

N°289 - December 5, 2013

# WW St-Barth WEEKLY



Local News  
in English

Published by Le Journal de Saint-Barth  
05 90 27 65 19 - [stbarthweekly@wanadoo.fr](mailto:stbarthweekly@wanadoo.fr)

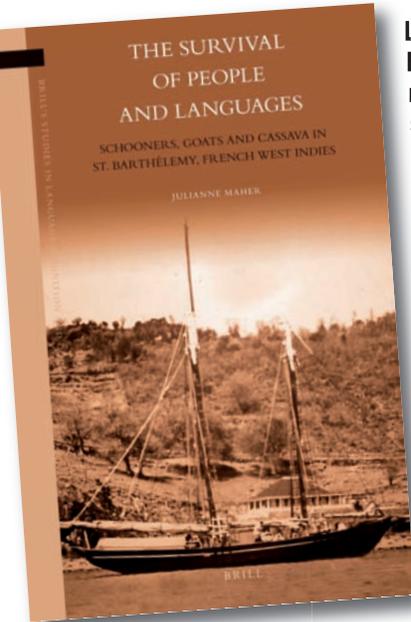
**FREE**



Welcome  
to St Barths!

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# Saint Barth: One Island, How Many Languages?



Linguist Julianne Maher spent close to 20 years studying Saint Barthélemy as an interesting case of linguistics. How many different languages—three at least—can cohabitate and survive on a small island of just eight square miles? Maher presented her book, *The Survival of People and Languages*, on Friday, November 22 at the Saint Joseph Library in Lorient.

Linguist Julianne Maher was invited to the Saint Joseph Library in Lorient on Friday, November 22 to present her book, *The Survival of People and Languages: Schooners, Goats, and Cassava, in St Barthélemy, French West Indies* (Brill). The work comprises a 20-year

study by this retired American professor on the languages spoken in Saint Barthélemy. Maher taught French and linguistics—the study of language—at the Wheeling Jesuit University in West Virginia. Her thesis was to learn how languages evolve when they come into contact with other languages as populations merge. In the United States, there are numerous examples of this phenomenon, due to continual waves of immigration that peopled this “melting pot” of a nation. If they still speak their

native tongues, how has the language of these Italians, Russians, Poles, Scandinavians, Greeks, Chinese, Japanese, and Latinos changed since they moved to America?

For Maher, on the tiny island of Saint Barth, the question is diametrically the opposite. How could three languages, or maybe even four, have endured on such a small island for so many years? On the leeward side, in the neighborhoods of Corossol, Flamand, and Colombier, patois is spoken. On the windward side, starting in Lorient and including Grand Cul-de-Sac, Toiny, and Grand-Fond, it’s Creole: Yet a Creole proper to Saint Barth, and different from that of Guadeloupe or Martinique, for example. And there was another dialect, spoken uniquely in Saline, but almost extinct today. In addition, In Gustavia, ever since the days when the Swedes traded in this small port, the language for all business negotiations has been English.

she started her study. Her first visit was in 1986, when she recorded the first of 70 interviews she did with the local population, primarily old-timers from the four corners of the island. Maher had already been aware of a first study on a similar subject, a report by Arnold Highfield about the dialects of patois spoken by the Saint Barth migrants in Saint Thomas, in the American Virgin Islands. Maher went deeper, taking the subject back to its roots, working as a historian to trace the origins of these different languages. While it is often said that the original settlers came from Normandy or Brittany, they came from all across France in reality. In the 17th century, the first wave of French settlers came via Saint Kitts, otherwise called Saint Christophe, the first French colony in the West Indies.

What is surprising is that one patois persisted on the leeward side of the island, even though the early immigrants came from regions of France with different dialects.

