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In 1972 my parents Reuben and Oline decided that it was time for their boys to get out of Bainbridge, our small South Georgia hometown, and see some of the great big world we were part of. They loaded us all up on Delta Air Lines for our very first flight. It was to New York City. They had no idea what a can of worms they were opening! Mom told me many years later that they showed us the world so we would be happy to come home and live in Bainbridge. It didn’t quite work out like that!

That same year Stephen Schwartz opened Pippin on Broadway. Being the good theatergoer he was, Dad took the whole family right down to see Pippin. That day pretty much changed my life and my brother Jay’s. After the show we were both exuberant. In fact, I remember pulling a muscle in my leg as Jay and I tried to dance down the hall just like the dancers we had seen on stage! Two years later we were back for Schwartz’s The Magic Show. I think by then our paths in life were clear - I am a musician and Jay is a costume designer. Even though our parents are now gone our families still meet every spring in New York to see shows!

Since that time Stephen Schwartz has gone on to give us hit after hit. He has written stage musicals, movie music, songs of all kinds! In 2003 he opened a little show called Wicked. It is currently the 11th longest running show on Broadway and shows no sign of stopping. It has changed the way marginalized people all over the world look at themselves. Perhaps even more important for us here today is one of his newest pieces. Based on text from the It Gets Better Project, “Testimony” speaks to all of us who have ever felt out of place.

He has been entertaining all of us for years. What an honor it is to sing for him today. Thank you Stephen for joining us! Now sit back and enjoy the show — and I can’t wait to see you in June at Symphony Hall!

Reuben Reynolds, Music Director

Reuben M. Reynolds III has been the Music Director of the BGMC since 1997. After earning undergraduate degrees in both economics and music, Mr. Reynolds received his Master of Music degree from Louisiana State University where he was teaching assistant to Metropolitan Opera soprano Martina Arroyo, and was on the conducting staff of the Baton Rouge Lyric Opera. In Kansas City, Mr. Reynolds served as Music Director of the Heartland Men’s Chorus from 1989 to 1998 and was also Conductor of the Philharmonia of Kansas City and the Kansas City Civic Opera Theatre. In the summer of 1994, Mr. Reynolds made his European debut conducting the Bohuslav Martinu Philharmonic Orchestra and the Beethoven Chamber Orchestra of Ostrava, Czech Republic. He returned to the Czech Republic to conduct the West Bohemia Symphony Orchestra in 1995. Reuben spent the summer of 1998 in St. Petersburg, Russia, conducting the Hermitage Camerata in the Catherine the Great Theatre. Mr. Reynolds has commissioned more than 20 major pieces and hundreds of arrangements in his career. The Boston Globe describes his conducting as “expert and idiomatic.”
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Welcome! We’re so happy to have you at today’s performance.

I’m a Music Theatre queen. My grandmother introduced me to the genre when I was in third grade by taking me to a performance of *Oklahoma!* There was no stopping me. The story telling through music, dance and acting is particularly special in musical theatre. Few do it better than Stephen Schwartz. His ability to provide a toe-tapping experience and move us simultaneously is a special gift. We are so fortunate that he is with us today. Stephen’s music doesn’t just entertain — it empowers … and that’s what we do. The BGMC shares our stories through music to make a difference in the world.

Your support makes our work possible. We create musical experiences to inspire change, build community and celebrate difference. Talk to your friends about us. Bring them to an event. Follow us on Twitter. Like us on Facebook. Download our app. Make sure you are on the mailing list and the email list. Volunteer. Audition. And, of course, donations are always welcome. Individual contributions fill the gap between institutional giving and ticket sales, which is less than half of BGMC’s income.

We are able to make an impact in the community thanks to the talents of hundreds of singers and volunteers. We especially thank our foundation and corporate sponsors for their ongoing support: Bank of America, JetBlue and IVF New England. This concert is also supported in part by a grant from the Boston Cultural Council, a local agency which is funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, administered by the Mayor’s Office of Arts and Culture.

Thank you for being part of the BGMC family — enjoy *Wicked Awesome*!

