



## Una peligrosa tentación

*Terri Brisbin*

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Ella era el pecado en persona...

Perseguido por antiguas tragedias, el infortunado laird Athdar MacCallum se había entregado a su gente y había jurado no volver a casarse. Hasta que quedó embelesado por la belleza inocente que se reflejaba en los ojos de Isobel Ruriksdottir...

Isobel se sentía atraída por la vulnerabilidad que intuía tras la atractiva fachada del jefe del clan. Pero, con la oscura maldición que parecía pesar sobre su persona, le estaba negado casarse con él. Estar juntos solo podría ponerlos en peligro, pero la tentación de arriesgarlo todo por la pasión era imposible de ignorar...

## Una peligrosa tentación Details

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Author : Terri Brisbin

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## From Reader Review Una peligrosa tentación for online ebook

### Melinda says

When I was in my twenties, there was no way that I would lust after some old guy who was at least fifteen to twenty years older than me but that is exactly what two of the heroines in this series have done. I guess it was different in medieval Scotland when a noblewoman rarely were able to marry for love and could get married off to someone even older if their father's arranged it so marrying someone they had feeling for would be more than they could have ever hoped for.

Athdar MacCallum was in the very first book of the series. He is Jocelyn's brother who got into some sort of fight with Rurik while at the Clan MacLeries and ended up being imprisoned. Jocelyn's father, the laird of Clan MacCallum traded Jocelyn's hand in marriage to Connor MacLerie, laird of the MacLerie clan, to get his son back along with much needed supplies to help the MacCallum clan.

Athar is now the laird and chief of his clan. He believes he is cursed because he has had two wives and one betrothed who have all died. One died just days after giving birth along with the bairn. He never wishes to marry again.

When he was a boy of seven years old, he was out with some other boys playing at the old mill. He jumped over a deep crevice and dared the other boys to jump it too. They did but all of them fell into the crack. Only one survived. Athdar's father covered up the accident by moving the boy who survived out of the village and ordering no one to ever speak of it again. For some reason, Athdar does not remember the accident but does have nightmares where he sleep walks or does things and doesn't remember them.

Isobel Rurikdottir is Rurik's eldest daughter. She has been in love with Athdar since she was a young girl but he has sworn not to marry again so she is desperate to get him to see differently. Plus, her father and Athdar have never seen eye to eye since before she was born and her father would never agree to marriage between them. Isobel is of a marriageable age now and her parents are getting ready to look into possible suitors. Athdar's sister Jocelyn decides to take matters into her own hands as she does from time to time and she takes Isobel and her mother, Margriet, to visit her brother which is a two day ride over the pass before the winter storms set in and it is too difficult to travel. She think that her brother will change his mind once he has spent time with Isobel. She has seen the way he looks at her so she knows he likes her.

They enjoy their visit but have to leave before the weather turns bad. There's a storm brewing and they have a day or so to get over the pass before it hits and the pass could be closed for weeks. Jocelyn tells Isobel of an old hiding place of hers when she was young. Isobel takes the hint and leaves a message that says she has ridden ahead with the outriders and will meet them at the first campsite but she really hides in the keep all day. By the time anyone knows she is missing or anyone finds her, Jocelyn and her mother are already through the pass and the weather is too bad for her to return to her home so she has to stay with Athdar.

I really thought that was such a manipulative thing to do and so wrong but nobody really scolded her for it or thought much about it.

During her stay, she got to know the healer who taught Isobel about different herbs and how to use them. The healer was not a friendly woman but rumor was that she lost two children and since then she has been bitter. Isobel also visited with the various weavers in the village since she was good at weaving and sewing.

One night, Athdar got drunk and went into Isobel's room. He broke a pottery jug and when he tried to pick it up, he cut his hand. He was muttering things and might have thought she was one of his deceased wives when he tried to kiss her. Somehow, he passed out on top of her and instead of moving out from under him.

