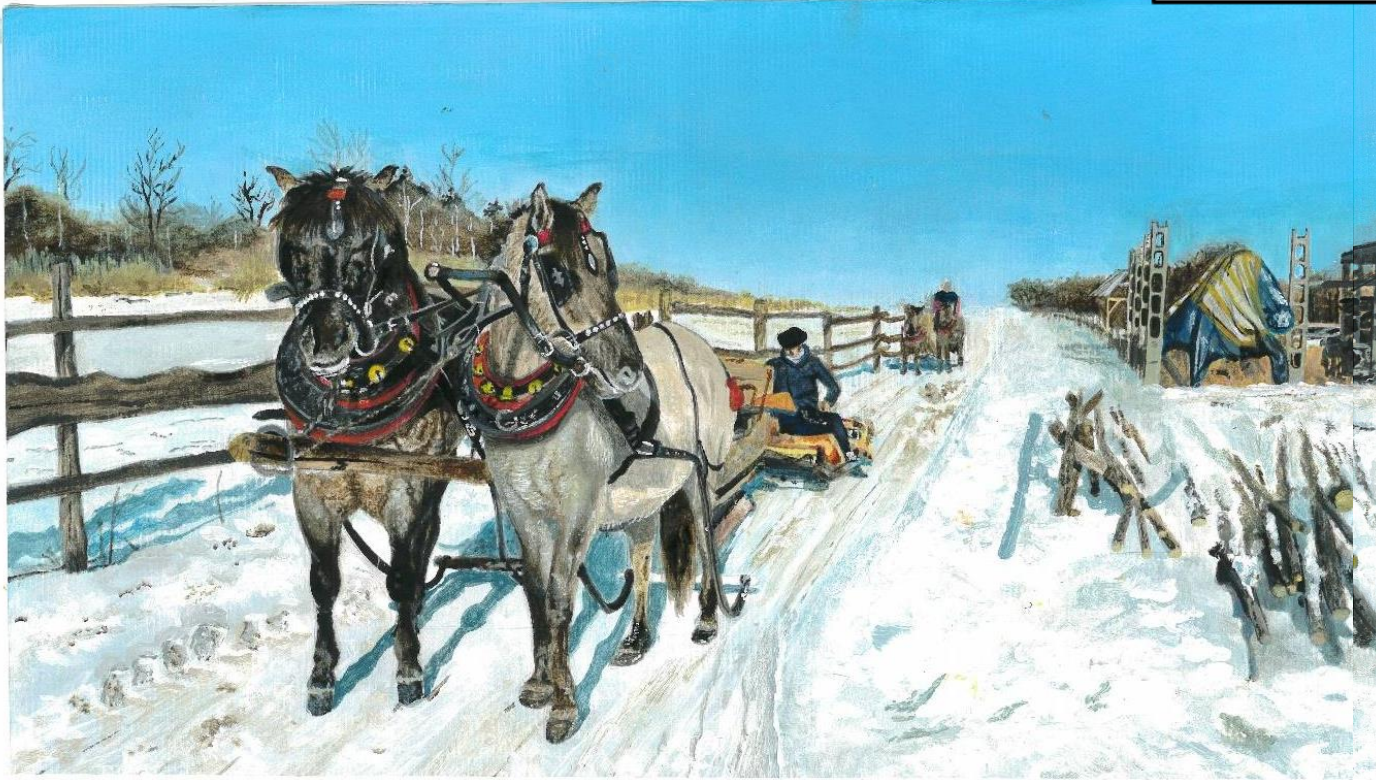
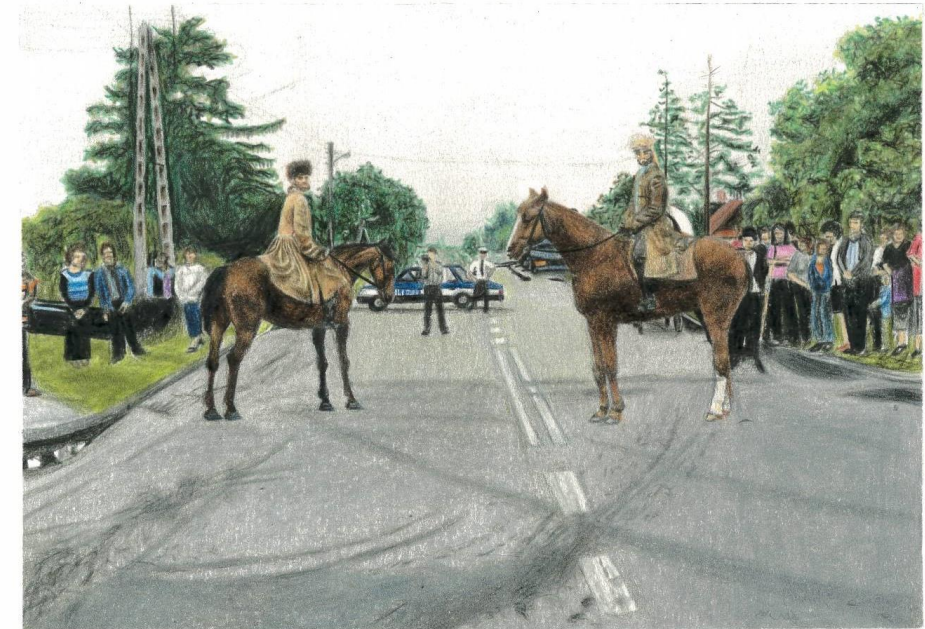
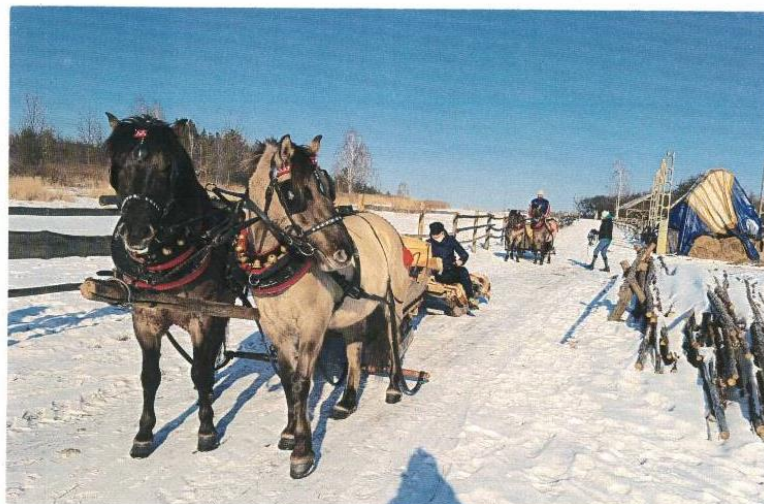


