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AUG 31 1918

No. 6760

Hymn of Freedom

For Sextet or Chorus of Mixed Voices

With Piano Accompaniment
(*ad libitum*)

By

Natalie Curtis Burlin

Music from the traditional Negro Spiritual
"O Ride on, Jesus"
as sung on St. Helena Island, S. C.

Price, 15 cents, net
(No Discount)

G. Schirmer
New York · Boston

M1646
.B7

To Soldiers, Sailors and Singers:

The belief that the battle-cloud enveloping the world to-day is lit, and even rainbowed, by the promise of greater freedom to the masses of mankind—this belief it is that justifies "War for Democracy" and makes hope sing.

The outline of this song of freedom follows an old Negro Spiritual whose refrain runs:

Ride on, Jesus,
Ride on, Jesus,
Ride on, conquering King!
Want to go to Heav'n in the morning.

The idea of a conquering power of righteousness riding on through the world, and the triumphant ring of the music with its clarion-call, seemed to me to offer an inspiring theme on which to build an American battle-song embodying the ideals for which America entered the war. Since, with unhesitating alacrity, we have paraphrased lighter forms of Negro music in the popular songs sung by the troops—the all-prevalent "rag-time" which the war has spread far and wide—is it not equally appropriate that the nobler music of the Negro, the prayerful Spirituals, should form the basis of a battle-hymn in this war wherein the black man, side by side with the white man, fights for the larger liberty of humanity?

In this "Hymn" I have closely followed the original Negro song, even in the simple and somewhat crude harmonies and progressions of the different voices. For this music sprang from men who best know how to value freedom, and I feel that their songs, as well as their lives, are their immortal gifts to Freedom's cause.

N. C. B.

June, 1918.

HYMN OF FREEDOM

Refrain 1.

O March on, Freedom,
March on, Freedom,
March on, conquering hosts!
Liberty is calling!

Verse 1.

To martyred Belgium,
Freedom!
To wounded France,
Freedom!
'Tis God who summons our advance!
Liberty is calling!

Refrain 2.

O Blow on, bugles,
Blow on, bugles,
Blow on, bugles of hope!
Liberty is calling!

Verse 2.

To struggling Russia,
Freedom!
To the starving Pole,
Freedom!
The trumpet sounds within my soul!*
Liberty is calling!

Refrain 3.

O Ride on, leaders,
Ride on, leaders,
Ride on, leaders of men!
Liberty is calling!

Verse 3.

To bowed Roumania,
Freedom!
To the stricken Serb,
Freedom!
Autocracy's proud will we curb!
Liberty is calling!

Refrain 4.

O Drive on, soldiers,
Drive on, soldiers,
Drive on, soldiers of faith!
Liberty is calling!

Verse 4.

To Jew and Christian,
Freedom!
To white man and black,
Freedom!
Democracy can not turn back!
Liberty is calling!

Refrain 5.

O Fly on, Progress,
Fly on, Progress,
Fly on, wingéd of heart!
Liberty is calling!

Verse 5.

To each religion,
Freedom!
And to every race,
Freedom!
March with the dawn-light in our face,
Liberty is calling!

Refrain 6.

Then march on, Freedom,
March on, Freedom,
March on, conquering hosts!
Victory is calling!

*This line is taken from the Negro Spiritual "Steal away to Jesus."

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NOTES FOR THE SINGERS

As shown in the poem printed above, Refrain 2 may be followed, in singing, by Verse 2; Refrain 3, by Verse 3; Refrain 4, by Verse 4; Refrain 5, by Verse 5; ending with Refrain 6. Or the song may be shortened by combining Refrains 2 and 3, and Verses 2 and 3; Refrains 4 and 5, and Verses 4 and 5, as indicated by the musical setting.

