



'Solo' tells a Star Wars story well

The new Star Wars prequel "Solo: A Star Wars Story" goes deeper into the past life of Han Solo (*Alden Ehrenreich*).

It also introduces some new characters such as his sweetheart Qi'ra (*Emilia Clarke*) and his partner Beckett (*Woody Harrelson*).

Like "Rogue One: A Star Wars Story," it takes dialogue from other movies and winds it into a backstory lots of fans have wanted to hear about.

The attitude of the characters is spot on, and from little details to the plot itself, "Solo: A Star Wars Story" is completely consistent.

LucasFilms does a pretty good job of this, and shows us how Han met Lando Calrissian and Chewbacca, where he was born, how he became a smuggler, how he gets the Millennium Falcon, and even why he shoots first (*as I grew up seeing the original Star Wars movies on VHS, I know that he does shoot first*).

The character who Han becomes in "Solo: A Star Wars Story" matches with the person he is in Star Wars movies 4-8.

You could see why he grows a thick skin, and why he tries to put up a tough act in "A New Hope".

Alden Ehrenreich does a really good job of playing Han Solo.

He fits the role of a cocky smuggler well, and definitely fills Harrison Ford's shoes.

I would recommend this movie for people age eight and up, because other than some slightly romantic scenes, the movie is very appropriate.

The attitude of the characters is spot on, and from little details to the plot itself, "Solo: A Star Wars Story" is completely consistent.

This movie was not really focused on the major events of the Star Wars series as a whole, but on the lives of smugglers at the time and the different crime syndicates warring in the galaxy.

This makes sense, because the story is from Han's point of view and he was more focused on his personal life than the political affairs of the galaxy.

I liked the way the film used orchestra music to strengthen the mood of suspense in the action scenes.

This was very true to the original Star Wars trilogy, and they even used elements of the original Han Solo theme in the movie.

In "Solo: A Star Wars Story," the action is pretty high strung, and though there is a designated climax, it's hard to tell when the rising action is because the movie just keeps finding opponents and difficulties to throw at the characters.

The director of this film, Ron Howard, has directed numerous Hollywood hits such as "A Beautiful Mind," "Apollo 13," and "Willow."

Also, the writers, Lawrence and Jonathan Kasdan (*Lawrence is Jonathan's father*) have strong connections to Star Wars; Lawrence was one of the writers who worked on "The Empire Strikes Back" and "Return of the Jedi."

"Solo: A Star Wars Story" lived up to expectations, and gave us some more unforgettable memories of Han we can add to our impression of him as rebellious, but a good guy at heart.



By Sylvia Goodman, 12, a CK Reporter from Centennial

Can the UN handle the Zombie Apocalypse?

A zombie pandemic is spreading across the world!

At an emergency meeting in the U.N. General Assembly, delegates are debating furiously about what can be done to defeat the zombies!

Brazil demands that they provide more assistance to developing countries.

Russia wants the military involved.

North Korea wants to keep healthy people in reverse quarantine.

Worldwide, zombies are multiplying, biting people and transmitting the virus, and people are panicking!

Fortunately, this was just a hypothetical case being debated at the Model U.N. at Adams State University in Alamosa.

Adams State's Model UN is a club for college students, allowing them to play the roles of U.N. delegates dealing with real international problems and gaining experience in global politics, diplomacy, and international law.

"I've been running this Model U.N. program for 13 years, and I think it really gives young people a chance to understand global issues," said Professor Mari Centeno, the club's sponsor, "This one was for fun. But we do tackle the issues that the U.N. is dealing with."

There are model U.N. clubs around the world,



Delegates to Adams State's Model UN ponder their countries' positions in the face of an emergency. (Photo/Nanci Strieker)

and many clubs travel internationally to debate competitions.

The club in Alamosa is planning on going to Scotland next year.

"As a political science major, I intend to pursue politics for a living, and it's good practice to speak in a secure location as a student," said Collin Keebler, a delegate of Australia in the Adams State club, "It's good practice to debate and develop argumentative skills."

At the club meeting I watched, there were a dozen students participating, each representing a different country.

They argued and schemed to make alliances that could address the problem of zombies rampaging across the continents.

It was probably not much different from what would actually happen at the United Nations if there was a real zombie apocalypse.

