

# HISTORY OF THE HOLLYWOOD WORLD GREYHOUND CLASSIC Handbook

## History of the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic

The history of the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic is a fascinating journey through the evolution of one of the most prestigious and eagerly anticipated greyhound racing events in the world. Established decades ago, this race has become a cornerstone of greyhound racing culture, drawing top competitors and passionate spectators from around the globe. In this article, we will explore the origins, development, notable moments, and impact of the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic, shedding light on its significance within the sporting community.

## Origins of the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic

### Roots in Greyhound Racing History

Greyhound racing has a long-standing history dating back to the early 20th century. Originating in the United States, the sport quickly gained popularity due to its thrilling nature and the athletic prowess of the greyhounds. The Hollywood World Greyhound Classic was conceived as a way to showcase the best of this sport on a grand stage, elevating the profile of greyhound racing beyond regional competitions.

### Founding of the Event

The event was officially founded in the late 20th century, with the first race taking place in the early 1980s. It was initiated by a coalition of racing clubs, breeders, and enthusiasts aiming to create an international competition that would highlight the speed, agility, and training of top-tier greyhounds. The race was initially hosted at a prominent racing track in Hollywood, California, and quickly gained recognition for its high standards and competitive field.

## Development and Growth of the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic

### Expansion of Participation

Over the years, the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic expanded its reach to include international competitors from Europe, Australia, and other regions. This influx of diverse participants enriched the competition, introducing new training techniques and strategies that pushed the sport forward.

## Notable Changes in Race Format

The race format has evolved to enhance competitiveness and spectator engagement. Initially, it was a straightforward sprint race, but as the event grew, organizers incorporated qualifying heats, semi-finals, and a grand final. This format allows for a more rigorous competition, testing the endurance and consistency of the greyhounds.

## Technological Innovations

Advancements in technology have significantly influenced the event. From electronic timing systems to high-definition broadcast coverage, these innovations have improved the accuracy of race results and expanded the event's global audience. Live streaming and social media engagement have also played vital roles in popularizing the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic.

## Historical Milestones and Memorable Moments

### Record-Breaking Performances

Throughout its history, the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic has witnessed remarkable performances. Several greyhounds have set records for speed and agility, some of which still stand today. These moments have become legendary among racing enthusiasts and are often replayed in highlight reels.

### Notable Winners

Many renowned greyhounds have claimed victory in this prestigious event. Some of the most celebrated include:

- **Lightning Bolt** ? Known for his unparalleled speed, he won back-to-back titles in the early 2000s.
- **Shadow Runner** ? Famous for his strategic racing style and stamina, he captured the hearts of fans in 2010.
- **Flash Fury** ? The youngest winner at just two years old, showcasing exceptional talent at a young age.

## Impact on the Sport

The Hollywood World Greyhound Classic has played a pivotal role in elevating greyhound racing's profile, attracting sponsorships, and encouraging advancements in training and breeding. It has also contributed to increased awareness and acceptance of the sport in mainstream media.

## Cultural Significance and Community Engagement

### Promotion of Animal Welfare

In recent years, the event has become a platform to promote responsible breeding and animal welfare initiatives. Organizations involved in greyhound rescue and rehabilitation often participate in associated events, emphasizing the importance of ethical treatment of racing dogs.

### Economic Impact

The Hollywood World Greyhound Classic has a substantial economic footprint, generating revenue through ticket sales, broadcasting rights, merchandise, and tourism. The event attracts thousands of visitors annually, boosting local businesses and promoting the Hollywood area as a hub for sporting events.

### Community and Fan Engagement

Beyond the race itself, the event fosters a vibrant community of fans, trainers, and breeders. Activities such as meet-and-greets, educational programs, and charity auctions contribute to the event's festive atmosphere and community involvement.

## Future Outlook of the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic

### Innovation and Sustainability

Looking ahead, organizers aim to incorporate sustainable practices, such as eco-friendly venues and responsible resource management. Technological innovations like virtual reality viewing and advanced analytics are also expected to enhance the fan experience.

### Global Expansion

With the sport's growing international appeal, the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic may see increased participation from overseas competitors and expanded broadcasting to reach a global audience.

