

# Knowsley Libraries Big Lock In

Hi All

While we're all still having to adjust and **stay safe** at this worrying time, we thought we'd bring you another issue of **Knowsley Libraries Big Lock In**. Lots of us are missing our family, friends and especially going out to our favourite places like the Library ☺ We decided that we'd put together this little newsletter with lots of bits and bobs in such as recipes, book recommendations, and we've even included a quiz to help ease the boredom.

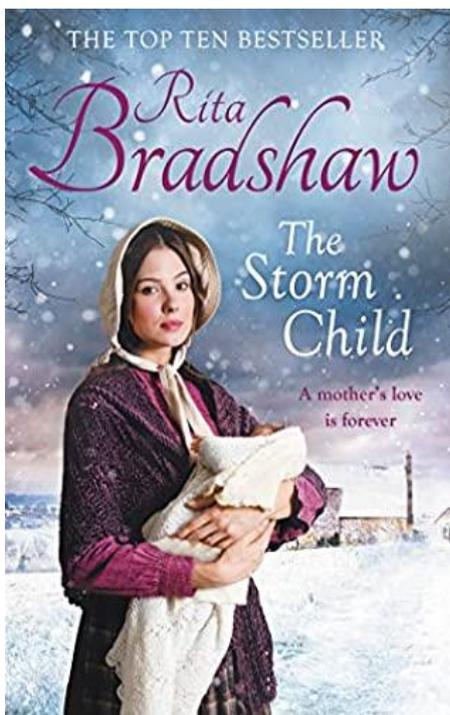
So, a little bit of homework for you while you're unable to go out and about. I was wondering if you'd share with us 'What You're Reading in Lockdown', or your favourite book/author that you'd like to recommend to others.

I've asked friends, family and colleagues to share with us what they're reading and it's quite a mix!

## What are people reading?

### The Storm Child

By Rita Bradshaw



**It's mid-winter**, and in the throes of a fierce blizzard Elsie Redfern and her husband discover an unknown girl in their hay barn about to give birth. After the young mother dies, Elsie takes the infant in and raises her as her own daughter, her precious storm child. Gina grows into a beautiful little girl, but her safe haven turns out to be anything but.

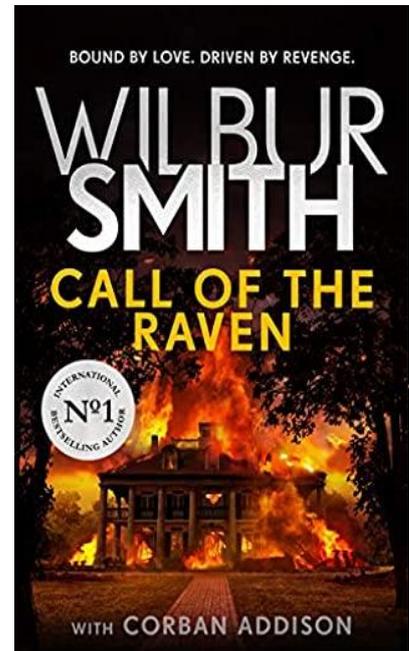
Torn away from her home and family, the child finds herself in a nightmare from which there's no waking, but despite her misery and bewilderment, Gina's determined to survive.

Years pass. With womanhood comes the Second World War, along with more heartbreak, grief and betrayal. Then, a new but dangerous love beckons; can Gina ever escape the dark legacy of the storm child?

