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## Ann Robb Smith papers5635403

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Description is written in: English.

Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary

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Telephone: (212) 851-5606

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary
<b>Creator:</b>	Smith, Ann Robb
<b>Title:</b>	Ann Robb Smith papers
<b>ID:</b>	5635403
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1970 -- 2004
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1 linear foot 1 linear foot; 2 boxes
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .
<b>Abstract:</b>	Ann Robb Smith was a member of the women's ordination planning group prior to the ordination of the first women Episcopal priests at the Church of the Advocate, in Philadelphia, July 29, 1974 ["the Philadelphia 11"]. She was the lay presenter for the ordination of Sue Hiatt, and a member of the National Advisory Committee of Women's Ordination Now. She was an ordained Assistant at the Church of the Advocate. The collection contains working papers, correspondence, clippings, and other related materials which tell the story of the ordination of the Philadelphia 11, from the planning stage to the immediate responses and later anniversaries of the event, including papers relating to Women's Ordination Now.

### Preferred Citation

Item description, AWTS: Ann Robb Smith papers, 1970-2004, box #, folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

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## Biographical / Historical

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Ann Robb Smith was one of three children of Henry Jr. and Gertrude Robb, and was a resident of Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. She married Kaighn Smith, an obstetrician-gynecologist and former professor at Thomas Jefferson Medical School. They had three children and four grandchildren. Ann was a member of the Women's ordination planning group prior to the

ordination of eleven women deacons to the Episcopal priesthood, known as the Philadelphia 11. At that ordination she was the lay presenter of Sue Hiatt for ordination. The Philadelphia 11 were ordained at the Church of the Advocate, Philadelphia on July 29, 1974 by Bishops Robert L. DeWitt, former Bishop of Pennsylvania, Daniel Corrigan, former head of the Church's domestic missions, Edward Welles, retired bishop of West Missouri and Bishop Ramos. The eleven ordinands were: Merrill Bittmer, Alla Bozarth-Campbell, Alison Cheek, Emily Hewitt, Carter Heyward, Suzanne Hiatt, Marie Moorefield, Jeannette Piccard, Betty Schiess, Katrina Swanson, Nancy Wittig. Two priests: William A Wendt of St Stephen and the Incarnation Church and L. Peter Beebe of Oberlin, Ohio were brought to trial in church courts for permitting women ordained in Philadelphia on July 29, 1974 to function as priests. Responses from church and press led to the establishing of the Women's Ordination Now group to support those women whose ordination at Philadelphia was put under scrutiny and also to support the 3 ordaining bishops and priests who invited the women to celebrate the Eucharist. Ann Robb Smith was a member of the National Advisory Committee of Women's Ordination Now. She was ordained to the priesthood and was the Assistant at the Church of the Advocate. She died in 2021.

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## Scope and Contents

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This collection contains working papers, correspondence, clippings, and other related materials which tell the story of the ordination of eleven women as Episcopal priests on July 29, 1974, from the planning stage to the immediate responses and later anniversaries of the event, including papers relating to Women's Ordination Now.

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## Arrangement

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The collection is arranged in one series in rough chronological order.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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URL: <https://library.columbia.edu/locations/burke.html>

### Revision Description

PDF converted to EAD and description updated by Leah Edelman. 2022-08-24

### Conditions Governing Access

This collection contains some restricted material. Restrictions related to specific material are listed in the detailed contents list.

### Conditions Governing Access

The following boxes are located offsite: Box 1-2. Please note that requests for use of boxes held in offsite storage must be made three business days in advance.

### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Ann Robb Smith donated her papers to the Archives of Women in Theological Scholarship in October 1999 with another addition in 2006. Some of the material donated consists of records from the Women's Ordination Now support group.

### Processing Information

When the Burke Library acquired Ann Robb Smith's papers, an attempt was made to maintain the original order. For ease of access and of preservation there has been some separation of correspondence, clippings and articles. Folded materials were flattened. Newspaper clippings were photocopied onto acid free paper. Staples and metal clips were removed and replaced with plastic clips or interleaving of acid free paper. All materials were placed in acid-free folders and boxes. Some memorial service programs from 2002 – 2004 are in this collection as acid free copies only, the originals remaining in the possession of Ann Robb Smith. The finding aid was created by Ruth Tonkiss Cameron in 2006, revised with additions by Patricia LaRosa in 2006, revised by Ruth Tonkiss Cameron in 2008, and edited by Leah Edelman in 2022.

