
expoQA®26
MADRID 26th, 27th & 28th May
expoqa.eu

HI, I'M ŽIVKOVIĆ ČEDOMIR

SENIOR QA ENGINEER (MENTOR & LEAD)

In my current role as a Senior QA Engineer (Mentor & Lead), I am passionate about software testing and quality improvement. My focus is on gaining a deep understanding of user needs and ensuring quality across all layers of an application – from API, Frontend, and Database, to Automation, Gateway, ESB, and ERP systems. I have strong expertise in analyzing application communication and traffic between endpoints to ensure reliability and performance.

QUALITY ACROSS ALL LAYERS

Ensuring quality across API, Frontend, Database, Automation, Gateway, ESB, and ERP systems.

DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF USER NEEDS

Focused on gaining a deep understanding of user needs and delivering reliable, high-quality solutions.

APPLICATION COMMUNICATION EXPERT

Strong expertise in analyzing application communication and traffic between endpoints to ensure reliability and performance.

MENTOR & LEAD

Mentoring QA engineers, leading by example, and driving quality culture across teams.

LET'S CONNECT

LinkedIn

COMMITTED TO QUALITY. DRIVEN BY CURIOSITY. FOCUSED ON IMPACT.

From >_ CONSOLE to CONTRACT:

ETHICAL API HACKING & DEBUGGING THAT WINS

PRACTICAL API TESTING

DEVTOOLS TRICKS

A TRUE ENDPOINT-HACKING STORY

THAT LED TO A CLIENT WIN.

>_ What you'll learn:

1 Design focused API tests

Design focused API tests (requests, schemas, status codes, edge cases) that increase coverage and reduce flaky UI dependencies.

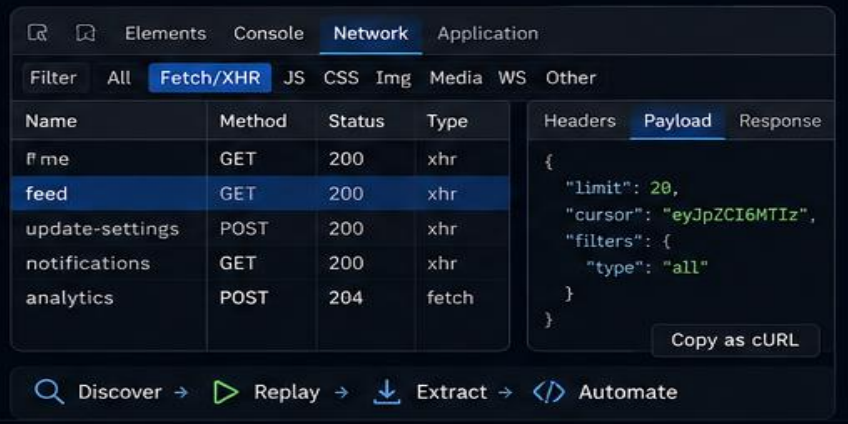
```
POST /api/v1/users

{
  "name": "Cedomir",
  "email": "cedo@example.com",
  "role": "user"
}
```

- **Status codes** 200 / 400 / 401 / 404
- **Schema validation** request & response
- **Edge cases** empty, large, null, special chars, limits

Better coverage • Fewer flaky UI tests • Faster feedback

2 Use browser DevTools

Use browser DevTools (Console, Network, Application) to discover hidden API calls, replay traffic, and extract payloads for automated tests.



Discover → Replay → Extract → Automate

3 Apply ethical "hacking" checks

Apply basic ethical "hacking" checks on endpoints: input fuzzing, parameter tampering, authorization checks, and response analysis (without destructive testing).