## Call of the Raven

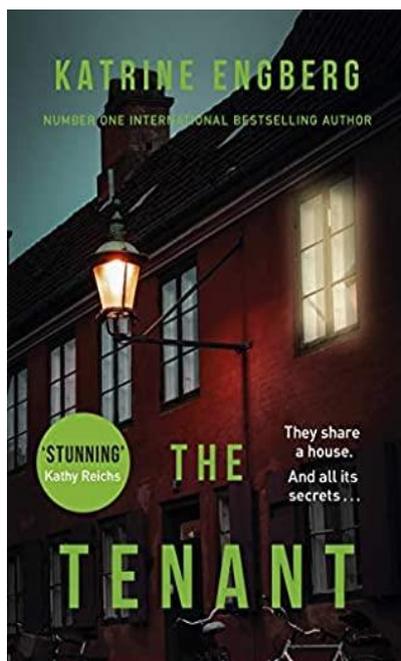
By Wilbur Smith

**The son of a wealthy plantation owner** and a doting mother, Augustus Mungo St John is accustomed to the wealth and luxuries his privilege has afforded him. That is until he returns from university to discover his family ruined, his inheritance stolen and his childhood sweetheart, Camilla, taken by the conniving Chester Marion. Fuelled by anger, and love, Mungo swears vengeance and devotes his life to saving Camilla - and destroying Chester. Camilla, trapped in New Orleans and powerless to her position as a kept slave and suffering at the hands of Chester's brutish behaviour, must learn to do whatever it takes to survive. As Mungo battles his own fate and misfortune to achieve the revenge that drives him, and regain his power in the world, he must question what it takes for a man to survive when he has nothing, and what he is willing to do in order to get what he wants.



## The Tenant

By Katrine Engberg

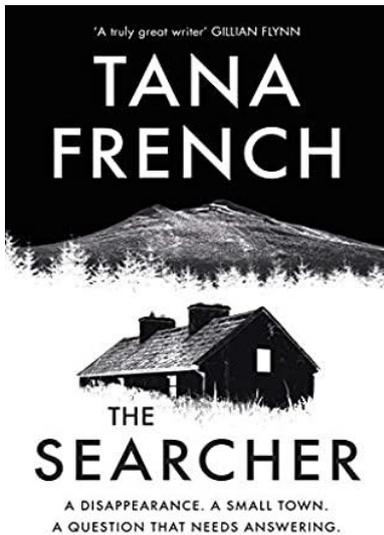


**When a young woman** is discovered brutally murdered in her own apartment, with an intricate pattern of lines carved into her face, Copenhagen police detectives Jeppe Korner and Anette Werner are assigned to the case. They very quickly establish a link between the victim, Julie Stender and her complex landlady, Esther de Laurenti.

Esther also turns out to be a budding novelist and when Julie turns up as a murder victim in the still-unfinished mystery she's writing, the link between fiction and real life grows more urgent.

But is Esther guilty or merely another victim in a far more dangerous game of vengeance? Anette and Jeppe must dig more deeply into the two women's pasts to discover the secret that links them both.

## The Searcher By Tana French



**Cal Hooper** thought a fixer-upper in a remote Irish village would be the perfect escape. After twenty-five years in the Chicago police force, and a bruising divorce, he just wants to build a new life in a pretty spot with a good pub where nothing much happens.

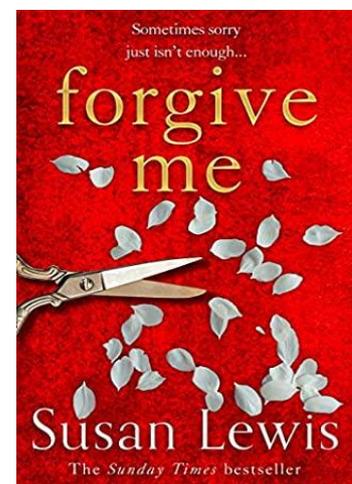
But then a local kid comes looking for his help. His brother has gone missing, and no one, least of all the police, seems to care. Cal wants nothing to do with any kind of investigation, but somehow he can't make himself walk away.

Soon Cal will discover that even in the most idyllic small town, secrets lie hidden, people aren't always what they seem, and trouble can come calling at his door.

## Forgive Me By Susan Lewis

**Archie Colbrook** spends his time writing letters. Letters to the stranger to whom he committed terrible harm. Archie knows he doesn't deserve forgiveness. Yes, he didn't mean to hurt anyone. But does that matter? He still did it.

Claudia Winters hopes to feel safe for the first time in years, it's her chance for a new beginning. But Claudia knows that the past won't stay hidden for long - and she can't help but feel that it's all about to catch up with her.



I hope these snippets help, if you'd like to tell us what you're reading we'd love to hear from you, and also if you've read any of the books recommended and what you thought of them. Please email [yourlibrary@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:yourlibrary@knowsley.gov.uk) and we'll post your book recommendations.

## Do you know anyone who would benefit from our Home Delivery Library Service?

Do you know anyone who doesn't want, or is unable, to venture out at the moment?  
They may struggle to carry books, or find it difficult to get to their local library?

