CRAIGSLIST CONJURATIONS

Preliminary notes from an exploration into the interstices of Spiritual Services, Folk Magic and Digital Advertising with supplemental appendices
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CONDITIONS OF ADEPTSHIP.

Those who in the true sense deserve the appellation of "Adepts" in India are not the speculative philosophers or elaborations of cosmogonies. The real adepts are often remarkably deficient in philosophical or even general information.

The writer has found among them individuals who would be deemed exceedingly ignorant if judged by our Western standard of education; men, for instance, who had not the haziest knowledge of geography, and to whom even the history of their own country was in great measure a sealed book.

Yet these men were the custodians of secrets for which many an intellectual giant would readily exchange twenty years of his life, secrets which so far have successfully baffled the researches of the best Western thinkers and experimenters, and which not only enabled the possessor to suspend or defy the ordinary 'laws of nature,' but to triumph over time and space with an ease and readiness which the Greeks hardly dared to attribute to their Olympian gods...

...What I desire to dwell upon is the fact that adeptship in the real esoteric science of India does not presuppose great learning or intellectual superiority on the part of the initiate.

- From The Book of Hindu, Ceremonial and Talismanic Magic, by L.W. de Laurence (The De Laurence Company, 1914)
LET De LAURENCE HELP YOU

Many assure us that this catalogue, and the great Books and Equipment in it, have been sometimes of incredible help and assistance to those with Great Ambition, Burning Desires and Overpowering Fears.

THE OLD AND NEW KNOWLEDGE

The Occult Arts and Sciences undoubtedly are old with the wisdom of the Ages, but they are new as today, too, because Great Minds are constantly at work on these great problems—seeking the solution for You and all the world to use.

MAY HELP YOU!

Seek the onward and the upward road to Success and to Happiness—to greater accomplishment and a fuller life. Banish boredom and frustration with knowledge, and true power that comes from Knowledge. The Gate is open!

READ ON!
“MY WORK IS 100% GUARANTEED. CALL MISS MARY TODAY AND BE RID OF YOUR TROUBLES BY TOMMOROW.”
- SPIRITUAL ROOTWORKER (BRUNSWICK GEORGIA)

Generalized psychic and metaphysical services are a mainstay in the Craigslist classified ads. Presenting an image reminiscent of the psychic hotlines that were promoted in commercials and infomercials during the 1980’s and 90’s the bulk of these advertisements offer fairly flat line options for those seeking assistance from beyond the pale confines of everyday life. Yet, if one looks closely it is possible to discover another class of advertisement, more rarefied offerings from a few unique individuals who have stepped outside of the common psycho-spiritual SEO. Here we find spiritual workers, such as ‘Miss Mary,’ the ‘Spiritual Rootworker’ quoted above, who retain connections to long running traditions of folk magic and healing. Here we discover suggestions for how common traditions of folk spirituality continue on despite the tendency to relegate these areas of human experience and expression to dead images of a curious past.

**Historical Antecedents**

Turning to the historical record these ads show deep connections with standards of popular spirituality that have existed for centuries. In *On Sacred Disease*, a work from the fourth or fifth century B.C.E. attributed to the Greek physician Hippocrates, we find an intimation of the long lingering history of today’s spiritual workers:

“If the patient is attended by fears, terrors, and madnesses in the night, jumps up out his bed and flees outside, they call these the
attacks of Hecate or the onslaughts of ghosts [hêrôês]. 39. They make use of purifications [katharmoi] and incantations [epaoidai] and so do a thing that is quite unholy and ungodly, as it seems to me. 40. For they purify those who are in the grip of a disease with blood and other such things as if they were subject to pollution [miasma] or avenging ghosts [alastores], or were bewitched [pepharmag-menoi] by men, or had done some unholy deed.” ¹

This critique shows that much of what we see in the following advertisements was well known in the ancient world, as were the arguments put forth by those skeptical of the efficacy of such techniques. While lamenting the impiety of the ‘mages [magoi] and purifiers [kathartai] and beggar-priests [agurtaî] and vagrant-charlatans [alazones]’ the writer of On Sacred Diseases offers the kind of cynical explanation that might come to mind when reading the Craigslist ads included in these preliminary notes –

‘Perhaps it is just that men trying to make a living invent all manner of things and make elaborate claims...’

To simply say that these areas represent some primitive atavism ignores the interesting way in which the ancient text seems so contemporary in light of what we find on Craigslist, and the contemporary advertisements are so close to their ancient predecessors. Outside of, or at least parallel to, any ‘occult revival’ or increased academic interest in esoteric spirituality, these advertisements provide access to folk traditions that remain in place despite their seeming incongruity with today’s world of technology and religious scientism.
Living Traditions

In gathering these Craigslist ads care was taken to avoid service offerings that included terms such as Reiki, energy healing, shamanism, and other linguistic clues that the focus of the spiritual service was influenced by contemporary popular metaphysical or ‘New Age’ spirituality. The following excerpt from an interview with a line cook who works at a local restaurant in Walton County Georgia helps put into perspective the more direct and ‘traditional’ worldview, very much alive in the 21st century, in which these ads are situated. During this interview Preston, the cook, discusses his father’s role as a traditional seer and healer in the Southern United Sates:

Born with a veil over his face (Source: Preston, Walton County, GA - 2013)

I believe in the unknown, because to me not to believe in the unknown is to not believe in God. I can’t see him ‘neither, but I know he’s there and I can see him working.

Now some people are afraid of ghosts, they don’t like to talk about them none. I tell them, now I believe in the Lord too strong to be worried about any of that.

I believe in ghosts because my daddy believed in them. He was born with a veil over his face, they say that folks born like that can see things, he used to heal kids with the thrush.

One time we was at the bus stop, and he tell me “Look over there…” pointing to a man standing across the street at the other bus stop, he was standing with his back turned to us so you couldn’t see his face. My daddy said “That’s a ghost…”
And I said “Now how in the world can that be a ghost? That’s a man standing there solid as me.”

He said, “Nah, that’s a ghost. You ain’t never gonna see his face, watch...”

