

Literature on Culture and Body from an overall BODY perspective

Literature in English

2011

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| Title and references: | How Culture Controls Communication, Goman, Carol Kinsey, Forbes. Nov. 28, 2011 http://www.forbes.com/sites/carolkinseygoman/2011/11/28/how-culture-controls-communication/ |
| Theme: | Body |
| Short paragraph: | The article presents six cultural models of communication: high context or low context, sequential or synchronic, and affective or neutral. Ways in which these cultural models can sometimes clash are presented. |

2010

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| Title and references: | <i>Masculinities in Theory: An Introduction</i> , Reeser, T. & Wiley-Blackwell, 2010 http://books.google.it/books?hl=it&lr=&id=bFpoJTVhR-0C&oi=fnd&pg=PA1&dq=Masculinities+in+Theory:+An+Introduction |
| Theme: | Body / Sexuality / Gender |
| Short paragraph: | <i>Masculinities in Theory</i> is a clear, concise, and comprehensive introduction to the field of masculinity studies from a humanities perspective. It serves as a much-needed introduction to the field. Includes discussions of gay/queer, feminist, and gender studies in relation to masculinity. Covers the key theoretical approaches to the study of masculinity, and introduces new models. Explores the question: what is masculinity and how does it work? Looks at language, discourse, signification, power, cross-dressing, female, queer and transsexual masculinity, race and masculinity, nation and masculinity, interracial masculinities, and masculinities in history. |

2008

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| Title and references: | <i>Disability Theory. Corporealities: Discourses of Disability</i> , Siebers, Tobin Anthony. 2008 |
| Theme: | Body / Disability / Gender |
| Short paragraph: | The book provides indisputable evidence of the value and utility that a disability studies perspective can bring to key critical and cultural questions. The author persuasively argues that disability studies transfigures basic assumptions about identity, ideology, language, politics, social oppression, and the body. He also puts disability studies in dialogue with thinkers in cultural studies, literary theory, queer theory, gender studies, and critical race theory. |

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| Title and | <i>The Cultural Context of Aging: Worldwide Perspectives</i> , Sokolovsky, Jay. 2008 |
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| references: | Additional webbook chapters available online: http://www.usfsp.edu/jsokolov/webbook/ |
| Theme: | Body / Health |
| Short paragraph: | This book uses a qualitative, case study approach to look at the rapidly emerging new cultural spaces and social scripts through which mid and late life are being encountered globally, covering China, Japan, Denmark, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Peru, indigenous Amazonia, rural Italy and the ethnic landscape of the U.S. |
| Title and references: | <i>Handbook of Theories of Aging</i> , Bengton, Vern L., in <i>From Industrialism to Institutionalism: Theoretical Accounts of Aging</i> , ed. Gans, Daphna & Putney, Norella & Silverstein, Merrill, 2008 |
| Theme: | Body / Health / Gender / Sexuality |
| Short paragraph: | The handbook discusses how the various approaches to aging theory can be integrated to create a unified theoretical aging discourse. Chapters include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dynamic Integration Theory: Emotion, Cognition, and Equilibrium in Later Life - Cognitive Control Theory of Aging and Emotional Well-Being - Theorizing Feminist Gerontology, Sexuality and Beyond. |
| Title and references: | <i>Religion and culture: Potential undercurrents influencing hand hygiene promotion in healthcare</i> , Allegranzi, Benedetta & Memish, Ziad A. & Donaldson, Liam & Pittet, Didier, in <i>World Health Organization Global Patient Safety Challenge Task Force on Religious and Cultural Aspects of Hand Hygiene</i> (lead, D. Pittet), World Alliance for Patient Safety. 2008 http://ipac.kacst.edu.sa/edoc/2008/172161_1.pdf |
| Theme: | Body / Health |
| Short paragraph: | Religious faith and culture can strongly influence hand hygiene behaviour in healthcare workers and potentially affect compliance with best practices. This article covers data retrieved on specific indications for hand cleansing according to the 7 main religions worldwide, interpretation of hand gestures, the concept of “visibly dirty” hands, and the use of alcohol-based hand rubs and prohibition of alcohol use by some religions. The impact of religious faith and cultural specificities must be taken into consideration when implementing a multimodal strategy to promote hand hygiene on a global scale. |
| 2007 | |
| Title and references: | <i>Disability in local and global world</i> , Ingstad, Benedicte, ed. Reynolds & Whyte, 2007 |
| Theme: | Body / Disability |
| Short paragraph: | The lives of many disabled people in Europe and North America have improved over the past two decades through innovative technologies and the efforts of the disability rights movement. These changes have been spreading to other societies around the globe – albeit unevenly. In this collection of essays, leading scholars explore global changes in disability awareness, technology and policy from the viewpoint of disabled |

