

Notes Towards a Syllabus for Understanding Brexit

This is a work in progress and collaborative endeavor to collect sources related to the long road towards Brexit. Please feel free to jump in, add material, group, refine - go wild.

Current status: Right now, #BrexitSyllabus is a long, thematic bibliography that's a fantastic resource but also an overwhelming one. What's clear to those of us who contributed is that we see the long arc of British history, literature, culture, and colonialism having a role in the long march towards Brexit. The challenge is how to make this legible for non-specialists.

Roopika is currently looking into options for how users could easily create short, curated collections based on this list to connect the dots and create more manageable and meaningful paths through the material. Feel free to create your own, get in touch, share ideas, completely reorganize this list. (This is the challenge - and fun - of crowdsourcing.)

Tuesday 6/28/16 Update: TOC added to make document more navigable. Instructions for creating headings, necessary for auto-generating a TOC, are [here](#).

Friday 7/1/16 Update: Here are some potential ideas for the syllabus. Please share your thoughts.

1. *Zotero Group - Group members can create collections in the Zotero group; the pro is that this is relatively simple and the con is that there isn't really a good mechanism for explaining why a collection has been created aside from a standalone note, which may not be obvious or easy to find.*
2. *Omeka - The archival content management system Omeka (omeka.org or omeka.net) allows users to create items and collections and then create exhibits with these items. There is a Zotero import plugin that could import references from Zotero, and these references could then be used to create multiple exhibits that would be short syllabi or curated collections of references with accompanying text explaining the logic of the collection.*
3. *Freemind - Link is in Hanna's comment on the right. This is mind mapping software.*
4. *Scalar - This is a publication platform that consists of "pages" (in this case, each page would be one of the references) that can be linked to each other to create "paths." Each path would be a short, curated collection of references, with text explaining the collection. (Sample Scalar projects [here](#)).*
5. *Google Doc - via links on the Google Doc or through headings, smaller lists could be compiled for readers who might want a shorter, thematic list rather than the long list generated here.*

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News Coverage and Social Media

- Hanna Clutterbuck-Cook, "[The #Brexit Syllabus Storify](#)"
- William Patrick Wend, [Brexit Zotero Group](#)
- [The Guardian's full results and analysis of the Referendum.](#)
- The [@writersofcolour](#) community [@WritersofColour](#)
- <http://verysmartbrothas.com/why-brexit-should-scare-the-fuck-out-of-you-explained/>
- <https://mediadiversified.org/2016/06/24/live-never-felt-less-welcome-in-this-country-maya-goodfellow/> [@Mayagoodfellow](#)
- C.J. Polychroniou, Interview With Noam Chomsky "Is European Integration Unraveling?" *Truthout*, Monday, 25 January 2016.

- <https://chomsky.info/01252016-2/>
- [Global Reaction on Social Media](#)
- Similarities between Brexit and Trump popular reactions
- Children's Lit writers/illustrators on Brexit, a compilation of reactions by Phil Nel:
<http://www.philnel.com/2016/06/24/childrens-lit-vs-brexit/>
- 16 million IDs of brexit tweets collected in May and June 2016
<http://www.eecs.qmul.ac.uk/~dm303/brexit/>
- [Why has Vote Leave just 'deleted' its website – and all its election promises?](#)
- [The Brexit and its potential consequences for cooperation and exchange in education and science](#) (Education Worldwide / German Education Server)