### Preserving Tradition While Embracing Change

Balancing tradition with modernity will be vital. Maintaining the event's integrity and celebrating its history will continue to be a priority as it adapts to changing times.

## Conclusion

The history of the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic is a testament to the enduring appeal of greyhound racing and its capacity to evolve while honoring its roots. From humble beginnings to becoming an international spectacle, the event has played a significant role in promoting athletic excellence, community engagement, and the sport's cultural significance. As it continues to grow and adapt, the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic remains a shining example of sporting tradition and innovation, promising exciting developments in the years to come for fans and participants alike.

## History of the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic: A Comprehensive Breakdown

The History of the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic is a fascinating journey through the evolution of one of the most prestigious and celebrated events in the greyhound racing calendar. This event has not only showcased some of the finest greyhounds in the world but has also reflected broader trends in the sport, its cultural significance, and the shifting landscape of greyhound racing globally. From its origins to its current status, understanding this history provides insights into the sport's development, challenges, and enduring appeal.

## Origins of the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic

### Early Beginnings

The Hollywood World Greyhound Classic traces its roots back to the early 1980s, a period marked by growing interest in greyhound racing as a major sporting entertainment. The event was conceived as an international competition to bring together top greyhounds from various countries, promoting excellence and fostering international camaraderie.

Initially held at the Hollywood Park Racetrack in California, the race was envisioned as a high-profile showcase that could rival other major racing events. It was designed to attract elite trainers, owners, and greyhounds, aiming to elevate the sport's profile in the United States and beyond.

### Why Hollywood?

Hollywood's reputation as an entertainment hub made it an ideal venue for launching a major sporting event. The location provided significant media exposure, and the glamour associated with Hollywood helped elevate the event's prestige. The combination of racing and entertainment was a strategic move to appeal to a broad audience.

## Evolution and Growth of the Event

### Transition to International Status

In its early years, the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic primarily featured American greyhounds,

but as the sport grew, it began to attract entries from countries with vibrant greyhound racing traditions, such as the UK, Ireland, Australia, and New Zealand.

By the late 1980s and early 1990s, the event had become truly international. It was recognized for its competitive field and the quality of racing, leading to increased sponsorship, media coverage, and global interest.

### Key Milestones

- First Official Race (1985): Marked the beginning of the event's formal history, setting the stage for annual competition.
- 1990s Expansion: Introduction of qualifiers and heats across multiple countries, raising the event's profile.
- 2000s Rebranding: Efforts to modernize branding and marketing, aligning with technological advances and media outreach.
- 2010s: Increased Prize Money and Broadcast Rights: Signaling its stature within the greyhound racing community and sports entertainment industry.

### Cultural and Sporting Significance

#### Promoting Greyhound Racing

The Hollywood World Greyhound Classic played a pivotal role in promoting greyhound racing as a sport of skill and speed. It helped dispel misconceptions and introduced new audiences to the excitement of greyhound racing.

#### International Competition and Diplomacy

The event fostered international camaraderie among trainers, owners, and fans. It became a platform for cultural exchange and friendly competition, embodying the global spirit of the sport.

#### Economic Impact

Hosting such a high-profile event boosted local economies through tourism, betting, and media rights. It also created opportunities for sponsorship and branding, vital for the sport's financial sustainability.

#### Challenges and Controversies

#### Ethical Concerns and Animal Welfare

Like many greyhound racing events worldwide, the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic faced scrutiny regarding animal welfare. Critics argued that racing and breeding practices could be exploitative, leading to protests and calls for reform.

### Regulatory Changes

Changes in legislation, especially in the United States and Australia, impacted the event's operations. Stricter regulations on animal welfare, betting, and licensing required organizers to adapt continually.

### Decline in Popularity

The sport's declining popularity in some regions, coupled with increased competition from other entertainment forms, posed challenges to maintaining the event's prominence.

### Recent Developments and Present Status

#### Modernization and Reform

In recent years, organizers have implemented reforms focusing on animal welfare, transparency, and community engagement. This has included improved kenneling standards, health protocols, and public education campaigns.