people and their families in a wide range of local contexts. The authors report on ethnographic research in Brazil, Uganda, Botswana, Somalia, Britain, Israel, China, Egypt, India, and Japan. They address the definition of disability, the new eugenics, human rights in local contexts, domestic and state citizenship of disabled people, and issues of identity and belonging.

Title and references:

Gender, Bradley, Harriet, Polity Press, London, 2007
<http://www.polity.co.uk/keyconcepts/bradley-gender.asp>
<http://www.bris.ac.uk/spais/people/person/10729>

Theme:

Body / Gender

Short paragraph:

Harriet Bradley provides an introduction to the concept of gender and the different theoretical approaches which have developed within gender studies. Utilizing life narratives, she explores contemporary relations of masculinity and femininity and investigates processes of gendering in three important spheres of contemporary social life: production, reproduction and consumption. The book highlights the centrality of gender in everyday life and shows how thinking about gender is influenced by changing political contexts, considering the options for a transformative politics of gender.

Title and references:

Dirt: New Geographies of Cleanliness and Contamination, ed. Campkin, Ben & Cox, Rosie, 2007

Theme:

Body / Health / Sexuality / Gender

Short paragraph:

Dirt - and our rituals to eradicate it - are as much a part of our everyday lives as eating, breathing and sleeping. Yet, this very fact means that we seldom stop to question what we mean by dirt. What do our attitudes to dirt and cleanliness tell us about ourselves and the societies we live in? The contributors to this work expose the interests which underlie everyday conceptions of dirt and reveal how our ideas about it are intimately bound up with issues of race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexuality and the body.

2005

Title and references:

Body and Culture, Lyons, Greg, A Longman Topics Reader, 2005

Theme:

Body

Short paragraph:

This book almost ignores the physicality of the body and, instead, treats it as a medium through which a person can express his or her culture. This collection of readings explores the ideas and ethics behind the choices made in reacting to and expressing culture. It is also important to understand the consequences of culture's toll on the body. The text includes six chapters, which break up the essays according to the aspect of culture affecting the body. These influences include a wide range such as psychology, media, and dance.

2004

Title and

A guide to high school success for students with disabilities, Jaeger, Paul T., 2004