Maher had never stepped foot in Saint Barth before

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“On this subject, opinions vary,” explains Maher. “Is this patois an amalgam of the various patois spoken by the migrants in Saint-Barth? Was it already created Saint Christophe?” she asks as a possibility. As for the importation of Creole to Saint Barth, this dates to the return of migrants who went to Saint Vincent around 1747. When a possible war with the English menaced the Northern Islands, at least 100 people from Saint Barth decided to leave the island. This is documented in a letter from the governor of Martinique to the king of France. The governor worried they would come to Martinique, as he did not have land to give them. Instead, he advised them to do to Sainte Lucie but they opted for Saint Vincent. There they discovered the various elements of plantation culture, including Creole, the language born out of slavery.

At least 20 years later, after peace with England, governor Descoudrelles, who commanded Saint

Martin and Saint Barth, wanted to repopulate these two Northern Islands, and the migrants who had left for Saint Vincent were happy to return, bringing Creole with them. Why on the windward side of the island? “Because that side of the island was less protected than the leeward side, and more vulnerable to invasions. The inhabitants there felt more threatened and were the ones who left,” conjectures Maher.

Now comes the main question of the book. How these two languages could cohabitate for almost two centuries? Which the author supposes signifies the absence of any exchange from one side of the island—as small as it is—from one side to the other. From the early days, the families were spread out into various neighborhoods, due to land ownership. People owned land that was inherited from their parents, and often lived close to them. This is often still the case.

Maher also cites sociolo-

gist Emile Durkheim, who noted that societies that were not very diversified were not very united, in that there were few exchanges amongst them. According to Maher, this was the case in Saint Barth, where the farmers tilled the land, the fishermen lived by the sea, and they competed for the same rather meager resources.

In fact, one can say that as long as the economic misery lasted on the island, the population of Saint Barth, outside of Gustavia, did not exchange much as they had nothing to exchange. Maher gleaned this information from various journals written by the Swedish bourgeoisie, such as a doctor, who observed the rural population on a daily basis, and not without contempt on occasion.

This separation of the population into two parishes that did not communicate from one side of the island to the other would last until the dawn of tourism, when

an abundance of resources would help bring the population together. Another unifying factor was the influence of the island’s schools, where all classes were taught in French and where it was forbidden to speak Creole or patois, for fear of having your hands tapped with a ruler. But the opening of schools was late in coming as during the Swedish era, the Swedes insisted that teaching be in Swedish, as the author points out. “At the same time, until the middle of the last century, very few students went to school,” adds Maher.

Today, what is the situation? What is happening to the languages of Saint Barth? “Many of the people I questioned say that Creole is disappearing, which is less the case with patois,” Maher indicates. “But on Sunday, I was invited to have lunch with a family in the windward side of the island. Everyone was speaking Creole,” she notes.



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# Saint Barth To Test Wind Energy

In Saint Barth, the mix of energy used to produce electricity is very easy to catalog: just about 100% diesel. Other than private generators, which also run on fuel, solely the motors at the EDF electric plant in Public produce electricity for the island. Yet they are already working at full capacity. Even with the imminent addition of two new 8-megawatt motors, that capacity will not increase since in reality they will only be replacing two old motors that are obsolete, at least until 2016. At the same time, the EDF notes that the demand for electricity continues to increase: "On an average of 5% per year," notes Pascal Mithois, director of EDF Archipel Guadeloupe. In the meantime, to meet this need, we have to increase the range of solutions," he adds. "And control the use of energy (don't turn on the air-conditioner with the windows open), and to develop sustainable energy." With these



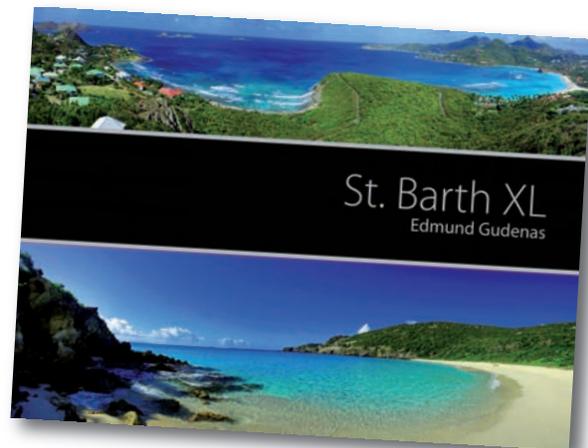
issues in mind, the island is experimenting with wind energy on the little islet of Coco. The president of the Collectivity made the announcement at a Territorial Council meeting on September 6. The project comprises two wind turbines provided by the company, Akuo Energy, specialists in renewable energy. Able to produce up to three mega-watts, these turbines can meet 15% of the electricity required at the peak moment during they day: in optimal wind conditions, of course. So far this

