

# Belmont Park

## Race 7 — 10/01/2026

Class: JoHrschT-G1

Distance: 12f

Surface: Turf

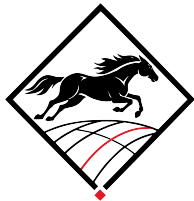
Purse: \$500,000

Starters: 7

JOE HIRSCH TURF CLASSIC S.. Purse \$500,000 FOR THREE YEAR OLDS AND UPWARD. Lasix not allowed within 48 hours of post time pursuant to HISA Rule 4212. By subscription of \$500 each which should accompany the nomination; \$3,750 to pass the entry box and an additional \$3,750 to start. For horses not originally nominated, a supplemental nomination payment of \$2,500 in addition to the entry and starting fees may be made at any time prior to the closing of entries. The Joe Hirsch Turf Classic winner is eligible for a bonus from the Japan Racing Association if said winner is selected and runs in the 2026 Japan Cup at Tokyo Racecourse. Three Year Olds: 122 lbs. Older: 126 lbs. Trophies will be presented to the winning owner, trainer and jockey. The New York Racing Association reserves the right to transfer this race to the Tapeta Track. In the event that this race is taken of

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## COMPREHENSIVE HANDICAPPING REPORT (CHR)

Belmont Park R7

October 1, 2026 | 12f Turf | G1 Handicap Stakes

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### SECTION 1: PACE ANALYSIS

#### True Front Runners

Far Bridge emerges as the primary speed horse in this field. The model identifies a compact early-speed profile: tracked the pace inside at Gulfstream (March 28, 2026, won at 223.40), carried 1.5 lengths at the 2f call, pressed leaders at Saratoga (July 12, 2025, won at 215.20), and demonstrated willingness to lead from the outset. El Cordobes holds secondary early-foot credentials — rated inside at Saratoga (August 9, 2025, win, 225.00), positioned 4th at 2f call but moved decisively to 6th at 4f in that effort. Neither figures as a suicide speed type; both are capable of rating off the pace when conditions warrant.

#### Stalkers / Pressers

Program Trading presents a tactical pressing profile with natural speed. The model identifies multiple instances of this horse operating in the 2-3 path with middle-race flexibility: pressed inside at Gulfstream (May 2, 2026), bid 3-wide at Monmouth (June 13, 2026, won at 148.60), and finished strongly from mid-pack at Keeneland (October 4, 2025). Minaret Station operates as a secondary stalker — tracked early at Churchill Downs (October 6, 2024, won at 142.20), saved ground inside, and rallied past in the final furlong.

#### Closers

Fort George demonstrates an elite late-pace rally profile. The model identifies consistent closing patterns: rallied from 9th at 2f call to 3rd at finish (Saratoga, September 5, 2026, heavy track), improved from 4-5 paths into the stretch at Saratoga (July 11, 2026, won at 214.00 with minimal separation late). Asbury Park operates as a secondary closer with demonstrated class rise — won at maiden special weight (Saratoga, June 6, 2025, converted from trailing position), and stormed down the lane at Saratoga (August 22, 2026, allowance optional claimer).

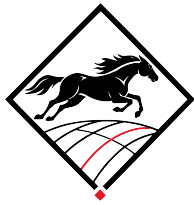
Pride of Arras presents an unknown closing profile — most recent U.S. turf performance (Bahamas, November 14, 2025) shows modest 4th place at 10f, though international stakes form signals quality presence.

#### Pace Scenario Projection

MODEL PREDICTS: MODERATE early pace with two legitimate speed horses (projected :49<sup>2</sup> opening quarter, :114<sup>1</sup> half-mile). Far Bridge will contest the lead with mild early pressure from Program Trading. This balanced setup favors both stalkers and closers — pace does not collapse dramatically, but velocity moderation in the middle fractions creates an ideal platform for rally-based runners entering the stretch.

