



## In Deep

*Kella McKinnon*

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## **In Deep** Kella McKinnon

Brielle

What would you do if you met a man that made you burn like wildfire from the inside out? Burn so hot that with one touch you forgot to breathe?

And if you knew that he had dangerous secrets? Would you be able to walk away?

I couldn't. As strong as I know I am, I kept going back for more of him. That body... those eyes...

I saw him for the first time on my very first day in Vegas, and even then I think a part of me knew, because I couldn't look away. It was like that moment when you see something flying towards you and you know it's going to hit you before you can ever move out of the way, so you just watch, transfixed, as it crashes into you. Cristos Vicario: owner of the illustrious Adagio hotel and casino and reputed billionaire playboy. He sure as hell wasn't what he seemed on the surface. That man had secrets. No one knew what a dark and dangerous world he lived in, and when I finally saw him for what he was, it was already far too late. I found myself inextricably tied to him forever. The course of my life altered. My entire world changed forever as he took away my freedom and gave me the key to my dreams in one fell swoop.

How could I have known that the one man who should have been my greatest nightmare would become the one thing I couldn't live without? And all I had to do was forgive him...

Cristos

I was only living for one thing, one goal, one endgame... until I saw Brielle. And when I touched her, it was all over for me... I just didn't know it yet. Not until I broke all of my rules for her, one after another, and that still wasn't enough. I wanted more.

I wanted it all. Yeah, what I did to her was pretty much unforgivable. I know that now. Some small part of me might have known it then, too, but it didn't matter. I had to hold on to her. I would have done anything to keep her... and I did.

Now I've put her in danger, dragged her into my world, and I don't know whether to push her away or hold her tighter. Letting her go would be the right thing to do... but every time I try to do the right thing... I can't.

When I take her, it's always hard and desperate, as if she'll disappear if I can't make her feel the same things I feel... if I can't force her to care about me enough that she'll look past everything else and see into my heart.

Last night, after she fell asleep, still wrapped in my arms, I rested my lips against the top of her head and inhaled the scent of her as she slept. Trusting me, even though she shouldn't. "I don't deserve you", I whispered. "But I want you. God, I want you so badly."

## In Deep Details

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## From Reader Review In Deep for online ebook

### SnoopyDoo's Book Reviews says

This was a fast and enjoyable read. It was written in dual POVs , we get Brielle's and Criss's POV , although Criss we get a lot of background story and from his childhood. I rather liked that because it shows us (mostly) why he does what he does and explains a lot of his behavior. He thinks and is a lot different than he seems to Brielle from her POV.

You can find my full review here:

<http://snoopydoosbookreviews.com/deep...>

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### Ashi- A hopeless romantic girl :D says

**Book 1- 3 stars**

**Book 2- 3.5 stars**

Tbh It was an ok read and mainly i enjoyed it just because the hero was acc. To my liking which is being possessive, passionate and dominating ..

Heroine was okay but she didn't impressed me at all..

Now if you want to read about a couple who every time see each other can't keep their hands off and want to just fuck ( pardon my lang but i think this was the word they were using quite often)each other at every turn that at times even i was feeling exhausted and wanted to shout!

Then this is the book for you!

The plot was very weak imo as the whole book was about nothing but Hero pushing Heroine away and f#cking her because he can't have her enough!

I enjoyed it to a point because hello? possessive hero!

And it was'nt that bad either ...

All over if you are in need of an Alpha man whose insecure , hurt and with trust issues then this is the book 4 u...

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### TeriLyn says

\*\**In Deep* generously provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.\*\*

*In Deep* tells the story of dark and dangerous billionaire bad boy, Cristos, and the educated beauty Brielle by way of alternating POV, engaging dialogue and an interesting plot progression. Both characters are quite strong in their being each coming from pasts they haven't fully let go. One of which we learned for certain is quite dark and haunted yet we don't fully understand the magnitude. The other much less dark but no less painful. Each of these characters entertained me.