Good practice for the real thing!



By Nandi Strieker, 11, a CK Reporter from Antonito

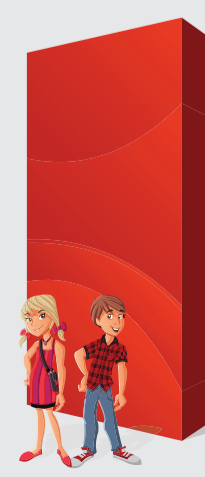
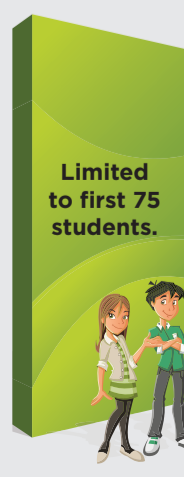
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For 4th-8th grade students
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Artwalk brightens Arvada's Old Towne



Live music is part of Artwalk's appeal

This month the art displayed was all done by high school students throughout Denver and its suburbs. The art was compelling, and it made you want to keep on walking to different places to see more of it. Throughout different galleries, cafes, and boutiques there was art and snacks.

Some of the businesses hosting art also were running special deals for the day. Some of the artists were near their work and answered questions to the public. Almost all of the places that had art in them also had small snacks for people coming in to see the art. A few of the places with art also had bands playing. The art in Olde Town had everything from photography to mixed media to painting.

Some artists were inspired by assignments their teachers had given them, and some were just there to display their out-of-school work.

The high schools featuring art there included: Arvada High, Arvada West, Pomona, Ralston Valley,

Two Roads Charter, Jefferson Academy, Standley Lake, Columbine High, Dakota Ridge High, Wheat Ridge High, Chatfield High and Warren Tech.

All the art was meaningful and you could tell someone had really taken time on it.

Olde Town Arvada is a very family friendly place, and this new First Friday tradition is one worth going to.

Although there wasn't a lot of parking, it was a really fun activity for the whole family.

One suggestion if you're planning on going would be to print out a copy of the map at home, so when you get there you know where you're going.



Story and photo by Ariana Bates-Erlich, 11, a CK Reporter from Arvada

In Olde Town Arvada on the first Friday of every month the Artwalk offers food, fun, and art for the whole family.

Book promoted as 'inspiring' doesn't inspire

"Marley Dias Gets it Done: and So Can You!" is a book that is supposed to be inspiring to kids. I did not like it.

I do not know if it was good, and just went over my head, but I thought it was boring.

This book is by, and about, Marley Dias, the girl who invented #1000BlackGirlBooks.

The book had 11 chapters about various things like her background, her trip to Africa, and the toolkit of an activist.

I was hoping that this would be inspiring, but I have never been into this type of book, and nothing about my life changed from reading it.

I didn't feel more confident, I didn't feel "enlightened," I didn't feel inspired.

I think the most memorable part of the book was the trip to Africa.

But I do not understand why a lot of the rest was there.

For instance, I understand having a little bit of author background, but that is usually in the author's notes at the end.

More than a third of this book is just talking about her, her ideals, and her trips or visits to somewhere.

One of the chapters is about Googling yourself and social media rules that her

parents told her, but I think that this book is more of a biography than an inspiring story.

This is a 187 page book with pictures of Marley, and Marley visiting people.

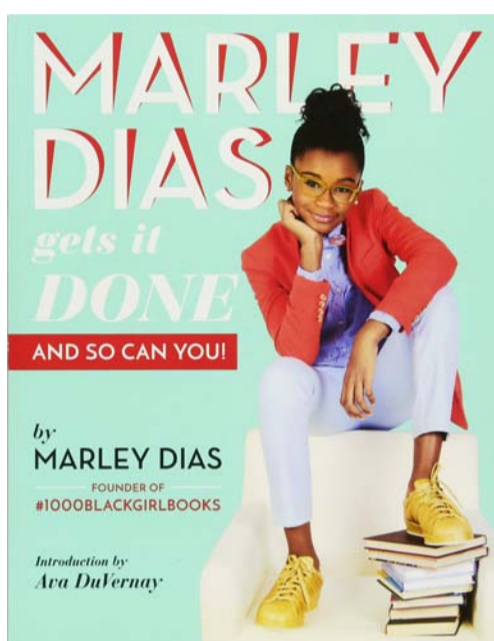
I think that this book could have been better if there was less about Marley, and more about what she did.