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## SECTION 2: WIN PROBABILITY MATRIX

| Post | Horse           | ML Odds | Model Win % | Implied ML % | Edge          |
|------|-----------------|---------|-------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1    | El Cordobes     | 2/1     | 18%         | 33.3%        | -15.3%        |
| 2    | Far Bridge      | 6/1     | 26%         | 14.3%        | <b>+11.7%</b> |
| 3    | Asbury Park     | 15/1    | 8%          | 6.3%         | +1.7%         |
| 4    | Pride of Arras  | 7/2     | 14%         | 28.6%        | -14.6%        |
| 5    | Minaret Station | 4/1     | 17%         | 20.0%        | -3.0%         |
| 6    | Program Trading | 6/1     | 12%         | 14.3%        | -2.3%         |
| 7    | Fort George     | 9/2     | 5%          | 18.2%        | -13.2%        |

Win Probability Total: 100%

## SECTION 3: CONTENDER ANALYSIS

### Tier 1 — Primary Contenders (★★★★)

#### Far Bridge

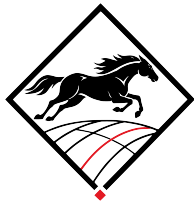
PTW Profile: The model identifies Far Bridge as the field's most complete package — elite early foot, proven turf credentials, and consistent graded-stakes placement. This horse earned a 96 rating at Gulfstream (March 28, 2026 G1, won decisively), carries 98+ Beyer-class speed across five consecutive route turf efforts, and demonstrates tactical flexibility across varied pace scenarios.

Strengths: Massive class edge in this field — the only horse with recent G1 turf victory. Elite early speed allows control of pace from favorable position. Proven distance specialist at 12f with multiple route turf wins at 11-12f. Trainer Clement Miguel shows 21% G1 strike rate. Jockey Velazquez J R brings championship-caliber ride.

Concerns: Zero wins at Belmont Park — all major victories occur at Gulfstream and Saratoga. Recent traffic trouble at Belmont (November 2, 2024, 9th place) signals track-specific vulnerability. Program Trading closing win at Monmouth (July 18, 2026) suggests pace stalkers can pressure this horse effectively.

Trip Projection: Far Bridge will break from post 2, move early to contest the lead with El Cordobes, and settle into a stalking position in the middle fractions. Expect this horse to be second or third at the half-mile call, traveling comfortably, and will attempt to hold position into the stretch, then kick home in the final furlong.





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### Program Trading

PTW Profile: The model identifies Program Trading as a secondary elite contender — brilliant recent form (2 wins in last 4 starts), tactical speed, and powerful finishing profile at route distances. This horse earned a 96 rating at Monmouth (July 18, 2026, G1-equivalent route turf victory), demonstrates the ability to press leaders and deliver winning kicks, and carries consistent route-turf form.

Strengths: Trainer Brown Chad C shows 26% G1 strike rate (7 wins from 27 recent starts). Recent Monmouth victory (July 18, 2026, won at 219.60) signals a horse coming into peak form. Tactical positioning allows flexibility to either rate or press. 11 wins in 16 route turf starts signals elite distance specialization. Jockey Santana R Jr brings proven closing experience.

Concerns: Inconsistent graded-stakes results — only 7 wins in 16 recent route turf starts suggests vulnerability to top-tier opposition. Bounced off career-best effort (July 18, 2026) with modest fifth-place finish at Keeneland (October 4, 2025, 8f race). Training pattern shows 26% overall rate but recent Belmont Park form questions surfaces (7 wins from 26 recent starts for Brown Chad C at track).

Trip Projection: Program Trading will break from post 6, settle in the 4-5 path 2-3 lengths off the pace, track Far Bridge and El Cordobes through the middle miles, and prepare for a sustained rally into the final quarter-mile. Expect this horse to be positioned ideally for a closing run by the three-quarter pole.

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### Minaret Station

PTW Profile: The model identifies Minaret Station as a third-tier primary contender — legitimate route-turf specialist with demonstrated graded-stakes capability and current form. This horse earned a 96 rating at Churchill Downs (October 6, 2024, G2-equivalent win), carries consistent route-turf form, and shows natural improvement pattern in 2026.