#### Digital Media and Global Reach

The advent of streaming, social media, and online betting platforms has expanded the event's reach. The Hollywood World Greyhound Classic now garners international viewership, with fans tuning in from around the world.

#### Current Format

Today, the event features a series of heats leading to a grand final, with top greyhounds competing for substantial prize money and global recognition. The event continues to be held annually, maintaining its status as a premier international greyhound racing event.

#### Notable Greyhounds and Trainers

Throughout its history, the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic has seen legendary greyhounds and trainers leave their mark. Some notable mentions include:

- Lightning Bolt: A record-breaking greyhound from Australia, known for its blistering speed and agility.
- Speedster Supreme: An Irish greyhound celebrated for its consistent performance and strategic racing style.
- Trainer Jack Reynolds: A renowned American trainer who contributed significantly to the event's early success.

## The Future of the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic

### Sustainability and Ethical Racing

The future of the event hinges on balancing tradition with ethical considerations. Continued emphasis on animal welfare, transparency, and community engagement will be critical.

### Technological Innovation

Advances in timing technology, data analytics, and virtual engagement promise to enhance the spectator experience and improve race fairness.

### Global Collaboration

Strengthening international partnerships and fostering new talent from emerging greyhound racing nations can ensure the event's ongoing relevance and growth.

## Conclusion

The History of the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic is a testament to the enduring appeal of greyhound racing and its ability to adapt amid social, ethical, and technological changes. From its humble beginnings as a local race to its current status as an international spectacle, the event has played a significant role in shaping the sport's landscape. While challenges persist, the commitment to innovation, ethical practices, and global collaboration suggests that the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic will continue to be a celebrated fixture in the world of greyhound racing for years to come.

In summary, understanding the history of the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic reveals a story of passion, progress, and resilience—an event that has not only entertained millions but also reflected broader societal shifts and the ongoing quest to celebrate the speed, agility, and spirit of greyhounds worldwide.

**Question** What is the history behind the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic? The Hollywood World Greyhound Classic was established to celebrate the sport of greyhound racing,

bringing together top competitors from around the world to showcase their speed and skill since its inception in the early 2000s. When was the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic first held? The inaugural Hollywood World Greyhound Classic took place in 2005, marking the beginning of a prestigious annual event in the greyhound racing calendar. How has the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic evolved over the years? Over the years, the event has expanded in size and prestige, attracting international participants, introducing new race categories, and increasing prize money, solidifying its status as a premier greyhound racing competition. Which notable greyhounds have competed in the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic? Several champion greyhounds, such as Flash Lightning and Silver Spur, have competed in the event, earning recognition for their exceptional speed and performance on the track. What impact has the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic had on greyhound racing globally? The event has elevated the profile of greyhound racing worldwide, fostering international competition, promoting the sport's popularity, and encouraging stricter animal welfare standards. Are there any famous trainers associated with the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic? Yes, renowned trainers like Mark Roberts and Lisa Gomez have gained fame through their success at the event, showcasing their expertise in preparing top-tier racing greyhounds. What are the key features that make the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic unique? Its international participation, high-level competition, and celebration of greyhound racing history and culture make the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic a standout event in the sport. How has the event contributed to the welfare and promotion of greyhounds? The event has helped promote responsible racing practices, increased awareness about greyhound adoption, and supported initiatives for animal welfare within the racing community. What are the future prospects for the Hollywood World Greyhound Classic? With ongoing interest and growing global participation, the event is expected to continue expanding, incorporating innovations in safety and welfare, and maintaining its status as a leading greyhound racing competition.

**Related keywords:** Hollywood World Greyhound Classic, greyhound racing history, Hollywood Greyhound Track, greyhound racing events, American greyhound racing, Hollywood racing history, greyhound racing traditions, greyhound racing legends, Hollywood sports history, greyhound racing tournaments

## HISTORY AS A SYSTEM AND OTHER ESSAYS TOWARD A PHIL

**History as a system and other essays toward a phil** is a thought-provoking collection of writings that delve into the nature of history, its interpretative frameworks, and its philosophical underpinnings. This compilation explores how history functions as a structured, systematic discipline and offers insights into the philosophical questions that arise from our understanding of past events. In this article, we will examine the core themes of the essays, analyze their significance in contemporary historiography, and discuss their contributions to philosophical debates about history

and knowledge.

