



**HOW BEAUTIFUL IS YOUR JOURNEY  
TO THE CROSS  
MY BELOVED JESUS**



Translated by  
**Marina Hanna**  
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**HOW BEAUTIFUL IS YOUR JOURNEY  
TO THE CROSS  
MY BELOVED JESUS**

**Within this book are thirteen letters written from a child to the crucified  
Jesus Christ during the Holy Week of Pascha.**

2012

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1. The Last Friday of the Great Lent  
**I look forward to  
accompanying You Jesus.**

*My Beloved Lord,*

Allow me to accompany You in Your journey to the cross.

My Lord and my beloved God, for my sake, You became a Man.

For my sake, You became a Child like me and lived in the world.

For my sake, You fasted to bless my fasting and to teach me the ways of self-discipline.

Now today I think of You, because I love You and when I fast, I fast for You. You teach us that fasting is not simply about the foods we do and do not eat, but rather it is about our actions as Christians, and what we do to better our relationship with You, our Father. When the fast of the Great Lent comes to an end, on the last Friday, I participate in prayer on behalf of all of the sick people. Although this day of prayer may seem long and tiring, it does not compare to the suffering that You endured on the cross for us. For You alone, are the Divine Doctor of my soul and my body.

Every day I live, is another day that passes as I look forward to my salvation. You taught me to love my friends and to love my enemies, and pray for the well-being of all those who surround me.

Lord, teach me to be just like You, and love all mankind.

*Sincerely,  
Your Young Child*





## 2. Lazarus Saturday

# Why Haven't You Recovered Dear Lazarus?

*My Dear Jesus,*

My sisters Mary and Martha came running to You to inform You that Your beloved Lazarus was sick. I know how much You loved this family, so why didn't You rush quickly to heal Lazarus from his sickness? You kept busy with crowds of people, witnessing Your divine love, yet You did not seem concerned with Lazarus and his illness. Lord, I am confused and puzzled.

After four days passed, following the death of Lazarus, You visited his sisters and Your dear friends, Mary and Martha. As soon as Martha heard the news of Your coming, she rushed to meet You and left all of the mourners at her house. Martha was extremely sad, and said, "If You were here, my brother would not have died. You are the Resurrection and the Life of the coming age, may You bring him back to life."

Once Martha came back to her house and told Mary that You came near their house. They came together to You. When You saw them weeping, You shed tears because You loved them so much. That was when I realized how much You love me and all Your children of the world.

You went with Mary and Martha and all the mourners to the grave.

My Lord, You stood at the grave of Your dear friend Lazarus, and raised Your eyes to the Father, letting all the people around You know that You and the Father are One. You then proceeded to ask your disciples and the mourners to remove the stone from the door of the tomb of Lazarus. Martha shouted that Lazarus' body has decayed, and that the smell was too awful to bear. But You continued and said, "Lazarus come forth!"





Everyone stood in astonishment; the previous, rancid smell disappeared and left a pleasant, sweet smell behind.

My Lord Jesus, You brought the dead to life, and You brightened the face of Lazarus. You are amazing God, and I look forward to hearing Your voice one day. I learned from this message that sin offers the same rancid smell as a dead body, but Lord Your sweet voice gives me hope for life. I want my heart and my mind to be filled with Your word and Your presence.

*With Joy,  
Your Faithful Servant*





### 3. In the House of Lazarus

## The Beautiful Aroma of the Anointed!

*My Sweet Savior,*

After You raised Lazarus from the dead, the crowd of people participating in the funeral procession transformed the sadness into a parade of joy. I want to be with You in the simple village of Bethany, and be among Your disciples of whom You love so much.

My Lord Jesus, it is still so hard for me to fathom all that You have done for me. For my sake You became poor on this earth, meanwhile up in heaven You are the King of Kings and the Creator of all the heavens and the earth.

When you brought Lazarus to life, the disciples were all in astonishment, and Mary anointed Your feet with precious oil and wiped them with her hair. I have never heard of a woman doing such things, but she loved You so much and wanted to show You her love.

Lord, I too want to show you my love. Lord, Mary gave her whole heart to You, teach me to love You the way Mary loved you. Teach me to love you unconditionally.

Mary filled the house with luxurious aromas to celebrate, but Judas was bitter. He loved money so much, and thought that this was a waste of money and that it should have been given to the poor instead. Lord, teach me not to be bitter when things do not go the way I think they should, help me to remember that Your will is all that matters.