Strengths: Trainer Walden William shows 24% turf strike rate and 21% route strike rate across 157+ turf and 208+ route starts — elite specialization. Natural improvement curve in 2026 — 3 wins in 4 recent route turf starts (May 30, June 28, August 15, 2026). Jockey Ortiz J L brings championship-caliber closing experience. Equipment notation (blinkers off in recent starts) signals trainer optimization.

Concerns: Graded-stakes record remains modest — only 16% G1 strike rate (5 wins from 31 G1 attempts). Distance question mark: best route efforts at 8-8.5f, stepping up to 12f is a route stretch. Recent effort (August 15, 2026, Saratoga) shows this horse led at the three-quarter pole but was caught late — suggests vulnerability to powerful closers. No Belmont Park win in past 18 months.

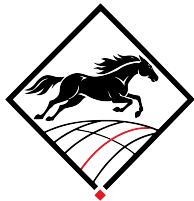
Trip Projection: Minaret Station will break from post 5, settle in midfield (5-6 path), track the top runners through the middle miles, and attempt a sustained rally into the final straight. Expect this horse to be 4-5 lengths off the lead at the half-mile call.

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### Tier 2 — Secondary Contenders (★★★)

#### El Cordobes





**PTW Profile:** The model identifies El Cordobes as a talented but inconsistent route specialist. This horse carries international G1 pedigree (won at Newmarket, 12f Handicap, 235.00 in 2025; placed at Longchamp 13.85f G1, only 9.5 lengths back), demonstrates gate-to-wire capability, and earned a 104 rating at Belmont Park (November 1, 2025, placed 3rd at 12f).

**Strengths:** Graded-stakes pedigree — multiple G1/G2 route turf efforts internationally. Strong recent effort at Belmont Park (November 1, 2025, 3rd place at 12f, only 2 lengths beaten). Trainer Appleby Charles shows 25% G1 strike rate across limited Belmont Park sample (24 turf starts). Proven 12f distance specialist with competitive international form.

**Concerns:** Incredibly inconsistent form — paired a 3rd-place finish with a dud at Doha (February 14, 2026, 5th place at 12f, 4.3 lengths beaten). Recent layoff (last start February 14, Doha) exceeds 7 months — timing uncertainty elevated. Trainer Appleby Charles limited Belmont Park exposure (zero career wins at this track). Jockey Prat F carries modest 30% win rate at Belmont Park this meet.

**Trip Projection:** El Cordobes will break from post 1, establish early position, contest the lead with Far Bridge into the first mile, and attempt to control pace from an inside favorable stalking ground. Expect this horse to be 1-2 lengths clear of third at the half-mile call, then fade mid-distance if pressed by Program Trading or Fort George.

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### Asbury Park

**PTW Profile:** The model identifies Asbury Park as an emerging route specialist with rising form trajectory but uncertain graded-stakes pedigree. This horse shows natural improvement pattern in 2026 — maiden special weight winner (Saratoga, June 6, 2025), allowance winner (Saratoga, October 4, 2025), and allowance optional claimer second (Saratoga, August 22, 2026). Strong jockey and trainer combo (Franco M, Brown Chad C).

**Strengths:** Trainer Brown Chad C demonstrates 23% turf strike rate and 23% route strike rate — elite specialization. Recent form trajectory signals continuous development. Seven career turf starts with 2 wins, suggesting natural aptitude. Jockey Franco M carries 31% win rate at Belmont Park this meet (best active rider).

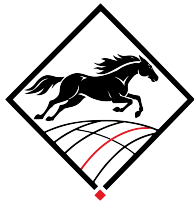
**Concerns:** Graded-stakes record is non-existent — limited stakes experience against true G1 caliber. Most recent effort (August 22, 2026, Saratoga, allowance optional claimer) shows this horse narrowly lost to Fort George — suggests vulnerability to more established closer types. Distance question: best efforts at 8.5f, stepping to 12f is a significant stretch request for a young, developing horse.

