

Borne the Battle

Episode # 217

Halloween Special with Navy Veteran Jennifer Marshall

<https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/80378/borne-battle-217-jennifer-marshall-navy-veteran-host-cws-mysteries-decoded/>

(Text Transcript Follows)

[00:00:09] Introduction Monologue:

<p>Tanner Iskra (TI):</p>	<p>Oh, let's get it! Monday. October 26th, 2020, <i>Borne the Battle</i>. Brought to you by the Department of Veterans Affairs. The podcast that focuses on inspiring veteran stories and puts a highlight on important resources, offices, and benefits for our veterans. I am your host Marine Corps, veteran Tanner Iskra. Hope everyone had a great week outside of podcast land. Man, October has flown by. Maybe because, I don't know, maybe because work has been steady to say the least. Halloween week is already upon us and the VA's Office of Community Care. I think it's office of community care? An office within this very large ship that we call VA wants me to remind you that if you haven't gotten a flu shot yet, now is the time to get it. This year, more than ever. It's important to protect yourself, your family and your community. VA is making it easier than ever before for eligible veterans to get their flu shot, either at VA Medical facility or more than one of 60,000 in network community locations. Eligible veterans can go to a nearby in-network retail pharmacy, or urgent care center, show a government-issued ID card and receive a standard or high dose flu shot.</p> <p>The flu vaccine not only helps reduce the chance that you will contract the flu, but it can also reduce the severity and symptoms if you do become infected with the flu. Join the Department of Veterans Affairs in fighting the flu by getting your no-cost flu shot today. You can find a participating community partner by visiting www.va.gov [Link] and select find a location from the top menu.</p> <p>No new ratings or reviews this week. Hey, after all the positive feedback last week, I'll take it. You guys had a lot to share with other listeners and potential first time listeners. As always, I appreciate the kind words and helping me share it and spread the information in this podcast. As always, if you subscribe, leave a rating, and or review on Apple Podcasts. It helps push this podcast up in the algorithms, giving more veterans, a chance to catch the information provided not only in</p>
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the interviews, but in the benefits breakdown episodes and in the news releases. So, thank you for helping with that.

Speaking of news releases we got two this week. First one says for immediate release, to better support veterans impacted by COVID-19. The US Department of Veterans Affairs announced recently it is partnering with Blue Star Families for the COVID-19 Military Support Initiative.

The mission of the COVID-19 Military Support Initiative is to share information, maintain engagement, and develop best practices and policy approaches to ensure our military families receive the support it deserves. COVID-19 Military Support Initiative built upon previous work done between VA and Blue Star Families to include comprehensive coverage of the federal response to include a daily newsletter, hosting virtual town halls, identifying best practices and policy solutions, and creating a repository to capture frequently asked questions. For more information, go to COVID-19militarysupport.org. Okay. And the second one says the US Department of Veterans Affairs announced recently it is developing a national women's veterans oncology system of excellence.

Through the National Women Veterans' Oncology System of Excellence, current partnerships with the National Cancer Institute, academic medical centers and others, VA is able to provide care via teleoncology and clinical trials to women veterans nationwide. The partnerships with medical and research universities will help advance and expand teleoncology and other services to provide the best cancer care and treatment options to women veterans across the nation.

As part of this effort, VA is seeking to partner with more oncology, medical and research organizations and universities that deliver world class care and research. For more information on becoming a VA partner contact cancer@va.gov [Link]. And finally To learn more about VA health services for women veterans, visit womenshealth.va.gov [Link].

Other news that I saw outside the VA as it was on the FCC's website, is that President Trump just signed the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act. This will designate 988 as the official national suicide hotline. Now the three digit number isn't online yet. You know that the FCC and the nation's telecommunication companies are much like VA, much like the DOD, much like many fortune 500 companies -