- **Input fuzzing**
  `' OR 1=1 --`
  `"../../etc/passwd"`
- **Parameter tampering**
  `id=123 → id=124`
  `role=user → role=admin`
- **Authorization checks**
  with token vs. without token
  user A vs. user B
- **Response analysis**
  status codes, error handling, sensitive data exposure

Ethical
Responsible
Non-destructive

4 Convert findings into automated checks

Convert manual findings into automated checks (Postman, examples) and meaningful bug reports.

```
GET /api/v1/users/123   Send

Params  Auth  Headers (7)  Body  Tests

pm.test("Status code is 200", function () {
  pm.response.to.have.status(200);
});

pm.test("Schema - name exists", function () {
  var json = pm.response.json();
  pm.expect(json).to.have.property("name");
});

pm.test("No unexpected fields", function () {
  pm.expect(json).to.not.have.property("password");
});
```

Bug report

Summary
Unauthorized access via user ID

Steps to reproduce
1. Login as User A
2. Call GET /api/v1/users/123
3. Change ID to another user
4. Observe response

Expected result
Should return 403

Actual result
Returns 200 and user data

Impact
High – user data exposure

Attachments
Request/response, screenshots

Postman Tests → Automated Checks → Actionable Bugs

5 Use common sense to triage issues

Adopt 'common sense' heuristics for triaging issues quickly (how to prioritise, when to escalate to security, when to write regression tests).

Prioritise
- Impact on users
- Data sensitivity
- Ease of exploitation
- Frequency / reach

Escalate to Security
- Auth bypass
- Data exposure
- Privilege escalation
- Injection risks

Write Regression Tests
- Fixed bugs
- Critical flows
- Edge cases
- Prevention for future

Rule of thumb:

High impact + Easy to exploit + Sensitive data = Escalate

Fixed issue that can break again = Automate

★ Think like a tester. Inspect like a developer. Act like a professional. | Build quality. Protect users. Deliver value. >_

“HOW ONE API CALL TOOK ME TO A MOVIE PREMIERE”

CURIOSITY, ETHICS, AND ACCIDENTAL ADVENTURES IN CYBERSECURITY

CURIOSITY
Questioning everything

ETHICS
Doing the right thing, always

API EXPLORATION
Finding paths others don't see

REAL IMPACT
Turning a discovery into an opportunity

The Phone Call

He says,

> "Listen... something is **off** with this website I'm working on.

QA is **asleep**,

Development has **disappeared** into the **woods**,

And the whole thing feels... **cursed.**

SOMETHING IS WRONG.
I NEED TO FIND THE TRUTH.

"Shure I will take a quick look"

