

*Live in the United States*

# LIBERA



The Wilbur Theatre

Boston, MA

April 1<sup>ST</sup> 2015 at 7:30pm



Joyful Joyful

How Can I Keep  
From Singing

Sanctus

Salva Me

Amazing Grace

Morning Has Broken

Voca Me

Exultate

The Prayer

## INTERVAL

Always With You

Song Of Life

Orinoco Flow

Wayfaring Stranger

How Great Thou Art

Wonderful World

Going Home

How Shall I Sing  
That Majesty



April 1<sup>ST</sup> 2015 |

The Wilbur Theatre

| 7:30 PM

– PLEASE NOTE –

Program subject to change. All forms of recording, video filming,  
photography, use of mobile phone cameras etc are strictly prohibited.

There will be an opportunity to purchase CDs/DVDs during the interval and at the end of the concert.



LIBERA



MARC ALVARES, SHAY BALSEKAR, CIARAN BRADBURY-HICKEY, MERLIN BROUWER, BENEDICT BYWATER, GABRIEL COLLINS, THOMAS DEL GADO-LITTLE, ALEX GULA, ADAM IZGHOUTI, MATTHEW JANSEN, TIMOTHY LEE, ISAAC LONDON, MATTHEW MADINE, ALESSANDRO MACKINNON BOTTI, JAMES MENEZES, MICHAEL MENEZES, ALEX MONTORO, CASSIUS O'CONNELL-WHITE, TAICHI SHINOKUBO, BERTRAMO SMART, CAMDEN STEWART, ROCCO TESEI, MARK USTYNOVYCH-REPA, JOSEPH WALSHE, SAM WIGGIN, LUCAS WOOD

Musical Director - Robert Prizeman

Assistant musical directors - Sam Coates & Steven Geraghty

Flute / Whistle -  
Candice Hamel

Percussion -  
Jonathan Ormston

Keyboard -  
Joshua Madine  
Steven Geraghty

Sound mixing & production - Sam Coates

Lighting - Luke Avery

Stage management - Jonathan Barrington & Simon Lewis

Stage direction - Steven Geraghty

Tour co-ordination and chaperone - Barbara Geraghty, Eleanor Lewis

Concert management - John Rexroad & Steven Philipp assisted by Lauren Booth

Production co-ordinator - Andrew Winter

With special thanks to the following:

John Boak, John Rexroad & Kent Ringler.

Nicholas Centanni, John Edward Henderson, Craig Kropp, Klaus Macherey, Wolfgang Macherey

Frank & Mimi Walsh



## THE MUSIC OF LIBERA

Libera is true to the meaning of its Latin title, 'Free', and crosses many musical boundaries. With original repertoire, innovative textures and inventive arrangements the group brings an imaginative new perspective to the landscape of vocal music.

The core of the sound is built around the voices of the young singers with their clarity, enthusiasm and excitement - the haunting yet vibrant sound of the treble voice that has long been a feature of choral music, particularly in the church. Indeed, the defining inspiration for Libera sprang from the ancient music of the cathedrals and monasteries - from the earliest form of choral music - plainchant. The boys' robes of course retain a visual continuation of that history and quite closely copy what the boy monks wore when they sang and were schooled in medieval monasteries. Libera often mixes the traditional chants with contemporary instrumentation and arrangement. Some songs are arrangements of well-known classical works. Although the originals cannot be bettered, some lend themselves to the uplifting sound and harmonies of the boys' treble voices.





## THE STORY OF THE CONCERT, THAT WAS MEANT TO BE

- (1) A friend told me several years ago I might like Libera, so I bought a CD. Recently, I bought a few more and that led to a chain of events I hadn't foreseen.
- (2) Recently (April 2014) I wanted to know more about the history behind the group Libera, so I visited their website: [www.libera.org.uk](http://www.libera.org.uk) and saw the US concerts listed at Mayo (MPAC) in Morristown, New Jersey, so I went on their website and purchased tickets.
- (3) When I failed to receive my tickets, I returned to the MPAC site to see who I should contact and located the concert schedule page for Libera. I noticed sponsorship opportunities and read about the MPAC mission and commitment to making the performing arts accessible to a diverse population and schools.
- (4) I contacted MPAC and was very disappointed to find out that just hours previously, the concert had been canceled due to technical issues.
- (5) As I drove home that night I wondered if perhaps this event might be a good opportunity to support two organizations that support children and the arts. So, with only hours to spare I decided to sponsor Libera's performance.
- (6) The concert went on and Libera shared their gift with many others.
- (7) I went on, to sponsor and provide a day in New York City for the boys, and several older former boys, now young men working as a stage manager, musicians in the orchestra or other support roles. I soon learned beyond nurturing talent, the group develops boys into great young men. Libera is as much focused on providing a lifetime of experi-

