dead poets society poet laureates

dead poets society poet laureates is a phrase that conjures images of inspiration, literary excellence, and the celebration of poetry within a unique educational context. The 1989 film *Dead Poets Society* introduced audiences to a transformative teacher and his students who embraced the power of poetry to challenge conventions and express individuality. While the film itself does not directly reference official poet laureates, the concept of poet laureates—both real and symbolic—plays a significant role in understanding the cultural impact and legacy of *Dead Poets Society*. This article explores the connection between the film's themes and the tradition of poet laureates, highlighting notable poet laureates who embody the spirit of the *Dead Poets Society*. Additionally, it examines how the film has influenced modern perceptions of poetry and literary leadership. Readers will gain insight into the historical background of poet laureates, the film's portrayal of poetry's transformative power, and the ongoing relevance of poet laureates in promoting literary arts.

- The Concept of Poet Laureates
- Dead Poets Society and Its Literary Influence
- Notable Poet Laureates Reflecting Dead Poets Society Themes
- The Role of Poet Laureates in Education and Culture
- Legacy of Dead Poets Society in Contemporary Poetry

The Concept of Poet Laureates

The title of poet laureate has a long and distinguished history, traditionally bestowed upon a poet officially appointed by a government or institution to compose poems for special occasions and to promote poetry within society. Poet laureates serve as literary ambassadors, tasked with increasing public appreciation for poetry and inspiring new generations of writers and readers. The role varies by country and institution but generally includes responsibilities such as public readings, educational outreach, and the creation of commissioned works. Poet laureateship symbolizes recognition of a poet's contribution to culture and their ability to give voice to shared experiences and values.

Historical Origins of Poet Laureates

The position of poet laureate dates back to medieval Europe, where poets were honored at royal courts. The term "laureate" refers to the laurel wreath, a symbol of honor and victory in ancient Greece and Rome. England appointed its first official poet laureate in the 17th century, establishing a tradition that continues today. In the United States, the Library of Congress began appointing a poet laureate in 1937 to promote poetry nationwide. Other countries have similar roles, each adapting the position to their cultural context and literary traditions.

Modern Responsibilities and Influence

Contemporary poet laureates often focus on making poetry accessible to diverse audiences. Their duties may include organizing workshops, advocating for arts education, and using social media platforms to engage the public. Many poet laureates produce works that address current social issues, reflecting the evolving role of poetry as a medium for dialogue and reflection.

Dead Poets Society and Its Literary Influence

Dead Poets Society is a seminal film that portrays the transformative power of poetry and the arts within a strict academic environment. Set in a conservative boys' prep school, the story centers on an unorthodox English teacher who inspires his students to "seize the day" and embrace their creative voices. The movie celebrates poetry as a means of self-expression, rebellion, and personal growth, themes that resonate deeply with the ideals embodied by poet laureates worldwide.

Poetry as a Catalyst for Change

The film highlights how poetry can awaken passion and challenge societal norms. The characters in *Dead Poets Society* use poetry to explore identity, freedom, and the human spirit. This narrative aligns with the mission of poet laureates, who often encourage audiences to reflect on life's complexities through verse. The film's enduring popularity underscores the continuing relevance of poetry and its role as a catalyst for intellectual and emotional awakening.

Influence on Popular and Educational Culture

Since its release, *Dead Poets Society* has inspired educators and students alike to value poetry and creative expression. The film is frequently used in classrooms to introduce literary analysis, themes of individuality, and the importance of mentorship. Its portrayal of poetic engagement complements the outreach efforts typical of poet laureates, reinforcing poetry's place in both academic and popular culture.

Notable Poet Laureates Reflecting Dead Poets Society Themes

Many poet laureates embody the principles celebrated in *Dead Poets Society*, such as encouragement of free thought, emotional honesty, and social commentary. These laureates have contributed significantly to the literary world while promoting poetry as a vital cultural force.

Maya Angelou

Maya Angelou, a renowned American poet and civil rights activist, served as a symbol of empowerment through her evocative poetry and public readings. Her work emphasizes resilience, identity, and social justice, echoing the film's themes of self-discovery and courage.

