

The Spanish Tragedy New Mermaids Tutorial

The Spanish Tragedy New Mermaids

The Spanish Tragedy New Mermaids: A Fresh Take on a Classic Revenge Drama

the spanish tragedy new mermaids edition breathes new life into Thomas Kyd's iconic

Elizabethan play, offering contemporary readers and theater enthusiasts an accessible yet richly annotated version of this seminal revenge tragedy. For anyone interested in early modern drama or the roots of the revenge genre, this new Mermaids edition stands out as both a scholarly treasure and an engaging read. But what makes this edition so noteworthy? Let's dive into what the Spanish Tragedy New Mermaids brings to the table, its significance, and how it helps us appreciate this classic work in a modern context.

Rediscovering The Spanish Tragedy Through New Mermaids

The Spanish Tragedy, first performed around 1592, is often credited with shaping the revenge tragedy genre that would later influence Shakespeare's Hamlet and other masterpieces. The New Mermaids series has long been known for presenting critical editions of classic plays with insightful introductions, textual notes, and helpful commentary. Their take on The Spanish Tragedy is no exception – it combines rigorous scholarship with readability, making the play accessible to both students and casual readers.

What Sets the New Mermaids Edition Apart?

Unlike earlier printings or editions that can feel dense and archaic, the Spanish Tragedy New Mermaids edition is thoughtfully edited to maintain the play's original intensity while clarifying its complex language and structure. The editors provide:

An engaging introduction covering historical context, themes, and performance history.

Thorough notes explaining Elizabethan references, archaic words, and dramatic conventions.

An exploration of the play's influence on later literature and drama.

Insight into the psychological and cultural dynamics of revenge in the Elizabethan era.

This approach makes it easier to appreciate the emotional depth and societal critiques embedded in Kyd's work without losing the play's poetic power.

Understanding the Themes in The Spanish Tragedy

At its core, The Spanish Tragedy is a gripping tale of revenge, justice, madness, and mortality, themes that resonate across centuries. The New Mermaids edition delves deeply into these motifs, helping readers unpack the layered narrative.

Revenge and Justice

The play centers on Hieronimo, who seeks to avenge his son's murder. The New Mermaids commentary highlights how Kyd explores the blurred lines between lawful justice and personal vengeance. This tension raises questions about morality and the consequences of taking justice into one's own hands, a topic still relevant today.

Madness and Performance

Hieronimo's descent into madness is portrayed with psychological complexity, a facet the New Mermaids edition particularly emphasizes. The play also features a play-within-a-play device, reflecting on theater's power to reveal truth and manipulate perception. These elements are carefully unpacked to show how Kyd uses madness and performance as tools for critique and catharsis.

The Spanish Tragedy in Performance: Insights from New Mermaids

One of the strengths of the Spanish Tragedy New Mermaids edition is its focus on the play's performative aspects. It goes beyond the text to consider how staging, acting, and audience interaction shape the experience of the drama.

Elizabethan Stage Conventions

The editors explain how the original performances would have utilized minimal sets, symbolic props, and direct audience address to intensify emotional engagement. Understanding these conventions helps modern readers and theater-makers envision how the play's dramatic moments were originally conveyed.

Modern Adaptations and Relevance

The New Mermaids edition also touches on contemporary productions, noting how directors reinterpret The Spanish Tragedy's themes to comment on current social issues. This makes the work not just a historical artifact but a living text that continues to inspire

dialogue about justice, revenge, and human nature.

Tips for Reading and Studying The Spanish Tragedy with New Mermaids

If you're approaching The Spanish Tragedy for the first time or revisiting it, the New Mermaids edition offers several advantages for deeper understanding:

Start with the Introduction: The editorial introduction provides essential

1.
background on Elizabethan drama and Kyd's influence, setting the stage for a richer reading experience.

Use the Glossary and Notes: Don't hesitate to refer to the annotations when you

2.
encounter unfamiliar terms or references; they illuminate the text's meaning.

Consider the Play as a Performance: Reading the stage directions and

3.
imagining the scenes can reveal the dramatic tension and pacing inherent in the play.

Reflect on the Themes: Think about how issues of revenge and justice apply

4.
beyond the play's historical context, and how the characters' struggles echo modern dilemmas.

These strategies can transform your reading from a passive activity into an active exploration of one of English drama's foundational works.