ences and opportunities to these wonderful boys as it is with creating a world class musical experience. I saw that Robert Prizeman – the founding musical director – pours all his energy into this endeavour, yet he insists that the boys be the focus – and that everyone should be equally committed to the goal of developing great young vocalists, young men willing to share their diverse talents with the world. This group truly loves what they do and cares for one another.



o one at Libera is in it for the money. The boys aren't paid, but rather participate in their free time and out of their love for singing and the amazing experiences they are privileged to be a part of. It really is like one large musical family. Everyone involved does it out of a deep commitment to the music and raising awareness to various causes by their participation. The talents of the Libera musical family impact the fundraising efforts of many other charities. Ironically, even though Libera has produced many recordings and has participated in many high profile events, they consistently lose money when they tour. This is where my involvement began and continues. In order for Libera to continue to tour and support other charities, they need to raise an endowment for their own organization in order to remain solvent.

I believe things are often predestined, and we just need to play our part. When I financially intervened with MPAC and Libera and sponsored their concert, I was really able to help two great organizations. We can all make a difference, and even the smallest contribution can affect change.

I always live by: "I can if" and "You can if" – Anonymous Sponsor. – Focus on the boys.



LIBERA

The boys who make up the South London based vocal band Libera have been described as “normal” and “ordinary”. However, as their recordings and performances demonstrate, the music they produce is anything but.

Familiar to audiences across the world, the boys have a stunningly original sound, which is at once both ancient and modern. Their distinctive flowing white robes symbolise the traditional origins of their style - yet their music reaches across the generations to a new mainstream audience. Libera's success in album charts around the world bears witness to the extraordinary appeal of this unique 'boy band'. Enchanting audiences wherever they go, they have attracted an enthusiastic fan base in many countries, particularly the US, UK, Japan, the Philippines and South Korea.

In the US & Canada, Libera are known through their concert tours and TV appearances including nationwide PBS specials, NBC 'Today' show and 'Tonight with Jay Leno.' The boys had their debut at the Kennedy Center Honors, where they performed in front of the President and a hall full of celebrities - including Robert de Niro, Cameron Diaz, Diana Ross and Steve Martin. The boys were privileged to close the Kennedy Center Honours with a moving tribute to honoree Brian Wilson of the Beach Boys. This was followed by Libera's participation in the Papal Mass at the climax of Pope Benedict XVI's first visit to the USA. Performing to a capacity congregation of 65,000 at New York's Yankee Stadium, Libera were the only British artists to take part in this historical event.



Libera have travelled across North America several times, appearing in venues as diverse as the Crystal Cathedral in California, the St Louis Basilica, St Paul and Minneapolis cathedrals, the Moody Church in Chicago, the Riverside Church in NYC and other venues both secular and sacred from Texas to Toronto. In their last full tour they opened the annual Starkey Awards Gala in the Twin Cities where they were featured artists on the same programme as Miley Cyrus and Meat Loaf.

The group is well known to British audiences through TV appearances and staged concerts at venues as diverse as the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London, the Grassington Festival, Abbey Road Studios and Arundel Cathedral. Recent appearances have included the Edinburgh Fringe festival, the National Concert Hall in Dublin and at St Peter's Cathedral in Belfast. Libera have made many TV appearances including BBC-TV's 'Last Choir Standing', on which the Libera boys were featured as guests. They were winners of the Saturday night show 'When Will I Be Famous' and had a whole documentary devoted to them on BBC-TV's 'Songs of Praise'. Other TV/Radio appearances have included BBC Breakfast and the Chris Evans Show. The boys are regularly to be heard on Classic FM and last Christmas scored the top classical song download at iTunes. Libera regularly sing at events and services in cathedrals and churches like Buckfast Abbey and Westminster Cathedral.