Op-Eds and Blog Posts

- Salman Rushdie, "We Live in the Age of Migration,"
[http://archive.indianexpress.com/news/we-live-in-age-of-migration-salman-rushdie/957688/ ...](http://archive.indianexpress.com/news/we-live-in-age-of-migration-salman-rushdie/957688/)
- Martin Brown, "1975 and All That"
- Stephanie Boland, *New Statesman*, "Lost in translation: what we lose when we leave the EU"
<http://www.newstatesman.com/politics/uk/2016/06/lost-translation-what-we-lose-when-we-leave-eu>
- Philip Pullman, *The Guardian*:
<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2016/jun/25/philip-pullman-on-the-1000-causes-of-brexit>
- Will Davies, "Thoughts on the Sociology of Brexit,"
http://www.perc.org.uk/project_posts/thoughts-on-the-sociology-of-brexit/
- Nadine El-Enany, "Brexit as Nostalgia for Empire" in Critical Legal Thinking:
<http://criticallegalthinking.com/2016/06/19/brexit-nostalgia-empire/>
- Ricard Eskow, "Brexit and the New Global Rebellion."
<http://portside.org/2016-06-24/brexit-and-new-global-rebellion>
- Akwugo Emejulo, "On the Hideous Whiteness of Brexit,"
<http://www.versobooks.com/blogs/2733-on-the-hideous-whiteness-of-brexit-let-us-be-honest-about-our-past-and-our-present-if-we-truly-seek-to-dismantle-white-supremacy>
- Frederick Wilmot-Smith, "Law v. Politics,"
<http://www.lrb.co.uk/blog/2016/06/28/frederick-wilmot-smith/law-v-politics/>
- Sadakat Kadri, "Bullxit," <http://www.lrb.co.uk/blog/2016/06/27/sadakat-kadri/bullxit/>
- Cathal McManus, "Breaking-Up Britain,"
<https://fournationshistory.wordpress.com/2016/06/27/breaking-up-britain-the-dynamics-of-nationalism/>
- [The Brexit and its potential consequences for cooperation and exchange in education and science](#) (Education Worldwide / German Education Server)

Literature: Novels

- Martin Amis, *Money: A Suicide Note*
- Jane Austen, *Mansfield Park*
- Julian Barnes, *England England*
- Julian Barnes, *Cross Channel*
- Julian Barnes, *Metroland*
- Julian Barnes, *Letters from London*
- Julian Barnes, *A History of the World in 10 and a Half Chapters*
- William Beckford, *Vathek*
- Simi Bedford, *Yoruba Girl Dancing*
- Charlotte Bronte, *Jane Eyre*
- George Chesney, *The Battle of Dorking*
- Chris Cleave, *Little Bee*
- Chris Cleave, *Incendiary: A Novel*
- J. M. Coetzee, *Disgrace*
- J. M. Coetzee, *Waiting for the Barbarians*
- Conrad, Joseph, *Lord Jim*
- Conrad, Joseph, *Victory*
- Conrad, Joseph, *Nostromo*
- Kiran Desai, *The Inheritance of Loss*
- Lyndon J. Dominique, ed. *The Woman of Colour* by Anonymous
- Buchi Emecheta, *Second Class Citizen*
- Bernardine Evaristo, *Lara*
- Bernardine Evaristo, *The Emperor's Babe*
- E. M. Forster, *Howards End*
- E. M. Forster, *A Passage to India*
- H. Rider Haggard, *King Solomon's Mines*
- Thomas Hardy, *Jude the Obscure*
- Alan Hollinghurst, *The Line of Beauty*
- Kazuo Ishiguro, *The Remains of the Day*
- Kazuo Ishiguro, *Never Let Me Go*
- P. D. James, *The Children of Men*
- Sir William Jones, *The Palace of Fortune, An Indian Tale Written in the Year 1769*
- James Joyce, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*
- Hanif Kureishi, *The Black Album*
- Hanif Kureishi, *The Buddha of Suburbia*
- Andrea Levy, *Small Island*
- David Lodge, *The British Museum is Falling Down*
- Ian McEwan, *The Child in Time*
- Ian McEwan, *Saturday*
- Jon McGregor, *If Nobody Speaks of Remarkable Things*

- George Orwell, *Animal Farm*
- George Orwell, *Coming Up for Air*
- George Orwell, *Nineteen Eighty-Four*
- George Orwell, *The Road to Wigan Pier*
- Caryl Phillips, *Crossing the River*
- Caryl Phillips, *The Lost Child*
- Caryl Phillips, *The Final Passage*
- Nick Papadimitriou, *Scarp*
- Zia Haider Rahman, *In Light of What We Know*
- Jean Rhys, *Voyage in the Dark*
- Salman Rushdie, *The Satanic Verses*
- Tayeb Salih, *Season of Migration to the North*
- Sam Selvon, *The Lonely Londoners*
- Gary Shteyngart, *Absurdistan*
- Bapsi Sidhwa, *Water*
- Alan Sillitoe, *Saturday Night and Sunday Morning*
- Zadie Smith, *White Teeth*
- Zadie Smith, *NW*
- Muriel Spark, *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*
- Bryan Talbot, *Alice in Sunderland*
- Ngugi wa Thiong'o, *Weep Not, Child*
- Graham Swift, *Waterland*
- Meera Syal, *Anita and Me*
- Joseph Jeffrey Walters, *Guanya Pau: A Story of an African Princess*
- H. G. Wells, *The Shape of Things to Come*
- Angus Wilson, *Anglo-Saxon Attitudes*
- Jeanette Winterson, *The Passion*
- Virginia Woolf, *Between the Acts*
- Virginia Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway*