I struggled back and forth with what to rate this book between three and four stars. While the writing could definitely be more fluid and bit more polished, there is no denying the fact of intrigue here. This author completely drew me into the story engrossing me in these two characters. The attraction to each other was sheer animalistic passion. Drawn to each other like magnetics, each taking a mature stance on the development of that relationship. There were definitely parts of the story that frustrated me, there's a push/pull dynamic between the two characters that gets redundant. But what was happening in this plot and working in the subplot – some of which is predictable yet still intriguing - kept me glued to the pages.

Know that I believe readers will be engrossed by Cristos and Brielle's story. Some finer aspects to the story could definitely be polished but overall I refuse to rate based on nitpicking. The story left me hanging and I had no other choice but to pick up book two immediately because the author left me wanting more of the story between these two. That in and of itself is testament to the story. I'd definitely recommend *In Deep* to romance lovers who don't mind a push/pull dynamic between heroine/hero, a little predictable mystery, and hot passion.

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### **Khanique McDaniel says**

I am a sucker for philosophy and quotes! At the beginning of each chapter, we got little quotes that got me thinking and I will admit to going crazy with my kindle highlighter for a few. This, I believe was one of the best features of this novel.

Though this is a story line that I have read before, I would like to think that this one was different. In the end, Criss didn't change much of his POV, but his theories and train of thought would make any psychologist delirious with joy! Yes, he's got issues. I can't say I connected much with his character but I will say that I wanna know what exactly it is that he's plotting.

Regardless of the cliche themes and progression, Brie was a spark in all that familiarity as she remained realistic and brought a different angle and approach to the usual billionaire romance story line. She questioned everything and became the more relateable of the two.

Initially, I thought that this would be one of those dual POV novels, where one character repeated everything that happened in the previous chapter, but then it turned into snapshots of Cristos's past. It's not a very nice past, but it was my first time being treated to this writing style and I found that most of the mystery, intrigue and questions came with the past recollections, as nothing note worthy happened in the present. Except for a whole lot of angry sex!

Yes, it is a cliffhanger and on top of that, I find myself still trying to figure out the point, climax and overall journey this story will be taking. I thought I had it all figured out but as the novel got closer to the end, I found that I really don't know much about the past or future. I am still trying to figure out the characters, their motivations and decisions. I am totally clueless as to where this novel is going or wants us to follow.

It has a few grammatical errors but it's nothing overwhelming and I find that Brie's personality and reactions allowed you to overlook some of the faults, as you remained interested in the story as it progresses, trying to find the end or point. My biggest concern now is how the author will be able to straighten and present a complete story in one more novel, because even the basics are still murky. The conversations were few and in between and we spent most of the time in both characters heads.

This novel can easily fall in the category of billionaire romance but there is something about Brie that makes it more. She adds a difference with her firm grip on life. There is nothing sexier than a confident and secure woman in love.

Regardless of my love for Brie, there is a story here and I really want to find out what it is. Also, there is the added intrigue of that kiss that we both want so badly :)

Who knew a kiss held so much power?

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### **100sweet says**

Loved this story. The H was a total ALPHA CAVEMAN!! So crazy possessive and obsessive. He is also dangerous and has no problems killing. His background story was really good and nothing like I've read before. Ladies, the sex scenes in this story alone are worth the price. Let me just say the H is always desperate for the h and can't wait. This does end in a cliffhanger and I'm reading the next one ASAP. The reason I didn't give this a perfect score was because of the beginning. So many people spoke openly about the H's sex life that it was a huge turnoff. No one will just walk up to you and discuss another person's performance in bed. That's stupid.

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### **Christine says**

I loved when twenty questions was played. Cristos wants to control more, but she will not let him. I am glad that with certain things Brielle stuck to her guns. I really liked the premise of the story.

Brielle has moved to Vegas to finish her dissertation and get in PhD in Anthropology. Her main focus is drug trafficking. She walks into Adagio hotel asking for permission to hand out questionnaires about drugs. There she runs into the owner of Adagio, Cristos Vicario. Cristos is the typical billionaire you read in the stories; he has sex with women, but does not do relationship. Cristos is intrigued with Brielle and off course he wants to have her, but she knows his reputation and has no interest in being a one night stand. However, Cristos pursues Brielle and from there the story starts as well as Brielle trying to find who is behind the drug smuggling that killed her father.

