

From: Blaineworld bginbc-aol.com@shared1.ccsend.com
Subject: blaineworld 1516 (See Sec. 1H for great news about Asheville.)
Date: September 28, 2025 at 11:24 AM
To: hank@hankeder.com



BLAINESWORLD

You're reading BLAINESWORLD, a weekly blog published by Blaine Greenfield. It contains some jokes, hopefully, not toooo risqué (typically in Sections 5, 8 and 11); contests; reviews of shows, movies and books; quotes, etc. ... Please feel free to share it with 437 of your closest friends and relatives.. ... And In the unlikely event that you or they are not already a subscriber, just click the following link to be added to the free mailing list: [Here](#).

#1516
9.29.2025

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1. Reflections

A. Cynthia, my beautiful bride, and I have the results to prove the caption in this picture is true ... Scoreboard: Cynthia 947, Me 0 ... and yes, that's the lifetime score.

Today, I realized I'll never have to worry about my wife and me arguing over who's right and who's wrong, because I was lucky enough to find a wife who's never wrong.





B. Kismet, our amazing cat, wants you to know that one paw out means "Do Not Disturb" ... unless for snacks.



C. Review: Attic Salt Brings Strindberg's Miss Julie to Life in a Bold New Adaptation by Blaine Greenfield — Chief Encouragement Officer (CEO), BLAINESWORLD

Miss Julie, written in 1888 by August Strindberg, is a naturalistic drama that explores themes of class, power, and desire on a single Midsummer's Eve. Kudos to Attic Salt Theatre Company for presenting the world premiere of this brand-new adaptation by Jeff Catanese, who directed the production with skill and sensitivity.

Lauren Otis gave a commanding performance as Miss Julie, capturing both her fragility and her reckless intensity in a way that made the character compelling from start to finish. Opposite her, Jon Robinson excelled as John, blending quiet strength with raw ambition to create a layered portrayal that anchored the story.

Though in a smaller role, Gabby Bailey was outstanding as Kristen, bringing warmth and authenticity to each of her scenes and adding depth to the household dynamic.

The production featured a creative stage design by Mikhale Sherrill, who served the dual role of stage manager, and Falluja Rain. Their inspired choice to move the wall from the front of the theater to the center made it a striking focal point. McKinney Gough's excellent costumes completed the world beautifully, grounding the characters in time and place.

I was fortunate to catch the final performance of the run, and once again, credit to Attic Salt for presenting work rarely staged in Asheville and giving audiences the chance to experience something many may not have seen before.

The troupe's next production, The Thanksgiving Play (running Nov. 7–23), will be staged in Asheville for the very first time. It is a satirical comedy that promises to be another winner.

For tickets, click:

<https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?ticketing=astc>.



D. Review: Sondheim's *A Little Night Music* Shines at HART Theatre
by Blaine Greenfield — Chief Encouragement Officer (CEO), BLAINESWORLD

Stephen Sondheim's *A Little Night Music* is a witty, romantic, and bittersweet musical set in turn-of-the-century Sweden, where mismatched lovers, misplaced affections, and second chances unfold in a swirl of waltzes.

Directed with outstanding clarity and nuance by Julie Kinter, the production captures both the humor and the heartache of Sondheim's score and Hugh Wheeler's book.

At the center is Stacey Uria as Desirée Armfeldt, who commands the stage with elegance and grace, delivering the iconic "Send in the Clowns" with heartbreaking honesty. Andrew Beachum as Fredrik Egerman balances comic bewilderment with touching vulnerability as Desirée's former lover. Alexa Nemitz as Anne Egerman, Fredrik's much younger wife, shines with youthful charm—embodying both innocence and stubborn resolve.

Strong support comes from Jonathan Ross as Count Carl-Magnus Malcolm, blustering with bravado and sharp comic timing, and Alison Gripenrog as Charlotte Malcolm, whose biting wit and poignant delivery of "Every Day a Little Death" make her performance unforgettable. Carl Rosenthal as Henrik Egerman skillfully portrays the turmoil of a conflicted seminarian, bringing depth to his solo "Later."

