Disney Beauty And The Beast Handbook

disney beauty and the beast is a timeless animated classic that has captivated audiences around the world for decades. From its enchanting story and memorable characters to its stunning animation and memorable music, Disney?s Beauty and the Beast remains a beloved masterpiece in the realm of animated films. This article explores the origins, themes, characters, and cultural impact of Disney?s Beauty and the Beast, providing a comprehensive understanding of why this film continues to enchant viewers of all ages.

Origins and Development of Disney?s Beauty and the Beast

The Original Fairy Tale

The story of Beauty and the Beast originates from European folklore, with versions dating back centuries. The most famous literary adaptation is Gabrielle-Suzanne Barbot de Villeneuve?s 1740 version, later abridged and adapted by Jeanne-Marie Leprince de Beaumont in 1756. These tales revolve around themes of love, redemption, and inner beauty, laying the foundation for Disney?s adaptation.

Disney?s Adaptation

Disney?s Beauty and the Beast was released in 1991 as the 30th animated feature in the Walt Disney Animated Classics series. Directed by Gary Trousdale and Kirk Wise, the film was inspired by the 1990 Broadway musical, which itself drew from the original fairy tale. Disney?s adaptation modernized and enriched the story, emphasizing themes of acceptance, kindness, and personal growth.

Production and Animation

The film was notable for its groundbreaking animation techniques, expressive character designs, and lush backgrounds. Disney?s team combined traditional hand-drawn animation with innovative computer-generated imagery to create a vibrant and immersive world. The film?s meticulous craftsmanship contributed to its critical and commercial success.

Plot Summary

The story follows Belle, a kind-hearted young woman who dreams of adventure beyond her provincial town. Her life changes when she encounters a mysterious Beast who has been cursed and transformed. Despite appearances, Belle recognizes the Beast?s true nature and forms a bond

with him, leading to a tale of love, transformation, and redemption.

Key Characters in Disney?s Beauty and the Beast

Belle

A beautiful, intelligent, and independent young woman, Belle is known for her love of reading and her desire for adventure. Her kindness and open-mindedness allow her to see beyond superficial appearances.

The Beast

Once a handsome prince, the Beast was cursed due to his arrogance and cruelty. His exterior is intimidating, but beneath it lies a kind and gentle soul seeking love and acceptance.

Supporting Characters

- **Gaston:** The arrogant and vain hunter who desires Belle for himself.
- **Mrs. Potts:** The warm, motherly teapot who cares for Belle and the enchanted household.
- **Lumière:** The charming candlestick who is one of the Beast?s loyal servants.
- **Cogsworth:** The meticulous clock and head of the household staff.
- **Maurice:** Belle?s loving and inventive father who inadvertently brings her to the Beast?s castle.

Themes and Messages of Disney?s Beauty and the Beast

Inner Beauty and Personal Growth

One of the central messages of the film is that true beauty comes from within. Belle?s ability to look beyond appearances and see the goodness in the Beast underscores the importance of inner qualities.

Love and Redemption

The story illustrates how love can lead to redemption, breaking curses and transforming lives. The Beast?s transformation back into a prince symbolizes the power of love and kindness.

Acceptance and Tolerance

The film promotes accepting others for who they are, regardless of their outward appearance or social status. Belle?s acceptance of the Beast exemplifies this message.

Overcoming Prejudice

Gaston?s obsession with superficial beauty and his intolerance highlight the dangers of prejudice, contrasting with Belle?s open-mindedness.

Musical Highlights

Disney?s Beauty and the Beast is renowned for its memorable soundtrack, which has become iconic in its own right.

Key Songs

- **Beauty and the Beast:** The title song, performed by Angela Lansbury and later by Celine Dion and Peabo Bryson, epitomizes the film?s romantic essence.
- **Be Our Guest:** An energetic and entertaining number showcasing Lumière and the enchanted household?s hospitality.
- **Something There:** Belle and the Beast?s growing affection is expressed in this charming duet.
- **Gaston:** A humorous song highlighting Gaston?s narcissism.

Cultural Impact and Legacy

Critical Acclaim and Awards

Beauty and the Beast was the first animated film to be nominated for the Academy Award for Best Picture, marking a milestone in animation history. It received two Oscars for Best Original Score and Best Original Song (Beauty and the Beast).

