two poems

for Solo Piano

1.when you rise;
2.missing.

Edward Caine

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Commissioned by Late Music, premiere by Ian Pace, 6th August 2011, Unitarian Chapel, St. Saviourgate, York.

"Two Poems" explores the idea of musical metaphor and textual relationship. Each piece is designed as a poem in its own right, taking imagery from the musical context and musical/textual references and creating meaning through development.

1. when you rise;

when you rise; is based on and derived (with permission) from Roger Marsh's *Lullaby*, itself a setting of the poem "Golden slumbers kiss your eyes" by Thomas Dekker (1570-1632). The poem (and Roger's setting) is evocative of maternal comfort. Initially conceived as a "Linus blanket" of a piece, this setting explores the darker nature of the poem, which speaks of grief, and which is more poignant during periods of distress and loneliness. Marsh's setting of the poem is economical, understated and, through use of static harmony and very subtle but very effective modulation during the refrain, sets the text remarkably. *when you rise;* takes the pitch material and verse-refrain structure of the Marsh as a starting point for a structure that attempts to transcend the comforting sentiment of the poem and comment on the darker sentiments that inspired it.

2. missing.

missing. is an intentionally non-developmental form. It aims to explore the idea of depression and of loss. The title is a take on composer Richard Whalley's piano piece "Missing Jen", which he sites as a love song for piano. The nature of the musical language owes a debt to "My Bonny Boy", a movement from Michael Finnissy's *English Country-Tunes*. *missing.* is mainly a monody and attempts to capture the way in which grief can appear to drain the colour out of the world.

for Roger Marsh

when you rise;

solo piano

Golden slumbers kiss your eyes,
Smiles awake you when you rise;
Sleep, pretty wantons, do not cry,
And I will sing a lullaby,
Rock them, rock them, lullaby.

Care is heavy, therefore sleep you,
You are care, and care must keep you;
Sleep, pretty wantons, do not cry,
And I will sing a lullaby,
Rock them, rock them, lullaby.

- Thomas Dekker (1570-1632)

slowly, sweetly, with rubato (♩. = 60-70)

Edward Caine

pp *legato*

con molto Ped. *ad lib. except where indicated*

3

poco

pp

5

f subito *f* *mp*

mf *mf* *p*

p

6

f *f* *mf*

mf *f* *mf* *mp* *mf*

mp

Ped.