In South East Asia, the sounds of Libera are frequently heard in mainstream TV and radio programmes and their CDs, ride high in the classical and pop charts of countries like Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore and the Philippines. The boys have sung the music for several feature films and television programmes. On recent tours they packed out major concert venues in Tokyo, Seoul and Taipei, where the boys were feted by thousands of enthusiastic fans who queued for hours to meet them and collect autographs. During the recent tour in the Philippines, Libera topped the main album charts and sung to the major concert halls in Manila and Cebu crammed full with excitable fans.

Through their involvement in Libera, the boys have travelled the world, recorded movie soundtracks and CDs and served as backing singers to mega-stars. But, as one of the boys said, "The travelling and filming is fun but even if we didn't go anywhere I'd still want to do it because I just love singing."



Dear Friend of Libera:

If you are hearing Libera for the first time this evening, I hope the boys' performance is as impressive, perhaps even as moving, for you as it was for me when I first heard them live in concert. Of course, I had another reason for listening, as my son had recently joined and was singing with them in public for the first time. Libera changed his life. And Libera has impacted the lives of numerous other young men in their formative years, some of whom now join us backstage in helping to continue the traditions of this group.

This is a boy choir with a difference – not just vocally or stylistically. These boys volunteer of their time on evenings and weekends of their own free will. We are not a choir school; we are more like a boys club. The boys attend some 15 different schools in south London and then join us for rehearsals after school in the evenings and on weekends. We are not affiliated with any particular church, confession or denomination.

Our circumstances require that we ration carefully the limited time we have available to tour in any given calendar year. You can imagine our logistical headaches when trying to coordinate touring schedules. Nonetheless, we have been lucky enough to visit some amazing places whilst taking our music around the world. We are glad, and somewhat humbled, at the warmth of the reception we have received in so many places.

We would love to be able to tour more and to bring our music to even more people. However, we are restricted from doing so by our financial resources. We are enormously grateful for the time volunteered by parents and many other volunteers, to say nothing of the boys' time. However, ultimately we have to pay our bills – and taking the boys on tour is very expensive. We are keen that, wherever possible, tickets to our concerts should be available at relatively inexpensive prices. We even occasionally give free concerts – but this means that income from ticket sales is generally insufficient to cover the costs of touring with 25 boys and 10 support staff. Even in the UK we rarely cover the full cost of our concerts with income from ticket sales, so we rely on kind gifts from generous supporters.

Libera is a not-for-profit organization, registered as a charity in the United Kingdom. We have also applied for 501(c) 3 charity status in the US, to enable our friends across the pond to help us take this project forward. If you've enjoyed our music, perhaps you might consider joining our volunteer team in the US or making a donation to us, either as a one-off gift or on a regular monthly basis. Even small donations given on a regular basis are of great benefit as they allow us to plan prudently for the future.

Please check our relevant websites for more information, or feel free to contact me directly at [steven.philipp@libera.org.uk](mailto:steven.philipp@libera.org.uk).

The generosity of our supporters is what makes it possible to create and share the sound of Libera worldwide, simultaneously giving the boys a unique musical education, fantastic opportunities to perform, and friendships for life.

Thank you.

Steven R. Philipp

Chairman – for and on behalf of Libera  
[steven.philipp@libera.org.uk](mailto:steven.philipp@libera.org.uk)

## SUPPORTING LIBERA

Libera is a non-profit charity registered in the UK and as such is dependent on the generous financial support of its private listeners around the world. Without this support we would be unable to hold public concerts of this nature. The cost of training and touring is close to £5,000 per chorister per year, much of which is not recovered through royalties, ticket or album sales. If you wish to consider supporting Libera, or know of someone who might, we would be delighted to hear from you at [office@libera.org.uk](mailto:office@libera.org.uk) or in the USA at [libera.org](http://libera.org).