The most dangerous sentence in tech

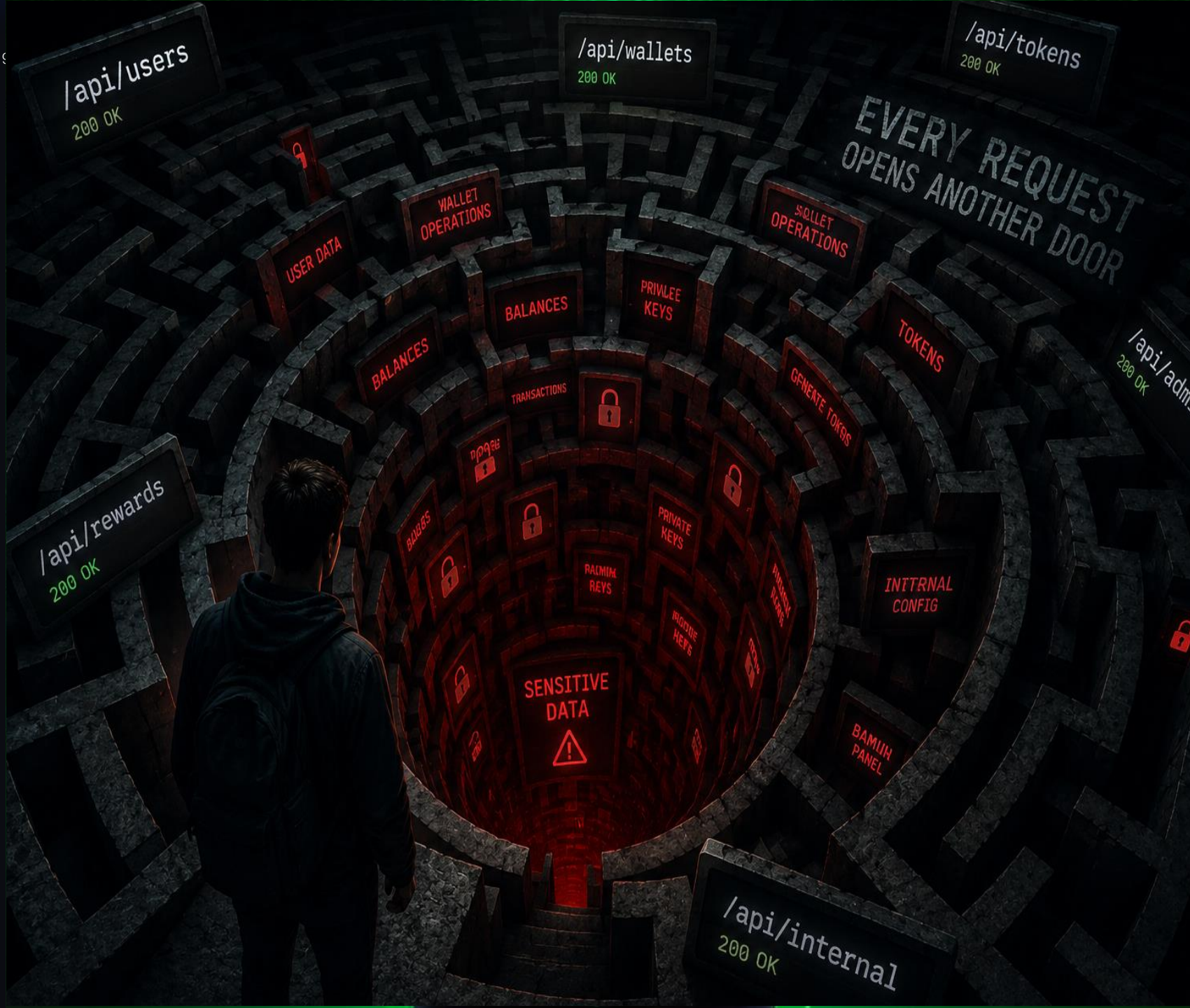
"THE API STARTED OVERSHARING"

THE API

"Discovery Spiral"

- User data
- Wallet operations
- Token generation
- Reward system

"Every request opened another door"



"BRO... THIS SITE IS BASICALLY A PIÑATA."

> "IF YOU BREATHE ON IT, CANDY FALLS OUT."

BEAUTIFUL OUTSIDE.
EMPTY INSIDE.
BUGS EVERYWHERE.

"CURIOSITY WITHOUT ETHICS IS JUST EXPLOITATION"

"REPORT"

Response 5/15/2026

"TWO DAYS OF SILENCE"

AND THEN... NOTHING.

Two days of silence.
Two days of imagining everything from

"THANK YOU!" ... "WE'VE CONTACTED OUR LAWYERS."

INBOX

Search...

Inbox
Sent
Drafts
Archive
Trash
Settings

WHAT'S NEXT?

Your inbox is empty.
Nothing to see here... yet.

New message...

