

L. Piacin  
RUE : DU MONDE

War never,  
books always!



selection Bologna Book Fair 2023

Kotimi



# RUE DU MONDE

In this long street of books,  
there is a window wide open on  
the cultures of the world,  
on the freedom to grow up.

There are trees that speak to us.  
There is poetry and the dream of a united  
humanity and of children living in harmony  
with the living world.

There is even a big smile that tells us  
*how to make peace,*  
in many different languages.  
Yes, **peace!** Who would have thought  
that we should still dream of peace  
and talk about it  
to the children of the world?!

A series of 'ifs' . . .

If all the world's children . . . were to recognise themselves in this kaleidoscope book . . .



Age 5+, 40 pages, 25.5 x 25.5 cm

### If All the World's Books...

*Alain Serres and Aurélia Fronty*

- If all the drops of water joined hands. . . then the palm trees, children and hummingbirds would never be thirsty again. . . if all the houses joined doormats, if all the witches joined brooms, if all the world's streets, if all the tubes of paint. . . **a whimsical way of sharing our desires for a better world.**
- **Amusing or moving sequences illustrated by Aurélia Fronty**, one of Rue du Monde's major contributors, who illustrated *J'ai le droit d'être un enfant* (I have the right to be a child), translated into 15 languages.
- **A book that will bring a smile to the face of all dreamers** and encourage them to start their own list of 'ifs' to make the planet a happier place.

At last, a story without parents!

In my very own home. . . I'm not alone!

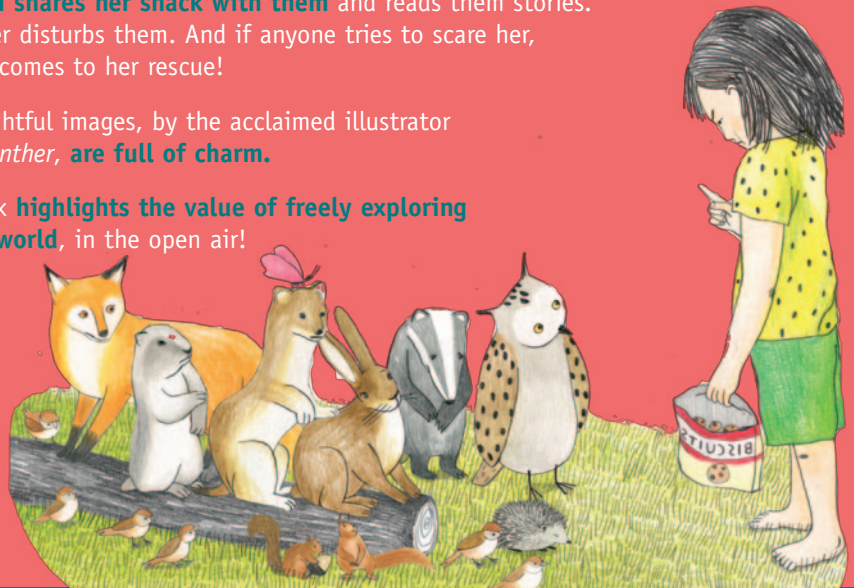


Age 3+, 48 pages, 22 x 29 cm

## My Very Own Home!

*Sarah Zambello and Chiara Raineri*

- A gate in the middle of a field, with no fence – **a magical place where a little girl happily chats** with squirrels, rabbits and foxes. . .
- **She even shares her snack with them** and reads them stories. No one ever disturbs them. And if anyone tries to scare her, a big stag comes to her rescue!
- The delightful images, by the acclaimed illustrator of *Little Panther*, **are full of charm.**
- This book **highlights the value of freely exploring our inner world**, in the open air!