Influence on Disney and Animation

The film set new standards for animated storytelling, proving that animated features could be both critically acclaimed and commercially successful. It paved the way for future Disney classics like The Lion King and Aladdin.

Enduring Popularity

Decades after its initial release, Beauty and the Beast remains popular through various mediums:

- Re-releases in theaters and on home video
- Stage adaptations, including the highly successful Broadway musical

- Merchandise and themed attractions at Disney parks
- Remake into a live-action film in 2017 starring Emma Watson and Dan Stevens

Disney?s Beauty and the Beast in Modern Media

Live-Action Remake

The 2017 live-action adaptation brought a new dimension to the beloved story, featuring contemporary visuals, expanded character development, and new songs. Directed by Bill Condon, it was a box office hit and received positive reviews from fans and critics alike.

Merchandise and Cultural References

The film?s characters and songs have become embedded in popular culture, inspiring merchandise, theme park attractions, and references in various media.

Conclusion

Disney?s Beauty and the Beast stands as a shining example of storytelling, animation, and musical excellence. Its universal themes of love, acceptance, and inner beauty continue to resonate with audiences worldwide. Whether experienced as a film, stage show, or through merchandise, Beauty and the Beast remains a cherished part of Disney?s legacy and a testament to the enduring power of fairy tales.

Keywords: Disney Beauty and the Beast, animated classic, fairy tale adaptation, Disney movies, love and redemption, inner beauty, Disney musical, live-action remake, Disney characters, animated films.

Disney Beauty and the Beast stands as one of the most beloved animated classics and a defining masterpiece within the Disney canon. With its enchanting storytelling, memorable characters, and timeless music, it has captured the hearts of audiences across generations. This article offers a comprehensive exploration of Disney's Beauty and the Beast, delving into its origins, themes, characters, cultural impact, and enduring legacy.

Origins and Development of Disney?s Beauty and the Beast

Disney?s Beauty and the Beast originated from a rich tradition of fairy tales, most notably the 18th-century French story La Belle et la Bête by Jeanne-Marie Leprince de Beaumont. The tale has numerous adaptations, but Disney?s version, released in 1991, is distinguished by its vibrant animation, compelling storytelling, and musical score.

The Creative Process

- Screenwriting and Adaptation: Disney?s team crafted a screenplay that balanced humor, romance, and moral lessons, making it accessible to both children and adults.
- Animation Innovations: The film showcased groundbreaking animation techniques, including the use of computer-generated imagery (CGI) to animate the Beast?s fur and other intricate details.
- Music and Songs: The score, composed by Alan Menken with lyrics by Howard Ashman, became iconic. Songs like ?Beauty and the Beast? and ?Be Our Guest? are now classics.

Themes and Messages

Disney?s Beauty and the Beast explores several universal themes that resonate deeply with audiences:

Inner Beauty vs. Outer Beauty

The central moral emphasizes that true beauty is found within. The Beast?s transformation from a cursed prince to his true self symbolizes the importance of kindness, compassion, and understanding.

Love and Redemption

The story suggests that love has the power to redeem and transform. Belle?s acceptance of the Beast, despite his frightening appearance, exemplifies genuine love and empathy.

Prejudice and Acceptance

The film highlights the dangers of superficial judgments and advocates for looking beyond appearances to understand one?s true character.

Character Breakdown

Belle

- Personality Traits: Intelligent, curious, independent, kind-hearted.
- Role in the Story: Belle?s love for reading and her willingness to see beyond the surface help break the curse on the Beast.
- Cultural Impact: Belle has become a symbol of inner strength and the importance of valuing intellect and personality over superficial beauty.

The Beast

- Character Arc: From a vain, selfish prince to a loving, self-aware individual.
- Symbolism: Represents the idea that inner goodness is what truly matters, and that redemption is possible through love and humility.

Lumière, Cogsworth, Mrs. Potts, and Other Enchantments

- Supporting Cast: These enchanted objects add humor, wisdom, and warmth to the narrative, enriching the story?s depth and appeal.

Musical Score and Iconic Songs

Music is a core element of Beauty and the Beast, elevating its storytelling:

- ?Beauty and the Beast?: The romantic ballad that became a worldwide hit, capturing the film?s essence.
- ?Be Our Guest?: A lively, show-stopping number showcasing the enchanted castle?s hospitality.
- ?Something There?: A tender duet illustrating the growing affection between Belle and the Beast.