Send

Last communication received: May 15, 2026 • 2 Days Ago

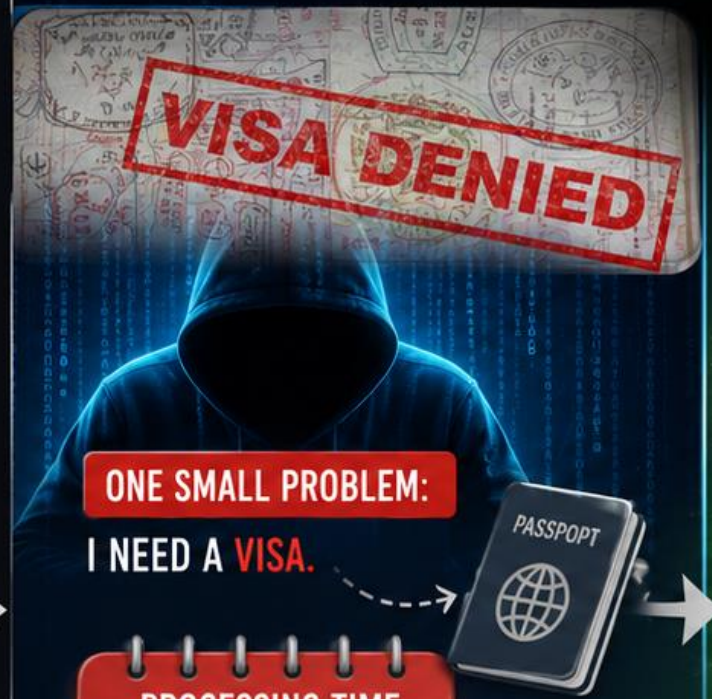
INBOX 5/15/2026

"CAN YOU COME TO LONDON TO DISCUSS?"

- AMAZING!
- INCREDIBLE!

Can you come to London to discuss?

Looking forward to your reply.



ONE SMALL PROBLEM:

I NEED A VISA.

PROCESSING TIME

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

AND THE VISA NEEDS ONE MONTH.

SO I OFFER MILAN INSTEAD.

BECAUSE IF YOU CAN'T HAVE LONDON, AT LEAST YOU CAN HAVE GOOD PASTA.

PROBLEM:
VISA TAKES 1 MONTH

SOLUTION:
MEET IN MILAN INSTEAD

RESULT:
GREAT CONVERSATIONS & EVEN BETTER PASTA

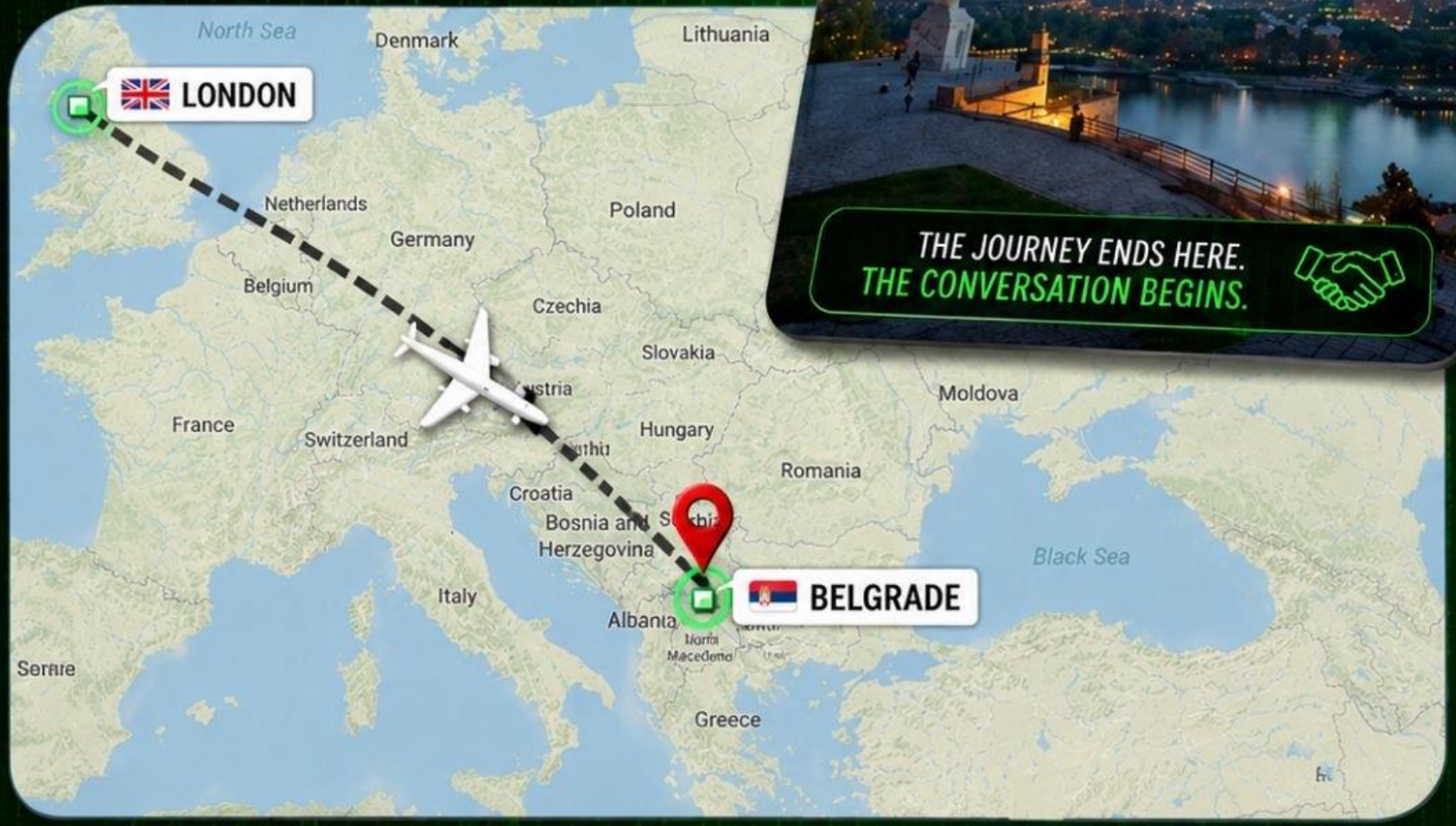
LET'S MAKE IT HAPPEN!

