

Psychological Analysis of Georgia Cotton in *Ticket to Paradise* Movie

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ABSTRACT

A movie is a medium to convey a story that is packed in the form of moving pictures. Conflicts that appear in a movie can influence the psychological aspect of the character, especially the motivation of each character to do something after facing a conflict or having a problem. This study was conducted to analyze how psychological aspects affect the character's feelings and behavior in a movie entitled "Ticket to Paradise". This study applied a qualitative method. The data were collected by note-taking the scene in the movie that contained psychological aspects of Georgia Cotton. The study focused on the data that showed action triggered by psychological aspects. The data were categorized and analyzed using Bernhardt's theory of the psychological aspect of human motivation (1945). The findings were presented in a table and explained descriptively. This study identified that the aspect of organic needs or appetites should be fulfilled to reach Georgia's satisfaction, the aspect of wants could influence Georgia to solve a problem, Georgia's behavior was affected by the aspect of emotion, the aspect of feeling and experience influenced Georgia in making a decision, and social motives shown by Georgia as a social creature in a society.

Keywords: *Psychological aspects; Main character; Ticket to Paradise Movie*

INTRODUCTION

Literary work is created to represent life experiences that are connected to social life, imagination, feelings, and behaviors (Setiani et al., 2021). Literary work does not just contain facts but also imagination as a medium to amuse the reader or audience. According to Moputi & Husain (2018), literary work is the written or visual work that is poured to frame human life. Based on Wangsa (2022), literary work provides arts and entertainment that amuse people and contain life lessons that can be learned. Literary work is the reflection of a human's life which is enjoyable

and understandable. The real situation that happens in a community can be imagined through literary work (Suarniti, 2021). A movie is one form of interesting literary work.

A movie is a medium to convey a story that is packed in the form of moving pictures. The movie provides entertainment through the dialogue, characters' emotions, conflict, and the intended message from the author (Prasetyani et al., 2022). A movie is a medium to tell a story that is shown on television or at the cinema, which contains a series of motion pictures and is recorded with sound (Devi & Ro'is, 2021). Two fundamental elements develop a movie, namely the intrinsic element and the extrinsic element (Suarniti, 2021). One of the intrinsic elements that are found in a story is the character (Ronie & Hellystia, 2019).

Character plays an essential role in structuring a literary work to build the story. Characters of the movie will lead the audience to get into the story plot and understand the message that the author wants to convey. The character will also bring up all the things that happen in a movie. Each character has its position behind a storyline, and they serve to shape the plot (Woodrich, 2015). A character is a person who has a conflict and takes action to solve the problem (Anggraeni et al., 2022). Furthermore, Herdayanti & Satria (2021) stated that there are several types of characters in a story, such as the main character, the supporting character, and the extra character. A story is usually dominated by the main character, who will take up a big part of the storyline. The main character of a movie experiences the character development cycle of behavior changes from the beginning to the end (Rahmah et al., 2017). According to Dewi et al. (2019), a movie shows the conflict or problem through the characters in the story.

Conflict is the problem that appears in the story. Conflict is important to add to the attractiveness of a literary work (Artawan et al., 2020). According to Enggawati (2015), the conflict that happens in a story takes place to make the story interesting. Conflicts that appear in a movie can influence the psychological aspect of the character, especially the motivation of each character to do something after facing a conflict or having a problem (Wake, 2021). Conflict and problems experienced by the characters not only bring negative impacts but also encourage someone to be wise in considering solutions to solve them (Rachmawati, 2018). According to Yulfani & Romhah (2021), the psychological aspect of the character has a cause-and-effect relationship with the conflict itself.

Psychology studies the human mind, soul, and behavior. Even though psychology and literature are different, they can be related to each other (Latifah et al., 2019). Sain et al. (2023) stated that psychology and literature are concerned about the same thing, where they relate to human beings and their thoughts. Damayanti (2016) stated that the personality, actions, behavior,

and motives of a film's characters are related to the psychological aspects. Every human action has the motive to satisfy the needs. Based on Bernhardt (1945), psychological aspects of human motivations for doing something are categorized into five, including the aspects of organic needs or appetite, the aspects of want, the aspect of emotions as motives, the aspect of feelings and attitudes as motives, and the aspect of social motives.

