

34th Annual Meeting

Society for Utopian Studies



Oct. 29-Nov. 1, 2009

Wrightsville Beach, NC

Society for Utopian Studies -- 34th Annual Meeting

Blockade Runner Hotel

Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina

October 29 – November 1, 2009

We are pleased to welcome everyone to Wrightsville Beach. To all participants and attendees, whether familiar faces or those attending an SUS conference for the first time, we hope that you find your experiences at the conference stimulating, rewarding, and fun, and that you leave the conference with new scholarly friends and acquaintances.

All the events of the conference, including the Thursday evening reception and the business meeting luncheon on Saturday, take place at the Blockade Runner Hotel, and are included in the registration fee. Space has been left on Friday and Saturday evenings for you to arrange dinner on your own. Coffee and tea will be available in the Lobby between sessions.

Please check over the program because of inevitable last-minute changes. Please follow a twenty-minute time limit on papers to allow equal time for everyone and to leave adequate time for questions and discussion. Please note that a roundtable honoring Art Lewis (1920-2009) and his many contributions to the Society is scheduled for Saturday afternoon at 5:15 in the Nighthawk I room. This will be the final event of the 34th annual conference.

A special thank you to Mary Glenn Keadle for all of her work on this year's program. If you have any questions, please speak with Peter Stillman about local arrangements or Claire Curtis about the program.

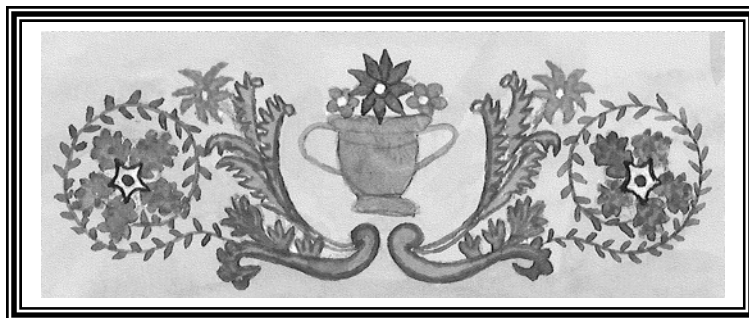
Claire Curtis

Peter Stillman

Note:

The 35th Annual Meeting of the Society is in Milwaukee on 28-31 October 2010. The Call for Papers is in your registration folder.

Conference Overview



Thursday, October 29:

Registration

Lobby

Advisory Board Meeting 12:00-1:15

Twilight

Steering Committee Meeting 1:30-3:00

Twilight

Session I 3:30-5:00

1A: Realizing Community

1B: Faith I

1C: Edward Bellamy

Beauregard

Nighthawk II

Twilight

Session II 5:15-6:30

2A: Children's Literature

2B: Thinking Utopia

2C: Nathaniel Hawthorne

Beauregard

Nighthawk II

Twilight

Opening Reception 6:30-8:00

Nighthawk I

Friday, October 30:

Breakfast 7:00-8:30

East Restaurant

Session III 8:30-10:00

3A: Russian and Soviet Era Utopias

3B: The Idea of the Text

3C: Utopian Memoirs

Nighthawk I

Beauregard

Nighthawk II

Break 10:00-10:15

Session IV 10:15-11:45

4A: The Golden Age of Food
4B: American Values
4C: Love and Death
4D: Faith II

Beauregard
Nighthawk II
Nighthawk I
Twilight

Lunch on your own 11:45-1:00

Session V 1:00-2:30

5A: Post Apocalypse I
5B: Utopian Architecture
5C: Models and Images
5D: 20th Century Fiction I

Twilight
Beauregard
Nighthawk II
Nighthawk I

Break 2:30-2:45

Session VI 2:45-4:15

6A: Post Apocalypse II
6B: 20th Century Fiction II
6C: 20th Century Utopian Thought
6D: From Hegel to Deleuze

Beauregard
Nighthawk II
Nighthawk I
Twilight

Break 4:15-4:30

Session VII 4:30-6:30

Utopia and Marxism Today

Nighthawk I

Dinner on your own

Saturday, October 31:

Breakfast 7:00-8:30

East Restaurant

Session VIII 8:30-10:00

8A: 20th Century Music
8B: Education

Beauregard
Nighthawk I

8C: Las Vegas
8D: Utopia and Mass Production

Twilight
Nighthawk II

Break 10:00-10:15

Session IX 10:15-11:45

9A: Apocalyptic Families
9B: Critical Utopias
9C: SUS Teaching Committee Planning Session

Beauregard
Nighthawk II
Nighthawk I

Conference Luncheon 12:00-1:30

Lee Ballroom

Session X 1:45-3:15

10A: Technology and Mapping
10B: Science/Technology Literature
10C: Late 19th Century Fiction
10D: Community and Religion

Beauregard
Nighthawk II
Nighthawk I
Twilight

Break 3:15-3:30

Session XI 3:30-5:15

11A: Meditating on the Break
11B: Seeing America
11C: Work
11D: Early Modern Literature

Nighthawk I
Beauregard
Nighthawk II
Twilight

Break 5:00-5:15

Session XII 5:30-6:30

Roundtable on Art Lewis

Nighthawk I

Dinner on your own

Conference Schedule of Events



Thursday, October 29

Registration

Lobby

Book Display

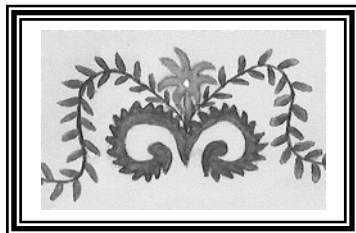
Nighthawk II

Advisory Board Meeting 12:00-1:15

Twilight

Steering Committee Meeting 1:30-3:00

Twilight



Session I 3:30-5:00

1A: Realizing Community

Beauregard

Moderator: Nicole LaRose

Stephanie Schroeder, North Carolina State University
“Uniting Theory and Practice: The Changeover on the Farm”

Shawn David Young, Michigan State University
“Jesus People USA: Christian Socialism in Chicago's Inner-City”

Subhash Verma, Government Post Graduate College

“The Changing Tharus: A Socio-Cultural Study of a Tribal Community of India”

Katrien Bollen, Ghent University

“Underground or Six Feet Under? The Unbearables’ Poetic Implementation of Hakim Bey’s Anarchist Temporary Autonomous Zone”

1B: Faith I

Nighthawk II

Moderator: Lise Leibacher

Nivedita Bagchi, Millersville University

“The Imperfection of *Utopia*: The Place of Revelation in Thomas More”

Nancy L. Nester, Roger Williams University

“‘Grasp[ing] the Two Handles of Empathy’: A Study in Utopian Praxis”

Janne Arp, Free University of Berlin, Excellence Cluster TOPOI

“Utopian Thought in Ancient Egypt?”

1C: Edward Bellamy

Twilight

Moderator: Toby Widdicombe

Mary Glenn Keadle, College of Charleston

“Edward Bellamy’s *Looking Backward* and *Equality*: Economics, Politics, Marriage, and Family as a Consumable Nationalist Package”

Jim Kopp, Lewis & Clark College

“The Illustrated Edward Bellamy: Visual Reflections of Bellamy's Writings”

Mei-tin Huang, Fu Jen Catholic University

“The Influences of Ballamy’s *Looking Backward* on Chinese Utopian Thought: As an Example of *Ta Tong Shu* from Kang You Wei”

Break 5:00-5:15



Session II 5:15-6:30

2A: Children's Literature

Beauregard

Moderator: Rebecca Totaro

Glenn R. Wilkinson, St. Mary's University College-Calgary
"Utopian Sodor: Post-War Britain and the Rev. W. Awdry's *Railway Series*"

Carrie Hintz, Queens College/CUNY
"Octavian Nothing's Dystopian Awakening"

Claire Curtis, College of Charleston
"Hopeful Anxiety: Post-Apocalyptic Young Adult Fiction"

2B: Thinking Utopia

Nighthawk II

Moderator: Naomi Jacobs

Debra Pessein, Independent Scholar
"Redefine the Grid"

J.C. Hallman, University of St. Thomas
"Floating Utopias: From Lucien to *The World*"

Robert Seguin, Hartwick College
"Everything Except Utopia: Aporias of the God Debate"

2C: Nathaniel Hawthorne

Twilight

Moderator: Justin Nordstrom

Patrick Seth Williams, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

“The Unintended Consequences of Sympathy in Hawthorne’s *Blithedale Romance*”