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| references: | |
| Theme: | Body / Disability / Gender |
| Short paragraph: | The book is divided into five topical sections that each addresses a set of related issues. Section I provides a history of disabilities across different times and cultures and a discussion of the legal rights of students with disabilities. Section II discusses the cultural and social issues disabled teens face in modern society and looks at representations in film and literature. Section III is devoted to the many interactions and relationships faced in high school, including dating, socialisation and extracurricular activities. Section IV addresses issues related to academic success and the concluding chapter offers tools for advocacy and empowerment. Appendices complete this multi-faceted volume with lists of additional readings and on-line resources for students with disabilities. |
| Title and references: | <i>The Body and Society: An Introduction</i> , Howson, Alexandra, 2004 |
| Theme: | Body |
| Short paragraph: | This book is a lively and highly accessible introduction to the sociology of the body. It examines what certain aspects of our bodies, such as the size, shape, smell and demeanor, reveal about the social organization of everyday life and how the body is crucial to the way we engage with the world and the people around us. |
| 2003 | |
| Title and references: | <i>In the Flesh. The Cultural Politics of Body Modification</i> , Pitts, Victoria, Palgrave, New York 2003 |
| Theme: | Body / Gender |
| Short paragraph: | The 1990s saw the dramatic rise of spectacular forms of body modification, which included the tattoo renaissance and the rise in body piercing, the emergence of neo-tribal practices like scarification and flesh hanging, and the invention of new, high-tech forms of body art like subdermal implants. This book, based on years of interviews with body modifiers throughout the United States, is both sympathetic and critical and provides the most comprehensive look at this phenomenon. From punk rock to "modern primitives," from queer sadomasochism to cyberpunks, sociologist Victoria Pitts provides insight into the full range of body modification subcultures. Whether by turning themselves into female punks, neo-tribal "primitives" or science fiction cyborgs, body modifiers are engaged in the project of "reclaiming" their bodies from the machine of modern life. Pitts explores the connections between body modification and contemporary struggles over sex and gender, and widespread attitudes about identity, consumption, and the body. |
| 2002 | |
| Title and references: | <i>Genderqueer: Voices from Beyond the Sexual Binary</i> , J. Nestle, J. & Wilchins, R.A. & Howell, C., Los Angeles: Alyson Publications, 2002 |

<http://exploringtrans.wordpress.com/2010/09/08/genderqueer/>

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| Theme: | Body / Gender / Sexuality |
| Short paragraph: | The questions go beyond the nature of male/female to a yet-to-be-traversed region that lies somewhere between and beyond biologically determined gender. In this groundbreaking anthology, three experts in gender studies and politics navigate around rigid, societally imposed concepts of two genders to discover and illuminate the limitless possibilities of identity. Thirty first-person accounts of gender construction, exploration, and questioning provide a groundwork for cultural discussion, political action, and even greater possibilities of autonomous gender choices. Noted scholar Joan Nestle is joined by internationally prominent gender warrior Riki Anne Wilchins and historian Clare Howell to provide a societal, cultural, and political exploration of gender identity. |

2001

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| Title and references: | <i>Cultures of Aging: Self, Citizen, and the Body</i> , Gilleard, Chris & Higgs, Paul, 2001 |
| Theme: | Body / Health |
| Short paragraph: | The authors examine the significance of lifestyle cultures associated with the third age. Each chapter deals with a different aspect of ageing and relates it to the core themes of self and identity, citizenship, and the body. |

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| Title and references: | <i>Culture and the Human Body: An Anthropological Perspective</i> , Burton, John W. 2001 |
| Theme: | Body |
| Short paragraph: | In the course of human prehistory and continuing to the present day, culture has played a prominent role in transforming the human form. From birth to death, the body serves as a medium and metaphor of cultural expression. This book provides a broadly comparative perspective on the many and varied ways in which the human body has been sculpted and transformed by particular cultural traditions and argues that in significant ways, the human body has transcended the laws of natural selection. To appreciate the human body is to acknowledge the various ways in which it has become a cultural artifact rather than a purely natural phenomenon. |

2000

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| Title and references: | <i>Sexing the Body. Gender Politics and the construction of Sexuality</i> , Fausto-Sterling, Anne, Basic Books, New York, 2000 http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/body/fausto-sterling.html |
| Theme: | Body / Sexuality / Gender |
| Short paragraph: | Some find the changes under way deeply disturbing; others find them liberating. Brown University biologist and historian, Anne Fausto-Sterling, argues for a redefinition of our two-sex-only world. She also offers new guidelines on how doctors should handle intersex babies. |

