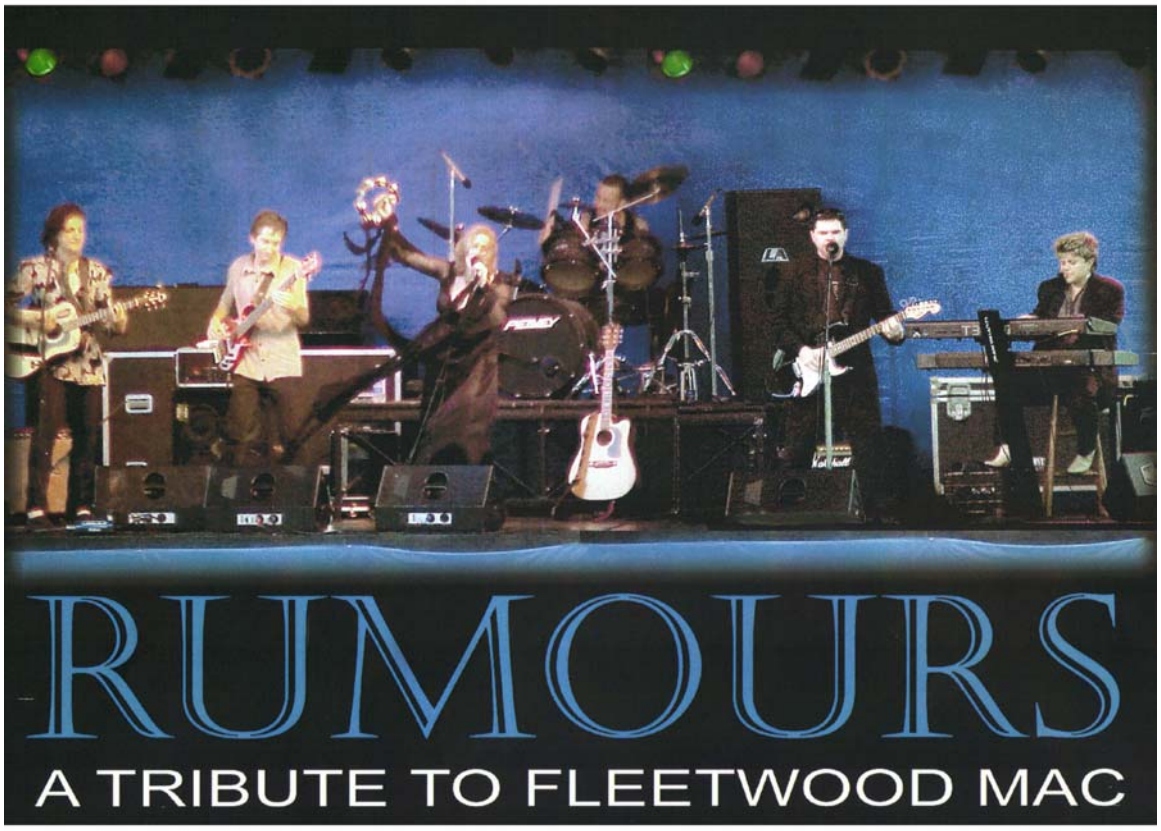
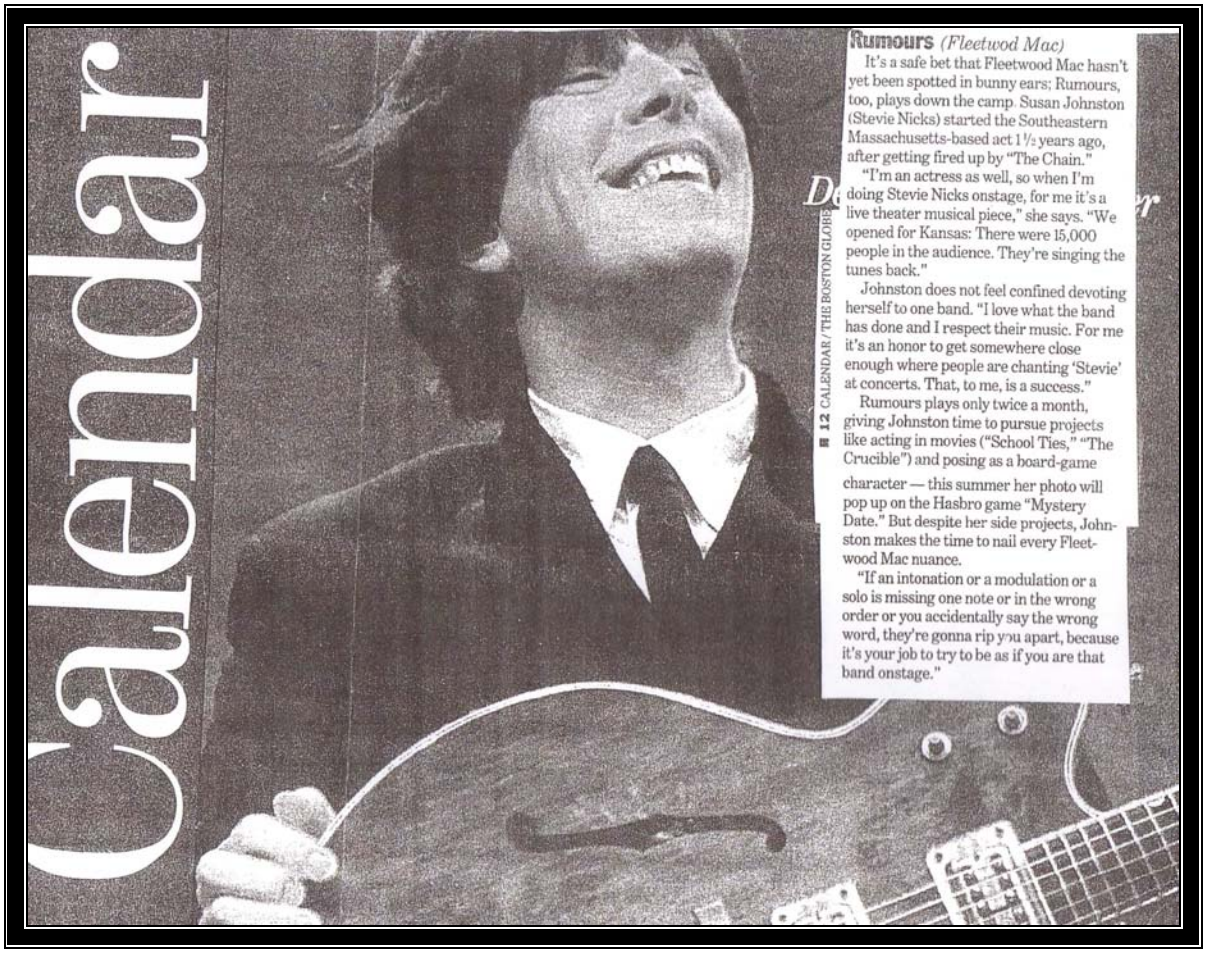
RUMOURS