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HORSES ON THE PAINTING WERE THE ONES THAT WERE PULLING SLEIGH DURING SLEIGH RIDE. THIS IS ONE OF POLISH TRADITIONS DURING WHICH POLISH PEOPLE OFTEN GET TOGETHER TO SPEND TIME WITH EACH OTHER.



THE IDEA FOR MY PROJECT WAS LARGELY BASED ON THE PHOTOGRAPHS THAT I FOUND. THEY SHOW MY DAD WHOSE PASSION IS TO RIDE HORSES. I MADE A DRAWING THAT DEPICTS HIM AND HIS FRIEND RIDING HORSES DURING THE PERFORMANCE THAT THEY TOOK PART IN. AFTER THAT I DECIDED TO DEVELOP THIS IDEA AND I DID A RESEARCH IN ORDER TO UNDERSTAND WHY POLISH PEOPLE ARE SO ATTACHED TO HORSES.

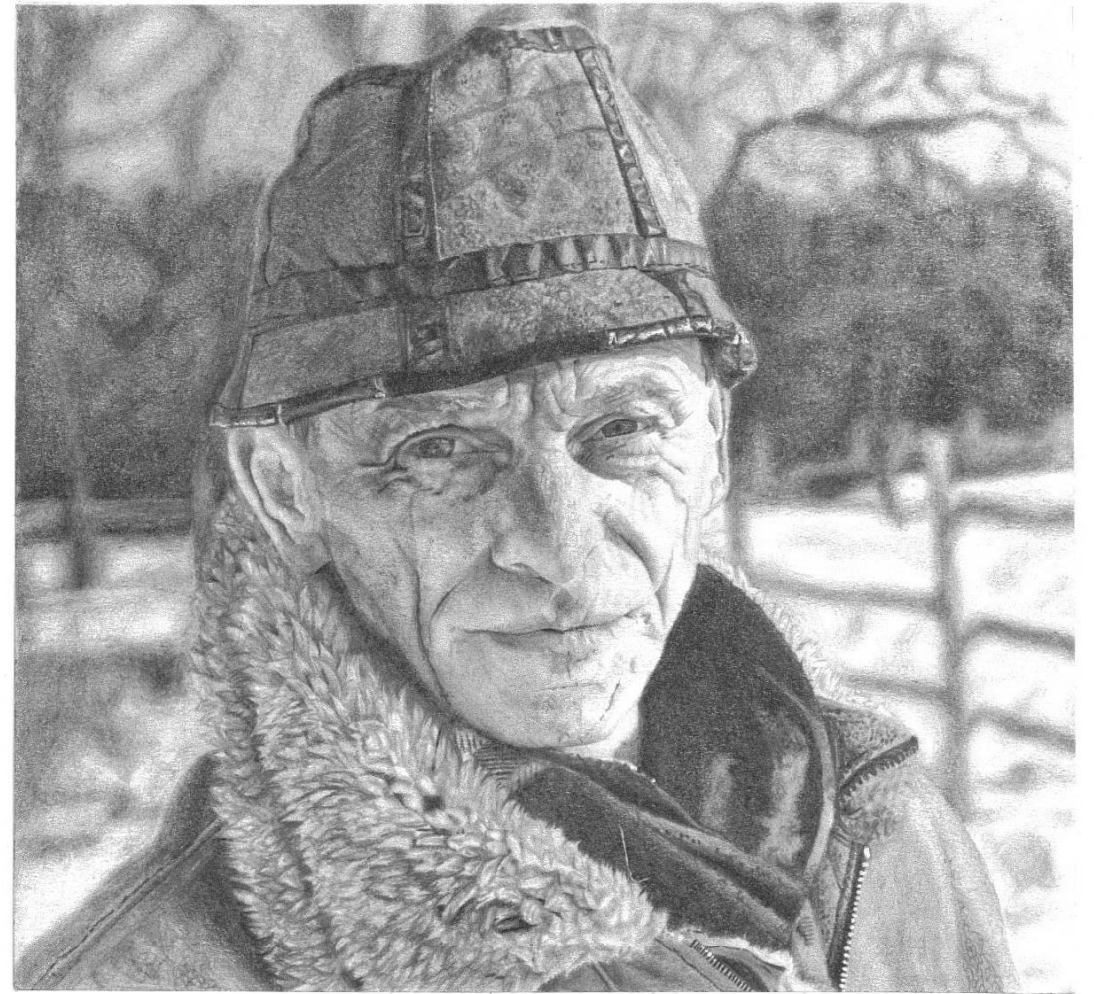
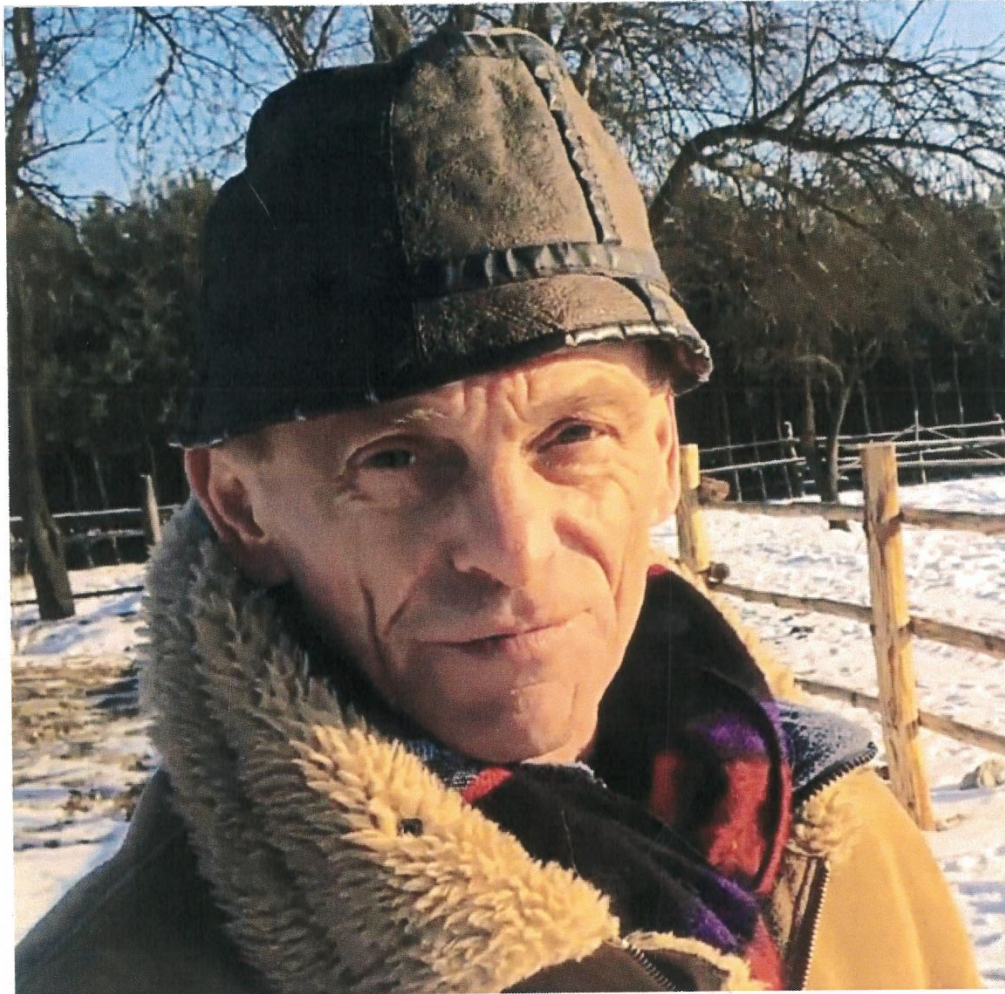


