



## Matchpoint

*Elise Sax*

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Lovably troublesome Gladie Burger runs into sizzling danger and a fiery love triangle in the second installment of Elise Sax's hilarious and sexy Matchmaker romance series.

Since joining the family matchmaking business run by her eccentric Grandma Zelda, Gladie is always looking for love. But when an unbearable toothache knocks her out of commission and into the dentist's chair, she prays only for relief. No such luck. Emerging from an anesthetic haze, Gladie awakes to find that not only is her tooth still throbbing, but her dentist is dead—and the lead suspect in the murder, office receptionist Belinda, just so happens to be Gladie's first real client. Now it's up to Gladie to find Belinda a man and keep her from being locked up behind bars.

As if that weren't enough distraction, two gorgeous men are vying for Gladie's attention: Spencer, the playboy chief of police, and Holden, Gladie's secretive, gorgeously muscled neighbor. Still, Gladie's not complaining about having a helping hand or two when the case leads her to a dangerously bizarre cult. She may have met her match—and if she's not careful, it could be her last.

## Matchpoint Details

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Author : Elise Sax

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## From Reader Review Matchpoint for online ebook

### Stephanie says

MATCHPOINT Caught Between a Man Of Mystery and a Horn Dog

Original Post: <http://fangswandsandfairydust.blogspot.com>...

I enjoyed MATCHPOINT, the second book in Elise Sax's Matchmaker series more than the first (AN AFFAIR TO DISMEMBER). The writing is tighter and more directed, the characters are also better developed. In the Is-it-Hot-in -Here-or-Do-I-Need-A-Cold-Drink department: The kettles on, but the water never quite gets up to boiling in the steamy romance department; it gets warm but no one gets any tea, if you get my drift....

Even with two beaus one who is a real mystery and another who is just hard, there's a lot of implication but not a lot of action. Gladie's love life begs the question of whether two men are better than one. I find one of the guys creepier than he is sexy and the other is just too much of a player.

Other than that there is a heaping helping of comedic silliness tinged with dead serious criminal mystery and a few good ounces of premonition by Grandma Zelda. In all adds up to an unusual, funny page turner with a cast of comic characters and a fantastically ridiculous plot.

I must note that "older women" (over 35 or so) are discussed -- Forty is not old, and Fifty is the new thirty. I am younger as an "old woman" of 52 than I ever was young. I keep getting the feeling I'm going to find out that Gladie's grandmother is younger than I am! This is becoming a bookish pet peeve for me -- writers, editors and publishers need to get with the program.

Each chapter starts off with a bit of matchmaking advice from Gladie's grandmother Zelda with whom Gladie is working. Sometimes the connection is easy to see and other times it is more subtle. I have asked Elise a question about this and she'll be my guest here on AUGUST 14 as part of her virtual book tour with BEWITCHING BOOK TOURS. I also ask several of her characters a few questions. I am looking forward to the answers. So, mark your calendars and include this link which will become active on August 14 (<http://fangswandsandfairydust.blogspot.com>)!

Sax's obvious writing influences are Janet Evanovich, with a small town feel like Fannie Flagg. It seems likely she's also read Mary Janice Davidson. If you like clean-ish romance with a little magic and enjoy these writers you will, I think, enjoy this book. It is best read as a series in order. I do recommend this series as a whole because it's getting even funnier, and some time soon, someone will get some.

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### Judy says

This is the second book in the Matchmaker Series by Elise Sax. I was lucky enough to be able to immediately read this one after reading An Affair to Dismember, the first book in the series. I went into this book with extremely high expectations, and am happy to say that not only did Ms. Sax meet them, she exceeded them.

Matchpoint starts about a month after the end of An Affair to Dismember. Gladie is sitting in Bird

Gonzalez's beauticians chair, getting talked into having the Ecuadoran Erect applied to her hair to straighten it. Once this is done, Gladie looks like a whole different person. So much so that most people don't recognize her... at all.