R U E | D U | M O N D E |

# A picture book contrasting the vastness of the universe with the inner world of the child



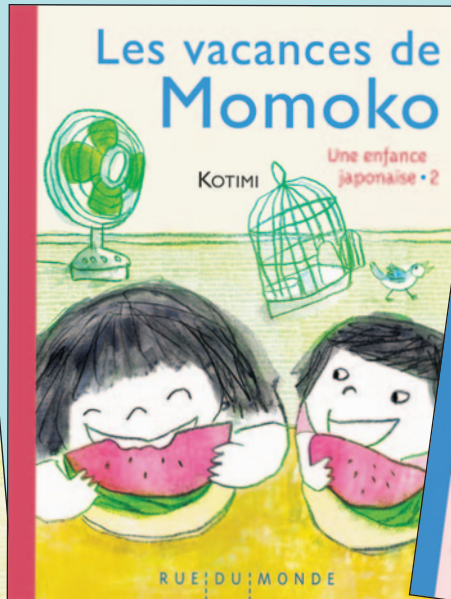
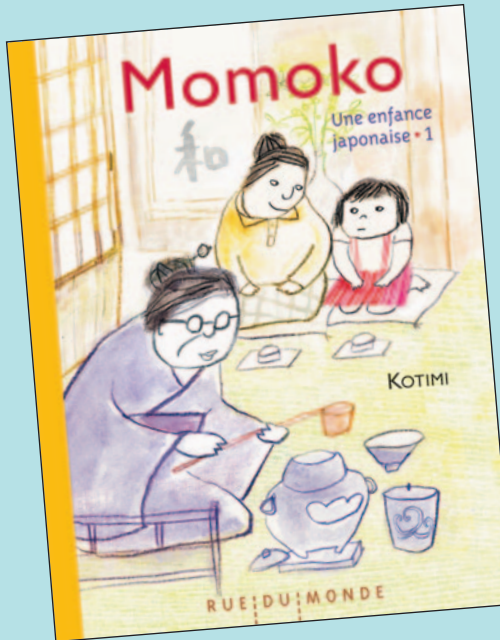
Age 5+, 40 pages, 23.5 x 30 cm  
Rights sold: Spanish (World),  
Portuguese (Brazil)

## My Blue Home

*Alain Serres and Edmée Cannard*

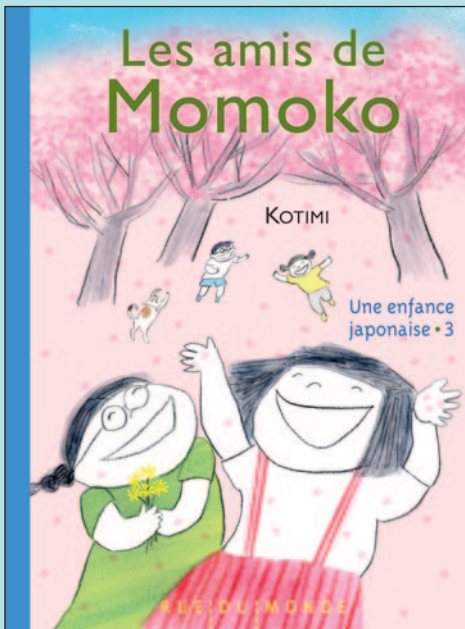
- A little earthling's magical journey around the universe.
- Zooming in from the farthest reaches of the galaxy to a small planet, the narrator identifies continents bursting with life, then his own country, his city, his home and finally his bedroom, which is also blue.
- This imaginative odyssey ends up inside the child's own heart, which **contains everything he loves**: his family, humanity, the whole world. . . and the starry universe of course.
- Edmée Cannard's fascinating illustrations burst out in two quadriptychs, **giant life frescoes**.

# Momoko launched as a series



Momoko is back!

The series is growing: with this **Momoko 3**, she becomes our friend!



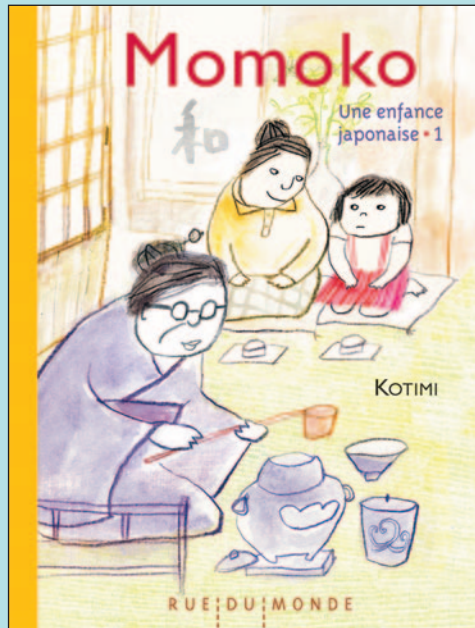
Age 6+, 112 pages, 17 x 22.5 cm

### Momoko's Friends A Japanese Childhood .3

*Kotimi*

- And here are **four new stories** from Kotimi's 1960s Tokyo childhood.
- In this book, we learn about Hanami – celebrating the cherry blossom. Showers of pink petals fall on family picnics. Then it's back to school: disappointments, the sorrow of losing friends and the joy of making new ones.
- **Kotimi skilfully weaves recipes and handicrafts into her stories.**
- **Sometimes it's bittersweet**, like in this previous story where we follow Momoko when she goes with her disabled younger sister Miyuki to the special centre where she'll also be going back to school.

