



Speech Analysis Classification and the Form of Commissive Speech Act Used in the Song “Beautiful Day” by Jermaine Edwards

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ABSTRACT

A speech act is an action performed when saying something. Without taking into account both the hearers and the speakers, speech acts cannot be properly comprehended. Speech acts are intended for real people, whose capacity for recognition places restrictions on the expressiveness of the lyrics. One of classifications of speech act is commissive. Commissive speech actions enable the speaker to express various levels of commitment to a future course of action. This research aimed to analyze the speech act classifications and the forms of commissive speech act used in Jermaine Edwards' song “Beautiful Day.” This research uses a qualitative method. The object of the research was Jermaine Edwards' song “Beautiful Day.” The data were collected by using the observational method, followed by listening and note-taking techniques. Then the data were analyzed by using a descriptive approach to describe the types and forms of descriptive speech acts found in the song lyrics. The researcher used the theory of Searle (1969) to analyze the speech act classifications and the forms of commissive speech acts. After analyzing the data, it was found five types of speech acts: representative, declarative, directive, expressive, and commissive. The forms of commissive speech act in the song “Beautiful Day” by Jermaine Edwards were promise, warn, and threat.

KEYWORDS

Pragmatics; Speech Act; Forms of Commissive Act;

ABSTRAK

Tindak tutur adalah tindakan yang dilakukan ketika mengatakan sesuatu. Tanpa memperhatikan baik pendengar maupun penutur, maka tindak tutur tidak dapat dipahami dengan baik. Tindak tutur ditujukan untuk orang-orang nyata, yang kapasitas pengenalannya membatasi ekspresi lirik. Salah satu klasifikasi tindak tutur adalah komisif. Tindak tutur komisif memungkinkan penutur mengungkapkan berbagai tingkat komitmen terhadap tindakan di masa depan. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis klasifikasi tindak tutur dan bentuk tindak tutur

KATA KUNCI

Pragmatics; Tindak Tutur; Bentuk komisif Tindak Tutur

komisif yang digunakan dalam lagu “Beautiful Day” karya Jermaine Edwards. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif. Objek penelitiannya adalah lagu Jermaine Edwards “Beautiful Day”. Pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan menggunakan metode observasi, dilanjutkan dengan teknik mendengarkan dan mencatat. Kemudian data tersebut dianalisis dengan menggunakan pendekatan deskriptif untuk mendeskripsikan jenis dan bentuk tindak tutur deskriptif yang terdapat dalam lirik lagu. Peneliti menggunakan teori Searle (1969) untuk menganalisis klasifikasi tindak tutur dan bentuk-bentuk tindak tutur komisif. Setelah menganalisis data, ditemukan lima jenis tindak tutur: representatif, deklaratif, direktif, ekspresif, dan komisif. Bentuk tindak tutur komisif dalam lagu “Beautiful Day” karya Jermaine Edwards adalah janji, peringatan, dan ancaman.

INTRODUCTION

Speech acts include real life interaction and require not only knowledge of the language but also appropriate use of the language within a given culture. As an act of communication, a speech act succeeds if the audience identifies with the speaker’s intention and the attitude being expressed communicatively. There are many ways to communicate, and one of them is through songs. A song is a means of communication to express feelings, ideas, and opinions. In the song, there are speech acts used by the singer or sender to convey the meaning of the song’s content to the listener or receiver. A speech act is an utterance that performs an action (Yule, 1996). In other words, a speech act is something that a person expresses that not only conveys information but also carries out an action.

A speech act is part of the pragmatics field of study, which examines utterances. Pragmatics studies the relationship between the external context of language and the meaning of speech through the interpretation of the situation in which it is spoken. According to (Searle, 1969), speech acts do not function independently. They are embedded in a structure that is not related to each other, but each link must be found if the meaning of the speech act is to be conveyed. Without taking into account both the hearers and the speakers, speech acts cannot be properly comprehended. Speech acts are intended for real people, whose capacity for recognition places restrictions on the expressiveness of the lyrics. Therefore, the researcher wanted to analyze the speech act classifications and the forms of commissive speech act used in Jermaine Edwards’ song “Beautiful Day”. Then, the purpose of the research were to find out the types of speech acts used in Jermaine Edwards Song “Beautiful Day” and to find out forms of commissive speech acts found in Jermaine Edwards Song “Beautiful Day”