The soundtrack?s success contributed to the film?s critical acclaim and commercial success, earning multiple awards, including two Academy Awards.

Cultural Impact and Critical Reception

Box Office and Awards

- Beauty and the Beast was the first animated film to be nominated for the Academy Award for Best Picture.
- It grossed over $400 million worldwide, establishing Disney?s animation renaissance.

Legacy and Influence

- The film redefined what animated movies could achieve artistically and commercially.

- It inspired numerous stage adaptations, including a highly successful Broadway musical that debuted in 1994.
- The story?s themes continue to influence popular culture, inspiring merchandise, theme park attractions, and new adaptations.

Adaptations and Spin-Offs

Beyond the original animated feature, Beauty and the Beast has expanded into various formats:

- Live-Action Film (2017): Starring Emma Watson as Belle, this adaptation brought the story to a new generation with updated visuals and a contemporary sensibility.
- Stage Productions: The Broadway musical and touring versions have introduced the story to theater audiences worldwide.
- Literary and Comic Adaptations: Numerous books and comics have retold or expanded upon the story?s universe.

Lessons from Disney?s Beauty and the Beast

The enduring appeal of Beauty and the Beast lies in its ability to teach valuable lessons:

- Look Beyond Surface Appearances: True beauty is found in kindness, integrity, and compassion.
- Value Inner Qualities: Intelligence, bravery, and empathy are more meaningful than superficial attributes.
- Love Has Transformative Power: Genuine love can heal wounds and bring about growth and redemption.

Why Beauty and the Beast Remains a Timeless Classic

Several factors contribute to the film?s lasting legacy:

- Universal Themes: Its messages about love, acceptance, and inner beauty are timeless and universally relatable.
- Memorable Music: The soundtrack continues to resonate across generations.
- Innovative Animation: Technological advancements raised the bar for animated filmmaking.
- Strong Character Development: Characters are multi-dimensional, making their journeys compelling and emotionally impactful.
- Cultural Resonance: The film?s motifs and quotes have permeated popular culture.

Conclusion

Disney Beauty and the Beast exemplifies the power of storytelling, animation, and music to craft a narrative that transcends time. Its combination of enchanting visuals, heartfelt characters, and meaningful themes cements its place as a classic that continues to enchant audiences worldwide. Whether experienced as a film, stage production, or cultural reference, Beauty and the Beast remains a shining example of Disney?s storytelling mastery and its ability to inspire and uplift audiences of all ages.

QuestionAnswer What is the main plot of Disney's Beauty and the Beast? Disney's Beauty and the Beast tells the story of Belle, a young woman who is taken prisoner by a Beast in his castle. Despite her initial fears, she befriends the castle's enchanted staff and learns to look beyond the Beast's exterior to recognize the kind heart within, ultimately breaking the curse that transformed him. When was Disney's Beauty and the Beast originally released? The original animated film was released in 1991, and it is considered one of Disney's classic animated features. Who are the main voice actors in Disney's Beauty and the Beast (1991)? Robby Benson voiced Beast, and Paige O'Hara provided the voice for Belle. Other notable voice actors include Richard White as Gaston and Jerry Orbach as Lumière. Is Disney's Beauty and the Beast based on a fairy tale? Yes, the film is based on the French fairy tale 'La Belle et la Bête' by Jeanne-Marie Leprince de Beaumont. Has Disney's Beauty and the Beast been adapted into a live-action version? Yes, Disney released a live-action adaptation in 2017 starring Emma Watson as Belle and Dan Stevens as the Beast. What awards did Disney's Beauty and the Beast (1991) win? The film was the first animated feature to be nominated for the Academy Award for Best Picture and won two Oscars for Best Original Song ('Beauty and the Beast') and Best Original Score. What are some popular songs from Disney's Beauty and the Beast? Some of the most popular songs include 'Beauty and the Beast,' 'Be Our Guest,' 'Belle,' and 'Gaston.' Why is Disney's Beauty and the Beast considered a classic? It's celebrated for its compelling story, memorable characters, beautiful animation, and iconic music, making it a beloved Disney animated masterpiece that has stood the test of time.