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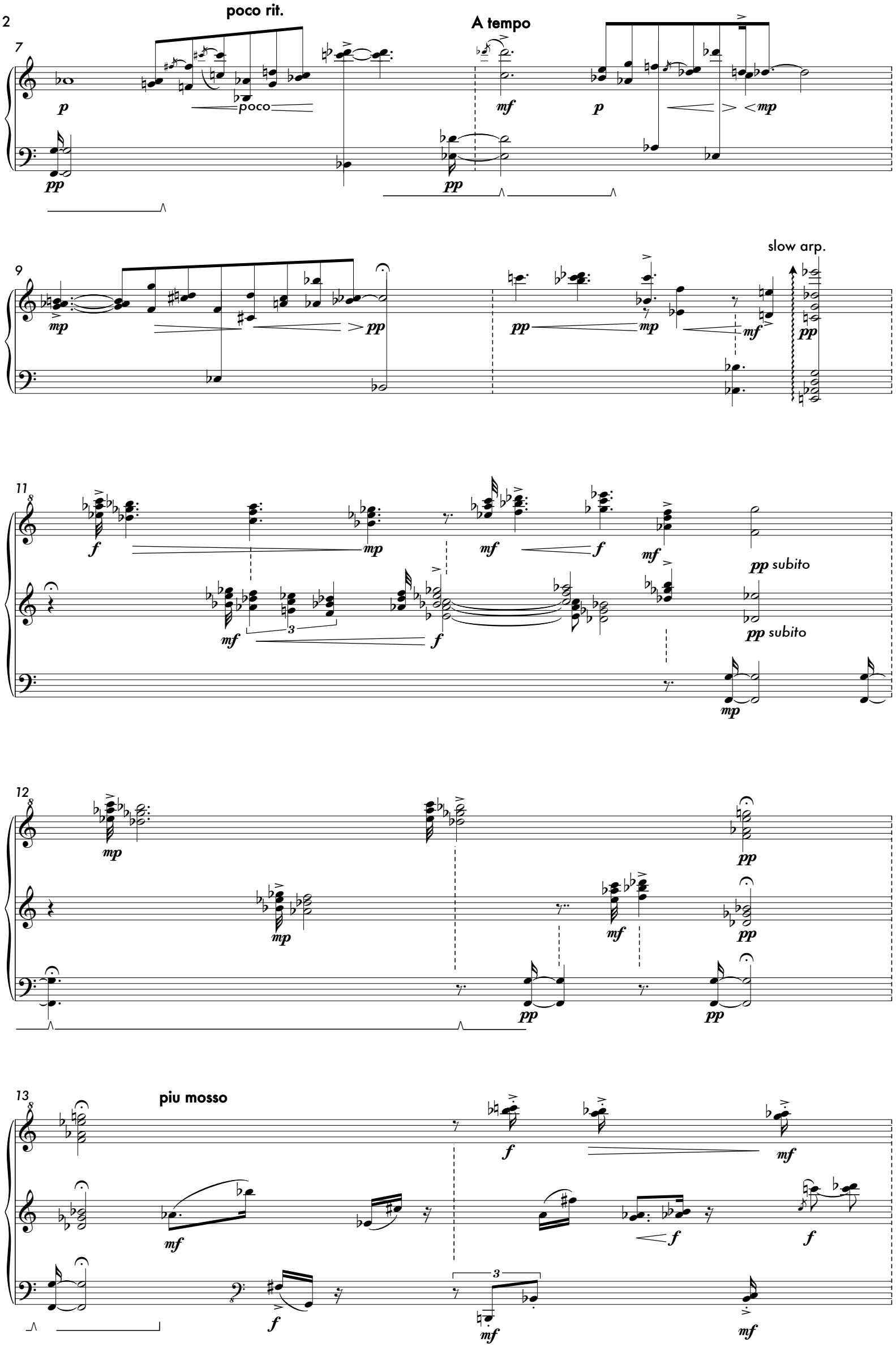

poco rit.
A tempo
poco
slow arp.
pp subito
pp subito
piu mosso

14

sfz mf sf mp f

p f p mf f sf pp subito

sf 3 sf mf mf

15

f A tempo mf poco a poco dim.

sfz p sfz mf mp poco a poco cresc.

mp mf sfz f pp

17

mf p mp mp pp

f mp pp

mf 8vb mp mp pp ppp

18

mf mp f

mf 3 f mf

pp mf

19

mp *mf* *mp* *mf* *pp*

sf *mp* *mf* *f* *pp*

mp 5 *mf* *f* *pp*

un poco meno mosso

20

molto legato

mp *mf*

p *mf*

con Ped.

mp

21

sf

p *mp*

p

22

mf *p* *pp* *mf* *pp*

A tempo

23

pp mp

pppp

pppp

pp

molto rubato

25

poco a poco cresc.

mf f

3

ff

poco a poco cresc.

mf poco a poco cresc.

3

ff

ff

15

ff crescendo

ff crescendo

ff crescendo

ff crescendo

3

3

Ped.

