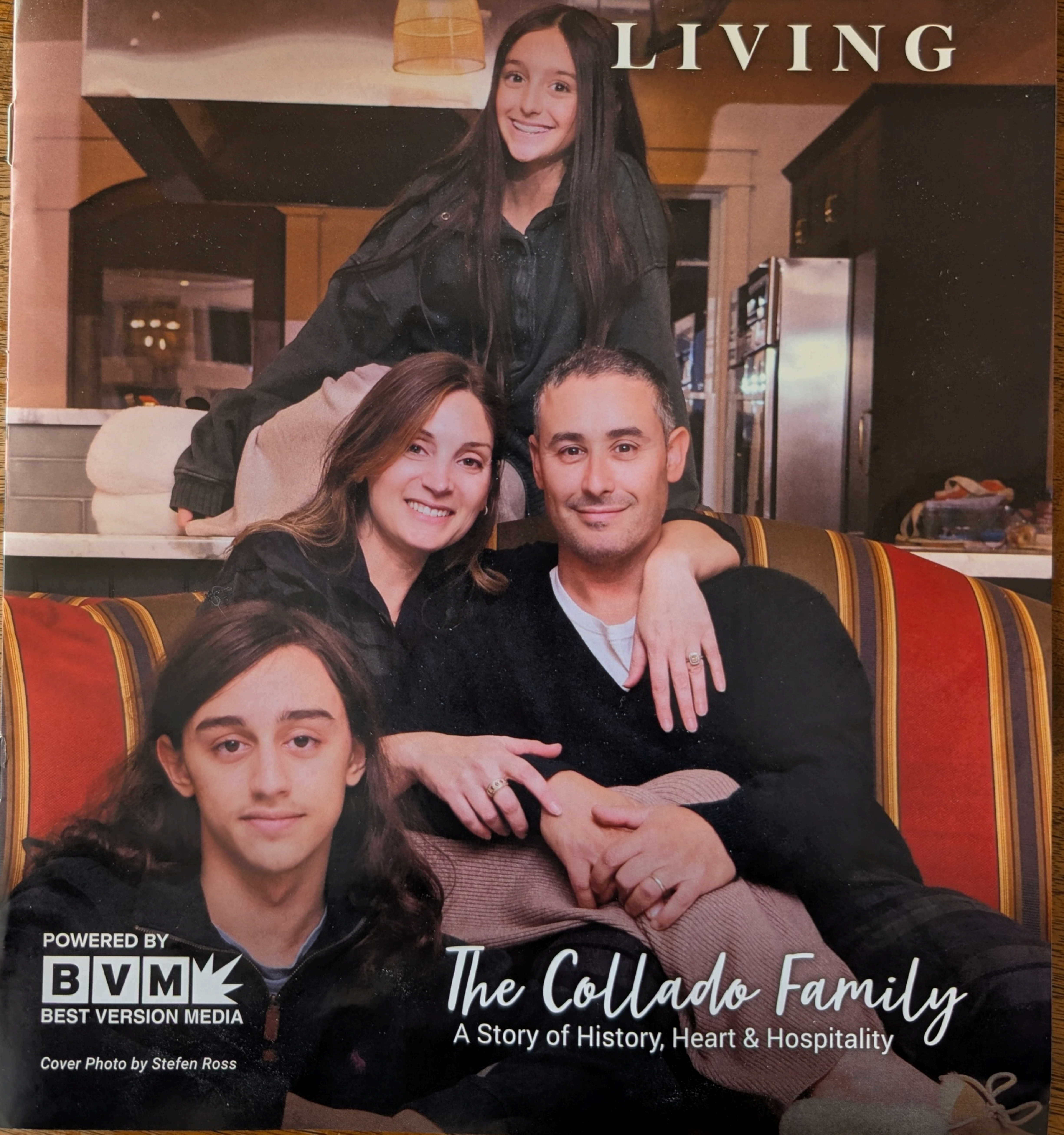


JANUARY 2026

# GO SHIEN

## LIVING



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*The Collado Family*  
A Story of History, Heart & Hospitality

*"My husband built me a castle, and I just want to keep sharing it."*

Meet the

# Collado Family..

*There is a special kind of magic that happens when a family falls in love with a community—when the place they choose to call home becomes woven into their story as tightly as their own memories. For Emily and Dave Collado, that story began nearly two decades ago, when a young couple from Manhattan took a chance on a little village known for its charm, warmth, and walkable streets.*



Every so often, you meet a family whose story feels inseparable from the story of Goshen itself—full of history, heart, service, and a whole lot of perseverance. Emily and David Collado are one of those families.