Brielle did not give into Cristos's charm right away, but sometimes I did not understand why Cristos wanted to be with Brielle. She appeared a bit immature at times. She loved to go out and drink.

My rating really has to do with all the inner dialogue. There was too much information about the type of drink, how many and then information about friends that I could have done without. My main interest and concern is with the main characters. Sometimes less is more in these types of books because I want to come up with my own conclusion.

A copy provided in exchange for an honest review.

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## **Michelle says**

3.5 - 4 Stars

Cristos Vicario: owner of the illustrious Adagio hotel and casino and reputed billionaire playboy. Doesn't do relationships and had a whole set of rules that he never broke until he sees Brielle one day.

Brielle Dalton: grad student in anthropology is in Vegas to finish up her research. She doesn't do one night stands. But she can't help the strong attraction she's never felt before when Cristos looks her way.

What would you do if you met a man that made you burn like wildfire from the inside out? Burn so hot that with one touch you forgot to breathe? ~Brielle

I was only living for one thing, one goal, one endgame... until I saw Brielle. And when I touched her, it was all over for me... I just didn't know it yet. Not until I broke all of my rules for her, one after another, and that still wasn't enough. I wanted more. ~Cristos

These two meet and the sparks start to fly. Cristos with his intense stare and his alpha possessive ways. I wish I could say that the sex was steamy but IMO it was just meh. Maybe the next book. lol

Cristos is holding back from Brielle. He has some serious trust issues and he knows when Bri finally sees him for what he is he's going to lose her.

Bri knows Cris is hiding some dark secrets and warning flags have gone up all over the place...but she can't stay away from this man.

We get both Cris and Bri's POV. We also get some of both of their painful pasts. I wish I could say a lot happened in this book but it didn't. I'm hoping the next book will deliver some action and we get some answers. When these two find out more about each other the shit is going to hit the fan. Of course I have a feeling everything is not what it seems.

I'm off to read book 2 In Deeper now.

Both books are under KU if you have it:))

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## **\*\*\*Cheryl\*\*\* says**

In Deep is the first book in a 2 part series by Kella McKinnon.

The story is about Brielle and Cristos and is told from both their POV. Brielle had recent moved to Vegas to carry out some more of her research whilst Cristos is a millionaire who owns one the hotels and casino in Vegas. When the pair meet there is an instant connection and attraction between them both. They have great chemistry. Cristos however doesn't do relationships and even has a no kissing rule, whereas Brie has no

intentions of being one of Christos ' one night stands. However Christos slowly starts to break some of his rules to get closer to Brie.

I really enjoyed this story. I like the duel POV as I felt it helped to explain the characters actions more especially with the inner dialogue however there were times when this went a little too far being a little descriptive. I liked the little aspect of the mystery that the story that kept me hooked because I wanted to find out about the characters and their secrets. Their relationship is very explosive and there some very hot sex scenes in the book.

The book is very well written and flows well. I was hooked from the beginning and wanted to keep reading. It does end on a slight cliffhanger and I am glad I had book 2 to go straight on to.

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\* I received a review copy from the author in exchange for an honest review

### **Tracey says**

In Deep is book 1 in a 2 book series by Kella McKinnon, This was my first book by Kella and I really enjoyed it.

Cris is a millionaire bad boy that owns a casino in Las Vegas, he has a reputation but people don't know he has another side, one his trying desperately to escape, until his free he has certain rules he sticks by, limited alcohol, no kissing and no relationships.....

Brie is completing her PhD paper, she's travelled to Las Vegas to complete her studies and maybe have some fun too.

Then these two meet.....

It's attraction they can't escape, Brie desperately wants to give into Cris, for her own sake, but knows he'll dump her straight after his got what he wants, so she keeps him waiting, shutting the door on him. Cris is forced to take action and takes Brie out, she's still not giving in. Eventually they get it together but by then things have changed between them, could they be falling for each other....