Gladie has made only 1 other match since the one in the last book. But things are looking up, since she has had a customer specifically ask for her. Belinda is the receptionist at Bliss Dental, and though Gladie has a pathological fear of any medical personnel, she heads to Bliss Dental office to meet with Belinda. On her way to her appointment with Belinda, Gladie comes across a group of people wearing backpacks and t-shirts about being taken by aliens. Little does she know how strange these strangers to their little town are going to get.

When Gladie gets to the dentist office, and meets Belinda, Gladie realizes that this match may be a little harder than she anticipated. Especially after she faints from the sight of a drill, wakes up in the dentist chair and is warned she has some serious cavities that need to be taken care of. And then while she is under the gas to get her teeth filled, someone kills the dentist. Belinda becomes a prime suspect and now not only does she want Gladie to match her up, but to prove she is innocent.

I don't know how the author plans on topping this book, but I can't wait to find out. This book kept me giggling and gasping out loud. All the characters from the first book are accounted for and just as uncontrollable as before. There is more of the love triangle between Gladie, Spencer and Holden, and things start to heat up. This was a fantastic sequel and well worth another 5 stars.

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### **Beth says**

Gladie Burger is a match maker in training. Some call her family witches, but her family believes they just have an extra sensory ability. In her eccentric ways, Grandma Zelda tries to help guide Gladie down the right path to the perfect matches.

Trouble is never in short supply in Gladie's home town and it seems Gladie finds her way into the center of it all. The town has been over run with an alien worshipping cult, creating havoc and alarming the towns folk. The sheriff has gotten himself into some Facebook relationship trouble and is hiding out from his knife wielding lovers in Gladie's bedroom, sexually harassing/tormenting her the whole time. Her hunky boyfriend Holden is being distant and aloof, and somehow knows the cult leader. Maybe the biggest problem is when Gladie wakes up from her dental anesthesia to find her dentist murdered and her the prime suspect.

Gladie really has a lot on her plate. She must find the perfect match for the dental assistant, clear her name of the murder and figure out who is the killer, discover what is going on with Holden and get the sheriff out of her bedroom. Maybe not in that order in probably in the most unorthodox way imaginable. She might have a better chance seeing a donkey fly.

This was an absolutely hilarious parade of a quirky small town. Be prepared to laugh out loud at the mayhem that is called Gladie's life.

I loved this book it was a refreshing read, bringing some much needed hilarity to my day. If you are a fan of Stephanie Plum's adventures you're going to love Gladie Burger. *Matchpoint* has a strong plot, a steamy love triangle, wonderfully interesting characters and brilliantly executed humor.

This ARC copy of *Matchpoint* was given to me by Random House Publishing Group - Ballantine in exchange for a honest review. This book is set for publication July 30, 2013.

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Author's Website

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### **Nora says**

I would have to say that this is easily the most spastic book I have personally EVER read! It's here, it's there, and at the end I was left dazed and confused--reeling and wondering what just happened here. Highlights include: a dentist being murdered, his face cut off (yes, you read that correctly!), and left in his own chair. Then he falls onto our heroine who is bloodied, subjected to police car sex by crazy people, and peed on by neighborhood boys. All in all, I just have to PASS!!

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### **Jessica Figueroa says**

Gladies Burger works as a match maker for her grand mothers business. Lately shes been in a lot of pain and reluctantly decided to go to the dentist to take care of it. While under the gas to get everything fixed she finds herself in a sticky situation when she finds that shes in pain and her dentist is dead and faceless. As soon as help come she ends up getting cuffed as a suspect. The town is getting flooded by a group of crazy cult follower and there is a bunch of suspects who can be the killer. Gladies is trying to do what she can to put it behind her and try to find a match for Belinda, one the secretaries for the dentist, but for some reason everyone seems to want to talk to her about what happened to the dentist.

At first when I took up this tour for this book I didn't realize that this book was the second book. I was a bit worried that I might miss something or be confused about a lot of things going on because I missed the first book but that wasn't the case. If you readers want to check this book out without reading the first do so. But I

would recommend that you check out An Affair To Dismember first.