Review of literature

Speech Act

Actions performed via utterances are generally called speech acts, and in English they are commonly given more specific labels, such as apology, complaint, compliment, invitation, promise, or request (Yule, 1996). It means that speech acts are utterances used to demonstrate actions such as apology, complaint, compliment, invitation, promise, or request. While (Searle, 1969) explains that in order to grasp speech act, let’s start this stage of our investigation by

drawing some distinctions that immediately come to mind as soon as we start to dwell on simple speaking situations. Knowing a proposal to the listener fast and pondering on a straightforward situation are good places to start when learning about speech act. According to (Levinson, 1983), Speech act is the act of doing something via speaking. Based on the description given above, it is possible to sum up a speech act as a pragmatic unit that refers to a section of speech that has a communicative purpose. A speech act is also regarded as the smallest possible unit of communication.

Types of speech Act

(Austin, 1962) classifies the types of acts in saying utterance. First, locutionary act which is the fundamental component of speech, the genuine of the word (Rismayanti, 2021). Second, illocutionary act is the term used to describe certain acts that a speaker takes when speaking (Haucsa, 2020). Third, perlocutionary act is the the impact of an act on the hearer (Krisnadiari, 2018).

Meanwhile (Searle, 1969) classifies speech acts differently from his teacher, Austin. Searle developed Austin's speech act theory by classifying speech acts into five categories: First, representative, is a speaking act that commits the speaker to believing what they are saying is true. Second, declarative speech, such as baptism or finding someone guilty, alters reality in line with the preposition of the statement. Third, directive speech act, such as a request, a demand, or advise, compel the listener to carry out a specific action. Fourth, expressive speech act, such as "congratulations," "pardon me," "sorry," or "thank you," conveys the speaker's feelings and attitudes toward the preposition. And five, Commissive speech act, such as a pledge, binds the speaker to another person's future actions.

Commissive

Commissive speech acts allow the speaker to make varying degrees of commitment to a future course of action. It conveys what the speaker means to say. Commissive is similar to directive in that it makes changes, but the distinction is that the change is made by putting the onus of duty on the speaker rather than the hearer (Rizki, 2020). Commissives can be performed into promises, threats, refusals, and pledges. The direction of commissive is "world to word". The speaker aims to make the world understand the words by using a commissive behavior (via the speaker) (Yule, 1996). It indicates that the speaker plans to deal with the situation. Commissive speech acts require the speaker to carry out what is mentioned in his speech (Rustono 1999: 40). Speech that falls within this category includes promises, swearing, threatening, announcing one's skill, vowing, and making an offer. They make their objective clear. They consist of assurances, warnings, and denials. The speaker attempts to make the reality match the words (via the speaker) when they use commissive (Yule, 1996: 54). People who are commissive may use performative verbs like vow, promise, swear, and guarantee in their discourse. As previously mentioned, there are several forms of commissives, including promises, guarantees, refusals, threats, offers, and volunteers.

Searle's (1979) classification of illocutionary activities includes commissive speech acts. These activities, which require the speaker promising to carry out future actions, are frequently seen in casual conversations. Commissives are distinguished by the speaker's desire to use their words to influence a certain future situation. Their compatibility orientation is from the world to the word, and they need sincerity of aim. Commissive speech acts include things like pledges, promises, threats, and refusals. Promises are statements that commit the speaker to carrying out a certain action at a later time. They remind the speaker of their verbal commitment and act as promises made by one person to another.

Commissive act is closely related to expressions in everyday life, both in conversations, movies and songs. Songs are the art of using language to express someone's feelings or ideas. Songs can serve as a "mood booster" when people feel down. Through listening to the song and feeling the lyrics, the rhythm, and the melody, the listener feels relaxed and happy. Songs are a good choice to be subjects of discourse analysis since they are related to real-life phenomena. Therefore, the researcher wants to analyze the speech act classifications and the forms of the commissive speech act in Jermaine Edwards' song "Beautiful Day."