Toby Widdicombe, University of Alaska Anchorage
“Hawthorne’s *House* and the Impossibility of Utopia”

Opening Reception

6:30-8:00

Nighthawk I

Friday, October 30

Registration

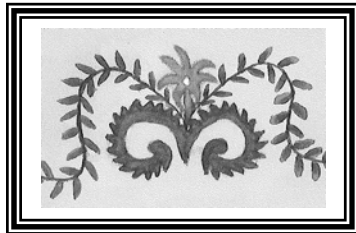
Lobby

Book Display

Nighthawk II

Breakfast 7:00-8:30

East Restaurant



Session III

8:30-10:00

3A: Russian and Soviet Era Utopias

Nighthawk I

Moderator: Peter Sands

Ryan Michael Kehoe, Rice University

“A Soviet Space Odyssey: The Ideological Functions of Speculative Fiction from Behind the Iron Curtain”

R. Mark Preslar, The University of the South

“The Knowledge or Ignorance of Violence, Coercion, and Injustice in Utopia”

Corina Kesler, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

“From Dacia Felix to The Socialist Republic Of Romania: Nation(al) Building(s) and Utopian Writing(s) in Ceausescu Era”

3B: The Idea of the Text

Beauregard

Moderator: Mary Glenn Keadle

Jennifer Wagner-Lawlor, College of the Liberal Arts at Penn State University
“Educating Fatima: Scheherazade’s Islands and Other Invisible Horizons in Mernissi’s *Dreams of Trespass*”

Claudio Antonini, Independent Scholar
“The Fictional Reality of Utopias”

Rita Wu, Purdue University
“The Complex of the Peach Blossom Spring: A Survey Study of the Chinese Utopian Tradition”

3C: Utopian Memoirs

Nighthawk II

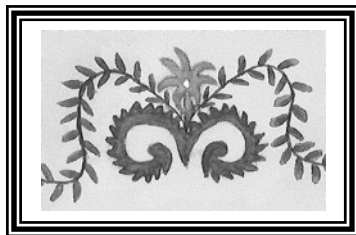
Moderator: Katrien Bollen

James Hewitson, University of Tennessee
“‘The bursting of [a] lovely bubble’: Louisa May Alcott and the Legacy of Communalism”

Justin Nordstrom, Penn State University-Hazleton
“‘A Goodly and Flourishing Tree’—Mordecai Noah and Nineteenth-Century American Utopianism”

Beate Rodewald, Palm Beach Atlantic University
“Preparing (for) a Better World: Educational Visions and Chautauqua”

Break 10:00-10:15



Session IV 10:15-11:45

4A: The Golden Age of Food

Beauregard

Moderator: Rebecca Totaro

Annette Giesecke, University of Delaware
“Socrates on the Ideal Polis”

Naomi Jacobs, University of Maine

“Eating Beauty: Politics and Aesthetics in the Kitchen Garden”

Yvonne Elizabeth Pelletier, University of Tennessee

“Starving in Eden: Utopian Dietary Theory and Practice”

4B: American Values

Nighthawk II

Moderator: Spencer Dew

Mark S. Jendrysik, University of North Dakota

“Obamatopia: Utopian Dreams and Dystopian Fears in a New America”

Darcy Mullen, University at Albany

“Bad Historicity and Lands of Terror in Lonely Planet’s *Badlands* and *The National Security Strategy of the United States of America*”

Nathan Stormer, University of Maine

“Permanent Social War and the Utopian Horizon of a ‘Culture of Life’”

4C: Love and Death

Nighthawk I

Moderator: Peter Fitting

Michael Hardt, Duke University

“Love and Utopia”

Eric Cazdyn, University of Toronto

“Death in Utopia”

4D: Faith II

Twilight

Moderator: Alex MacDonald

Gilbert E. Fulmer, Texas State University

“Utopia and Divine Creation”

Clarence W. Tweedy, University of Mary Washington

“The Anointed: Countering Dystopia with Faith in Octavia Butler’s *Parable of the Sower*”

Phil Jos, College of Charleston

“Fear and the Spiritual Realism of Butler’s *Earthseed*”