I really enjoyed this book and now want to check out the first book. I loved all the characters. Poor Gladie she just seems to always be at the wrong place at the wrong times. I really loved the love triangle going on. I want her to be with Spencer because like it mentioned before in the book he finds a kind a spark with him that she doesn't feel like Holden. But Spencer is a known player so that's a negative. I want her to be with Holden because he is kind, but the negative was that I found him very secretive and found him kind of sketchy. But then again I know how this book ends so it would explain a lot and the fact that I didn't read the first book which maybe would talk more about him. So I think I'll make up my mind who I like more for Gladies when I read the first book. I liked the chemistry between Gladies and both the guys.

I loved this book it was funny, kept me interested with many mishaps and a mystery that kept me guessing. I'll be sure to check out the first book now that I've read this book. Highly Recommend!

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### **Jilly says**

I'm loving this series. It is kinda the right timing. When you've been reading serial killer books and binge-watching Dexter for the past month, you can get a little teeny bit dark. I'm going to start listening to Marilyn Manson and buy a dog collar for myself if I keep this up.

To prevent this major fashion disaster, I needed a hilarious series in my life, and this one is delivering.

We have Gladys, our lovable friend who would totally fit in with most of us. She wants to eat all of the things that are bad for her and keep a perfect figure, she can't tame her hair, and she has to check if she is still completely clothed after kissing a hot guy because she thinks her clothing might have melted off. Also, she ovulated.

Gladys is dating her hot neighbor, but the local police chief is hiding out in her bedroom because he was juggling too many women at once and they have formed an angry mob.

Gladys is supposed to be a match-maker, but she has more luck finding every dead body in town. This time, it's her dentist. Now, you really can't blame someone for killing a dentist. They are basically sadists with better magazines. (Thank you, Seinfeld)

### **#SorryNotSorry**

The philandering police chief wishes Gladys would stay out of his investigations, but trouble and clues just seem to gravitate towards her. Also, it is complete mayhem in the town right now because a hippy cult group has swarmed in and set up a yurt camp in the park. They are waiting for their alien overlords to come and take them away. They are keeping the local police pretty busy. Not to mention that the police force aren't

really the sharpest tools in the shed in the first place. They have been turning off their police radios because they are tired of listening to it.

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This book is basically a madcap comedy romance/mystery. It is perfect for lifting your mood, but won't feed your intellectual need for literature. Take it for what it is and you'll have fun.

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### **Lisette says**

Ever since she moved to her grandmother's house, Gladie Burger's life has never been boring. She lives next to a very gorgeous guy, one she dates on occasion, and has been unwillingly privy to a murder. Since then, she's done her best to cope with the incident, and is looking forward to the rest of her life. So much so, that she's agreed to an unwanted, yet oddly welcome, makeover from the local hairdresser.

In Gladie's mind, it'll help her feel a tad better about things in general. After all, she helped Spencer nab the killer, and set all wrongs to right. Deep inside, she's glad that things are said and done, yet she can't deny that the city's playboy cop holds a place in her own heart. Something, she realizes, she's loath to admit. Despite that fact, she's determined to live a happy life with the lovely Holden, who is now her boyfriend, by her side.

An impromptu trip to the dentist sends Gladie's life into another unexpected tailspin. Waking up from going under the gas, she soon realizes that everything is not as it should be. Her dentist is now dead, and she finds herself in the middle of a murder once more. As if things couldn't get any worse, she has to contend with the enigmatic Spencer, who now needs a helping hand.

Gladie's heart tells her that she shouldn't get involved in whatever Spencer needs, yet she can't seem to help herself when he's around. It's hard to resist a man in need. After all, he is the chief of police, he can get things done where she can't, right? Or so she thinks. As the situation continues to spiral out of control, she finds herself smack-dab in the middle of a situation that seems to grow bigger by the second. Not to mention that she now has two men vying for her affections.

