure consistency in size and style

4. Prepare the Strips for Rearrangement

Print and cut the strips into individual cards or segments. Lamination can be helpful for durability, especially for repeated classroom use.

5. Develop Instructions and Support Materials

Prepare clear instructions for students on how to complete the activity, and provide vocabulary lists or sentence frames if needed.

Implementing the ESL Story Sequence Strip Story in the Classroom

Effective implementation can maximize learning outcomes:

1. Introduce the Activity

Explain the purpose of the activity, modeling the process with an example story. Clarify how to order the strips and retell the story.

2. Group or Individual Work

Decide whether students will work in pairs, small groups, or individually. Group work encourages discussion and peer learning.

3. Distribute the Strips

Provide each group or student with a shuffled set of story strips.

4. Arrange and Reconstruct the Story

Students work together to sequence the strips in the correct order. Encourage them to discuss their reasoning.

5. Retell or Summarize the Story

Once arranged, students practice retelling the story aloud, focusing on using appropriate vocabulary and grammar.

6. Class Discussion and Reflection

Facilitate a class discussion to compare different sequences, address misunderstandings, and reinforce story comprehension.

Tips for Maximizing the Effectiveness of ESL Story Sequence Activities

To ensure your ESL story sequence strip story activity is engaging and educationally effective, consider the following tips:

- Use Authentic and Relevant Stories: Select stories that resonate with students' interests and cultural backgrounds to increase engagement.
- Include Visual Supports: Visuals aid comprehension, especially for beginner learners or visual learners.
- Provide Scaffolding: Use sentence frames, vocabulary lists, or guided questions to support language production.
- Encourage Peer Interaction: Promote discussion and reasoning among students to deepen understanding.
- Incorporate Technology: Use digital tools and apps to create interactive sequence activities, especially in blended or online learning environments.
- Assess Comprehension: Use follow-up questions or comprehension quizzes to evaluate understanding.
- Vary Activities: Combine sequencing with other activities like story writing, dramatization, or drawing to reinforce learning.

Variations and Extensions of the Story Sequence Strip Story Activity

To keep activities fresh and cater to different learning objectives, consider these variations:

- Silent Storytelling: Use only images for students to sequence, then discuss the story verbally.
- Story Creation: After sequencing, students can write their own stories based on the strips.
- Mystery Sequencing: Include some incorrect or scrambled strips for students to identify and correct errors.
- Digital Sequencing: Use interactive whiteboards or online tools where students drag and drop story segments into order.
- Story Comprehension Quizzes: Follow-up with questions about the story's details, moral, or themes.

Conclusion

The ESL story sequence strip story is a versatile, engaging, and effective teaching activity that enhances multiple language skills, including comprehension, vocabulary, speaking, and critical thinking. By carefully selecting stories, creating well-designed strips, and implementing the activity thoughtfully, educators can foster a dynamic learning environment that motivates students and supports their language development journey. Whether used as a warm-up, assessment, or core activity, story sequencing activities are invaluable tools in the ESL classroom, helping learners build confidence and competence through meaningful storytelling experiences.

Remember: The key to success with ESL story sequence strip stories lies in making the activity enjoyable, accessible, and relevant to your students' needs. Incorporate visuals, encourage

collaboration, and provide ample opportunities for practice to see your learners thrive!

ESL Story Sequence Strip Story: A Comprehensive Guide to Using Visual Sequencing in Language Learning

In the realm of teaching English as a Second Language (ESL), engaging students with dynamic and interactive activities is essential for fostering language acquisition and retention. One such effective tool is the ESL story sequence strip story, a visual and communicative activity that helps learners understand story structure, improve sequencing skills, and enhance vocabulary. This activity involves students arranging a series of illustrated or written strips in the correct chronological order, encouraging both comprehension and storytelling abilities. In this guide, we'll explore the concept of ESL story sequence strip stories, their benefits, how to implement them effectively, and tips for maximizing learning outcomes.

What Is an ESL Story Sequence Strip Story?

An ESL story sequence strip story is a classroom activity where learners work with a set of strips—either pictures, sentences, or a combination—that depict different parts of a story. These strips are usually cut into segments, each representing a specific event or scene. Students then collaborate to arrange these strips in the correct order, reconstructing the story chronologically.

This activity taps into multiple language skills:

- Reading comprehension: Students interpret the meaning of each strip.
- Vocabulary development: New words associated with each scene or event are introduced.
- Sequencing skills: Learners develop logical thinking by understanding story order.
- Speaking and storytelling: Students describe and narrate the story in their own words.

Why Use Story Sequence Strips in ESL Classrooms?

Implementing ESL story sequence strip stories offers numerous pedagogical advantages:

- Enhances Comprehension and Retention

Visual cues help learners grasp the narrative better, especially those with limited vocabulary. Seeing images alongside text reinforces understanding and aids memory.

- Develops Critical Thinking and Sequencing Skills

Students analyze the story elements to determine the correct sequence, promoting logical reasoning and problem-solving.

- Encourages Active Participation

Group activities foster communication, collaboration, and confidence as students discuss and justify their choices.

- Supports Differentiated Learning

Strips can be tailored to different proficiency levels? simpler images for beginners, more complex scenarios for advanced learners.

