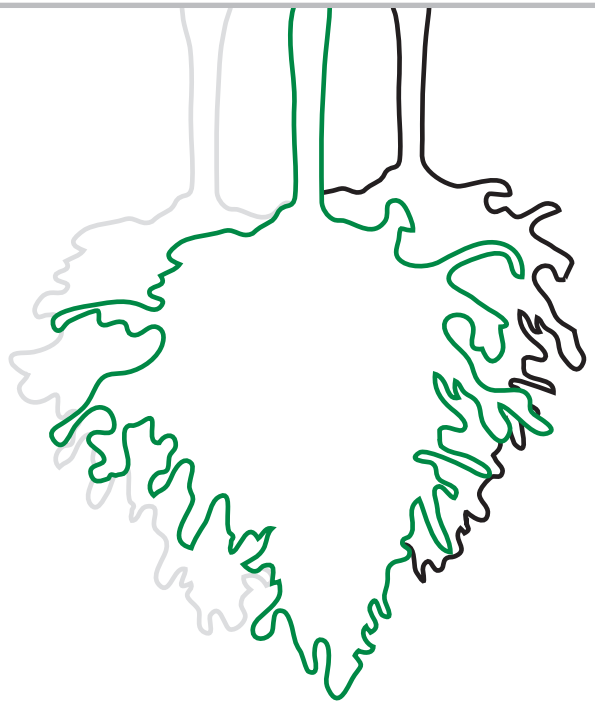
HANGING HEDGES



Artprojekt by Stuart N. R. Wolfe

Team:

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Nuria Garcia i Sola
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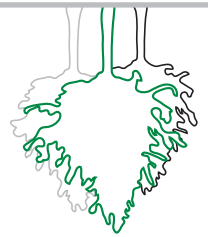
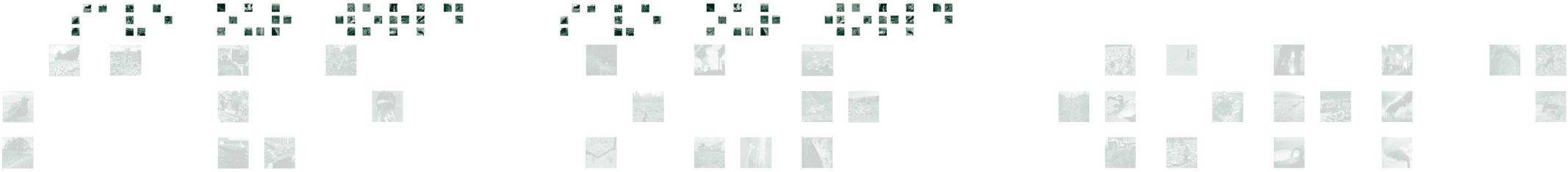
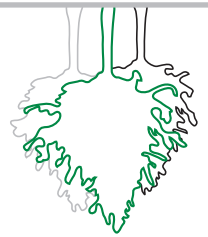
CONTENT