Robert Pinsky

Robert Pinsky, who served as the U.S. Poet Laureate from 1997 to 2000, is known for his efforts to make poetry accessible through public projects such as the Favorite Poem Project. His advocacy reflects the *Dead Poets Society* ethos of bringing poetry into everyday life and encouraging personal engagement with literature.

Joy Harjo

As the first Native American U.S. Poet Laureate, Joy Harjo integrates cultural heritage, spirituality, and social issues in her poetry. Her leadership promotes diversity and inclusion in the literary arts, mirroring the film's celebration of individual voice and community connection.

Other Influential Poet Laureates

- Carol Ann Duffy known for blending contemporary themes with traditional poetic forms
- Billy Collins celebrated for accessible and humorous poetry that reaches wide audiences
- Louise Glück Nobel laureate whose work explores personal trauma and transformation

The Role of Poet Laureates in Education and Culture

Poet laureates often serve as vital links between poetry and the public, particularly through educational initiatives. Their work extends beyond writing to include mentorship, public speaking, and advocacy for literary arts funding. This multifaceted role is essential in sustaining poetry's relevance and nurturing future poets.

Educational Outreach Programs

Many poet laureates create programs designed to engage students and teachers, fostering a love for poetry at an early age. These initiatives may include school visits, poetry contests, and curriculum development, all aimed at integrating poetry into education in meaningful ways.

Community Engagement and Cultural Impact

Beyond schools, poet laureates often participate in community events, festivals, and public ceremonies. Their presence elevates poetry's profile and encourages diverse populations to explore literary arts. This community engagement reflects the spirit of *Dead Poets Society* by promoting creative expression as a communal and transformative experience.

Legacy of Dead Poets Society in Contemporary Poetry

The legacy of *Dead Poets Society* continues to influence contemporary poetry and the cultural role of poet laureates. The film's emphasis on seizing the moment and valuing individual voice resonates with poets who seek to challenge conventions and inspire readers.

Inspiration for Emerging Poets

Many young poets cite *Dead Poets Society* as a formative influence that encouraged them to pursue poetry seriously. The film's message of authenticity and passion aligns with the motivations behind many poet laureate initiatives that support emerging voices.

Shaping Public Perceptions of Poetry

The film has helped demystify poetry for broad audiences, portraying it as an accessible and vital art form. This shift in perception supports the work of poet laureates who aim to integrate poetry into everyday life and public discourse.

Continued Cultural Relevance

Decades after its release, *Dead Poets Society* remains a touchstone for discussions about education, creativity, and literary expression. Its connection to the tradition of poet laureates underscores the enduring power of poetry to inspire change and celebrate humanity.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is the main poet referenced as an inspiration in 'Dead Poets Society'?

The main poet referenced as an inspiration in 'Dead Poets Society' is Walt Whitman, whose works and philosophy influence the characters and themes in the film.

Are there any real poet laureates mentioned or featured in 'Dead Poets Society'?

No, 'Dead Poets Society' does not specifically mention or feature any real poet laureates; instead, it focuses on classic poets and poetry to inspire its characters.

How does 'Dead Poets Society' portray the role of poetry and poets in society?

The film portrays poetry and poets as vital voices that encourage individuality, free thought, and

emotional expression, challenging societal norms and conformity.

Did 'Dead Poets Society' influence interest in poet laureates or poetry in schools?

Yes, 'Dead Poets Society' sparked increased interest in poetry and creative expression in schools, inspiring students and educators to explore poets, including poet laureates, and their works more deeply.

What themes related to poet laureates can be drawn from 'Dead Poets Society'?

Themes such as the celebration of poetic tradition, the power of spoken word, and the encouragement to seize the day ('Carpe Diem') relate to the cultural role often embodied by poet laureates as ambassadors of poetry.

Additional Resources

1. Dead Poets Society: The Legacy of Inspiration

This book explores the cultural and educational impact of the film Dead Poets Society, delving into how it inspired a renewed appreciation for poetry and individual expression among students and teachers worldwide. It examines the themes of nonconformity and the power of art to challenge societal norms. Interviews with educators and poets highlight the ongoing influence of the movie's message.

2. The Laureates: Voices of Modern Poetry

A comprehensive anthology showcasing the works of contemporary poet laureates from around the globe, this collection celebrates the rich diversity and evolving styles in modern poetry. Each section is accompanied by insights into the laureates' creative processes and their role in promoting poetry within their communities. The book also discusses how laureates act as cultural ambassadors.