Several previous studies are related to this study. The first study was an article written by Anggraeni et al. (2022). Their study focused on analyzing the kinds of psychological conflicts that happened to the main character of "*Captain Phillips*" the movie and how the psychological conflicts impact the main character's mental state. This previous research used the theory from Kurt Lewin (cited in Bruno, 2002). This study showed that the avoidance-avoidance conflict dominated the kind of psychological conflict. The similarity between the previous study and this study is the focus of the study which is to analyze the problem experienced by the movie character that is related to psychological aspects. The difference between their study and this study is the theories used to analyze the data.

The second study was a study by Artawan et al. (2020). This study discussed the external conflict faced by the main character of the movie based on the theory by Kenney (1966) about external conflict. This study showed that the man versus man conflict dominates the movie. Based on the explanation, there are two similarities between the previous study and this study. Both studies focused on analyzing the main character of a movie. Moreover, both studies include conflicts experienced by the main character to analyze. In contrast, there is also a difference. The previous study only focused on discussing the specific type of conflict in the movie, which is the external conflict. Meanwhile, this research does not.

The third study was conducted by Dewi & Agung (2023). This study aimed to figure out the differences in the plot and characterization of two versions of an Indonesian folk tale. The study applied the descriptive qualitative method. The researchers adopted the theory by Mays (2019). This study found that in those two different folk tales, the characterization has three differences, such as differences in family relations, parental behavior, and personality. In addition, the study showed that there were plot differences. They are the plot of unfortunate events, unexpected gifts, evil ideas, and sad endings. There is a similarity between their study and this study. Both studies examine the literary work in which the study object focuses on the character of the story. However, there is also a difference. The previous study used folk tales as the source of data, while this study used a movie.

Based on the explanation, the previous studies have discussed problems related to ship piracy, business, health, struggle for survival, and sibling relationships. However, several issues have not been discussed, such as parent-child conflicts about relationships, marriage, trauma, compulsiveness, and selfish intentions. The present study aims to fill the gap by figuring out how psychological aspects can affect the formation of the character's feelings and behavior when facing those problems in real life. This study focuses on analyzing one of the main characters named Georgia Cotton, played by Julia Roberts in a movie entitled "*Ticket to Paradise*". Research on the characters' psychological aspects in the movie is essential and beneficial to analyze. People will be able to find out how psychological aspects affect the way people think, feel, and act in real life. The movie entitled "*Ticket to Paradise*" has a plot, incidents, and conflicts that are close to people's real lives nowadays. Moreover, the actions of the characters in the movie are triggered by the psychological aspects of human motivation.

MATERIALS AND METHOD

The descriptive qualitative method was applied in this study. This study used a movie entitled "*Ticket to Paradise*" as the data source. The movie was released on the 21st of October, 2022, by Universal Pictures and Working Title Films. This movie was directed by OI Parker. The script of the movie was written by Daniel Pipski and OI Parker as well. This movie has a romantic comedy genre. "*Ticket to Paradise*" was chosen as the data source because this movie tells many things related to people nowadays, such as parent-child conflicts about relationships, marriage life, trauma, compulsiveness, and selfish intentions that can affect the psychology of the characters in doing something. Moreover, "*Ticket to Paradise*" is a Hollywood movie that successfully made a set resembling the setting of Bali, even though it was not shot in Bali. It has several scenes that show Balinese customs and culture.

The data of this study are in the form of dialogue and actions of the main character. The data were collected through the documentation and note-taking method. Several steps were taken to collect the data. Those steps are: (1) downloading the movie, (2) watching the movie, (3) note-taking the data by pausing and taking screenshots of the scene that shows action or behavior triggered by psychological aspects of the main character in the movie, (4) classifying the data. Then, in analyzing the data, this study applied the theory of human motivation proposed by Bernhardt (1945) to figure out the psychological aspect of the main character in the movie. To present the result of the analysis, this study provides a table to show the types of human motivation

related to the psychological aspect of the main character in the “*Ticket to Paradise*” movie, while the findings are explained descriptively.