	<p>they're very large ships with tiny rudders. Hard to make swift changes at an enterprise level, and they're trying to get many ships to talk in one voice and on one comm line. They did give themselves two years. And in the meantime, you can call the National Suicide Prevention Hotline by dialing +1 800-273-8255.</p> <p>Veterans who call that number can press one and be connected with the veteran's crisis line. Much like episode 212 with Aaron Quinonez this is just another possible tool that's out there for your toolkit and I'm glad to see it take shape.</p> <p>All right. So it is Halloween week and I thought we'd do something a little different here in the battle. There have been some credible reports lately about government footage, containing UAPs, which is a unidentified aerial phenomenon, AKA UFOs. But, the government can't even identify if they're a physical object, that's why they're called UAPs. Either way, if you paid attention, there's been a lot of talk about some official Naval footage and former government officials making the rounds on credible news sites, podcasts, and the like. And I wanted to dive into it with our very own <i>Borne the Battle</i> paranormal expert, Navy veteran, Jennifer Marshall. She hosts a show on CW, called <i>Mysteries Decoded</i>, where she investigates the paranormal. So for Halloween, we got her take on all the recent information that's been released. Take a listen.</p>
Music [00:06:05]	

[00:06:08] Interview:

(TI):	Well, welcome back, Jen.
Jennifer Marshall (JM):	Thank you.
(TI):	I gotta say, in the Tanner Iskra iteration of Borne the Battle. You are currently the guest that has return the most.
(JM):	Oh, hey, I feel honored.
(TI):	That is a good thing. You know, we did your normal appearance way back in a normal quote unquote, normal appearance way

	back in Episode 139. It was I think it was one of the first episodes that I did.
(JM):	Yeah, it was it was. I remember you just taken over.
(TI):	Yeah, I think it was like that first month. And then you came back earlier this year for the state of the military and film panel. And that was a lot of fun.
(JM):	Oh, my gosh, to be on the same panel as Captain Dye. I was like, holy cow. I'm not worthy.
(TI):	So worthy. But man during the panel, we didn't even get a chance to approach what you've done since your first time here. What? That first episode was about a year and a half ago.
(JM):	Oh, yeah.
(TI):	So much stuff has gone on for you.
(JM):	A lot. Yeah, I've been a busy bee for sure.
(TI):	Are you out filming again? Did I see that?
(JM):	I am. Yeah, I'm in Georgia right now. And I get back, and then I have about six days back home and then I head to Albuquerque and then three days later, I go to Kentucky. So it's been crazy pants, yeah.
(TI):	Outstanding. I think the biggest thing that's happened is that you now have your own show on CW, Mysteries Decoded.
(JM):	I do that just got renewed. Yeah.
(TI):	For season three?
(JM):	Yeah.

(TI):	Outstanding. As a year and a half and you're in your third season. Marrying that private investigator skill set that we talked about with the world that you work in most often in California/
(JM):	Yeah.
(TI):	For those that have never heard it, can you give a quick overview of the show? Or never seen it or heard it.
(JM):	So Mysteries Decoded is a show on the CW. And so it pairs me, a licensed private investigator, with an expert in the field. So we look into historical mysteries, paranormal occurrences, and we try to get to the bottom of these legendary cases, and it's just been such a blessing to work on the show. Because in my private practice, there's not a client who would ever pay me to go investigate whether or not Lizzie Borden killed her family. So it's been a treat. It's been great.
(TI):	Which is the exact reason I thought, perfect time to bring you back, Halloween week.
(JM):	Right.
(TI):	I mean, you're on a show that I mean, you've investigated vampires, the Moth Man, aliens on multiple occasions, depending on the case.
(JM):	Mm hmm.
(TI):	And a subject that is my personal favorite as a child of the woods of the Pacific Northwest. Bigfoot.
(JM):	Yes. That was one of my favorite episodes. And I went into it thinking this is garbage and completely not true. And I left wondering, you know, I left wondering, is there something out there that exists that we don't necessarily know and it could be in a very, very small number. But you know, Dr. Jeff Meldrum, he has such an amazing collection of evidence that he has in his lab that no, we can't necessarily track it back to Bigfoot. But there's nothing that can it can be tracked back to right now. So it's intriguing to say the least.