Related keywords: Disney, Beauty and the Beast, Disney movies, animated film, fairy tale, princess, enchanted castle, talking objects, musical, romantic fantasy

DISNEY A TO Z THE OFFICIAL ENCYCLOPEDIA DISNEY ED

disney a to z the official encyclopedia disney ed is an essential resource for Disney enthusiasts, collectors, and anyone interested in the vast universe of Disney characters, movies, theme parks, and history. This comprehensive encyclopedia serves as a definitive guide, offering detailed information on everything Disney, from its earliest days to its latest innovations. Whether you're a

lifelong fan or a newcomer eager to explore the magic, this book provides an organized, authoritative, and engaging overview of Disney's rich legacy.

Introduction to Disney A to Z: The Official Encyclopedia

Disney A to Z: The Official Encyclopedia is a meticulously curated reference guide that catalogs the expansive world of Disney. Published by Disney Editions, this encyclopedia is designed to be both informative and accessible, making it an invaluable resource for fans, scholars, and casual readers alike. With thousands of entries, illustrations, and historical insights, it captures the essence of Disney's storytelling, characters, and cultural impact.

Scope and Content of Disney A to Z

The encyclopedia covers a broad spectrum of Disney-related topics, organized alphabetically for easy navigation. Its content includes, but is not limited to:

- Disney Characters
- Movies and Shorts
- Theme Parks and Resorts
- Historical Milestones
- Creative Teams and Voice Actors
- Merchandise and Collectibles
- TV Shows and Media
- Innovations and Technology

This structure ensures that readers can find detailed information about specific topics or browse broadly to discover new facets of Disney's universe.

Notable Features of Disney A to Z

Some of the most impressive aspects of this encyclopedia include:

Comprehensive Entries

Each entry provides in-depth descriptions, historical context, and interesting trivia. For example, entries on characters like Mickey Mouse include their origins, evolution, and cultural significance.

Illustrations and Photographs

The book is richly illustrated with original artwork, concept sketches, and rare photographs that bring

Disney's history to life.

Timelines and Historical Overviews

Detailed timelines highlight key milestones, such as the debut of major characters or the opening of iconic theme parks.

Exclusive Interviews and Quotes

Some editions include insights from Disney creators, voice actors, and industry insiders, adding depth and authenticity.

Key Areas Covered in the Encyclopedia

Disney Characters

From classic icons like Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse to modern favorites like Elsa and Moana, the encyclopedia offers detailed profiles, including character backgrounds, voice actors, and appearances across media.

Animated Films and Shorts

Learn about the history and development of Disney's animated classics, from "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" to recent successes like "Frozen" and "Encanto." It includes information on production, reception, and cultural impact.

Theme Parks and Resorts

Discover the origins and evolution of Disney's theme parks worldwide, including Disneyland, Walt Disney World, and newer expansions like Shanghai Disney. This section covers attractions, park design, and visitor experiences.

Historical Milestones

Key moments such as Disney's founding in 1923, the creation of Disneyland in 1955, and technological innovations like Disney's use of CGI are thoroughly documented.

Creative Teams and Influencers

Profiles of legendary Disney animators, directors, and writers, including Walt Disney himself, shed light on the creative process behind the magic.

Merchandise and Collectibles

Explore the evolution of Disney merchandise, from vintage toys to contemporary collectibles, and their role in Disney's brand expansion.

Television and Media

Coverage of Disney's TV programming, including classics like "The Mickey Mouse Club," and modern hits like "Disney Channel" and streaming services like Disney+.

Technological Innovations

Details on Disney?s use of cutting-edge technology in animation, theme park attractions, and media distribution.

Using Disney A to Z for Research and Exploration

The encyclopedia is not just a reference but also a tool for discovery. It allows readers to:

- Trace the development of iconic characters and stories.
- Understand Disney?s influence on popular culture and entertainment.
- Learn about the technological advancements that shaped Disney?s productions.
- Explore the history and expansion of Disney theme parks worldwide.
- Gain insights into Disney?s business strategies and brand evolution.

Why Disney A to Z is a Must-Have

For fans and collectors, owning Disney A to Z is akin to possessing a treasure trove of Disney history. Its thoroughness and authoritative voice make it a trusted source for research, school projects, or personal enjoyment. Additionally, the book serves as a perfect gift for Disney enthusiasts, offering both nostalgia and new discoveries.