26

ffff

ffff

ffff

ffff

8vb

27

depress
keys
silently

pp *legato*

8vb

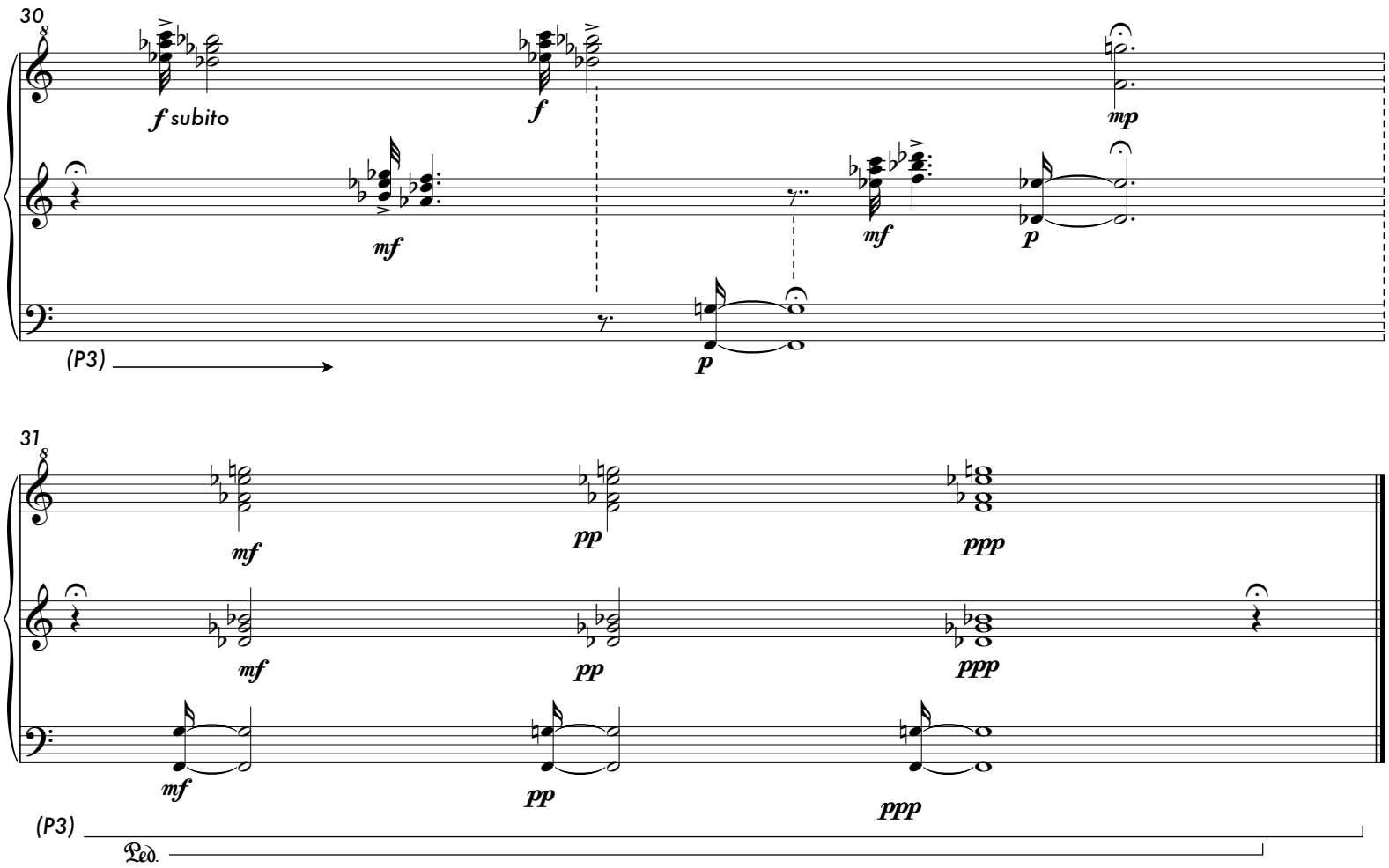
P3

28

poco

pp

(P3)