Literature: Short Stories

- Hanif Kureishi, "My Son the Fanatic"
- Katherine Mansfield, "The Garden Party"
- E. A. Markham, "Taking the Drawing Room Through Customs"
- Thomas Love Peacock, "Calidore"
- Salman Rushdie, "At the Auction of the Ruby Slippers"
- Salman Rushdie, "The Courter"

Literature: Poetry

- Patience Agbabi, *R.A.W.*
- Patience Agbabi, *Transformatrix*
- Patience Agbabi, *Bloodshot Monochrome*
- Louise Bennett, "Colonisation in Reverse"
- Carol Ann Duffy, "Comprehensive," "Foreign," "Originally," "Who Loves You," "In Your Mind"
- Anna Laetitia Barbauld, "1811"
- John Donne, "No Man Is an Island"
- Toru Dutt, *Collected Poetry*
- George Gordon, Lord Byron, *The Giaour: A Fragment of a Turkish Tale*
- George Gordon, Lord Byron, *Lara*
- George Gordon, Lord Byron, *The Corsair*
- George Gordon, Lord Byron, *The Bride of Abydos*
- Linton Kwesi Johnson, "Inglan is a Bitch"
- E. A. Markham, *Looking Out, Looking In*
- Daljit Nagra, *Look We Have Coming to Dover!*
- Daljit Nagra, *Tippoo Sultan's Incredible White-Man-Eating Tiger Toy-Machine!!!*

Literature: Plays

- Howard Benton, *Never so Good*
- Edward Bond, *Saved*
- Edward Bond, *In the Company of Men*
- Stella Feehily, *This May Hurt a Bit*
- Brian Friel, *Making History*
- George Gordon, Lord Byron, *Sardanapolis*
- Ayub Khan Din, *East is East*
- Sarah Kane, *Blasted*
- Owen McCafferty, *Scenes from the Big Picture*
- Tom Stoppard, *Arcadia*
- Bernard Shaw, *John Bull's Other Island*

Literature: Memoir

- Lorna Sage, *Bad Blood*
- Mary Seacole, *The Wonderful Adventures of Mary Seacole in Many Lands*

Film

- *Bend It Like Beckham*, dir. Gurinder Chada
- *Bride and Prejudice*, dir. Gurinder Chada
- *Capitalism, A Love Story*, dir. Michael Moore
- *Children of Men*, dir. Alfonso Cuarón
- *Code 46*, dir. Michael Winterbottom
- *Dirty Pretty Things*, dir. Stephen Frears
- *East Is East*, dir. Damien O'Donnell
- *Fish Tank*, dir. Andrea Arnold
- *Happy-Go-Lucky*, dir. Mike Leigh
- *I, Daniel Blake*, dir. Ken Loach
- *In This World*, dir. Michael Winterbottom
- *Jubilee*, dir. Derek Jarman
- *The Last of England*, dir. Derek Jarman
- *Ladybird Ladybird*, dir. Ken Loach
- *L'Auberge espagnole (The Spanish Apartment)*, dir. Cédric Klapisch
- *My Beautiful Laundrette*, dir. Stephen Frears
- *My Name is Joe*, dir. Ken Loach
- *The Navigators*, dir. Ken Loach
- *Second Generation*, dir. Neil Biswas
- *Secrets & Lies*, dir. Mike Leigh
- *Sommers Town*, dir. Shane Meadows
- *Sweet Sixteen*, dir. Ken Loach
- *This is England*, dir. Shane Meadows
- The "Up" series (documentary) *7 Up - 56 Up*, dir. Michael Apted
- *Zulu*, dir. Cy Endfield.