Now don't take me the wrong way here: I do support Marley's cause, I am just reviewing what I read.

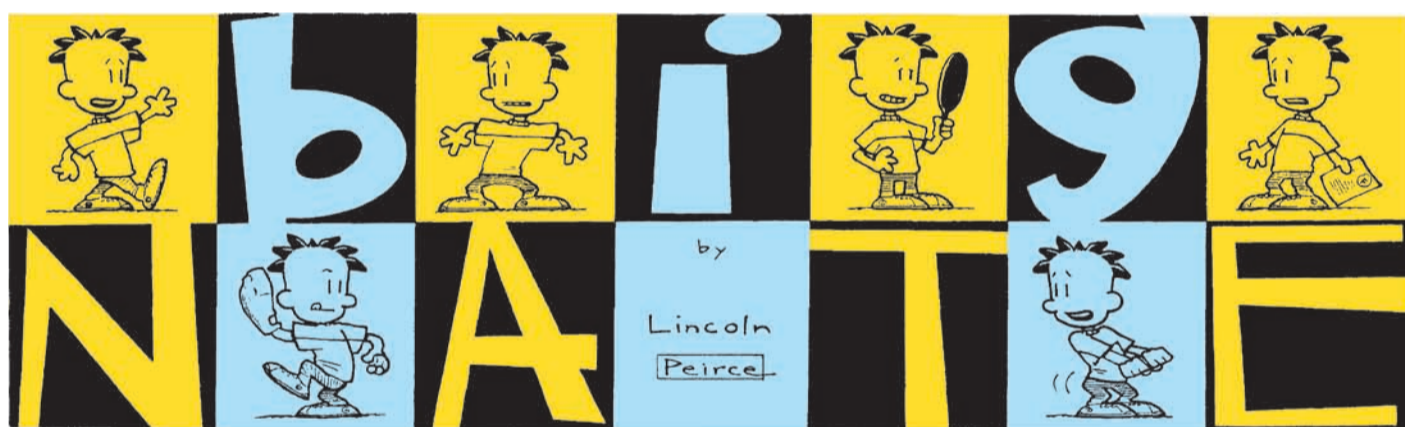
I did not like the book.

This is Marley Dias's first book, and I think that this was a good idea, and with modifications could have turned out very well.

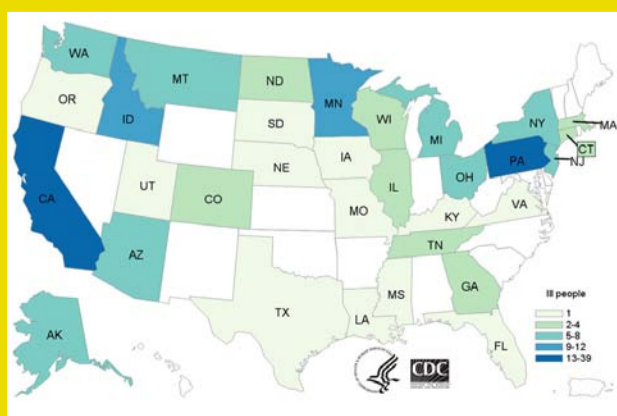
Things just went the wrong way, in my opinion.



By Jack Vanourek, 12, a CK Reporter from Littleton



You should probably go ahead and eat your salad now



Some good news for salad lovers came from the Centers for Disease Control last week: It is once again safe to eat romaine lettuce.

The crisp lettuce was linked to a number of e-coli bacteria infections which, as you can see in this CDC map, included a small number of cases in Colorado.

Food gets infected with the e-coli bacteria due to a lack of sanitation.

This can include food workers who do not wash their hands properly, which is why you see signs in restaurant and food store bathrooms that say employees must wash hands.

It is also why you see food workers use plastic gloves while making sandwiches and other foods.

But it can spread to vegetables in fields if it is in the water farmers use on their crops.

The current outbreak came from Yuma, Arizona, and, by the time people start to become sick, the lettuce that caused the problem was already in stores and restaurants and in people's homes.