A tribute to Fleetwood Mac

Contact:
www.rumourstributeband.com
Susan Johnston: (323) 833-2088

Rumours-A Tribute to Fleetwood Mac, mesmerizing audiences , transcending them to the time of Stevie, Mick, John, Cristine and Lindsey…..the clothing, the sound, the moves, the magic.



Rumours *(Fleetwod Mac)*

It's a safe bet that Fleetwood Mac hasn't yet been spotted in bunny ears; Rumours, too, plays down the camp. Susan Johnston (Stevie Nicks) started the Southeastern Massachusetts-based act 1½ years ago, after getting fired up by "The Chain."

"I'm an actress as well, so when I'm doing Stevie Nicks onstage, for me it's a live theater musical piece," she says. "We opened for Kansas: There were 15,000 people in the audience. They're singing the tunes back."

Johnston does not feel confined devoting herself to one band. "I love what the band has done and I respect their music. For me it's an honor to get somewhere close enough where people are chanting 'Stevie' at concerts. That, to me, is a success."

Rumours plays only twice a month, giving Johnston time to pursue projects like acting in movies ("School Ties," "The Crucible") and posing as a board-game character — this summer her photo will pop up on the Hasbro game "Mystery Date." But despite her side projects, Johnston makes the time to nail every Fleetwood Mac nuance.

"If an intonation or a modulation or a solo is missing one note or in the wrong order or you accidentally say the wrong word, they're gonna rip you apart, because it's your job to try to be as if you are that band onstage."