Music

- Blur, *Parklife*
- Jarvis Cocker, "Cunts Are Still Running The World" - [annotate on Genius](#)
- The Cure "Killing an Arab"
- Dan le Sac vs Scroobius Pip, "Stake a Claim" - [annotate on Genius](#)
- Genesis, "Illegal Alien" - [annotate on Genius](#)
- Morrissey, "National Front Disco" - [annotate on Genius](#)
- Portishead, "SOS" - [annotate on Genius](#)
- Pulp, *Different Class*
- Radiohead's entire discography
- The Specials, "Racist Friend" - [annotate on Genius](#)
- The Specials, "Ghost Town" - [annotate on Genius](#)

TV

- *Little Britain*
- *The Thick of It*
- *Twenty Twelve*
- *House of Cards*
- *Yes Minister/Yes Prime Minister*

Visual Culture

- Stephen Collins, Stephen Collins on *that* Nigel Farage poster – cartoon
- Barry Blitt, Silly Walk off a Cliff
- Apostolos Doxiadis, Logicomix: due to content about Russell and pacifism
- Captain Britain comics, Marvel UK, Chris Claremont et al.
- Alan Moore, *V for Vendetta*
- Alan Moore, *League of Extraordinary Gentlemen*
- Worrying Signs
- Film, photography, and writing of @ajamuarist

Primary Sources, Digital Archives and Digital Humanities Projects

- Simon Bolivar, “Reply of a South American to a Gentleman of this Island.”
<http://faculty.smu.edu/bakewell/bakewell/texts/jamaica-letter.html>
- The Black Cultural Archives <http://bcaheritage.org.uk>
- Voyages: The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database
- Citibank’s Plutonomy Report
- Mass Observation Online
- Florence Nightingale Digitization Project
- Jennifer Worth, *Call the Midwife*
- Nella Last’s diary (three volumes, originally written for @MassObsArchive)
Moving here: 200 years of migration to England
- William Penn, *An Essay towards the Present and Future Peace of Europe by the Establishment of an European Dyet, Parliament, or Estates* (1693)
http://oll.libertyfund.org/titles/893#lf6418_label_735

Critical Theory: Race, Class, and Immigration in the UK

- Sara Ahmed, *On Being Included: Racism and Diversity in Institutional Life*

- Houston Baker, Manthia Diawara, and Ruth Lindeborg, eds. [*Black British Cultural Studies: A Reader*](#)
- Ian Baucom, [*Out of Place: Englishness, Empire, and the Locations of Identity*](#)
- Charles Booth, [*Life and Labour of the People of London*](#) (etc.)
- Friedrich Engels, [*The Condition of the Working Class in England*](#)
- Ashley Dawson, [*Mongrel Nation: Diasporic Culture and the Making of Postcolonial Britain*](#)
- Paul Gilroy, [*There Ain't No Black in the Union Jack*](#)
- Paul Garrett, "No Irish Need Apply": Social Work in Britain and the History and Politics of Exclusionary Paradigms and Practices"
- Stuart Hall, [*"New Ethnicities"*](#)
- Stuart Hall, [*"Minimal Selves"*](#)
- Dick Hebdige, [*"Digging for Britain: An Excavation in Seven Parts"*](#)
- Tariq Modood, [*Multiculturalism*](#)