# Momoko 1: discover Japan through amusing and true short stories



Age 6+, 168 pages, 17 x 22.5 cm

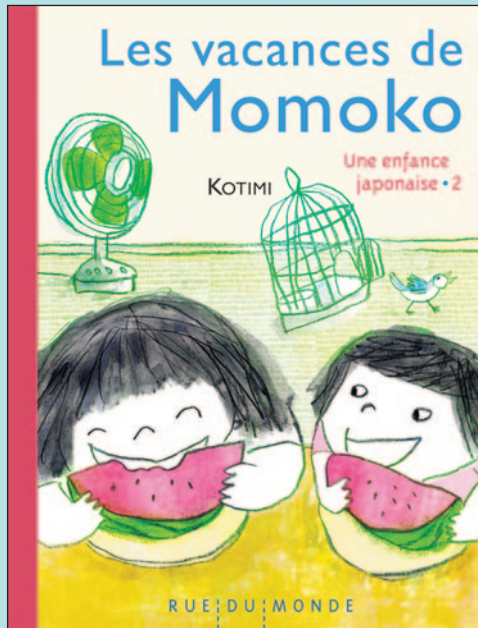
## Momoko A Japanese Childhood .1

*Kotimi*

- The illustrator Kotimi is Japanese. She grew up in Tokyo in the 1960s and now lives in Paris.
- In this collection she brings us **eight fresh, true stories based on her happy childhood** in an ordinary family.
- **In this unique, 168-page picture book** she tells us about the street games she played, **the father she barely knew** because he worked such long hours, the chickenpox that stopped her from **starting school on time**, the tea ceremony at her grandmother's house and **her disabled sister** who's sometimes annoying, but always loveable.
- Young readers will enjoy discovering **a different culture** and experiencing a different childhood, and they'll be fascinated by the goldfish-seller's stall!



## Momoko 2! : holidays time for the little girl and her sister



Age 6+, 112 pages, 17 x 22.5 cm

### Momoko's Holiday A Japanese Childhood .2 Kotimi

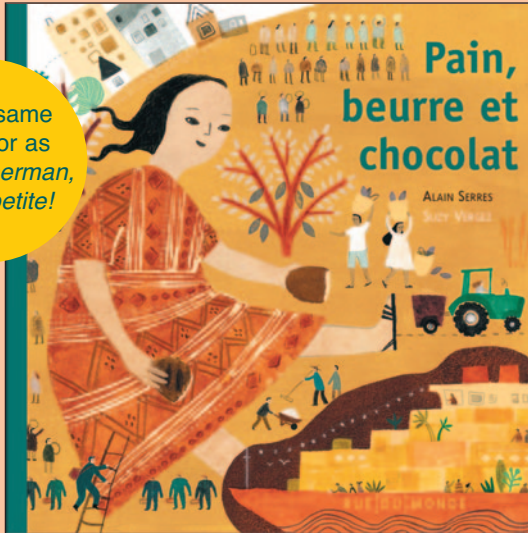
- Momoko is back! After the initial book in this series introducing the little girl and her younger sister Minako, **this new title features Momoko's adventures during the much-too-short school holidays.**
- She's forced to go to the swimming pool with her school, but she prefers the public baths where there's a huge mural painting depicting Mount Fuji. . .
- **The four stories in this second volume give us a deeper insight into Japan**, as experienced by the author-illustrator Kotimi during her own childhood in Tokyo.



Incredible numbers. . .

You are connected to the planet and  
to thousands of people through what you eat!