G. S. 8vo Choruses
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Music from an old
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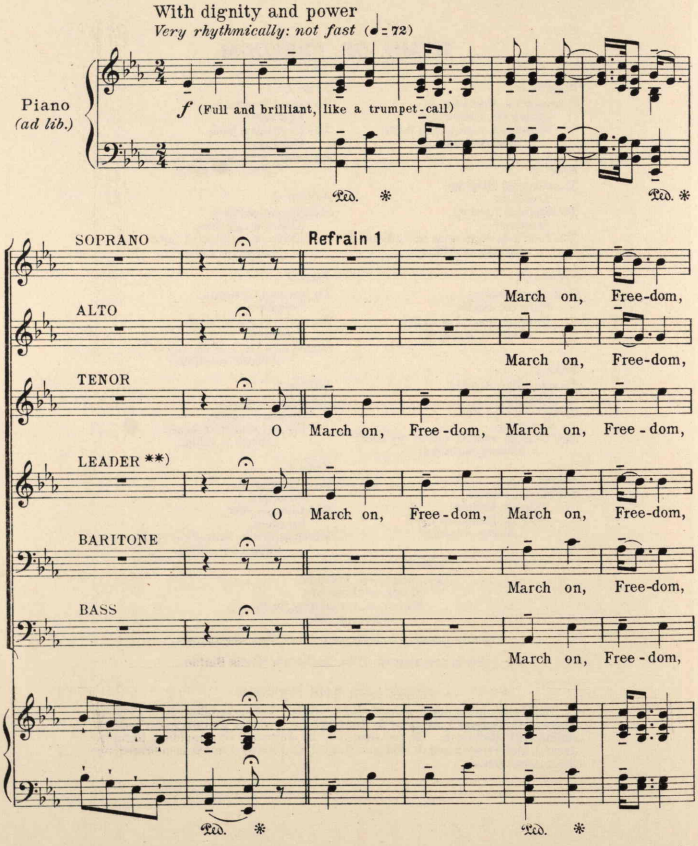

*) See Negro Folk-Songs, Hampton Series, Book I, Collected and recorded by Natalie Curtis Burlin; published by G. Schirmer, N. Y., 1918.

**) The part of the Leader may be sung by the second tenors, as indicated, or by a Solo voice, in which latter case the first tenors do not join in the opening bars, but enter with the full chorus. *In either arrangement the voice of the Leader must come well to the fore, as it carries the melody.*