My beloved Lord, I pray that You live in my heart today and always. Make my heart Your home and dwell in it continuously. I owe You my heart, mind, body, and soul. I fear not the devil, for I know You are always with me.

*Love,  
Your Child*





#### 4. Palm Sunday

## Take Me With You Wherever You go!

*My Beloved Savior,*

I heard You were going to Jerusalem before the Passover festival. I am looking forward to being with You, wherever You go.

The shepherds have entered the city from all the various gates of Jerusalem to lead the lambs, and hundreds of thousands of lambs are sold for the families during the Festival of Pasch.

Each lamb is slaughtered against its will, and eaten grilled by fire. But You, on the other hand, You are the Lamb of God who sacrificed Yourself; You take away the sins of the world.

Lord, You were crucified by Your own will, and You have provided Your body and blood as food and drink for us to allow us to live forever. You did this because You love all Your children of the world. You died and rose again, and we as Your children are alive again every time we partake of Your Body and Your Blood during Communion.

Every Sunday when I go to visit You in Your Home, I seek You early to meet with You. I ask that as I partake in Your body and blood, I can become more like you.

During the Passover Festival, the whole city came to meet You and each family brought their children to see You. They came bearing gifts for You, Jesus. Each family received You with flowers as You entered the city of Jerusalem, riding on a donkey.

My Lord, please forgive me for not receiving You with flowers, and olive branches every time I meet with You. Please, Oh Lord, accept my heart, filled with love. I beg of You to build Your new Jerusalem inside my heart so that Your Holy Spirit abides in me always.

You alone are the only One who understands the language of my heart. As Your child, I am now opening my heart for You to build Your new home and heaven within me. I love You Jesus.

*Sincerely,  
Your Child*





## 5. Inside the Temple

# My Heart Records a Message for You From Inside the Holy Church

*My Lord Jesus,*

Every time I visit Your Holy Church, my heart records a private message for You. How kind you are to let me, a sinner, into your Holy Sanctuary.

Lord, when the scribes and Pharisees tried to make us stop praising you, I became afraid, but You told me: “Fear not, for I am with you. Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand” (Isaiah 41:10).

Now I know that I do not need to be afraid. On behalf of the Pharisees and scribes, it was known that if we, Your believers, stopped praising you, the stones will begin to praise You and witness for You.

Perhaps the first stone that came to praise You was Dimas the thief, when he sang: “Remember me Oh Lord, When You come into Your Kingdom!” The second stone was when we the children were not able to go to Calvary to praise You, yet a captain of hundred of soldiers, swallowed his pride as he began to see Your light and praise You saying, “truly, You are the Son of God.”

You never cease to amaze me, as the blind man sees and the lame man walks into Your temple, you are an all-powerful God and my faith is committed to You alone.

Open the eyes of my heart, for I want to see You shining in Your glory. I want to heal my inner feet, by being a good Christian to my peers. Help me to be like You so that all who see me see You inside of me. I love you.

*With Love,  
Your Child in Christ*







## 6. The Departure from Bethany

# Are You hungry, You who feed all creations?!

*My Sweet Lord Jesus,*

Behold, I stand in the way with Your disciples in front of the fig tree.

You cursed it, because You were hungry, and it did not bear fruit for You to eat. Tell me: Are You hungry, You who feed all creations? In the desert, You sent “Manna” the bread of heaven to the children of Israel, and took care of Your people for forty years.

My question for You is, if You can send food down from the heaven to save Your people, why didn't You send food down for Yourself? Wouldn't You be able to ask heaven to rain Manna for You? Also, why did You curse the tree that You created?

Now I understand, that Your hunger and thirst was analogous to Your hunger and thirst for my love for You. You desire my heart, and my attention at all times, so that you can make me happy on earth and one day even happier up above in heaven. You did not ask for food from heaven, because You are not in need of physical food and water.

You cursed the fruitless fig tree in order to instill Your cross in my heart, the tree of life, so I stretch my hands to enjoy fruit of the Holy Spirit.

Lord, I too am thirsty and hungry for Your love. Going to church every Sunday is not enough. I want to live and breathe Your love, and I will do so by reading the Bible and praying the psalms every morning and night. By doing this I pray that I will have You by my side at all times throughout the day.

I want to thank You Lord for all Your blessings.

*Sincerely,  
Your Beloved Child*





## 7. Holy Tuesday The Wedding

*My Lord Jesus Christ,*

I sit down at Your feet, and wait to hear parables of Your Power and Love. You say that we are Your bride and we prepare ourselves for You, heavenly Bridegroom, and King of Kings.