The Forms of Commissive Speech Act

The forms of commissive speech act includes promising, threatening, refusing, vowing, volunteering, warning and offering (Cutting, 2002). Those forms commit the speaker to future action. First, promise. A promise is a statement by a person that he or she will or will not do something. A promise is an expression used to remind someone about something that will be done in the future. For example: "I will pay my debt next week." It means that the speaker promises to pay his or her debt next week. Second, threat. Threat is a communication of intent to inflict harm or loss on another person (Oxford, 2008). Meanwhile (Searle, 1969) argues that threat is a commissive speech act whose illocutionary purpose is to express a future consequence for the recipient under a certain condition in order to encourage the hearer not to make that condition true. In other words, a threat is a threatening speech delivered to someone who does not comply with the speaker's orders. For example: "I will take your motorbike if you do not pay your debt next week." It means the speaker will take the hearer's motorcycle if he or she does not pay his or her debt next week, and if the hearer's motorcycle is not taken, then he or she must pay the debt next week.

Third, refuse. Refuse is an expression used to indicate or show that someone is not willing to do something. For example: "I do not want to eat meatball, I want fried rice". It means the speaker refuses to eat meatball but instead eats fried rice. Fourth, vow. A vow is a solemn promise that is made formally or in front of other people. For example: "I will always be with you until death do us part." We often hear this utterance at weddings. It means that the groom and bride promise to be together until death separates them. Fifth, volunteer. Volunteer is offer to do something without being forced to do it or without getting paid for it (Oxford, 2008). In other words, volunteering means doing something willingly and without coercion. For example: "Let me help you bring your stuff." It shows that the speaker voluntarily offers to help carry someone's stuff. Sixth, warning. Warn is to make someone aware of a possible danger or problem so that it can be avoided. For example: "Caution, wet floor". It means we have to be careful when walking because the floor is wet. Seventh, offering. Offer means to present or proffer something for someone to accept or reject as desired. For example: "Do you want coffee?" yes, please/ no, thanks. It shows that the speaker offers someone a glass of coffee, and if the hearer accepts, he or she will say "yes, please", while if the hearer rejects, he or she will say "no, thanks".

The researcher chose a song as the research object because the song is an interesting medium for learning, and "Beautiful Day" by Jermaine Edwards is one of the researcher's favorite songs because in the song there are many moral messages that remind us to always be grateful, improve ourselves, and work hard as a form of our gratitude for the blessings God has given us all this time. Therefore, the researcher desires to analyze the utterance of this song.

Related findings

Firstly, Ashfiy & Degaf (2023) conducted a research entitled “An Analysis of Commissive Speech Acts Used by the Main Characters in Women-Centric Movies”. This research investigates how commissive speech actions are used in the women-centric movies “Little Women” and “Enola Holmes.” It makes use of the politeness theory (1987) of Brown & Levinson, Hymes’ social structure theory (2001), and Searle’s taxonomy of speech actions (1979). The study reveals a variety of nineteenth-century-set compliant speech behaviours in films. Additionally, it demonstrates how the social structures of the characters’ separate civilizations have a big impact on the commissive speech actions and politeness techniques they use.

Secondly, Devi & Degaf (2021). A Commissive Speech Act Analysis Used by the Main Character in the Movie “Knives Out”. The purpose of this study is to examine the forms and purposes of commissive speech actions utilised by the characters in the film Knives Out. The researcher is the research instrument in this qualitative descriptive study, which employs this methodology. The idea put forward by Austin (1969) and Searle (1985) served as the basis for the classification of the utterances. Six categories of complementary speech acts may be applied to the statements made in that film: promise, guarantee, rejection, threat, volunteer, and offer. The findings showed that 13 data points could be located in the Knives Out movie. An act of illocution is the primary function that the characters in the movie perform.

Thirdly, Farwati, Sofeny & Supriyatno (2023) conducted a research entitled “An Analysis of Commissive Speech Act Used by Daniel Forester as a Main Character in the Tomorrow War Movie by Chris McKay”. The purpose of this study was to determine the types of commissive speech actions that Daniel Forester, who plays the lead role in the 2021 film The Tomorrow War, employed, as well as to investigate the purposes of the commissive speech acts. This study used descriptive qualitative research methodology. The primary character, Daniel Forester, provided the speech samples from which the data were extracted. The theories of Austin and Searle were employed by the researchers to examine the various types of commissive speech actions and their respective purposes. The researchers’ findings from this study were as follows: (1) Daniel Forester, the lead character in the film The Tomorrow War, possessed 23 pieces of information on the six different types of commissive speech acts: denial, offer, promise, volunteer, threat, and guarantee. (2) Every piece of information related to the commissive speaking act has its purpose defined by the researchers. In conclusion, the researchers used Austin and Searle’s theory to analyse Daniel Forester’s speech actions from the film The Tomorrow War and discovered six different types of communicative speech acts and their purposes.