(TI):	I didn't see the episode yet. But I did see the promo and I liked how your co-host. You guys like we I think the promo said some of you were staying the night out there. And he had this fear of terror. And you were like, not a problem. That was funny.
(JM):	We were in the middle of nowhere. We were in the middle of nowhere. And there's bears out there. And you know, I could see why he would have that trepidation. Even if you didn't believe in Bigfoot.
(TI):	Yeah.
(JM):	We were literally in the middle of nowhere. We didn't see anyone the entire day. We didn't see anybody.
(TI):	Where were you guys at?
(JM):	No, we were in British Columbia. And so we drove I think the only people that we saw the entire time we were out there were logging trucks. And that was the occasional logging truck that we passed.
(TI):	I could share with you when it comes to Bigfoot. A lot of logger stories.
(JM):	Mm hmm.
(TI):	But, now as a private investigator, how do you start an investigation into something that is paranormal?
(JM):	You know, it's difficult. Thankfully, we have a wonderful team for the show. It's a research team. You know, it's several people just because of how quickly we shoot the episodes. There's no way that I could do all the research myself. So we have a great team of researchers and we basically sit down and we look at whatever it is the subject as a whole. I think too often investigators say alright, Lizzie Borden, for example. Okay, we think she killed her parents. Let's look at that route instead of you know, the parents ended up

	<p>dead. How did this happen? So I try to stay away from tunnel vision because that really is the death of an investigator.</p>
(TI):	<p>As veterans. Well, I'm sure as an investigator as well. You know, there's an instant credibility when evidence is government sourced. And, you know, with even with Bigfoot with a lot of your shows, you've been able to share a lot of that. What do you think? I mean, do you have a verdict in your own mind? What is Bigfoot? What is out there?</p>
(JM):	<p>I do, I think that in the future, in the near future, something will be identified as not necessarily a missing link, but something that we didn't know about previously. And this happens all the time. Hundreds of species are identified, you know, on a regular basis, thousands of species. So to say that we know of everything that exists in the world is just patently untrue. I think that something will be discovered. And people who believe in Bigfoot, Sasquatch, Yowie, Yeren, whatever it's called in different areas of the world will come back and say, this thing that was just discovered, even though its scientific name is ABC, whatever they decide to name it. This is what we've been talking about. This is the Bigfoot, this is the Yowie, this is Yeren. The fact is it has existed. It's existed over so many cultures, it's existed over centuries. And to say that there's absolutely nothing there. I don't believe that. There's too many. And I'm the first one to dismiss eyewitness accounts. But there are too many people coming forward, especially in the logging community, as you mentioned earlier, those are not typically people who are going to admit to seeing something like a cryptid. They're not used to saying yes, I saw something because they're in a position where they're going to be mocked, and be belittled. So I think that there is basically for most people that come forward, there is no reason for them to come forward. Most of them have not sought fame, or fortune as a result.</p>
(TI):	<p>So you think there's gonna be something out there eventually, that even the whole Bigfoot community will be, that's it. That's what we were talking about.</p>
(JM):	<p>Definitely. And we have looked into a creature that existed, you know, hundreds of thousands of years ago, called Gigantopithecus</p>

	<p>Blacki. And this is something that some people believe is kind of a missing link, and it fits all of the Bigfoot hallmarks. Now, I'm not saying that particular creature exists anymore. Clearly, it doesn't. But it was something that at one time, we did not know it existed and later was identified. So I think that, you know, especially in a place like Pacific Northwest, or British Columbia, where it's very, very rural, there's not a lot of people there. It's in this inaccessible sort of forest area. It is possible that something exists in small numbers. I'm not saying there's a huge colony, but small numbers, and we just can't get to it. We just can't see it. Now, I won't necessarily believe that it's Bigfoot, per se, until there's a body or there's bones or there's something. But I do have an open mind that something perhaps is out there and small numbers.</p>
(TI):	<p>Very good. What was the government sourced? What was the government evidence that would that you were able to source?</p>
(JM):	<p>We were shut down because of COVID. But we still wanted to do an update to the show. So we ended up just shooting it via zoom, which was COVID friendly, and it was fine. And we did bring in someone who was an government employee who said, you know, here were some videos that we found were some photos that we found. And we work through those and tried to ascertain what they were a few of them were debunked a few of them weren't. But I think it's important to always evaluate new evidence with a fresh eye.</p>
(TI):	<p>Absolutely. Speaking of new evidence, and I know you've looked into Area 51 in Roswell. But you know, I sent you that military matters podcast about the DOD, unidentified aerial phenomena, that the Navy has recently come out and current confirmed that yes, this is credible footage. On the podcast, the host, another veteran, we both know, Rod Rodriguez was talking with Lewis Elizondo, also a veteran who has been all over lately. If you do a quick Google search, you know, you can find them on History Channel, Fox, CNN. He was the former head of the advanced aerospace threat intelligence program. And I don't know if you listen to it all,</p>
(JM):	<p>I did.</p>