This new story in the Matchmaker series was honestly a keeper! We catch another glimpse of Gladie and her hectic life ever since she came to live with her grandmother. Her unconventional life leads her in every direction as she does her best to bring people together in hopes of their having their happily ever after. Granted, not everything she does is hunky-dory, but she's determined to make the best of any situation she finds herself.

Elise has done a great job in continuing where the first book, *An Affair To Dismember* left off. If you haven't read that one yet, you should. While *Matchpoint* is also a standalone novel, it also does reference certain things that happened in the first book. Full of comedic value and certain situations that will leave you in tears, (But in a good way!), this book will not disappoint! I'm avidly look forward to what comes next for this wonderful series!

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## **Jess says**

Review posted: Happily Ever After - Reads

Blog rating C+

Gladie's back and her life is crazier than ever. She's still struggling with becoming a matchmaker like her Grandma, but she's giving it all she has and she's determined to match up her latest client, the receptionist at the local dentist's office, because she spent all her money on a hair straightening treatment and now her cell phone bill is overdue. Yup, it's just another day in the life of Gladie. But when the dentist is killed during Gladie's dreaded appointment to take care of her cavities, she finds herself right in the middle of the investigation. Add in a cult-like group that's invaded her town and is going up against the locals, the police chief, Spencer, hiding out in Gladie's bedroom because of some unfortunate Facebook status updates and her sort of-but-not really boyfriend Holden who's gone MIA, things are insane from the first page.

This was one of those stories that at first, I wasn't sure what to think, but the more I read the more I found myself enjoying the shenanigans that Gladie found herself in the middle of. The murder storyline is a "who done it" and Gladie doesn't really want to be a part of it but she always finds herself right there anyway. Whether it's being in the office the night the dentist is killed, trying to help her client, the receptionist, stay out of jail because she needs to match her for the money(!) or stumbling into clues that end up helping the case, Gladie always seems to be in the right place at the wrong time.

The side storylines include the town going up against a group of eccentric people who have set up camp and aren't leaving anytime soon. While this storyline didn't capture my attention, it did lend itself to some funny moments for various people in the town. Gladie also has two men in her life. Spencer is currently hiding out in her bedroom because of some Facebook status updates by the women he's been sleeping with. They're furious and he needs to hide, so what better place than Gladie's bedroom. Also back is Holden, Gladie's sort of boyfriend. He's got some secrets he's keeping and while Gladie wants to get to know him a lot better, every time they start to get close something gets in the way.

I'm not a fan of the love triangle and that's one aspect of this series that picked up steam with this book. We'll see how it all plays out but I'm undecided right now. There are already some parallels between Gladie and one Stephanie Plum, and I'd really hate to see another love triangle get dragged out in this series as well. Time will tell, but for now, I'll go along for the ride. That said, Spencer grew on me a lot during this book and his banter and chemistry with Gladie was really well done.

While it feels like there were multiple storylines and a lot going on, the main draw for me is the craziness that surrounds Gladie and her town. It's not just Gladie, everyone in the story has a little something extra to their character. It can be a bit overwhelming, I sometimes wonder if there's one normal, average person in this town. The answer is no, but it's hard to care too much when I couldn't help but laugh at and with the characters during some of their more wacky scenes. If you pick this book up hoping for a fun, light read with laughs, you'll be satisfied.

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## **Traann says**

Matchpoint by Elise Sax is the second book in her Matchmaker Series. Gladie Burger is back and the continuing story just keeps getting better. The story picks less than a mother after An Affair to Dismember

ended and brings back all your favorite characters from the first book adding more and more laughs. Thankfully we still get to hear about Cannes, California's sexy police chief, Spencer, who just can't seem to stay away from Gladie and Holden, her even sexier neighbor who can't keep his hands off of her!

Gladie is on to her second paying client wanting to be "matched" with the perfect mate. While visiting her client, an office receptionist to a dentist, Gladie ends up entwined in another murder mystery. Add to that, the madcap happenings in and around Gladie and you get a story that is reminiscent of Janet Evanovich's Stephanie Plum and her love triangle and crazy happenings.