"We moved up from New York City," Emily told me as we sat together in the grand kitchen of their lovingly restored Victorian on Parkway. "We didn't have family here, but we had friends. If we were going to leave all the convenience and wonderful chaos of the city, it had to be for somewhere truly charming. Goshen had sidewalks, restaurants, and places to walk to. It felt like a real village—and I wanted to be a part of that." For David, a career firefighter with the New York Fire Department, currently a Lieutenant with Ladder 32 in the Bronx, moving to Goshen also made sense practically.

"A lot of the guys I worked with lived up here," he said. "They told me, 'Come up to Goshen, you'll love it.' They were right. It was affordable, commutable, and honestly, one of the safest places I've ever lived. Between the law enforcement and first responders who call this place home, there is always someone ready to help."

Their children—David, now 17, and Beatrix, 13—have grown up walking these same sidewalks and attending Goshen's schools. David, in 11th

grade, is a talented musician who plays multiple instruments, including accordion, piano, guitar, and bass who also plays tennis and skis. Beatrix, in 8th grade, is an active member of Odyssey of the Mind, plays tennis, and competes on both strike varsity, school team and travel volleyball teams. For the Collado family, the village became more than a place to live—it became a place to put down roots.

## A LIFELONG VOLUNTEER AND LEADER

Ask Emily what she does for a living, and she'll smile and say a "volunteer professional," but her work in Goshen has shaped the community in extraordinary ways. Emily's presence in the community has been transformative.

She has spent 11 years serving on the Board of Trustees of the Goshen Public Library & Historical Society, currently as Board President. She volunteers with Odyssey of the Mind, previously led her daughters' local Girl Scouts Troop, managed the Goshen Sarah Wells Service Unit, served as President of the parent-cooperative preschool Goshen Area Parent Nursery School [GAPNS], and currently sits on the Town of Goshen Board of Assessment Review.

"I like working with organizations and finding ways to align them," she said. "To create events

and projects that actually serve the community in the most seamless, efficient way possible."

Her proudest volunteer chapter is undeniably tied to the library—the place that captured her heart most deeply.

Years ago, she was approached by a library employee who recognized that the board needed a younger voice—someone who understood what families with preschoolers and elementary-aged children needed from their library.

"At the time, my kids were little. I was there constantly for story times, programs, and events," Emily explained. "They asked me to run for the board because the library was preparing to put a referendum forward to fund a new building, and they wanted someone who represented young families."

Once on the board, Emily helped lead the "get out the vote" effort, working with the library, the architectural firm, RCLS, and EveryLibrary to educate residents about what their tax dollars could bring to the community. "We had to be honest. People needed to understand that yes, taxes would increase—but the return would be enormous. Accessibility. Safety. Space. Dignity. A library the whole community could grow into." "The old library was beautiful,

but not functional for all. That building couldn't serve our population anymore."

Her passion was shaped by personal experience. Recovering from a broken ankle, she once had to scoot down the old library stairs just to attend a meeting. "It was humiliating—and a real reminder that the building wasn't properly equipped or adequate for our population. The new library is gorgeous and welcoming. To know I played a part in that... I'm very proud."

Today, she beams with pride at the gleaming, inclusive library that stands as one of the village's true treasures.

#### A LIFE OF SERVICE: FIREFIGHTING, MENTORSHIP & COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Service runs through every part of the Collado Family.

While Emily serves the community through leadership and creativity, Dave was hired by the NYC Fire Dept 1 month after 9/11 and then transferred to Squad 61 where he spent 18 years in a special operations company. He also serves on FEMA's NY Task Force 1 Urban Search and Rescue Team responding to weather related disasters, building collapses and acts of terrorism nationwide. Dave also contributes through service and mentorship. In addition to his work with the FDNY, he is Captain of Goshen's Minisink Hook & Ladder Company, one of three volunteer firehouses in the village.

Goshen's three stations—so close together that many newcomers assume they're redundant—have a fascinating history David loves to share.