The Legacy of The Spanish Tragedy New Mermaids Edition

Thanks to the New Mermaids series, The Spanish Tragedy remains accessible and relevant. This edition supports academic study while inviting a broader audience to engage with the play's timeless questions. Its careful balance of scholarly rigor and readability encourages readers to appreciate not only the plot but also the artistry and cultural significance embedded in Kyd's tragedy.

By providing context and clarity, the Spanish Tragedy New Mermaids edition ensures that this early masterpiece continues to inform discussions about literature, theater, and the human condition. Whether you're a student, educator, or drama lover, this edition is a valuable resource that highlights why The Spanish Tragedy endures as a cornerstone of English Renaissance theater.

Question

Answer

What is the significance of 'The Spanish Tragedy' in the New Mermaids series?

The Spanish Tragedy is a foundational Elizabethan revenge tragedy included in the New Mermaids series, which offers a modern, accessible edition with critical

insights that highlight its importance in the development of English drama.

Who edited the New Mermaids edition of 'The Spanish Tragedy'?

The New Mermaids edition of 'The Spanish Tragedy' is typically edited by a noted scholar specializing in Renaissance drama, providing an authoritative text along with comprehensive introductions and annotations.

How does the New Mermaids edition of 'The Spanish Tragedy' enhance understanding for contemporary readers?

The New Mermaids edition includes detailed introductions, explanatory notes, performance history, and critical essays that help contemporary readers grasp the play's historical context, themes, and theatrical conventions.

What are some key themes

explored in 'The Spanish

Tragedy' as presented in the

New Mermaids edition?

Key themes include revenge, justice, madness, and

political intrigue, all of which are explored with

scholarly commentary in the New Mermaids edition to

deepen readers' appreciation of the play's complexity.

Is 'The Spanish Tragedy' by

Thomas Kyd included in the

New Mermaids series suitable

for academic study?

Yes, the New Mermaids edition of 'The Spanish

Tragedy' is widely used in academic settings due to its

reliable text, scholarly apparatus, and insightful

critical material, making it suitable for students and

researchers.

The Spanish Tragedy New Mermaids: A Modern Edition of a Classic Revenge Drama

the spanish tragedy new mermaids edition has revitalized Thomas Kyd's seminal

work, offering contemporary readers and theatre enthusiasts a fresh perspective on one

of the most influential plays of the Elizabethan era. As part of the acclaimed New Mermaids series, this edition combines rigorous scholarship with accessible textual presentation, positioning itself as a vital resource for both academic study and theatrical production.

Understanding the Significance of The Spanish Tragedy

First performed in the late 1580s, The Spanish Tragedy is often credited with pioneering the revenge tragedy genre, influencing playwrights such as Shakespeare and Webster. The play's exploration of themes like justice, madness, and political intrigue resonates across centuries, making it a staple in the study of early modern drama.

The New Mermaids edition distinguishes itself by delivering an authoritative text that reflects the latest academic research. It incorporates various early versions and manuscripts to reconstruct a version that is both faithful to Kyd's original intentions and intelligible to modern audiences. This approach addresses the textual ambiguities that have historically complicated interpretations of the play.

Features of the New Mermaids Edition

The Spanish Tragedy New Mermaids edition is notable for several features that enhance its utility:

Comprehensive Introduction: The edition opens with an extensive introduction

1. contextualizing the play within Elizabethan theatre, its historical background, and its influence on the revenge tragedy tradition.

Critical Annotations: Detailed footnotes clarify archaic language, cultural

2.
references, and dramaturgical conventions, aiding readers unfamiliar with the period.

Textual Notes: The editors provide transparent commentary on textual variants

3.
and editorial decisions, which is particularly valuable given the play's complex publication history.

Performance History: Insights into notable productions illustrate how

4.
interpretations of the play have evolved over time, highlighting its enduring relevance.

Comparing The Spanish Tragedy New Mermaids to Other Editions

Several editions of The Spanish Tragedy exist, ranging from facsimile reproductions of early quartos to modern adaptations. However, the New Mermaids edition is distinguished by its scholarly rigor and balanced approach between academic depth and readability. For instance, earlier editions, such as those in the Arden or Oxford series, may prioritize exhaustive critical apparatuses but can be dense for non-specialists. Meanwhile, popular adaptations often simplify the text at the expense of historical fidelity. The New Mermaids edition strikes a middle ground, making it suitable for university courses while remaining

accessible for theatre practitioners.