## oyful Joyful

Music based on theme from  
the 9th Symphony 'Choral'  
by Beethoven  
Words by Henry Van Dyke  
Arranged by  
Robert Prizeman

Jubilate Adoramus

Joyful joyful we adore thee  
God of glory Lord of love  
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee  
opening to the sun above  
melt the clouds of sin and sadness  
drive the dark of doubt away,  
giver of immortal gladness  
fill us with the light of day

All thy works with joy surround thee  
earth and heaven reflect thy rays  
Stars and angels sing around thee  
centre of unbroken praise  
Field and forest vale and mountain  
flowery meadow flashing sea,  
Singing bird and flowing fountain  
call us to rejoice in thee

Thou art giving and forgiving  
ever blessing ever blest  
well spring of the joy of living  
ocean depth of happy rest  
Thou our father Christ our brother  
all who live in love are thine  
Teach us how to love each other  
lift us to the joy divine



## anctus

Music based on 'Canon' by  
Johann Pachelbel  
Words traditional  
Arranged by  
Robert Prizeman

Sanctus  
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domine  
Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth  
pleni sunt coeli et terra Gloria



## mazing grace

Music traditional  
Words by John Newton  
Arranged by  
Robert Prizeman

Amazing grace how sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost but now am found  
was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed

Through many dangers toils and snares  
I have already come  
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far  
and grace will lead me home

When we've been there a thousand  
years  
bright shining as the sun  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we first begun



## Voca me

English Words & Music by  
Robert Prizeman  
Inspired by 'Stabat Mater'  
by Pergolesi and a chant  
fragment by Hildegard  
Von Bingen

As secret as a dream you call  
As silent as the night for all you cry  
Lacrymosa

Lacrymosa dies illa  
Dolorosa Domine  
Voca  
Voca Me

You whisper in my silent sleep  
You answer to my call when lost I cry  
Lacrymosa



## The Prayer

Music David Foster  
Words Carole Bayer Sager  
Arranged by Sam Coates



## How can I keep from singing

Words by Robert  
Wadsworth Lowry  
Music - trad  
Arranged by Robert Prizeman

My life flows on in endless song  
above earth's lamentation  
I hear the real though far-off hymn  
that hails a new creation  
No storm can shake my inmost calm  
while to that rock I'm clinging  
It sounds an echo in my soul  
how can I keep from singing?

What though the tempest loudly roars  
I know the truth it liveth  
What though the darkness round me close  
Songs in the night it giveth  
No storms can shake my inmost calm

while to that rock I'm clinging  
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth  
how can I keep from singing?

I lift my eyes, the cloud grows thin  
I see the blue above it  
and day by day this pathway smooths  
since first I learned to love it  
The peace and love makes fresh my heart  
a fountain ever springing  
All things are mine since I am his  
how can I keep from singing?







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# Join us for The Boys of Libera

## AUTOGRAPH LINE

The Boys will be taking a brief break to eat something and hydrate before signing autographs. If you are unable to wait to meet them, there are authentic autographed items available at the Libera gift concession.



## alva me

Words & Music  
by Robert Prizeman

Domine deus miserere mei

Carry me away  
From the dark I fear  
When the storm is near  
From the endless night  
From my blinded sight  
To a sky of light  
Free me to fly away  
Salva me

Carry me away  
From the things that harm  
On a sea of calm  
From the endless night  
From my blinded sight  
To a sky of light



## orning has broken

Music traditional  
Words by Eleanor Farjeon  
Arranged by Robert Prizeman



## xultate

Music by  
Robert Prizeman  
English words  
by Henry Burton

There's a light upon the mountains  
and the day is at the spring  
when our eyes shall see the wonder  
and the glory it will bring

et laudate Domino in laetitia  
et cantate Domino gloria  
saecula et saeculorum Alleluia

Hark we hear a distant music  
and it comes with fuller swell,  
tis the glorious song of heaven

and our fears it will dispel  
Angeli et archangeli, psallite et lau-  
date in hymnis et psalmis et canticis

We hear a distant music  
it comes with fuller swell  
For the angels here are human  
not the shining hosts above  
For the drumbeats of the army  
are the heart beats of our love

# INTERVAL



## lways with you

Music by Robert Prizeman  
Words by Robert Prizeman  
& Ben Crawley

Do you know me, who I am?  
I am always with you  
I am near you every day  
Always share what you do

Follow the path to anywhere  
A stranger in the world without you  
Forever I will be there  
The shadow you always knew

Beati quorum via, integra est.