So we did, we sat there until our bus come, whole time the man just stands there with his back to us. My daddy he said “Now wait, we’ll let this one pass, we’re going to sit here until his bus come.”

So we did, we sat there until his bus come, still that man never did turn or move. My daddy say “Now watch...”

The lights inside the bus was bright, you know, and I watched, but I never seen him get on the bus. When it drove away, he was gone. Now I tell you I ain’t seen him get on, but he was gone when it left.

We had an apartment in Atlanta, it was up on the second floor. There was a balcony off the back, you know, but no stairs coming up to it. One night I hear something kick at the balcony door and it bust open, and I hear someone screaming “Yeeewwww” real loud, you know. I run out there on the balcony and I’m looking down all over the alley, but I ain’t seen nobody. We was two stories up, now if somebody been there I’d a seen ‘em.

My daddy he come out and said “Boy, just leave it alone. It’s just a ghost, it don’t mean no harm.”

He moved in one place, and they weren’t so peaceful, they threw him out. He seen something there one time, and after that he just left the place and wouldn’t go back in. My sisters had to go get the furniture and all the stuff, he tell them “I ain’t gonna go back, no matter what. They can have the furniture and all the rest, I ain’t messin’ with that.”
When he was a boy they used to bring kids over with the thrush to see him, he blow three times in their mouths and they was supposed to get healed. He told me that it used to work back then. They said peoples born with a veil could do things like that. I ain’t seen nothin’ like that since he passed. Not that strong, but sometimes you see those things out of the corner of your eye, you see it, feel someone pass, but you look again and there ain’t nothin’ there.”

Although Preston in part echoes skeptics who would say these practices can be left as historical curiosities and speaks to the dwindling presence of people like his father and the traditions that they carry on, it is in this world of ghosts and “those things (seen) out of the corner of your eye” that the subsequent Craigslist ads are found. If these areas of human experience represent remainders of a dead worldview then the ads themselves are revenant spirits wandering through the digital world. So come, suspend whatever disbelief you might have for a short while and let us explore a darksome world of subtle forces conjured up from the cold text of the Craigslist classifieds. If we don’t encounter some salacious specter off the page, at least let us attend to the phantasmal remains found in these ads. Afterwards you can always ‘look again’ and assure yourself that ‘there ain’t nothin’ there.’

(1) - Ogden, Daniel, Witchcraft, and Ghosts in the Greek and Roman Worlds: A Source Book
(2) – The Craigslist ads presented here were collected intermittently between 2013 and 2015.
In our first advertisement we find an ‘exorcist of international study’ who offers in words (and spelling) reminiscent of the Middle Ages or Renaissance - ‘the service of repeling spirits of a dark nature’. In each of the ads presented here all spelling, grammar and other personalized touches have been left in place to present a most true and honest picture of the spiritual worker:

(Exorcist)expulsion, protection, blessing (non-denominational)

Hello there I’am an exorcist of international study, i do not have a specific ritual status so if you do prefer a certain style of belief oriented ritual i will not refuse do to the fact of resonant energy.

Now i offer the service of repeling spirits of dark nature and demons (or if needed, helping a spirit of any manner cross over to the other plain)

Yes i do have experience exorcising spirits in myself and others so do not hesitate to ask for an exorcism “I WILL HELP YOU” keep in mind an act of exorcism is very dangerous for myself and esspecialy YOU so keep in mind you need to be sure and you need to be strong and stay strong no matter what happens (NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS).

I also offer blessings of items, oneself and residence.

So if you are ready to recieve my help do not hesitate to ask for it, i’am here for the public (everyone and anyone) i believe all that is and can be, i ony believe in trueth there is no false in spirituality or belief. So if you do not have a prefrance of ritual status then i will do what i do best, but if you DO do not mind telling me i will bend to your belief.

REMEMBER I’AM HERE TO HELP YOU, NOT TO TELL YOU WHAT IS RIGHT OR WRONG.

Hey and even if you need spiritual advise or advise of your well being, counseling etc…. I might as well be one in a million i’am very wise..

P.S Now i will recieve a mobile phone on the first of this coming month and i will update with the number, so dont freak out if you are not comfortable with E-mail..

Thank you and have a nice and positive day.. May we all walk the line of peace!!
The next advertisement mixes traditional healing methods of folk Christianity with contemporary ideas such as ‘demonic stronghold analysis’ for a surprising Craigslist spiritual offering:

Curse Removal Guidance And Spiritual Advisor (Atlanta)

I offer Free Help Initial to prove my worth, then i charge to continue Support and Guidance.

So you have a Guarantee to verify that i can help you first at no expense to your self.

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND:

one of the most common reasons why people dont get success from Spiritual advisory is NOT FOLLOWING EXACT INSTRUCTIONS.

I know and realize its hard getting directions from a complete stranger on how to handle issues in your life but this is the only way to for it to work…at least with my service of healing.

Im very very thorough with what i do which involves home visits.

I offer:

Paranormal Activity Analysis
Demonic Stronghold Analysis
Unexplained Paranormal Activity
Haunting
Ghost
Spirits
Paranormal Investigation
In Home, Telephonic, Face to Face Advisory System.
Bible Foundation methods with no worldly rituals, baths, beads, soaps and so forth. Strictly on the Word of God and Direction in the Bible. Through, Prayer, Coaching, Support, Guidance, Biblical Enlightenment, and “Genuine Love”, our specialist will bring light to your dark situation.

Specializing:

Identification and removal Demonic, Negative holds, Assignments and Barriers placed on individuals. 
Relationship Healing and Ending through healthy closure. 
Breaking of Negative Generational Ties.
Spiritual/Emotional Healing Assistance.
Spiritual Awakening, (Destiny Realization)
Removal Demonic Emotions; Sadness, Depression, Loneliness, Fear, Anxiety, Anger, Lust, Envy, Jealousy, Stress
Spiritual Healing From Abuse; Molestation, Violence, Mental Abuse, Sexual Assault, Neglect

FREE CONSULTATION

24 Hour Counselling Support Line For Active Clients

For Service Reply to this ad with “HELP HEALING” in the Subject Line in the body please give your full name, a brief description of the issues at hand, your faith or beliefs, and a contact number with an appropriate time frame that you can be contacted.