"Back in the day, the train tracks divided the town," he explained. "If a fire broke out on one side and a train was sitting on the tracks, the companies on the other side couldn't reach it. So, each side needed its own firehouse. They developed their own traditions—some friendly rivalry, too—and that's why we still have three today."

David's mentorship in firefighting stretches far beyond responding to calls locally in Goshen. Having Served as a volunteer firefighter himself from age 17-25, now, through the FDNY's Career Mentorship Program, David is deeply invested in training and mentoring aspiring firefighters. He guides younger candidates through the demanding physical and psychological process of becoming firefighters.

His influence has come full circle. "I've had kids from the Goshen Fire Department who joined at 16 volunteering, and now I'm going to fires with them in the Bronx," he said. "That's an amazing feeling."

One of his favorite stories involves a young man from Co-op City in the Bronx who doubted he could pass the stairmaster challenge for the physical test.

"He said, 'I don't think I can do it,'" David recalled. "So I asked, 'What floor do you live on?' He said the 18th. I told him, 'Then stop taking the elevator.' He did—and now he's on the fire department. When I see him on runs, he always gives me a wave. I know exactly what that wave means."

#### HOW IT ALL BEGAN: A TATTOO AND A MYSPACE MESSAGE

Their love story is as colorful as their magnificent house.

Years ago, David was touring with a band and played a show in College Park, Maryland. After the show, a fan invited the band to visit them at Simmons College in Boston. David went—and Emily happened to be one of the roommates.

"That was 2000," David said. "We met, life moved on, and then years later we reconnected... on MySpace."

He messaged her without even being sure she'd remember him. "But he has a very memorable tattoo," Emily said, laughing. "A Willy Wonka tattoo. I saw

a reference and thought, 'Oh my God, that's the guy with the Willy Wonka tattoo.'"

They went on a date, reconnected for good, and the rest is history. This year, they celebrated 18 years of marriage, and they're still laughing together across the dinner table—and now across the breakfast table they serve to guests from around the world.

#### THE TRACK FIRE – THE FIRST TIME HE SAW THE HOUSE

In 2007, during a massive fire at the harness track—one so intense that horses were running loose in panic, cars ignited from the heat, and flames lit the sky—David found himself in a tower ladder bucket fighting the inferno.

"It was chaos," he recalled. "Horses everywhere, people running to help. As I'm up there putting water on it, I looked across and saw this street I'd never driven down—and this house."

#### STEFEN ROSS



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The house—then a decaying, long-foreclosed property—lodged itself in his memory.

He had no idea that soon thereafter, he and Emily would buy that very structure and transform it into something spectacular.

### RESTORING HISTORY: A DESIGNER'S DREAM

Emily is not simply creative—she is formally trained, a graduate of the New York School of Interior Design. And when the Collados bought the home, she decided to uncover every layer of its past.



She spent hours in the local history department at the library, combing through archives and discovering the home's origins, including references from more than 150 years ago.

Then David unearthed the greatest treasure: a vintage postcard on eBay depicting the home in its Victorian glory.

"That postcard changed everything," Emily said. "It showed us exactly what this house was meant to be. We weren't just renovating a tired structure. We were restoring history."

With that as their blueprint, they decided not to renovate it as a simple center-hall colonial, but to resurrect a Victorian jewel—one that would later become the Parkway House designed specifically for hospitality, with generous rooms, gathering spaces, and thoughtful details.

### THE PARKWAY HOUSE: A CASTLE MEANT TO BE SHARED

The result of eight years of work is nothing short of breathtaking.

David, who does about 90% of the construction work himself, rattles off the scope of the project almost casually—18,000 feet of wiring, 36 smoke detectors, 111 sprinkler heads, 332 outlets, miles of piping, fixtures, finishes, and systems installed by his own hands.

"If I wasn't working my regular 24-hour shifts at the firehouse, I was here," he said. "For years."

Emily designed every room—wallpapers, paint colors, furnishings, art, and all the tiny details that make the house feel instantly welcoming and endlessly interesting. The whole home is her living portfolio, a three-dimensional calling card of her talents.

"I don't have a big website full of past projects," she said. "This house is my showpiece."

The furnishings are as rich in character as the architecture. Many pieces came from Dave's Grandpa, who gifted her furniture as he downsized. Other items came from aunts who were simplifying their own

homes. Still more were discovered through Facebook Marketplace, thrift shops, antique finds, and quirky sources—from funky sofas in the kitchen to heirloom-quality tables and grandfather clocks.