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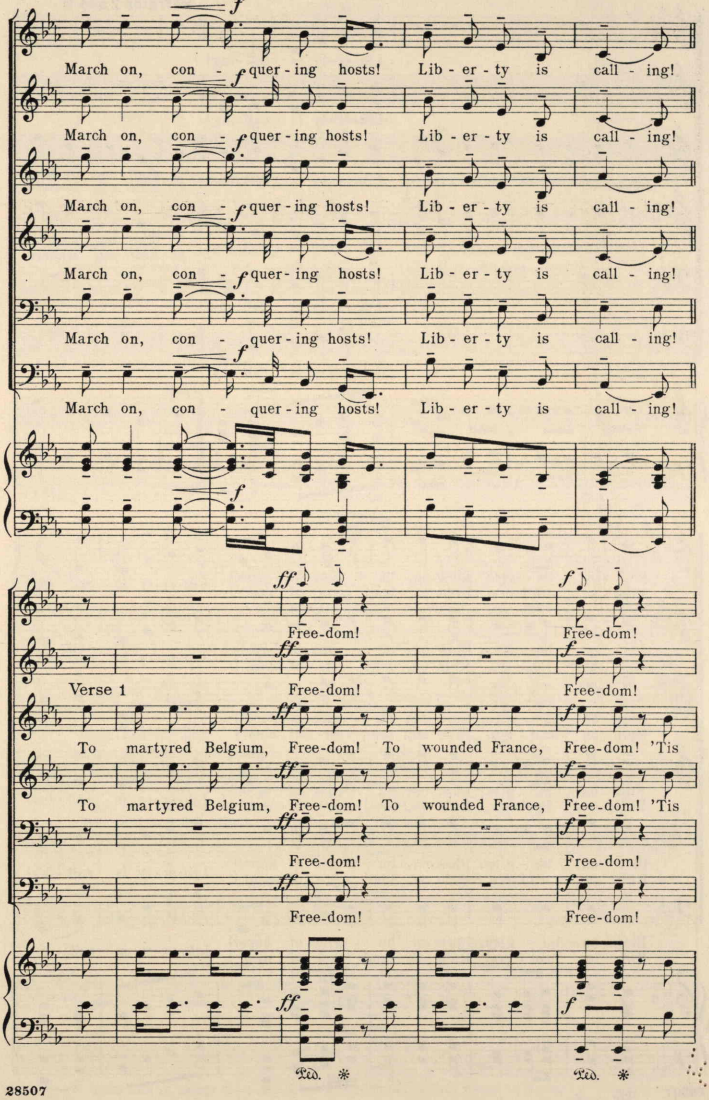