Additional highlights include Janet Oliver as Madame Armfeldt, whose reminiscence in "Liaisons" is delivered with both humor and wistfulness, and Greta Schulz as Petra, who nearly steals the show with her exuberant, bawdy "The Miller's Son." Emersyn Massaro as Fredrika Armfeldt brings sweetness and sincerity to the role of Desirée's daughter.

Others in the cast are equally strong. Kit Johnson, appearing first on stage, helped frame the evening with a confident presence, soon joined by the other members of the *Liebeslieder* Quintet, whose seamless blend carried through the performance.

Musically, the evening soars, with stellar music direction from Anne Rhymer, who led a 7-piece orchestra with tremendous artistry. The group included gifted musicians such as David Bruce (percussion), John Crawley (piano/keyboard), and Misty Rondeau (clarinet/oboe/flute), along with their talented fellow players who added richness to every note.

Credit also goes to Choreographer Jacob Walas, whose staging of "A Weekend in the Country" — the rousing Act I finale and one of Sondheim's most dazzling ensemble numbers — provided a thrilling

highlight. And Annie Dragoo's costumes, hair, and makeup gave the production a stylish period authenticity that completed the picture.

For an evening of elegance, humor, and some of Sondheim's finest music, A Little Night Music at HART Theatre is not to be missed. It runs through September 28.

For tickets, click:

harttheatre.org/a-little-night-music.



Pictured with Blaine Greenfield at A Little Night Music: (top) Evelyn Beachum and Andrew Beachum, (bottom left) Alison Gripentrog, and (bottom right) Kit Johnson.

E. I hosted two BLAINESWORLD webcasts this past week. To catch them, click: www.blaineworld.net.

(1) 9.22.2025 - Cory Boughton--Actor, Writer, Filmmaker



(2) 9.23.2025 - Michelle Baker--NC Licensed Mental Health Counselor





G. Condolences to Peter Hall Pollard and family on the passing of Pat, his older sister.

H. Announcing this week's

****** BLAINESWORLD BEST AWARD ******

It goes to Asheville--just named 2025's Nicest Place in America by Reader's Digest.

To find out why, please read the following:

When Hurricane Helene Hit, Asheville, North Carolina, Banded Together—And Became 2025's Nicest Place in America

by Derek Burnett

Asheville has always been a special place. But after a devastating event, residents rallied to support one another ... and provided a blueprint for what real cooperation and kindness look like.

Molly and Meherwan Irani took a leap of faith when they moved with their 3-year-old daughter, Aria, from San Francisco to Asheville, North Carolina. It was 2005, and relocating from a major international city to an Appalachian town seemed, Molly recalls, "a wild experiment."

But a few weeks after settling into their new home, they attended a downtown event called the Shindig on the Green, where local folk and bluegrass musicians entertained a motley mix of tourists and locals who lounged on picnic blankets or danced freely. Little Aria spotted another girl her age from across the field, ran to her and embraced her.

"They spent the entire night dancing in each other's arms," Molly remembers. "And surrounding them was a community square dance. In that crowd, holding hands, were punk-rock line cooks and elderly people, all different walks of life. And I thought, I don't know that I've seen this happen anywhere else. This is why we're here."

For the rest of this informative article, click:

[Here.](#)





Rachael McIntosh for Reader's Digest

Asheville's vibrant downtown is nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

2. Cynthia's Corner

Balance of Consent and Discipline

Someone recently mentioned the concept of consent with animals, and it landed in me with surprising force. With my new dog Bodhi, it means not forcing him into situations he doesn't want—like being nose-to-nose with my cat before he's ready. With my cat, it means not scooping him up when he's giving clear body language that says no, thank you.

That word—consent—has softened how I see our daily interactions. Animals, like people, deserve to have their signals respected.

But then comes the contrasting concept: discipline. Not my strength. To be consistent. To be the pack leader. Karen, the friend who entrusted me with Bodhi, jokes with her own dogs: "I am the boss!" And I see the truth in it. Dogs (like children) are smart. If you tell them "No" once but give in the next time, they remember. They test. They try again. And if you waver, they learn they might win the next round. Consistency is the language of structure. Clear boundaries. Clear follow-through.

Meanwhile, Bodhi has opinions of his own. At times, he pees on the street, but not in the expensive fenced-in yard Blaine and I built just for him. He is not yet using pee pads indoors—though my life would be so much easier if he would do that. So, at times, I throw my hands up. AAAHHH! Help!