By the same  
illustrator as  
*Little Fisherman,*  
*Big Appetite!*



Age 4+, 40 pages, 25.5 x 25.5 cm

## Bread, Butter and Chocolate

*Alain Serres and Suzy Vergez*

- It's the middle of summer and Margaux thinks she's alone in her city, but through her snack of bread, butter and chocolate, **she discovers that lots of people have in fact been taking care of her!**
- With her magic microscope she sees them going about their work: **thousands of humans sowing, baking, transporting and packing!** There is even a schoolteacher who educates all these people!
- Margaux **decides to thank them all by dividing her snack** into thousands of mini pieces of bread, butter and chocolate.
- The next day, everyone comes to get their little gift! Unless the birds were a little peckish. . . This is **Alain Serres' first book, written exactly 40 years ago.**
- This third edition features brand-new illustrations, **to encourage today's children** to think about our relationship with others.

|| R U E || D U || M O N D E ||

# A refreshing reminder that the sea isn't an endless source of food!



Age 4+, 48 pages

19 x 27 cm

Rights sold: Farsi and Korean

## Little Fisherman, Big Appetite

Suzy Vergez

- A little fisherman living on an island **used to catch one fish** for the whole family to share but as time passed his appetite got bigger. . .
- So he made larger and larger nets to bring in **a bigger catch**, then he built **a fish processing plant to help his business grow. . .**
- And soon the **gulls were complaining that there wasn't anything left for them to eat!** And the crabs were panicking: the seabed was becoming a desert!
- The little fisherman has to leave his island to fish elsewhere. There he meets **a fishing community who treat the sea with infinite care**, tending it like their garden.
- These new friends give him a few seaweed plants and a couple of fish **to bring life back to the seabed** around his island. . .



Laughs guaranteed!

An exuberant, highly visual joke that says something about our societies where so many people are trying to climb to the top!



Age 3+, 36 pages  
14 x 30 cm

## The king who wanted to catch the moon

*France Quatromme and Françoise Rogier*

- Even in the middle of the night, this young monarch demands that food be brought to him. . . and, on this particular evening, there's a beautiful pancake in the sky!
- So the king's servants have to bring stacks of chairs and mountains of furniture to pile up so that he climb up and get it, but then the whole thing comes tumbling down when he asks for his little chair at the bottom of the stack to be passed up to him!
- Eventually we find him and his crown under a pile of objects. **But the king has such a big bump on his head that he can no longer wear his crown!**
- From now on, if he's hungry in the night, this ordinary citizen will cook himself a pancake!
- A lively book, with a tall, narrow format, better to reach the moon. . .

R U E | D U | M O N D E |

## Hurry, hurry, hurry, slow down!



### HURRY HURRY HURRY!

*Clotilde Perrin*

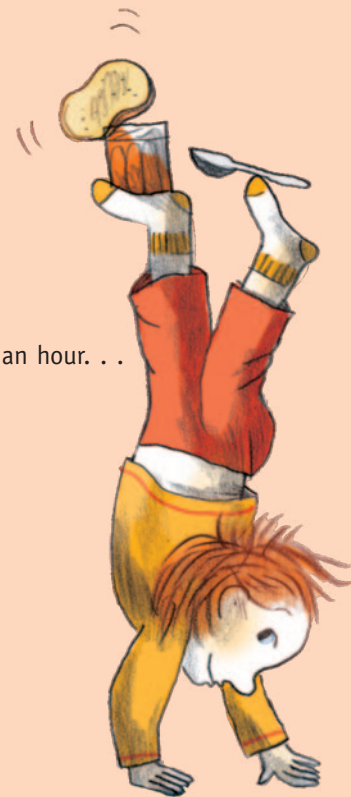
- This is a story that travels at 1000 miles an hour. . . until everything changes!
- The alarm clock goes off and our little

hero leaps out of bed, gets dressed and brushes his teeth in two shakes of a lamb's tail, **forgetting to have his breakfast.**

• He races off to meet his friends and the day gets off to a flying start. . . on board an express bus. His journey continues on a speedboat that runs aground, and then it's a frenetic race to try to board an ultrasonic plane!

• But our hero can't run fast enough yet. . . There's nothing for it but turn back. **And then, plodding home alone,** he can finally listen to the cat's purring, feel a drop of rain on his skin and watch the plane fly into the distance!

• This clever little book invites us to appreciate life's simple pleasures, those tiny everyday moments that are so precious, and to have the courage to slow down!