Tribute band with R.I. connections performs at Plainville show Saturday

BY LAUREN CARTER
CORRESPONDENT

Fleetwood Mac hasn't touched down in the area since 2004, when they stopped at the Tweeter Center in support of their 2003 release, "Say You Will."

But the '70s and '80s supergroup will make an area appearance this weekend. Or, at least, they'll appear to.

Saturday night, the look and sound of the Mac will fill Plainridge Racecourse – even though the actual members won't be there – when Rumours: Tribute to Fleetwood Mac performs.

The band name is of course an allusion to the Mac's 1977 monster album "Rumours," which won a Grammy Award for Album of the Year, went on to sell almost 20 million copies and catapulted the five-member outfit into pop-rock stardom.

The tribute band will try to capture some of that magic onstage Saturday night.

"We respect who they are and what they do, and we really put on a show," said Susan Johnston, who plays ethereal frontwoman Stevie Nicks. "We will do our homework to make sure that your experience is as if you're at a Fleetwood Mac concert."

That means studying up on when the songs in the setlist were written and recorded, and what was happening with Fleetwood Mac members at the time.

'We all lost friends in that fire, and some of those people that died, even though we didn't know them, we knew their faces.'

Susan Johnston on the Station Nightclub fire, which happened two days before Rumours was to perform there.

That also means, for Johnston at least, layering on her costume from the shawls and lace dresses down to the jewelry, nail polish, and of course, the platform boots.

"I finally have the boots," Johnston said. "I'm finally happy and have her exact black boots. It's not easy."

The homage to Fleetwood Mac began when Johnston, also an actress, was perusing the CD selection in a Tower Records.

"I was putting the headphones on and pressed play and 'The Chain' came on," she said. "And I went 'Wow! I want to re-create this sound.' "

The six-piece Rumours ensemble has been re-creating Fleetwood Mac's sound and experience for about 10 years, but limits the number of shows they do per year to about six, so as not to wear out the Mac welcome.

First in three years

Saturday's show will actually be the first in over three years for the band, which was slated to perform at the Station Nightclub in West Warwick, R.I. two days after the blaze that killed 100 people and injured more than 200 in 2003.

The band played a day-lot benefit concert for victims o the fire in August of that yea and then took a long hiatus.

"We all lost friends in that fire, and some of those peopl that died, even though we di know them, we knew their faces," Johnston said. "And t happened on a Thursday and we were scheduled on a Satu day, so that could have been us."

Johnston, who was born in Rhode Island and still has a home in her native state, though she resides mainly on the West Coast because of he acting career, said she looks forward to getting back on stage close to home.

Saturday night the band will perform two long sets with a change in between, to give each half of the show a different Mac vibe, she said. The music will span most of the Fleetwood Mac's career from 1975 on.

"I have to tell you, I have not gotten sick of these songs," Johnston said. "Every time I think I can or I will, I haven't. They just mean so much."

Johnston, who sings and plays tambourine, will have her "East Coast band" with her this weekend, featuring original member Mary Ann Rossoni on rhythm guitar and vocals.

They will be joined by John Sutchitroni on bass and vocals, Alex Miranda on drums, D.J. Lauria on guitar and vocals (as Lindsey Buckingham) and Terri Wood on keyboard and vocals (as Christine McVie).

Benefit by police association

The event is an annual holiday show put on by the Plainville Police Association. Past performers have included Beatles tribute bands and doo-wop/soul legends Herb Reed and the Platters.

With the money raised, the association supplies 1,900 glow sticks to trick-or-treaters each year, pays for Plainville DARE events, has an annual pizza party at the Council on Aging, supports the Plainville Athletic League, assists residents in time of need, gives an annual scholarship to a graduate of King Philip Regional High School, and makes donations to town organizations during their fund raising events.

Since the first holiday show in 1992 when 25 people attended, the audience numbers have ballooned, with about 900 people attending last year's concert. Patrol Officer Alfred Morel, the event coordinator, said that already 1,100 tickets have been sold for the Mac tribute.

Apparently Plainridge and the police know how to throw a party. Last year, Rossoni attended the holiday show and was so impressed by the audience and atmosphere that she approached Morel about having Rumours perform there, and the rest is history.