(TI):	But it was crazy to me. Yeah, it was what do you think?
(JM):	Well, first of all, I love Rod and I thought it was so interesting. You know, I think that he had a lot to say and there's nothing driving his narrative except, you know, he wore the uniform he swore to protect this country and he wanted to come forward with the things that he knew. And he thought it was really important that the general public know. So I give him a lot of credibility. And I thought some of the things he had to say, I was surprised by it because it hasn't gotten the press
(TI):	Right?
(JM):	You know, the release of the videos by the Pentagon, what people have to say what whistle blowers are coming out and saying, it really hasn't gotten covered in the press. And that's just so odd to me. And I have to just assume it's because the election everybody's kind of tied up and, and the election, the Kardashians, whatever's catching their attention,
(TI):	2020 in general.
(JM):	2020 in general, but this is, so. People really need to be aware of this stuff and look into it. This is really concerning. If we don't know what this is, and it could be extraterrestrial in nature. That is a threat, if we don't know, not knowing and itself is a threat, we need to be aware and we need to be vigilant.
(TI):	Absolutely. You know, I mean, it is starting to end up on the end of shows for the last two minutes, whereas before they weren't even on the shows. You know, there was a lot to unpack in that episode. Alien, you know, as far as possible theories for these identified and that kind of phenomenon, because they don't even know if they're objects. I mean, they could be aliens, DARPA projects, possible multiple dimensions.
(JM):	Right.
(TI):	They were going into. You know, now, you know, Louis is now claiming that he has physical evidence of these crafts, and they're

	going through the scientific methods of proving getting peer reviews. Yeah, did we able to listen to the follow up episode with the aerospace engineer? From,
(JM):	No, I didn't know I would love to.
(TI):	Yeah, so he did a follow up episode with from Lockheed, an engineer that from Lockheed Martin Skunk Works, I haven't been able to listen to it either. I wondered if you heard of it. I just think it's just a fascinating subject overall. Were you able to pair what they were talking about with anything that you've investigated when it comes to these subjects?
(JM):	Yes, definitely. And there were some people that I interviewed for the Area 51 show who did not want to be on camera, they did not want to give their name publicly. And because of that, we were not able to use those particular tidbits of information on the show, we couldn't get them cleared. So I'll say that there were people who have absolutely zero to gain, there was a person who was on one of the ships at the time. And I'll leave it kind of vague, because I don't want this person identified, who now works for DOD. And this person had a lot of things to share. I also spoke to another pilot, who was up in the air when commander Favre was up in the air. And these are the same stories that people are telling with additional tidbits of information. And for people who say, there's no way that this is extraterrestrial, this is just something unidentified, it's maybe another country. First of all, the manner in which the aircraft dropped, there's no way that it was a piloted aircraft of any sort from another country, because the person would have been liquefied. If you look at how fast that it dropped. It's possible that it's a drone. That's completely possible, but for the military to not know. I don't know. I don't know how to reconcile that. But there were people that came forward with additional information and because they fear for their jobs. It's a pity now they didn't want to be identified. And I absolutely understand that.
(TI):	Yeah. Have you heard of the documentary The Phenomenon?

(JM):	I have. I'm shooting right now, but it's on my list because my partner on the show, Ryan Spragg? Yeah, he said, you know, this is definitely something you have to watch. And I'm excited. That's my list of things I get to develop.
(TI):	What do you know about it so far? Have you watched the trailer?
(JM):	I watched the trailer. Okay. And I found it astounding that so many people in the know, in these really sensitive positions in government came forward.
(TI):	I mean, I saw it when it kind of it's been making the rounds. The director and the producer been making the rounds on the press recently. And I you know, what stopped from me from chopping my celery during dinner, was they had senate, you know, former Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid on they're talking about what's out there as far as the government, how the government has evidence and that most of it hasn't even seen the light of day. And went out as far as even say, UFOs have actually and repeatedly interfered with us and Russian nuclear weapons capabilities.
(JM):	Mm hmm.
(TI):	I think that's the highest person in government that has ever said anything like that.
(JM):	Well, and for people to still say, even after numerous government officials have come out to still say, no, it's this is just kind of conspiracy theories. What do you need to see for it not to be a conspiracy theory. I think people are quick to put that label on it because the thought of something unknown is very unnerving. And I understand that but that doesn't mean you ought to ask classified as a conspiracy theory and throw it in the garbage.
(TI):	So what is Jennifer Marshall's thoughts on that whole subject of alien, or unknown identified phenomenon, unidentified phenomenon?
(JM):	I think that it is statistically improbable. It's not impossible. But it's statistically improbable that in a galaxy of septillion planets that