Age 3+, 24 pages,  
32 x 12 cm

Rights sold: Catalan,  
German, Spanish (World)

# A Little Handful of Poems

Age 7+ and for all  
36 pages, 11 x 15 cm

New titles available in the series



## DO POPPIES KNOW THAT THEY ARE FRAGILE?

Alain Serres  
Judith Gueyfier

Short poems in the form of questions and answers, which children can continue, following the same fun principle.



## A FEW DROPS OF RAIN ON THE EARTH

Abbas Kiarostami  
Hoda Hadadi

55 simple and luminous haikus by the great Iranian artist

Abbas Kiarostami,

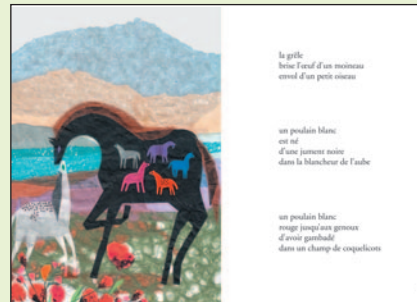
with drawings by one of Iran's most talented illustrators.



## OPEN THE HEART'S EYE!

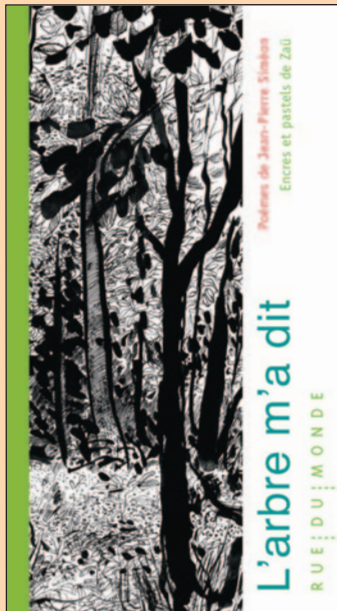
Abdellatif Laâbi  
Laurent Corvaisier

Abdellatif Laâbi,  
bilingual book  
in French and  
Arabic.  
Delicious  
poetry bites. . .



Trees help us to think. . .

# A wonderful celebration of trees in every shape and form



Age 7+ and for all, 40 pages  
14 x 25.5 cm

## The Tree Told Me

Jean-Pierre Siméon and Zaü

- A compendium of some **40 short pieces** on the theme of our relationship to trees by the famous poet Jean-Pierre Siméon, published here for the first time.

*The Tree Told Me / From the sun's rays /  
I give shade in the summer.*

- Texts illustrated by **15 two-colour ink drawings** by Zaü; a walk through the woods interspersed with **4 chalk pastel colour spreads**.

*The Tree Told Me I was born by chance /  
but the earth / the birds and human dreams /  
needed me.*

- An intense, luminous book that will **appeal to children** but also to **adults who love the forest** and words. . .



## The first visual poem for toddlers!



18 months+  
40 pages, 16 x 23 cm

### My First Poem

*Alain Serres*

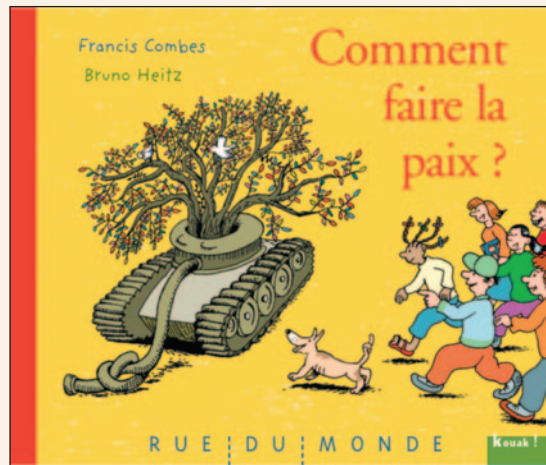
- A poem for toddlers, playing on the rhythm of nights and days, on black and white, and the colours that emerge at dawn: a large sun to grab hold of.
- Clever visuals bring the book alive: night's curtains open gradually, a timid sun breaks through and grows to fill the sky, everything comes to life, and then, at the end of the day, when the curtains close, all the colours go back to sleep.
- Tomorrow, the child reader will create, with their hands, their first multicoloured poem.