Just pass on our number and ask them to give us a call on 0151 443 3738

We will deliver 5 books per month to their door.

**We're here to help 😊**



## TV Quiz:

1. Which girl group performed during the opening minutes of Channel 5's launch in 1997 in the UK?
2. In what year did Coronation Street air on ITV?
3. How many episodes of Game of Thrones are there?
4. What is the highest rated TV series on the IMDB Top 250 TV series list?
5. Which British TV show recorded the largest audience for a single episode with over 30 million viewers?
6. Where is Strictly Come Dancing filmed?
7. In what year did long-running children's programme Blue Peter first broadcast in the UK?
8. Who played Rodney Trotter in Only Fools and Horses?
9. Which actor portrayed Inspector Morse?
10. Name the creators of Stranger Things

**I'll add the answers next month, good luck!**

**The answers to last week's teaser are as follows:**

1. Caledonia
2. Richard (Dick) Whittington
3. Catherine Parr
4. William Pitt (The Younger)
5. 1431
6. Norwegian
7. Julia Gillard (2010-2013)
8. Sir Walter Raleigh
9. Cambridge
10. Smallpox

## Recipe:

I'd like to share some easy to follow and lovely to eat recipes from family, friends, colleagues and some that I've come across.

This one I found on the internet!

### Gingerbread People



#### Ingredients

- 175g Dark Muscovado Sugar
- 85g Golden Syrup
- 100g Butter
- 350g Plain Flour plus extra for dusting
- 1tsp Bicarbonate of Soda
- 1tbsp Ground Ginger
- 1tsp Ground Cinnamon
- 1 Egg, beaten

#### To Decorate

- Ready-made writing Icing
- Chocolate Buttons or small sweets (optional)

## Method:

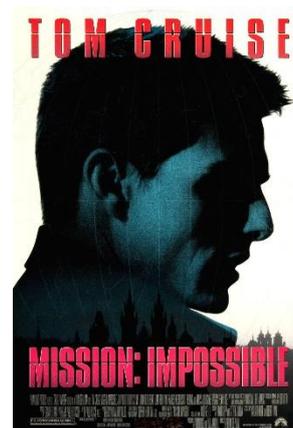
- ❖ Melt the sugar, golden syrup and butter in a saucepan, then bubble for 1-2 mins. Leave to cool for about 10 mins.
- ❖ Tip the flour, bicarbonate of soda and spices into a large bowl. Add the warm syrup mixture and the egg, stir everything together, then gently knead in the bowl until smooth and streak-free.
- ❖ The dough will firm up once cooled. Wrap in cling film and chill for at least 30 mins.
- ❖ Remove the dough from the fridge, leave at room temperature until softened.
- ❖ Heat the oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6
- ❖ Line two baking trays with baking parchment.
- ❖ Roll out the dough to the thickness of a £1 coin, then cut out gingerbread people with a cutter.
- ❖ Re-roll the excess dough and keep cutting until it's all used up.
- ❖ Lift the biscuits onto the trays and bake for 10-12 mins, swapping the trays over halfway through cooking.
- ❖ Leave to cool on the trays for 5 mins, then transfer to a wire rack to cool completely
- ❖ Use the icing to decorate the biscuits as you wish, and stick on chocolate or sweets for buttons.
- ❖ Leave to dry for 1-2 hrs.
- ❖ **Will keep for up to three days in an airtight container.**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

## Films of the Week:

### **Monday: Mission Impossible** **10.45pm BBC1**

When U.S. government operative Ethan Hunt and his mentor, Jim Phelps go on a covert assignment that takes a disastrous turn, Jim is killed, and Ethan becomes the prime murder suspect. Now a fugitive, Hunt recruits brilliant hacker Luther Stickell and maverick pilot Franz Krieger to help him sneak into a heavily guarded CIA building to retrieve a confidential computer file that will prove his innocence.



### **Tuesday: Bridesmaids** **9pm ITV2**

Annie is a single woman whose own life is a mess, but when she learns that her lifelong best friend, Lillian, is engaged, she has no choice but to serve as the maid of honour. Though lovelorn and almost penniless, Annie, nevertheless, winds her way through the strange and expensive rituals associated with her job as the bride's go-to gal. Determined to make things perfect, she gamely leads Lillian and the other bridesmaids down the wild road to the wedding.