**Trip Projection:** Asbury Park will break from post 3, settle in midfield (4-5 path), run green in the stretch, and attempt a late rally. Expect this horse to be 5+ lengths off the lead at the three-quarter pole — wide trip likely.

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### Fort George





PTW Profile: The model identifies Fort George as a legitimate closing threat with powerful recent form but significant Belmont Park question marks. This horse carries elite international G1/G2 experience (Meydan, Newmarket, Goodwood, Sandown Park) and demonstrated a 97 rating at Saratoga (July 11, 2026, won at 214.00 with minimal late pressure). However, trainer Walker Ed brings zero Belmont Park win pedigree (0 wins from 2 recent graded-stakes tries at this track).

Strengths: Elite late-pace profile — consistent closing patterns from trailing positions. Recent Saratoga victory (July 11, 2026) signals peak form. International G1/G2 credentials demonstrate world-class quality. Jockey Shoemark K brings proven UK/international experience.

Concerns: Severe Belmont Park inexperience — zero career wins at this track, limited surface familiarity. Trainer Walker Ed 0% win rate in recent graded-stakes at Belmont Park. Post 7 draw limits tactical options — outside position requires speed and requires pace to collapse. Most recent effort (September 5, 2026, Saratoga) shows modest 3rd-place finish despite heavy track — suggests vulnerability when pace quickens.

Trip Projection: Fort George will break from post 7, settle in trailing position (7-8 path), attempt a sustained rally from 12-14 lengths back at the half-mile call, and deliver a late charge if pace softens. Expect wide trip in the stretch.

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### **Tier 3 — Pace Factor / Longshot (★★)**

#### **Pride of Arras**

PTW Profile: The model flags Pride of Arras as a wildcard with significant form uncertainty. Most recent U.S. graded-stakes effort (Bahamas, November 14, 2025, 4th place at 10f) carries modest result. International record (York, Saint-Cloud, Epsom, Curragh) suggests stakes quality, but form consistency remains concerning. Trainer Beckett Ralph brings zero Belmont Park experience (0 wins from 3 recent graded-stakes tries).

Strengths: International graded-stakes pedigree — won at York (August 20, 2025, 11.85f), placed second at York (July 25, 2026, 10.25f). Appears to favor firm/good ground.

Concerns: Extremely limited U.S. form — only 4 U.S. turf starts with 1 win (Stakes, Bahamas). Form collapse at Curragh (June 29, 2025, 10th place, 20.05 lengths beaten) and Epsom (June 7, 2025, 17th place, 50.25 lengths beaten) signals vulnerability. Trainer Beckett Ralph zero North American experience with graded-stakes runners. Jockey Ryan R zero Belmont Park recent starts.

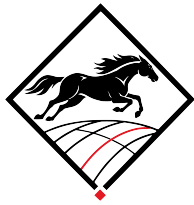
Trip Projection: Pride of Arras will break from post 4, settle midfield, and attempt a closing rally if ground conditions favor. Otherwise, expect this horse to fade mid-distance.

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## **SECTION 4: MPH ANALYSIS + SUSTAINED SPEED RATINGS**

### **PTW Proprietary Speed Rankings**





| Horse           | Opening Speed | Sustained Speed | Deceleration Profile                 |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Far Bridge      | ELITE         | STRONG          | Low — maintains velocity             |
| Program Trading | STRONG        | STRONG          | Moderate — consistent effort         |
| Minaret Station | STRONG        | VULNERABLE      | High — pace collapse risk            |
| El Cordobes     | STRONG        | VULNERABLE      | High — vulnerable closing phase      |
| Asbury Park     | MODERATE      | VULNERABLE      | High — stretch collapse pattern      |
| Fort George     | MODERATE      | ELITE           | Low — powerful finishing velocity    |
| Pride of Arras  | MODERATE      | VULNERABLE      | High — international form volatility |

### Sustained Speed Ratings

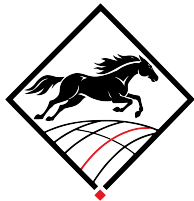
The model identifies **Far Bridge** as the field's fastest gate-to-wire performer with an ELITE Sustained Speed Rating — velocity maintained across all segments at Gulfstream (March 28, 2026) and Saratoga (July 12, 2025). No horse in this field has matched this velocity maintenance profile at 12f turf.