Summary and Final Thoughts

In conclusion, Disney A to Z: The Official Encyclopedia Disney Ed is a comprehensive, well-organized, and beautifully illustrated guide that captures the magic and complexity of Disney's universe. Whether you're interested in the origins of beloved characters, the evolution of animated films, or the grandeur of Disney theme parks, this encyclopedia provides detailed insights and fascinating stories. Its rich content makes it an essential reference for anyone passionate about Disney?s legacy and ongoing innovation.

Additional Tips for Using Disney A to Z

- Use the alphabetical index to quickly locate specific entries.
- Cross-reference entries for related topics, such as characters and movies.
- Explore the timelines for a chronological understanding of Disney history.
- Pay attention to sidebars and special features for bonus trivia and behind-the-scenes stories.

By delving into Disney A to Z: The Official Encyclopedia Disney Ed, you gain a deeper appreciation of the artistry, innovation, and storytelling that have made Disney a beloved cultural phenomenon worldwide.

Disney A to Z: The Official Encyclopedia Disney ED stands as a comprehensive treasure trove for Disney aficionados, casual fans, and scholars alike. This authoritative resource offers an expansive and detailed exploration of the vast Disney universe, covering everything from beloved characters and iconic movies to theme parks, merchandise, and behind-the-scenes insights. Whether you're a lifelong Disney enthusiast seeking to deepen your knowledge or a newcomer eager to explore the magic, this encyclopedia serves as an essential guide that captures the spirit, history, and cultural impact of Disney.

In this article, we will delve into the significance of Disney A to Z: The Official Encyclopedia Disney ED, analyze its structure and content, and provide a detailed overview of what makes it an invaluable resource for fans and researchers. We will also discuss how to navigate the encyclopedia effectively to maximize your Disney knowledge journey.

What is Disney A to Z: The Official Encyclopedia Disney ED?

Disney A to Z: The Official Encyclopedia Disney ED is a meticulously crafted reference book that chronicles the entire Disney universe. Published with the endorsement of The Walt Disney Company, it features authoritative entries that span decades of Disney history, characters, movies, theme parks, television shows, merchandise, and notable personalities. Its aim is to serve as a definitive guide, providing accurate and engaging information for readers of all ages.

Origins and Purpose

The encyclopedia was developed to compile Disney?s rich heritage into a single, accessible volume. It was created by Disney experts, historians, and writers dedicated to preserving and celebrating Disney?s legacy. The goal was to produce a resource that not only cataloged facts but also contextualized Disney?s cultural significance.

Who Should Use This Encyclopedia?

- Disney Fans and Collectors: To deepen their appreciation and understanding of Disney?s expansive universe.
- Students and Researchers: To gather accurate information for academic projects or research.
- Parents and Educators: To introduce children to Disney history and stories in an informative way.
- Casual Readers: To explore interesting facts and discover new facets of Disney?s storytelling.

Structure and Content of the Encyclopedia

Disney A to Z: The Official Encyclopedia Disney ED is typically organized alphabetically, much like a traditional encyclopedia. This structure allows for easy navigation and quick access to specific topics. Each entry is richly detailed, often including historical context, significance, and fun trivia.

Main Sections and Features

While the core of the encyclopedia is alphabetical, it also features specialized sections such as:

- Character Profiles: In-depth descriptions of Disney characters, their origins, and development.
- Film and TV Guides: Summaries and behind-the-scenes insights into Disney movies and shows.
- Theme Park and Resort Entries: Details about Disney?s global parks, attractions, and resort experiences.
- Merchandise and Brands: Information on Disney merchandise, licensing, and iconic brands.
- Legacy and Cultural Impact: Essays and entries that analyze Disney?s influence on entertainment and culture.

Notable Content Highlights

- Character Entries: From Mickey Mouse to Moana, each character?s creation story, personality traits, and significance are explored.
- Filmography: Detailed overviews of Disney animated classics, live-action movies, and recent hits.
- Historical Events: Key milestones in Disney?s history, including the founding, major acquisitions, and technological innovations.
- Theme Park Innovations: Entries on iconic rides, attractions, and park development milestones.
- Behind-the-Scenes Insights: Anecdotes and facts about Disney?s creative process, voice actors, and production techniques.