Elise Sax wrote a laugh out loud, hysterically funny and yet sweet story that will keep you coming back wanting to hear more about Gladie's adventures which continue in Match and Release scheduled to be release in February of 2014.

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### **Crystal says**

I have now had the opportunity to read both of the books in the Matchmakers series by Elise Sax. The second book Matchpoint kept me just as enthralled as the first, An Affair to Dismember. Ms. Sax has a great way of telling a good mystery as well as a very humorous story. I was not only in suspense wondering who exactly had killed Dr. Dular but I also found myself laughing a lot during this book.

I really like Gladie, that girl can get her self in to some really sticky situations but has so far been lucky to have someone come to her rescue just in time. Gladie tries her best to be a good matchmaker but she just doesn't have her grandmother's natural talent. She does seem to have a natural talent for solving murders even if she tries her best to stay uninvolved. I loved how she would try to take a step back and another person would drag her back in.

Gladie has an interesting relationship with the HOT mystery man next door, Holden. Holden has a few secrets unveiled in this story.

There is also Spencer the hot police chief that seems to have a very nasty case of Happy Pants, that got him in some trouble. Spencer finds the need to take some down time from all the women in his life and ends up staying with Gladie. Gladie and Spencer have another interesting relationship. Gladie isn't sure she wants anything to do with Spencer after a few run ins with the women in his life.

Over all this was a very intriguing mystery, I was somewhat surprised by who the culprit is. I love to laugh when reading and Ms. Sax has inter weaved some hilarious moments in her mystery. If you enjoy a good book with mystery and humor, you really should check out Elise Sax's Matchmaker series. I can't wait for the next book in the Matchmaker series to see what trouble Gladie can get herself in next.

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### **Lynda Koenig says**

I liked this one better than the 1st one, so now I have to find a copy of #3...

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## Marlene says

Originally published at Reading Reality

I sympathize with Gladie, I don't like going to the dentist either! But Matchpoint is about way more than a bloody clever way to avoid getting your teeth drilled.

Gladys Burger is California's answer to Stephanie Plum. And so far (this is Gladie's second case) it's a damn good answer. Because Gladie seems to be making up her mind about a few things. And her zany relatives are both fewer in number and considerably on the sane side of the fence.

Gladie has come to Cannes, California to go into the matchmaking business with her Grandma Zelda. Not only does Zelda really have a gift for making matches, she's positive that Gladie has it too. So far, Gladie has caught more murderers than she's matched couples (see *An Affair to Dismember* for details of Gladie's first case, oops, I meant match).

Everyone in town remembers Gladie's gift for matching murderers with police handcuffs, so they want her to catch the killer this time, too. Especially since Gladie was right there at the scene of the crime. Unfortunately, she was knocked out by anesthesia while someone offed the dentist and removed his face. She just had the misfortune to find his faceless (not headless, faceless!) corpse.

Faces are a big deal in this case. One of the two men possibly vying for Gladie's affections (of course there are two) is the hot manwhore police chief, who is being chased by all the women on Facebook (yes, I do mean Facebook) who all think they are "in a relationship" with him. There's a "Keystone Kops" aspect to the chase that is much funnier than it should be.

Gladie's other romantic possibility is her mysterious next-door-neighbor, the man with no past.

And the aliens have invaded Cannes. Okay, they're not really aliens. It's a cult that believes the aliens are about to arrive in their UFO. The townspeople are ready to murder the entire bunch of alien-lovers.

But no one is hunting the dentist's face-stealing murderer. Except Gladie. Naturally, there is someone hunting her. Because no one involved in this comedy of suspenseful errors is exactly who they seem to be. Except Gladie.

Escape Rating B: Matchpoint is every bit as much fun as *An Affair to Dismember* (review here), or possibly even a bit more.

Gladie has been with her Grandma Zelda four months, and she is starting to settle into life in Cannes. The author has got her characters and background built too. The story is just a bit tighter than the first book, and everything clips along just that much faster.