3. Echoes of the Dead Poets: A Study of Poetic Rebellion

Focusing on poets who, like the characters in Dead Poets Society, challenge conventions and authority through their work, this book analyzes the theme of rebellion in poetry. It includes biographical sketches of notable poet laureates known for their bold stances and examines how their poems resonate with themes of freedom and self-expression.

4. Poet Laureates and the Art of Inspiration

This volume investigates the role of poet laureates in inspiring communities and fostering a love for poetry. Through case studies and personal anecdotes, the book highlights how these official poets have used their platform to engage audiences, promote literacy, and encourage creativity. It also reflects on the similarities between their missions and the inspirational teachings depicted in Dead Poets Society.

5. Carpe Diem: The Philosophy of Dead Poets Society

An exploration of the iconic "seize the day" motto popularized by Dead Poets Society, this book links the philosophy to the works of various poet laureates who embody this spirit. It delves into how poetry can motivate individuals to live authentically and embrace the present moment. The book features poems and essays that inspire action and courage.

- 6. From Classroom to Laureate: The Journey of Young Poets
- Tracing the paths of poet laureates who were once inspired by teachers and mentors, this book highlights the transformative power of education and guidance in the world of poetry. It parallels the mentorship shown in Dead Poets Society with real-life stories of poets who rose to national prominence. The narrative emphasizes the importance of nurturing talent in academic settings.
- 7. Modern Laureates: Bridging Tradition and Innovation

This title examines how contemporary poet laureates balance respect for classical poetic forms with innovative techniques and themes. It discusses how these poets maintain the relevance of poetry in the digital age while honoring the traditions that films like Dead Poets Society celebrate. The book includes examples of works that blend old and new poetic styles.

- 8. The Role of Poetry in Social Change: Insights from Laureates
- Exploring how poet laureates have used their craft to address social and political issues, this book highlights poetry as a tool for activism and awareness. It presents case studies where poetry has influenced public opinion and policy, drawing parallels to the rebellious spirit portrayed in Dead Poets Society. The book also discusses the responsibilities of laureates as societal voices.
- 9. In the Footsteps of Keating: Poetry, Passion, and Pedagogy

Focusing on the educational philosophies inspired by the character John Keating from Dead Poets Society, this book explores how poet laureates incorporate passion and creativity into teaching poetry. It features interviews with laureates who are also educators and discusses innovative methods for engaging students with poetry. The book serves as a guide for inspiring the next generation of poets and lovers of literature.

Dead Poets Society Poet Laureates

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dead poets society poet laureates: The American Poet Laureate Amy Paeth, 2023-05-16 The American Poet Laureate shows how the state has been the silent center of poetic production in the United States since World War II. It is the first history of the national poetry office, the U.S. poet laureate, highlighting the careers of Elizabeth Bishop, Robert Frost, Gwendolyn Brooks, Robert Pinsky, Tracy K. Smith, Juan Felipe Herrera, and Joy Harjo at the nation's Capitol. It is also a history of how these state poets participated in national arts programming during the Cold War. Drawing on previously unexplored archival materials at the Library of Congress and materials at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library, Amy Paeth describes the interactions of federal bodies, including the Central Intelligence Agency, the State Department, and the National Endowment for the Arts, with literary organizations and with private patrons, including "Prozac heiress" Ruth Lilly. The consolidation of public and private interests is crucial to the development of state verse culture, recognizable at the first National Poetry Festival in 1962, which followed Robert Frost's "Mission to Moscow," and which became dominant in the late 1990s and early 2000s. The American Poet

Laureate contributes to a growing body of institutional and sociological approaches to U.S. literary production in the postwar era and demonstrates how poetry has played a uniquely important, and largely underacknowledged, role in the cultural front of the Cold War.

dead poets society poet laureates: Walt Whitman in Washington, D.C. Garrett Peck, 2015-03-23 "An energetic study of the famed writer's time in the nation's capital and the loves of his life" (Washington Independent Review of Books). Walt Whitman was already famous for Leaves of Grass when he journeyed to Washington at the height of the Civil War to find his brother George, a Union officer wounded at the Battle of Fredericksburg. Eventually, Whitman would serve as a volunteer "hospital missionary"—making more than six hundred hospital visits and serving over eighty thousand sick and wounded soldiers in the next three years. With the 1865 publication of Drum-Taps, Whitman became poet laureate of the Civil War, aligning his legacy with that of Abraham Lincoln. He remained in Washington until 1873 as a federal clerk, engaging in a dazzling literary circle and fostering his longest romantic relationship, with Peter Doyle. This fascinating blend of biography and history details the definitive account of Walt Whitman's decade in the nation's capital. Includes photos!