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| 1999 | |
| Title and references: | <i>Disability in Different Cultures: Reflections on Local Concepts</i> , Holzer, Bridgitte & Vreede, Arthur & Weigt, Gabriele, 1999 |
| Theme: | Body / Disability |
| Short paragraph: | How are disability and rehabilitation conceived of in different cultures? How can these concepts be made accessible? Studies from the fields of sociology, ethnology and educational science address these questions, while contributors from rehabilitation projects in development cooperation and from self-help movements highlight culturally different perceptions of disability. A distinctive feature of this volume is the dialogue it creates by bringing together scientific praxis and practical work. This book is a collection of virtually all the contributions presented and discussed at the symposium Local Concepts and Beliefs about Disability in Different Cultures. |
| 1998 | |
| Title and references: | <i>Feminism, gender and disability</i> , Morris, Jenny, 1998 |
| Theme: | Body / Disability / Gender |
| Short paragraph: | The author addresses the development of her own thinking on the relationship between feminism and disability, since she first started writing on these issues. She also describes her own research interests and how they touch on feminism and disability. |
| Title and references: | <i>Body battles: Bodies, gender and disability</i> , Meekosha Helen, in <i>Disability Reader: Social Science Perspectives</i> , 1998, pp. 163–180 |
| Theme: | Body / Disability / Gender |
| Short paragraph: | A collection of essays exploring the intellectual implications of a disability equality perspective. Leading social scientists draw on current theory and research and offer an overview of contemporary debates. |
| 1997 | |
| Title and references: | <i>Disability and culture</i> , Medical Anthropology Quarterly 1997, volume 11/Issue 3, pp. 404–406 |
| Theme: | Body / Disability |
| Short paragraph: | A short article about an idea around disability and culture. |
| Title and references: | <i>Religion and the Body</i> , Coakley, Sarah, ed. 1997 |
| Theme: | Body |
| Short paragraph: | This collection of essays studies the “body” in relation to the major religions. It highlights the distinctive and unfamiliar ways in which diverse religious traditions understand the “body” and notes the assumptions and problems of contemporary |

attitudes to it. The result is a rich source for comparative studies of the "body", its relation to society and to the divine.

1996

Title and references: *The Body and Society: Explorations in Social Theory*, Turner, Bryan S., 1996

Theme: **Body**

Short paragraph: In this influential book, which inspired later research on the body in contemporary culture, the author argues that the body should be the axis of sociological analysis. One interesting notion promoted in the book is that of the "somatic society". According to Turner, in modern society, "major political and personal problems are both problematized within the body and expressed through it".

1994

Title and references: *Gender Outlaw*, Bornstein, Kate, New York-London: Routledge, 1994

<http://www.enlightennext.org/magazine/j16/kate.asp?page=2>

Theme: **Body / Gender**

Short paragraph: *"Only through breaking out of society's rigid gender roles and identities that we can discover and express our full potential"*.

Bornstein covers the "mechanics" of her surgery, everything it is possible to wonder about gender, addresses the place and politics of the transgendered and interrogates the questions of those who give the subject little thought, creating questions of her own.

Title and references: *The Aqing Experience: Diversity and Commonality Across Cultures*, Keith, Jennie & Fry, Christine L. & Glascock, Anthony P. & Ikels, Charlotte & Dickerson-Putman & Harpending, Henry C. & Draper, Patricia, 1994

Theme: **Body / Health**

Short paragraph: In an attempt to understand the meaning of ageing and the treatment of the aged in different cultures, seven anthropologists have made studies of 10 communities on four continents - the results of which are presented in this book. The authors use both qualitative and statistical data to examine such issues as: health and well-being, perceptions of the life course, material resources, and functionality of elders.

1993

Title and references: *Cultivating the Body: Anthropology and Epistemologies of Bodily Practice and Knowledge*, Lock, Margaret, in *Annual Review of Anthropology*, 1993, vol. 22, pp. 133-155 <http://staff.ui.ac.id/internal/131882269/material/cultivatignthebody-MLock.pdf>

Theme: **Body**

Short paragraph: In this essay, the author summarizes research that addresses: the body as a product of specific social, cultural, and historical contexts; the nature/culture or mind/body

debates; and the poetics and politics of the production and reproduction of bodies.

1990

Title and references: *Culture in the mirror: Sociocultural determinants of body image*, Fallon, April, in *Body Images: Development, Deviance, and Change*, ed. Cash, Thomas F. & Pruzinsky, Thomas, New York, NY, US: Guilford Press, 1990, pp. 80-109, 361 pp.