The sweet utopia of global peace. . .

A magical dream that many children, young and old,  
have harboured since February 24th, 2022!



Age 6+ and for everyone  
48 pages, 19.5 x 16.5 cm

## How to Make Peace?

*Francis Combes and Bruno Heitz*

- A playful anti-war poem that halts the cannon fire. . . while encouraging children to erect monuments to life in village squares!
- The aim is to catch a sleeping tank and, in the children's hands, the scrap metal easily becomes chewing gum. . . Then it's so simple to tie a knot in the cannon!
- The text is followed by its translation into 24 languages: English, Spanish, German, Russian, Ukrainian, Portuguese, Arabic, Hebrew, Italian, Bambara, Armenian, Persian, Greek. . . and even that universal language invented at the end of the 19th century: Esperanto !
- On these multilingual pages, Bruno Heitz has old lead soldiers waltzing around in the hands of children, with a banner proclaiming: "Universal disarmament of the Earth and the stars".

R U E D U M O N D E

## The talent of Olivier Tallec



OLIVIER TALLEC was born in Morlaix, in Brittany in 1970. After studying visual arts at the École Duperré in Paris, **he began his career in advertising, then started illustrating children's books in 1997**, where his talent was soon recognised. Since then, he has illustrated more than 80 books for various publishers and has become a leading children's illustrator. He draws his inspiration from travel and folk art. **He has published 10 books with Rue du Monde.**

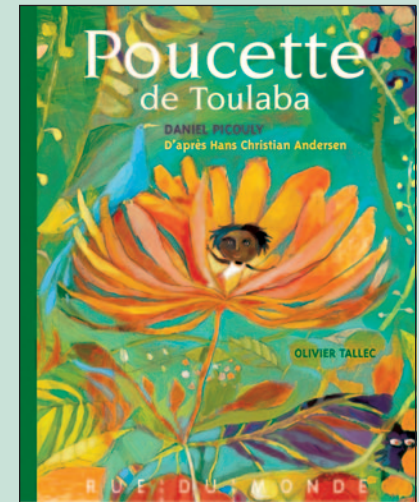


### I love you so much

*Alain Serres  
and Olivier Tallec*

An extraordinary love story,  
where passion is patience.

Age 5+, 68 pages, 18.5 x 23 cm

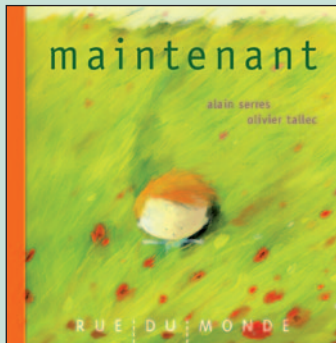


### Thumbelina of Toulaba

*Daniel Picouly  
and Olivier Tallec*

This tiny girl is born in an orchid  
and has vanilla-coloured skin.  
A charming, tropical adaptation of  
Hans Christian Andersen's *Thumbelina*.

Age 4+, 40 pages, 28 x 35 cm



## Now

*Alain Serres  
and Olivier Tallec*

Ten interwoven  
mini-stories  
so young readers

can have fun finding their way.

Age 2+, 48 pages, 20 x 20 cm



## This is a poem that cures fish

*Jean-Pierre Siméon  
and Olivier Tallec*

• Following this book's  
success, here is a special edition  
featuring an interview between  
the poet, Jean-Pierre Siméon,  
and his young hero.

• Arthur is worried: Léon, his fish,  
is going to die of boredom. His mother has a solution: "Recite him a poem!"  
But how do you know what a poem is? Arthur asks the baker, the bicycle  
repairman, old Mahmoud. . . but each one has only a vague answer:  
"It's when you love. . ." "It's when you hear the stones' heartbeat. . ."

• But stringing all these answers together ends up forming a poem!  
And the fish comes back to life. That is the miracle of poetry!

Age 5+ and for everyone  
56 pages, 23 x 23 cm

**SPECIAL  
EDITION**  
100,000  
copies  
worldwide



## Oh là là Lola

*Clotilde Bernos  
and Olivier Tallec*

There's a rumour  
going around about  
Lola's health. . .

Age 7+, 116 pages  
14 x 21.5 cm

# FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACTS:

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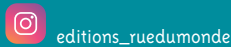


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