However, the infected lettuce would now be past its expiration date and off the shelves.

That's good news if you like salad, and it's no excuse anymore for those who don't.

'Show Dogs' provides laughs for young audience

"Show Dogs" is a very good movie, particularly for younger kids.

It's about a police dog named Max (voiced by Ludacris), who is a Rottweiler, and his human, Frank (played by Will Arnett).

Frank and Max's relationship is a bit complicated, but they tend to go through a lot of the same stuff in life, so it actually works.

In this story, they are working undercover at a dog show to try and bust animal smugglers who are using the dog show as a cover to smuggle animals such as a panda.

The movie, which is rated PG, takes place in the city of

It is not a cartoon; they use real animals and voice-over with humans speaking what the animals are thinking and saying.

Las Vegas and most of the characters are animals.

It is not a cartoon; they use real animals and voice-over with humans speaking what the animals are thinking and saying.

It has a bit of a weird side. For example, there is a scene where they meet the animal trader, and he gives Frank the opportunity to breed Max with his dog.

There is also a surprise twist at the end which I won't reveal.

Max makes friends with other dogs, like Sprinkles, his

number one fan, who he turns into one of his deputies. Sprinkles is a very excitable small pug.

Phillipe is his other deputy and is a former fashion dog who went rogue one day and bit his owner.

Max also has a pigeon airforce that helps him.

My favorite thing about the characters was the way that Max acts.

At first he is a complete snob and thinks being a show dog is a lot easier than fighting crime on the streets. You'll see how his opinion changes as the movie progresses.

My favorite scene from early in the movie is when Max busts Phillipe out of the pound.

I won't give it away, but they do become good friends.

This movie is meant to be a comedy, and it does a pretty good job.

Some scenes are really funny, but there are several parts that you probably won't really understand.

There is a little bit of drama in the movie as well.

I'd recommend this movie for ages 6-10. I am 12, and I found the movie to be a bit young for me.



By Ben Vanourek, 12, a CK Reporter from Littleton

Health workers respond to ebola in Congo

A disease people that once threw a deadly scare into Africa has returned in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the world's health groups are hurrying to help stop it before it becomes an epidemic.

The World Health Organization called an emergency meeting to try to make sure ebola did not spread from the DR Congo to other nations.

Ebola is a very serious disease that, in 2014-16, killed more than 11 thousand people in the West African nations of Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia.

Ebola spreads very easily through contact with those who have the disease.



When it first appeared, it spread quickly in rural areas because funeral traditions there included having the family wash the body of the person who died.

When someone died of ebola, then, members of their family came in



A health worker in the DR Congo wears protective gear as he uses a germ killer to disinfect the area. (AP Photo/John Bompengo)

contact with the deadly disease.

However, as long as it was in small, rural villages, it was not hard to isolate patients. Once it began to spread to cities, the problem of keeping people away from the disease became much more difficult.

The current breakout in the DR Congo has spread to Mbandaka, a city near the country's border with the Republic of the Congo, which is on the other bank of the Congo River.

Mbandaka is a city of one million, but it is a Third World city with very few modern conveniences. There are two hospitals, but they are not well equipped.

Merck, a pharmaceutical company, has sent 4,000 doses of a new vaccine to DR Congo, and has also made the vaccine available to health workers traveling to Africa to help.

The vaccine is still experimental, but, while it has not been fully approved for use, it has been tested and shown to be safe and effective.

However, it needs to be kept refrigerated, and many places in DR Congo do not have electricity.

Even in Mbandaka, electricity is limited and, for those who have it, may only be on for three or four hours a day. In rural areas, it is often not available at all.

In the last outbreak, the fight against ebola had to begin with learning about the new disease. Now it is known and there are ways to treat it.

But it is still a very dangerous killer, and the world's health workers are hurrying to keep it contained.

Sudoku

4	2				5
5			4		
	1	2			
				3	1
		5			
				2	3

Rules: Every row across, every column down and each of the six smaller boxes must contain numerals 1,2,3,4,5 and 6, one time and one time only.
The solution to this week's puzzle is on Page 4.



Brainteaser

On this date in 1804, Lewis & Clark's Corps of Discovery left St. Louis on their mapping and scientific voyage up the Missouri River and to the Pacific Ocean, so our answers this week will begin with "D" for "Discovery."