Textual Integrity and Editorial Approach

One of the challenges in editing *The Spanish Tragedy* lies in its multiple early texts, which contain discrepancies and inconsistencies. The New Mermaids edition employs a collational method, comparing the 1592 and 1602 quartos alongside manuscript fragments to produce a coherent text that honors Kyd's style and thematic intent.

The editors avoid unnecessary modernization of spelling and punctuation, preserving the original rhythm and tone. This choice supports a more authentic reading experience and allows readers to engage directly with the Elizabethan linguistic texture.

The Spanish Tragedy New Mermaids in Academic and Theatrical Contexts

The usefulness of the New Mermaids edition extends beyond literary analysis. Theatre directors and actors benefit from its clear stage directions and contextual commentary, which illuminate character motivations and dramatic structure. The edition's attention to performance history also offers practical insights into how staging choices impact interpretation.

In academic settings, the edition supports courses on Renaissance drama, Shakespearean studies, and genre evolution. Its rich editorial content encourages critical thinking about authorship, textual transmission, and the socio-political dimensions of revenge tragedies.

Advantages and Limitations

Advantages:

1.

Balanced editorial voice combining accessibility with scholarly depth.

1.

Comprehensive introduction and notes enhance understanding of complex

2.

themes.

Useful for both literary scholars and theatre professionals.

3.

Limitations:

2.

Preservation of archaic language may pose challenges for readers new to

1.

Elizabethan English.

Lack of extensive illustrations or visual aids compared to some other editions.

2.

Focus on textual fidelity may limit appeal to audiences seeking modernized

3.

versions.

Integrating The Spanish Tragedy New Mermaids into Modern Scholarship

Given the resurgence of interest in early modern drama and its cultural contexts, the New Mermaids edition of The Spanish Tragedy comes at a timely moment. Its meticulous editorial work enables fresh critical perspectives, particularly in exploring themes of justice, revenge, and theatricality that remain relevant today.

Moreover, as digital humanities projects increasingly incorporate early modern texts, authoritative editions like this one provide a reliable foundation for annotation, performance analysis, and intertextual studies.

The Spanish Tragedy New Mermaids edition thus represents a significant contribution to the ongoing dialogue between past and present, textual scholarship and performance, offering a resource that is as intellectually rigorous as it is practically valuable.

The Spanish Tragedy, New Mermaids series, Thomas Kyd, Elizabethan drama, revenge tragedy, Renaissance theatre, Jacobean play, critical edition, stage directions, early modern literature

Tragedy paper elizabeth laban

tragedy paper elizabeth laban: An In-Depth Exploration of Elizabeth Laban's Tragedy Paper and Its Significance

Introduction

The phrase **tragedy paper Elizabeth Laban** often surfaces in academic discussions, literary analysis, and student assignments focused on the works of Elizabeth Laban. While Elizabeth Laban is renowned as an accomplished author, the term "tragedy paper" refers to a specific scholarly or analytical paper examining themes of tragedy, loss, and human resilience within her works or related literary contexts. This article aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of what a

tragedy paper about Elizabeth Laban entails, its significance in literary studies, and how to craft an effective, SEO-optimized analysis that captures the depth of her writings.

Overview of Elizabeth Laban's Literary Contributions

Elizabeth Laban is a notable figure in contemporary literature, known for her evocative storytelling and profound exploration of human emotions. Her works often delve into themes such as identity, loss, hope, and the complexities of human relationships. Some of her most recognized publications include novels, short stories, and essays that resonate deeply with readers and critics alike.

Understanding the "Tragedy Paper"

A "tragedy paper" typically refers to an academic or critical essay that analyzes tragic elements within a literary work. When associated with Elizabeth Laban, it involves dissecting her narratives to uncover underlying themes of tragedy, character struggles, and emotional catharsis. Such papers aim to:

- Explore how Laban's characters confront adversity
- Analyze the narrative structure that emphasizes tragic elements
- Discuss the impact of tragedy on character development and story progression
- Examine the moral or philosophical questions raised through tragedy

The Significance of Tragedy in Elizabeth Laban's Works

Tragedy plays a crucial role in Laban's storytelling, serving as a vehicle for emotional depth and philosophical inquiry. Her characters often face profound loss or moral dilemmas, prompting readers to reflect on human resilience and the transformative power of suffering.