Fourthly, Desica & Ambalegin (2021) conducted a research entitled “Commissive Speech Acts Found in “Onward” Movie by Dan Scanlon”. Using the movie Onward as the data source, this study sought to identify the kinds of commissive acts that were included in the film. The dialogue that the characters in the film spoke was used as study data, and it was categorised using Searle’s theory of commissive actions. To put the findings into words and phrases, this study is descriptive qualitative in nature. Researchers used a non-participatory approach and the observational method to get the data. The data was analysed by the researchers using the pragmatic identity method and the pragmatic competence equalisation methodology, which equalised the data according to the theory that was used. According to the research findings, the movie Onward had 17 instances of commissive acts.

METHOD

The researcher used a qualitative research method with a descriptive approach. A descriptive qualitative method is a method that tries to describe a phenomenon, an occurrence, or an event that happened in the present (Creswell, 2009). In this study, the researcher described the types of speech acts and the forms of commissive speech acts used in the song lyrics for “Beautiful Day” by Jermaine Edwards.

The data were collected by observing. The researcher carried out several stages, such as observing where, the researcher listened to the song while read the lyrics to find out the commissive acts in the lyrics. Then, the researcher identified and took note the commissive acts that are found in the song lyrics. Next, the researcher classified the commissive acts into each category based on the commissive theory. Because the research’s data—a song—was obtained via YouTube, the researcher used an online document as a research tool. You can acquire documents from the internet, including emails, home pages, and website pages (Denscombe, 2010). In analyzing the data, the researcher uses the theory of Cohen. (Cohen, 2007) claims that there are some steps to analyze the data in qualitative research such as: generating a natural unit of meaning. Then, classifying, categorizing, and ordering the units of meaning. Next, structuring a narrative to describe the contents of the speech. And the last was interpreting.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

Discussion

1. *Speech Act Classification*

This section deals with the data analysis of the speech act classifications and the forms of commissive speech act used in the song “Beautiful Day” by Jermaine Edwards. The result of the data findings is presented in separated classification of speech act in these several table below. In the Table 1, it can be seen about the findings of speech act classification of “representative”.

Table 1: speech act classification of “representative”

Line	Song Lyrics	Speech Act Classification
1	Say this morning I woke up and I looked in the mirror And every part of my body was in place	Representative (it is a representative utterance because the speaker believes his parts of the body are complete)
11	It’s a beautiful day	Representative (the speaker believes that it was a beautiful day)
15	It’s a beautiful day	Representative (the speaker believes that it was a beautiful day)
19	Everything in life happens for a reason	Representative (the speaker believes everything that happens must be according to God’s plan)
20	Dissapointment comes with a lesson	Representative (the speaker believes there must be a lesson to be learned from disappoinment)
27	It’s a beautiful day	Representative (the speaker believes that it was a beautiful day)
31	It’s a beautiful day	Representative (the speaker believes that it was a beautiful day)
35	It’s a beautiful day	Representative (the speaker believes that it was a beautiful day)
43	It’s a beautiful day	Representative (the speaker believes that it was a beautiful day)
47	It’s a beautiful day	Representative (the speaker believes that it was a beautiful day)

For the Table 1, it can be understood that the lyrics in line 1, line 11, line 15, line 19, line 20, line 27, line 31, line 35, line 43, and line 47 represent to some condition. The condition is about the sad condition, happiness, or thanking the God. Next, In the Table 2, it can be seen about the findings of speech act classification of “declarative”.