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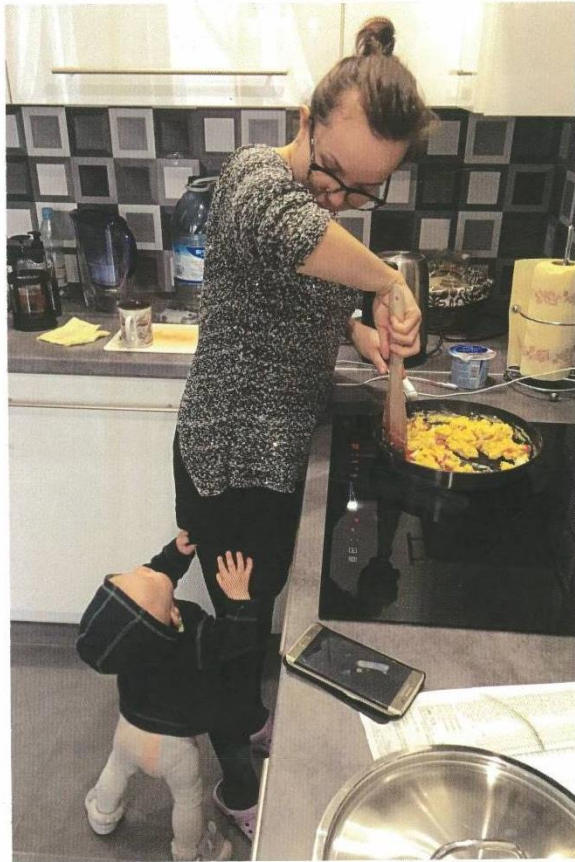
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THE MAN ON THE DRAWING IS THE OWNER OF THE HERD WHO DECIDED TO
SPEND HIS LIFE TAKING CARE OF HORSES.

