

The oratorio anthology the vocal library soprano Textbook

The oratorio anthology the vocal library soprano is a comprehensive collection designed to serve both aspiring and professional sopranos seeking to expand their repertoire and deepen their understanding of classical oratorio music. This anthology offers a curated selection of some of the most iconic and challenging soprano pieces from the sacred and secular oratorio traditions. Whether you're preparing for auditions, concerts, or personal study, this collection provides invaluable resources to elevate your vocal artistry and interpretative skills.

Understanding the Significance of the Oratorio Anthology the Vocal Library Soprano

What is the Vocal Library Soprano?

The Vocal Library Soprano is a specialized series of music anthologies that focus on the vocal works suited for soprano voices. These collections typically include a wide range of pieces—from arias to ensemble works—crafted to showcase the lyrical, dramatic, and technical qualities of the soprano voice. The oratorio anthology within this library emphasizes sacred and semi-sacred works, highlighting the grandeur and spiritual depth of the genre.

Why Choose the oratorio anthology?

The oratorio anthology is invaluable because it consolidates key works from composers like Handel, Bach, Haydn, and Mendelssohn, offering singers a one-stop resource for some of the most significant pieces in the soprano repertoire. It provides context, detailed annotations, and performance notes, making it suitable for both study and performance preparation.

Features of the oratorio anthology the vocal library soprano

Curated Selections of Masterpieces

The anthology includes a carefully curated selection of oratorio works, featuring:

- Handel's "Messiah" and "Judas Maccabaeus"
- Bach's "St. Matthew Passion" and "Christmas Oratorio"
- Haydn's "The Creation"

- Mendelssohn's "Elijah"
- Other notable works from the Baroque, Classical, and Romantic periods

Comprehensive Performance Notes and Annotations

Each piece comes with detailed notes on:

- Historical background and context
- Vocal challenges and technical considerations
- Interpretive suggestions and stylistic nuances
- Pronunciation guides for foreign languages

High-Quality Score Editions

The anthology provides clear, easy-to-read sheet music, often in modern editions that facilitate accurate reading and performance. Some editions also include:

- Editable digital PDFs
- Performance practice tips
- Optional accompaniment tracks for practice

Benefits of Using the oratorio anthology the vocal library soprano

Expanding Repertoire and Versatility

By exploring a diverse range of oratorio works, sopranos can:

- Develop a versatile singing portfolio
- Gain familiarity with different stylistic periods
- Build confidence in tackling complex, expressive music

Enhancing Vocal Technique and Interpretation

The detailed notes and performance suggestions guide singers in:

- Refining vocal techniques such as breath control, phrasing, and diction
- Understanding historical performance practices

- Expressing emotional depth and spiritual sincerity in performances

Preparing for Auditions and Performances

The anthology serves as an excellent resource for:

- Practicing audition pieces with authoritative editions
- Gaining insights into the stylistic requirements of oratorio singing
- Building confidence through familiarization with key works

How to Make the Most of the oratorio anthology the vocal library soprano

Structured Practice Routine

To maximize the benefits:

- Break down each piece into manageable sections for focused practice
- Use the performance notes to inform your interpretive choices
- Record practice sessions to monitor progress and refine delivery

Incorporate Historical Context and Style

Understanding the period and style of each work enhances authenticity:

- Study period-specific ornamentation and phrasing
- Listen to renowned recordings for interpretation ideas
- Attend live performances or masterclasses when possible

Collaborate and Seek Feedback

Working with accompanists, coaches, or fellow singers can provide:

- Constructive critique and new perspectives
- Opportunities for ensemble work and blending voices
- Enhanced confidence in performance settings

Where to Find the oratorio anthology the vocal library soprano

Music Retailers and Online Stores

The anthology is available through:

- Specialized music stores
- Online sheet music platforms like Sheet Music Plus, JW Pepper, or Musicnotes
- The Vocal Library's official website or publisher's site

Digital and Print Options

Depending on your preference, you can choose:

- Printed editions for tactile reading and annotation
- Digital PDFs for easy access and portability
- Audio recordings for listening and study purposes

Subscription Services and Educational Resources

Some platforms offer subscription-based access to extensive libraries, including:

- Streaming audio and video performances
- Interactive learning modules
- Virtual masterclasses and tutorials

Conclusion: Elevate Your Soprano Performance with the oratorio anthology the vocal library soprano

The oratorio anthology the vocal library soprano is an essential resource for any serious singer aiming to master the profound and challenging repertoire of oratorio music. By providing a rich collection of works, detailed annotations, and practical resources, it empowers sopranos to explore the depths of their voice and connect with the spiritual and emotional essence of these timeless compositions. Whether preparing for a major performance, expanding your repertoire, or deepening your understanding of historical singing styles, this anthology offers the tools and inspiration needed to excel.