## Conditions Governing Use

Some material in this collection may be protected by copyright and other rights. Information concerning copyright, fair use, and reproduction requests can be consulted at Columbia's Copyright Advisory Office.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Ordination of women -- Episcopal Church
- Smith, Ann Robb -- : Archives
- Women's Ordination Now

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## Burke Library record group:

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Archives of Women in Theological Scholarship (AWTS)

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## Collection Inventory

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### **Ann Robb Smith papers, 1970 -- 2004**

Physical Description: 1 linear feet 1 linear foot; 2 boxes

Conditions Governing Access:

#### **Conditions Governing Access**

This series contains some restricted material. Restrictions related to specific material are listed in the detailed contents list.

#### **Arrangement**

This series is arranged roughly chronologically.

#### **Scope and Contents**

This series contains working papers, correspondence, clippings, and other related materials which tell the story of the ordination of eleven women as Episcopal priests on July 29, 1974, from the planning stage

to the immediate responses and later anniversaries of the event, including papers relating to Women's Ordination Now.

Title/Description	Instances	
Pre-1974 Statements and Addresses on ordination of women, 1970 -- 1972	box 1	folder 1
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
63rd General Convention, Report of the Joint Commission on ordained and licensed ministers, 1970; Address to NY Diocesan Convention by Rev. J. Robert Wright, May 9, 1972 Statement by Faculties of the Episcopal Consortium for Theological Education in the Northeast, Oct 12, 1972.		
Correspondence with Rev. Paul Washington, Church of the Advocate, Philadelphia, 1972	box 1	folder 2
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Letter to "Ann and Barbara," Mar 7, 1972; Letter from Barbara, Mar 10, 1972; Draft of Letter to Pres. Bp Rev. John Allin, with ms note, [197?]		
List of delegates to 1973 Triennial Meeting, 1973	box 1	folder 3
List of Deputies to 35th synod, Province of Washington, Alexandria, VA, 1974-03-26	box 1	folder 4
Sermon by Rev. Carter Heyward (Deacon) at Ordination of Doug Clark, 1974-05-17	box 1	folder 5
Project report on Women in Theological Education by Rev. Suzanne Hiatt (Deacon), 1974-05	box 1	folder 6
Philadelphia 11 Ordinations' Planning Meetings, 1974	box 1	folder 7
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
A. R. Smith's notebook of original minutes, July 10, 1974; List of names and addresses of attendees, July 10, July 29, Oct 30, 1974		
Philadelphia 11 Ordinations' Planning Meetings, 1974	box 1	folder 8
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Correspondence; typed minutes; memos; annotated papers, July 8 - 25, 1974		
Philadelphia 11 ordination service programs, 1974-07-29	box 1	folder 9

**Scope and Contents**

Pen used for signing ordination certificates; Directions to Church of the Advocate

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Philadelphia 11 reactions: Correspondence, statements and reports, 1974	box 1	folder 10
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**Scope and Contents**

Letter from Bp Lyman C. Ogilby, Jul [19] & 26, 1974; Letter from Bp L. C. Ogilby, Jul 29, 1974, 2 copies; Letter [Church Union headed paper], to Bps DeWitt, Corrigan and Welles, July 29, 1974; Letter from Bps. Corrigan, DeWitt and Welles [pre July 29], in Christianity & Crisis 34 (15), Sept, 1974; Response to objections raised at the service of the ordination of women

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Philadelphia 11 reactions: Correspondence, statements and reports, 1974	box 1	folder 11
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**Scope and Contents**

Letter from Bp F. B. Wolf, July 31, 1974; Letter from Bp Lyman C. Ogilby, Aug 1, 1974; Letter from Bp R L DeWitt, Aug 1, 1974 with mailing items; Statement from Steering Committee of Episcopal Women's Caucus with clipping, Aug 2, 1974; Letter from Brooke Leddy re Bp Wolf letter, Aug 4, 1974; Statement by Bp L. C. Ogilby to Bishops' meetings, Aug 14 -15, 1974; Personal report on Bishops' meeting, Aug 14/15 by H.H. Guthrie, E.G. Harris, H/ H. Rockwell, Sept 3, 1974; Letter from Bp L. C. Ogilby with Final Report of Committee on Resolutions, Aug 16, 1974; Letter from Bp L. C. Ogilby, Dec 18, 1974; Letter to Bishops ...of Massachusetts from W Murray Kenney et al, Aug 13, 1974; Sermon by W MK, Aug 18, 1974; Statement of resignation [from Joint Commission on Ecumenical Relations] by William Wolf, Aug 17, 1974; Letter from Bp J. M. Allin to A. Robb Smith with Final Report of Committee on Resolutions, Aug 23, 1974

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Philadelphia 11 reactions: Correspondence, statements and reports, 1974 -- 1975	box 1	folder 12
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**Scope and Contents**