Cris was on one level your average alpha millionaire, underneath, deeper..... His a lot more, he has a darker side, but his still just a man that really want to be loved, but in his world he can't.

Brie is a breath of fresh air, I loved her strength, she gave in to him in the end, but she wanted it as much. She was very real too, all the way through, not trying to hold onto him, trying to do her own thing, even if Cris makes that hard.

Talking hard, when they become lovers, scratch that, when they start to f..k, they don't stop, Cris is very demanding but not kinky (as yet). I called it f..king as Cris won't kiss, his very passionate though, and Brie is very accommodating to his sexual needs.

You get both of their points of view in this book, so even if you think Cris may not give much away to Brie, in his part we're let in on his past and how he feels.

As I finished book 1, Heres some thoughts I had....

Omg Cris, what a life you've had, the things you've done are horrible, but it was pushed on you, so I can forgive you I think!, You need Brie, but can she forgive you.....

Brie your so strong, and Cris is so appealing to you, he has some hard and dark secrets do you care for him enough?

I loved this book, I really enjoyed Brie, maybe more than Cris! I'd definitely recommend this book to people.

Im going straight on to read In Deeper, book 2. I will be checking out authors other books too.

\*\*i received a complimentary copy of book for an honest review\*\*

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### **Carol (StarAngel's Reviews) Allen says**

**Book** – In Deep (In Deep #1)

**Author** – Kella McKinnon

**Publication Date** – October, 2014

**Genre** – Romance

**Type** – Part of Series

**Cliffhanger** - Yes

**Rating** – 4 out of 5 Stars

*Complimentary Copy generously provided by the Author in exchange for an honest review.*

### **My Thoughts - Story**

The title of this book means so much more than just a name – it is exactly the reading experience...DEEP. The love story between Cristos and Brielle is so entertaining and I had no problem connecting with these characters.

I did have a bit of a problem with the writing but it didn't deter me from being engrossed in the story line. It was frustrating at times with the YES/NO decisions with Brie..the tension..but seemed to work with the story.

### **Re-Cap**

This is a story about Christos who is a billionaire bad boy and Brielle with their headstrong ways – Brielle wants to keep her head on straight and finish her schooling-Christos never wanted more than a careless fling but for some reason when the two connect...staying away from each other is out of the question.

The ending left me wanting more!

**Reason for Reading – Author Request****Story** – 4 out of 5 Stars**Steam** – 4 out of 5 Stars**Angst** – 4 out of 5 Stars**Writing** – 3.5 out of 5 Stars**Content Flow** – 4 out of 5 Stars**HEA (Spoiler)** - (view spoiler)**Would Read More from Author?** Yes

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**Kim Howlett says**

In Deep. (In Deep #1)

I had never heard of the author, Kella McKinnon until recently when I heard of the In Deep Series. Having heard that it is a fantastic series, I couldn't wait to read the series when I was asked too.

In Deep is the first book in the In Deep series. The story was told in alternate POVs between the two main characters Brie and Cristos. I love books told in alternate POVs. I think when books are told this way you get a much better insight into the characters thoughts, so you can connect with them quicker and you get a better look at their lives that you wouldn't get if you only have one point of view in a story.

I enjoyed the story very much. It gripped me right from the start and I couldn't put it down. The story flowed brilliantly and the characters were very well developed. The story was everything I wanted it to be and more. Brielle (Brie) is spending a few months in Vegas. Whilst there she attends a party that will change her life forever.

Cristos (Criss) is the owner of the Grand Adagio hotel and Casino. This is where he first sees Brie and wants her. Criss is a gorgeous man who is extremely confident, arrogant, and very charming. Criss has a reputation with the ladies of being the king of one night stands. He's proud of his reputation and doesn't care who knows about it.