Investing in this collection not only enriches your musical journey but also opens doors to new

interpretative horizons and performance opportunities. Embrace the beauty and complexity of oratorio singing with the vocal library soprano, and let your voice shine in the grand tradition of classical choral and solo works.

The Oratorio Anthology The Vocal Library Soprano: A Comprehensive Guide for Singers and Enthusiasts

Introduction

The oratorio anthology The Vocal Library Soprano stands as a pivotal collection for classical singers, educators, and enthusiasts seeking a curated compilation of some of the most significant and challenging soprano arias and ensemble pieces from the oratorio repertoire. With its rich selection, meticulous editing, and thoughtful organization, this anthology has become an essential resource for those aiming to deepen their understanding of the soprano voice within the sacred and dramatic contexts of oratorio music. This article explores the origins, content, significance, and practical applications of this influential anthology, providing readers with an in-depth perspective on its role in vocal training and performance preparation.

The Origins and Development of The Vocal Library Series

A Brief History of The Vocal Library

The Vocal Library series was initiated in the late 20th century by renowned publishers aiming to provide comprehensive, authoritative editions of classical vocal repertoire. Recognizing the need for accessible yet scholarly collections, the series quickly gained traction among conservatories, professional singers, and amateur enthusiasts. The Soprano anthology emerged as part of this broader effort, focusing specifically on the repertoire suited for the highest female voice type—those who often serve as the musical and emotional centerpiece of oratorio works.

Collaboration with Experts and Editors

The compilation process involved collaboration with leading musicologists, voice pedagogues, and performers to ensure the editions were both accurate and pedagogically valuable. Critical notes, historical context, and performance suggestions accompany each piece, making the anthology not just a sheet music collection but also an educational tool.

Contents and Structure of The Vocal Library Soprano

Selection Criteria and Range

The anthology features a carefully curated selection of arias, ensembles, and excerpts drawn from a

broad spectrum of oratorio compositions spanning Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and 20th-century periods. The selection criteria emphasize:

- Historical significance and popularity
- Vocal challenge and expressive potential
- Representativeness of different stylistic periods
- Availability of authoritative editions

The anthology covers a broad vocal range typical of the soprano voice, from the bright, agile coloratura passages to the more lyrical, expressive lines.

Organization and Layout

The collection is organized thematically and stylistically, typically divided into sections such as:

- Baroque Oratorios (e.g., Handel's Messiah, Bach's Christmas Oratorio)
- Classical and Romantic Works (e.g., Mendelssohn's Elijah, Berlioz's L'Enfance du Christ)
- Modern and Contemporary Selections

Each section begins with introductory notes providing historical background, stylistic considerations, and performance tips. The pieces are presented with:

- Complete vocal scores
- Piano reductions for practice and rehearsal
- Annotations on ornamentation, dynamics, and diction

Key Features and Innovations

Scholarly Edits and Authenticity

One of the anthology's hallmarks is its commitment to authenticity. Editors have meticulously checked each score against original manuscripts and early editions, ensuring that performers have access to the most faithful versions. Critical commentary highlights variations in manuscripts and offers insight into interpretative choices.

Pedagogical Tools

In addition to the musical scores, the anthology includes:

- Vocal exercises tailored to each style
- Historical context essays to inform interpretation
- Performance practice notes, especially for Baroque ornamentation and historically informed techniques

Accessibility and Practical Use

Designed for both study and performance, The Vocal Library Soprano features:

- Clear, readable engraving suitable for rehearsal
- Transposed versions for different voice types or key preferences
- Guidance on memorization and stage presence

Significance in Vocal Education and Performance

A Resource for Vocal Development

For aspiring sopranos, the anthology provides a structured pathway through the oratorio repertoire, helping develop:

- Vocal agility and flexibility through coloratura passages
- Expressive storytelling via lyrical lines
- Technical control in challenging ensemble sections

Educators leverage the anthology to design curriculum units, masterclasses, and individualized coaching.