Critical Theory: Postcolonialism, Globalization, and Empire

- Louise Amoore, [*Globalization Contested: An International Political Economy of Work*](#)
- Kwame Anthony Appiah, [*Cosmopolitanism. Ethics in a World of Strangers*](#)
- Firdous Azim, [*The Colonial Rise of the*](#)
[Nohttp://www.oapen.org/download?type=document&docid=341340vel](http://www.oapen.org/download?type=document&docid=341340vel)
- Caroline Brettell, James F Hollifield, [*Migration Theory: Talking Across Disciplines*](#)
- Wendy Brown, [*Regulating Aversion. Tolerance in the Age of Identity and Empire*](#)
- Wendy Brown, [*Undoing the Demos. Neoliberalism's Stealth Revolution*](#)
- Judith Butler and Athena Athanasiou, [*Dispossession: The Performative in the Political*](#)
- Frantz Fanon, [*The Wretched of the Earth*](#)
- Frantz Fanon, [*Black Skins. White Masks*](#)
- Paul Gilroy, [*After Empire*](#)
- Paul Gilroy, [*Postcolonial Melancholia*](#)
- Michael Hardt and Antonio Negri, [*Empire*](#)
- David Harvey, [*A Brief History of Neoliberalism*](#)
- Doreen Massey, [*"A Global Sense of Place"*](#)
- Anne McClintock, [*Imperial Leather*](#)
- Edward Said, [*Orientalism*](#)
- Edward Said, [*Culture and Imperialism*](#)
- Gayatri Spivak, [*"Can the Subaltern Speak?"*](#)
- Gayatri Spivak, [*Critique of Postcolonial Reason*](#)
- Gayatri Spivak, [*Death of a Discipline*](#)
- Gayatri Spivak, [*"Three Women's Texts and a Critique of Imperialism"*](#)
- Gauri Viswanathan, [*Masks of Conquest: Literary Study and Imperial Rule in India*](#)
- Satnam Virdee, [*Racism. Class. and the Racialized Outsider*](#)
- Nadine El-Enany, [*"Brexit as Nostalgia for Empire"*](#)

Critical Theory: General Suggestions/Currently Uncategorized

- Giorgio Agamben, [*Homo Sacer. Sovereign Power and Bare Life*](#)
- Giorgio Agamben, [*State of Exception*](#)
- Talal Asad, [*Formations of the Secular. Christianity. Islam. Modernity*](#)
- Alain Badiou, [*Ethics. An Essay on the Understanding of Evil*](#)
- Alain Badiou, [*Metapolitics*](#)
- Chris Bartlett, [*To Brexit or Not to Brexit: The Quick and Dirty Guide to the UK's Brexit Vote.*](#)
- Jean Baudrillard, [*The Agony of Power*](#)
- Jean Baudrillard, [*In the Shadow of the Silent Majorities*](#)
- Mark Blyth, [*Austerity: The History of a Dangerous Idea*](#)
- Manuel Castells, [*The Network Society: A Cross-cultural Perspective*](#)
- Manuel Castells, [*The Power of Identity*](#)
- Elias Canetti, [*Crowds and Power*](#)
- Donal Carter, Heather Merrill, [*"Bordering Humanism: Life and Death on the Margins of Europe"*](#)
- Ha-Joon Chang, [*23 Things They Don't Tell You about Capitalism*](#)
- Fred Dallmayr, [*Integral Pluralism: Beyond Culture Wars*](#)
- Fred Dallmayr, [*Being in the World: Dialogue and Cosmopolis*](#)
- Terry Eagleton, [*On Evil*](#)
- Esty, Jed. [*A Shrinking Island: Modernism and National Culture in England.*](#) Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press, 2004.
- Adrian Favell & Ettore Recchi, [*Pioneers of European Integration: Citizenship and Mobility in the EU*](#)
- Chrystia Freeland, [*Plutocrats: The Rise of The Global Rich*](#)
- Michel Foucault, [*Discipline and Punish. The Birth of the Prison*](#)
- Francis Fukuyama, [*The End of History and the Last Man*](#)
- Andrea Fumagalli, Sandro Mezzadra, [*Crisis in the Global Economy: Financial Markets, Social Struggles, and New Political Scenarios*](#)
- Linda Hutcheon, [*The Politics of Postmodernism*](#)
- John Kenneth Galbraith, [*The Affluent Society*](#)
- Simon Gikandi, [*Maps of Englishness: Writing Identity in the Culture of Colonialism*](#)
- David Graeber, [*Debt: The First 5.000 Years*](#)
- Antonio Gramsci, [*The Prison Notebooks*](#)
- Engin Isin, [*Citizenship After Orientalism: Transforming Political Theory*](#)
- Naomi Klein, [*The Shock Doctrine*](#)
- Arun Kundhani, [*The End of Tolerance: Racism in 21st Century Britain*](#)
- Ernesto Laclau, [*On Populist Reason*](#)
- Jaron Lanier, [*Who Owns The Future*](#)