She slept that way. In the morning, a servant screamed when she saw them laying that way and saw the blood on Isobel's skirt. She thought Athdar had raped Isobel. Athdar thought so too. Isobel tried to tell him that he didn't hurt her but he didn't listen. She really didn't try very hard to convince him that he hadn't done anything especially after Athdar decided to handfest marry her to make it right.

Once again, I was disappointed with Isobel. I thought it was quite pathetic that she was so desperate to marry him that she misled him into believing that he took her virginity instead of telling him the truth. I was wanting them to be together but at the same time, I thought that misleading him was not the way to do it.

Isobel is out to prove to Athdar that he is not cursed and she is starting to believe that someone is out to get him which the readers know already because of the scenes that shows someone's wicked thoughts about how Athdar doesn't deserve to be happy but it doesn't say who is thinking these thoughts. I'm thinking, at this point, that it is the healer Laria because she is older and had two children who died who I am thinking may have been two of the boys with Athdar when he was young but I could be wrong. Sometimes, the most obvious isn't the one who is guilty.

This marriage has turned out to be pretty complicated. Isobel has to somehow keep Athdar from finding out she is still a virgin before she can convince him to stay handfested to her and marry her for real. Athdar has repressed memories that he needs to uncover before someone tries to hurt Isobel and there is still Isobel's father to worry about when the pass opens. He will be out for blood.

I really liked Athdar. I thought he was super patient and understanding and he gave Isobel a lot of leeway to make changes to his keep and to the village. He was a good leader to his people and honorable to always do the right thing. I liked Isobel too despite her manipulative ways. She really did love Athdar.

I can't go into much more detail without giving up the rest of the book. I enjoyed the book and it kept me interested enough to keep reading non-stop until the end.

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## **Kimberly Rocha~ Book Obsessed Chicks says**

Since a tragedy that happened in his youth, Laird Athdar MacCallum has vowed never to wed after his heart breaking loss of two wives and a betrothed. How much can one man take? His life is bereft with mishaps and nightmares of a past he cannot remember. Still, he is a strong leader with a conscience and his people's trust is paramount to the leader.

Enter Isobel Ruriksdottir, beautiful, intelligent and innocent, but attracted to the mystery of Athdar MacCallum. Athdar takes notice of the beauty of Isobel but attempts to put aside his attraction to her due to the fact that her father Rurik is not a fan of his combined with black cloud that seems to hover over him and all that he loves. Isobel will have no part of that however. This lady is determined to get what she wants, even if it puts her in danger.

When Isobel sees the inner turmoil that her Athdar deals with, she must help him overcome his past so he can leave himself open to a brighter future even when outside forces exist that want Athdar's downfall still after so many years. When she realizes that it's not a black cloud that hovers, but a revenge in the flesh that wants his downfall, Isobel will do what she must to save her love.

Yet another great read by Terri Brisbin, *The Highlander's Dangerous Temptation* is a whirlwind of mystery and romance. Both Athdar and Isobel are such likable characters with so much emotion to share. This time it's the hero who is the stubborn one and the young Isobel who has the brains and the wherewithal to persevere. I truly enjoyed this book and always look forward to Terri Brisbin's Scottish Historicals, which are always keepers on my romance shelves.

~ KIMBERLY ~

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### **Julie says**

This story was unique and clever, however, the end felt rushed.

Also, I haven't read any of the other books in this series and was for the most part able to follow along. There are references here and there though, to characters from other books that I didn't understand. So probably a good idea to do this series in order.

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### **Farah says**

This book was a brilliant Highland romance. A feisty heroine determined to get who she wants, a hero haunted by a past he can't remember, and a murder mystery that keeps you on the edge of your seat. *The Highlander's Dangerous Temptation* was a wonderful romance. Loved it!

Isobel was a lovely heroine. On the surface, she seems meek and fragile. She's not the usual highland heroine that is brash and outgoing. But, make no mistake. She's just as strong. When she decided that Athdar was the one for her, nothing was going to stop her. If that necessitated a little subterfuge, so bet it. I thought she was a great character. I really liked her.