Thank You and Have a Blessed day.
Although the following advertisement is brief, ‘Prophet’ Paul Collins manages to pack a powerful punch with a bold claim of efficacy against ‘all sicknesses’ – including Aids:

Spiritual advisor healer of all sicknesses

Prophet Paul Collins
Spiritual Advisor and healer of all sicknesses including Aids.
Helps in love, every day life, court cases.
Psychic readings.
Call for an appointment.
SPIRITUAL CLEANSING (College Park)

SPIRITUAL CLEANSING are you tired of being sick and tired. Unfaithful lover, life just not going right believe there is something blocking your happiness. Rev Chinaza spiritual counseling, spiritual baths and supplies
Classified ads for spiritual services on Craigslist, at least in the period of time where the ones featured in this collection were gathered, were decidedly lacking in the ‘Voodoo magic’ terminology that was once a popular mainstay of spiritual workers in the 20th century. ANIYBOBO’s post is a fascinating exception which hints at contemporary concerns for accurate terminology in relation to African diaspora faith traditions (using the word Vod’un) while at the same time relying on standard spiritual service offerings which are unrelated to Vodun as it is traditionally practiced. We also find ANIYBOBO claiming to be a leader of a coven, a term used by ‘book-fed’ neo-pagan faiths and not related to ADR traditions:

**Authentic traditional Vod’un**

Greetings. I am a tratraditional African Bokor who specializes in traditional Vod’un handed down by my ancestors and culture. I specialize in many works of magical art including spells, readings, spiritual baths, rituals, white magic, black magic, healing and legal issues of all sorts. Every work requires a reading to see the best way to handle a situation as well as the best solution. There are many Imposters who do not know traditional Vod’un and most are ‘book fed’. I do outcalls as well as in call visits. I teach as well as initiate, with the assistance of those in my coven. Please do not waste my time if you’re not serious or looking for a ‘free and easy’ way to maneuver thru life. Authentic Vod’un is not expensive nor cheap but it is very much worth the wonders.

ANIYBOBO
Miss Mary runs a number of advertisements in different cities, which to the uncritical eye might seem to be repetitious (included in this selection are advertisements from Brunswick, Georgia. These provide a good representation of the ads posted in other cities.) – however, the true connoisseur of traditional spiritual services will recognize the individualized touches that make each ad unique. She uses a time honored formula that harkens back to older advertisements for this kind of work. Miss Mary’s ad copy is similar to the Mother Powers advertisements in Lottery Dream Books, or the associated advertisements online for Sister Mary, here you can see the tradition carrying on into the nightside world of Craigslist classifieds:

SPIRITUAL ROOTWORKER (BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA)
MISS MARY CAN HELP YOU ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD IN HOURS. ARE YOU IN HARD LUCK? DO YOU HAVE PROBLEMS THAT ARE WORRYING YOU? ARE YOU SUFFERING IN PAIN AND MISERY? DO YOU WANT TO GET LUCKY AND STAY LUCKY? IS YOUR HUSBAND OR WIFE SPENDING THE MONEY ON SOMEONE ELSE? HAS HE OR SHE LEFT YOU FOR ANOTHER? CALL MISS MARY NOW FOR HELP. ARE YOU HAVING TROUBLE WITH YOUR LEGS, BACK, STOMACH, HEAD, OR ARMS? IS YOUR HAIR FALLING OUT? MISS MARY WILL REMOVE BAD LUCK, EVIL, SICKNESS, PAINS AND NERVOUS CONDITIONS FROM YOU NOW. MISS MARY WILL TELL YOU HOW TO BE LUCKY AT HORSES, CARDS, BINGO, LOTTERY, DOGS, SLOT MACHINES, AND NUMBERS. CALL NOW FOR HELP. YOU WILL BLESS THE DAY YOU DID. MY WORK IS 100% GUARANTEED. CALL MISS MARY TODAY AND BE RID OF YOUR TROUBLES BY TOMMOROW.

MISS MARY POWERFUL ROOT WORKER (BRUNSWICK, GA.)
MY POWERS ARE GUARANTEED. DO YOU HAVE BAD LUCK? NEED HELP? MISS MARY SOLVES ALL PROBLEMS. MONEY, LUCK, BUSINESS, HEALTH, NATURE, MARRIAGE, LOVE PROBLEMS, DRUG PROBLEMS, ALCOHOLISM. MISS MARY CAN REMOVE EVIL SPELLS OF ALL KINDS. VOODOO, ROOTS, HEXES. 100% SURE FAST RESULTS. CALL MISS MARY TODAY AND BLESS THE DAY YOU DID. MY MAGICAL POWERS ARE BEYOND YOUR IMAGINATION. CALL NOW FOR IMMEDIATE RESULTS.

POWERFUL ROOT WORKER (BRUNSWICK, GA.)
MISS MARY WILL READ YOUR ENTIRE LIFE WITHOUT ASKING YOU A SINGLE QUESTION. SHE HAS THE ABILITY TO HEAL BY PRAYER. ARE YOU SUFFERING? ARE YOU SICK IN ANY PART OF YOUR BODY? ARE YOU LOSING YOUR HAIR? HAVE YOU EVER STAYED AWAKE AT NIGHT THINKING ABOUT YOUR FUTURE? WELL THINK NO MORE MISS MARY IS HERE TO HELP YOU WITH ANY PROBLEM YOU MAY HAVE. MISS MARY WILL HELP YOU IN LOVE, MARRIAGE, ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE, LAWSUITS, EVIL, DIVORCES, ANY PROBLEM IS NOT TO BIG OR SMALL. I WILL GIVE YOU LUCKY NUMBERS TO PLAY LOTTO, BINGO, HORSES, DOGS, SLOTS. CALL MISS MARY TODAY AND BE RID OF YOUR PROBLEMS TOMORROW. MISS MARY SOLEMNLY SWEARS TO HELP YOU. CALL MISS MARY TODAY AND BLESS THE DAY YOU DID.
Mother Powers
Spiritual Healer

Having Bad Luck?
Touched by Evil Hands?
Need help in Love, Luck, Marriage, Money, etc.?
Do you have Sickness?