- Rob Lambert, ["Agent of the market, or instrument of justice? Redefining trade union identity in the era of market driven politics"](#)
- Maurizio Lazzarato, [Signs and Machines: Capitalism and the Production of Subjectivity](#)
- George Lipsitz, [The Possessive Investment in Whiteness: How White People Profit from Identity Politics](#)
- Isabell Lorey, [State of Insecurity: Government of the Precarious](#)
- Donald McNeill, [New Europe: Imagined Spaces.](#)
- Susan Meyer, [Imperialism at Home: Race and Victorian Women's Fiction.](#)
- Sandra Ponzanesi, [Postcolonial transitions in Europe : contexts, practices and politics](#)
- Wendell E. Pritchett, [Identity Politics: Past and Present](#)
- Jacques Rancière, [Disagreement. Politics and Philosophy](#)
- Jacques Rancière, [Hatred of Democracy](#)
- Arundhati Roy, [An Ordinary Person's Guide to Empire](#)
- Tony Norfield, [The City: London and the Global Power of Finance](#)
- Heiner Flassbeck and Costas Lapavistas, [Against the Troika: Crisis and Austerity in the Eurozone](#)
- Leo Panitch and Sam Gindin, [The Making of Global Capitalism: The Political Economy of American Empire](#)
- Leo Panitch, Sam Gindin, Scott M. Aquanno, ["American Empire and the Relative Autonomy of European Capitalism."](#)
- David McNally, ["Blood of the Commonwealth: War, State, and the Making of World Money."](#)
- Gary Burn, ["The State, the City, and the Euromarkets."](#)
- Saskia Sassen, [Expulsions: Brutality and Complexity in the Global Economy](#)
- Yves Smith, [Econned](#)
- Leslie Sklair, [The Transnational Capitalist Class](#)
- Neferti Tadiar, ["In the Face of Whiteness as Value: Fallouts of Metropolitan Humanness"](#)
- Neferti Tadiar, ["Empire"](#)
- Leila Simona Talani, [Globalisation, Hegemony, and the Future of the City of London](#)
- Tiziana Terranova, [Introduction to Eurocrisis. Neoliberalism and the Common](#)
- Beatrice and Sidney Webb, **??? [does anyone have a title to suggest?]**
- Robert Young, [The Idea of English Ethnicity](#)
- Sebastian Junger, [Tribe: On Homecoming & Belonging](#)
- Slavoj Žižek, [First as Tragedy, Then as Farce](#)
- Slavoj Žižek, [Violence. Six Sideways Reflections](#)
- Slavoj Žižek, [Welcome to the Dessert of the Real](#)
- Slavoj Žižek, [Living in the End Times](#)

History: Nation, Globalization, and Empire

- Antoinette Burton, ["Who Needs the Nation? Interrogating 'British' History"](#)
- Antoinette M. Burton, [After the Imperial Turn: Thinking With and Through the Nation](#)

- Tony Claydon, [*Europe and the Making of England 1660-1760*](#)
- Linda Colley, [*Britons: Forging the Nation. 1707-1837*](#)
- Harry Goulbourne, [*Ethnicity and Nationalism in Post-Imperial Britain*](#)
- Evan Gottlieb, [*Romantic Globalism: British Literature and the Modern World Order 1750-1830*](#)
- Light, Alison. [*Forever England: Femininity, Literature and Conservatism between the Wars*](#), 1991
- Saree Makdisi, [*Making England Western: Occidentalism, Race, and Imperial Culture*](#)
- Saree Makdisi, [*Romantic Imperialism: Universal Empire and the Culture of Modernity*](#).
- John Marshall, [*John Locke, Toleration and Early Enlightenment Culture*](#)
- Geoffrey Plank, [*Rebellion and Savagery: The Jacobite Rebellion of 1745 and the British Empire*](#)
- J. G. A. Pocock, [*The Discovery of Islands*](#).
- Terence Range and Eric Hobsbawm, eds. [*The Invention of Tradition*](#)
- Raphael Samuel, [*Island Stories: Unravelling Britain*](#)

History: Imperial Nostalgia

- Antoinette M. Burton, "India, Inc.?: Nostalgia, Memory, and the Empire of Things"
- Douglas Haynes, "[*The Whiteness of Civilization: The Transatlantic Crisis of White Supremacy and British Television Programming in the United States in the 1970s*](#)"

History: Decolonization

- Darwin, John. [*The End of the British Empire: The Historical Debate*](#). Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 1991.
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