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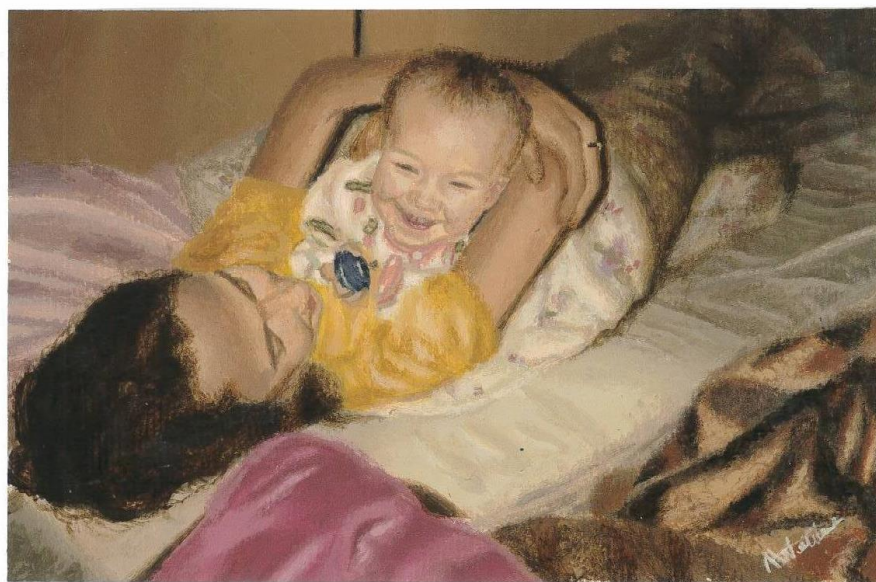
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MADONNA AND CHILD

The earliest depiction of Madonna and child can be found in catacombs of Pricilla in Rome dated from around 150 A.D. In this image we see Madonna holding her child close to her with a prophetic figure next to them. It symbolises the importance of maternal love for a Christian community.



The depiction of “Madonna of Humility” was prominent in Florence, France, Germany and Spain. It almost deprives Madonna of the role of the Queen of Heaven as she is seated on the floor or a pillow, holding Jesus on her lap. This makes her look just like a peasant and makes her equal to other people regardless of her superiority. The obvious affection conveyed by the seeming intimate, physical contact helps viewers understand the relationship between Madonna and her Child and her vital importance in the mother-child relationship.



Madonna of Humility, Fra Angelico, 1433–1435 tempera on wood, 147 cm × 91 cm

Many paintings were made to celebrate Jesus’ birth. The images of “Nativities and Adorations” depicts Christ child lying in a manger being looked after by Mary and Joseph just after his birth. Those paintings could be found as early as from the 2nd century. Those scenes often take place in the

interested in depicting the journey to Egypt, a moment awhile the Christ birth. This happened after an angel appeared in Joseph’s dream and told him to escape from King Herod to Egypt. Those scenes were painted after 10th century. They gained their popularity after some imaginative details were added to them such as bandits and dragons. Making paintings about this journey enabled artists to develop their interest in painting landscapes and nature further as many paintings involved exotic vegetation and animals.



Vittore Carpaccio, The Flight into Egypt, 1515, oil on panel, 74 × 113 cm

In this painting the landscape seems to dominate the composition although it is in the background. The artist could show the nature of the countryside characterised by the trees, the river and the hills. Mary is wearing a brocade cloak which shows the luxury and makes the viewer think of her as the Queen of Heaven. The colour of the material stands out in contrast to the grey brown donkey. Madonna is holding her child with both of her hands, very close to her. This gesture symbolises care and protection given from mother. The Christ child’s hands are touching her face reminding us of the importance of the role of mother and the reciprocated love.

All of the different depictions of Madonna and her Child had the purpose of showing the strong bonds and the phenomenon of mother-child relationship. They remind us of the dedication and sensitivity that mothers share with their children. Mothers are needed for their children to survive. Creation of attachment between mother and child enables child to explore the surroundings safely under her protection. Over the years, the world that we live in has changed causing parents to be needed much longer than previously. Less affordable housing, inflation and the need of higher

In this painting Madonna is seated on a cushion, holding the child who stands on her lap. She is holding a vase in her left hand. Roses and lilies are inside the vase symbolising her purity. Mother’s cheek and the child’s forehead are touching which shows the sense of closeness between them. They are surrounded by angels. Three of them are holding cloth made of black and gold embroidery. The other two are seated on the ground playing instruments, an organ and a lute.