Mother Powers can and will help you get your life back
through God's Will and God's Way!
Not the way your enemies have fixed it for you to suffer
and go around in circles for a lifetime
of pain, sadness, & sorrow!

Let this God Gifted Spiritual Woman tell you,
show you, and give you what you need
to protect yourself and your loved ones.
Mother Powers will make sure you know
how to be one step ahead of your enemies!

Call now - tomorrow may be too late.
Help is just a phone call away.

For your FREE READING

CALL MOTHER POWERS
Guaranteed Results Fast!
LUCKY NUMBERS

1-573-587-1973
PO Box 16159, Tallahassee, FL 32317
ORDAINED PSYCHIC READER AND ADVISOR (BRUNSWICK, GA)
HAVE YOU BEEN HOODOOED? ARE YOU SICK IN ANY PART OF YOUR BODY? MISS MARY HAS GOD GIVEN POWER TO HELP YOU OVERCOME YOUR PROBLEMS NO MATTER HOW BIG OR SMALL. I WILL TELL YOU JUST WHAT YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT FRIENDS, ENEMIES OR RIVALS, WHETHER HUSBAND, WIFE OR SWEETHEART IS TRUE OR FALSE, HOW TO GAIN THE LOVE YOU MOST DESIRE, CONTROL OR INFLUENCE THE ACTION OF ANYONE EVEN THOUGH MILES AWAY. WILL GIVE YOU LUCKY NUMBERS, I HAVE HELPED THOUSANDS THROUGH ALL WALKS OF LIFE. I WILL ADVISE YOU ON LOVE, MARRIAGE, BUSINESS, HEALTH, DIVORCES, LAWSUITS, LUCK, ALCOHOLICS, DRUG ADDICTIONS, HAPPINESS, SPELLS, SUCCESS AND EVIL INFLUENCES OF ALL KINDS. I WILL TELL YOU WHO YOUR FRIENDS AND ENEMIES ARE. GUARANTEES TO REMOVE ALL EVIL AND BAD LUCK!!! WHY SUFFER WHEN YOU CAN BE HELPED AND FREED FROM ALL YOUR TROUBLES!!! DON’T FAIL TO CALL MISS MARY TODAY YOU WILL BLESS THE DAY YOU DID!!! CALL MISS MARY AND SEE FOR YOURSELF WHAT MY POWERS CAN DO FOR YOU!!! DO NOT COMPARE ME WITH CHEAP, COMMON, ORDINARY INPERSONATORS MY WORK IS WITH GOD!!! CALL MISS MARY TODAY

SPIRITUAL READER AND ADVISOR (BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA)
MISS MARY WILL READ YOUR ENTIRE LIFE WITHOUT ASKING YOU A SINGLE QUESTION. MISS MARY HAS THE ABILITY TO HEAL BY PRAYER. ARE YOU SUFFERING? ARE YOU SICK IN ANY PART OF YOUR BODY? HAVE YOU EVER STAYED AWAKE AT NIGHT THINKING ABOUT YOUR FUTURE? WELL, NOW YOU DON’T HAVE TO! THIS SPIRITUAL WOMAN WILL GUIDE YOU TO OVERCOME YOUR PROBLEMS NO MATTER WHAT YOUR PROBLEMS MIGHT BE. I CAN HELP YOU WITH LOVE PROBLEMS, MARRIAGE, OR BUSINESS PROBLEMS. I CAN GIVE YOU SURE HIT LUCKY NUMBERS. I WILL CURE ANY PROBLEMS THAT YOU HAVE. DON’T BE DISCOURAGED IF OTHERS FAILED YOU. MY WORK IS WITH GOD AND MY POWERS ARE GUARANTEED TO WORK. CALL ME AND FIND OUT FOR YOURSELF HOW GREAT MY POWERS ARE. CALL MISS MARY AND BLESS THE DAY YOU DID.

MISS MARY ROOTWORKER (BRUNSWICK, GEORGIA)
LET MISS MARY REMOVE ALL EVIL SHADOWS AND SPELLS FROM YOU AND YOUR HOME. I USE LOVE POTIONS, SPELLS, DOLLS, HERBS, OILS AND CANDLES IN MY WORK TO REMOVE OR PLACE A VOODOO. DO YOU WISH TO CONTROL THE ACTIONS OF ANYONE YOU DESIRE MISS MARY WILL ADVISE YOU IN LOVE, MARRIAGE, BUSINESS, LUCK, HAPPINESS, AND MONEY. CALL MISS MARY TODAY AND BE HELPED AS THOUSANDS HAVE ALREADY DID. CALL MISS MARY AND BLESS THE DAY YOU DID.

Psychic Palm and Tarot Card Reader
I AM A LOCAL PALM READER HERE IN BRUNSWICK, GA. I HAVE BEEN HERE FOR OVER 30 YEARS I HAVE ALOT OF REPEAT CLIENTS THAT ARE VERY SATISFIED WITH MY READINGS I AM AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE PARTYS IF YOU ARE HAVING A PRIVATE PARTY AND ARE INTERESTED IN HAVING A REAL LIFE PALM READER AT YOUR PARTY CALL ME FOR RATES MISS MARY

Note— The Mother Power’s advertisement displayed on page 12 was taken from Eagle Book Supply Inc’s 2013 edition of The Lucky Red Devil Combination Dream Book and Numerology Guide
Observing the language used in these ads to describe the spiritual services offered we are given a window into the world of each provider, and presumably into the needs (or perceived needs) of their clientele. Through comparison with older ads (see Supplemental Appendix 1) we can also trace developments in popular spirituality over time. In light of this comparison posts such as Valerie’s (and most of the ads found on Craigslist) demonstrate a decline in structured approaches to spiritual services such as the inventive use of parapsychology oriented technical jargon (psychometry, sensory readings, etc.), solid brand narratives (ancient wisdom, 3 questions answered, etc.) and specific product offerings (talismans, scrolls, hankerkiefs, etc.) and a movement towards reliance on more generalized terms and person to person service based concepts such as “spell castings” and “spiritual healer”:

**Powerful Spell Castings By Valerie**

Hi, my name is Valerie i am a third generation spell caster and spiritual healer with my abilities I can get you any outcomes your heart desires I can reunite you with loved ones, help find new love, bring you luck, money, success. if you feel depressed like theres no hope contact me now for your free consultation! and i will help you find your better tomorrow
With the popularity of exorcism in the mainstream media it is not surprising to see more than one Craigslist advertisement dealing in this area. Our first ad provided one approach to contending with ‘spirits of dark nature and demons’ – in the next two selections we find an ordained minister soliciting his own brand of exorcism services both solo, and with a full ‘paranormal investigation’ team:

**exorcist, investigating home/personal exorcism (upstate s.c, and nc)**
Ordained Christian minister who specializes in demonic expulsion. Before an exorcism on a person will be conducted the proper mental health evaluations must have taken place. I offer a free service but due to travel cost, donations are accepted but not necessary. I want to bring deliverance. No matter your religion, race or creed if you are experiencing paranormal disturbances please contact me. This is a serious post so please be serious and professional

**paranormal investigation and demonic expulsion**
A group of paranormal investigators in the upstate of south Carolina have decided to work together and form a team. A like-minded group who’s intent is to investigate the most known allegedly haunted locations in SC and NC. The South Carolina supernatural investigators (scsi) aims to validate or debunk these claims. We are available for private investigations at no cost. We are accompanied by an ordained minister who specializes in exorcism and demonology and thus We will also be available to investigate personal possession/home infestation claims. Contact us if you are experiencing any form of haunting and we will be glad to help.

Contact us
In the next selection we have an example of a fictional form emerging into the culture through a classified ad for an ‘Occult Detective’ – a favorite character type for the past century of popular weird tales:

Occult Detective, Anthony W. Fields (greenville sc)

“Investigating the Unexplained.”

I provide Consultation concerning the strange and unexplained.

Over 20yrs of Paranormal/Occult/Cult Studies and Practice with 12yrs of Professional Investigation/Counter Intelligence/Personal Security experience.

Free face-to-face Consultations. Call or email to set-up an appointment
Short, sweet and to the point – in our final ad Redd Leopard brings us another post formatted within the standards of pay-per-word print classifieds:

**Spiritual Readings (Home Based)**

UNANSWERED QUESTIONS ABOUT
YOUR LOVE LIFE, CAREER, DREAMS…
CALL FOR A READING FROM REDD
LEOPARD
SUPPLEMENTAL APPENDIX 1

Direct from the pages of FATE Magazine!

ADDITIONAL EXAMPLES OF CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS FOR SPIRITUAL SERVICES

As found in FATE Magazine, July 1973 Vol. 26 - No. 7 Issue 280

These adventures come from the pages of FATE magazine, America’s most famous, most widely read periodical dealing with ESP, paranormal psychology, witches, mediums, poltergeists and the occult.’

—from the inside cover synopsis of

Strange Fate (Paperback Library – 1965)

FOR USE IN COMPARISON AND CONTEXTUALIZATION
The subsequent examples of psychic, spiritual and metaphysical service ads are taken from the Classified Advertising section of a 1976 issue of FATE Magazine. As a long running resource for ‘true articles on the strange, the unusual, the unknown,’ the editors of FATE positioned the magazine at a curious angle to verifiable fact – taking a ‘print what’s sent’ attitude towards material provided by recognized journalists and researchers and material provided by less vetted sources. Because of this editorial policy, FATE Magazine provides a good resource for comparison with the semi-anonymous Craigslist classified ads which, in the context of these notes, are taken as is without any investigation into the veracity of the individuals promoting their spiritual services.

By comparing the Craigslist ads with those found in FATE we have an opportunity to reflect on the continuity and divergence between cultures generated and sustained by print media with its attendant costs (60 cents per word in this issue of FATE) and limited means of distribution, and the cultures generated and sustained by the freedom available in the digital medium.
HERBALISM!! The Home Gold Mine! Free Lesson.—Herbalism Institute—FT, 1339 Remuda, Glendora, CA 91740

HOW TO MAKE MONEY Writing Short Paragraphs! I tell you what to write, where and how to sell, and supply lists of editors buying from beginners. Small checks can add up to worthwhile extra income. Write to sell, right away. Send for free facts on my “Home Studies in Writing.” — Barrett, Dept. C-305-A, Chicago, IL 60660

NEVER WON ANYTHING? Anyone can win Sweepstakes Contests! Free details.—Services, Box 844-FDE, Des Moines, IA 50303

ORGANIZATIONS


PERSONAL

THE MYSTICAL GOLDEN KEY can open the door to a more abundant life. Only $1.00.—James Mitchell, 1536 8th Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90019

YOUR PERSONAL HOROSCOPE, $2.00. Handwriting analysis, $1.00.—WILSON, Box 32652A, Hayward, CA 94544

PROBLEMS. Love, Money, Family. Contribution of $3.00 for each problem. Send birthdate. Write for more information on horoscopes.—Dr. Martin, 1125 S. May St., Chicago, IL 60613

WANT MONEY? Success? Metaphysical Attractions Work! Condensed instructions, $1.00.—Carl Cato, Plumerville, AR 72127

I WILL give you a reading from the Tarot cards, plus counseling to your higher spiritual self. $3.00 contribution.—Rev. Bennie Garrison, Box 975, Marion, IN 46952

YOUR GUIDE to the Future. Send me your most important question to your problem and $1.00 and I will send your answer and a guide to help you with any problem you may have now or in the years to come.—Sister Marie Martin, P.O. Box 90321, Chicago, IL 60690


IN-DEPTH REVEALING Tarot reading. Past, present and future. Returnable photo helpful. Birthday and $10.00.—Wilson, P.O. Box 40169, San Francisco, CA 94140

AGE OLD CHANT that is used to obtain any desire and grant any wish that is not evil, will be sent to you. Instructions included. $2.00—Temple of Power, P.O. Box 134, Deerfield, IL 60015

TAROT READINGS. Five questions $4.00.—SADIA, P.O. Box 33955, Vancouver 9-D., British Columbia, Canada