1. This state borders on Chesapeake Bay
2. French painter whose work is currently on exhibit at the Denver Art Museum
3. Type of rattlesnake named for the pattern of its scales
4. Artist and producer who created Mickey Mouse
5. Marine mammal of the Indian Ocean, related to the manatee
6. Copenhagen is the capital of this nation
7. Author of "A Christmas Carol" and "Oliver Twist"
8. How Alexander Hamilton died
9. Game played with tiles that have different numbers of spots on each end, and that can be stood up in patterns in which they knock each other over
10. An imaginary land in which everything is very bad, as in "Hunger Games" or "1984"

(answers on Page Four)

Did dinosaurs hatch their eggs by sitting on them like birds?

Can you imagine a dinosaur sitting on a nest of eggs like a bird?

Here's Step One: Think about a dinosaur that is like a bird.

A group of paleontologists in North America and Asia conducted a study together of how different sorts of dinos hatched their eggs.

It's not surprising that many types of dinosaurs used the same method used by their descendants, the alligators and modern reptiles: They buried their eggs in plant matter and the heat of the rotting plants kept the eggs warm.

Some dinosaurs stuck around to briefly help parent and protect, others never met their

offspring, same as with modern reptiles.

However, one group, the oviraptorosaurs -- the feathered dinos that may have become birds but at least kind of looked and acted like them -- built nests and sat on their eggs.

Most oviraptorosaurs were somewhat small and could sit on their eggs like modern birds.

But others weighed nearly a ton and a half.

Those larger types hollowed out the center of the nest for a place to rest on, and then grouped the eggs around the fringe.

That way, the eggs would be under the edges of the parent's body, rather than right underneath where they would be crushed. photo/Kohei Tanaka



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Hot Links to Cool Sites!

NASA's Space Place

<http://tinyurl.com/ckspace>

NIE Special Report

<http://tinyurl.com/ckniereport>

Headline Geography

<http://tinyurl.com/ckgeography>

Pulse of the Planet

<http://tinyurl.com/ckpulseplanet>

How to become a NextGen Reporter!

<http://tinyurl.com/colokidsreporter>



To read the sources for these stories

Romaine Lettuce

Ebola

Dinosaur Nests

go to <http://www.tinyurl.com/ckstorylinks>

Flying Plates

Story by Frances Milburn/Illustrated by Emily Lesch

Chapter One: Getting Packed

"Mom! What do I need to pack again?" I yelled down the hall. I was sitting on the floor next to my gym bag with a pile of shorts and T-shirts.

Conner was laying on my bed fooling around with my iPad.

"What's taking you so long, kid? I was packed yesterday."

"Leave my iPad alone! Get your own."

"Whoa!" He put up his hands. "And I just came in here to help you, like any big bro would do."

Now that he'd finished tenth grade, he acted totally different. Like he was all grown up or something. In fact, he tried to talk Mom into letting him stay home alone and get a job instead of going on the camping trip.

I knew the real reason was he didn't want to miss any of his baseball season.

But Mom said, "Absolutely no! This is a family vacation! It seems like we're always going three different directions, and we need to take time together. You can look for a job when we get back."

I started to put the shorts and T-shirts in my bag, figuring Mom was too busy to help me.

I had a whole pile of books and toys that I put on top but then couldn't zip the bag shut. "Mom! Can you please come here?"

"Just a minute!" Mom shouted back to me. I knew she wasn't happy with me. This was the third or fourth time she'd told me to get packed. But I went to Nate's swimming party and then had to take just one more bike ride before our trip, and now it was the last night. We were heading out early tomorrow morning to see the Grand Canyon, and we had to get everything done tonight.

I was extra excited because my best friend Nate was coming with us.

This would be our second summer camping trip since Dad died. I still missed him a lot.

We always took a summer trip when he was alive, usually camping because he loved the outdoors. The first summer after he died, we were too sad to do much of anything.

But then one day at supper about mid-July, Mom announced, "Hey boys, we're going camping next week!"

"Without Dad?" Conner asked, his mouth full of noodle casserole. "Do you think we can do it by ourselves?"