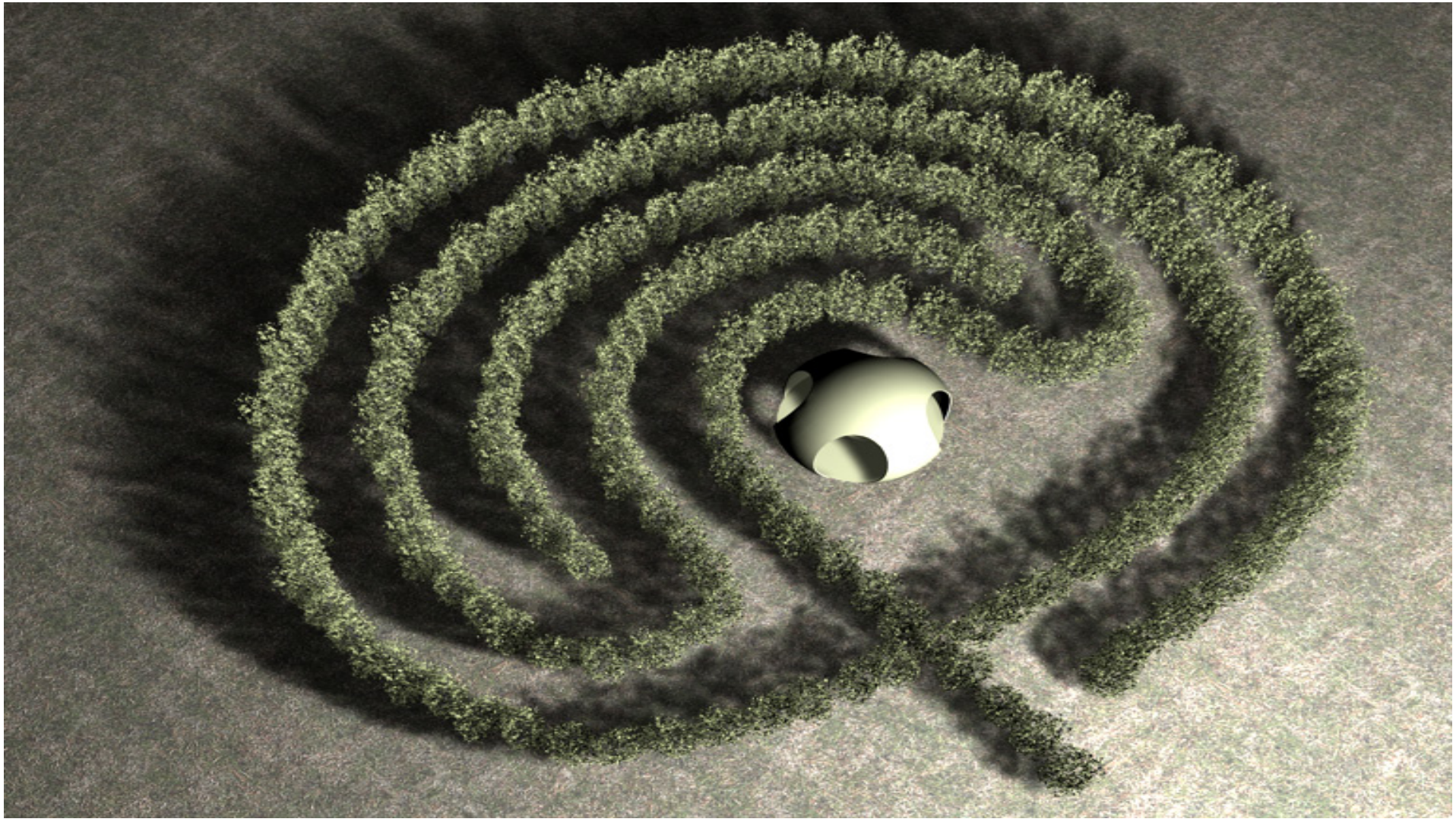
ABSTRACT

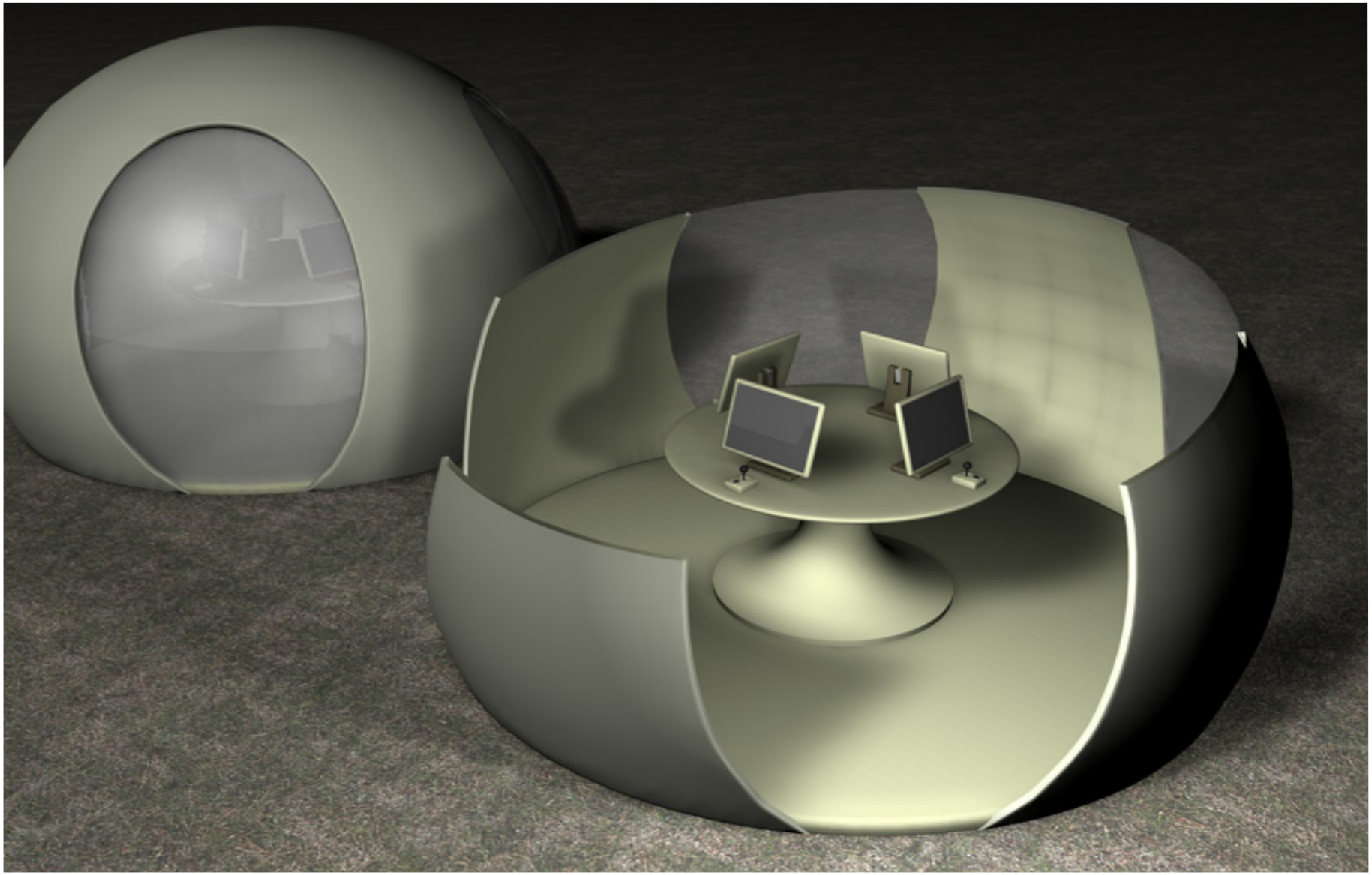


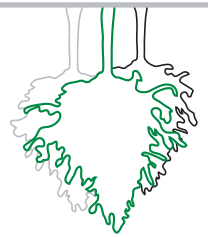
The concept of Hanging Hedges is a permanent installation. By building bridges between nature, history and modern day technology, we are affirming the option for our future, as a realistic strategy of choice and balance. „ Creating conditions conducive to life.“

The international land art project takes the form of a sculpted garden. Resting in the center is a labyrinth surrounded by upside down hedge rows. The project is located in a park or public enclosure within a large city anywhere in the world.

Walking towards the installation the visitor can see trees and hedges growing upside down, on different levels and in varying shapes and sizes. Arranged like breakaway petals in their custom-built tripod constructions, geometrically focusing on the labyrinth they envelop. The heart of the labyrinth consists of an open shelter, that in turn houses a computer.



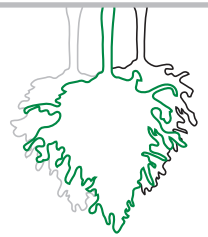




Our environment is at risk day to day, as climate change takes it's toll, altering the seasons and increasing natural catastrophes. If humanity is to survive, we must act accordingly.

The world it seems, is turned upside down.

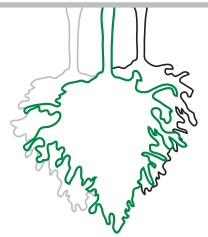