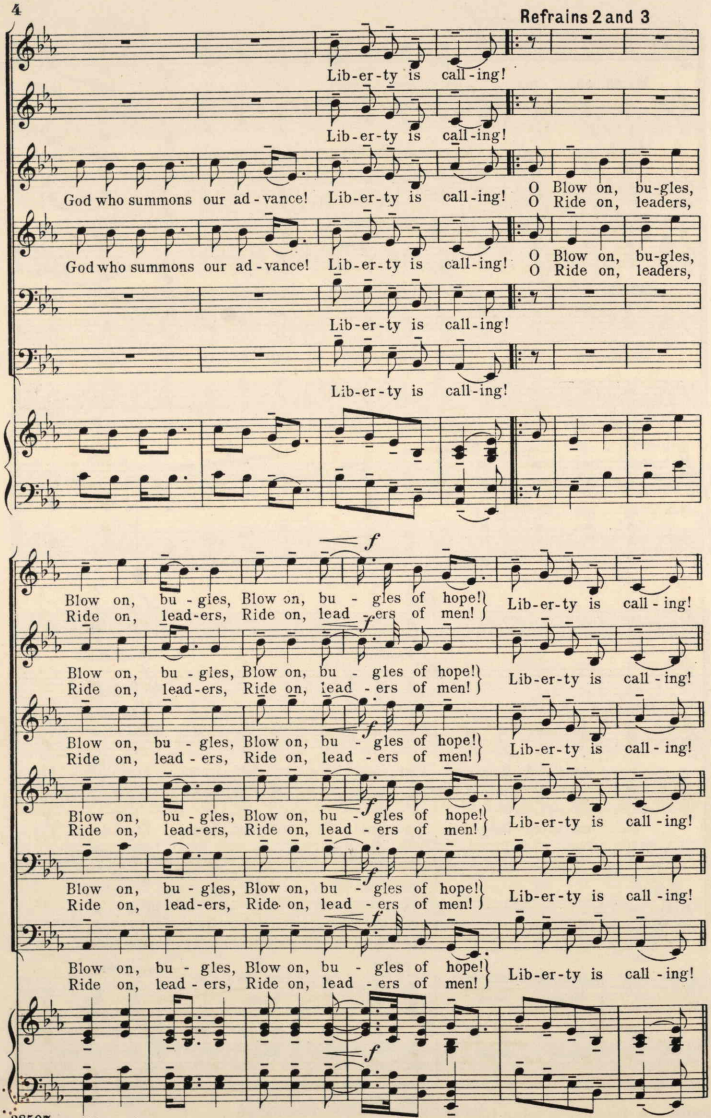
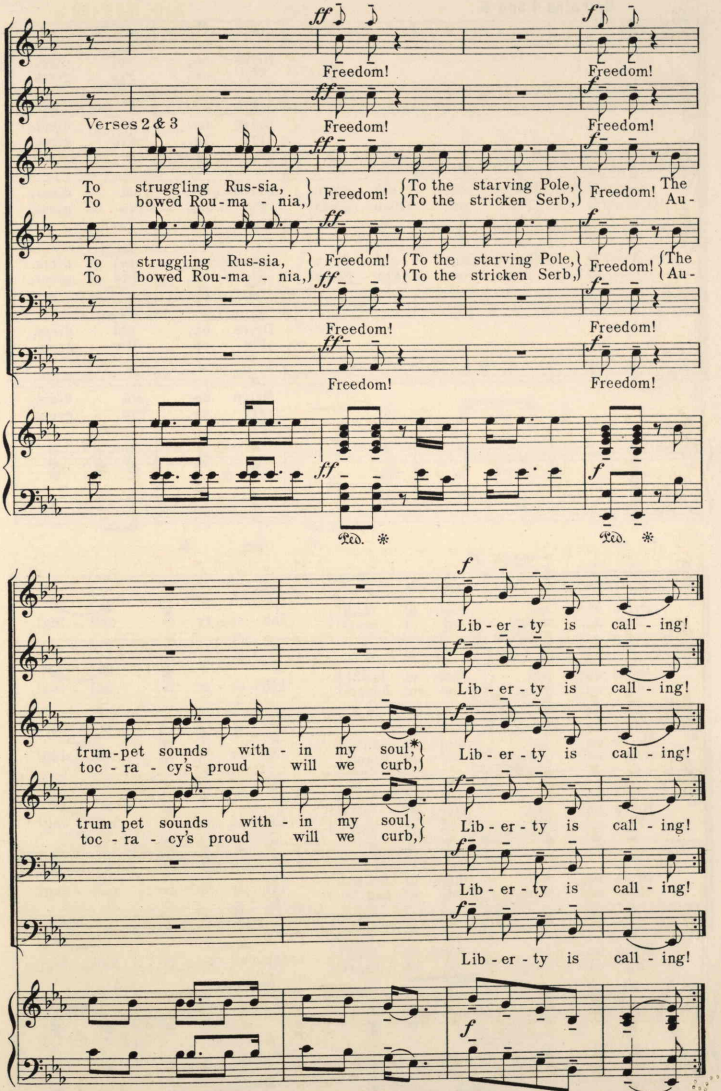