Theme: **Body**

Short paragraph: The author discusses some of the sociocultural aspects of body image. She reviews similarities and differences in standards of attractiveness for different cultures and trace Western cultural ideas through time. She then compares how various socio-cultural subgroups such as sex, cultural group and social class differ in and are affected by their perceptions of the cultural ideal. Finally, she offers examples which illustrate the extent to which individuals within a group will endure pain to achieve the 'unnatural' cultural ideal.

1986

Title and references: *Gender: a Useful Category of Historical Analysis*, Scott, Joan, The University of Chicago Press, 1986

<http://www.jstor.org/discover/10.2307/1864376?uid=3738296&uid=2129&uid=2&uid=70&uid=4&sid=21100951059003>

Theme: **Body / Gender**

Short paragraph: If the differences between men and women are determined by social identity, then these may not be natural differences given by biological innate features, but they are social constructions. What has been constructed/created can also be deconstructed, is changeable, thus it is not steady. Therefore, the gender concept introduces the element of change and transformation.

1979

Title and references: *A Review of Nonverbal Behaviors of Women and Men*, La France, Marianne & Mayo, Clara, in *Western Journal of Speech Communication*, 1979, vol. 43 /no. 2, pp. 96-107

Theme: **Body / Gender**

Short paragraph: Review of literature on gender-linked aspects of nonverbal behaviour reveals that the differences in nonverbal behaviour are in line with societal expectations calling for women to be reactive and for men to be proactive. Communication between the sexes is discussed in terms of smiling, personal space, touch, and talk."

1978

Title and references: *The History of Sexuality*, Foucault, Michel, New York, Pantheon, 1978, vol. 1

Theme: **Body / Sexuality / Gender / Health**

Short paragraph: "Scientia Sexualis", explores the development of the scientific study of sex, the attempt to unearth the "truth" of sex, a phenomenon which Foucault argues is peculiar to the west. He furthermore argues that this scientia sexualis has repeatedly been used for political purposes, being utilised in the name of "public hygiene" to support state racism. Returning to the influence of the Catholic confession, he looks at the relationship between the confessor and the authoritarian figure that they confess to, arguing that as Roman Catholicism was eclipsed in much of Western and Northern Europe following the Reformation, the concept of confession survived and became more widespread, entering into the relationship between parent and child, patient and psychiatrist and student and educator; by the 19th century, he maintains, the "truth" of sexuality was being readily explored both through confession and scientific enquiry. Foucault proceeds to examine how the confession of sexuality then came to be "constituted in scientific terms", arguing that scientists began to trace the cause of all aspects of human psychology and society to sexual factors.

1975

Title and references: *The Traffic in Women*, Rubin, Gayle, New York, Monthly Review Press, 1975
http://www.progettouguadi.it/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/STEREOTIPITirini_FIM07_091110.pdf

Theme: **Body / Sexuality / Gender**

Short paragraph: The American anthropologist defines gender: as something that is disconnected from the sex. Indeed while the sex is genetic - a mass of biological, physical and anatomical characteristics that produce a real differentiation between men and women - the gender represents a cultural construction of a representation, a definition and a reinforcement of attitudes that complement the biological genetics and that determine the status of being man and woman.

1972

Title and references: *Man & Woman, Boy & Girl: Gender Identity from Conception to maturity*, Money, John & Ehrhardt, Anke, Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, 1972
<http://www.gender.org.uk/about/05devel/51adscss.htm>

Theme: **Body / Sexuality / Gender**

Short paragraph: John Money and Anke Ehrhardt offer a comprehensive account of sexual differentiation using genetics, embryology, endocrinology and neuro-endocrinology, psychology, and anthropology. Money and Ehrhardt focus on the interaction of hereditary endowment and environmental influence.