And yet ... beneath it all is love. Love for him, love for the lessons he is teaching me, and love for the process of learning to balance respect for his consent with the steadiness of consistency and discipline.

So many lessons from one small dog.

Note: Update after this column was written. I just got a new friend for Bodhi (on the right) to help with my training.. He even talks, as you can see when you click:

[Here.](#)



nammy,
Cynthia
cgreenfield1001@aol.com

PS. Last week's column mentioned some folks who have helped me with Bodhi. I would also like to acknowledge my best friend Francie for her constant love and concern for how we are doing.

3. Invites

A. Last chance to enter ...

***** CONTEST #11 *****

One lucky reader will win an autographed copy of *A Rewilder's Guide to Outdoor Adventure* by Patrick Joseph Clark.

To quote from the Introduction:

Modern life pulls us away from the natural rhythms that once kept us balanced and healthy in body, mind, and spirit.

But nature still heals—if we know how to truly enter it.

This book presents a revolutionary approach to going into nature—one that prioritizes well-being, harnesses nature's profound healing benefits, and restores the body's natural rhythms. Learn how to align your clothing, movement, and mindset with the natural world to unlock deeper therapeutic effects from every outdoor experience.

Discover the benefits of natural fibers, maximum skin exposure to air and sunlight, barefoot-friendly footwear, and non-toxic solutions for bugs, sun, and first aid. Learn in detail how to build a lightweight, chemical-free gear system that enhances comfort, energy, sleep, and the experiences of self discovery that come with being interconnected with nature. Condition your body at home for rugged terrain, fuel it with powerful ancestral foods, and reconnect with your wild, capable self.

To enter the contest, send an email to: bginbc@aol.com and put CONTEST #11 in the subject line. Include in the body of the email your name and mailing address, so that if you win, I can send you a copy of this book. Entries must be received on or before the extended deadline of 9 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 29.

B. Want to be a guest on my BLAINESWORLD webcast? It can now be seen on YouTube or you can listen to it on your favorite podcast player.

I typically feature guests involved with theater, non-profit organizations, authors, performers or who are just downright interesting.

Even if you've been a guest before, I'd welcome the opportunity to speak with you again. I now tape via Zoom, usually in the early evening.

If you want to join me, let me know. Send an email to: bginbc@aol.com, if interested, and put WEBCAST in the subject line. And for more information, click:

<https://www.blaineworld.net/>.

C. I'm back on Facebook after having been hacked. If we are not currently friends there (or if we lost contact because of the hack), please friend me by looking up: Blaine Greenfield. You'll see a picture of me in a blue shirt with, naturally, my thumb up.

You can also find me by clicking:

<https://www.facebook.com/blaine.greenfield.2025/>.

D. Are you interested in shows, movies, TV, etc.? ... If so, I encourage you to join a group I've formed on Facebook that's called Entertainment. To do so, all you need to do is follow the instructions when you click: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/245515070390413>.

4. FYI

A. How to get a copy of your credit report for free
by Rick Rouse

It's always been a good idea to review your credit report for errors and omissions every now and then, but with identity theft happening so often these days it's absolutely critical that you keep an even closer check on it than ever.

Credit reporting agencies used to charge a fee every time someone asked for a copy of their own credit report, but now the federal government requires them to provide every American with one free copy per year.

Be aware that there are several private companies that offer "free" credit reports, but those companies all require something in exchange. Most experts recommend steering clear of those websites.

Instead, you should use AnnualCreditReport.com which is the only website that's officially sanctioned by the U.S. government to provide you with a truly free copy of your credit report once every year.

For the rest of this educational article, click:
[Here](#)



B. To protect your brain against dementia, start pedaling, study suggests
[Here](#)

C. 10 Things to Say When Someone Won't Get Off Their Phone
[Here](#)

D. Best Day And Time To Buy Plane Tickets
[Here](#)

E. Why your dog gets so excited to see you
[Here](#)

5. Joke 1

SHANAH TOVAH! ... that's the greeting for celebrating the Jewish New Year, which began on sundown last night. It means "good year," which is my hope for y'all, especially if you're like me--and you celebrate all holidays (because there's more food, fun, and friends that way). ... Methinks that it is also the perfect time to share the following anecdote ...