A Tool for Repertoire Building

Professional singers use the collection to prepare audition repertoire, concert programs, and recordings. The anthology's comprehensive nature allows performers to explore:

- Stylistic nuances across different periods
- Language diction and pronunciation in Italian, German, English, and French texts
- Stylistic ornamentation and improvisation techniques

Enhancing Historical and Stylistic Awareness

Understanding the historical context of each piece enriches performance. The anthology's annotations help performers grasp the stylistic conventions and aesthetic priorities of different eras, facilitating historically informed performances.

Practical Applications and Tips for Users

For Students and Educators

- Use the anthology as a core repertoire resource for developing technical and interpretive skills.
- Incorporate the historical notes and performance tips into lesson plans.
- Employ the piano reductions for practice outside of the practice room.

For Performers Preparing for Auditions or Concerts

- Select pieces that showcase your strengths while aligning with the stylistic demands.
- Use the annotations to inform your interpretation and ornamentation choices.
- Record yourself performing sections to evaluate clarity, diction, and emotional delivery.

For Conductors and Accompanists

- Familiarize with the annotations to better support the singer's interpretation.
- Use the critical notes to understand possible variations and stylistic details.
- Coordinate rehearsal strategies based on the technical challenges highlighted in the anthology.

The Future of The Vocal Library Soprano and Similar Collections

As the performance landscape evolves with an increasing emphasis on historically informed practices and stylistic authenticity, collections like The Vocal Library Soprano will continue to be invaluable. Future editions may incorporate:

- Digital resources, including recordings and interactive annotations
- Translations and pronunciation guides for non-native texts
- Expanded selections from contemporary oratorio works

Moreover, the anthology's role in fostering a deeper appreciation of the oratorio repertoire underscores its importance in both education and professional development.

Conclusion

The Vocal Library Soprano stands as a testament to the enduring appeal and complexity of the oratorio repertoire. Its scholarly rigor, practical design, and rich content make it a cornerstone resource for anyone committed to exploring the depths of the soprano voice within sacred and dramatic contexts. Whether a student embarking on their vocal journey, a seasoned performer preparing for a major role, or an educator shaping future talents, this anthology offers invaluable insights, guidance, and inspiration to elevate the art of singing oratorio. As the repertoire continues to inspire generations, collections like this will remain essential in bridging the gap between historical tradition and contemporary performance excellence.

Question What is the 'Oratorio Anthology: The Vocal Library Soprano' collection about? The 'Oratorio Anthology: The Vocal Library Soprano' is a curated compilation of classical and sacred pieces designed for soprano voices, featuring a range of oratorio arias and ensemble works suitable for performance and study. Who is the target audience for the 'Vocal Library Soprano' anthology? The anthology is primarily aimed at professional and student sopranos, vocal educators, and choir directors seeking high-quality repertoire for performance, audition preparation, or study. What types of pieces are included in the 'Oratorio Anthology: The Vocal Library Soprano'? The collection includes famous arias, ensembles, and choruses from classical oratorios, emphasizing works by composers such as Handel, Bach, and Mendelssohn, suitable for various skill levels. How can singers benefit from using the 'Vocal Library Soprano' anthology? Singers can enhance their technical skills, expand their repertoire, and gain performance confidence by practicing diverse oratorio pieces that showcase their vocal range and expression. Is the 'Oratorio Anthology: The Vocal Library Soprano' suitable for audition purposes? Yes, the anthology provides a versatile selection of pieces that are often used for auditions, helping sopranos demonstrate their vocal abilities and interpretive skills. Where can I purchase or access the 'Vocal Library Soprano' anthology? The collection is available through various music retailers, online sheet music platforms, and music libraries, often as a physical book or digital download for convenient access.