Craig Coogan, Executive Director

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Craig Coogan joined BGMC as Executive Director in October 2012. He is an expert in developing strategies and programs to help GLBTA and other nonprofit organizations achieve their operational and artistic goals. Craig brings experience in both the for-profit and non-profit arenas. He previously served as Executive Director for One Voice Mixed Chorus in St. Paul, Minnesota and was a founding board member and served for ten years as Treasurer of the acclaimed Women’s choral group Vox Femina Los Angeles. He has produced independent movies and several award-winning documentaries and acclaimed original plays. He is a graduate of Syracuse University.
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CHAD WEIRICK, Principal Accompanist & Assistant Music Director

A native of Rockford, Illinois, Chad graduated high school at the age of 15 and moved to New York City. There, he became the organist for Radio City Music Hall and rehearsal pianist for the Rockettes, a position that earned him a listing in ‘Ripley’s “Believe It Or Not!”’ as the youngest musician to ever work full time on Broadway. He also was the pianist for various Broadway shows including “A Chorus Line”, “Shenandoah” and “The Act”. Subsequently he moved to Boston to attend the New England Conservatory of Music, where he received a Masters Degree in Composition under Malcolm Peyton. He also worked as music director for Marriott’s Great America theme park in Gurnee, Illinois.

Chad’s numerous choral arrangements have been performed and recorded not only by the BGMC, but many other choruses nationally and internationally. Currently he works in the choral department of Wellesley High School and is the Minister of Music at the First Congregational Church in Hanover, Massachusetts. In addition to his music credits, he is most proud of being a registered black belt in Tae Kwon Do. Chad thanks his partner David Slaga for his support, friendship and love.

*Chad has been the Principal Accompanist & Assistant Music Director since 1993 and serves Assistant Choral Director and Accompanist at Wellesley High School.*

LEWANA CLARK, American Sign Language Interpreter

LeWana Clark has a unique style of interpreting that incorporates not only the lyrics that are sung but also the tone and musical qualities of the melody. Since becoming nationally certified as an ASL/English Interpreter in 1979, she continues to provide ASL communication services for deaf, hard of hearing, and non-deaf consumers in Boston, across the Commonwealth, nationally and internationally. Although she spends most of her time working in court or in other legal settings, she’s also qualified to interpret in medical, mental health, governmental, educational and theatrical/performing arts settings.

*Lewana has been the American Sign Language Interpreter for the BGMC since 1989.*

JORDAN KRALIK, an interpreting student from the University of North Florida, Jacksonville, joins LeWana on stage during this concert as her intern. They have been working together over the last several months to prepare for this show. Jordan wants to focus some of his interpreting career in the performing arts. Welcome Jordan to the BGMC!
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MICHELLE CHASSÉ, Stage Director & Choreographer

Michelle Chassé trained with the Boston Ballet School and Maestro Vincenzo Celli, and was on scholarship at the School of American Ballet. She graduated cum laude with a BFA in Dance Performance from the Boston Conservatory, where she was the first recipient of the prestigious Ruth Sandholm Ambrose Award, and later received the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award.

Chassé has choreographed numerous productions for the esteemed musical theater program at The Boston Conservatory. She directed and choreographed On the Town in October, 2014. She received nominations for Best Choreography for the Barnstormers Theatre production of Babes In Arms and the Central Square Theater original production of Car Talk: The Musical!!!; her work on Le Cabaret Grimm, featured in the 2012 New York Musical Theatre Festival, earned her an Honorable Mention at that festival’s awards ceremony. Chassé’s continued choreography and stage direction for such internationally acclaimed ensembles as Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops Orchestra and the Boston Gay Men’s Chorus have received numerous accolades from audiences and critics alike.

STacey Stephens, Costume Designer

Stacey Stephens has worked on the Broadway productions of Les Misérables (both original and current revival), Miss Saigon, and Five Guys Named Moe. He toured extensively with The Lion King, Wicked, Les Misérables and most recently with Memphis. His production of The Wiz for Fiddlehead Theatre was heralded by The Boston Globe. Before becoming Associate Producing Director of Fiddlehead Theatre, resident company at the Strand Theatre, Stephens previously worked for more than 3 years at Fiddlehead Theatre (Norwood, MA) as Artistic Director where he has directed, designed and created costumes for Funny Girl, Odd Couple, Fiddler on the Roof, My Fair Lady, Steel Magnolias and Reagle Music Theatre’s critically acclaimed Into the Woods starring Rachel York. In the Boston area, he has designed costumes for SpeakEasy Stage, Wheelock Family Theatre, Stoneham Theatre as well as the Boston Conservatory. Stacey is a six-time Independent Reviewers of New England Award winner for both his stage direction and costume design. He has designed and staged performances for BGMC including Misbehavin’ with Nell Carter. Stacey is a 1987 graduate of the American Musical and Dramatic Academy.
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14
Chorus