Mom shrugged. "Sure, we can do it. Something simple. Maybe we'll tour around Wisconsin and see the north woods and Door County. I'll dig out our tent and cook stove. You know, your dad and I did a bunch of camping before you were born, so I think I'm pretty capable of taking you guys camping by myself."

She started to clear the table.

"Couldn't we go to Disney World instead?" I asked, drinking down my milk. "Jason went last summer and told about the fun stuff they did. Plus, he bought all kinds of souvenirs."

"No way! It's too expensive and too crowded. Masses of people jammed together."

She sat back down and looked at us. "Besides, camping is an important family tradition that I know your Dad would want us to continue."

I could see a tear slide down her cheek.

"I want you to see the beautiful natural places in this country, and do outdoor stuff. We'll try a short trip and see how it goes." Mom quickly got up and loaded the dishwasher.

"Could we get a camper?" Conner asked. "That would be a lot more comfortable than sleeping on the ground in a tent."

"You're in Boy Scouts, Conner! You've been camping before."

Mom put her hands on her hips to make her point. "Nope. We're going to do the real thing. Pitch tents, cook our own meals, hike in the woods."

And that's what we did. It was a fun trip, about five days. We stayed in parks and swam in lakes.

Conner couldn't talk Mom into renting jet skis, but I didn't care. She cooked most of our meals on her propane stove.

In some campgrounds, we were allowed to build a campfire, and we roasted marshmallows. The only bad thing was when Conner walked into the marsh and ended up with chiggers. He had red marks all over his legs and was miserable.

So this summer, Mom decided to do a big trip to the Grand Canyon.

And take two weeks.

But best of all, Mom let me invite my friend Nate, who lived next door, to come with us.

Mom appeared in the doorway, wearing her pink robe. She was combing the snarls out of her wet hair. "I told you before, Ben, shorts, T-shirts, pjs, and underwear in one bag. We'll put our clothes bags in the way back. Then in the other bag, put your stuff to do in the car, your iPad, books, drawing pad, colored pencils, and army guys. Didn't we buy some new stuff for you and Nate?"

"Yep, I got it all here." I held up the plastic bag from Target.

"Good." She turned to Conner. "I assume you're all packed since you're here in Ben's room."

"Did it yesterday." He smiled proudly. "But I have better things to do than lay around in here."

He walked out like he was Mr. Cool.

"When's Nate getting dropped off?" Mom asked. "Remember, we're starting at the crack of dawn tomorrow, and I still have to pack the food tub and the cooler."

"He just called. In 20 minutes." Goldie, my adopted cat strolled into my room. I reached over and petted her.

Turning for another round of petting, she started purring. I looked up at her. "Hey, Mom, who's taking care of Goldie? I hate to leave her."

"Oh my gosh, I forgot to make arrangements." She quickly turned to leave. "I'll call Lydia right now and see if she'll keep her."



Sudoku Solution

4	2	1	3	6	5
5	6	3	4	1	2
3	1	2	6	5	4
6	5	4	2	3	1
2	3	5	1	4	6
1	4	6	5	2	3

Brainteaser Solution

(see Page Three)

10 right - Wow!

7 right - Great!

5 right - Good

3 right - See you next time!



1. Delaware 2. Degas 3. diamondback 4. (Walt) Disney 5. dugong
6. Denmark 7. (Charles) Dickens 8. duel 9. dominoes 10. dystopia

ColoradoKids

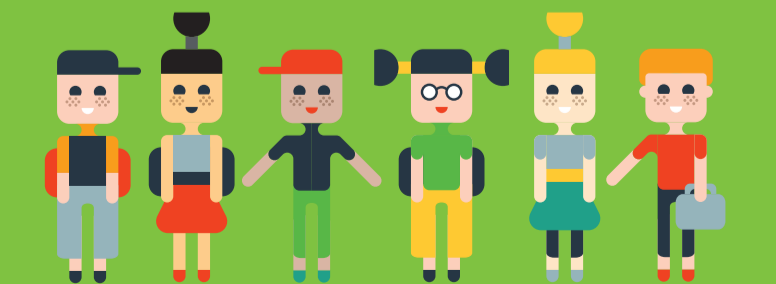
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dplewka@denverpost.com
CK Editor: Mike Peterson
coloradokidseditor@gmail.com
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