project is still on the drawing boards, as the conditions must be evaluated quite precisely, in measuring the force of the wind, as well as its direction. "And especially test its steadiness," confirms Jean Ballandras, of Akuo Energy. To do this, Akuo Energy asked the Collectivity, which owns the islet, to install a measuring tower. The energy produced by one of more of these wind turbines will be sold to the EDF, which will then resell it to its clients.

## ST BARTH XL BY EDMUND GUDENAS

Spectacular panoramic photographs of St. Barth in an extra large full color book titles St. Barth XL has just arrived. Three years visiting during all seasons were required to create these special images. Some are views even long time residents have not seen. Very special night views in Gustavia are included. Some could only be created dur-

ing a full moon or after a heavy rain. Almost all images are spread over 2 pages, so most are 30 inches x 11 inches. All regions of St. Barth are included. Very limited quantities available at: Les Artisans, La Casa Aux Livres, Chez Barnes, Le Select



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# A Saint Barth Native On The R

**Julien Gréaux lives in California, where he dreams of becoming a star in action films. He recently self-produced a short film titled *Parabellum*, which he hopes will serve as the key to help open the doors of Hollywood studios.**

**A** bodybuilder, his torso and limbs sculpted from years of working out at the gym, Julien Gréaux flexes his muscles on the cover of *Fitness RX*. This is the ninth time he has been on the cover of an American magazine, but for this most recent issue, he asked for a favor from the publisher: that his name be seen on the cover, as these champions with perfect washboard abs frequently appear anonymously. The cover line reads, “Julien Gréaux: The next action hero.”

At the age of 37, Julien Frognet-Gréaux (his full name) dreams about Hollywood, and following in the footsteps of Jason Statham or Jean-Claude Van Damme, as the next hero in Hollywood action films. And amazingly enough, he is not too far from that dream. Geographically, in any case: For the past 10 years, Gréaux has lived in Culver City, CA, close to Venice Beach, one of the sunny beachfront towns close to LA. The famous Hollywood sign hovers a few miles away, a symbol of the Mecca of filmmaking.

Gréaux recently completed a short film in which he plays his first role. Titled *Parabellum*, it has all the elements to please fans of action films: fights, gunshots, car chases (the short will be seen at the St Barth Film Festival, in April 2014). And Gréaux wrote the scenario himself, telling the story of a



Frenchman who gets out of prison and decides to try his luck in Los Angeles. But he gets involved with a corrupt cop who forces him into his schemes, and the hero finds himself with the police and crooks after him. In other words, he has his fare share of difficulties, but then again, the life of an action hero is not made of evenings spent in front of the television.

On a visit to Saint Barth last summer, Gréaux indicated that he entrusted the film to two young French directors with experience in video clips, Mike Feenix and Pasquale Pagano. “They are also doing this film to prove themselves as filmmakers,” Gréaux explains. They all hope that this 20-minute short will be the key to help them open the doors to the studios. Gréaux’s friends helped out as well, some are actors who lent their services, others put money on the table to help pay for the film. The film was self-produced by Gréaux, with a grant from the Collectivity of Saint Barth to cover some of the costs.

But this is just the beginning of a

story that Gréaux promises to finish. On the condition he can find professional producers next time. Over the past 10 years, he has already knocked at their doors a few times, most recently that of Luc Besson, director of *La Femme Nikita* or *The Big Blue* among many others, and head of Europa-Corp film company, a major player in Hollywood. He also created the series, *Transporteur*, with Jason Statham in the title role. What if the British actor didn’t want to appear in the fourth opus? Could we see Julien Gréaux in the cast of *Transporteur 4*? The actor from Saint Barth believes in his future, be it in one film or another. And just how far can someone go, if he believes in his dreams?