Hanging Hedges consists of trees and bushes approximately 2 m in size, suspended in custom-build, colorful tripod constructions that and growing upside down. The whole installation covering a diameter of approximately 80 m. In part the hanging flora is such that an averaged sized person can walk underneath them, others are at eye level.



The center piece is a labyrinth, made of evergreen yew bushes (Taxus baccata), intwined with flowering shrubs, preferably whitethorn (Crataegus oxyacantha), a plant that is not only beautiful but gives bees in spring and birds in autumn additional nourishment. Demonstrating the sort of mutual coexistence that is so valuable for survival in general.

The labyrinth has a total diameter of 16 m, the bushes growing upright and reaching an approximate hight of 1.90 m and a width of 0,5 m. As is the tradition it has an entrance, a direct way in to the center and a direct way out.

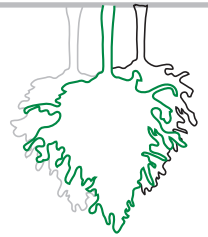
Located at the heart of the labyrinth is a bubble shaped shelter, with windows and an entrance. The design of which is intended as a collaboration with students of the local design school, a colorful structure with solar panels to power the battery of the computer. The environmentally friendly materials for the shelter and tripod constructions are to be coordinated with appropriate companies and institutions like the ”Fraunhofer Gesellschaft“.