Morris calls his son in New York:

MORRIS CALLS HIS SON IN NEW YORK:

“Benny, I’m divorcing your mother.”

“Dad, don’t do anything rash! I’m on the next flight. Promise me you’ll wait.”

“Fine. It’s Rosh Hashanah—I’ll hold off until after the High Holidays. Call your sister, I can’t talk about it anymore.”

He hangs up, turns to his wife, and says: “They’ll be here for Yom Kippur. Now we just need a plan for Passover.”



6. Reviews

A. My Favorite Wife: Max

My Favorite Wife (1940) is a fizzy screwball delight, with Cary Grant’s bemused elegance and Irene Dunne’s effervescent wit turning a farcical premise—presumed-dead wife returns the day her husband remarries—into a parade of perfectly timed gags and tender reconciliations. Leo McCarey’s touch (he co-wrote and produced) keeps the pace buoyant, while Randolph Scott’s deadpan “other man” and Gail Patrick’s poised new bride sharpen the romantic triangles. The dialogue crackles, the hotel-and-courtroom set pieces land beautifully, and beneath the hijinks beats a warm portrait of loyalty and forgiveness. I liked it a lot—charming, brisk, and eminently rewatchable. I’d call it perfect for ages 9-10+. The film has no profanity or violence. Younger kids may miss the humor and pace, but older kids and up will be fine—and adults will enjoy it most.

B. Friendship: Max

Friendship (2024) opens with real spark—snappy banter and a clean high-concept setup—anchored by Tim Robinson as a wound-tight suburban dad and Paul Rudd as his charismatic new neighbor, with Kate Mara and Jack Dylan Grazer adding texture around the edges; but once the premise is set, the film stalls, recycling jokes as the pacing sags and leaning on manufactured misunderstandings instead of character truth. Despite a lively start, the energy tails off hard, and overall I wouldn’t recommend it. Rated R.

7. TV Alert

A. Wayward, Season 1: Netflix

Toni Collette stars in this creepy, slow-burn thriller about a tough-love school for troubled teens that may or may not be up to something sinister.

B. Hotel Costiers, Season 1: Prime Video

D. Hotel Costera , Season 1. 11 min video

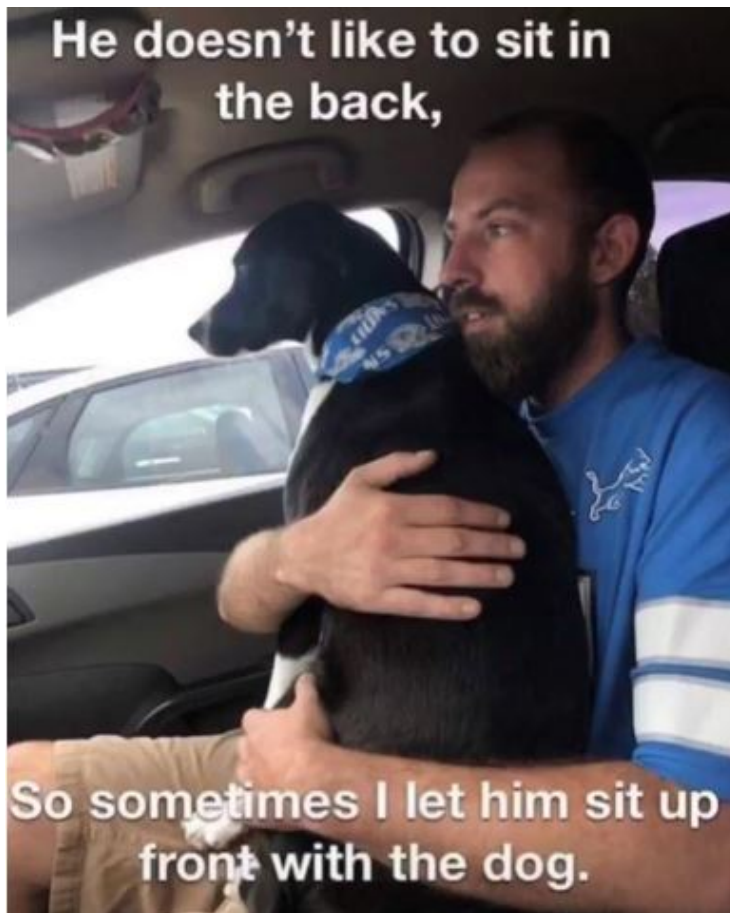
Grey's Anatomy alum Jesse Williams stars in this action drama as a former U.S. Marine who returns to Italy, where he was raised as a child, to serve as an all-around problem-solver at a luxurious hotel on the Positano coastline.