### **Wednesday: Phantom Thread** **10pm BBC2**

Renowned dressmaker Reynolds Woodcock and his sister Cyril are at the centre of British fashion in 1950s London -- dressing royalty, movie stars, heiresses, socialites and debutantes. Women come and go in Woodcock's life, providing the confirmed bachelor with inspiration and companionship. His carefully tailored existence soon gets disrupted by Alma, a young and strong-willed woman who becomes his muse and lover.

### **Thursday: Shirley Valentine** **10pm Channel 5**

Feeling trapped in a world of domesticity, Shirley, a housewife from Liverpool, England, needs a change in her life before she has another conversation with the walls. When her friend Jane invites her on a trip to a Greek island, Shirley jumps at the chance.



### **Friday: La La Land** **10.10pm BBC2**

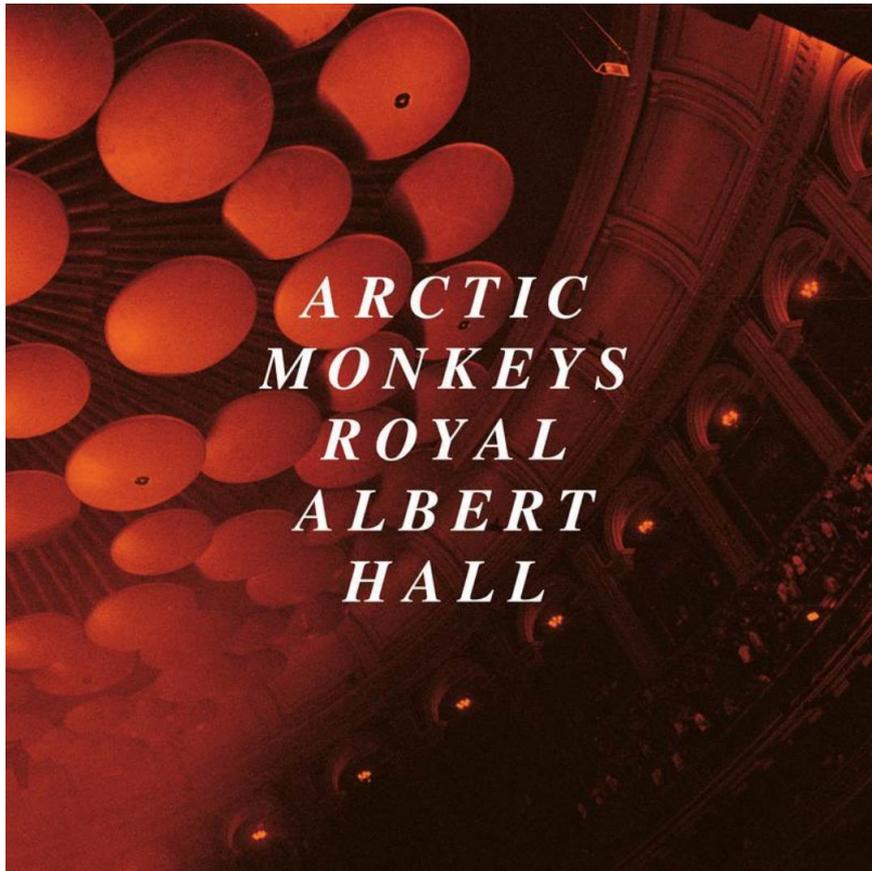
Sebastian and Mia are drawn together by their common desire to do what they love. But as success mounts they are faced with decisions that begin to fray the fragile fabric of their love affair, and the dreams they worked so hard to maintain in each other threaten to rip them apart.

If you'd like to share your thoughts on any of the films, we'd love to hear from you. Drop us an email and let us know what you think! [yourlibrary@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:yourlibrary@knowsley.gov.uk)

## Album of the Week:

**Arctic Monkeys: Live at the Royal Albert Hall by Arctic Monkeys recommended by Joe**

This live album was captured in 2018 at a War Child charity gig. While it leans heavily on their last two album releases, you'd think it was a greatest hits setlist. The album showcases a band that have grown from indie rockers to concept capturing magicians.