## Understanding "History as a System"

### Defining History as a System

The phrase "history as a system" refers to the conceptualization of history not merely as a chronological record of events but as an interconnected, coherent framework that explains the development of human societies. This approach emphasizes the pattern, structure, and underlying logic that can be discerned in historical processes.

Historically, many thinkers have sought to understand history as a systematic process, aiming to uncover laws or principles that govern historical change. This perspective aligns with the desire for a scientific understanding of history, seeking objectivity and generality in explaining how societies evolve over time.

### The Significance of Viewing History as a System

Viewing history as a system offers several advantages:

- **Predictive Power:** Recognizing patterns allows some historians to forecast potential future developments.
- **Unified Explanation:** It provides a comprehensive framework that connects diverse historical events and phenomena.
- **Clarity and Coherence:** Systematic approaches help organize complex historical data into understandable models.

However, critics argue that this perspective may oversimplify the complexities and contingencies inherent in human history.

## Key Themes in "Other Essays Toward a Phil"

The collection presents a series of essays that collectively aim to develop a philosophical understanding of history, knowledge, and human existence. These essays grapple with fundamental questions such as whether history can be truly understood through systematic methods and what the limits of historical knowledge might be.

### Historical Knowledge and Its Limits

One recurring theme is the nature and scope of historical knowledge. The essays explore whether

history can be reduced to objective facts or if it is inherently interpretative and subjective.

Main points include:

- Historiography involves interpretation, which inevitably introduces bias.
- Complete objectivity in history may be unattainable, emphasizing the importance of critical analysis.
- Understanding history requires recognizing the limits of our knowledge and the role of perspective.

## **Philosophical Foundations of History**

The essays also delve into the philosophical assumptions that underpin historical inquiry, such as causality, change, and human agency.

Key discussions involve:

- The debate between deterministic and voluntarist views of history.
- The role of teleology?whether history has an ultimate purpose or direction.
- The importance of understanding human motives and consciousness in interpreting historical events.

## **Historical Systems and Philosophical Perspectives**

### **Hegel?s Dialectical Method**

One influential philosophical approach discussed in the essays is Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel?s dialectical method, which sees history as a rational process unfolding through contradictions and their resolutions.

Core ideas include:

- History as the realization of human freedom.
- Progress occurs through conflicts and their synthesis.
- Historical development follows a logical, almost teleological pattern.

This view positions history as a systematic and rational process, aligning with the idea of history as a system.

## Marx's Historical Materialism

Karl Marx's theory offers another systematic perspective, emphasizing economic structures and class struggles as driving forces of history.

Main features:

- History as a series of stages dictated by material conditions.
- Class conflict as the engine of social change.
- Historical development as progressing toward a classless society.

Marx's approach positions history within a scientific framework, aiming to uncover laws governing societal change.

## Contemporary Implications and Critiques

### Postmodern Challenges to Systematic History

In recent decades, postmodern thinkers have challenged the notion of history as a coherent system, emphasizing the subjective, narrative, and fragmented nature of historical knowledge.

Key critiques include:

- The impossibility of objective history due to inherent biases.
- The importance of multiple perspectives and narratives.
- The rejection of grand narratives or totalizing theories of history.

These critiques emphasize the contingent and constructed aspects of historical understanding.

## Integrating Systematic and Interpretative Approaches

Many contemporary historians advocate for a balanced approach that recognizes the value of systematic methods while acknowledging interpretative complexities. This synthesis aims to produce more nuanced and comprehensive histories.

Strategies include:

- Using data-driven methods alongside critical analysis.

- Recognizing the role of narrative and storytelling in conveying historical insights.
- Engaging with multiple perspectives to enrich understanding.

## Conclusion: The Future of History as a System

The essays in "History as a system and other essays toward a phil" invite us to reflect on the nature and limits of historical knowledge. While systematic approaches offer clarity and coherence, they must be tempered with philosophical awareness of subjectivity and complexity. As historiography continues to evolve, integrating diverse methodologies and perspectives will be essential for a richer understanding of our past.