Ever since he was a child, Gréaux has studied martial arts, first judo, then karate, and Thai boxing. Plus weight lifting, which he started when his mother, Jeanne-Marie, ran a small gym in Saint Barth where he worked as a gardener. “One day I was working in Patrick Demarchelier’s villa (the famous fashion photographer),” he recalls. “I said to myself, ‘if you want to



# oad To Hollywood



are people who don't believe he can make it. "They tell me I am too short or I have a Saint Barth accent. But Van Damme isn't too tall and he made it with a Belgian accent. Schwarzenegger has an Austrian accent," he adds.

The other day I was talking to a policeman in uniform. On the seat of his car, I saw his headshots. He explained that he goes to auditions on his days off."

"Van Damme told me it would take at least 10 years to make my debut," Gréaux notes, "So I still have time I have to believe in myself, that is indispensable in California. In LA everyone wants to be an actor. The waiter, the cashier, the guy who sweeps the floor. Even the police.

To increase his notoriety during his recent visit to Saint Barthélemy, Gréaux had his picture taken on the beach in Flamands by a friend who is a paparazzo, who then sent the photos to his agency Los Angeles. As Gréaux says with a very white West Coast smile: "As they say in California, you have to fake it, until you make it."



work, Gréaux met some of his role models from the world of action films. A certain Jean-Claude Van Damme, for example. "Van Damme? I have known him for 10 years," confirms Gréaux. "And that makes 10 years that he says he can see me in his next film," Gréaux says with a laugh.

have the same kind of villa, it's not working as a gardener that you will have one." In 2002, he left that life behind. And flew to Los Angeles with two gym bags, and \$400 in his pocket.

One can easily see that Gréaux has the physique for the job, with the steel blue eyes of many Saint Barth natives, and a winning smile. And of course, that musculature, which has put him on the cover of 50 fitness magazines to date. "I considered that as a stepping stone," he explains. "First I had to build my physique, create an image. Then try my luck. I know that I am not an actor, but as far as I know Arnold Schwarzenegger wasn't either," he says confidently. Yet he says there

For the past 10 years, Gréaux has split his time working as a trainer at the celebrated Gold's Gym in Venice Beach, and odd jobs, such as security for parties and special events, often in Hollywood. In both cases, either at the gym or at

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Bar de l'Oubli	05.90.27.70.06
Bête à Z' Ailes (BAZ Bar)	05 90 29 74 09
Black Ginger	05.90.29.21.03
Bonito	05.90.27.96.96
Café Victoire	05.90.29.02.39
Côté Port	05.90.87.79.54
Do Brazil	05.90.29 06 66
Eddy's Restaurant	05.90.27 54 17
Gustav'	05.90.27.73.00
L'Entracte	05.90.27.70.11
L'Isola Ristorante	05.90.51.00.05
L'Isoletta	05.90.52.02.02
La Crêperie	05 90 27 84 07
La Cantina	05.90.27.55.66
Le Carré	05.90.52.46.11
Le Repaire	05.90.27 72 48
Le Vietnam	05 90 27 81 37
Les Coulisses	05.90.29 52 24
Ocean	05.90.52.45.31
Pipiri Palace	05.90.27 53 20
The Strand	05.90.27.63.77
Thi Widi	05 90 27 90 60
Wall House	05.90.27 71 83

## Corossol

Le Régal	05.90.27 85 2
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## Lurin

Santa Fé	05.90.27.61.04
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## Public

Maya's	05.90.27.75.73
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## Pointe Milou

Mango Bar restaurant (Lunch)	05.90.27.63.63
Taïno Restaurant (Diner & Lounge)	05.90.27.63.63
Ti St-Barth	05.90.27 97 71