Key aspects include:

- Emotional resonance: Tragedy amplifies the emotional impact of her stories, making them memorable and thought-provoking.
- Moral complexity: Her characters often embody moral ambiguity, confronting difficult choices that lead to tragic consequences.
- Narrative depth: Tragedy provides a layered narrative structure, encouraging analysis and critical thinking.

Writing a Tragedy Paper on Elizabeth Laban: Step-by-Step Guide

Creating an insightful and SEO-optimized tragedy paper requires a systematic approach. Here's a comprehensive guide:

1. Select a Specific Work or Theme

Identify which of Elizabeth Laban's works or themes you wish to analyze. For example:

- A particular novel or short story
- A recurring motif such as loss, betrayal, or moral conflict
- An overarching theme of tragedy within her oeuvre

2. Conduct In-Depth Literary Analysis

Examine the chosen work or theme through:

- Character analysis: Focus on protagonists facing tragic circumstances
- Plot structure: Identify moments of tragedy and their significance
- Literary devices: Look for symbolism, imagery, or narrative techniques emphasizing tragedy
- Contextual background: Understand the societal or personal contexts influencing her storytelling

3. Develop a Clear Thesis Statement

Your thesis should succinctly express your main argument about the tragic elements in Laban's work. For example:

"Elizabeth Laban masterfully employs narrative tragedy to explore human resilience amid loss, emphasizing the moral complexities faced by her characters."

4. Organize the Paper Effectively

Structure your tragedy paper with logical flow:

- Introduction: Present your thesis and overview of Laban's significance
- Body paragraphs: Analyze specific aspects such as character arcs, plot points, and literary devices
- Conclusion: Summarize your findings and reflect on the broader implications

5. Use SEO-Optimized Language and Keywords

To enhance visibility, incorporate relevant keywords naturally:

- Elizabeth Laban tragedy analysis
- Tragedy themes in Elizabeth Laban's works
- Elizabeth Laban character tragedy
- Literary tragedy in contemporary fiction
- Emotional depth in Elizabeth Laban's stories

Ensure your content remains engaging and informative.

Understanding Themes of Tragedy in Elizabeth Laban's Works

Loss and Grief

Many of Laban's stories explore characters' experiences with loss—be it the death of a loved one, the end of a relationship, or personal identity crises. Analyzing how her characters process grief reveals her nuanced portrayal of tragedy.

Moral Dilemmas and Ethical Conflicts

Her narratives often present characters at crossroads, forced to make morally complex decisions that lead to tragic outcomes. These dilemmas challenge readers to consider the nature of morality and human frailty.

Resilience and Human Spirit

Despite tragic themes, Laban emphasizes resilience, showcasing how characters endure and find hope beyond adversity. This duality enriches her stories with philosophical depth.

Key Literary Devices Employed by Elizabeth Laban

- Symbolism: Using objects or motifs to represent tragic themes
- Imagery: Vivid descriptions to evoke emotional responses
- Foreshadowing: Hinting at tragic events to build suspense
- Narrative Perspective: Employing multiple viewpoints to deepen understanding of tragedy

Crafting an Effective SEO-Optimized Tragedy Paper

When writing your tragedy paper, consider the following SEO strategies:

- Use relevant keywords strategically throughout your headings, subheadings, and content
- Incorporate internal links to related articles or literary analyses
- Optimize meta descriptions with compelling summaries
- Utilize engaging images or infographics with descriptive alt text
- Share your work on platforms and forums dedicated to literary critique

Conclusion

The exploration of **tragedy paper Elizabeth Laban** reveals the depth and complexity of her storytelling, highlighting how tragedy serves as a vital element in her literary universe. Whether analyzing her characters' moral struggles, narrative structures, or thematic motifs, crafting a well-researched, SEO-optimized tragedy paper can offer valuable insights into her work and its emotional resonance. By understanding her use of tragedy, readers and scholars alike can appreciate the profound human truths embedded within her stories and contribute to ongoing literary discourse.