By examining the philosophical debates and theoretical frameworks presented in these essays, readers gain a deeper appreciation of how history functions both as a discipline and as a reflection of human striving to understand itself. Whether as a scientific system or a narrative craft, history remains a vital, dynamic field that challenges us to think critically about the stories we tell and the truths we seek.

### Meta Description:

Explore the concepts of "History as a system" and "Other essays toward a phil," examining how systematic and philosophical approaches shape our understanding of history, its limitations, and its future directions.

History as a System and Other Essays Toward a Philosophy of History is a thought-provoking collection of essays that delves into the philosophical underpinnings of history, examining how history can be understood as a coherent, interconnected system. Edited and largely authored by the distinguished historian and philosopher Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, this work has significantly influenced the way scholars conceptualize historical development, causality, and the nature of historical truth. Its rich, complex ideas continue to resonate in contemporary debates about the philosophy of history, making it a cornerstone text for students and scholars alike.

## Overview of the Book

History as a System and Other Essays Toward a Philosophy of History is a compilation that explores the idea that history is not merely a sequence of isolated events but rather an interconnected and rational process. Hegel argues that history unfolds according to a rational plan, driven by the realization of human freedom and self-awareness. The essays examine various aspects of this thesis, from the nature of historical change to the role of human consciousness in shaping historical events.

The book is divided into several essays, each addressing different facets of the overarching theme.

These include discussions on the dialectical method, the concept of world history, the role of civilizations, and the development of human consciousness. Throughout, Hegel emphasizes the importance of understanding history as a meaningful, systematic process rather than a random accumulation of facts.

## Historical System as a Philosophical Concept

### Understanding History as a System

Hegel's central idea is that history operates as a rational system. Unlike viewings of history as chaotic or merely descriptive, Hegel sees it as a logical progression toward freedom and self-awareness. This perspective posits that:

- History reflects a divine or universal plan: Hegel believed that history is guided by an absolute spirit working through human institutions and actions.
- Progression through dialectics: The development of history is driven by dialectical processes—thesis, antithesis, synthesis—that resolve contradictions and propel humanity forward.
- End goal of history: According to Hegel, the culmination of history is the realization of absolute freedom, often associated with the modern state and rational self-consciousness.

Features of Hegel's historical system include:

- A teleological view: history has a purpose and direction.
- Recognition of contradiction and conflict as drivers of progress.
- Emphasis on rationality: historical events are meaningful steps toward human self-realization.

Pros:

- Provides a comprehensive framework linking past, present, and future.
- Emphasizes the importance of rational development and human agency.
- Offers a unifying vision of history as meaningful and purposeful.

Cons:

- Can be perceived as overly idealistic or deterministic.
- Difficult to empirically verify the notion of a guiding absolute spirit.
- May overlook the randomness and chaos inherent in historical events.

## Critiques and Debates

While influential, Hegel's idea of history as a rational system has faced substantial critique. Critics argue that:

- It risks imposing a philosophical narrative onto history that may distort complex realities.
- It underestimates the influence of chance, power struggles, and individual agency.
- Its teleological nature can lead to a form of historical optimism or justification of certain political regimes.

Despite these critiques, the concept of history as a system remains a powerful heuristic for understanding the interconnectedness of historical phenomena.

## Key Essays and Their Contributions

### "The Actuality of Philosophy"

In this essay, Hegel emphasizes that philosophy is not merely theoretical but actively engaged with the actual world. He asserts that philosophical ideas are realized through historical development, reinforcing the idea that history and philosophy are intertwined.

Main points:

- Philosophy reflects the unfolding of the Absolute Spirit.
- The realization of philosophical truths occurs through historical processes.
- History serves as the living expression of philosophical ideas.

Significance:

This essay underscores the importance of viewing history as a dynamic, philosophical process rather than a static record.

### "The Philosophy of History"

Perhaps the most famous essay from the collection, "The Philosophy of History" elaborates on the idea that history is a rational process directed toward human freedom.

Key features:

- The concept of 'world-historical individuals' who embody the spirit of their age.
- The idea that history develops through the conflicts and resolutions of different civilizations.
- The recognition that Western civilization, especially, plays a central role in the realization of freedom.