If you think I've gone away  
And am never with you  
I am not so far away  
Always shadowing you

## ow great thou art

Words traditional  
translated by S Hine.  
Melody traditional  
arranged by S Hine  
This arrangement  
by Robert Prizeman

## rinoco flow

Music by Enya  
Words by Roma Ryan







## Going home

Based on Largo from the 9th symphony 'From the New World' by Antonin Dvorak  
Words by William Arms Fisher  
Arranged by Robert Prizeman

Going home, going home, I am going home  
Quiet like, some still day, I am going home  
It's not far, just close by, through an open door  
Work all done, care laid by, never fear no more  
Mother's there expecting me,  
Father's waiting too  
Lots of faces gathered there  
All the friends I knew  
I'm just going home  
No more fear, No more pain,  
No more stumbling by the way  
No more longing for the day  
Going to run no more  
Morning star lights the way  
Restless dreams all gone  
Shadows gone, break of day, real life has begun  
There's no break, there's no end  
Just a living on  
Wide awake, with a smile, going on and on  
Going home, going home, I am going home  
shadows gone break of day  
real life has begun  
I'm just going home



## Song of life

Music: Takatsugu Muramatsu  
Arranged Robert Prizeman  
Words: Robert Prizeman

There's a whisper in the dark  
as a new life comes to be  
Then a song begins to form  
as it finds the harmony  
With the chorus of sound  
of the world all around  
now it blends in the tune  
joining the endless song of life,

We shall never be alone  
as we link our hearts in one,  
Joining voices from above,  
all in the miracle of life,  
through the ages we will grow,  
only time will ever know,

as our voices magnify,  
all in the miracle of life

Love plays along in our lives yet to come  
as we join in the song of life.

Now the music starts to build  
as the words begin to rhyme  
then another lends a tune  
as their voices now combine  
With the chorus of sound  
of the world all around  
now they blend in their tune  
sharing the endless song of life,



## Wayfaring stranger

Words and music traditional  
arranged by Sam Coates

I am a poor wayfaring stranger  
a travelling though this world of woe  
But there's no sickness toil or danger  
in that bright land to which I go  
I'm going there to see my Father,  
I'm going there no more to roam.  
I'm just a going over Jordan,  
I'm just a going over home.

I know dark clouds will gather round me,  
I know my way is rough and steep,  
yet beauteous fields lie just before me,  
where those redeemed no more shall weep.  
I'm going there to see my mother  
she said she'd meet me when I come.  
I'm just a going over Jordan  
I'm just a going over home.

So I will wear a crown of glory  
when I get home to that good land  
and I will sing redemption's story  
in concert with that heavenly band  
I'm going there to see my brother  
I'm going there no more to roam  
I'm just a going over Jordan.  
I'm just a going over home.

## Wonderful World

Words & music by George  
David Weiss and Bob Thiele  
Arranged by Sam Coates



## How shall I sing that majesty

Music: Robert Prizeman  
Words: John Mason

How great a being  
which doth all beings keep  
Thy knowledge is the only line  
to sound so vast a deep

Thou art a sea without a shore  
a sun without a sphere  
Thy time is now and evermore  
Thy place is everywhere

How shall I sing that majesty  
which angels do admire?  
Let dust in dust and silence lie  
Sing, sing ye heavenly choir

Enlighten with faith my heart, inflame it with love's fire  
then shall I bear a part with that celestial choir





As with many long-standing traditions, the full story of where Libera's Moose mascot came from is a bit shrouded in mystery. Legend tells that a certain senior boy from time gone by received Moose as a Christmas present, and thus it was that Moose turned up one day in his travelling tin, complete with a smidgen of chocolate for the journey – for he was a Chocolate Moose

To this day, the very same moose travels the world with Libera as its ambassador. On occasion, Moose has been known to make stage appearances, but is usually hidden beneath a robe or in a secure hidey-hole back-stage. Some have speculated that the Libera Moose may suffer from stage fright, hence his desire to remain incognito. His well-worn fur shows years of hugs, and (embarrassingly) a few games of toss the moose. In reality, the Libera Moose has become a mascot for the boys, much like any iconic mascot of collegiate and professional sports. Like many boys, hours of practice require a little levity and distraction, which this little Eurasian elk provides.