"You can't buy a table like this anymore," Emily said, resting a hand on one beautifully worn surface. "It has a soul. And I love that things in this house have lived other lives before they came here."

The result is a layered, lived-in elegance—warm, inviting, and never precious.

"I don't want anyone to be afraid to sit anywhere or touch anything," Emily said. "I want them to feel like this is their home while they're here."

### A HOUSE FULL OF LIFE

The Parkway House is designed for multi-generational stays, big families, and groups. Every room is large, with flexible sleeping arrangements. The smallest room sleeps four; the enormous top-floor suite can sleep up to eighteen, with bunk-style beds, a huge living room, and multiple bathrooms—perfect for bridal parties, sports teams, reunions, or extended families gathering for a milestone.

"I love it when all the doors upstairs are open," Emily said. "It feels like a college dorm—kids running back and forth, adults gathering around the kitchen, everyone moving through the house like they belong. That's my favorite." Guests come from all over: Legoland visitors, West Point families, wedding parties from local venues, people attending Jehovah's Witness conventions, contractors working nearby, apple and pumpkin pickers, leaf peepers, and families returning to the area to visit loved ones or honor someone's life.

Some of the most meaningful stays are the quiet ones.

"It's a delicate thing, hosting families who are here for funerals," Emily shared. "You don't send check-in instructions with a

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bunch of smiley faces. But the togetherness piece—the way a big family can come from all over and be under one roof, celebrating a life—that’s really beautiful to witness.”

Bookings come through word-of-mouth, direct contact, social media, and other platforms that allow them to carefully choose who they host, ensuring the Parkway House remains a peaceful, respectful environment.

Guests don’t just stay at Parkway House—they quietly weave themselves into the life of Goshen while they’re here. By choosing a home in the village instead of a highway hotel, they end up strolling into our shops, grabbing coffee at local cafés, booking dinner at local restaurants and discovering the small businesses that keep our town vibrant.

Their presence helps sustain the restaurants, boutiques, and services that locals love all year long. The couple says one of their favorite things is spotting their guests “out in the wild”—running into a family at the market, recognizing a couple at a downtown restaurant, or seeing kids they just served breakfast to exploring Main Street. Moments like that are a reminder that Parkway House is more than lodging; it’s a gentle bridge between visitors and the community they’re helping to support.

#### FAMILY LIFE: SKIS, LOCAL EATS AND VACATION TIME

Outside of the bed-and-breakfast, the Collados are a busy family. They’re “volleyball parents,” with their daughter playing both school and travel volleyball. Both kids ski—and the whole family joins in when they can. Tennis, Odyssey of the Mind, music; their schedule is full and joyful.

When they’re not hosting or running to practices, you might find them out to eat in the village.

“We all love El Rancho,” Emily said without hesitation. “It’s our go-to.”

Travel, when they can squeeze it in, tends to be active and adventure-filled: ski trips like their memorable nights in Mont-Tremblant, Montreal or they love all-inclusive vacations where the kids can explore and stay entertained, and smaller road trips where they always seek out local libraries, playgrounds, and mom-and-pop restaurants over chains.

#### LOOKING AHEAD: AN OPEN DOOR TO THE COMMUNITY

When I asked Emily what she sees for the next five years at the Parkway House, her answer was simple and heartfelt: “I want to

keep this house full of life. Families, friends, teams, people making memories. I want this to be a fun, warm place where people feel truly together—because so many of us are isolated now. My husband built me a castle, and I just want to keep sharing it.”

David, ever the builder, nodded. “She dreams it, I build it,” he joked. But beneath the humor is a shared belief that what they’ve created is bigger than just a business—it’s a gift to the community.

Before I left, I asked them what they most wanted to say to their neighbors in Goshen.

Emily didn’t miss a beat: “Come meet us. You’ve watched this house change for years. You’ve wondered what’s happening behind the walls. Come see what we’ve built. Knock on the door if you see us. We love this village, and we’re proud to be part of it and proud to share our home with you. Chances are, we already have a friend in common. Our doors are open”

And from David: “Goshen is home. It’s safe, it’s welcoming, and it’s filled with people who care. We’re grateful to live here—and we’re grateful to share a little piece of it with everyone who walks through our doors.”

The Collado family did more than restore an old house. They resurrected a piece of history.

They built a place for stories—old and new—to live.

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