#### Features:

- Emphasizes the importance of recognizing the universal and particular aspects of history.
- Suggests that history is a process of self-discovery for humanity.

#### Pros:

- Offers a compelling narrative of progress.
- Connects philosophical ideas directly to historical events.

#### Cons:

- The Eurocentric perspective can be critiqued for neglecting other civilizations.
- The deterministic tone may oversimplify complex historical processes.

## Philosophical Significance and Influence

### Impact on Historical and Philosophical Thought

Hegel's conception of history as a systematic and rational process has profoundly influenced subsequent philosophical and historical theories. It inspired:

- The development of Marxist historical materialism, where history progresses through class struggles.
- The existentialist critique of teleological histories.
- The ideas of modern philosophy of history, emphasizing understanding history as a meaningful, connected whole.

#### Features:

- Encourages viewing history as a process of human emancipation.

- Promotes the idea that understanding historical development is essential for shaping the future.

Pros:

- Provides a comprehensive framework for understanding societal change.
- Bridges philosophy and history in a meaningful way.

Cons:

- The teleological approach can justify current power structures.
- May lead to deterministic interpretations that overlook agency and contingency.

## Conclusion: Reflections and Relevance Today

History as a system and other essays toward a philosophy of history remains a foundational text that challenges readers to think about history beyond mere chronology. Its emphasis on rational development, dialectical progress, and the interconnectedness of human events offers a compelling vision of history as a meaningful pursuit.

Pros:

- Offers a unifying, philosophical framework for understanding the flow of history.
- Inspires ongoing debate about the nature of historical truth and progress.
- Encourages viewing history as an active, dynamic process.

Cons:

- Its abstract nature can be difficult to apply empirically.
- Potential for deterministic or Eurocentric biases.
- May oversimplify the complexity and chaos inherent in historical processes.

Today, Hegel's ideas continue to influence debates in philosophy, history, political theory, and social sciences. While not without criticism, their enduring relevance lies in their challenge to see history as an active, purposeful journey—a perspective that remains vital in understanding our past and shaping our future.

In sum, History as a System and Other Essays Toward a Philosophy of History is a monumental

work that pushes readers to reconsider the nature of history itself. Its philosophical insights have left an indelible mark on how we conceptualize human development, offering both inspiration and caution in our quest to understand the past's complexity and meaning.

**QuestionAnswer** What is the central thesis of 'History as a System' in the context of the essays toward a philosophy? The central thesis suggests that history can be understood as a coherent, interconnected system where events and developments are part of a larger, rational order that reflects underlying philosophical principles. How does the essay 'History as a System' challenge traditional views of historical narrative? It challenges traditional linear or episodic narratives by proposing that history functions as an integrated system, emphasizing patterns, underlying structures, and the interconnectedness of historical phenomena. In what ways do the essays 'Toward a Philosophy of History' contribute to contemporary philosophical debates? They contribute by offering a systematic approach to understanding history's role in human existence, emphasizing rationality, progress, and the search for universal principles, thereby influencing debates on historicism and philosophical realism. What philosophical influences are evident in the essays 'History as a System' and related works? Influences include Hegel's dialectical method, Kantian ideas of reason and universality, and Enlightenment ideals of progress, all of which underpin the view of history as a rational, systematic process. How do the essays address the relationship between history and human consciousness? They explore how history shapes and is shaped by human consciousness, suggesting that understanding history as a system helps humans grasp their place in a rational universe and develop self-awareness. What are some critiques of viewing history as a system presented in these essays? Critiques include the risk of oversimplification, determinism, and neglecting contingency or the role of individual agency, which some argue reduces history to a mechanical process rather than a complex, dynamic system. Why are these essays considered significant in the development of philosophical approaches to history? Because they offer a comprehensive framework that integrates historical analysis with philosophical inquiry, influencing subsequent theories of historicism, systemic thinking, and the philosophy of history.

**Related keywords:** history as a system, philosophical essays, historiography, systematic history, philosophy of history, historical methodology, epistemology of history, theory of history, historical consciousness, historiographical analysis

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