EJC 8/7/11

for L.B

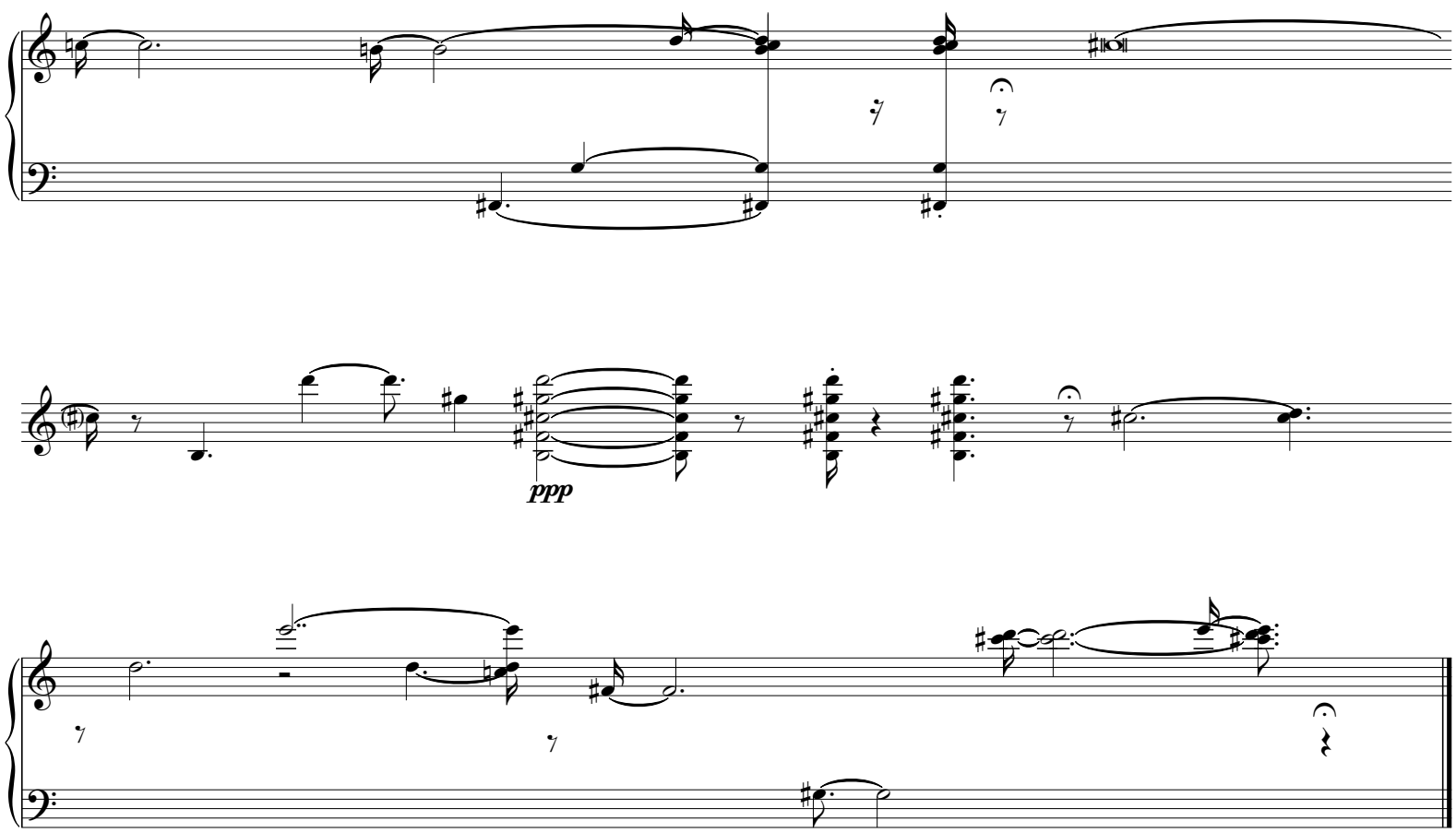
missing.

solo piano

Edward Caine

slow

ppp



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