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dead poets society poet laureates: God and Popular Culture Stephen Butler Murray, Aimée Upjohn Light, 2015-08-11 This contributed two-volume work tackles a fascinating topic: how and why God plays a central role in the modern world and profoundly influences politics, art, culture, and our moral reflection—even for nonbelievers. God—in the many ways that people around the globe conceptualize Him, Her, or It—is one of the most powerful, divisive, unifying, and creative elements of human culture. The two volumes of God and Popular Culture: A Behind-the-Scenes Look at the Entertainment Industry's Most Influential Figure provide readers with a balanced and accessible analysis of this fascinating topic that allows anyone who appreciates any art, music, television, film, and other forms of entertainment to have a new perspective on a favorite song or movie. Written by a collective of both believers and nonbelievers, the essays enable both nonreligious individuals and those who are spiritually guided to consider how culture approaches and has appropriated God to reveal truths about humanity and society. The book discusses the intersections of God with film, television, sports, politics, commerce, and popular culture, thereby documenting how the ongoing messages and conversations about God that occur among the general population also occur within the context of the entertainment that we as members of society consume—often without our recognition of the discussion.

dead poets society poet laureates: <u>Joseph Brodsky and the Creation of Exile</u> David M. Bethea, 2014-07-14 Joseph Brodsky, one of the most prominent contemporary American poets, is also among the finest living poets in the Russian language. Nevertheless, his poetry and the crucial bilingual dimension of his poetic world are still insufficiently understood by Western audiences. How did the Russian-born Brodsky arrive at his present status as an international man of letters and American

poet laureate? Has he been created by his bilingual experience, or has he fashioned the bilingual self as a necessary precondition for writing poetry in the first place? Here David Bethea suggests that the key to Brodsky, perhaps the last of the great Russian poets in the bardic mode, is in his relation to others, or the Other. Brodsky's master trope turns out to be triangular vision, the tendency to mediate a prior model (Dante) with a closer model (Mandelstam) in the creation of a palimpsest-like text in which the poet is implicated as a triangulated hybrid of these earlier incarnations. In pursuing this theme, Bethea compares and contrasts Brodsky to the poet's favorite models--Donne, Auden, Mandelstam, and Tsvetaeva--and analyzes his fundamental differences with Nabokov, the only Russian exile of Brodsky's stature to rival him as a bilingual phenomenon. Various critical paradigms are used throughout the study as foils to Brodsky's thinking. Originally published in 1994. The Princeton Legacy Library uses the latest print-on-demand technology to again make available previously out-of-print books from the distinguished backlist of Princeton University Press. These editions preserve the original texts of these important books while presenting them in durable paperback and hardcover editions. The goal of the Princeton Legacy Library is to vastly increase access to the rich scholarly heritage found in the thousands of books published by Princeton University Press since its founding in 1905.

dead poets society poet laureates: Carry On, Teachers! Susan Ellsmore, 2005 In the world of screen culture, teachers are unfailingly represented as charismatic figures, able to tackle the deprivations their students face and to form special relationships with them that none of their staff colleagues can. But how realistic are such representations, and-- more importantly - what do real world teachers think about their reel world counterparts? This book takes a closer look at the charismatic teacher as portrayed in films such as Blackboard Jungle, To Sir, With Love and Dead Poets Society and in television series such as Teachers. It considers the eccentric, resilient or romantic - but always charismatic- teacher in inner city schools, private or public schools and contrasts them with the views of practising teachers. Carry on Teachers will be essential to media and cultural studies courses but is designed as much for teachers and those coming into the profession.