Remember, an effective tragedy paper not only analyzes literary elements but also connects them to broader philosophical and emotional themes, providing a comprehensive understanding of Elizabeth Laban's artistic legacy.

Tragedy Paper Elizabeth Laban: An In-Depth Exploration of Themes, Characters, and Literary Significance

Introduction to Elizabeth Laban's Tragedy Paper

Elizabeth Laban's Tragedy Paper is a compelling young adult novel that delves into complex themes of loss, redemption, mental health, and the power of storytelling. Published in 2013, the book has garnered critical acclaim for its nuanced characters and thought-provoking narrative. This review aims to dissect the various facets of the novel, examining its thematic depth, character development, stylistic choices, and overall literary significance.

Overview of the Plot

Basic Synopsis

Tragedy Paper follows the story of Tim, a high school senior who is assigned to write a tragedy paper for his English class. As he immerses himself in the assignment, he uncovers the stories of other students, particularly the enigmatic and troubled Sylvia, whose life and struggles become a central focus. The narrative oscillates between Tim's perspective and Sylvia's story, creating a layered exploration of tragedy and resilience.

Key Plot Points

- Tim's assignment: As part of his English class, Tim must write about a tragedy, leading him to explore various stories, including Sylvia's.
- Sylvia's backstory: Through flashbacks and conversations, Sylvia's life is revealed, highlighting her battles with mental health issues and her family dynamics.
- Themes of loss and grief: The narrative underscores the impact of tragedy on personal identity and relationships.
- Resolution and reflection: The novel culminates in a nuanced understanding of tragedy's role in human growth and the importance of empathy.

Major Themes Explored in the Novel

1. The Nature of Tragedy

At its core, *Tragedy Paper* interrogates what constitutes tragedy. Unlike traditional stories that depict catastrophic events, Laban emphasizes internal struggles and emotional suffering as true tragedies. The novel suggests that tragedy is often personal and silent, manifesting in mental health challenges and familial conflicts.

2. Mental Health and Emotional Resilience

Sylvia's character embodies the struggles with mental health, including depression and anxiety. The novel portrays her journey with sensitivity, emphasizing:

- The importance of understanding and compassion.
- The stigma surrounding mental health issues.
- The resilience required to confront inner demons.

This theme encourages readers to consider mental health as a vital component of tragedy and human experience.

3. The Power of Storytelling and Art

Throughout the narrative, storytelling emerges as a therapeutic tool. Tim's engagement with Sylvia's story allows him to understand her better, illustrating how narrative can foster empathy and healing. The novel highlights:

- Literature and art as means of coping.
- The importance of sharing personal stories.
- The transformative power of understanding others' experiences.

4. Loss, Grief, and Moving Forward

The novel delicately explores how characters grapple with loss—be it through death, separation, or emotional trauma—and how they find pathways to healing. It emphasizes that tragedy, while painful, can lead to growth and self-awareness.

5. Education and Self-Discovery

As a high school setting provides the backdrop, the novel examines how education serves as a space for self-discovery. Tim's academic assignment becomes a mirror for his own introspection, illustrating the role of learning in personal development.

Character Analysis

1. Tim

- Role: The protagonist and narrator, a reflective and empathetic student.
- Development: Initially somewhat detached, Tim evolves as he delves into Sylvia's story, gaining a deeper understanding of tragedy's nuances.
- Themes embodied: Curiosity, compassion, and self-awareness.

2. Sylvia

- Role: The mysterious girl whose tragic story unfolds throughout the novel.
- Background: Sylvia struggles with mental health issues compounded by familial conflicts.
- Character traits: Sensitive, troubled, resilient.
- Significance: Represents the silent tragedies many face and underscores the importance of empathy.

3. Supporting Characters

- Sylvia's Family: Their dynamics reveal the roots of Sylvia's struggles, highlighting themes of neglect and misunderstanding.
- Tim's Friends and Teachers: They serve as catalysts for his self-discovery, providing different

perspectives on tragedy and resilience.

- Other Students: Each offers a unique take on tragedy, broadening the reader's understanding of human suffering.

Stylistic and Literary Devices

1. Narrative Structure

Laban employs a layered narrative, alternating between Tim's reflections and Sylvia's story, often through flashbacks and journal entries. This technique:

- Creates suspense and emotional depth.
- Allows readers to see tragedy from multiple perspectives.
- Mirrors the complexity of human experiences.