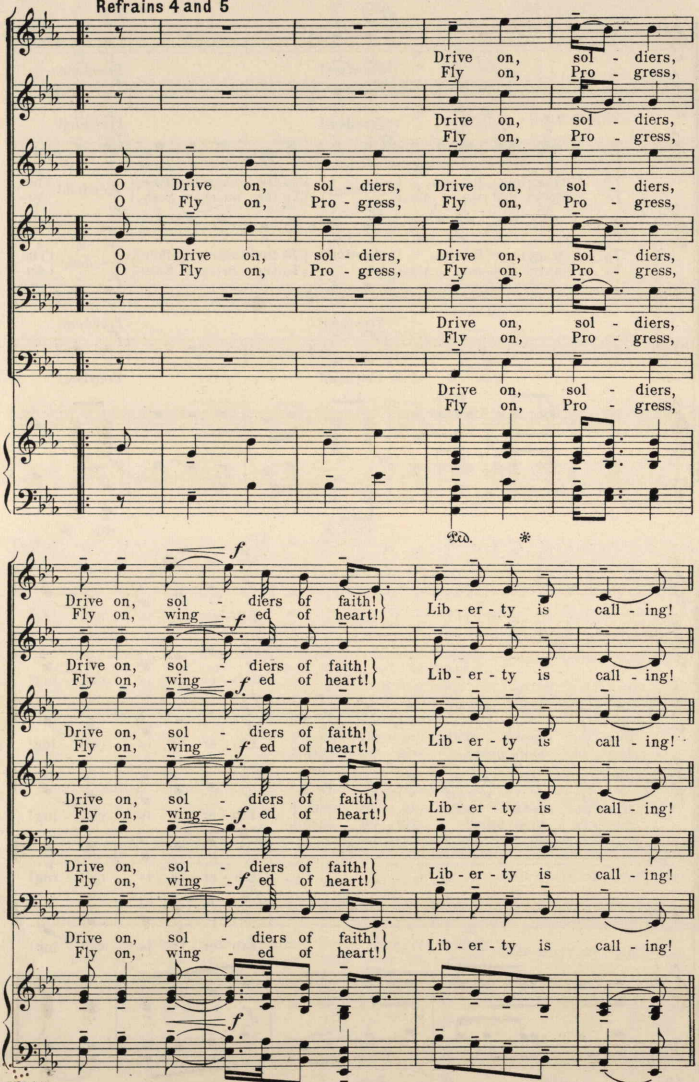
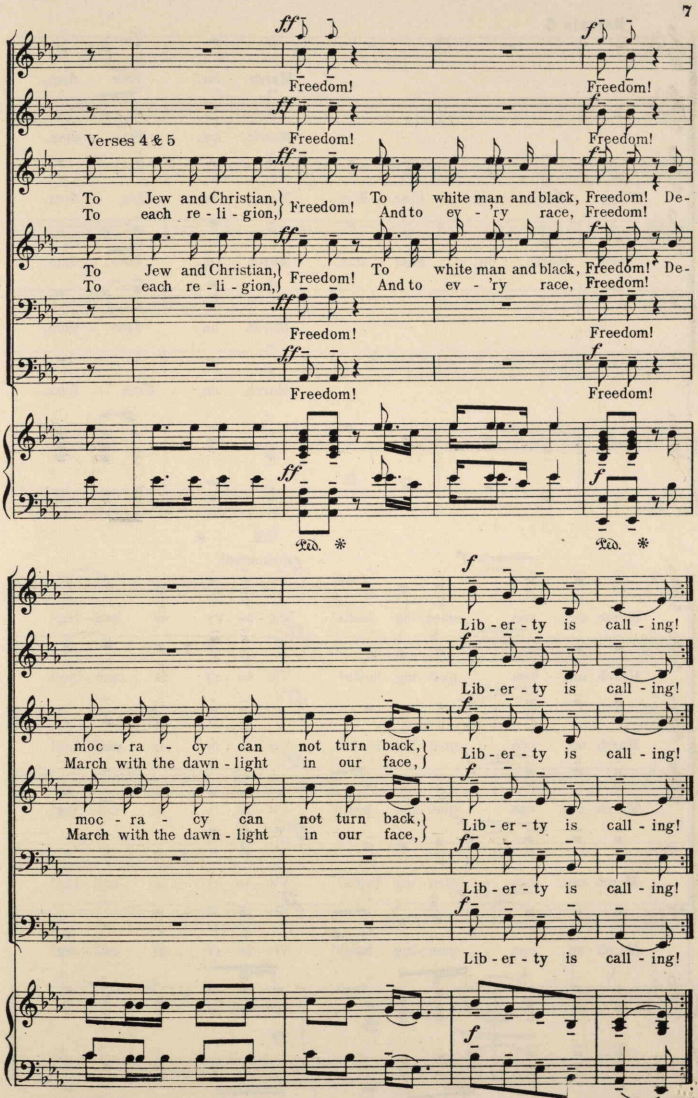