Table 2: speech act classification of “declarative”

Line	Song Lyrics	Speech Act Classification
6	And that puts a smile on my face	Declarative (the speaker tries to change his condition to be happy after worship God)
16	So, yeah thou I walk through the valleys of the shadows of death	Declarative (the speaker changes the situation into the shadow of death)
18	When I see the clock ticking away and things are not in place	Declarative (it shows many things are not right)
33	You may not have much, but you’re living day by day	Declarative (it shows the condition that every day we are given life)
37	That made me good and bad friends that came into my life and those who are still here today	Declarative (it shows that good and bad the speaker’s friends are still there to be with him)

For the Table 2, it can be understood that the lyrics in line 6, line 16, line 18, line 33, line and line 37 declare condition. The condition is about the situation thankful to the God. Next, In the Table 3, it can be seen about the findings of speech act classification of “expressive”.

Table 3: speech act classification of “expressive”

Line	Song Lyrics	Speech Act Classification
7	Lord, I thank You for sunshine	Expressive (the speaker expresses his gratitude to God for the sunshine)
8	Thank You for rain	Expressive (the speaker expresses his gratitude to God for the rain)
9	Thank You for joy	Expressive (the speaker expresses his gratitude to God for the joy)
10	Thank You for pain	Expressive (the speaker expresses his gratitude to God for the pain)
23	Lord, I thank You for sunshine	Expressive (the speaker expresses his gratitude to God for the sunshine)
24	Thank You for rain	Expressive (the speaker expresses his gratitude to God for the rain)
25	Thank You for joy	Expressive (the speaker expresses his gratitude to God for the joy)
26	Thank You for pain	Expressive (the speaker expresses his gratitude to God for the pain)
36	It may not be the way I want it to be, but I thank You for every situation	Expressive (the speaker expresses his gratitude to God for each condition)
38	Lord, I thank You	Expressive (the speaker expresses his gratitude to God)
39	Lord I thank You for sunshine	Expressive (the speaker expresses his gratitude to God for the sunshine)
40	Thank You for rain	Expressive (the speaker expresses his gratitude to God for the rain)
41	Thank You for joy	Expressive (the speaker expresses his gratitude to God for the joy)
42	Thank You for pain	Expressive (the speaker expresses his gratitude to God for the pain)

For the Table 3, it can be understood that the lyrics in line 7-10, line 23-26, line 36, line 38-42 express the feeling. The expression is gratitude to the God. Next, In the Table 4, it can be seen about the findings of speech act classification of “directive”.

Table 4: speech act classification of “directive”

Line	Song Lyrics	Speech Act Classification
12	Don't fuss and fight	Directive (it is a directive utterance because the speaker requests us not to be fuss and fight)
13	Let's us unite	Directive (the speaker orders us to unite)
14	We've got one life so, let's make it right	Directive (the speaker commands us to do the right thing because we have been given a life)
21	It's for me to get wiser	Directive (disappointment offers the speaker more patient)
22	Got to work harder, in the end it will get better	Directive (the speaker advices us to work harder so the life will be better)
28	Don't fuss and fight	Directive (it is a directive utterance because the speaker requests us not to be fuss and fight)
29	Let's us unite	Directive (the speaker orders us to unite)
30	We've got one life so, let's make it right	Directive (the speaker commands us to do the right thing as gratitude to God)
32	If you got life, then give God praise	Directive (the speaker orders us to worship God for having been given life)
34	You can't have faith and don't wanna work, get up off the seat and put that brain to work	Directive (the speaker commands us to get up and work)
44	Don't fuss and fight	Directive (it is directive utterance because the speaker requests us not to be fuss and fight)
45	Let's us unite	Directive (the speaker orders us to unite)
46	We've got one life so, let's make it right	Directive (the speaker commands us to do the right thing as gratitude to God)

For the Table 4, it can be understood that the lyrics in line 12-14, line 21-22, line 28-30, line 32, line 34, line 44-46 for directive utterance. It is for command or order us to do something. Next, In the Table 5, it can be seen about the findings of speech act classification of “commissive”.

Table 5: speech act classification of “commissive”

Line	Song Lyrics	Speech Act Classification
2	Many people died and never saw this day, so another day I live I'll appreciate	Commissive (the speaker promises God to appreciate his life)
3	Don't ever wanna act, too high and mighty	Commissive (the speaker warns himself and also the listener not to be arrogant)
4	Cause tommorow I can fall down on my face	Commissive (the speaker threatens himself if he is arrogant, he will fall down on his face)
5	So in everything Lord, I give You praise	Commissive (the speaker promises God to always worship God in every condition)
17	I will fear no evil, won't be dismayed	Commissive (the speaker promises not to be afraid of evil and will not be disappointed)

For the Table 5, it can be understood that the lyrics in line 2, line 3, line 4, line 5 and line 17 commits the speaker to some future action. The condition is about expressive of

commitment. Furthermore to see the form of commissive speech act, it can be seen in the Table 6 below.