Correspondence: D.W. Belcher/ Bp J. M. Allin, Sept 16, 18, 1974; Memo from D. W. Belcher, Sept 23, 1974; Sermon: Everyday Work of Christian People: the Disobedience of Unjust Laws, by C.V. Willie, Jun 9, 1974; Request for Presentment and trial of [name removed] to Bp L. C. Ogilby, by J. S. Keefer et al [after Jul 29, 1974]; Executive Council notes by Paul Washington, Sept 1974; Report from National Exec Council, v1 (3), Sept 1974; Legal Defense and Action Fund request, 1974; Appeal for General Convention,



Oct 4, 1974; Joint statement by eleven women priests,  
 Nov 30, 1974; Card: Katrina Swanson to A. R. Smith,  
 Jan 13, 1975; Statement to clergy by Merrill Bittner,  
 Jan 17, 1975

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Personal correspondence to A. R. Smith, 1974	box 1	folder 13
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**Scope and Contents**

from Ann Calland, July 24, 1974 from Kay  
 [Phimister?], July 26, 1974 from Margaret Sheets,  
 July 29, 1974 from Hope?, July 29, 1974 from Peggy  
 Gilman, Aug 9, 1974

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Philadelphia 11 reactions: News clippings, 1971 -- 1974	box 1	folder 14
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Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

This file is restricted due to fragility of items. Please  
 use copies in Folder 14A.

**Scope and Contents**

July 1971, July 20 -28, 1974, including "Drums along  
 the Schuylkill" in The Episcopalian, July 1971

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Philadelphia 11 reactions: News clippings, 1971 -- 1974	box 1	folder 14A
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**Scope and Contents**

Preservation copies of Folder 14 for general use.

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Philadelphia 11 reactions: News clippings, 1974	box 1	folder 15
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Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

This file is restricted due to fragility of items. Please  
 use copies in Folder 15A.

**Scope and Contents**

News clippings, July 29 - Sept 1974, including:  
 Church Panorama, 7(4) May 1974 [content post  
 July 29]; People Weekly, Aug 12, 1974; Church  
 Panorama, 7 (5) June 1974 [content post Aug 15]  
 "The Philadelphia Event: Conscience vs Order" The  
 Episcopalian, PA Diocesan ed., Sept 1974, 2 copies

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Philadelphia 11 reactions: News clippings, 1974	box 1	folder 15A
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**Scope and Contents**

Preservation copies of Folder 15 for general use.

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Philadelphia 11 reactions: News clippings, 1974 -- 1975	box 1	folder 16
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Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

This file is restricted due to fragility of items. Please use copies in Folder 16A.

**Scope and Contents**

News clippings, Aug 2, 1974– Jan 1975, including: Genesis III, 4 (3/4), Aug/Sept & Oct, 1974; The Episcopalian, Oct, Nov, 1974

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Philadelphia 11 reactions: News clippings, 1974 -- 1975	box 1	folder 16A
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**Scope and Contents**

Preservation copies of Folder 16 for general use.

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Booklet, Women in the Priesthood, by Rev. Emily C. Hewitt, circa 1974 -- 1975	box 1	folder 17
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Statement by Rev. Suzanne R. Hiatt, 1974-10-14	box 1	folder 18
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Articles re Bishop Robert L. DeWitt, 1972 -- 1973	box 1	folder 19
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Conditions Governing Access:**Conditions Governing Access**

This file is restricted due to fragility of items. Please use copies in Folder 19A.

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Articles re Bishop Robert L. DeWitt, 1972 -- 1973	box 1	folder 19A
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**Scope and Contents**

Preservation copies of Folder 16 for general use.

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Service in Celebration of Women in Ministry, 1974-10-27	box 1	folder 20
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Editorial, Journal of Ecumenical Studies, v.10, no.4, 1973	box 1	folder 21
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The Evangelical Outlook, two issues: v.10, Oct 1974; v.11, 1975-02	box 1	folder 22
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The Witness, 1975	box 1	folder 23
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**Scope and Contents**

v.58, no.5: Jan 12, 1975; v.58, no.9: Mar 9, 1975

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Women's Ordination Now papers, 1974 -- 1975	box 2	folder 1
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**Scope and Contents**