- Promotes Creativity and Storytelling

Once the strips are correctly ordered, students can expand on the story, adding details or alternative endings, fostering creativity.

How to Create and Use ESL Story Sequence Strip Stories

Step 1: Select or Create the Story Content

Choose a simple, engaging story relevant to your students' level and interests. It could be a familiar fairy tale, daily routine, or any narrative suitable for the classroom.

Step 2: Develop the Visual or Textual Strips

- Pictures: Draw or find images that depict key scenes of the story.
- Sentences: Write concise sentences describing each scene.
- Combination: Use images with accompanying sentences for clarity.

Step 3: Cut the Story into Segments

Divide the story into logical parts? each representing a specific event or scene. Ensure each strip is clear and contains enough context to understand its part of the story.

Step 4: Prepare the Activity

Provide students with the unarranged strips. You might want to laminate them for durability or use digital versions for online classes.

Step 5: Conduct the Sequencing Activity

- Individual or Group Work: Students work alone or in small groups.
- Arrange the Strips: Students organize the strips in what they believe is the correct order.
- Review and Discuss: Once arranged, review the sequence together, discussing why each strip comes before or after another.

Step 6: Extend the Activity

Encourage students to:

- Describe the story in their own words.
- Add details or alternate endings.
- Create their own story strips based on new themes.

Tips for Effective Implementation

- Start Simple: For beginners, start with basic stories involving familiar vocabulary and straightforward sequences.
- Use Real-Life Contexts: Incorporate stories relevant to students' daily experiences to increase engagement.
- Incorporate Vocabulary Practice: Highlight key vocabulary on each strip and review before or after the activity.
- Combine with Other Skills: Follow up with writing exercises, role-plays, or listening tasks related to the story.
- Differentiate Tasks: For advanced learners, include more complex stories or ask them to invent their own strips.

Variations of the ESL Story Sequence Strip Activity

To keep activities fresh and cater to different learning styles, consider these variations:

- Digital Interactive Sequencing: Use online tools or apps where students drag and drop digital strips.

- Story Reconstruction Challenge: Provide scrambled strips and timer to see who arranges the story correctly the fastest.
- Creative Storytelling: After sequencing, have students create their own stories or comic strips inspired by the original.
- Role-play Activities: Use the ordered strips as prompts for acting out the story scenes.

Common Challenges and How to Overcome Them

- Difficulty in Understanding the Story: Simplify stories or provide additional visuals.
- Struggling with Sequencing Logic: Use guiding questions or prompts to help students think about cause-and-effect and chronological order.
- Limited Vocabulary: Focus on key vocabulary before the activity and use pictures to aid comprehension.
- Time Constraints: Break the activity into multiple sessions or use shorter stories for quicker completion.

Sample Story for a Sequence Strip Activity

Story: A Day at the Park

Strips:

- A child wakes up in the morning.
- The child gets dressed in a T-shirt and shorts.
- The child packs a picnic basket.
- The child and family arrive at the park.
- They play on the swings and slide.
- They eat sandwiches and fruit.
- The child feels tired and rests on the grass.
- They pack up and go home.

Activity: Students arrange these strips in the correct order, then describe the day's activities.

Final Thoughts

The ESL story sequence strip story activity is a versatile, engaging, and highly educational tool that supports multiple language skills through visual storytelling and sequencing. Its adaptability makes it suitable for learners of all ages and levels, providing a fun way to enhance comprehension, vocabulary, and critical thinking. When well-planned and executed, this activity can become a staple

in your ESL teaching toolkit, fostering active learning and storytelling confidence among your students.

By integrating story sequence strips into your lessons, you open the door to creative storytelling, meaningful language practice, and improved cognitive skills, all while making learning enjoyable.

Question What is an ESL story sequence strip story? An ESL story sequence strip story is a teaching activity where students create or arrange a series of picture strips that depict the sequence of events in a story, helping improve their understanding of story structure and sequencing skills. How can story sequence strips help ESL learners improve their language skills? They encourage learners to practice vocabulary, connect ideas logically, and develop comprehension skills by arranging story events in order and discussing the narrative. What are some effective ways to use story sequence strips in ESL classrooms? Teachers can have students cut out picture strips and arrange them in the correct order, retell the story in their own words, or create their own strips to practice storytelling and sequencing. What materials are needed to create story sequence strips for ESL lessons? Materials include printed or drawn pictures representing story events, scissors, glue or tape, and paper or digital tools for arranging and presenting the strips. Can story sequence strip stories be adapted for different proficiency levels? Yes, they can be simplified with fewer images and basic vocabulary for beginners or made more complex with detailed scenes and advanced language for higher levels. Are there online resources or templates available for ESL story sequence strips? Yes, many websites offer free printable templates, digital tools, and interactive activities to help teachers create or find story sequence strips suitable for various levels. How can teachers assess students' understanding using story sequence strip stories? Teachers can evaluate students based on their ability to correctly sequence the story, retell it accurately, and use appropriate vocabulary and grammar during discussions or presentations.

Related keywords: ESL story sequencing, ESL story strips, story sequencing activities, ESL storytelling, ESL language learning, ESL classroom resources, sequential story cards, story retelling ESL, ESL reading comprehension, language development activities

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