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

This study provides a table containing the psychological aspect of the main character's human motivation. The number of data covered by this study is 13. The detailed finding is presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Types of Psychological Aspects of Human Motivation in “*Ticket to Paradise*” Movie

No	Types of Psychological Aspects of Human Motivation	Occurrence	Percentage (%)
1.	Organic Needs or Appetites	2	15.38%
2.	Aspect of Wants	3	23.08%
3.	Emotion as Motive	3	23.08%
4.	Feeling and Attitude as Motive	3	23.08%
5.	Social Motive	2	15.38%
Total		13	100%

The finding is supported by Bernhardt’s theory (1945), which states that there are five types of human motivation. Based on the table, this study found that there are 2 data with a percentage of 15.38% showing the aspect of organic needs or appetites, 3 data with a percentage of 23.08% showing the aspect of wants, 3 data with a percentage of 23.08% shows the aspect of emotion as the motive, 3 data with a percentage of 23.08% shows the aspect of feeling and attitude as motive and 2 data with a percentage of 15.38% shows the aspect of social motive. The results showed that all the types of psychological aspects of human motivation were found in the main character named Georgia Cotton in the “*Ticket to Paradise*” movie.

This study presented an analysis of the psychological aspect of the character named Georgia Cotton in the movie entitled “*Ticket to Paradise*,” applying the theory proposed by Bernhardt (1945). The analyses are as follows.

The Organic Needs or Appetites

Organic needs or appetites are fundamental needs that require periodic satisfaction. It is a habitual and sustainable activity and will continue until it finally ends with satisfaction. Humans will always initiate the activity to satisfy themselves. An unsatisfied and delayed appetite is categorized as an unpleasant condition, which will make it more and more unpleasant (Bernhardt, 1945).

Data 1

Figure 1. Georgia wakes up from a hangover



(00:55:10 – 00:55:20)

Georgia: **“I need lemon water and bacon.”**

This scene shows Georgia just waking from her sleep and asking for lemon water and bacon. The previous night, she drank several glasses of *Arak* (traditional Balinese alcohol) and became drunk. She asked for bacon because it contains protein, which will break down into amino acids that can help the brain to start working properly again after being drunk. Besides bacon, putting lemon in a glass of water will help reduce the symptoms of a hangover. Georgia was experiencing a hangover after the previous night’s heavy drinking. Therefore, there was an organic need that made her have to get bacon and drink lemon water to overcome the hangover and feel better. Without consuming it, the hangover may last longer, and she cannot do her daily activities throughout the day.

Data 2

Figure 2. Paul approaches Georgia and David, who have just arrived at the hotel



(01:15:25 – 01:15:31)

Paul : “I was so worried.”

Georgia : “We are fine, we are fine.”

Georgia : “**I just need the world’s longest bath.** How are you?”

The utterances show the scene when Georgia and David just arrived at the hotel after a long and tiring journey. Paul rushed over to Georgia after seeing her. Paul was really worried about Georgia because Georgia did not come back all night. Georgia said she was fine. However, at that time, Georgia needed to take a long bath. According to the Cambridge Dictionary (n.d), “appetite” does not only refer to “desires of food”, but it is also defined as “the feeling of needing or wanting something”. Other than that, Oxford Learner’s Dictionaries (n.d) stated that appetite is a big desire for something. Apart from refreshing her body, Georgia believed that taking a bath could also refresh her heart and feeling after fighting with her daughter. It is included in the organic needs or appetites of human motivation. Humans naturally need to clean the body as one of the routines in their daily lives. People are advised to shower daily to conquer bacteria (Medical News Today, 2021). This is one of the continuous human needs. Taking a bath benefits the mental and physical health required by individuals (Cleveland Clinic, 2023).

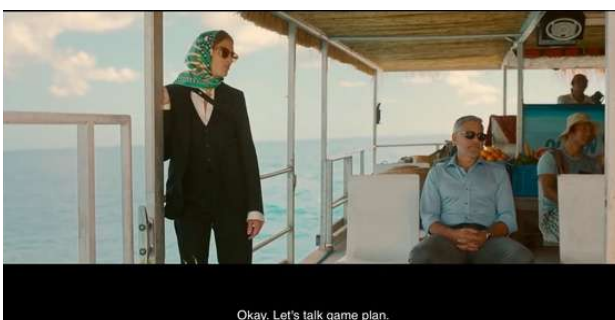
Aspect of Wants

Wants are the desires of a particular thing or a wish to have something. It is the aspect that influences and pushes individuals through a strong feeling of eagerness. According to each situation, ‘want’ is important to help people in deciding to solve their problems. However, desire is something that always changes depending on the experience felt by someone.