Here are Arctic Monkeys performing 'Arabella':

[Arctic Monkeys - Arabella \(Live At The Royal Albert Hall\) - YouTube](#)

If you'd like to share your thoughts on this album, we'd love to hear from you. Drop us an email and let us know what you think! [yourlibrary@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:yourlibrary@knowsley.gov.uk)

## Podcast of the Week:

### Table Manners with Jessie Ware

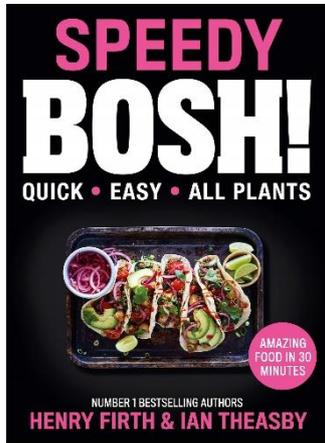
Jessie Ware hosts a podcast about food, family, and the beautiful art of having a chat, direct from her very own dinner table. With a little bit of help from her chef extraordinaire mum Lennie, each week guests from the worlds of music, culture and politics drop by for a bite and a bit of a natter. Oversharing guaranteed.



Here is the link to 'Table Manners with Jessie Ware':

[Table Manners with Jessie Ware on Apple Podcasts](#)

# New Non-Fiction at Huyton Library



## Speedy Bosh

Want delicious plant based meals in minutes? From weeknight pies, curries and pasta dishes for all the family.

Get read for big flavours, fast.



## THIS LAND

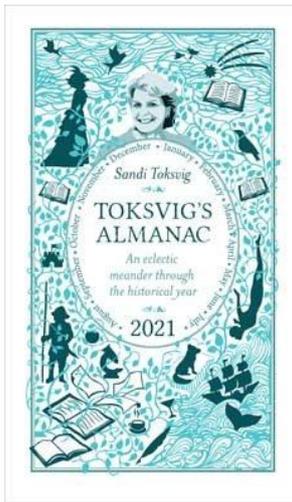
The Story of a Movement

**OWEN JONES**

allen lane

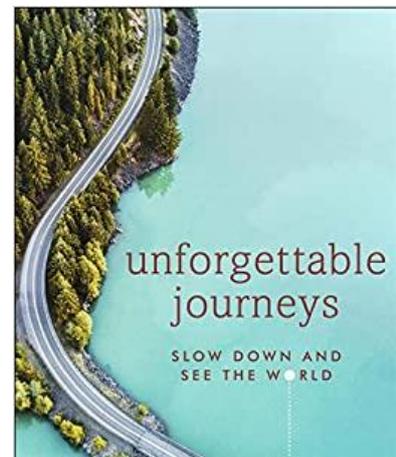
## This Land by Owen Jones

Jones takes us on a compelling, page turning journey through a tumultuous decade in British politics, gaining unprecedented access to key figures across the political spectrum.



## Toksvig's Almanac

Let Sandi Toksvig guide you on an eclectic meander through the calendar, illuminating neglected corners of history to tell tales of the fascinating figures you didn't learn about in school.



## Unforgettable Journeys

Discover the joys of slow travel. It's the journey, not the destination, so the saying goes, and what better way to see the world than by moving through it.

# Something for the Kids:

## CHRISTMAS QUIZ

1. In 'The Simpsons', who or what is called Santa's Little Helper?
2. How many doors can you open on your advent calendar on the lead up to Christmas?
3. Why does the Grinch hate Christmas so much?
4. Where does Santa live?
5. Who are Santa's most famous helpers?
6. What form of transport does Santa use to deliver presents across the World?
7. What has wings and often sits at the top of a Christmas Tree?
8. In the book 'The Snowman', what colour is the snowman's scarf?
9. What fizzy drink is being advertised in the Christmas advert with the light up train and lorry?
10. What is the main colour of Santa's sleigh?

## QUIZ ANSWERS

How well did you do with last week's quiz? You can check to see how many you got correct, may be all ten! The answers are below for you to check

1. Pasta
2. 29
3. One Direction
4. 15
5. Dog
6. 8
7. Luigi
8. 7
9. An Ogre
10. Andy

We'll have another Quiz for you next week.

# CRAFT TIME

This is a Christmas recipe that I have seen on the internet and I wanted to share with you. Nice and easy, doesn't take to much time.