	<p>we are alone. It's also narcissistic to believe, I love when people say, well, we're looking for other intelligent life. Newsflash, if another civilization has been able to reach Earth, we are not on their level of intelligence. Saying that we are intelligent life, when we have no idea how these beings could come to see us. We are not intelligent life in comparison to them.</p>
(TI):	<p>Yeah.</p>
(JM):	<p>I think that it is probable that extraterrestrials have visited. And I think it's very probable that there is some sort of life out in the universe that we don't know about. Now, do I think that there are aliens at Area 51, working alongside humans? No, that's, that's insanity. But I'm not quick to dismiss that it's possible that we could have had visitors in the past maybe hundreds of thousands of years ago, maybe recently. I don't know</p>
(TI):	<p>Yeah. Or maybe it was a hundreds of thousands of years ago for us, but for them, it was 15 minutes. If you look into the space time continuum.</p>
(JM):	<p>Absolutely.</p>
(TI):	<p>I mean, I had a deep dive into that. I was reaching the far reaches of the internet last Friday, and that was the first time I've heard of that concept. And you know, the space time continuum, you know, if you're so far away, and then depending on gravity, 15 minutes can be thousands of years for us.</p>
(JM):	<p>Sure.</p>
(TI):	<p>That blew my mind, blew my mind. I was like, I'm It was like one in the morning. I'm watching YouTube and like, Okay, I'm done for the night. That's,</p>
(JM):	<p>That's not the time, one am is not the time.</p>
(TI):	<p>Okay. Okay. Halloween is coming up. What is, what have you not investigated? In the box that you would like to add?</p>

(JM):	That I would love?
(TI):	What would suggest out there.
(JM):	I have such a laundry list. All right. So our show is not international yet. But someday when we go international, I would love to investigate for the Yowie in Australia's kind of like the Bigfoot that we have. I would have to look into the Titanic conspiracy, which there's a conspiracy that it actually wasn't the Titanic that sank it was it sistership the Olympic?
(TI):	What?
(JM):	And you know, I think yeah, it's pretty interesting. And I think for that I'd like to investigate it just to debunk it, because I think it's more than likely it absolutely was the Titanic. But there is. But there are some things out there that, you know, make me wonder that I'd like to look into a little bit more and Rendelsham in the UK. Oh, gosh, they're just so many things, the Waverly Sanatorium. I would love to go to Waverly Sanatorium, it's a notoriously haunted building that's been there for many years. There are so many things that I would love to look into. And we've shot additional episodes I can't discuss because, The CW hasn't released them. But there were a few things that I got to investigate this past season that that were on my list.
(TI):	Sure. I would love for you to go international because, you know, I spent some time in the Marine Corps. I spent some time in Romania. And you know, Carpathian Mountains. Werewolves, where did that come from?
(JM):	Right.
(TI):	Is it, you know, and then you can maybe marry it with? I even thought of the, you know, the context of you know, Native American culture and skinwalkers.
(JM):	Mm hmm
(TI):	Am I am I getting somewhere on that one?