The citizens of Cannes are an absolute hoot. The sideplot of the police chief's sleeping around was not just funny but built on the characterization from *Affair*, as did the hilarious send-up of the Trouble wedding.

I could still do with a bit less of Gladie's fat-shaming, but the quotes from Zelda's matchmaker's tips that start each chapter are winners every single time.

There is a mystery in Matchpoint, and it's not obvious. The red herrings were quite carefully planted. I kind of figured out who towards the end, but definitely not why. The alien lovers proved a terrific distraction, even if I never did figure out quite what they were up to. Or care. Watching them drive the townspeople into a tizzy was much too much fun.

Most importantly Gladie made a romantic decision, which I will not reveal. It made sense in the context of the overall story arc. I just wonder if she sticks to it. And if he proves that he's capable and worthy of being stuck to in the long run. In the short run (or short bed bounce) both Gladie's choices were definitely yummy!

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### **Diane ~Firefly~ says**

This is a kooky town filled with kooky characters. Gladie gets tricked into seeing the dentist and while under, he is killed. Gladie is trying to find a match for the receptionist (who also wants her to help clear her with the police), dealing with the handsome, mysterious neighbor Holden and the police chief who is hiding from half the ladies in town.

It is similar to Stephanie Plum, but without the explosions and this grandmother never leaves the house. But she has plenty of friends around to help her get into trouble.

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### **Margaret says**

Gladie is still helping her grandmother with her matchmaking business while looking for love for herself. She got a toothache one day and that is when everything changed for her. She was in the middle of a murder. She felt the need to try and find the murderer like the last time. But the only thing she never realized that she would also find her second love matches as well.

The town's chief of police, Spencer and the next door neighbor, Holden< are both fighting for her attention as well as helping her stay safe from her investigations. But they both wanted her to stay away from the murder scene but of course like a typical female, she did the exact opposite. Little did she know that her tooth ache would help her find the murderer.

This book was just as entertaining as the first one. I liked this book better it had more drama and you learned a little more about all of the characters. I cannot wait to see what happens with these characters next.

Elise Sax had me completely addicted from the very first page. Highly recommend this book. It is the right combination of suspense, humor and romance. It is a wonderful read.

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### **Kelly says**

\*ARC provided kindly through Netgalley\*

I've read this book without reading the first one of the series (I know, shame on me...) I probably would have understood better (or quicker) the situation about this crazy town (assaulted by a cult about aliens) and also the part about "the gift" of Gladie and her grandmother Zelda.

It was a fun read, full of laughs but also with mystery and suspense!

The book turns around Gladie and it seems that there is always a thing happening. I think that book was the first book where the whole story is so much comical.

About Gladie: She seems to always be in the wrong place at the wrong time. Sometimes, I was like "How is it even possible that she ends up in all this drama?" At the beginning of the book, she is at the dentist (even if she hates being here) and well, (view spoiler) After that, she's trying to solve the murder by finding who's the killer and it goes on and on until the end of the book ;).

About Spencer: He's the sheriff and that guy is just so cocky and handsome and hilarious! He's hiding in Gladie's bedroom because of angry women (they were completely nuts, sometimes walking with knives in hand like nothing was weird in that). The scene on the grass of Holden's house or when he's hiding under her bed put a big smile on my face all along. I just wanted Gladie to kiss him and tore off his shirt (even if he's a player and have a girl every five seconds, though in this book he's doing a pause and that's a relief!) And when he didn't have his shirt on...

About Holden: He's the mysterious neighbour and we don't know really what's going on with him until the last part of the book and even there we don't know everything. I really like him and he's kind of the "nice" guy and you just want to sigh around him.

The only character I didn't like was Belinda... She was just so irritating sometimes with her matchmaking thing :/.

At the end I just wanted to squeal, you'll know what I mean if you read it. Sorry, I won't tell, you'll have to find out by yourself!

If you want to laugh out loud reading a book not like any others with unique characters, go read this one!

Happy reading everyone.

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