“NO. I’LL COME TO YOU.”

BELGRADE

- HE FLIES TO BELGRADE.
- TO MEET ME PERSONALLY.

HE SAID. HE DID. *NOW WE MEET.*



FROM MESSAGE TO MEETING. FROM DISTANCE TO CONNECTION.

AND NOT ONLY THAT —

HE INVITES ME TO

MEET HIM

AT THE PREMIERE OF HIS NEW MOVIE.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN...

I WENT FROM

INSPECTING API ENDPOINTS

WITH A GLASS OF WINE

TO WALKING A RED CARPET

WITH A MAN WHOSE

API HAD TRUST ISSUES.

TRY EXPLAINING THAT CAREER PATH TO *YOUR PARENTS.*

INSPECTING API ENDPOINTS » INVITED TO THE MOVIE PREMIERE » WALKING THE RED CARPET » WITH A MAN WHOSE API HAD TRUST ISSUES

"But here's the real message behind the humor"

Curiosity opened the door.

Integrity kept it open.

THE END

Sys:0x00

"SOMETIMES OPPORTUNITIES DON'T KNOCK... THEY LEAK THROUGH AN API"

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FROM CODE TO RED CARPET

THE JOURNEY IS UNPREDICTABLE.
MAKE IT MEANINGFUL.

terminal — final.sh

user@system:~$

SO STAY CURIOUS.

Keep asking questions. Keep exploring.
The best discoveries start with curiosity.

STAY ETHICAL.

With great access comes great responsibility.
Build trust. Protect it. Earn it.

AND ALWAYS BE READY —

Opportunities don't come with a warning.
Be prepared. Be adaptable. Be you.

BECAUSE YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN A SUMMER NIGHT, A FRIEND'S FRUSTRATION, AND ONE TINY ENDPOINT. MIGHT LEAD YOU TO THE PREMIERE OF A MOVIE YOU DIDN'T EVEN KNOW EXISTED THAT MORNING.

> THANK YOU.

Fade to black

CONTACT DETAILS

LET'S CONNECT.

zivkovic.cedomir@gmail.com

+381 64 160 45 93

SCAN TO SAVE CONTACT

TRUST IS EARNED.
CONTACT IS THE FIRST STEP.

expoQA®26

MADRID 26th, 27th & 28th May

Thank you for attending

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