Related keywords: oratorio vocal library, soprano vocal collection, choral music anthology, vocal library soprano, classical vocal library, choral oratorio collection, soprano voice library, vocal ensemble anthology, classical vocal anthology, soprano choral library

George mcmichael anthology of american literature

George McMichael Anthology of American Literature has long been regarded as a cornerstone in the study and appreciation of American literary history. This comprehensive collection offers readers an expansive view of the evolution of American writing, from its colonial beginnings to

contemporary voices. Designed for students, scholars, and casual readers alike, the anthology provides a curated selection of literary works that reflect the diverse cultural, social, and political fabric of America. In this article, we will explore the significance of the **George McMichael Anthology of American Literature**, its contents, structure, and its role in shaping American literary studies.

Overview of the George McMichael Anthology of American Literature

Background and History

The **George McMichael Anthology of American Literature** was first published in the early 21st century as a successor to earlier anthologies that aimed to present a comprehensive portrait of American literary achievement. Named after the prominent scholar George McMichael, renowned for his contributions to American literature and literary criticism, the anthology reflects his dedication to showcasing the richness and diversity of American writing.

This anthology has undergone several editions, each expanding and updating its contents to include voices from marginalized communities, contemporary writers, and new genres. Its history is intertwined with the evolution of American literary scholarship, emphasizing inclusivity, historical context, and thematic coherence.

Purpose and Audience

The primary goal of the **George McMichael Anthology of American Literature** is to serve as an educational resource that provides a comprehensive overview of American literary history. It is widely used in college courses, high school curricula, and by independent readers interested in understanding the cultural and historical significance of American writing.

Designed for both introductory and advanced students, the anthology balances classic texts with contemporary works, ensuring readers gain a broad understanding of the evolution of American literature. Its accessible language and thoughtful organization make it an invaluable resource for anyone seeking to deepen their knowledge of American literary heritage.

Contents and Structure of the Anthology

Organizational Framework

The **George McMichael Anthology of American Literature** is typically organized chronologically, allowing readers to trace the development of themes, styles, and voices through American history. The anthology is divided into several major sections, each representing a significant period or movement in American literature.

Some editions may also include thematic sections that explore recurring motifs such as identity, freedom, nature, and social justice, providing a layered understanding of the texts.

Major Sections and Highlights

- **Colonial and Early American Literature:** Features writings from Pilgrims, Puritans, and early explorers, including foundational texts like William Bradford's *Of Plymouth Plantation* and Anne Bradstreet's poetry.
- **Romanticism and Transcendentalism:** Includes works by Washington Irving, Edgar Allan Poe, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Ralph Waldo Emerson, emphasizing individualism and nature.
- **Realism and Naturalism:** Showcases authors like Mark Twain, Henry James, and Stephen Crane, focusing on the depiction of everyday life and social realities.
- **Modernist and Harlem Renaissance:** Features figures such as F. Scott Fitzgerald, Langston Hughes, and Zora Neale Hurston, highlighting experimentation with form and cultural identity.
- **Contemporary and Postmodern Literature:** Includes voices like Toni Morrison, Don DeLillo, and Jhumpa Lahiri, reflecting current themes and narrative techniques.

The anthology's carefully curated selections are accompanied by introductions, contextual notes, and critical essays that enhance understanding and foster analytical skills.

Significance of the George McMichael Anthology in American Literary Studies

Promoting Literary Diversity and Inclusivity

One of the defining features of the **George McMichael Anthology of American Literature** is its commitment to representing a broad spectrum of voices. Unlike earlier anthologies that primarily focused on canonical white male authors, McMichael's collection emphasizes works by women, African Americans, Native Americans, immigrants, and other marginalized groups.

This inclusivity allows readers to explore the multifaceted nature of American identity and understand how different communities have contributed to the nation's literary landscape. It also encourages critical discussions about race, gender, and social justice within literary contexts.

Educational Impact and Usage

The anthology's comprehensive scope makes it a vital resource in educational settings. Professors and teachers use it to design curricula that encompass historical contexts, literary movements, and thematic explorations. The inclusion of critical essays and discussion questions facilitates classroom engagement and critical thinking.

Furthermore, its accessible language and thoughtfully selected texts make it suitable for self-directed learning, enabling readers to develop a nuanced appreciation of American literature without requiring extensive prior knowledge.

Fostering Cultural and Historical Understanding

American literature is deeply intertwined with the country's history and cultural shifts. The **George McMichael Anthology** offers readers a window into the nation's evolving identity, from colonial times to the present day.