"Since we only go out so often, we select where we go and why, so it's a testament to how wild and crazy the audience is about music," Johnston said.

"It's really about the connection you make to the audience. If you're one of the lucky ones, we become one. And that, to us, is really what it's about."

LAUREN CARTER can be reached at lauren-carter@hotmail.com



Original album cover for Fleetwood Mac's hit, 'Rumours.'



Publicity photo for Rumours band with original members Susan Johnston, second from left, and Mary Ann Rossoni.

SUBMITTED



SUBMITTED

Susan Johnston becomes Stevie Nicks in tribute band.

Local show

WHAT: Rumours: Tribute to Fleetwood Mac

WHEN: Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

WHERE: Plainridge Racecourse, Route 1, Plainville

INFO: Annual Holiday Show to benefit the Plainville Police Association; music, dancing, finger food and door prizes.

TICKETS: Call 508-695-2088 to purchase advance tickets; tickets will not be available at the door.

'I have to tell you, I have not gotten sick of these songs. Every time I think I can or I will, I haven't. They just mean so much.'

Susan Johnston

STORY

Heard the 'Rumours' about this weekend's line-up?

By LORI A. NASON

This year's Fall Harvest Festival has plenty of great live music in store by some of Rhode Island's most talented musicians, guaranteed to keep the crowd singing and dancing to some of their favorite songs throughout the entire weekend.

The popular Fleetwood Mac tribute band Rumours is one of the six acts scheduled to perform at the event. Susan Johnston, the Stevie Nicks of the band, grew up in Cranston and attended school at Cranston East.

"I am looking forward to our show at the Fall Harvest Festival I am really going to enjoy visiting my hometown," said Johnston.

Being the daughter of a musician, Johnston developed an interest in the music industry at a very early age.

"My dad was in bands for as long as I can remember, and they'd let me sing, so that's how I got my start," recalled Johnston.

Johnston began her career in theater, performing in musicals, then her interests moved towards classic rock. For the past five years she has been performing in classic rock bands and currently performs in a duo called Simple Truth as well as being the lead vocalist for Rumours.

Rumours has been together for about two years, and in that short time they have become known as one of the best tribute bands of the area. When members, Mike Khouri (John McVie), Alex Miranda (Mick Fleetwood), Terry Wood (Christine McVie), Maryanne Rassoni (Lindsey Buckingham), "Geo" and Johnston got together to form the group, they began an unstoppable journey to success.

It's been a very busy two years for the group.

"Last year we opened up for Kansas at the Fall River Festival, and this year we opened up for Herman's Hermits at the Cumberland Festival," explained Johnston. "We just recently did a show at Chelo's in East Greenwich and it was so successful that they asked us to come back



Performing

The Fleetwood Mac tribute band Rumours will top this weekend's entertainment bill at the 21st Annual Fall Harvest Festival. Also expected to perform are Wisdom, Cold Sweat, The Capolla Sisters, Cranston Choral Choir, Evan's Heaven, Ronnie Rose and Steve Anthony and Persuasion. The schedule of performances is listed on page 4 of this section.

All of the band members are incredibly talented, and have been in the industry for many years.

Marianne Rassoni plays folk music in a band called Half Slip & Garters, and has put out her own CD. Alex Miranda also plays alternative music in a band called Joy Popper, and Terry Wood played in a band called Mary,Fred and Terry with independent recording artist Mary Day.

This year is the band's first year playing at the Fall Harvest Festival, and they have a great show planned.

"We are not just a band — we put on a

well. Johnston, a very convincing Stevie Nicks, has appeared in a long flowing black lace gown, similar to the one worn by the real Stevie Nicks, and the other band members dress in the styles worn by the characters they portray. "Our goal is to make the audience feel like they are actually at a Fleetwood Mac show."

Rumours is also the name of the 1977 hit album by Fleetwood Mac, and when you see them play such hits as "The Chain," "Oh Daddy," and "Gold Dust Woman," you won't believe your eyes or ears.

The Driftwoods is another great tribute

hit songs of the Beach Boys, with such songs as "Surfing USA," and "California Girls." The band also plays some of the all time favorite oldies songs of bands such as Chicago, Chuck Berry, and the Beatles. The band recently played a show at Garden City Center that kept the crowd rocking all afternoon, and they're sure to do the same at this year's Harvest Festival.