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Jay Baer
Bruce G. Barrett
Clayton Jackson Campbell
Joseph Caputo*
Daniel Castaldy
Andy Chau
David Chen
Christopher Covill
Peter Crosby
Adam Kirk Edgerton
Charlie Emple
Nicholas Everage*
Trevor Findlay
Courtney Furno†
Gerald B. James
Peter Kokoszka
Paul Laskorski
Anthony Lawson
Michael Lombo
Andrew F. Mannone
Andrew Martinez
Brian Murphy
Christopher Murray
Jeffrey Nagengast
Christopher Nuss
Michael Nuss
Eric Rezsynak
Kevin D. Rice
Harold Rudolph
Anand Sitaram

Tenor 2
Alfonso Antonio
Brian Balduzzi
Jonathan Bardwell
Franck Baudry
Keith Bell
Matthew Bennet
Andrew James Birr
Christopher Robert Blank
David M. Brillhart
Bill Casey
William Cattey

Christopher Chagnon*
Brett Masami Chin
Sam Chinoy
Thomas J. Choinski
Peter Cocchia
Paul Consoli
Jason L. Courtney
Sean Crookes
Guy R. Croteau†
Marcel D’Anjou
Lucas De BuenosAires
Guy DeAngelis
Earl E. Dimaculangan
Joseph Feinstein
Mark Fitzforry
William Ford
Jim Freiman-Polli
Daneil Frizzell
Alex Kapitan
Paul Joseph Keaney
Scott LaFlamme
Michael J. Leclerc*
Jackson Lee
Edward J. LeMay
Christopher Ludwig
Kilian Melloy
John F. Moran
Luke T. Murphy
Joel Nosek
Nicholas Panagiotou
Victor Ramos
Tim Rogers
Tony Scarpetta
Kevin Schattenkirk
Bill Spera
Douglas St. Lawrence
David Stockton
David F. Story
Demetrius Tuck
Tyler Wansley
George Whiting
Henry Coleman Wilder
Felix Ye

Baritone
Dana Albertelli
Charles R. Anderson, Jr.
Jim Anderson
Michael Appell
Richard Babson
John N. Beaudreau
Izzy Berdan
Timothy Bickel
Bryan Bishop†
Brian Blancke
Tyler Brewer
Jim Buckley
Henry H. Carrey
Rick Chason
Galvin Chow
Nicholas Cloutier
Jeremy Collier
Thomas L. Collins, III*
Arthur Cormier-Leger
Kyle Crand
Curtis Creekmore
Eric Crumrine*
Stephen M. Earheart
Jeffrey Fatchaline
Christopher L. Follett
Joshua Foster
Matthew Fox
Joseph Germanos
Michael Girouard
Bradley Harder
Ken Hirschkind
Robert S. Hubbard
Brad A. Huntress
Alan H. Ingram
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Dan Mooney
Jeff Morrissey
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Russell Ormiston
Steve Oyangen
Cameron M.E. Pierce
Timothy B. Powell-Flatt
Sean P. Riley
Roland W. Roy
David Shaffer†
James Simpson
Ian Stewart
Rob Stone
John Strumwasser
Jansen Tiongson
Andrew S. Wilkins

5th Section
Matthew Doherty
Daniel J. Duffy
Elliot J. Katz
Robert L. "Rab" Sherman
Michael W. Tobey

In Memoriam
Daniel-John Aylward
Harry Baldwin
Joseph Bevins
Herb Bourne
Everette Brewer
Phil Briggs
Gregory Brown
Richard Brummet
John Bryant
Richard Coe
Eric Cossart-D’Espies
Ryan F. Curtis
Gerry R. Dagesse
Wayne Drake
Dan Gage
Rick Goodwin
Jim Gordon
John Graves
Neil Gray
Roland Green
Toby Hall
Alan Hartwell
John Patrick Hynes
Steve Isherwood
Mickey Kasper
Ronald D. Lacombe
Fred Lange
John LaPorta
Andrew LaBao
Roy Lundin
Gerry Marquis
Chris Mahoney
Bruce McCarthy
Kevin McKenna
David Messier
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Raymond Nadeau
David Panella
Greg Pearce
Joseph Pels
Daniel Eaton Pentlarge
Bud Perry
Larry Poitras
Sandy Reder
Dominick Roca
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Douglas Lippincott, Percussion  
Mark Pucci, Bass  
Stacey Stephens, Costume Designer  
Lighting Designed by Anne Dresbach, Dresbach Designs

ACT I

The Spark of Creation from *Children of Eden*  
Stephen Schwartz, Arr. Chad Weirick

Music from *Godspell*  
Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord  
Chuck Salerno, soloist  
Day By Day  
All Good Gifts  
Christopher Murray, soloist  
All for the Best  
We Beseech Thee  
Bill Spera, soloist