While You speak, my heart goes out to the children of Bethlehem who were martyred. They were waiting to meet You in the hades, to see You face to face.

What do You ask me to prepare for my wedding day? I pray that you be the center of my marriage, and the glue that holds my Spouse and I together. Without you, nothing is possible. Lord, enter into my heart, for I miss you dearly. Please look to me with the wise virgins, that I always be prepared for Your coming and my heart will forever be full of the oil of Your grace, mercy and compassion.

Your fiery Holy Spirit pours out the oil of unconditional love into my heart, so that I may be raised up with You one day in Paradise. You granted me Your divine commandments as jewelry more precious than gold and precious stones.

Please, help me to keep Your commandments.

Sometimes it is hard to obey my mother and father, but teach me to be obedient and calm.

Teach me the importance of a good listener.

Help me remember to be slow to speak and quick to listen.

You promised me that You will one day prepare the place for my wedding. Lord I trust in You. I wait for Your second coming, so please come quickly O heavenly Bridegroom.

*Love,  
Your Little Bride*





## 8. Holy Wednesday **A Cruel Betrayal!**

*My Beloved Jesus,*

My soul is miserable. Behold, one of Your disciples, who was in charge of the services for the poor, snuck thirty pieces of silver to the leaders of the Temple. That was Judas the traitor!

Lord Jesus, it saddens me how often my mind chooses money over the obedience of Your commandments. Money cannot buy Your love.

Lord Jesus, the great prophet Elijah, though he was alone, believed in You more than anything.

In Your last coming, we will see who holds true to their faith in You. Record my name in Your book of life, and lead me by Your Holy Spirit until I meet You face to face.

*Love Always,  
Your Son*





9. Maundy Thursday:

In the House of Mary the Mother of Mark the Apostle

## **The King who Washes the Feet of His Servants!**

*Oh Holy One,*

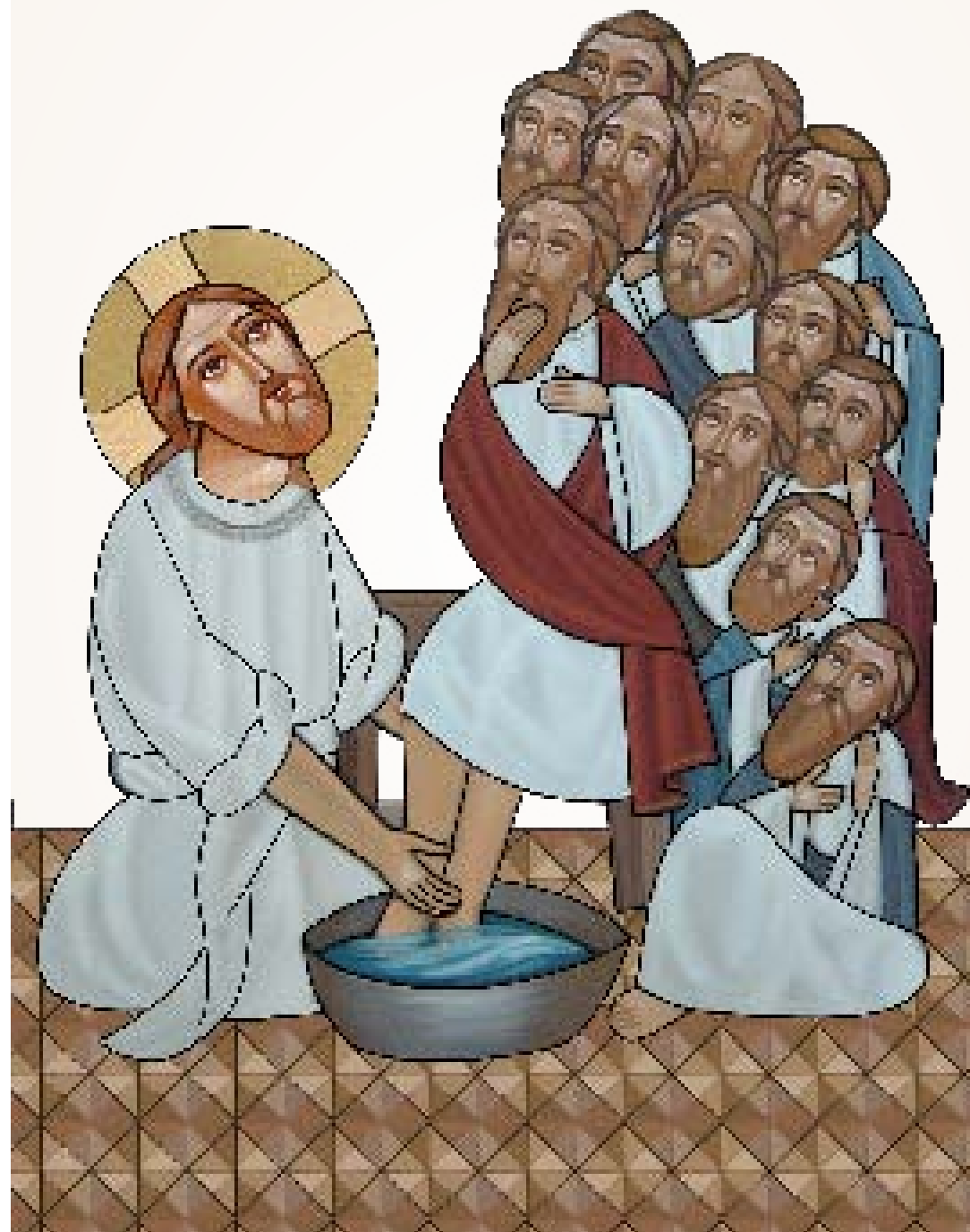
Never have I heard of a king who got down on his knees to wash the feet of his servants. You, O Lord, are different; You are humble and meek and put Your servants before Yourself. You wash the feet of Your servants of whom You created from dust.