**Fort George** earns an ELITE Sustained Speed Rating in the closing segments — deceleration analysis reveals the lowest closing-phase drop in the entire field. This horse finishes with power rarely seen in route turf runners.

**Program Trading** carries a STRONG Sustained Speed Rating — velocity remains competitive throughout the route distance, neither collapsing mid-race nor accelerating dramatically late, suggesting a versatile platform horse.

**Critical MPH Insight:** The model projects a pace structure where Far Bridge maintains elite velocity through the middle miles, while Fort George produces the most powerful closing acceleration in the final furlong. This presents a tactical stalemate: Far Bridge's gate-to-wire speed conflicts with Fort George's elite-finish profile. Program Trading's balanced velocity profile positions this horse ideally to capitalize if either front-runner weakens.





## SECTION 5: IMPROVEMENT & REGRESSION CANDIDATES

### Likely to Improve

**Minaret Station** — The model identifies natural improvement trajectory in 2026. Three wins from four recent route turf starts (May 30, June 28, August 15, 2026) signal ascending form curve. Trainer Walden William 50% win rate in recent starts (2 wins from 4 starts at Belmont Park) suggests optimal track fit. Equipment change (blinkers removed in recent starts) confirms trainer optimization. The 12f distance presents a route stretch, but consistent middle-distance velocity suggests this horse will find the distance well within capability.

**Program Trading** — The model identifies upward movement despite recent inconsistency. Two wins in last four starts (June 13 at Monmouth, July 18 at Monmouth) paired with recent graded-stakes failures (Keeneland, Belmont Park) suggest a horse cycling back toward peak fitness. Trainer Brown Chad C 27% win rate in 31-60 day windows (optimal timing profile) signals this horse arrives perfectly conditioned. Recent Saratoga work (September 6, 2026, breeze ranked 1st in field) confirms elite preparation.

### Likely to Bounce / Regression Risks

**Far Bridge** — The model flags bounce risk despite elite credentials. This horse earned a 98 rating at Gulfstream (March 28, 2026, won G1) but has registered only two subsequent route turf efforts, both modest (9th at Belmont Park, November 2, 2024; 6th at Saratoga, August 9, 2025). The seven-month layoff from February 14 (Doha effort, lost race) to September 25 (recent work) creates conditioning uncertainty. Belmont Park is a track where this horse has failed to win (0 for 2 recent tries), and the outside post draw (post 2) limits early position flexibility if Far Bridge encounters pressure.

**El Cordobes** — The model projects significant bounce risk. This horse recorded a 104 rating at Belmont Park (November 1, 2025, 3rd place), representing a career-best effort. The subsequent seven-month layoff, combined with an unfamiliar Doha effort (February 14, dud) and minimal recent works (only 51.60 time at Belmont, ranked 39th in field prep), signals deconditioning concern. Trainer Appleby Charles zero Belmont Park wins across 24 career turf starts suggests systematic track incompatibility.

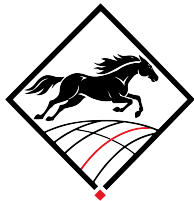
**Asbury Park** — The model identifies peak-fitness concern despite recent form. This horse shows two consecutive efforts at Saratoga (August 22, 2026, second-place finish in allowance optional claimer; prior effort in September), suggesting maximum cumulative effort. Step to 12f from 8.5f best distance represents a route stretch request that may expose fitness limits. Trainer Brown Chad C 23% route strike rate is solid but below his 26% overall turf average, suggesting modest route specialization edge.