Table 6: the form of commissive speech act

Speech Act Classification	The form of commissive speech act
Commissive (the speaker promises God to appreciate his life)	Promise
Commissive (the speaker warns himself and also the listener not to be arrogant)	Warn
Commissive (the speaker threatens himself if he is arrogant, he will fall down on his face)	Threat
Commissive (the speaker promises God to always worship God in every condition)	Promise
Commissive (the speaker promises not to be afraid of evil and will not be disappointed)	Promise

From the data above, it can be seen what type of speech act appears in the lyrics and the form of commissive speech act. From the lyrics, it can be distinguished five types of speech acts: representative, declarative, directive, expressive, and commissive. And in the next table, the frequency of the speech act that appears in the song lyrics can be seen.

Table 7: the frequency of speech acts

No	Speech Act Classification	Frequency	Percentage
1	Representative	10	21,3 %
2	Declarative	5	10,6 %
3	Directive	13	27,7 %
4	Expressive	14	29,8 %
5	Commissive	5	10,6 %
Total		47	100 %

According to table 7, the commissive speech act appears five times (10.6%) in the song lyrics, with expressive appearing sixteen times (29.8%), directive appearing thirteen times (27.7%), representative appearing ten times (21.3%), and declarative appearing five times (10.6%). Table 6 shows that the forms of commissive speech act appear in the song lyrics. The result of the data is presented in the table below.

Table 8: frequency and percentage of the form of commissive

No	Form of Commissive	frequency	percentage
1	Promise	3	60 %
2	Warn	1	20 %
3	Threat	1	20 %
Total		5	100 %

Based on the analysis, the most frequently occurring act of commissive speech is a promise utterance. Promise utterance occurs three times (60%), followed by warn and threat utterances, which occur once (20% for warn utterance and once (20%) for threat utterance. Based on the

data from lines 2, 5, and 17, the song contains a promise utterance. Line 2 is based on the expression “*Many people died and never saw this day, so another day I live, I’ll appreciate.*” The speaker shows his gratitude for being given the chance to live, and he promises to appreciate the opportunity. In line 5, based on the utterance “*So in everything, Lord, I give You praise,*” The speaker promises to always worship God, no matter what. Line 17 concludes with the promise utterance, “*I will fear no evil, I will not be dismayed.*” The speaker promises not to be afraid of evil and will not be disappointed when death comes. The researcher found this warning utterance in line 3 of the song lyrics. The utterance is “*Don’t ever want to act too high and mighty.*” The speaker warns himself and the listener not to be arrogant because the wheel of life is always turning. Sometimes we are above, sometimes below. The last form of commissive speech act that found in line 4 from the song lyrics is threat utterance. “*Cause tommorow I can fall down on my face*”. The speaker threatens himself if he is arrogant, he will fall down due to his own pride.

CONCLUSION

According to the data, the commissive speech act appears five times (10.6%), followed by expressive, which appears fourteen times (29.8%), the most, directive, which appears thirteen times (27.7%), representative, which appears ten times (21.3%), and declarative, which appears five times (10.6%). Meanwhile, the analysis revealed three types of compulsive speech: promise, warn, and threat. Promise is the form of speech act that appears the most in the song’s lyrics. It appears three times (60%), is followed by warn (one time (20%)), and the final threat (also one time (20%)). This research is useful for analyzing speech acts found in songs, movies, and even everyday conversations. So that people do not misinterpret the intent of someone’s utterance. In other words, there are five types of speech act based on Searle’s theory including representative, declarative, directive, expressive, and commissive. Although at first the researcher wanted to analyze the commissive speech acts in the song “Beautiful Day” by Jermaine Edwards, after being analyzed, it turns out that the speech act that appears the most frequently is the expressive speech act. Because in the song, there are many expressions of the speaker’s or the singer’s gratitude to God. For the further researcher, commissive speech acts can be analysed in a novel.

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