CARD READING—passed down generations. Make a wish and send birthday with $5.00 to: Kathryn Winter, 804 112th SW, Everett, WA 98204

TIBETAN-TANTRIC YOGA by correspondence.—Albert Vandenbarg (Dorje), 1325 Maynard Dr., Duarte, CA 91010

YOUR LUCKY NUMBER scientifically determined by ALGORITHMIC Computer Program. Send age, birthdate, $1.00 to: Raymond, 941 Twinlakes Blvd., Mystic Islands, NJ 08007

PRAYER TO STOP BLEEDING! Known to the Ancients. Practiced by our Ancestors. Mail $2.00 and self-addressed stamped envelope to: PRAYER, Box 886, Pinellas Park, FL 33785

A COMING WHIRLWIND will sweep this earth. Free information, write: HARVEST, Jefferson City, MO 65101

YOUR PERSONAL HOROSCOPE with twenty page character analysis, only $2.25. State birthdate, year, time and place.—VIRGO, P. O. Box 717, Eagle, CO 81631

ENCOURAGEMENT through psychometry and prayer. Three questions, $3.00.—Rev. W. W. Strinati, 1533 Belle St., San Bernadino, CA 92404

THREE QUESTIONS answered $2.00 PLUS Extras.—J. Bell, 4664 34th St., No. 3, San Diego, CA 92116

FIVE QUESTIONS answered immediately with spiritual wisdom and meditation. Send self-addressed stamped envelope and $10.00 contribution in money order to: Mary M. Mays, 8008 S. Ashland, Chicago, IL 60620

ASTROLOGY WORKS! Send stamp plus birthdate, year, time and place for FREE prediction.—VIRGO, P.O. Box 717, Eagle, CO 81631

I WILL AMAZE YOU! Three questions answered $3.00.—Kristal, Box 944 Yucalpet, CA 92399

PROFESSIONAL TAROT READINGS. Detailed consultations, $10.00. Five questions answered, $5.00. Please explain problem in detail.—Kaufman's, Box 574, West Fargo, N. Dakota 58078
UNHAPPY? We offer a tested and proven remedy. Discover how you can learn to create unlimited happiness. Send $1.00 to: JW. Box 4769-P, San Jose, CA 95128

FIVE QUESTIONS answered through Inner Vision. Have helped thousands. Send self-addressed envelope, birthdate and $5.00 contribution—Jeanie Duprey, P.O. Box 5321, Istrouma Station, Baton Rouge, La. 70802

SOUL SEARCHERS—Free consultation to serious seekers of fulfillment. — DUMA P.O. Box 9, Staten Island, NY 10305

TAROT READINGS. Give birthdate, $7.00—P. A. Roberts, Box 1787, Orange, CA 92666

FREE FAITH Handkerchief Prayer requests. — Universal Prayer Group, Box 42, Mira Loma, CA 91752

Especialy yours; Psychometry reading from your signature, $3.00. Thirty years experience.—Rev. Hazell, Box 2372, Dept. F, San Francisco, CA 94126

HORARY CHART will answer your five briefly stated questions. Send $5.00, exact time and date of writing—Robert Hazell, Box 2372, Dept. F, San Francisco, CA 94126

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TOO MANY PROBLEMS? Send for free book that shows how to whip them—fast! Explain natural God-given powers you can use, as others do. Write: Rose Dawn, P.O. Box 2710, Dept. N-3, San Antonio, TX 78210

STARVED FOR AFFECTION? Try ancient Mexican talisman used by brujas—the Piedra Imán! Instructions in English included. $2.50 postpaid. Mamacha, 1841 East 8th St., Tucson, AZ 85719

ASTRO-TAROT Extensive reading by the "friendly Neighborhood Leprechaun" $10.00.—D. Kendrick Johnson, P.O. Box 4891, Carmel, CA 93921

PERSONAL GUIDANCE. Three questions, $2.00—Tia Mesa, Route 2, Sevierville, TN 37862

ANSWERS THROUGH Psychometry. Send photo contribution of $2.00 to: C. Namiis, Box 666, Flushong, NY 11355

CONFUSED ABOUT THE OUIJA Board? Three questions, $2.00—Nick Kozmenikh, P.O. Box 2617 Station 'A', Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6J 2G3

IN DEPTH SENSORY READINGS. Three questions, $3.00. Addressed stamped envelope to: Grace J. Ferguson, 1614 4th Street, Neshaminy, Washington 98580

IN DEPTH reading thru all inspired channels. Clients pleased. Three questions $2.00—Rev. E. G. Martin D.M., Box 14542, Las Vegas, NV 89114

EXPERT HANDWRITING ANALYSIS Special $1.00
Eva, Box 202-2, Eagle, Idaho 83618

CARD READINGS. Send stamped envelope for information—Jay Diamond, 1908 S. El Molino, Alhambra, Calif. 91801

UNUSUAL READING $5.00
P.A.M. Box 2044-F, Inglewood, CA 90305

SEVEN QUESTIONS plus horoscope, $3.00. Stamped envelope, birthdate.—Peterman, 2265 Aqueduct Road, Schenectady, NY 12309

MEET YOUR IDEAL MATE. — Scientific Computerized Matching, nationwide, all ages. FREE questionnaire. Write: "TEAM", 1270 Broadway, New York, NY 10001

THREE QUESTIONS answered. Gifted reader $1.00—Barbara, Box 2002, Sepulveda, CA 91343

FOUR QUESTIONS answered. $1.00.—Samantha Fisher, Box 448, Rensselaer, NY 12144

CONTACT ASCENDED MASTERS.—S. Valliant, Box 650, Dept. 10, Alhambra, Calif. 91802

NEED MONEY? Secret technique brings all you want. $3.00—Argosy, P.O. Box 452, Milford, NJ 08846

PERSONAL COUNSELLING. Three questions, $1.00.—M. Knight Beil, Route #2, Sevierville, TN 37862

ASK—UNDERSTAND—OVERCOME through her sensitive empathy. Send a penny cleaned, then held only by you. Plus Three questions, $5.00—Joyce Dayton, P.O. Box 914F, Oak Park, IL 60303