How can I face You with my dirty feet, for I am a sinner and I am unworthy, but only because I want to obey You will I come to You, just as Peter did to earn a place in Your Kingdom.

Your kingdom only opens its gates for those that are obedient, humble, and grateful. Since You died on the cross by Your will, to forgive all our sins, allow me to carry my cross through life to show You how much I love You.

You give me Your body and blood that You sacrificed on my behalf. This is Your pleasure to die on the cross, and give me Your body and Your blood in order to live with You forever.

*Love,  
Your Child*





10. in the Garden of Gethsemane!

**You entered the garden,  
in order to open the gates of heaven  
for me**

*My beloved Jesus,*

I wish that I would be with my grandfather Adam and my grandmother Eve in the Garden of Eden, when all the animals, birds, even fish that pleased to go close to them, but they did not hear You.

Because of them the Garden of Eden spoiled, and the life of the human become journey of torment, and the angel of death became awaiting for the moment when You tell him to carry their souls, and the body returns to dust.

By Your love, You became the second Adam, and made the humanity became the new Eve, the holy Church.

Behold, in the Garden of Gethsemane instead of Garden of Eden, You opened the gates of heaven for me.

You praise the Father, because You drink the cup of suffering instead of me.

Everyone left You, but You are not alone, because You will never be separated from Your Father.