Also performing during the weekend is Rhode Island legend Ronnie Rose, the Capolla Sisters and Evan's Heaven. Steve Anthony & Persuasion will entertain the crowd with rock & roll, from the oldies to

classic rock

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Foxboro, **G12**

Get Out!

The Sun Chronicle, Attleboro · N. Attleboro, Mass. • Silver City Bulletin · Taunton, Mass. • Thursday, January 4, 2007

Back to 'Mac'

Tribute band coming to Plainville Saturday re-creates the sound of '70s supergroup, G10



Rhode Island native Susan Johnston takes the role of Stevie Nicks in Rumours: Tribute to Fleetwood Mac.



Matthew Fox, star of the TV series 'Lost,' is

Meet a local stock car driver, who is only 13.



Cheryl Wheeler brings her many talents as a folk

Band Rumours flattering in Fleetwood Mac tribute

Plainville Police Association fundraiser aids town programs

BY LAUREN CARTER
FOR THE SUN CHRONICLE

REVIEW

PLAINVILLE

If imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, then Fleetwood Mac should feel honored after Saturday night's performance by Rumours: A Tribute to Fleetwood Mac.

The six-piece tribute band did an admirable job recreating the supergroup's material at the Plainville Police Association's annual show, held at Plainridge Racecourse.

From the set opener "The Chain" it was clear the sextet had done their musical homework.

The sound was reminiscent of the Mac's live shows and keyboardist/vocalist Terry Wood could have easily passed for Christine McVie with her smooth alto on songs including "You Make Loving Fun" and the stripped-down "Songbird."

Susan Johnston, aka singer Stevie Nicks, looked the part in a black lace dress and platform boots, banging on a tambourine as she alternately stole the spotlight and provided harmony on songs where she wasn't the featured vocalist.

Although other group members didn't get as deep into costume as Johnston, they pulled off the sound of the Mac pretty well, no minor feat considering the five-piece band (before Christine McVie left the group) usually has extra guitars and drums backing them live.

Rumours couldn't conjure up a marching band for "Don't Stop," but the song, once the theme of former President Bill Clinton's campaign, was inspiring nonetheless, and got many audience members up and dancing.

"Everywhere" was an excellent number that showed off the group's attention to detail, and "Hold Me," a song the Mac usually doesn't perform live, was also impressive.

Johnston's upbeat theatrics may not match Nicks' understated, spooky grace, and her voice doesn't have the rough, textured quality that is Nicks' signature, but she was enchanting on "Dreams," and the dream-like "Sara," another song the Mac don't usually perform live.

"Monday Morning" and "Big Love" were some standouts from DJ Laurie as Lindsay Buckingham, though of the three vocalists, his voice was the most unlike his "character."

The group, which also features Gary Mallaber as drummer Mick Fleetwood, Ralph Carter as bassist John McVie, and Mary Ann Rossoni on guitar and vocals, even threw in some older material from the Peter Green era.

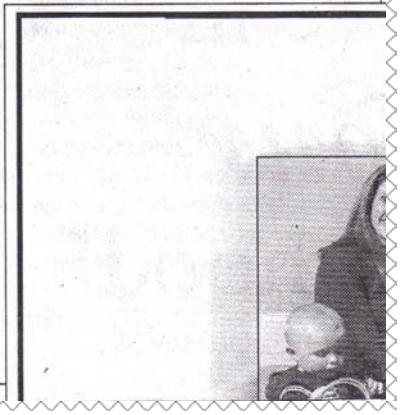
Overall, the main thing lacking in Rumours' performance that is so pervasive in the Mac's was emotion, which likely can't be conveyed as easily as words and notes.