Athdar was SO sweet. I adored him. He has not had the best luck with women. It seems every time he finds someone, she dies. Two wives and a fiance. No wonder he's decided not to chance a marriage anymore. One time is tragic. But, three times is way more than one man can handle. Though, now the poor guy thinks he's cursed. Too bad a certain woman won't take no for an answer. I adored Athdar. He was a great hero, sweet, strong, and devoted to the woman he loves. I thought he was brilliant.

The romance was perfectly done. It was so sweet, with how Isobel was determined to win Athdar over and how Athdar fell for her even as he tried his best not to. And, the sparks between them were constant. Though this romance was more sensuous than spicy, the heat was undeniable.

The plot was fast paced and I was hooked the entire way through. The mystery of who had it out for Athdar kept me on the edge of my seat. And the mystery of his past that he can't remember had me riveted. I don't usually mention specific parts of a book, but I have to say that I loved the prologue. It started the book off with a bang and had me anxious to find out the truth of what happened and how that related to the character. The story was lovely and the ending was perfect.

*The Highlander's Dangerous Temptation* was a wonderful Highlander romance. I loved it! Lovers of the genre, you have to read this lovely book.

\*Thanks to Netgalley and Harlequin for a copy!

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## **Mummy Cat Claire says**

I thought this book was pretty good. It had somewhat of a new spin on the Laird meets a Lady but all with that HEA.

The book didn't dive into the whole accent thing. This was actually refreshing, as it can be overdone and become tiresome. There were uses of ken and kith, and also ken as in know and other such words in the book.

I liked the characters and I was able to imagine the keep but I do wish the author had added a little more detail.

There was a part of the story, in the beginning, where the MC, Athdar, talks about why he has a mild feud with another character. This explanation was very vague. I still have no idea why they dislike each other.

I liked that the author seemed to have researched the time and the book was consistent and pretty accurate. Brisbin included uisge beatha, which at the time, is whiskey.

I liked the mystery and the discovery that Athdar and Isobel went through. I thought the book was entertaining, interesting and enjoyable. Some might find the ending a little anti-climatic but I thought it was okay and I was satisfied with the ending.

Overall, I rated this book with three stars, which is good. I would recommend this book and I think I would read it again. I thought the characters and the story was enjoyable.

I received a copy from Netgalley.

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## **Lynsey (A Bookish Life) says**

### **Highlander's Redemption**

Like the total muppet that I am, I didn't bother to check after receiving THE HIGHLANDER'S DANGEROUS TEMPTATION for review, if it was part of a series or not. Not that it's all that unusual for me to read my hunky highlander books out of order - what spoilers you find are usually very small and probably forgotten by the time you backtrack to that couple's book - but with this one, it seems to me that I might have been wise to at least read the book in which Athdar featured as a child, since it seems to have had quite an impact on his character.

Regardless, I didn't have any problems getting with the programme and understanding that Athdar was an outspoken, impetuous child, whose runaway mouth often got himself, and other people, in trouble. But that was then and this is now. Twenty-some years, two dead wives, and one dead betrothed later, and Athdar is anything but impetuous. He's... just sad, really. He's given up on his dreams of family, happiness and love, believing himself to be cursed since everyone he loves dies.

This forlorn, broken version of a once animated and full-of-life man, speaks to our heroine Isobel. To a part

of her that wants to soothe and mend his battered spirit, to show him that the contentedness he seeks as an older man, is still within his reach.

And, yeppers, that does mean he is a touch older than your usual 25-year-old Highland hero. I don't know exactly since it didn't say, but I was guessing him to be around 38 to Isobel's 18. So an age gap relationship to be sure, which was actually surprisingly sweet. And of course, in this era, older men often had younger brides so it's not something any of the other characters in the book would even bat an eye at.

Aside from the romance, the plot had a mystery to its center, which was interesting to watch unfold even though I worked it out early. Athdar suffers from PTSD which, in the period setting, wasn't recognised as a condition. It was therefore a tricky situation for Athdar to be in; trying to keep the respect of his people, while his mind kept letting him down in front of them. Good thing he had someone as supportive and loving as Isobel by his side. But, with his "curse," for how long would that remain true?