C. Singin' in the Rain (1952): Max
The ultimate mood-lift musical.

D. Rebel Without a Cause (1955): TCM on Tuesday, Sept. 30, at 11 p.m.
Era-defining teen angst with James Dean, Natalie Wood, and Sal Mineo.

8. Joke 2

They don't call me Mr. Considerate for nothing. (Thanks, Donnie Roland, for sharing.)



9. Clips/Websites

A. The Turtles are arguably the greatest rock group of all time!

(1) Their recording of "Happy Together" proves it

(2) As you may know, I welcome clips of them and/or others singing this classic song and/or just talking about the group. For example, this week watch Howard Kaylan paying tribute to his bandmate Mark Volman by clicking:

[Here.](#)

(Thanks, Pat Hannigan, for sharing.)

Note: Feel free to submit your choices for greatest recording artists, music, etc. I'll try to run what you send me in in section 8C (below).

B. Video of the week

This video is from 2018, but the cheese race continues. If you want to participate, there's plenty of time to make reservations for May 25, 2026. And if you have a physician friend, you might want to bring him/her along.

Oh, and take some photos and videos. I promise to use them!

[Here.](#)

(Thanks, Jonathan Berg, for sharing.)

C. And also check out these other clips at your convenience:

(1) Bob Seger & The Silver Bullet Band - Still The Same, one of my favorites

[Here](#)

(2) Howard Smith Jr.: Hymns (9.28.2025)

<https://www.facebook.com/hs.smith.73/videos/1351571406620426>

(3) Neil Ratner Rock Doc: Green Day

<https://www.facebook.com/neilratnerrockdoc/videos/2536910883341029>

(4) Thanks, Neil, for sharing the story behind this song. For your many fans and friends who want to see a great video of Green Day singing it, click:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GRCm6D1YJno&list=RDGRCm6D1YJno&start_radio=1

(5) How to increase productivity

https://www.instagram.com/p/DMQu4e0S_Y5/

(Thanks, JP Reavely, for sharing.)

(6) Balloon Journey

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NUhgzofiBleXsrSgqbdPxeQnWq4_pvrO/view

Thanks, Jonathan Berg, for sharing)

D. Here's a website that you might want to check out:

The Passive Aggressive Password Machine

Imagine your in-laws are helping you with a password ... this is what they'd say.

To see it for yourself, click:

[Here.](#)

I tried it myself with this password:

BLAINESWORLDrocks!

And got this feedback:

I almost like where you're going with this.

E. BLAINESWORLD, the website, remains up and running . . . to view it, please click:

<https://www.blaineworld.net/>.

10. Technology Tip

Apple Warns All iPhone Users—Do Not Reply To These Messages

by Zak Doffman

Whether you're buying a new iPhone 17 or upgrading your existing device to iOS 26, there's one update that could be more critical than the rest. When you unbox your new phone or install the iOS update, you need to check one setting right away.

iPhone users are under siege from a plague of scam text messages that is now out of control. Designed in China and fueled by kits sold or rented to threat actors around the world, these attacks are disguised as unpaid toll, undelivered package or motoring offense lures. But beneath the surface they steal your money and your passwords.

For the rest of this eye-opening article, click:

[Here.](#)

11. Joke 3

Now you know why I'm not allowed back at Best Buy!

I was at a job interview today when the manager handed me a laptop and told me, "I want you to try to sell this to me."