WON formation memorandum, Dec 11, 1974; WON meeting notes, Jan 1975

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WON meetings: Minutes, correspondence, flyers sent out, list of members, 1975-02	box 2	folder 2
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WON meetings: Steering committee minutes, ms directions to church, funding committee report, 1975-03	box 2	folder 3
WON meetings, 1975-04 -- 1975-06	box 2	folder 4
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Chronology of events surrounding ordination, Oct 1970-Mar 1975; Memo from Advisory board, flyer re: September ordinations		
WON meetings, correspondence, 1975	box 2	folder 5
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Minutes, July 12th; Ltr. from Rev. John Frizzell, re: Refusal of Alison Cheek's request for licensing, Jul 17, 1975; WON Newsletter, Sep 1975; Ad Hoc Community plan for action memo, with annotations		
WON correspondence, clippings, papers, 1975	box 2	folder 6
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Who is Susan Hiatt, ms by A. R. Smith, [1975]; "Who is Suzanne Hiatt," Diocesan News, Mar 1975 [RESTRICTED FRAGILE] Newspaper clippings, April – May 1975: re Wm. Wendt trial, April/May, 1975; 1975 women's ordinations; 4 Bishops' trial; use of funds by women in 2 parishes; Women's Ordination Now fundraising leaflet, etc, 1975; Charge to 2nd group of Episcopal women ordinands from Alison Cheek, Sept 7, 1975; Service sheet, Church of the Ascension, Parkesburg, PA, Suzanne Hiatt sermon, Sept 1975		
WON correspondence, clippings, papers, 1975	box 2	folder 6A
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Preservation copies of Folder 6 for general use.		
Minnesota Committee for Women's Ordination Now, 1975-10	box 2	folder 7
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Statement of affirmation; Diocesan convention report		
WON meetings, correspondence, 1975-10	box 2	folder 8
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
House of Bishops Meeting Documents, Sep 1975; Ltr from Bishop George Rath to Rev. Sanford Culter, Oct 2, 1975; Ltr to A. R. Smith from Rev. S. Culter; WON newsletter publications, Minutes as newsletter; Ms		

address list, ms notes, job description; Edna Pittinger  
Correspondence and Resume; directory

WON meetings, correspondence, 1975 -- 1976	box 2	folder 9
<p><b>Scope and Contents</b></p> <p>Memo from Flora Keshgegian, A. R. Smith, Bob DeWitt, Nov 24, 1975 Letter from Anne Exley to "Flora and Ann," Dec 3, 1975 Report on visit of Rev. Suzanne Hiatt to Church of the Advocate, by A. R. Smith, Dec 21, 1975 WON minutes, Philadelphia, Jan 23-24, 1976 Ms letter from Ann .Mar 23, 1976 Second Anniversary Celebration Proposal for Jul 29, 1976 WON Newsletter [review of] 1975</p>		
Correspondence re: Advocate legal defense fund , circa 1975 -- 1976	box 2	folder 10
Articles re Alison Cheek, 1975 -- 1976	box 2	folder 11
<p><u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b></p> <p>This file is restricted due to fragility of items. Please use copies in Folder 11A.</p> <p><b>Scope and Contents</b></p> <p>"A woman priest views her church". Christian Science Monitor, Sept 10, 1975; "Women of the year", Time, Jan 5, 1976</p>		
Articles re Alison Cheek, 1975 -- 1976	box 2	folder 11A
<p><b>Scope and Contents</b></p> <p>Preservation copies of Folder 11 for general use.</p>		
Newspaper, article clippings, 1975	box 2	folder 12
<p><u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> <b>Conditions Governing Access</b></p> <p>This file is restricted due to fragility of items. Please use copies in Folder 12A.</p>		
Newspaper, article clippings, 1975	box 2	folder 12A
<p><b>Scope and Contents</b></p> <p>Preservation copies of Folder 12 for general use.</p>		
Sermons, 1975	box 2	folder 13

**Scope and Contents**

Rev. Paul Washington, Mar 1, 1975 Rev. Barbara  
Harris, Mar 12, 1975

Ordination announcement for the "Washington 4", 1975 -09-07	box 2	folder 14
The Witness, 1975	box 2	folder 15
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
The Witness, Sep 1975: "The women priests one year later;" The Witness, Nov 1975: "The ordained ministry in the 1970's"		
Issues of Ruach newsletter, 1975 -- 1999	box 2	folder 16
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Mar-Apr 1975, Jul-Aug, 1975, Spring 1999		
Church service bulletins with Philadelphia 11 celebrants, circa 1975	box 2	folder 17
Anniversaries of Philadelphia 11 ordinations, 1982 -- 1999	box 2	folder 18
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
This file is restricted due to fragility of items. Please use copies in Folder 18A.		
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
The Price of Priesthood," Philadelphia Enquirer, Aug, 1982; "Daughters of Prophecy," Special Issue, The Witness, 1984; Order of service for 10th anniversary, July 29, 1984; Order of service for 20th Anniversary, July 29, 1994 Passover remembered, 25th anniversary poem by Alla Renée Bozarth		
Anniversaries of Philadelphia 11 ordinations, 1982 -- 1999	box 2	folder 18A
<b>Scope and Contents</b>		
Preservation copies of Folder 18 for general use.		
Rev. Dr. Suzanne Hiatt: Memorial service program, 2002-06-17	box 2	folder 19
Bishop Robert L. DeWitt, 2003 -- 2004	box 2	folder 20

**Scope and Contents**

Obituary, Philadelphia Enquirer, Nov 24, 2003;  
memorial service program, May 15, 2004

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