There were some nice romantic moments and love scenes in **THE HIGHLANDER'S DANGEROUS TEMPTATION**, as you'd expect from this type of novel. Though I confess I was expecting Isobel to be more... forward, from the blurb's description of her as "sin personified". I also thought the ending was terribly rushed. Still, all in all this was another enjoyable trip through the Highlands for this reader. I give it a happy and contented 4 Stars ★★★★★

ARC provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

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## Alyssa says

\*\*\*Review posted on The Eater of Books! blog\*\*\*

The Highlander's Dangerous Temptation by Terri Brisbin  
Book Seven of the MacLeries series  
Publisher: Harlequin  
Publication Date: October 22, 2013  
Rating: 4 stars  
Source: eARC from NetGalley

\*\*\*Warning: this is an adult book, and for the eyes of mature readers\*\*\*

Summary (from Goodreads):

Cursed by past tragedies, notorious Highlander Laird Athdar MacCallum has devoted himself to leading his people - and has vowed never to marry again. Until he is utterly disarmed by the innocent beauty in the eyes of Isobel Ruriksdottir....

Isobel is drawn to the vulnerability she senses behind the fearsome facade of the clan chief. But with his formidable reputation, he is strictly forbidden. Being together can only lead them into danger, yet the temptation to risk all for their perilous passion is impossible to ignore.

What I Liked:

Two adult romance reads in a row! Go me, right? I'm on a roll with these adult books. Not that the Young Adult books are getting boring - they so are NOT - but it's refreshing to read something different,

something... undiluted. No twisted romance plots or love triangles or anything like that.

This story is no exception - in fact, it was quite different from what I was expecting. The romance did not follow the usual timeline that I have mapped out in my head, when reading historical romance novels (and romance novels in general). But that turned out to be a good thing!

Most romance novels start in the same way. A male and female either meet each other, or already have met, and there is some immediate chemistry between the two of them. In this story, Athdar and Isobel know each other - or at least, they have met before, and their families know each other. Athdar is quite a few years older than Isobel, but Brisbin has a way of weaving the story so that it doesn't seem so strange. Remember, men and women did that all the time in history. Older men married young women.

Anyway, as it turns out, both of them are totally attracted to each other. And one character, Athdar's sister, seizes an opportunity to throw Athdar and Isobel together. Athdar's sister (Jocelyn), Isobel, and Isobel's mother travel to Athdar's keep, to get some herbs from the healer at Athdar's keep. More importantly, Jocelyn wants Isobel and Athdar to become better acquainted.

Well, one thing leads to another, and suddenly, Athdar and Isobel are married. WOAHH, right? That's at only 50% of the story! I couldn't believe it! Usually, in historical romance novels, the two protagonists don't get married until the end of the book, or close to the end. Well, halfway throughout this story, Athdar and Isobel get married.

The first part of the story deals with Isobel and Athdar falling in loves. Brisbin does a beautiful job of putting these two together, of making them fall in love, in a progressive but timely manner. Like, the relationship grows steadily, but as readers, we know time passes. That's nice.

Then they get married. Then they adjust to being married - which is a tad bit funny, because both of them feel awkward, for one reason or the other. The final "big" part of the story deals with a condition that Athdar has. He blacks out at times, and doesn't remember this one event in his childhood - one event that changed everything, and affects his immediate future.

Thus, we come to the climax. An interesting climax, especially when the two major plot lines merge. Isobel's father arrives, and Athdar's past catches up to him. Fret not, because the ending is still a great ending. But this book has an actual climax, with danger directed towards the male protagonist AND the female protagonist. Another interesting thing.

I really enjoyed this story, you all. Not just because of its interesting differences, but because it was a genuinely great story! I love historical fiction, and ESPECIALLY medieval fiction, and I think that Brisbin did an excellent job with bringing across the medieval aspect of this story, without drowning readers in historical information or linguistics. All in all, a pretty awesome story!