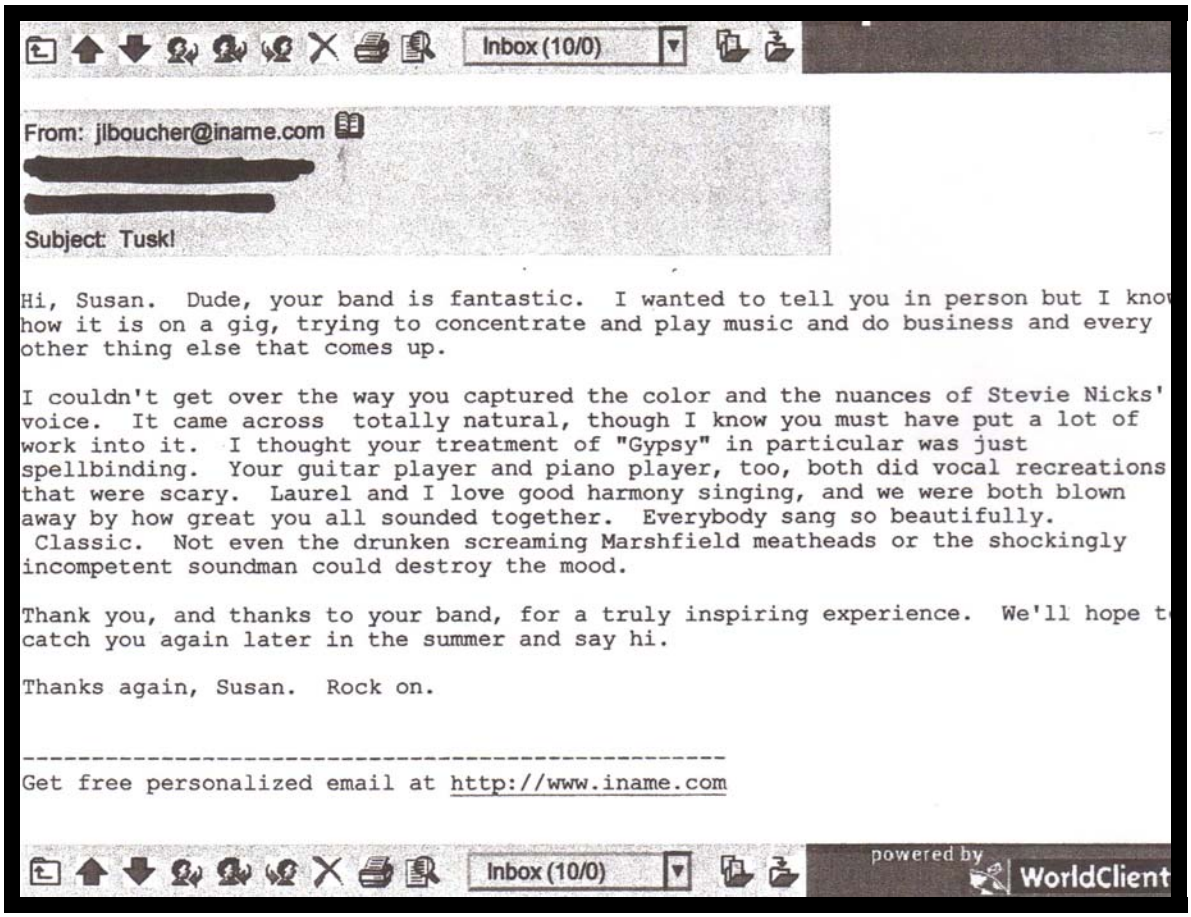
A meal and raffle in between sets seemed to be part of the attraction for the large crowd, an older, family-oriented group.

Patrol Officer Alfred Morel, the event coordinator, said 1,100 tickets were sold for this year's event.

Proceeds benefit youth activities and the town's DARE program.

LAUREN CARTER can be reached at lauren-carter@hotmail.com.




Inbox (10/0)
From: jlboucher@iname.com
[redacted]
Subject: Tusk!
Hi, Susan. Dude, your band is fantastic. I wanted to tell you in person but I kno
how it is on a gig, trying to concentrate and play music and do business and every
other thing else that comes up.
I couldn't get over the way you captured the color and the nuances of Stevie Nicks'
voice. It came across totally natural, though I know you must have put a lot of
work into it. I thought your treatment of "Gypsy" in particular was just
spellbinding. Your guitar player and piano player, too, both did vocal recreations
that were scary. Laurel and I love good harmony singing, and we were both blown
away by how great you all sounded together. Everybody sang so beautifully.
Classic. Not even the drunken screaming Marshfield meatheads or the shockingly
incompetent soundman could destroy the mood.
Thank you, and thanks to your band, for a truly inspiring experience. We'll hope t
catch you again later in the summer and say hi.
Thanks again, Susan. Rock on.

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