Title and references: *Sex, Gender and Society*, Oakley, Anne, Temple Smith, London, 1972
<http://books.google.it/books?id=yxQFf4vx3l0C&pg=PA61&lpg=PA61&dq=sex+gender+and+society+oakley&source=bl&ots=kxaHfoitTq&sig=iR3j3i6m1WVzeYblSw61G4unc8w&hl=it&sa=X&ei=urIXUKePHYfe4QT4ooH4Aw&ved=0CEEQ6AEwAg#v=onepage&q=sex%20gender%20and%20society%20oakley&f=false>

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| Theme: | Body / Gender |
| Short paragraph: | The British sociologist, feminist, and writer is Professor and Founder-Director of the Social Science Research Unit at the Institute of Education, University of London. Sex Gender and Society offers a critique of traditional sociological concepts and set out new approaches to considering differences between man and women. |

1935

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| Title and references: | <i>Sex and Temperament in Three Primitive Societies</i> , Mead, Margaret, William Morrow and company, 1935 http://www.progettouguadi.it/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/STEREOTIPI_Tirini_FIM07_091110.pdf |
| Theme: | Body / Sexuality / Gender |
| Short paragraph: | Mead clearly shows the cultural and variable nature of the female and male's temperament that are considered, at that time, as innate and universal features of the personality and determined by the biological gender. The comparative work of the scholar allows Mead to demonstrate that the features of the female personality, as well as the male's one, diverged from culture to culture and so they grow away from any generalization. |

Literature in other languages

2006

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| Title and references: | Krop, sygdom og seksualitet, Graugaard, Christian & Møhl Bo & Hertoft, Preben (red), Hans Reitzels forlag, DK 2006 |
| Theme: | Body / Sexuality / Health |
| Short paragraph: | It is a well-known fact that serious disease affects human relationships and sexual-life. Yet, the subject is often tabooed in the encounter between doctor and patient. This book deals with the interaction between disease and sexuality. In focus are serious diseases as cancer, heart and lung diseases, rheumatic diseases, diabetes, eating disorders, kidney diseases, bowel diseases and skin diseases. In addition, some chapters deal with gynecology and childbirth, chromosomal disorders and sexual abuse. Finally, the book contains more general chapters on practical sexology, ethnicity and sexual side effects of medication use. I |

2002

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| Title and references: | <i>Sundhed og sygelighed hos indvandrere II</i> , Khan, Iqbal A. & Qassim, Mohammad, In Månedsskrift for Praktisk Lægegerning, April 2002, 80. Årgang, pp. 557-568, Danbib/BOB bestil-id: 1010271576 |
| Theme: | Body / Health |
| Short paragraph: | The authors focus on health and disease among immigrants. They argue that the |

immigration process itself may lead to complex psychosocial effects that require special identification and treatment. The experience of culture shock can affect the sense of identity and result in specific psychosomatic symptoms that cannot always be related directly to the physical and mental diseases most prevalent in the majority population.

1992

Title and references:

Tecnologie del Sé, Foucault, Michel, Bollati Boringhieri, Torino, 1992

http://www.pratichefilosofiche.it/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=47:foucault-e-lautocostituzione-del-soggetto&catid=2:articoli&Itemid=6

Theme:

Body

Short paragraph:

Late in the days of his life, Foucault moves from the study of the power and domination's techniques through which the "self" has been objectified (scientific issues, medical and disciplinary practices) towards the study based on how an individual interacts with others and behaves with himself. Foucault wanted to renovate "a genealogy that reflects how the self constituted itself as a subject". The death didn't allow him to realize this project, however the materials of his work remain and have been scrupulously edited by some disciples. Beyond the reconstruction of the conception techniques of the self from the Antique Greece to the Christian's age, outlined masterfully by Foucault, there is the result of a collective research that widens from the introduction of the oriental techniques of the self in the West and their comparison to the puritan tradition, from a Hamlet studied in the background of the new religious practices of the reform to a Rousseau perceived in the perspective of the new romantic sense of the self, finishing with a comparison between the Foucault's method and the Freud's one. Prefaced by an interview and closed by a chapter in which Foucault shows the sense of the new orientation of his research.

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