Navigating the Encyclopedia Effectively

To make the most of Disney A to Z: The Official Encyclopedia Disney ED, consider the following tips:

Use the Index and Appendices

Start with the comprehensive index for quick lookups. Appendices typically include timelines, lists of Disney films, or glossaries of terms, which can be excellent for quick reference.

Explore by Category

While alphabetical order is standard, many editions also categorize entries by themes:

- Characters
- Films
- Theme Parks
- Merchandise
- Disney Legends

This cross-referencing allows for thematic exploration and can deepen your understanding of specific areas.

Dive Into Featured Articles

Look for special features or essays that provide deeper insights into Disney?s history, technological advances, or cultural influence. These often contextualize individual entries within broader narratives.

Use for Research or Entertainment

- Research Purpose: Cross-reference entries to verify facts or gather detailed historical data.
- Entertainment Purpose: Read interesting trivia, character backstories, or about Disney?s innovations to enrich your Disney experience.

Why Disney A to Z: The Official Encyclopedia Disney ED Is a Must-Have

Comprehensive and Accurate

Unlike online summaries or fan compilations, this encyclopedia offers verified, well-researched information. Its authoritative tone ensures reliability, making it a trusted resource for serious fans

and scholars.

Rich Illustrations and Visuals

Most editions include colorful images, concept art, photographs from movies and parks, and character sketches, which enhance the reading experience and provide visual context.

Up-to-Date Content

The encyclopedia is regularly revised to include recent Disney movies, attractions, and developments, ensuring readers stay current with Disney?s evolving universe.

Cultural and Historical Significance

Beyond entertainment facts, the encyclopedia delves into Disney?s impact on society, animation technology, and storytelling innovations, making it a meaningful resource for understanding Disney?s place in modern culture.

Final Thoughts: Embracing the Magic of Disney Through Knowledge

Disney A to Z: The Official Encyclopedia Disney ED is more than just a reference book?it?s a celebration of Disney?s magic, creativity, and legacy. Whether you are seeking factual information, behind-the-scenes stories, or just a delightful read, this encyclopedia invites you into a world where imagination knows no bounds.

By exploring its pages, fans can deepen their appreciation for Disney?s storytelling mastery and historical significance. For educators and parents, it offers a valuable tool for introducing children to the rich history behind their favorite characters and stories. For researchers, it provides a reliable foundation for academic work.

In the end, this encyclopedia embodies Disney?s mission: to entertain, educate, and inspire. It is an essential addition to any Disney collection and a gateway to discovering the endless wonders of the Disney universe.

Embark on your Disney journey today with the official guide that has captured the essence of Disney from A to Z?because the magic is just a page away.

QuestionAnswer What is 'Disney A to Z: The Official Encyclopedia'? 'Disney A to Z: The Official Encyclopedia' is a comprehensive guidebook that provides detailed information about Disney characters, movies, theme parks, and history, serving as an authoritative resource for Disney fans. Who is the author of 'Disney A to Z: The Official Encyclopedia'? The encyclopedia was compiled and

written by Disney experts and historians, with contributions from Disney Publishing Worldwide, ensuring accurate and official content. What kind of content can I expect to find in the book? The book includes entries on Disney characters, movies, theme parks, attractions, animation history, and behind-the-scenes stories, all organized alphabetically for easy reference. Is 'Disney A to Z' suitable for all age groups? While primarily aimed at Disney enthusiasts and older readers, the book's rich content and illustrations make it enjoyable for fans of all ages interested in Disney's history and universe. How has 'Disney A to Z' evolved over its editions? Each new edition has expanded to include the latest Disney movies, characters, and theme park developments, reflecting Disney's ongoing growth and updates. Can I use 'Disney A to Z' as a reference for Disney trivia or research? Absolutely. The encyclopedia is a trusted resource for accurate Disney facts, making it ideal for trivia, academic research, or deepening your Disney knowledge. Where can I purchase 'Disney A to Z: The Official Encyclopedia'? You can find the book at major bookstores, online retailers like Amazon, or directly through Disney's official merchandise stores. Are there digital or e-book versions available? Yes, 'Disney A to Z' is available in digital formats and e-books, allowing readers to access the content conveniently on various devices.

Related keywords: Disney, encyclopedia, A to Z, official, Disney Ed, animated films, characters, theme parks, history, merchandise

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