Lunch 11:45-1:00



Session V 1:00-2:30

5A: Post Apocalypse I

Twilight

Moderator: Claire Curtis

Katherine Broad, Graduate Center at CUNY

“Body Speaks: Communication and Community in Octavia Butler's *Xenogenesis* Trilogy”

Jonathan Harvey, West Virginia University

“From the Ruins of the Post-Apocalyptic Feminist Novel”

Rob McAlear, University of Wisconsin-Madison

“Apocalypse, Dystopia, and Narrative Ethics: Misreading *Oryx and Crake*”

5B: Utopian Architecture

Beauregard

Moderator: Annette Giesecke

Erica Ando, Independent Scholar

“The Utopianism of Buckminster Fuller”

Donald J. Dunham, Philadelphia University

“A Torpedo Moving Through Time: The Battle For Utopia in Architecture”

Phillip E. Wegner, University of Florida

“‘The Mysterious Qualities of This Alleged Void’: Transvaluation and Utopian Urbanism in Rem Koolhaas’s *S,M,L,XL*”

5C: Models and Images

Nighthawk II

Moderator: Mark Preslar

Julianne Werlin, Princeton University
“Oceana and the Ontology of the Model”

Donald Rung, The University of the South
“Descartes’s Imaginary Spaces: Elusive Treasures”

5D: 20th Century Fiction I

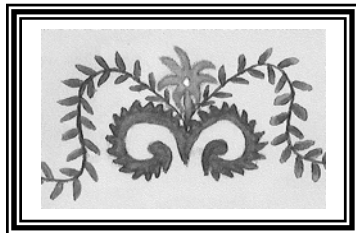
Nighthawk I

Moderator: Gerry Canavan

Laura Scroggs, University of Toledo
“They Read the White Girl First: Analyzing Racialized Feminist Utopias and Toni Morrison’s *Paradise*”

Virginia Walker, Suffolk County Community College
“Resistance to Utopian Stratagems: Theory and Practice in the Novels of Walker Percy”
Spencer Dew, Loyola University Chicago
“Love, Friendship, and the Tragic American Reality in James Baldwin’s Work”

Break 2:30-2:45



Session VI 2:45-4:15

6A: Post Apocalypse II

Beauregard

Moderator: Claire Curtis

Barry Vacker, Temple University
“Population Zero: After Utopia?”

Sandra Sprows, Suffolk County Community College
“From Triffids to Cannibals: Utopian Responses to the Self/Other Dichotomy in Science Fiction Literature and Film”

Dan Smith, Chelsea College of Art and Design
“Witness and Archive: Remnants of the Holocaust in Utopian Science Fiction”

6B: 20th Century Fiction II

Nighthawk II

Moderator: Rob McAlear

Eric Scott, University of Missouri-Kansas City

“Radical Redefinitions of State and Subject in LeGuin's *The Dispossessed*”

Dominic Ording, Millersville University of Pennsylvania

“The Playgrounds (Still) in Our Minds: Albee's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* _ Revised and Revisited amid the New Millennial Culture Wars”

6C: 20th Century Utopian Thought

Nighthawk I

Moderator: Laurence Davis

Sarah Hogan, University at Buffalo

“The Origins of Utopia and the Origins of Capitalism”

Manuela Salau Brasil, Federal University of Paraná

“The Building Blocks of Hope”

Peter G. Stillman, Vassar College

“Green Utopia/Dystopia at the Beginning of the 20th Century: E. M. Forster's ‘The Machine Stops’”

6D: From Hegel to Deleuze

Twilight

Moderator: Mary Glenn Keadle

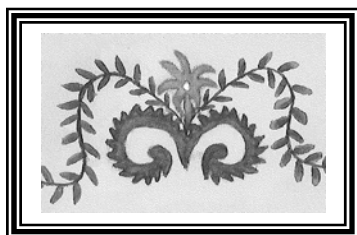
Dwight C. Kiel, University of Central Florida

“Hegel's Critique of the Utopian Moment”

Dustin J. Byrd, Olivet College

“The Frankfurt School's Negative Utopia: On the non-Defining of that which Does Not Exist”

Break 4:15-4:30



Session VII 4:30-6:30

“Utopia and Marxism Today”

Nighthawk I

Frederic Jameson, Duke University

Moderator: Peter Fitting

Commentators:

Doryjane Birrer, College of Charleston

Kathi Weeks, Duke University

Phillip Wegner, University of Florida

Dinner on your own

Saturday, October 31

Registration

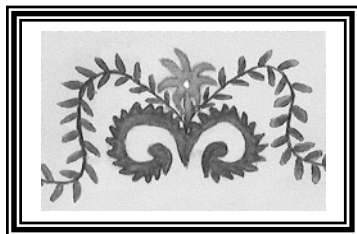
Lobby

Book Display

Nighthawk II

Breakfast 7:00-8:30

East Restaurant



Session VIII 8:30-10:00

8A: 20th Century Music

Beauregard

Moderator: Jonathan Harvey

Alex Hall, University of Arkansas

“A Horrible Force Called Music’: Zappa’s *Joe’s Garage* as Critical Dystopia”

Alec Magnet, City College of New York
“Morrissey Will Repair Me; I Will Repair Morrissey”

Cynthia J. Miller, Emerson College
“If You Listen Closely Sounds of the Utopian Future in the Film Scores of Jerry Goldsmith”

8B: Education

Nighthawk I

Moderator: Justin Nordstrom

Anupama Jain, Colby College
“Crisis and the Continuing Relevance of Utopia”

Alex MacDonald, Campion College, University of Regina
“More’s Utopia and Higher Education”

Charlene A. Stinard, University of Central Florida
“The Relationship between Theory and Practice in Higher Education and Student Development”

8C: Las Vegas

Twilight

Moderator: Phillip Wegner

Lynn Houston, California State University
“Wedding Chapels and Strip Clubs: Las Vegas as an Anti-Utopian Feminist Space”

Susan Willis, Duke University
“Memories: Made in China”

Jane Kuenz, University of Southern Maine
“What Happens in Vegas”

8D: Utopia and Mass Production

Nighthawk II

Moderator: Jelena Bogdanović

Igor Marjanovic, Washington University in St. Louis
“Marina City: The Chicago "Machine" and the Architecture of Bertrand Goldberg”

Craig Malmrose, East Carolina University
“Modernism: A Lingerin Legacy of Contradictions”

Gunnar Swanson, East Carolina University
“Form Follows Semiotic Function: Complexity and Contradiction in
Modernist Design”

Break 10:00-10:15



Session IX 10:15-11:45

9A: Apocalyptic Families

Beauregard

Moderator: Carrie Hintz

Stephanie Boluk, University of Florida
“The end of history in *Blondie*”

Nicole LaRose, University of Houston-Downtown
“*Children of Men*, Dystopian Worlds, and Utopian Kinship”

Kenneth M. Roemer, University of Texas at Arlington
“Bare-ing Dystopia: The Stripped-Down Family of *The Road*”

9B: Critical Utopias

Nighthawk II

Moderator: Dan Smith

Joel Tonyan, University of Arkansas
“Huxley’s *Island* as Critical Utopia”

Gib Prettyman, Penn State Fayette
“Western Buddhism and the Critical Utopia”

Brendon Langer, The University of Western Ontario
Thinking Metaphorically, ‘*Engaged Kerygmatically*’: Utopian Concerns in the Phenomenology
of Myth of Northrop Frye

9C: SUS Teaching Committee Planning Session: Open to All

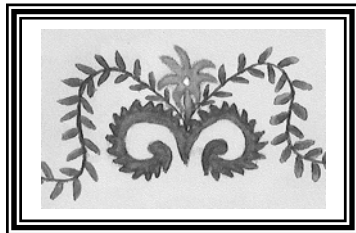
Nighthawk I

Moderator: Jill Belli

Please join us in planning future education initiatives for the Society.
We want to hear from you: this session is interactive, and all members are invited!

Conference Luncheon 12:00-1:30

Lee Ballroom



Session X 1:30-3:15

10A: Technology and Mapping

Beauregard

Moderator: Jonathan Harvey

Soren Triff, Bristol Community College
“Framing Utopian Narratives”

Brian Greenspan, Carleton University
“From Archives to Zombies: Some Utopian Applications of Spatial Hypernarrative”

Marianne Ryan, University of Michigan
“Accelerating Technologies & the Singularity: Utopian Theory or Utopian Practice?”