Whether or not he understands Latin is another matter, but it is probable he speaks a variant of Moose-Latin, which may be his chosen language (with a British accent): Moosis, Moosum, Moosorum.

Libera's first official plush Moose was sold this year. He wears a Libera bandana with an official Libera medieval "L", and was introduced as part of the 2014 filming of the group's concert in Washington DC. You will have to watch the DVD carefully to see if he appears on stage. Most likely he will be lurking around somewhere, just out of the spotlight. As Libera is comprised of younger boys and older ones, there is a small-singer version and a large-singer version. Only 200 of each have been produced and then he will retire that special bandana and we will have to see what next transpires. Given the choral group's worldwide appeal, it is fitting that the first two Libera Moose went to Australia, while the second two travelled to the Philippines. Fans are now beginning to send in Moose sightings from around the world, where Moose is popping up at unlikely spots and events. We hope you will choose to share your Libera Moose sightings or pictures with us, and know that Libera supporters will have as much fun with their plush moose as the Libera boys have had.







**Marc Alvares**  
*Really looking forward to the roller coasters that I hope we'll go on!*



**Shay Balsekar**  
*I'm happy to see the American sunshine.*



**Ciaran Bradbury-Hickey**  
*Looking forward to the tasty pretzels.*



**Merlin Brouwer**  
*I'm going to enjoy singing in the wonderful places.*



**Benedict Bywater**  
*Excited for my first trip away.*



**Gabriel Collins**  
*Thinking of my Cat Crackers.*



**Thomas Delgado-Little**  
*I'm really going to enjoy the singing & free time with my friends.*



**Alexander Gula**  
*I'm going to enjoy performing again in America.*



**Adam Izghouti**  
*I'm interested in the experience of two weeks away from home.*



**Matthew Jansen**  
*I will like doing new harmony parts now my voice is lower.*



**Timothy Lee**  
*I am happy to be in America again.*



**Isaac London**  
*I can't wait to perform in front of the friendly audiences.*



**Alessandro Mackinnon-Botti**  
*I love doing the concerts and activities with my friends.*



**Matthew Madine**  
*Thinking of my family when I perform.*



**James Menezes**  
*I'm excited to see what America is like for my first tour.*



**Michael Menezes**  
*I'm looking forward to playing basketball with some Americans!*



**Alexander Montoro**  
*I can't wait to see all the different places.*



**Cassius O'Connell-White**  
*There's nothing like a good American BUFFET!*



**Taichi Shinokubo**  
*I'm so excited to go to America away from my family, who I'll miss.*



**Bertramo Smart**  
*I'll miss my dog Django.*



**Camden Stewart**  
*Can't wait to play in the playgrounds that are better than at home.*



**Rocco Tesei**  
*America will be very much fun!*



**Mark Ustynovych-Repa**  
*Thinking of my dog Pickles when I perform.*



**Joseph Walshe**  
*Really going to miss my cat and dog but happy to try my first time away.*



**Samuel Wiggin**  
*I wish my family could be here with us.*



**Lucas Wood**  
*I'm getting ready for the water parks - I hope!*



**John Boak**  
Honorary Trustee

**Kent Ringler**  
Founding Member

The Libera family wishes to thank the generous contributions of these individuals, and the ongoing support and donations which enable the boys of Libera to perform and record their music.

**LEADERSHIP CIRCLE**

Mimi & Frank Walsh  
Nicholas Centanni  
Craig Kropp  
John Edward Henderson

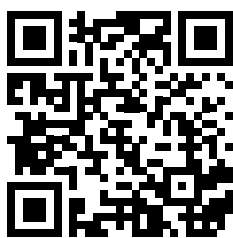
**BENEFACTOR**

Patrick Marcouly  
Chris Carter  
Harry Trimble  
Thomas Lindner  
Stephen Kemp

**ANGEL**

Morgan Smith, Jr  
Yuki Tanaka  
Father Robert Duesdieker  
James Mcsparran  
Klaus Macherey  
Wolfgang Macherey

**WATCH VIDEO**



What a  
Wonderful World



**Hit Single**



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