What I Did Not Like:

The only thing that bothered me (and it really didn't bother me *\*too\** much) was how Brisbin brought about Athdar's condition. I could see that she was trying to slip it in progressively, but I feel like the majority of the information about the condition was thrown at readers. Like, subtle hints were made throughout the story, but the condition itself was brought about quickly, sort of rushed, towards the end.

The beginning is all about the chase, the challenge, the chemistry. But the remaining 35% (ish) dealt with Athdar's condition. To me, it could have been more spread out. It would have made the summary more believable - because the entire time, I was trying to figure out what the conflict would be, besides Isobel's father Rurik going crazy about his daughter staying alone at Athdar's keep.

Would I Recommend It:

I think yes! Yes, I would. If you're a fan of historical romance novels, then I definitely think you want to read this one! Don't miss it. And even if you're a fan of contemporary romance, this book is easy on the history and information dump. It's not bad, especially for people who don't like history or think that history is boring. This is a good read, for any romance fan!

Rating:

4 stars. An enjoyable historical romance read! I really liked this book, and its unique plot, and fresh perspective on Highlanders. I really should go back and read the previous books in this series!

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### **Denise says**

I received an Advance Reader's Copy of this book on Netgalley.

I didn't enjoy this very much. Like a lot of times when I start a book well into a series, I spend most of the time fretting because it seems like everyone in the book knows something I don't. In this case 6 books worth of somethings.

I struggled with the historical setting trying to turn my historian's mind off and just enjoy the silly kilty ladjyporn, but when the old "hand-fasting as trial marriage" chestnut plotpoint reared its head, with a summary virginity-saving pact, I was too annoyed to get into it. Bit of a pet peeve.

Likewise, the book doesn't seem to revel enough in its genre to be kitschy and fun. And only one sex scene!

Fans of the series will probably enjoy this book, but unfortunately it's no fun if you start in the middle.

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### **Dorothea Müller says**

Der Highlander Athdar MacCallum bringt Isobels junges Herz zum Erbeben! Doch er weis das er sie nicht haben kann, denn ihr Vater würde ihn töten wenn er sie nur leidenschaftlich ansieht. Doch Isobels Herz gehört ihm schon. Also besucht sie ihn und bleibt, obwohl die "Anstandsdamen" abgereist sind. Ein Skandal bindet sie einander und er versucht sie vor dem Fluch zu beschützen.

Die Geschichte bekommt man aus mehreren Sichtweisen beschrieben. Doch die beiden Hauptcharaktere haben den Löwenanteil. Isobel ist eine unschuldige Dame, die ihr Herz an einen rauen Highlander verloren hat. Athdar ist Highlander von Kopf bis zu seinen Zehen, raues Schale und ein butterweiches Herz. Die Geschichte war spannend, romantisch und auch etwas geheimnisvoll.

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### **Miranda says**

I give this book 3 stars. I didn't love it but I didn't hate it either. It was just ok.

I thought the story started off pretty strong and it held my attention and then I started losing interest in it. The

story seemed to drag on and on. I thought the plot had potential but the story didn't turn out quite like I thought it would. I guess I just wish it had had a different ending.

\*\*ARC graciously provided by Harlequin via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review\*\*

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### **Sharon Tyler says**

The Highlander's Dangerous Temptation is the seventh book in The MacLeries series by Terri Brisbin. It is scheduled for release on October 22 2013. I have only read one book in the series, and do not think that newcomers will be lost. Laird Athdar MacCallum is a highlander that has faced a series of tragedies. The people he cares for most seem to die, or be injured, ever since a childhood incident that he does not remember. Isobel Ruriksdottir... is an innocent beauty that cares for Athdar despite the fact that her father dislikes him for reasons that she does not know. With a little help from the other ladies Isobel manages to spend some extra time with Athdar, which brings them closer together and allows friendship and more to bloom, but also exposes them to danger.