## Flamands

Casa Flamands (Taïwana)	05.90.27 65 01
Chez Rolande	05.90.27.54.42
La Case de l'Île (Isle de France)	05.90.27 61 81
La Langouste	05.90.27.63.61
Spice of St Barth	06.90.54.41.42

## Pointe Milou

Mango Bar restaurant (Lunch)	05.90.27.63.63
Taïno Restaurant (Diner & Lounge)	05.90.27.63.63
Ti St-Barth	05.90.27 97 71

## Toiny

Le Gaïac (Hôtel Le Toiny)	05.90.29.77.47
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## Saline

Esprit	05.90.52.46.10
Grain de Sel	05.90.52 46 05
Meat & Potatoes	05 90 51 15 98

## Lorient

La Table de Jules	05.90.29 76 78
Le Bouchon	05 90 27 79 39
Le Wok	05 90 27 52 52
Le Portugal à St Barth	05 90 27 68 59
Koya Sushi	05 90 52 96 17

## Anse des Cayes

Chez Yvon	05.90.29 86 81
Rackham le Rouge (Le Manapany)	05.90.27.66.55

## Saint Jean

Chez Joe (Airport)	05.90.27.71.40
Eden Rock	05.90.29 79 99
Hideaway	05.90.27.63.62
Kiki e Mo	05.90.27.90.65
La Rôtisserie	05.90.29.75.69
Le Glacier	05 90 27 71 30
Le Jardin	05 90 27 73 62
La Plage	05.90.52.81.33
Maya to Go	05.90.29.83.70
Me Gusta	06.90.30.81.81
Nikki Beach	05.90.27.64.64
Txerri Gorria 'Cochon Rouge'	05.90.52.20.96

## Grand Cul de Sac

Bartoloméo (Hôtel Guanahani)	05.90.27 66 60
Indigo (Hôtel Guanahani)	05.90.27.66.60
Le Sereno	05.90.29.83.00
O'Corail	05.90.29.33.27
La Gloriette	05.90.29.85.71

## Colombier

Les Bananiers	05.90.27.93.48
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- AABARAKI, from 9pm to midnight, Bete A Z'Ailes,
- ▶ Every Friday
- Ladies Night @ Bagatelle
- ▶ Thursday, December 5
- DJ Yo One Sutterat Bonito
- Lady's First @ First
- Diner Cabaret with show girls at Ti St Barth
- Soley in live @ Les Coulisses, Gustavia
- Blues and Rock, with Manu Lanvin in live, from 11pm at First, Gustavia.
- ▶ Friday, December 6
- Soley in live @ Le Grain de Sel, Saline
- I Love Friday @ La Plage Restaurant, Dinner music with DJ Yo-One, Cristina's Pole Dancing Show, Wild Side Fashion Show @ La Plage Restaurant, Saint-Jean
- DJ Maxx-C at Bonito
- Live music with Pierre Nesta from 5 at Zen Bar, Do Brazil
- Madness Week End @Ti St Barth, Pointe Milou
- ▶ Saturday December 7
- Bikini Brunch, from 12pm, Music by DJ Yo-One @La Plage Restaurant
- Lunch with Live Music with Robb, from noon at Mango, Christopher Hotel
- DJ Yo One Sutter at Bonito, Gustavia
- Live Music with Soley & Co from 8pm at Taiwana
- Madness Week End @Ti St Barth, Pointe Milou
- ▶ Sunday, December 8
- Black Sunday @ First
- Live music with Pierre Nesta from 5 at Zen Bar, Do Brazil
- Live music for the Brunch with Robb from 11am @ Toiny Hotel.
- Live Music by Robb for dinner @ La Plage Restaurant