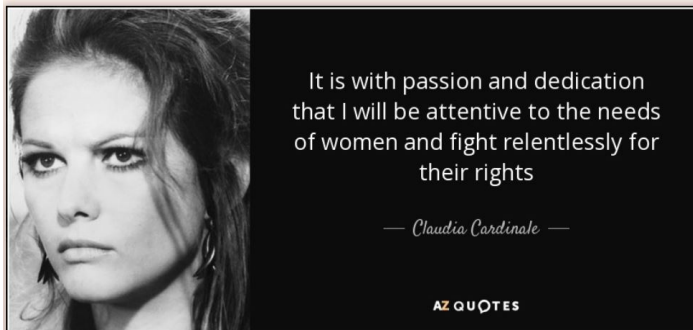
So I put it under my arm, walked out of the building, and went home.

Eventually, he called and demanded, "Bring my laptop back now."

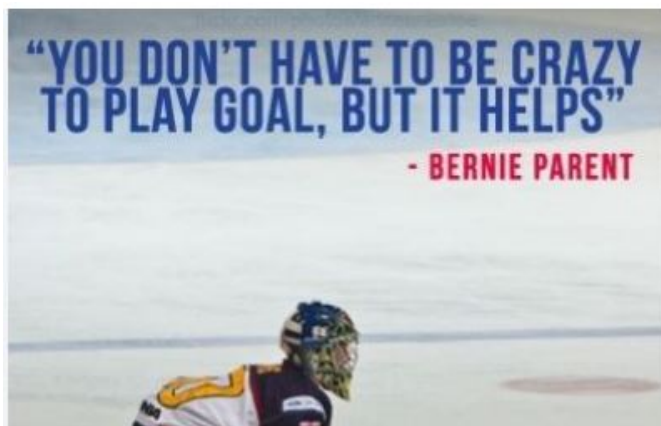
I replied, "\$200 and it's yours."

12.Three Quotes I Like

A. Thanks, Claudia Cardinale (1938-2025), for your career as an Italian actress. Among her most famous roles were *The Leopard*, *8½*, and *Once Upon a Time in the West*. she received the Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement from the Venice Film Festival. For more information about her life, click: <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/arts/claudia-cardinale-star-of-60s-and-70s-european-cinema-dies-at-87>.



B. Thanks, Bernie Parent (1945-2025), for your career as a Canadian professional ice hockey goaltender who played 13 National Hockey League seasons with the Philadelphia Flyers, Boston Bruins, and Toronto Maple Leafs between 1965 and 1979, and also spent one season in the World Hockey Association with the Philadelphia Blazers during the 1972–73 season. He is widely acknowledged as one of the greatest goaltenders of all time. For more information about his life, click: https://www.espn.com/nhl/story/_/id/46335224/hall-famer-bernie-parent-flyers-goalie-dies-age-80





C. CORRECTION

David Greenfield, my astute nephew, picked up a mistake I made last week. Here's his email to me: Just a fact check on this week's edition that needs and demands a correction. It's awesome that you paid tribute to the great Ken Dryden however you have a photo of a goalie Tony Esposito) in a Chicago Blackhawks uniform, and not Dryden in a Canadiens jersey. I imagine your Montreal readers would be quite upset. I think the time has come to monitor your webpage with greater intensity.

Sorry 'bout that. See below for a repeat of the quote with the correct picture.

Thanks, Ken Dryden (1947-2025), for your career as a Canadian professional ice hockey goaltender, politician, lawyer, businessman, and author. He played for the Montreal Canadiens of the National Hockey League from 1971 to 1979, winning the Stanley Cup six times and the Vezina Trophy as the goaltender on the team allowing the fewest goals five times. He was elected as member of the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1983. For more information about his life, click: <https://alumni.cornell.edu/cornellians/ken-dryden-obituary/>.

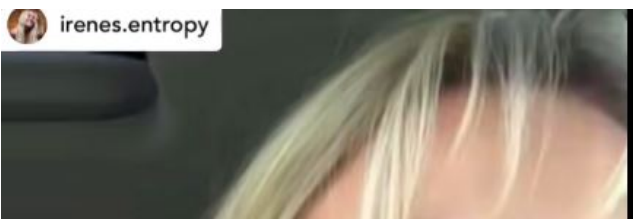
**“Because the demands on the goalie are mostly mental,
it means that for a goalie the biggest enemy
is himself.”--Ken Dryden**



13. Thought For The Day

What we need more of ... click this link to find out:
[Here](#)

The picture below will then be self-explanatory.
(Thanks, Ellen Pappas, for sharing.)





PS. Make it a great week!

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