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PAST LIFE READINGS and present life analyses available through intuitive inspiration of gifted mystic. Detailed descriptions and Spiritual Evaluations given. Free information.—Reincarnation Research Lab-B, P.O. Box 43, Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274

FOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED. Insight through prayer. Amazingly accurate. $1.00 and stamped self-addressed envelope.—Francis, P.O. Box 3312, Federal Way, Wash. 98002

TAROT and Psychometry readings by expert. Exact data given. Satisfaction guarantee. Five questions, $5.00.—Wilma Thomas, Rt. #1, Box 210, Royston, GA 30662

THREE QUESTIONS on Career, Family, Romance, $2.00. Send birthdate.—Frances Bloom, P. O. Box 964, Trenton, NJ 08694

ST. GERMAIN’S Freedom Group invites you. 11:00 A.M. Sundays. Taped Ascended Master Devotions. 1338 South New Hampshire, Los Angeles. Phone 291-2782. For free information, write: Sr Vaillant, Box 330, Alhambra, Calif. 91802

ESP LABORATORY. The new research service group can help you. For FREE information write: AL G. Manning, ESP Laboratory, 7559 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif. 90036

HOW TO FIND GOD.—Sr Vaillant, Box 330-L, Alhambra, Calif. 91802

IN DEPTH PSYCHOMETRIC and Sensory Reading by Charlotte Holt. $5.00. Request in your own handwriting—1224 Fulton, Everett, Wash. 98201

REINCARNATION? ARE YOU living in accordance with your Soul? Do you feel an inner turmoil? Get a Soul Reading and see how much it can help you. Send birthday along with $1.00. Personalized reading, $2.00 to: Inner-Self, P.O. Box 454, Green Valley, AZ 85614

WHAT IS YOUR PROBLEM? 25 years experience. State preference, automatic writing or crystal ball. $1.00 per question. Include birthdate, postage—Deese Davis, 2835 N. Clybourn, Chicago, IL 60614

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P.O. Box 3082, Orange, CA 92665
Attention: Dr. Joe Garnet and Rev. Peggy. Write to our Garden of Prayer today, for you or another. Put prayer in sealed, self-addressed, stamped envelope. Will return in six weeks: send with church contribution in envelope addressed to above.

FOUR QUESTIONS answered. $1.00, stamped envelope.—Adde, 98 Willett, Albany, NY 12210

JOIN GREAT WHITE BROTHERHOOD.—Sr Vaillant, Box 830, Dept. 10, Alhambra, Calif. 91802

INNER VISION—five questions answered. Send birthdate, stamped envelope, $3.00.—Merritt Reed, P.O. Box 6155, Tucson, Ariz. 85716

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SEVEN QUESTIONS, $3.00. Send stamped envelope, birthdate, eye coloring.—Barrett, 2565 Aqueduct Road, Schenectady, NY 12309

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FREE—YOUR NAME placed on our mailing list to receive all types of occult and psychic material.—Psychic News, 436 Germania St., Williamsport, PA 17701

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CLIENTS AMAZED! Four Questions, Birth date, $3.00, stamped envelope—Disciple of David, 9026 Detroit Ave., Cleveland, OH 44102

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LESSONS: “Clairvoyance”—“Spiritual Meditation”—“How To Get Spirit Answers”—“Spiritual Power”—“Life In The Spirit World.” Each $1.00.—Rev. Jeanette Modus, Box 188, Northridge, Calif. 91324
CHARISMATIC PORTRAITS — brochure 25c. Portraits by: Morrow, 2236 Lansing, Aurora, CO 60010

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FREE NATAL HOROSCOPE. Numerology interpretation with order for Gemstone Amulet. Know the joy of wearing genuine gemstones combined exclusively for your individual needs as your chart indicates. Amulet, $20.00. Include date, place, time of birth.—Mary Belle Wright, P.O. Box 3723, San Bernardino, CA 92413

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LEGENDARY TALISMAN for wealth 50c. Stamp for catalog of charms, occult items.—Fortune House, P.O. Box 425, Milford, NJ 08848

“TAHITIAN” PERFUME! ROMANTIC. Unique, Heavenly Fragrance! Bewitchingly Fragrant Sample 45c.—O’DELLS, Box 1703-A, Prescott, Arizona 86301

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DRUIDIC RELIGION. Special book offer. Send stamped, enveloped envelope.—Drudism, Box 222, Doniphan, MO 63635

ORDINATIONS BY MAIL. Information for stamp.—Crown of Life Fellowship, Inc., Box 9946, Spokane, WA 99208

WOTAN or HINENHIN. Which is it? Beth. Write: THE RUNE STONE, Box 2335, Wichita Falls, TX 76307

HAVE YOUR OWN Tax Free, Carefree, Money-Making, Legal Church. Become an Ordained Minister with Honorary Degree of Doctor of Divinity. $10.00 or with impressive deluxe frame, $29.00. — Church of Universal Brotherhood, Dept. F-6, 6311 Yucca St., Hollywood, CA 90028

APPLY FOR ORDINATION: Non-denominational: Please send stamp for application. Chartered 1942. — A.C.S., Inc. Dept. F, P.O. Box 115, East New York Station, Brooklyn, NY 11207

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH of Pre-Vatican I still lives! Free information. Old Catholic Information Service, Box 228, Zuni, NM 88442

MINISTERS ARE NEEDED. Be legally ordained by Universal Life Church, a well established growing Church. Perform marriages, baptisms, start your own church. Send $10.00 (complete cost) to: Rev. Shell, 8669 E. 92nd, Kansas City, MO 64136

RECORDS—TAPES

WHAT’S NEW IN HYPNOSIS? Cassettes, Courses, etc.—Hypno-Media. Taran Building, 3401 N.W. 36th St., Miami, FL 33142

MEDITATIONS WITH LEW HOWARD. Ten 30-Minute inspiring, integrating experiences. Five cassettes. Center in your Christ-Self. Instructions on inner feedback. $25.00.—Unfolding Path, 1576 Willowmont Ave., San Jose, CA 95118