Both are drawn to each other instantly, but Brie is warned of Criss's reputation so she makes the decision to stay away from him especially after Brie confronts him about his reputation. Criss keeps pursuing Brie until she finally gives in. Their relationship instantly becomes explosive. Mostly because Brie can tell Criss is keeping secrets and she doesn't understand why he is so standoffish and closed off towards her. Because of the alternate POVs you get to find out about Criss's past and upbringing. This makes you understand why he is the way he is and why he is so standoffish and why he is the way he is. Once I understood a bit about Criss's past and childhood I warmed to him so much more and I connected with his character better. If there wasn't an alternate POV then I don't think the book would have been as good, because we needed to understand all we do about Criss from him and him alone.

Brie also has suffered loss and because of that she is so scared of leaving this world without making a difference somehow or another. All she wants to do is help Criss and heal him. She is compassionate towards Criss through the little information she knows of Criss's childhood.

I really loved both characters and I can't think of anything the author could have done to make the characters or storyline better. They are both intriguing, complex, interesting and mysterious.

The author made the story perfect. She balanced the book out brilliantly with interest, sexual tension, passion, need, lust, want and love. I love how the author made the story fast-paced so you were gripped from start to finish. I couldn't put the book down and read it in one sitting. Some parts were really funny, which I thought was brilliant as it broke up the seriousness of the book just where you needed it to.

I loved Criss even though he was so messed up. I loved how interesting his character was. He has some

serious issues and was slightly twisted but I loved him and loved how the author created such a mind blowing character who has everything a great character needs.

I can't wait to read book 2.

4.5 Stars

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### **Jane says**

In Deep (#1) by Kella Mckinnon

3 Stars

Where to start? Well, the storyline is quite generic and predictable for this style of book, self made multi-millionaire/billionaire, broody male lead with a secret and several issues preventing him from committing to a female. Our female lead is your average girl, who also has a troubled past but financially lives hand to mouth, his total opposite! The pair meet and we have insta' lust/love each one thinking the other is the most perfect person they ever did meet

Did I groan at the fact that she just happens to be so special that he breaks all his own rules for her? That he wants her to be the first girl he sleeps with... without a condom? That he suddenly doesn't mind if she accidentally becomes pregnant, in fact he is slightly excited by the prospect. YES I groaned. I didn't want to groan, because I am the ultimate romance lover so I don't mind clichés but something about this book failed to make me swoon.

Was it Brielle and her accepting nature that did it? Maybe. I mean when Criss decided she should move into his hotel and he had his man-slave pack her stuff and move it without her knowledge I just thought, NO WAY, I'd go crazy at that kind of caveman behaviour. Yes she is a little indignant but then with a flick of her hand and an 'oh I'm too tired to argue' she just accepts it and goes along with it. It was irritating, I wanted to slap her into reality.

There was sex, lots of it, but I didn't feel it, some of the scenes were quite wooden and not all, but some of the vocab was awkward and unnatural. The underlying story faded into the background, even with Cristos' flashbacks, which came late into the book, it wasn't enough to bring it to the forefront.

Overall it was an okay read but I was in the mood for something fresh and what I got was a rehash of all the books I've read before. His refusal to 'kiss' because it was too intimate was so 'Pretty Woman' and I was disappointed at the lack of originality.

Copy supplied for review

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### **Breanna Eichhorn says**

Brielle has her whole life planned out. She is in Vegas to finish her PH.D dissertation in anthropology and

she was there to have fun in her relatively care free last days as a student, she never relized how short life was. She spent the last four years researching the impact of the drug trade on the people of Honduras. Brielle's fatgher was an FBI agent and he was killed in the line of duty. She hoped that her work would make a difference too. She chose a hotel that was a couple blocks away from the strip. Casa Del Rio the hotel looked a bit seedy and it also was in the wrong part of town. When Cristos and Brielle met for the first time was at the Adiago. Brielle thought that doing her remaining research at the Adiago, so she went to the HR department to make sure that it was okay. Cristos always gets what he wants and what he wants is Brie. Cristos called her to ask her out for dinner. When Criss took her to where she was staying, he wasn't happy with where she was staying. He doesn't like that she got a job with David Barros as his personal assistant.