dead poets society poet laureates: Poets & Writers, 2001

dead poets society poet laureates: San Francisco's Market Street Marques Vickers, Market Street forms the vertebrae of San Francisco. First surveyed in 1847 by Jasper O'Farrell, the boulevard was laid out to provide a transition between two opposing grids. Intended to become the city's main and widest thoroughfare, it rapidly became the busiest. In the mid 19th century, San Francisco was regarded as the most developed western American outpost of urbanity, sophistication and refinement. By the conclusion of the century, its reputation rivaled many East Coast cities. Market Street became the base for cable car and horse car lines providing service along the local commercial corridor and connections to distant transfer destinations. The 1906 catastrophic San Francisco Earthquake and Fire briefly halted development. During the reconstruction, the Market Street cable car lines would be entirely removed and replaced by electric streetcars. Automobiles would replace streetcars. During the 1970s, the introduction of the subterranean Bay Area Rapid Transit system (BART) alleviated some of the traffic congestion. This edition is an architectural survey of Market Street's historical and contemporary buildings accompanied by historical profiles. The narrative begins from the Embarcadero until the Tenderloin district. Architectural Properties Photographed: "Cupid's Span", The Embarcadero and Folsom Streets The Embarcadero, Piers 1, 1½, 3 and 5 Hyatt Regency Hotel, 5 Embarcadero Center Robert Frost Memorial Plaque, California and Drumm Landmark Building, 1 Market Federal Reserve Bank Building, 101 Market One California Building, 1 California Mattson Building, 245 Market 101 California Building Pacific Gas and Electric Building, 77 Beale 333 Market Building 388 Market Building Liberty Bell Slot Machine Marker, 406 Market 425 Market Building One Front Building Mechanics Monument, Market at Battery and Bush Central Plaza, 455 Market One Bush Building Battery Bridge Public Art, Between Market and Bush First Market Tower, 525 Market 525 Market Fountain American Trust Bank Building, 532 Market Flat Iron Building, 544 Market 550 Market Building 554 Market Building

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dead poets society poet laureates: DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ANGELS Jayne Howard Feldman, When the popular Commune with the Angels was released in 1992, America's intense interest in angels was just beginning. But Jayne Howard Feldman had been listening to the angels for most of her life. She shared those experiences and sketched for the reader what she had learned about the angel hierarchy. Now she begins Driving Under the Influence of Angels where that earlier book left off. Her adventures with the angels have continued, and her life has been filled with the love, laughter and lessons that only the angels could provide. Journey with Jayne across the wonderful country as she follows her angelic assignments and weaves their light energy from coast to coast. Join her in the love that touches all who connect with the Angel Lady and her messengers. The inspirational stories included here show how a life guided by angels can be rewarding, full of synchronicity, and blessings. As Jayne travels, as she copes with and helps others cope with the death of loved ones, we see how God touches every aspect of our lives, using angels as His constant caregivers. No joy, no tragedy is unattended by these helpers in the Spirit Join in Jayne's angelic journeys and loving adventures as she follows the angels and their guidance, sharing her insights and the lessons she has learned from a lifetime association with the angels.

dead poets society poet laureates: The Writer's Handbook 2007 Barry Turner, 2006 Completely revised and updated with newly commissioned articles, the 20th anniversary edition of The Writer's Handbookis an indispensible companion for everyone in the writing profession. Containing over 6,000 entries covering every area of writing, with provocative articles and useful advice from leading representatives of the trade, this practical, straightforward guide provides full details on the core markets. In addition to the key areas of UK and US book publishers, agents, magazines, screenwriting, theater and poetry, writer's courses and circles, festivals, and grants and prizes, the guide also offers invaluable expert advice on contracts, copyright, and taxation.