Data 3

Figure 3. Georgia and David are on their way to Bali and discussing their plan

3.a.



3.b.



(00:19:40 – 00:19:48)

- Georgia : “OK. **Let’s talk game plan. As much as this will pain us both, we have to call a truce to make this work.**”
- David : “Yes, we have to be in lockstep.”
- Georgia : “We speak as one.”
- David : “No arguing.”

Georgia and David were on a boat on their way to their future son-in-law’s house. They both disapproved of their daughter’s wish, Lily, because she wanted to marry a man she had known in Bali named Gede, a seaweed farmer. Georgia thought that Lily and Gede’s acquaintance period was too concise to proceed to get married immediately. She was afraid that their marriage would become less prosperous and even end in divorce due to a lack of compatibility with each other. Therefore, Georgia was compelled to devise a plan to prevent the wedding from happening. She also stated that no matter how painful it was, she would still be willing to do it. Psychologically, Georgia’s decision was caused by aspects of wants and determination. In the past, Georgia had a bad marriage experience with David, which ended in divorce. As a parent, she has a strong desire to prevent Lily from making the same mistake as her parents did. She also wants to protect Lily from undergoing a bad married life.

Data 4

Figure 4. Georgia talks to her friend in a restaurant



(00:02:17 – 00:02:21)

- Georgia’s friend : “Incredible. 25 years of marriage.”
- Georgia : “Oh, God. We’re not married. We divorced five years later. **I try not to be in the same time zone if I can help it.**”

In this scene, Georgia tells her friend about her marriage to David from when she was proposed to until they were divorced. As a husband and wife who have separated, Georgia and David tend to argue non-stop every time there is a moment to meet and talk. Therefore, she once said, “*I try not to be in the same time zone...*” which indicates that she always wants to be as far away from David as possible, even in different parts of the world. Psychologically, Georgia always desires to be far from her ex-husband so that their lives can go on peacefully. It is the human motivation affected by the aspect of wants.

Data 5

Figure 5. Georgia apologizes to Lily



(01:19:03 – 01:19:15)

Lily : “You lied to me.”

Georgia : “I’m so so sorry. It turns out a parent will do anything in the world for their kid except let them be exactly who they are. Your dad and I were gonna be different. **We were gonna be better than this.**”

In this scene, Georgia goes to Wren’s room, where her daughter Lily is getting ready for her wedding. Lily expresses her disappointment to Georgia as she finds out that her mother has hidden her engagement ring and is trying to sabotage her wedding. Georgia was very sorry and apologized to Lily for being a selfish person and for being a mother who did not let Lily find her happiness. All this time, Georgia has always been filled with regret, as Lily seems to hate her. Finally, it drives her to change to be a better parent. Her statement shows it, “*We were gonna be better than this*”. Her motivation comes from the psychological aspect of wants.

Aspect of Emotions as Motives

The aspect of emotions is the aspect that points out how emotional experience directs someone's activity. When an individual is under a certain emotion, mood, or sentiment, someone will act and behave as influenced by that emotion (Bernhardt, 1945). For example, anger directs a person to fight and say inappropriate things.

Data 6

Figure 6. Georgia and David argue with each other

6.a.



6.b.



(00:46:02 – 00:46:22)

David :”..... you get to be the one that gives her everything she wants.”

Georgia : “I never get to give her what she wants. Yes, I was there for her. To make the rules, to fight with. You were fun Dad. You take her where she wants to go, buy her anything, then drop her off and drive away. You shouldn't have left!”

David : “I had to. It was over! Because you didn't love me anymore.”

Georgia : “**Well, you didn't even like me. You didn't have any respect for me.**”

In this scene, Georgia has a bad argument with David. Georgia was thinking about stopping her plans to thwart her daughter's wedding. However, David disagreed with the decision. Since the first day, they had agreed to do this together. David felt that Georgia was selfish because she always granted her daughter's every wish. Georgia could not accept David's words to her. Georgia's emotions peaked and the debate became increasingly fierce. As a result, Georgia began to bring up how David's parenting of Lily was considered bad after their marriage broke up. Georgia even said, “*You didn't even like me*”, and “*You didn't have any respect for me*”, with a

high intonation to David. She could not stop herself from blaming David. Psychologically, Georgia's behavior was influenced by the aspect of emotions. According to Bernhardt (1945), the aspect of emotions points out how emotional experience directs someone's activity. In this scene, Georgia acts and behaves as influenced by her anger and guilt emotions.