*Popular* from *Wicked*  
Christopher Covill, Alex Kapitan,  
Keith March-Mistler, Nicholas Panagiotou, soloists

Schwartz At The Movies  
Deliver Us from *The Prince of Egypt*  
God Help the Outcast from *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*  
Colors of the Wind from *Pocahontas*  
Just Around the Riverbend from *Pocahontas*  
Through Heaven’s Eyes from *The Prince of Egypt*

In Whatever Time We Have  
Stephen Schwartz, Arr. Mac Huff

Crowded Island from *Reluctant Pilgrim*  
The Wizard and I from *Wicked*  
Stephen Schwartz, soloist

That’s How You Know from *Enchanted*  
Stephen Schwartz, lyrics;  
Alan Menken, music; Arr. Kevin Robison

*INTERMISSION*
ACT II

No One Mourns the Wicked from Wicked  
Stephen Schwartz, Arr. Dave Volpe

Lion Tamer from The Magic Show  
Stephen Schwartz, Arr. Terry Dobson

For Good from Wicked  
Stephen Schwartz, Arr. Mac Huff  
James Patrick Lobo, Andrew Martinez, soloists

Music from Pippin  
Stephen Schwartz, Arr. Terry Dodson  
Corner of the Sky  
Magic to Do  
Morning Glow  
Thomas L. Collins III, soloist

Forgiveness’ Embrace  
Stephen Schwartz, soloist

Testimony  
Lyrics taken from the It Gets Better Project  
Stephen Schwartz

Beautiful City from Godspell  
Stephen Schwartz, Arr. Chad Weirick

Defying Gravity from Wicked  
Stephen Schwartz, Arr. Mac Huff  
Andrew James Birr, soloist

Wicked Awesome Dancers

Izzy Berdan  
Tyler Brewer  
Christopher Covill  
Bill Casey  
Michael Lombo, Dance Captain  
Nicholas Panagiotou

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Stephen Schwartz, the current president of the Dramatists Guild, wrote the music and lyrics for the current Broadway hits *Wicked* and *Pippin*, and has also contributed music and/or lyrics to *Godspell*, *The Magic Show*, *The Baker’s Wife*, *Working* (which he also adapted and directed), *Rags*, and *Children of Eden*. He collaborated with Leonard Bernstein on the English texts for Bernstein’s *Mass* and wrote the title song for the play and movie *Butterflies Are Free*. For children, he has written songs for two musicals, *Captain Louie* and *My Son Pinocchio*. He has also worked in film, collaborating with Alan Menken on the songs for Disney’s *Enchanted* as well as the animated features *Pocahontas* and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, and writing the songs for the DreamWorks animated feature *The Prince of Egypt*. His first opera, *Seance On a Wet Afternoon*, was produced at Opera Santa Barbara and New York City Opera. A book about his career, “Defying Gravity,” has recently been released by Applause Books. Mr. Schwartz has been inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame. Awards include three Academy Awards, four Grammy Awards, four Drama Desk Awards, and a tiny handful of tennis trophies. www.stephenschwartz.com.