(JM):	I'm not gonna say anything.
(TI):	Okay. Fair enough.
(JM):	I cannot say anything.
(TI):	Outstanding. Well, I think we got some good creative and paranormal juices flowing for this episode. Is there anything else that I might have missed about paranormal activity? You know, any anything that they want to share?
(JM):	I don't think so. There is a true crime case I really want to look at as well. And I don't know. You know, I don't know if I'm going to be able to do it through the show. But there was a, there was an E3 in the Army, who was found dead, LaVina Johnson, and they had said she was a PFC, and they had said that she had committed suicide. But there were so many things in the autopsy, that didn't make sense, she had a broken nose, she had loose teeth. She had burns from a chemical on her genitals. So all of these things did not make sense. The Army ruled that as suicide, I vehemently disagree with that, and I would love to evaluate that case and get to the bottom of really what happened to her.
(TI):	That's, I really do want to look into that more than the more you just talked about it. And I definitely want some just send me what you got. But, what is next for Jennifer, what's, where are we going with in terms of paranormal where, what's something that we haven't really even considered? You know, we always talk about aliens. Well, he's talking about Bigfoot. What is something on this Halloween special that we should that we haven't considered that we should?
(JM):	Well, we've been traveling around since some of the COVID restrictions were lifted. We've been traveling around and we've been looking into other things. I'll put it that way. And I think it will be pretty interesting this next season coming up because it was things that I hadn't even considered, could have a paranormal slant to it, that do.

[00:27:49] Closing Monologue:

Tanner Iskra (TI):

I want to thank Jennifer for that very fun conversation for Halloween weekend. For more information on Jennifer Marshall, you can visit jennifermarshall.com [Link]. Our Borne the Battle veteran of the week comes by the way of our VA veteran of the day program. Every day, our digital team recognizes a veteran for their service on all of our social media platforms and on blogs.va.gov. You can send in your own nomination by emailing newmedia@va.gov [Link].

Hildreth Walker Jr. Served as an electrician's mate in the Navy. Walker's lifelong dedication to science put them at the forefront of groundbreaking innovations, being made in military and laser technology. When Walker was a child, his father gave him a Buck Rogers ray gun that let off sparks, which made him curious about the science behind it. He started middle school in Alexandria, Louisiana, where he'd hoped to learn more about math and science. However, most of Walker's textbooks, usually hand me downs from other schools, came in tatters. He learned by studying with the incomplete educational material he had and supplemented his knowledge with the hands-on experience he gained while working at a local electronic shop. Right after high school Walker enlisted in the Navy, working with electronics. He completed basic training in San Diego.

Much of Walker's time in the Navy was spent as an electrician's mate aboard the *USS Redova* where he worked with some of the most advanced technology at the time. Walker served until 1955. After leaving the Navy, he sought to work with machines he had never operated before and took a job in aerospace technology with Douglas Aircraft. In 1957, Walker received a rare opportunity to work with the RCA corporation and their ballistic missile early warning system. He moved to Alaska to help develop the largest radar system in the world, returning to the lower 48 and 1961 once the project was complete.

Walker, then went to work for Corad Corporation, which specialized in laser technology. Within a few years, Walker became proficient in working with lasers and soon found himself leading a team in charge of measuring the distance between the moon and earth during the

	<p>1969 Apollo 11 Mission. Under his leadership, the team rendered the most accurate measurement to date.</p> <p>Once he retired, Walker dedicated his life toward fostering an interest in science and math within underrepresented communities. In 1990 Walker and his wife, Dr. Beytte Walker, founded the Africa-American Male Achievers Network. The organization remains active today and has helped thousands of students from several different countries attend and graduate from renowned academic institutions around the world.</p> <p>Navy veteran Hildreth Walker, Jr. Thank you for your service. That's it for this week's episode, if you yourself would like to nominate a <i>Borne the Battle</i> veteran of the week, you can. Just send an email to podcast@va.gov [Link] include a short writeup and let us know why you would like to see him or her as the <i>Borne the Battle</i> veteran of the week.</p> <p>And if you like this podcast episode, hit the subscribe button. We're on iTunes, Spotify, Google Podcast, iHeart Radio, pretty much any podcasting app known to phone, computer, tablet, or man. For more stories on veterans and veteran benefits, check out our website, blogs.va.gov, and follow the VA on social media. Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, YouTube RallyPoint, LinkedIn. Deptvetaffairs, US Department of Veterans Affairs, no matter the social media, you can always find us with a blue checkmark. And as always, I'm reminded by people smarter than myself to remind you that the Department of Veterans Affairs does not endorse or officially sanction any entities that may be discussed in this podcast, not even aliens, nor any media products or services they may provide.</p> <p>Thank you again for listening. Have a safe and happy Halloween, and we'll see you right here next week. Take care.</p>
Music [00:31:47]	

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