Data 7

Figure 7. Georgia tries to help Paul with snake venom on his leg



(01:00:34 – 01:01:05)

- Georgia : “Why are you being weird?”
Paul : “I think I just got bitten by something.”
Georgia : “Really?”
Paul : “Ahhhhh, a snake.”
Georgia : “**Oh my God, there it is! What do we do?**”

This scene shows Georgia and Paul in the cave at Tanah Lot after Paul proposed to Georgia. When Paul was about to stand up, he suddenly lost his balance because something happened to his leg. Shortly after that, Paul noticed a snake crawling near them. Georgia also realized that the snake had bitten Paul's left calf. Paul fell badly. Seeing this, Georgia became frightened. Georgia reflexively sucked Paul's leg to get rid of the snake venom. At that time, Georgia's fear and panic emotions direct her to do something with the venom in Paul's leg. This was a reflex action that psychologically affected by her emotions. A human can be motivated to behave as they would not do in a normal situation when influenced by a certain emotion (Bernhardt, 1945).

Data 8

Figure 8. Georgia shows her guilt to Paul



(01:10:09 – 01:10:30)

David : “If I’d listened to you, we would not have done it. She should be fine.”

Georgia : “**You weren’t a mistake. You weren’t. It’s been the story for years that you were the one to blame. It’s not true.**”

Georgia could only reflect in the middle of the forest, accompanied by David. She could not do anything except blame herself. She was very afraid that Lily would hate her. David tried to say that it was not Georgia’s fault. However, Georgia was still bombarded with sorrows. Her guilt at that time made Georgia realize that everything that happened was not entirely her ex-husband’s fault. Based on that, Georgia’s ego weakened. She finally admitted that what she had been doing was not right.

Aspect of Feeling and Attitude as Motive

Aspects of feelings and attitudes are the motives influenced by past feelings and experiences. There is a feeling scale ranging from maximal pleasantness to maximal unpleasantness (Bernhardt, 1945). When an experience is considered pleasant, an individual will continue the activity. Meanwhile, when the experience is considered unpleasant, an individual will tend to discontinue the experience.

Data 9

Figure 9. Paul proposes Georgia



(00:59:28 – 00: 59: 43)

Paul : “Georgia, I love you. You are gorgeous and kind. Funny and smart. You are everything I couldn’t want and need. Will you marry me?”

Georgia : “**Oh, Paul. I’m so... I’m so touched and....** and are nauseous right now. Hmmm, how do I put this?”

Paul, Georgia’s boyfriend, suddenly proposed to her when they were visiting Tanah Lot. This surprised and touched Georgia at the same time. Paul never stopped showing his love for Georgia. However, she was still in doubt because the night before, he had spent the night with her ex-husband playing the ‘Pong Game’ they used to do when they were in college. Georgia seemed to be transported back to her past and felt a feeling of love for David again. Moreover, she remembered when David proposed to her twenty-five years ago. However, eventually, that proposal led to a divorced marriage. As of this, Georgia held back her tears and could not give Paul an answer right away. She was woeful to see Paul’s sincerity for her. Her unpleasant experience psychologically influenced Georgia’s inconclusive attitude in the past.

Data 10

Figure 10. Georgia asks David for advice about Paul’s proposal



(01:28:29 – 01:28:53)

David : “I think you should say yes. Paul is a good guy.”

Georgia : “Hmm,”

David : “If you feel half as happy as we were happy, then you should say yes.”

Georgia : “**I don’t know. Maybe I’m too old to feel young anymore.**”

In this scene, Georgia is daydreaming about whether she should accept Paul's proposal or not. David, her ex-husband, then came and sat next to her. David gave Georgia some consideration. David advised her to accept Paul's proposal. However, Georgia still doubted herself. When Georgia said, "*I don't know, maybe I'm too old to feel young anymore,*" it seemed that she was not ready to repeat the phase of being in love and going through marriage again. Psychologically, Georgia's motivation is caused by her heartbroken feelings regarding her past experience. Georgia's unpleasant impressions towards married life have influenced her to not be in the same cycle again. When an experience is considered unpleasant, an individual will tend to discontinue the experience (Bernhardt, 1945).