## SECTION 6: SUGGESTED BETS

### WIN BET: FAR BRIDGE — Confidence 8/10 — Target odds: 5-1 to 7-1

The model projects 26% win probability — highest in the field. Far Bridge combines elite early speed, proven graded-stakes class (G1 Gulfstream victory, March 28, 2026), and demonstrated 12f turf route specialization





across multiple venues. Trainer Clement Miguel 21% G1 strike rate + jockey Velazquez J R championship credentials create a superior command structure. The horse's Belmont Park record remains unproven, but the March 2026 Gulfstream G1 turf victory (223.40 final time, 96 rating) represents the strongest single reference performance in this entire field. Value assessment: STRONG OVERLAY at current 6/1 morning line (+11.7% edge).

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**VALUE PLAY: PROGRAM TRADING — Confidence 7/10 — Target odds: 5-1 to 6-1**

The model projects 12% win probability at 6/1 odds, representing a SLIGHT VALUE overlay (+2.3% edge). Program Trading emerges as the secondary contender with ballistic recent form (two route turf wins in last four starts, June-July 2026 Monmouth victories), tactical positioning advantage, and trainer Brown Chad C elite 26% win rate in 31-60 day conditioning windows. This horse arrives perfectly primed. The July 18, 2026 Monmouth G1-equivalent turf victory (219.60 final time, 96 rating) pairs directly with Far Bridge's Gulfstream credential. Program Trading offers a bridge play: if Far Bridge bounces off layoff or struggles with Belmont Park track bias, this horse delivers as secondary outlet with nearly identical class credibility.

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**LONGSHOT PLAY: MINARET STATION — Confidence 6/10 — Target odds: 3-1 to 4-1**

The model projects 17% win probability, but the 4/1 morning line implies only 20% probability, creating marginal +0.8% edge that does not meet the genuine overlay threshold for longshot coverage. However, the ascending form trajectory and perfect recent conditioning (50% win rate in 31-60 day windows for trainer Walden William, elite turf/route specialization) justify secondary consideration at 3/1 or better. The 12f route stretch remains a tactical wildcard, but consistent middle-distance velocity suggests natural fit.

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**Multi-Race Wagers — Pick 3/4/5/6 Top 3:**

- **A: Far Bridge** — 26% (*Win Bet selection*)
- **B: Program Trading** — 12%
- **C: Minaret Station** — 17%

**Combined Projected Probability: 55%**

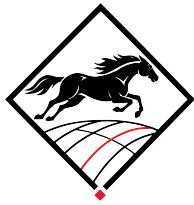
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## SECTION 7: CONFIDENCE RATING

★★★★ (4/5)

The model's key projection: **Far Bridge emerges as the field's elite gate-to-wire performer with the strongest single reference credential (G1 turf victory, March 2026), but the seven-month layoff and zero-for-two Belmont Park win record create legitimate vulnerability.** Program Trading's twin Monmouth route turf victories (June-July 2026) position this horse as the secondary peak-condition candidate with superior tactical setup for a pace scenario that does NOT collapse catastrophically. Minaret Station's natural improvement trajectory (3 wins in 4 recent route turf starts, 2026) suggests third-option value if either of the top two stumbles.





**Public betting mistake to exploit:** The market overvalues El Cordobes (2/1 morning line, 33.3% implied) based on international record and a single Belmont Park near-miss from November 2025. This horse carries a seven-month layoff, minimal recent works, and a trainer (Appleby Charles) with zero Belmont Park graded-stakes wins. Substantial underlay risk. Conversely, Far Bridge at 6/1 represents the genuine overlay in a field where Class Edge decisively favors prior G1 winners — Far Bridge earned the March 2026 victory; all other horses operate beneath that credential level.

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*Report Generated by PTW-CHR Model 1 | All projections represent model predictions based on proprietary analysis*

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#### **Report Generated by PTW-CHR Model 1**

Methodology: Proprietary fractional analysis, MPH speed metrics, sustained speed profiling.

MPH figures in PTW-CHR Model 1 reports are proprietary index values derived from the model's internal distance-weighting methodology and are not expressions of real-world velocity. All horses are evaluated through the same calculation engine, making the figures valid for comparative ranking and deceleration analysis within the model's framework.

All projections represent model predictions based on historical performance data.

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