By engaging with these texts, readers gain insight into significant historical events, social movements, and cultural transformations. Literature serves as a mirror and a lens, revealing the hopes, struggles, and resilience of the American people across eras.

Critical Reception and Legacy

Academic Recognition

The **George McMichael Anthology of American Literature** has received acclaim from scholars for its comprehensive selection, balanced representation, and pedagogical utility. It is praised for its ability to bridge the gap between canonical works and emerging voices, making American literary history accessible and engaging.

Many university courses adopt this anthology as a primary textbook, highlighting its importance in shaping the study of American literature.

Influence on Literary Canon Formation

By intentionally diversifying the authors and texts included, the anthology has contributed to reshaping the American literary canon. It challenges traditional notions of what constitutes "literature" and encourages a more inclusive understanding of American cultural expression.

This influence extends beyond academia, impacting public perceptions of American literary heritage and inspiring further scholarship and publication efforts.

Conclusion: The Enduring Value of the George McMichael Anthology of American Literature

The **George McMichael Anthology of American Literature** remains a vital resource for anyone interested in exploring the rich tapestry of American writing. Its comprehensive scope, commitment to diversity, and thoughtfully curated content make it an essential tool for education and personal

enrichment.

Whether used in academic settings or for individual exploration, this anthology provides a nuanced, layered understanding of American history, culture, and identity through the lens of its most influential and diverse writers. As American literature continues to evolve, the **George McMichael Anthology** stands as a testament to the enduring power of storytelling to reflect, critique, and shape the nation's collective consciousness.

George McMichael Anthology of American Literature: A Comprehensive Guide to Its Significance, Structure, and Impact

The George McMichael Anthology of American Literature stands as one of the most influential and comprehensive collections of American literary works ever assembled. Celebrated for its meticulous curation, insightful commentary, and breadth of coverage, this anthology offers readers an immersive journey through the evolution of American literature—from the earliest colonial writings to contemporary voices. Whether you're a student, educator, or literary enthusiast, understanding the scope and significance of this anthology is essential to appreciating its role in shaping the canon of American letters.

Origins and Development of the McMichael Anthology

The George McMichael Anthology of American Literature was first published in the mid-20th century, a product of rigorous scholarship aimed at capturing the richness and diversity of American literary expression. Named after its editor, George McMichael, a renowned literary scholar, the anthology was designed to serve as both a comprehensive classroom resource and a definitive collection for general readers.

McMichael's vision was to create an anthology that did not merely list notable works but instead offered a curated narrative that traced the cultural, historical, and social threads woven into American literature. Over subsequent editions, the collection expanded to include more diverse voices, reflecting the evolving understanding of American identity and literary history.

Structural Overview of the Anthology

The George McMichael Anthology of American Literature is typically organized into chronological sections, each highlighting significant periods, movements, and themes in American literary history. This structure allows readers to follow the development of American literature in its historical context.

Major Sections Include:

- Colonial and Early American Literature
- Revolutionary and Post-Revolutionary Writings
- Romanticism and Transcendentalism
- Realism and Naturalism
- Modernist and Postmodernist Works
- Contemporary American Literature

Within each section, the anthology features a carefully curated selection of texts, including poetry, short stories, essays, speeches, and excerpts from longer works.

Key Features and Highlights

Diverse Voices and Perspectives

One of the defining features of the George McMichael Anthology is its commitment to representing a wide array of voices. It includes:

- Canonical figures such as Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Mark Twain.
- Emerging voices from marginalized communities, including African American writers like Langston Hughes and Zora Neale Hurston, Native American authors, and women writers like Emily Dickinson and Kate Chopin.
- Contemporary voices that address modern issues and experiments in narrative form.

This diversity enriches the reader's understanding of American literature as a multifaceted tapestry reflecting various experiences and identities.

Contextual Annotations and Critical Commentary

The anthology is renowned for its detailed annotations, providing historical background, literary analysis, and interpretive insights. These notes help readers grasp:

- The social and political climate surrounding a work
- The literary devices employed by authors
- Connections between different texts and authors

This feature makes the anthology not only a collection of texts but also a valuable educational resource.

Thematic Groupings

In addition to chronological organization, the anthology sometimes groups works thematically—such as explorations of American identity, nature, race, or the American Dream—allowing for thematic analysis and comparative reading.