Data 11

Figure 11. Georgia and David go back to their country



(01:35:55 – 01:37:00)

Georgia : **"I see why she likes it here."**

David : "Yeah, it's good. I could spend some time here. Someday."

Georgia : **"Why save the good stuff for later?"**

David : "Yeah."

This scene frames Georgia and David, who were on the ferry and about to return to their country. They sat next to each other and talked. Georgia finally realized why her daughter liked Bali, a beautiful island like a paradise. David also agreed with Georgia's opinion. Bali had become an island where they experienced beautiful and romantic moments again after 20 years of divorce. It gave Georgia the spirit and pleasure that made her want to create more stories in Bali. Finally, she made a gesture as if to offer David to stay longer on this island and not trifle away the opportunity. Eventually, David and Georgia agreed to cancel their return to their home country.

Aspect of Social Motive

Humans are social creatures. As humans evolve to be social and live in a group, individuals have a tendency to succeed, win over others, and have the willpower to overcome difficulties. These tendencies are called self-assertion. On the other hand, there is also a propensity of humans to give in, abide, and subordinate themselves to others. This is not in the compulsion to submissive but gives satisfaction to the individual who does. It is called self-submission.

Data 12

Figure 12. Georgia threatens Paul about the stolen ring



(00:39:15 – 00:39:22)

Georgia : “I did the hard stuff.”

David : “Can’t believe that they were deceived by a banana trick.”

Georgia : **“Really kill you that you haven’t figured it out.”**

This scene occurs when Georgia succeeds in stealing Lily and Gede’s wedding rings from Gede’s cousin, Ketut. She came to David and told him that his mission was successful. David looked at Georgia and could not believe that Georgia got the ring so easily by tricking Ketut. Georgia refused David’s words and threatened David assertively saying that she would kill him if she could prove that it really happened. At that moment, Georgia’s act of threatening David is influenced by psychological aspects, namely social motives of self-assertion. It is proven by the fact that Georgia tends to show firmness as a human being to win over opponents.

Data 13

Figure 13. Georgia and David harvest seaweed



(00:48:03 – 00:48:13)

Georgia : **“She listened to you, always.”**

David : “What?”

Georgia : **“She does. She never needed to make me as happy as she wanted to make you.”**

This scene happens when Georgia and David harvest seaweed in the morning. Amid their busy activities separating the seaweed, Georgia suddenly said, *“She (Lily) listened to you”*, to David. Georgia emphasized again to David that Lily prioritized her father’s happiness over hers. At this moment, Georgia seemed to be submissive to the more influential person and gave David more opportunities to handle their plans. Georgia believed their plan would work if David contributed more than her. Psychologically, this is affected by the aspects of social motives (self-submission), which are shown by Georgia’s tendency to be one step behind David.

CONCLUSION

The following conclusion was drawn based on the result of the study. The study was conducted to find out the psychological aspect of human motivation that is related to problems and conflicts experienced by Georgia Cotton, the main character of “Ticket to Paradise” movie. Based on the analysis, it is concluded that 13 data were found on five aspects of human motivation experienced by Georgia Cotton in the movie. Those are 1) the aspect of organic needs or appetites, as the data showed that there are needs that should be fulfilled to reach Georgia’s satisfaction; 2) the aspect of wants, which the data indicated Georgia’s desires on particular things, and during a certain situation, the wants can influence her to solve problems; 3) the aspect of emotions, as the data represented Georgia’s behavior which influenced by her emotional experience; 4) the aspect of feelings and attitudes, which the data showed Georgia’s consideration in doing something that

affected by her feeling and experience in the past; and 5) the aspect of social motives, as the data indicated how Georgia live as a social creature in society by showing self-assertion or self-submission tendencies. This study proves that the actions, thoughts, and feelings of the characters in the movie are triggered by the psychological aspects of human motivation. The researcher suggests that future studies can analyze more psychological aspects of characters in literary works that experience real-life problems. Therefore, readers can learn what psychological aspects affect their actions, thoughts, and feelings whenever facing a problem.

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