2. Use of Symbolism

- The Tragedy Paper: The assignment itself symbolizes the attempt to understand and articulate tragedy, serving as a metaphor for human attempts to find meaning in suffering.
- Art and Writing: Represent outlets for emotional expression and healing.

3. Language and Tone

Laban's prose is characterized by its clarity, sensitivity, and depth. The tone shifts from introspective and somber to hopeful, reflecting the characters' journeys through despair toward resilience.

Critical Reception and Impact

Tragedy Paper has been praised for its authentic portrayal of mental health and its nuanced exploration of tragedy. Critics have lauded Elizabeth Laban for her empathetic writing style and her ability to tackle difficult topics with delicacy. The novel has also been used in educational settings to foster discussions about mental health awareness, empathy, and the importance of storytelling.

Educational and Thematic Significance

This novel offers valuable lessons for young adult readers and educators alike:

- Encourages empathy for those facing mental health challenges.
- Promotes understanding of the complexity of tragedy beyond surface-level events.
- Demonstrates the importance of narrative and art in processing grief.
- Inspires self-reflection on personal resilience and growth.

Conclusion: The Lasting Impact of Elizabeth Laban's Tragedy Paper

In sum, Tragedy Paper stands as a profound exploration of human suffering and resilience. Elizabeth Laban masterfully crafts a narrative that resonates with readers by highlighting the universality of tragedy and the transformative power of understanding and empathy. The novel's layered storytelling, complex characters, and thematic richness make it a significant work in contemporary young adult literature.

Whether approached as a coming-of-age story, a meditation on mental health, or an ode to the healing power of storytelling, Tragedy Paper invites readers to reflect on their own experiences with tragedy and to recognize the strength found in vulnerability and connection. Its enduring relevance ensures it remains a vital text for fostering compassion and self-awareness among its readers.

In summary, Elizabeth Laban's Tragedy Paper is a beautifully crafted, emotionally resonant novel that challenges readers to confront difficult truths about human suffering and resilience. Its rich thematic layers and compelling characters make it a vital addition to the landscape of young adult literature, inspiring empathy, reflection, and hope.

Question What is the main theme of Elizabeth Laban's tragedy paper? Elizabeth Laban's tragedy paper primarily explores the themes of loss, human fragility, and the consequences of unchecked ambition within a tragic narrative framework. **Answer** How does Elizabeth Laban interpret tragic protagonists in her paper? Laban analyzes tragic protagonists as complex characters who often possess both admirable qualities and tragic flaws that lead to their downfall, emphasizing the importance of internal conflict. What literary works does Elizabeth Laban reference in her tragedy paper? She references classic tragedies such as Sophocles' 'Oedipus Rex,' Shakespeare's 'Hamlet,' and modern interpretations to illustrate different aspects of tragedy. According to Elizabeth Laban, what role does fate play in tragedy? Laban argues that fate is a crucial element in tragedy, often acting as an inevitable force that guides the tragic hero's downfall despite their actions or intentions. How does Elizabeth Laban analyze the cathartic effect of tragedy in her paper? She discusses how tragedy evokes catharsis by allowing audiences to experience and process intense emotions, leading to psychological relief and moral reflection. What contemporary examples does Elizabeth Laban use to illustrate tragic themes? Laban references modern films and literature, such as 'Breaking Bad' and 'The Fault in Our Stars,' to demonstrate how tragedy remains relevant in today's storytelling. What is Elizabeth Laban's perspective on the moral lessons of tragedy? She believes that tragedy often imparts important moral lessons about humility, the dangers of hubris, and the importance of self-awareness. How does Elizabeth Laban differentiate between tragedy and other

genres in her paper? Laban distinguishes tragedy by its focus on human suffering, inevitable downfall, and profound moral or philosophical questions, setting it apart from other genres like comedy or adventure. What conclusions does Elizabeth Laban draw about the enduring significance of tragedy? Laban concludes that tragedy remains a vital literary and cultural form because it reflects the complexities of human existence and prompts deep reflection on our values and vulnerabilities.

Related keywords: Elizabeth Laban, tragedy paper, Elizabeth Laban tragedy, tragedy essay, literary analysis, tragedy in literature, Elizabeth Laban works, tragedy themes, literary critique, tragic narrative

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