Paintings of “Madonna of Humility” are often related to the images of “Madonna and Child in the Garden.” In the 15th century, interest in nature became renewed, therefore artists were trying to depict the natural world in a more precise manner. This is related to the Garden of Eden and it reminds the viewers of the beginnings of humankind and the paradise. Flowers are often included not only for their beauty, but also to give the painting some symbolism as Mary was associated with flowers, especially the lily, violet and rose.



Cosmè Tura, Madonna and Child in a Garden, 1460/1470, tempera (and possibly oil) on poplar panel

In the painting by Cosme Tura, orange trees and white blossom are depicted in the background. The child is peacefully sleeping on his mother’s lap. This shows the strong bonds linked to motherhood. The painting is full of symbolism. The Christ child’s sleep reminds us of his future death just like the stone bench that Madonna is sitting on symbolizes his grave. His crossed legs are representative of his crucifixion. Grim colours produce the mysterious and sorrowful atmosphere linked to Jesus’s future. The opulence of the gold however reminds the viewer of the importance of Madonna and her Child to Christians.

education make people less independent and so they seek for the help from their parents for longer. Therefore we do not only need mothers to raise us. We often need them as adults as well because they can make us feel understood and they are always there to support us. They make us become

Feminist values have seen a shift in the role of the mother, particularly in the late 20th early 21st century. Women are no longer expected to spend all of their time rising their children, they are now expected to aspire to a career and for this work load to be shared with their partners. This in some relationships could be seen to weaken this bond but in others strengthen it as the child has higher aspirations. This change could also be attributed to changes in lifestyle due to many different factors such as improvements in technology, which make every day jobs faster and easier.

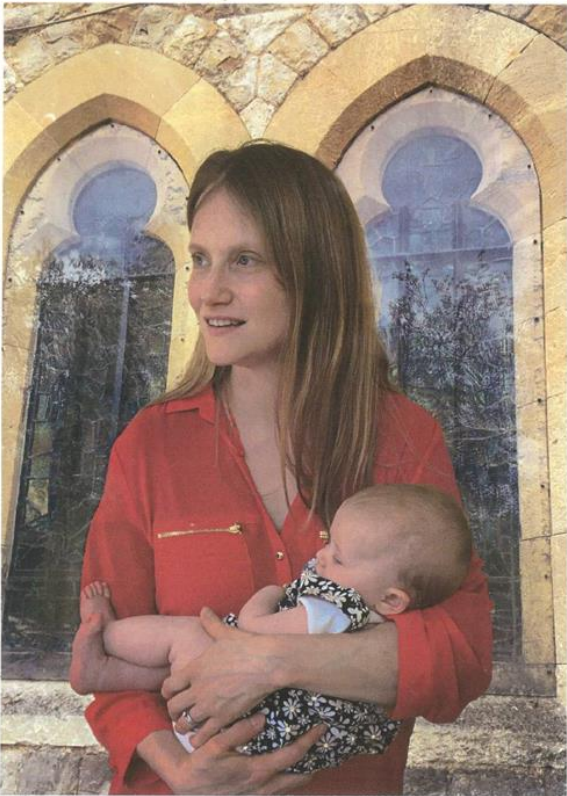


The Madonna and Child has stayed relevant throughout history as it connects with the most fundamental aspect of human existence. An example of this can be seen in this painting by Tigran Tsitoghdzian which aims to “expose the identity of contemporary man in the era of cultural globalization, technological revolution and biological distortion.” The woman in the painting is wearing clothes of the similar colour to the traditional paintings such as the one by Cosme Tura—a red blouse and blue jeans. She is also holding similar pose which shows the link with the traditional Madonna and Child paintings. We can see that the artist wanted to explain how the relationship between mother and child has changed over the centuries. The important connection between a mother and her child has disappeared. Mother seems to pay more attention to her phone instead of her child. The child is looking away into the distance, symbolizing that he does not feel such closeness with her. He is also drinking from a plastic bottle instead of being breastfed by his mother.

The painting shows some traditional qualities. The artist included the chiaroscuro effect of the traditional paintings in a new, contemporary way, by adding a bright light coming from the lamp and making mother and her child stand out against the dark background. When the viewer is looking at this painting, they can think of the current problems within their own relationships. Drawing attention to this issue can potentially change the way some mothers are taking care of their relationship with their children.

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