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Convivium Musicum, www.convivium.org
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Coro Allegro, www.coroallegro.org
Coro Dante groups.yahoo.com/groups/Coro-Dante/
Dedham Choral Society: www.dedhamchoral.org
Fine Arts Chorale, www.fineartschorale.org
Golden Tones Chorus, www.goldentones.org
Greater Boston Intergenerational Chorus, www.bostonchorus.net
Halalisa Singers, www.halalisa.org
Handel and Haydn Society, www.handelandhaydn.org
Harvard Pro Musica, www.harvardpromusica.org
Heritage Chorale, www.heritagechorale.org
Highland Glee Club, www.highlandgleeclub.com
In Choro Novo, www.inchoronovo.com
King's Chapel Concert Series, www.kings-chapel.org
Koleinu, www.koleinu.org
Labyrinth Choir, www.labyrinthchoir.org
Lexington Pops Chorus, www.LexingtonPopsChorus.org
The Master Singers of Lexington, www.themastersingers.org
Masterworks Chorale www.masterworkschorale.org
Metropolitan Chorale www.metropolitanchorale.org
MIT Women's Chorale, web.mit.edu/womensleague/womenschorale
Musica Sacra, www.musicasacra.org
The Mystic Chorale www.mysticchorale.org
Nashoba Valley Chorale, www.nashobachorale.org
Neponset Choral Society, www.ncschorus.org
New School of Music (Cambridge), newschoolofmusic.org/ensembles/choir-ensembles/
New World Chorale, www.newworldchorale.org
Newton Choral Society www.newtonchoral.org
Newton Community Chorus, www.newtoncommunitychorus.org
The Newtong Singers, newtonsingers.org
The Oriana Consort, orianaconsort.org
The Orpheus Singers www.orpheussingers.org
Paul Madore Chorale, www.paulmadorechorale.org
Pilgrim Festival Chorus, pilgrimfestivalchorus.org
Polynia Choral Society, www.polynia.org
Quincy Choral Society, www.quincychoral.org
Reading Community Singers, www.readingcommunitysingers.org
St. Paul Choir School: www.bostonboychoir.org
Schola Amicorum jswjrwr@yahoo.com
Seraphim Singers, www.seraphimsingers.org
Sharing A New Song, www.sharinganewsong.org
SingPositive www.singpositive.org
Somerville Community Chorus, www.somervillechorus.com
The Spectrum Singers, www.spectrumingers.org
Stämbandet- The Scandinavian Vocal Ensemble, www.staembandet.org
Sounds of Stow Chorus and Orchestra, www.soundsofstow.com
Tremble Clefs, nmazonson@jcsboston.org
Voices of MetroWest www.voicesofmetrowest.com
Voices Rising, www.voicesrising.org
Wakefield Choral Society, www.wakefieldchoralsociety.org
Wellesley Choral Society, www.wellesleychoralsociety.org
Youth pro Musica, www.youthpromusica.org
Zamir Chorale of Boston, www.zamir.org
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Pro Boston Head Shots
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AUDITIONS
Ready to move from the shower to the stage? BGMC membership is by audition and prior choral singing experience and elementary music reading skill is helpful but not required. Auditions maintain a relaxed atmosphere and is a lot of fun. It includes singing a familiar song, sight singing, an assessment of musical skills, and an informational interview. No prepared piece is necessary. Go tobgmc.org to sign up for the September auditions.

In addition to concerts, the BGMC produces great and fun events that provide additional funds for the organization. Visit bgmc.org for more information.

**CRESCENDO — with Bianca Del Rio**
Saturday, May 9, 2015, at 7pm
W Boston Hotel

**SMILE — with special guest Laura Benanti**
Sunday, June 14, 2015, at 3pm
Symphony Hall

**CHORUS AMERICA — Opening night performance**
Wednesday, June 18, 2015, at 7:30pm
Old South Church

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July 17, 2015, at 7:00pm
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The generosity of individuals, corporate sponsors and foundations provide nearly half of the BGMC’s annual revenue.

Gifts may be made however is most convenient for you:

- Online at bgmc.org
- Text GIVEBGMC to 41411
- Call 617-542-SING
- Donation envelopes upon request
- Mail to 95 Berkeley Street, Suite 410, Boston, MA 02116

Recurring pledges from your credit card can be easily set by contacting the office or visiting bgmc.org.

If you work for a company that matches employee gifts to cultural organizations, please send in your matching gift form or call the Chorus office at 617-542-7464. To see if your company matches, ask your HR department or visit the website matchinggift.com.

The following list represents cumulative gifts between March 1, 2014 to March 1, 2015. In the event of an error or omission, please contact the office.

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### Endowment Funds

- The Paul and Edith Babson Foundation
- Bequest of John Bryant
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Please contact us if you have included the BGMC in your estate plans so that we may add you to this list.

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Special Thanks

We especially thank and acknowledge the following for their contributions to the Chorus and this production.

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Ty Furman  
David Hinterman  

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- **Chorus America**
  - chorusamerica.org

- **GALA Choruses**
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- **Greater Boston Choral Consortium**
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9-to-5 The Musical, and Bombshell

Featuring Sirius XM Star
SETH RUDETSKY
as pianist & host

Friday, Sept. 18, 2015
8:00pm
Shubert Theatre
265 Tremont St.
Boston, MA 02116

Tickets from $50 (before fees)
Tickets on Sale June, 2015

“Hilty is the belting, soprano baby that Ethel Merman and Barbara Cook would have had if they had ever slept together.”
—Kevin Sessums, Editor-in-Chief of FourTwoNine

Proceeds to benefit
Boston Gay Men’s Chorus
The arts are for everyone

When community members support the arts, they help inspire and enrich everyone. Artistic diversity helps unite communities, creating shared experiences and inspiring excellence.

Bank of America is honored to be connected to Boston Gay Men’s Chorus and its dedication to bringing the arts to our community.

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Life’s better when we’re connected®
Special Guest Laura Benanti
Sunday June 14, 2015, at 3pm
One performance ONLY at Symphony Hall
SINGLE Tickets on sale April 1, 2015

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