Significance in American Literary Studies

Preservation of Literary Heritage

The George McMichael Anthology plays a crucial role in preserving and promoting American literary heritage. Its comprehensive scope ensures that both well-known classics and lesser-known works are accessible to readers and scholars alike.

Educational Impact

Used extensively in academic settings, the anthology serves as a foundational text in American literature courses. Its thoughtful organization and commentary facilitate students' understanding of literary movements, historical contexts, and cultural shifts.

Promoting Diversity and Inclusion

By intentionally featuring voices from diverse backgrounds, the anthology has contributed to broadening the canon and challenging traditional narratives centered solely on white male authors. This inclusivity aligns with contemporary efforts to recognize the multiplicity of American experiences.

Critical Reception and Controversies

While widely praised for its thoroughness and scholarly rigor, the George McMichael Anthology has also faced critiques:

- Canon formation concerns: Some critics argue that, despite efforts to diversify, the anthology still reflects certain biases about which works are deemed "literary" or "important."
- Selection debates: The choice of texts and authors can sometimes be contentious, with debates over representation, inclusion, and omission.
- Evolving perspectives: As American society changes, so does the understanding of its literary history, prompting periodic updates and revisions to the anthology.

Despite these debates, the anthology remains a vital resource that continues to influence the study

and appreciation of American literature.

How to Use the George McMichael Anthology Effectively

For students and educators, maximizing the value of this collection involves:

- Engaging with annotations: Read the commentary alongside the texts to deepen understanding.
- Comparative readings: Explore themes across different periods and authors to see how ideas evolve.
- Contextual research: Use the notes as a springboard for further investigation into historical and cultural backgrounds.
- Discussion and analysis: Incorporate selected works into essays, discussions, or presentations to develop critical thinking skills.

For general readers, approaching the anthology as a curated literary journey can enhance appreciation for the richness of American storytelling and poetic traditions.

Conclusion: The Enduring Legacy of the McMichael Anthology

The George McMichael Anthology of American Literature stands as a monumental achievement in literary scholarship. Its comprehensive scope, dedication to diversity, and thoughtful commentary make it an indispensable resource for understanding the complex tapestry of American writing. As American literature continues to evolve, so too will this anthology, serving as both a reflection of the past and a foundation for future explorations of American identity, culture, and storytelling.

Whether used in academic classrooms or personal reading journeys, the George McMichael Anthology offers an authoritative and inspiring window into the soul of American literature, an essential guide for anyone seeking to explore the depths and heights of America's literary landscape.

Question What is the 'George McMichael Anthology of American Literature'? The 'George McMichael Anthology of American Literature' is a comprehensive collection of American literary works, curated to showcase the diverse voices and historical perspectives that define American literature. Who is George McMichael, and what is his significance in American literary anthologies? George McMichael is a renowned scholar and editor known for his contributions to American literary studies, and his anthology is considered a definitive collection that highlights key authors and themes in American literature. What types of works are included in the anthology? The anthology includes a wide range of works such as poetry, short stories, essays, and excerpts from novels, covering various periods from colonial times to contemporary literature. How does the anthology reflect the evolution of American literature? It traces the development of American literary themes,

styles, and voices over centuries, emphasizing milestones like the Romantic era, Modernism, and contemporary movements. Is the 'George McMichael Anthology of American Literature' suitable for students? Yes, it is often used in academic settings due to its comprehensive selection and insightful introductions, making it a valuable resource for students studying American literature. Are there any notable authors featured in the anthology? Yes, the anthology features works by prominent authors such as Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson, Mark Twain, Langston Hughes, Sylvia Plath, and many others who have shaped American literary history. What makes this anthology different from other American literature collections? Its curated selection by George McMichael emphasizes thematic diversity and includes both canonical works and lesser-known texts, providing a well-rounded perspective on American literature. Has the anthology been updated for contemporary American writers? Recent editions of the anthology have incorporated contemporary voices, reflecting ongoing changes and diversity in American literature. Where can I purchase or access the 'George McMichael Anthology of American Literature'? The anthology is available through major bookstores, online retailers like Amazon, and can often be accessed via academic libraries or digital platforms specializing in literary texts.

Related keywords: George McMichael, American literature, literary anthologies, American authors, 20th-century literature, literary criticism, American poetry, literary studies, cultural history, university press

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