dead poets society poet laureates: Best Kind of College, The Susan McWilliams, John E. Seery, 2015-07-06 Small college professors from across the United States explain why liberal arts institutions remain the gold standard for higher education. The fevered controversy over America∏s educational future isn\text{\text{t}} simply academic; those who have proposed sweeping reforms include government officials, politicians, foundation officers, think-tank researchers, journalists, media pundits, and university administrators. Drowned out in that noisy debate are the voices of those who actually teach the liberal arts exclusively to undergraduates in our nation □s small liberal arts colleges, or SLACs. The Best Kind of College attempts to rectify that glaring oversight. As an insiders∏ ∏guide∏ to the liberal arts in its truest form the volume brings together thirty award-winning professors from across the country to convey in various ways some of the virtues, the electricity, and, overall, the importance of the small-seminar, face-to-face approach to education, as typically featured in SLACs. Before we in the United States abandon or compromise our commitment to the liberal arts\(\text{O}\) oddly enough, precisely at a time when our global competitors are discovering. emulating, and founding American-style SLACs and new liberal arts programs∏we need a wake-up call, namely to the fact that the nation \subseteq SLACs provide a time-tested model of educational integrity and success. At last, some good news about education! This collection brings together essays by professors at small liberal arts colleges, voices largely unheard in the debates raging about higher education. It ranges widely through disciplines and across colleges, taking us into classrooms where we see the creative, inventive kinds of teaching that go on when classes are kept small and

professors can interact with students. This book is a welcome corrective to claims that higher education is <code>[broken[]</code> and in need of a high-tech fix, a quiet reminder that <code>[innovation[]</code> goes on as a matter of course at colleges where teaching is top priority and is kept to human scale. <code>[]</code> Gayle Greene, Scripps College <code>[McWilliams</code> and Seery have achieved something remarkable: they have found a new and interesting way to present the case for the liberal arts model in American education. More than that, they have managed to show the value of, as well as present the argument for, the model. At its best, the book recreates something of the experience of a liberal arts education in microcosm. This is a wonderful, provocative, engaging, and moving book. It is unlikely to be surpassed. <code>[]</code> Simon Stow, author of Republic of Readers? The Literary Turn in Political Thought and Analysis

dead poets society poet laureates: Gold to Rust: Monuments, Icons and Whitewashed History Marques Vickers, 2019-02-25 "Gold to Rust: Monuments, Icons and Whitewashed History" is author Margues Vickers' offbeat commentary and unconventional photographic journal. The edition includes travel impressions accumulated from over thirty years of travel spanning four continents. His photography documents and isolates unusual signage, monuments, and unorthodox sights frequently overlooked by traditional travel guides and journals. Over seventy cultural monuments are highlighted including: Alexandria Hotel Los Angeles Architectural Bones Artist Cemetery Statuary Bach's Leipzig Church Gig Berlin Burial Dilemma Berlin: Memorializing Dividing Demons Bob Arneson's Bricks Bridge Love Locks Bubblegum Alleys California Admission Day Monument California State Capitol Building California's Wine Industry Cascade Mountain Abandoned Railroad Tunnels Celebrity Burial Pilgrimages Chambers Bay Monolithic Ruins Charles Cros Claude Nicolas Ledoux Confederate Soldier Monuments in Western United States Cultural Gluttony Dijon's Ancient Jewish Cemetery Drive-In Theatres Dumas Brothel East German Border Guard Towers Empty Open Air Cathedrals Espresso Art Father Junipero Serra Fabrezan's Village Windmill Flooding Level Markings Frauenlob: Medieval Rock Star Gargoyles Atop Paris' Notre Dame Cathedral German City Holocaust Sidewalk Memorials Grand Park and Spring Street Junction Halley's Comet Hearst Landmark Building Jack London: Short Story Virtuoso James Dean Memorial Kennebunkport: Too Much Information Sign Kiwi Bacon Sculpture Liberty Belle Slot Machine: Birthplace of The One-Armed Bandit Lil' Sambo's Heritage Los Angeles' Chinatown Losing Everything Lotta Crabtree's Fountain Lou Graham of Seattle Lowest Rent Accommodations Mainz's Severed Extremity Sculptures Mechanics Monument Military Hardware Memorials Modesto's Keyboard Crosswalks Montana State Prison Murder Memorials New Palace Hotel Panama Canal Memories Paul Revere's Ride Personalized Soldier Memorials Pony Express Delivery Service Racetrack Church Raymond, Washington Iron Cut-Outs Robert Frost: The Road Not Taken Santiago de Compostela Pilgrimage Single Building School Houses Squatter's Rights Stock Market Casualties of 1929 Story in the Stones Tiny Houses Twilight Tourism Vladimir Lenin's Seattle Sculpture Voyeurism Sculpture Wilver Willie Stargell Wrinkles of the City Wall Murals

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