SERVICES

LOVE TAPES * Give your “loved one” a recording of their favorite book or magazine by a professional reader. Cassette or Reel?—Dev-a’d, Box 6, Lakemont, GA 30552

DREAM INTERPRETATION. $3.00. Send complete dream.—M. O. Walters, Edgar Springs, MO 65642

NUMEROLOGICAL HANDWRITING ANALYSIS . . . completely personal. Mail full name, sex and full page ink specimen. Fee $3.00—Kathy, P.O. Box 705, South Orange, NJ 07079

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CHOOSE YOUR CHILDREN by "Astro-Eugenics" For personalized service and book, send $3.00, your birthdate and name to: L. Donee, Box 5892, San Diego, CA 92105
DREAM INTERPRETATIONS—write every little detail no matter how small. Send with $3.00.—Inner-Whirl-P.O. Box 484, Green Valley, AZ 85614

TAROT READINGS $10.00. Send photo, birthdate—Miss Able, 100 W. 73rd St., New York, NY 10023

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POSTER SIZE TAROT cards, specially made for you to color. Authentic decks, beautifully reproduced 12½x18 on quality stock. Full Major Arcana (22 cards), instructions, coloring guide, $15.00 set.—Ocean Tree, P.O. Box 1236, Santa Fe, NM 87501

TAROT COLOR CATALOG describes Tarot Decks, books, games, cartomancy, etc. Send 15c—U.S. Games, Dept. F, 469 Park Ave., South, New York, NY 10016

STUDY COURSES

TWELVE LESSON COURSE. The Sacred Mysteries of the Ancients. Send a quarter for information.—KEMA HOUSE INDIAN MUSEUM, 156 S. Canal St., Waukegan, IL 60085

LESSONS AND CASSETTE Tapes to accompany Master’s Daughter’s books comprising The Whole Person Concept are now available. First: THE SECRET OF ETERNAL YOUTH. Write to MELITA at Villa Cristi, P.O. Box 8042, Evansville, IN 47712

EXTRA MONEY! Analyze handwriting. Successful Course, reasonable. Free details for stamped envelope.—Thomas Cunningham, 81-F Bailey, Lawrence, MA 01840

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WITCHES NEWSLETTER, ten $8.00; WITCHCRAFT DIGEST $1.00; CURSES IN VERSES, $1.25; GUIDE TO WITCH COVENS, $2.00.—MAARTELLO, 153 West 80, New York, NY 10014

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HAS WESTERN SPIRITUALISM and Eastern Mysticism FAILED YOU? Chief Witchdoctor MQATI will send you the SERENITY STONE found only in the tranquil Namib desert. Supplies limited. Rush $10.00 to: JEMKURE, P.O. Box 2296, Capetown, Africa

IF YOU LIVE in or near Houston, Texas and want to belong to a Witch Craft, write to: W. C. A., P.O. Box 26031, Houston, TX 77032

CANADA—OCCULT SUPPLIES, tarot, crystal balls, oils, herbs, candelmas, crosses, talismans. Retail and wholesale. Send 50c for catalog—Witchcraft, 104 Yorkville, Toronto, Canada

WILL YOU TEST the legendary powers of Witchcraft? Four questions, $2.00. Free Cleopatra’s love incense.—Countess Astoroth, P.O. Box 1413, Oakwood Station, Gretna, LA 70053

YOU CAN HELP prevent your mail orders from being “unanswerable” or “lost.” Clearly PRINT your name, address and zip code both on your letter or MONEY ORDERS. And mention that you “saw it in FATE!”
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"For every condition there is a cause; and for every problem there is a solution."
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Wise Men still come out of the East—men with remarkable insight, attained by long self-discipline and meditation. JAHAN KEZADA—she whose wisdom has for many years helped thousands to get what they wanted. You don't have to be a loser! Send $5. your questions, birthdate and self-addressed stamped envelope to:
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SUPPLEMENTAL APPENDIX 2
Ciencias Ocultas y Parapsychologia

ADDITIONAL EXAMPLES OF
CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS
FOR SPIRITUAL SERVICES

from Spanish language sources

“Aunque las persecuciones de brujas se hayan perdido en la noche de los tiempos, la practica de la magia y la brujeria no has desaparecido en nuestros dias.”


FOR USE IN COMPARISON AND CONTEXTUALIZATION
In comparing the classified advertisements found in *FATE Magazine* with those posted to Craigslist one of the strongest discrepancies between the two sources is the lack of references to parapsychological research in the newer ads. With the efforts of laboratory based anomalous research to integrate with more mainstream scientific and academic disciplines this might not at first appear strange – most in the English speaking world at this point are used to debates around the legitimacy of ESP, psychokinesis, precognition, and other areas of parapsychological research being debated on the level of science and not spirituality (if they are aware of these debates at all!)

Historically, however, anomalous science, whether under the name of parapsychology or psychical research, has provided a basis and legitimizing factor for folk magic practices through venues such as L.W. de Laurence’s *Great Book of Magical Art, Hindoo Magic and East Indian Occultism* (a standard text in certain forms of folk magic found in the Carribean and Southern United States) and the New Thought oriented popular occultism of William Walker Atkinson and the *Yogi Publication Society* (many titles of which are still available in print in Spanish
language sources despite no longer being available in English outside of the resale and used book market.) Both de Laurence and Atkinson include extensive quotes and citations from the late 19th and early 20th century investigations of researchers associated with the Society for Psychical Research and similar organizations to further develop information from sources related to traditional spirituality and magic such as Paracelsus, Cornelius Agrippa, etc. This union of psychical science and practical magic is still evident to some extent in the classified ads found in FATE Magazine, but it is lacking in most of the Craigslist advertisements.

With this in mind, it is interesting to see in the classified ads taken from contemporary Spanish language sources that the relationship between ‘ciencias ocultas’ and ‘parapsicologia’ has become more integrated rather than less. In the following ads there is no identifiable differentiation made between occultism and parapsychology. Along with a greater focus on ‘magia negra’ (black magic) and diabolism, this makes for some of the most colorful and expressive advertisements collected in these preliminary notes.
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