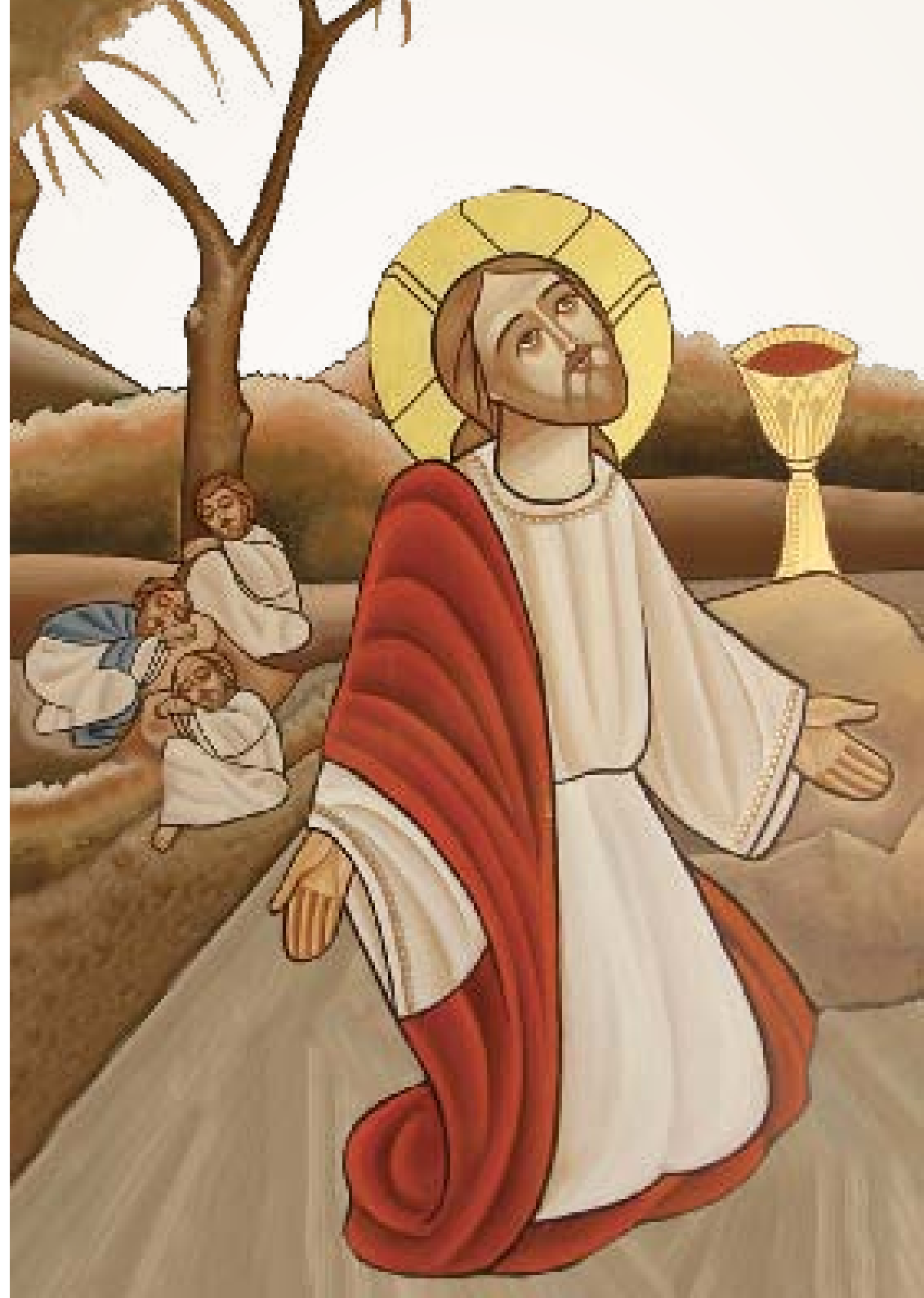
You have been seized in order to release me off the shackles of sin.

You have been sentenced before the leaders of the Temple as before Pontius Pilate and Herod.

Behold, the powers of darkness were shackled against You, while You are crucified, and You are giving me the power to step over evil.

Glory to You, O wonderful in Your love to me.

*Sincerely,  
Your Young son*





11. Good Friday

## **My Strength is Made Perfect in Weakness!**

*Heavenly Savior,*

This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it. On this day, the most unique Friday in the history of the whole world takes place. On this day all of humanity is sentenced to crucifixion. Satan thought he had won, and all the evil men rejoiced in Your crucifixion thinking You would feel embarrassed and ashamed on the cross.

All the children were silenced, so that stones were able to praise You, each stone in its own language. The sun and the moon praise You when they darkened.

Mountains witnessed to You, as they squeaked and rocks cracked. Graves broke down their doors, and allowed many of the departed saints to reappear.

Dimas, the man crucified on the cross next to You, was a criminal, however, he acknowledged that You are the Lord of lords and King of kings in hopes that You would remember him on Your way to heaven.

The devil and all his angels were confused, because the Cross had become a divine vehicle, and carried You into hades to recall your people and to save us from our sins.

*Love Always,  
your Servant*





12. Bright Saturday

## I No Longer Fear Death

*My Savior,*

The Giver of life has been crucified on the cross, and died. Where O Lord, did you depart to? Hades? You destroyed the gates of Hades taking my grandfather Adam and grandmother Eve and their children who awaited You.

Beloved Jesus Christ, You opened the doors of the Paradise, please take me with You. I no longer fear death for I know that You are always with me. Thank You for saving my life, by dying on the Cross to save us.

*Love,  
Your Child*





13. Easter Sunday

## Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

*Our Heavenly Groom,*

I am joyful! You have risen from the dead, and are the life of all the ages to come. The heavens and the earth praise You. For You opened the gates of heaven, allowing the angels, archangels and all the heavenly hosts to rejoice in praise. The heavens reconciled with the earth and God reconciled with man. With Your resurrection You raised us and grant us to be Your bride and to join the heavenly hosts forever.

*Love Always,  
Your Child*







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