The Highlander's Dangerous Temptation is a historical romance set in the highlands, which is always a good start as far as I am concerned. Athdar is a wounded hero, suffering from something along the lines of PTSD with no recollection of a tragedy that has affected many in his clan and was covered up by his father. As those around him die or face other dangers Athdar has vowed never to marry again, and to stay as isolated as he can. Isobel is a sweet young woman with her heart set on the one man she knows her father would disapprove of, however she sees a vulnerability in Athdar and wants to help him. Little do either of them know, that the misfortunes surrounding Athdar is not part of a curse. Instead these are deliberate actions meant to cause Athdar as much pain as others felt.

I have to admit that I found Isobel to be both sweet and occasionally sassy, which I liked. I connected much less with Athdar, who vowed to no more relationships, but seemed fairly easily swayed. I do greatly enjoy the plotting by the side characters to get everyone a happy ever after, and assume that this group of well-meaning match makers is a common thread in the series. My only real complaint is that by halfway through the book (if not before) I knew who the perpetrator was and was fairly certain of their motivations. However, I did like the occasional interjections on the part of the plotter, and thought the foreshadowing by their commentary did add something to the overall story.

I recommend The Highlander's Dangerous Temptation to readers that like a solid historical romance, highlanders finding love, and a mystery in the background. I found the mystery to be the weakest link, so those in search of a nail biter might be a little disappointed, but I still enjoyed the journey. It was not the best of the genre, but worth a visit to the library or purchase from fans of the author or series.

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### **Welzen says**

Me ha parecido un libro aburridísimo. Lo mismo de siempre, hermosa dama muy jovencita que está enamorada del guapo guerrero mucho mayor que ella, por lo que conspira para poder casarse con él, y así salvarlo de sus males.

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## **Fernanda says**

Gostei!

Mais uma estória de Highlander's onde desta vez, o par romantico apesar de nao ser de todo ortodoxo acaba por ser muito interessante.

Athdar e Isobel, não conseguem disfarçar a atração que os une e nem vão tentar.... após algumas peripécias engraçadas e outras mais graves, assumem de facto o que sentem.

Com quase vinte anos de diferença de idades, Athdar já viveu alguns dramas em sua vida e por isso nao está com interesse em se envolver novamente.... mas Isobel tem outros planos!

Uma estória com uma trama rápida, que se lê muito bem, para quem gosta do genero.

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## **Sandy says**

Athdar has a secret or maybe it is a curse...Isobel is determined to free him of this. But how to do this when he has sworn never to marry again.

This is the story of a strong warrior with a sadness that touches the heart of a lady that won't take no for an answer. I enjoyed the ending of the book tremendously, it was a very good climax to the story.

The supporting characters seemed a bit on the shallow side. Hence the rating of 3. I thought the story dragged a bit in the middle with a little too much description of days and not enough interaction between the characters building the story.

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## **Lynelle Clark says**

I received this book from Netgalley for an honest review.

I just loved this story! Never read one of this author's books, but I will definitely be on the lookout for more of her books. Especially this series.

The author has written about PTSD with compassion, great care and understanding. Today we have the advancement to understand and treat people that experience traumatic events with sufficiency. But back in the 1300's people did not have the knowledge.

The author incorporated in Isobel's character an in-depth wisdom to seek answers, not believing that the man she loves is mad. The general believe or diagnose of that time. Isobel's person stood out for me. Her willingness to fight for those she loved, her tenacity to seek answers and her ability to care deeply for Athdar makes her a true heroine in this romance novel.

A trade of a good woman is to protect her man no matter what, and we see this as the story unfolds and the plot comes to life.

Athdar himself struggled with his own problems as long as he can remember. Loosing those that he cared for in the process becoming bitter and thinking he did not deserve love or happiness. His compassion for his people, a hard worker and willingness to listen makes him a wonderful laird.

Each character in the plot role was well defined so that you could connect with each, making this story believable and wanting for more.

Fast paced the scenes developed rapidly, entertaining you. So that you get lost in the world that the author created.

A great Historical romance novel with all the components for a great read: evil versus light, healing and acceptance the highlights of the plot without making it sappy.

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