10B: Science/Technology Literature

Nighthawk II

Moderator: Cynthia J. Miller

Barry Vacker, Temple University
“Utopia and the Starry Skies”

A. Bowdoin Van Riper, Southern Polytechnic State University
“Nuclear Airships and Robot Maids: Why We Keep Getting the Future Wrong”

Carroll Matthew Schumacher, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
“Subversion and The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym: An Indeterminate Anti-Utopia”

10C: Late 19th Century Fiction

Nighthawk I

Moderator: Toby Widdicombe

Roslyn Ko, City University of New York

“Hospitality or Hostility: Between Utopian Theory and Practice in William Morris’s Social Utopia”

Mark Allison, Ohio Wesleyan University

“Elizabeth Barrett Browning’s Agon with Socialism: the Case of *Aurora Leigh*”

Peter Sands, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

“Six Lawyers, a Feminist, and an Architect Walk into a Room: Resort to Law in Nineteenth-Century American Utopian Fiction”

Scott Peebles, College of Charleston

“George Foster’s Urban Dystopia”

10D: Community and Religion

Twilight

Moderator: Spencer Dew

John J. Navin, Coastal Carolina University

“‘Like men set upon the ice’: The demise of 17th Century Separatist Communities in England, Holland, and America”

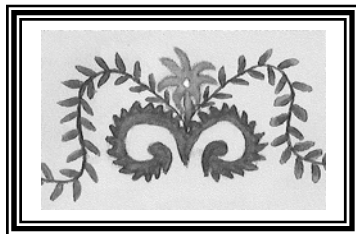
John Saillant, Western Michigan University

“The Religious Roots of Black Utopia in West Africa”

Andrew Aaron, Independent Scholar

“Rabbinic Utopia”

Break 3:15-3:30



Session XI 3:30-5:15

11A: Meditating on the Break

Nighthawk I

Moderator: Rob McAlear

Monica Achen, Yale University

“Murderer, Hope of Youth: Patricide as Revolutionary Rupture in Two Expressionist Dramas”

Andrew Karr, University of Wisconsin-Madison

“Critical Utopias, Uncritical Reading: Misunderstanding and 'the Break' in *Woman on the Edge of Time*”

Gerry Canavan, Duke University

“Burn It Down and Start Again: Apocalyptic Futurity and the Break”

11B: Seeing America

Beauregard

Moderator: Dwight Kiel

Zac Zimmer, Cornell University

“Utopia ON America”

Mark Long, College of Charleston

“Dreaming America – Landscape Photography in the West”

Steven Brown, University of Rhode Island

“Robert ParkeHarrison's Photo-Utopian Visions of Self and Place”

11C: Work

Nighthawk II

Moderator: Glenn Wilkinson

Ioanna Zlateva, Duke University

“Revisiting *Empire*”

Karee Williams, Independent Scholar

“Running it Right: Re-structuring and Power in Employee Owned Companies”

Laurence Davis, National University of Ireland Maynooth

“The Abolition of Work?”

Uri Zilbersheid, Yezreel Valley College

“Abolition or Democratic Organization of Labor – Two Contradicting Utopias in Marx's Teachings”

11D: Early Modern Literature

Twilight

Moderator: Carrie Hintz

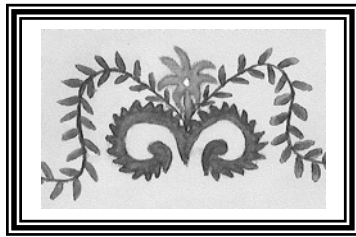
Toby Widdicombe, University of Alaska Anchorage
“Shakespeare’s Pocket Utopias; or, the Dangers of Question Begging”

Peter Carravetta, Stony Brook University
“The Eclipse of the Sun. Campanella and the Rhetoric of History”

Timothy Dunfield, University of Alberta
“A Shared Oceana”

Rebecca Totaro, Florida Gulf Coast University
“Chicken Soup (and Orange Juice) for the Plague-Time Soul”

Break 5:15-5:30



Session XII 5:30-6:30

Roundtable on Art Lewis

Nighthawk I

Moderator: Carrie Hintz

Commentators:

Jennifer Wagner-Lawlor, College of the Liberal Arts at Penn State University
Naomi Jacobs, University of Maine
Kenneth M. Roemer, University of Texas at Arlington

Dinner on your own

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