March on, con - quer - ing hosts! Lib - er - ty is call - ing!
March on, con - quer - ing hosts! Lib - er - ty is call - ing!
March on, con - quer - ing hosts! Lib - er - ty is call - ing!
March on, con - quer - ing hosts! Lib - er - ty is call - ing!
March on, con - quer - ing hosts! Lib - er - ty is call - ing!
March on, con - quer - ing hosts! Lib - er - ty is call - ing!
Free-dom! Free-dom!
Verse 1
Free-dom! Free-dom!
To martyred Belgium, Free-dom! To wounded France, Free-dom! 'Tis
To martyred Belgium, Free-dom! To wounded France, Free-dom! 'Tis
Free-dom! Free-dom!
Free-dom! Free-dom!
Ped. * Ped. *

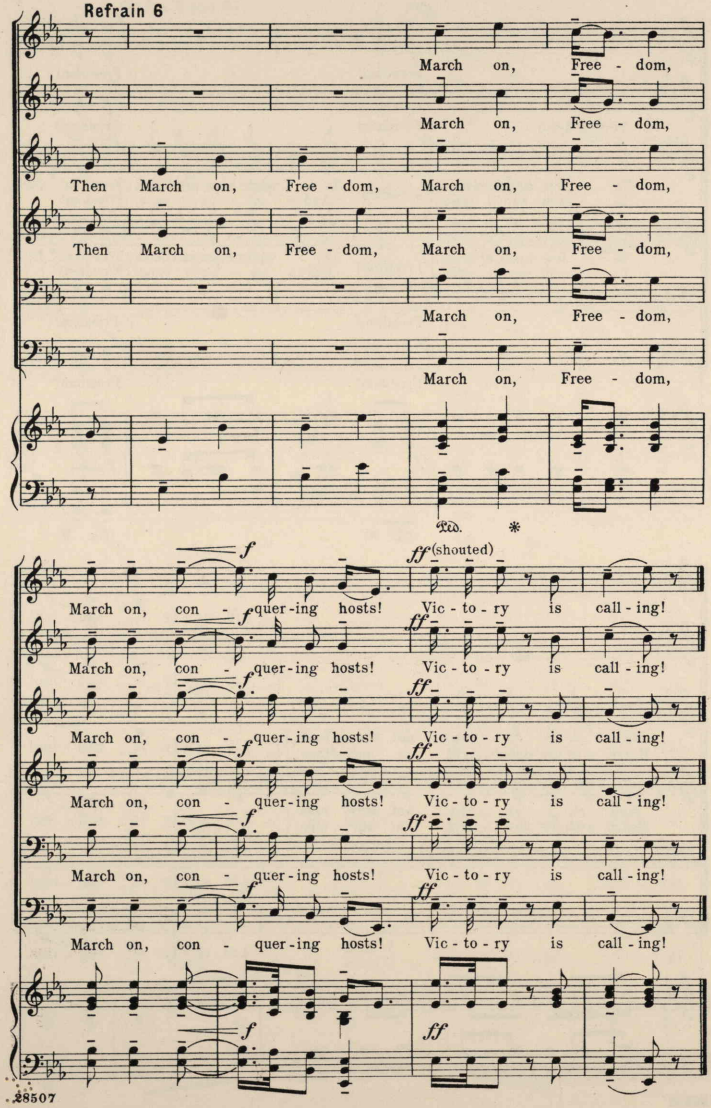

Refrains 2 and 3
Lib-er-ty is call-ing!
Lib-er-ty is call-ing!
God who summons our ad-vance! Lib-er-ty is call-ing! O Blow on, bu-gles, O Ride on, leaders,
God who summons our ad-vance! Lib-er-ty is call-ing! O Blow on, bu-gles, O Ride on, leaders,
Lib-er-ty is call-ing!
Lib-er-ty is call-ing!
f
Blow on, bu-gles, Blow on, bu-gles of hope!
Ride on, lead-ers, Ride on, lead-ers of men!
Lib-er-ty is call-ing!
Blow on, bu-gles, Blow on, bu-gles of hope!
Ride on, lead-ers, Ride on, lead-ers of men!
Lib-er-ty is call-ing!
Blow on, bu-gles, Blow on, bu-gles of hope!
Ride on, lead-ers, Ride on, lead-ers of men!
Lib-er-ty is call-ing!
Blow on, bu-gles, Blow on, bu-gles of hope!
Ride on, lead-ers, Ride on, lead-ers of men!
Lib-er-ty is call-ing!
Blow on, bu-gles, Blow on, bu-gles of hope!
Ride on, lead-ers, Ride on, lead-ers of men!
Lib-er-ty is call-ing!
Blow on, bu-gles, Blow on, bu-gles of hope!
Ride on, lead-ers, Ride on, lead-ers of men!
Lib-er-ty is call-ing!



28507 * This line is taken from the Negro Spiritual "Steal away to Jesus."


Refrains 4 and 5
Drive on, sol - diers,
Fly on, Pro - gress,
O Drive on, sol - diers, Drive on, sol - diers,
O Fly on, Pro - gress, Fly on, Pro - gress,
Ped. *
f
Drive on, sol - diers of faith!
Fly on, wing - ed of heart!
Lib - er - ty is call - ing!


Freedom!
Freedom!
Verses 4 & 5
To Jew and Christian,
To each re - li - gion,
Freedom!
To white man and black, Freedom! De-
And to ev - 'ry race, Freedom!
Ped. *
Lib - er - ty is call - ing!
moc - ra - cy can not turn back,
March with the dawn - light in our face,


Refrain 6
March on, Free - dom,
March on, Free - dom,
Then March on, Free - dom, March on, Free - dom,
Then March on, Free - dom, March on, Free - dom,
March on, Free - dom,
March on, Free - dom,
Ped. *
f
ff (shouted)
March on, con - quer-ing hosts! Vic - to - ry is call - ing!
March on, con - quer-ing hosts! Vic - to - ry is call - ing!
March on, con - quer-ing hosts! Vic - to - ry is call - ing!
March on, con - quer-ing hosts! Vic - to - ry is call - ing!
March on, con - quer-ing hosts! Vic - to - ry is call - ing!
March on, con - quer-ing hosts! Vic - to - ry is call - ing!

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