## POLAR BEAR PEPPERMINT CREAMS



**Prep time: 30 min, No cook, Makes: 15-20**

### **What you'll need**

- 250g Icing Sugar
- 1 egg white, beaten
- Few drops of peppermint essence
- 15 Chocolate sweets

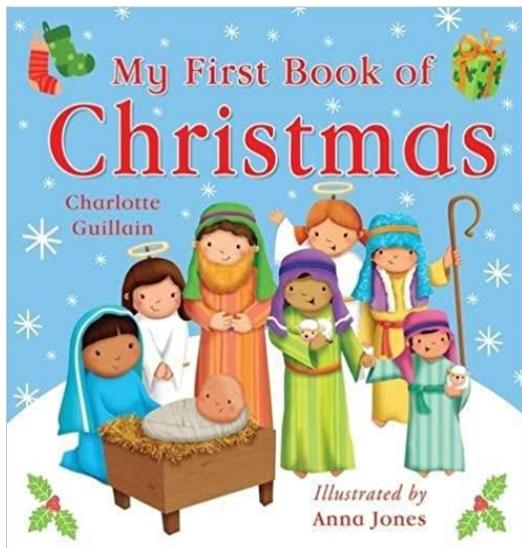
## To Make

- ❖ Sieve the icing sugar into a large bowl. Mix in the egg white, a little at a time - stop adding it when you have a soft dough that feels like plasticine.
- ❖ Add 3 drops of the peppermint essence, mix well and taste. Add another drop if it isn't minty enough.
- ❖ Roll half the mixture into 15 balls, about the size of cherry tomatoes, then flatten them with your hand to make the bear heads.
- ❖ Place on sheets of baking parchment on a large board or tray. Using half the remaining mixture, make blueberry-sized balls and flatten them out onto the heads to make snouts. Add chocolate sweets for the noses.
- ❖ Use the rest of the mixture to make the ears. Shape them into tiny balls and press them gently into the top of the heads with your fingertips. Use a cocktail stick to shape the eyes.
- ❖ Leave the polar bears to dry for 3-4 hrs, or overnight.
- ❖ Eat within 1 month.

# BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

## My First Book of Christmas

By Charlotte Guillain



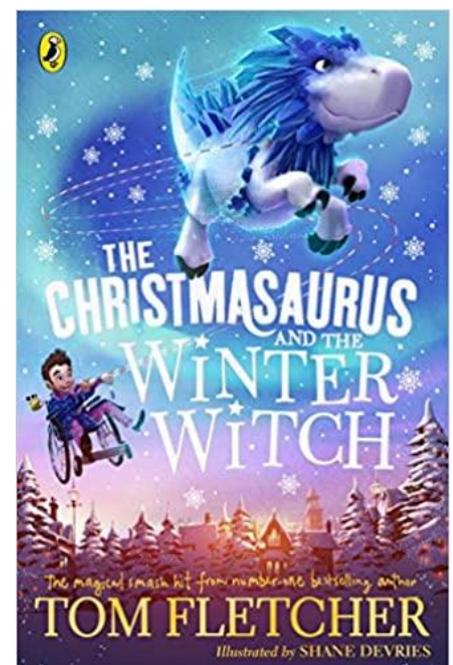
Christmas is an exciting time of year and this book helps to capture the excitement for young children while explaining some of the traditions and customs behind the festival.

## The Christmasaurus and the Winter Witch

Tom Fletcher

'She is the best-kept Christmas secret of all,' whispered Santa Claus. 'Which is surprising, because she is so powerful that Christmas itself would not exist without her. She is older than time itself, yet still as young as tomorrow. She is known only as the Winter Witch.'

A year has passed since a boy named William Trundle had an incredible adventure with the most extraordinary dinosaur: the Christmasaurus. Now, William is about to be swept back to the North Pole, and meet the icy, mysterious and magical Winter Witch, whose power to control time allows Santa to travel all around the world on Christmas Eve. And when William learns that the fate of Christmas hangs in the balance, he and the Christmasaurus must risk everything to save it . . .



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
**&**  
**A HAPPY 2021**  
**TO YOU ALL**  
**FROM**  
**KNOWSLEY LIBRARY SERVICE**



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