- Amazing Sunday "Caribbean Beach Party " @ Nikki Beach
- Live Music with Soley & Co from 8pm at Bonito
- ▶ Monday, December 9
- DeeJay Session from 3:00pm to 7pm @ Do Brazil
- ▶ Tuesday December 10
- Live music with Pierre Nesta from 5 at Zen Bar, Do Brazil, Gustavia
- Brazilian Evening : Live Music with Soley & Caravan Style, bossa-nova, samba... from 7:30pm @ Christopher
- DJ Yo One Sutterat Bonito,
- Pierre Nesta for the Sunset from 5:00pm @ Do Brazil
- Diner Cabaret with show girls at Ti St Barth
- ▶ Wednesday, December 11
- Live Music with Soley & Co from 8pm at Taiwana
- Diner Cabaret with show girls at Ti St Barth Pointe Milou
- ▶ Thursday, December 12
- Dinner with Live music with Pierre Nesta @ Do Brazil, Gustavia

## Night Club

- ▶ Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
- Dj K-RISM @ Yacht Club
- ▶ Friday & Saturday
- Dj Patris Geraud from St Tropez @ Yacht Club

## Fashion Show

- ▶ Daily Fashion Shows
- Fashion Show: every lunch & dinner, La Plage
- ▶ Every Tuesday
- 6:30pm: Fashion show at Case de l'Isle, Hotel Isle de France, Flamands
- ▶ Sunday, December
- Fashion Show Sunday from 2pm @ Nikki Beach, St Barth

## Exhibitions

- ▶ Through December 13
- Art Exhibition of KAY Quattrocchi for her collection Neutrinos & Higgs Boson at Christopher Hotel
- ▶ Through, December 15,
- Jean-Yves Lefort at Les Artisans, Gustavia
- Opening reception at 6pm, on Friday, November 29
- «Art, Text and Fire Poems,» Robert Montgomery, Jean-Charles de Castelbajac, and Blair Chivers at Eden Rock
- Raimundo Figueroa, La Vida Baila, a beautiful limited series of 12 unique small framed collage works
- Space SBH - Carré D'Or
- Dave Stevenson, Alain le Chatelier, Jean Yves Lefort at Les Artisans,
- Modernisme art & Antiques, Camaruche Gallery
- Wolfgang Ludes, Jean-Philippe Piter, Antoine Verglas at Clic Gallery, Gustavia
- Group show at Pipiri Palace, Gustavia
- Works by Cyrille Margarit, Nikki Beach
- Olivia Lerolle & Johanna Astrie at Do Brazil
- ▶ Art Galleries
- Modernisme art & Antiques, Camaruche Gallery
- TomBeachArtStudio,
- Clic Gallery, Gustavia
- Pipiri Palace, Gustavia
- Les Artisans, Gustavia
- SpaceSBH Gallery,
- ▶ Artist's Collection
- Pompei, Petit Cul de Sac
- Hannah Moser, Cul de Sac
- Mitchell Summer, Toiny
- Kay Quattrocchi, Salines



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	Saint Jean 05 90 29 02 12

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	SB Commuter 05 90 27 54 54
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	American Airlines 005995452040
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	Saint-Jean 05 90 27 75 81
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EDF (electricity company office)	05 90 29 80 81
Water system	05 90 27 60 33
Marine Reserve	06 90 31 70 73

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Property manager (Female) with over 12 years of experience, speaking French, English and Spanish is looking for property management. Serious references available upon request 0690 26 34 68 or Sevyone@hotmail.com

### Real Estate

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is within walking distance to restaurants, boutiques and Shell Beach. Offered at € 1,990,000. St. Barth Properties Sotheby's International Realty: 0590 29 75 05

For sale, property situated on the hillside in Vitet is set in a lush tropical garden. It features three bedrooms, three baths with pool and gazebo. Two additional bedrooms and one bath are located on the lower level and have a private entrance. It has excellent potential for annual rental.

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### **MASTHEAD**

Published by  
"Le Journal de Saint-Barth"  
issn-1766-9278

Ph. : 0590.27.65.19

stbarthweekly.com  
stbarthweekly@wanadoo.fr

Director & layout :  
Avigaël Haddad

Chief Editor:  
Hugo Lattard

English texts & Translations :  
Ellen Lampert Greaux

Photos : Rosemond Gréaux

Advertising :  
Nabil 0690 770 070

Impression : Prim Services



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