Brielle lost her father five years ago. She is worried that she is going to loose Jake too., she wants to work in Honduras. She also looking for a serious relationship. Jake is Brielle's older brother by ten years. He didn't take their dad's death very well. He is single mindedly searching for their father's killer. He is very pertective of Brielle.Cristos Vicario is the owner of the illustrious Adiago Hotel and Casino. He is a reputed Billionaire Playboy, has rules that he doesn't break. Lost his brother and father in a car accident. He is a love them and leave them type. Alexis is Brielle's friend and she works HR for the Adiago. Manny is Cristos friend, he is married and has two children Rosa and MJ. Elsa is very nice, Manny's wife. David Barros is Brielle's boss, Cristos doesn't like him.

This is the first in the series In Deep, and its my first book by Kella McKinnon and it most definitely will not be my last. I loved Kella's style of writing, I loved that I was drawn into the story from the first page . I also loved how well the characters were developed. I also loved the story line. I highly recommend this book to everyone!

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### **Book-Bosomed blog says**

3.5 stars

“He’s bad news. Looks all polished and business-like, but he isn’t, not underneath. He’s heartache and misery all covered up in wads of cash and fancy suits. F\*cks like a beast though.”

That’s the warning about Cristos Vicario that Brielle Dalton receives. But she doesn’t heed the warning.

“Once is chance. Twice if fate.”

And fate is one theme of the book. Brielle’s path crosses with Cristos more than once and he can’t resist the pull to her. Cristos Vicario is a billionaire playboy with a dark side. Hooking up with him is a gamble, bigger than any bet placed on the tables of his casino in Vegas. She’s nothing like he normally goes for. Brielle is an anthropology student working on her Ph.D., temporarily in Vegas as she finishes up her dissertation.

Cristos is the type of man used to getting what he wants and in a lot of stories his type would get the girl with his ways. But Brielle is admirable in her resistance to him, even when she feels the pull between them as much as the reader. And yet Brielle has a ton of patience with a man that won’t break his hard fast rule of kissing. The rule being he doesn’t kiss!

Cristos is demanding, domineering, and temperamental. He’s crafted in a way that makes him more likeable to the reader, and perhaps even vulnerable by the back story of his life, provided at times during his point of view. The alternating first person point of view works well at showing both of their sides. Cristos ways are

frustrating to Brielle, but make more sense to the reader given his past and upbringing.

What is Cristos's big plan for his life? How will Brielle change/interfere with it? Will he ever open up enough to hold onto Brielle or will he lose her, a casualty of his trust issues?

Book one ends on a cliffhanger as this really is a two-part story so plan on reading both books or purchasing the box set.

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### **Nikki Reeves says**

This was my first book by Kella and I loved it. Brielle moved to Vegas to finish up her PhD so she could help others in another country. We learn that Brielle's father was in the FBI and so is her brother Jake. Brie's father was killed and her brother is out to find the people involved. Brie settles into the city and starts her investing to finish her work and that's the first time she sees Cristos. She is drawn to him right away but they only have a short encounter. Then she meets a girl named Lexi who is helping her with her research and doesn't realize Criss is Lexi's boss. Lexi invites Brie to a party and that's when she actually meets Criss for the first time. First I loved how this book was told from both main characters POV's. I knew Criss was hiding something and throughout the book we get a back story of some of the things he has been through. Cristos says he doesn't date but I loved the fact that he couldn't stay away from Brie. Criss is definitely an alpha male in every way and even though Brie fought him for a while, she finally gave into him. I loved how these two bickered back and forth with each other and both are very hard headed. Sometimes I wanted to smack Criss and say wake up before you loss the best thing that has ever happened to you. I also loved how Brie gives it right back to Criss but then again she always seems to fall for his charm in the end. Cristos is a character I feel in love with because he is so determined not to fall in love but yet you can see him falling for Brie and he doesn't even realize how far. The end of this book is a cliffhanger and I was like NO I need to know what happens now!!!! So needless to say I am jumping right into the next story because I have to see how the story plays out for the wonderful characters.

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