Inside the shelter, the 4 monitors of the computer are arranged in a circle on the top of a console, each with a corresponding control stick and “enter” button. All of the users can see what they themselves and the other participants are doing simultaneously. The computer program is designed to only function in unison. Thus activating a control stick automatically adds the new user to the computer activity. Cooperation and communication is required by all users.

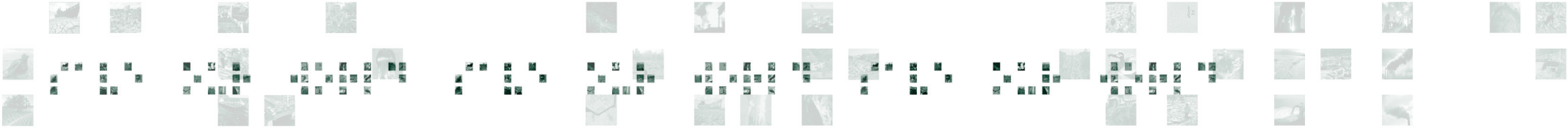
The program provides a large selection of information about the history and vital importance of trees and plant life for our planet in as many different languages as possible. Their function as a biosphere to balance the worlds ecosystem, the oxygen they provide, the carbon dioxid they absorb as well as extensive information and practical tips on alternatives to habits of daily life, helpful to nature. At random intervals the computer interrupts the running program and asks the user to solve a riddle, before they may proceed. The riddles should vary and all have some connection to the idea of the mutual responsibility we all share in saving our world. E.g. one riddle could be to find the quote “I Pontius Pilate wash my hands in innocence”. Once the riddle is solved, the program continues where it left off.

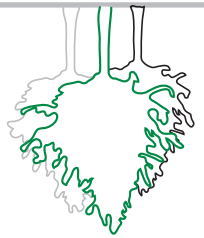
SIMULATION HEDGES BIRDS EYE VIEW



Any natural open space, be it in a public garden, park, or official enclosure will provide a suitable surrounding for the installation of Hanging Hedges.

Open to the public on a daily basis, the installation will be accessible throughout the year. Allowing all sorts of visitors, at very different times of day and night to enjoy the installation at their leisure. Here they have the opportunity to experience the natural changes taking place in the hanging trees and hedges, during the various annual seasons, as well as benefiting from the informative and playful computer program.





The shelter and the custom-build tripod construction for the up turned plants are build in a unique colour scheme and design. The trees and hedges will have an approximate size of 2 m. The overall size of the tripods vary from 4-6 m. in height.

Shelter

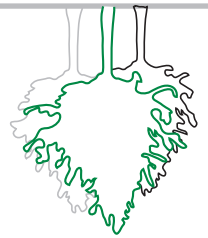
- Oval shape
- floor diameter 3 m.
- height 2,80 m.
- 1 entrance with door
- 3 windows

Custom-build Tripod Construction

- 3 @ L 2.50 x H 0.6 x W 0.6 m.
- 3 @ L 3.50 x H 0.6 x W 0.6 m.
- 3 @ L 4.50 x H 0.6 x W 0.6 m.

Height of Tripod Legs

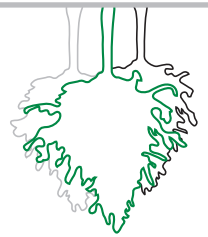
- 3 @ H 4 m.
- 3 @ H 5 m.
- 3 @ H 6 m.



All other necessary technology is straight forward and available; computer, solar panel, sound system, battery.

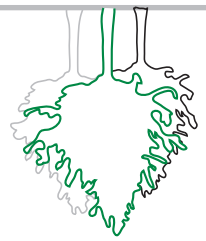
Construction work for the shelter, labyrinth and the hanging hedge, will be realized by a professional company under the necessary security precautions.

Landscape design engineers from the tree nursery have confirmed that hedges and trees are quite capable of growing upside down throughout the year, independent of the length of time. They must be trimmed and have axes to a regular water supply. The tops of the tripod containers are open to the sky thus also allowing natural irrigation.



What did the birth of our planet sound like? Which sounds surround people today and what do they mean to us?

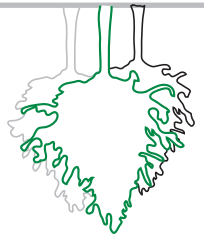
Four of the tripod constructions are equipped with a small sound system, loudspeakers attached to a digital music source powered by solar energy. A music track is made up of sounds that would have been heard throughout the history of agriculture and before. Including the earliest interaction of human beings and plats, up to the present day. The sound track will be composed by a musician and arranged by a sound engineer.



Fraunhofer Institut

Technische Universität Berlin

FH Potsdam



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