

The waste land and other writings modern library Study Guide

The Waste Land and Other Writings Modern Library

The Waste Land and Other Writings Modern Library is a comprehensive collection that has significantly contributed to the appreciation and understanding of one of the most influential poets of the 20th century, T.S. Eliot. This edition brings together some of Eliot's most important works, including "The Waste Land," "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock," "Four Quartets," and various essays, providing readers with a deep insight into his poetic genius, modernist vision, and literary influence. As a cornerstone of modernist literature, Eliot's writings continue to impact writers, scholars, and poetry enthusiasts worldwide.

Overview of the Modern Library Edition

What is Included in the Collection?

The Modern Library edition of The Waste Land and Other Writings is curated to encompass Eliot's key poetic works and significant essays, offering a holistic view of his literary career. The collection typically includes:

- *The Waste Land*
- *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock*
- *Four Quartets*
- *Tradition and the Individual Talent*
- *Other Essays and Criticisms*
- *Selected Letters*

This compilation allows readers to explore Eliot's poetic evolution, his philosophical musings, and his contributions to literary criticism.

Significance of the Modern Library Edition

The Modern Library editions are renowned for their authoritative texts, scholarly introductions, and contextual background, making them invaluable for students, academics, and general readers alike. The edition of The Waste Land and Other Writings stands out because it:

- Provides authoritative texts based on Eliot's manuscripts and editions.
- Offers insightful introductions that contextualize his work within the modernist movement.
- Contains annotations and footnotes that clarify complex references and allusions.
- Includes additional writings that illuminate Eliot's literary and philosophical worldview.

Detailed Analysis of Major Works in the Collection

The Waste Land

Often regarded as one of the most important poems of the 20th century, *The Waste Land* was published in 1922 and epitomizes modernist poetry's break from tradition. It reflects the disillusionment and fragmentation of post-World War I society, blending multiple voices, literary allusions, and cultural references.

Themes and Style:

- Fragmentation and Dislocation: The poem's structure is non-linear, mimicking the fragmented state of modern life.
- Cultural Allusions: Incorporates references from the Bible, Hindu scriptures, classical mythology, and contemporary culture.
- Themes: Desolation, spiritual emptiness, renewal, and the search for meaning.

Impact and Legacy:

- Challenged traditional poetic forms and language.
- Inspired countless modernist writers and poets.
- Continues to be studied for its complex symbolism and innovative form.

The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock

Written in 1910 and published in 1915, this early Eliot poem captures the introspective musings of the protagonist, Prufrock, who is riddled with self-doubt and social anxiety.

Themes and Style:

- Modern Anxiety: Explores feelings of inadequacy and alienation.
- Stream of Consciousness: Uses free-flowing, associative language.
- Imagery: Rich with urban, sensory, and symbolic imagery.

Significance:

- Marks Eliot's emergence as a major modernist voice.
- Influenced contemporary poetry with its innovative form and psychological depth.

Four Quartets

Composed over a decade and published between 1936 and 1943, Four Quartets is considered Eliot's philosophical and spiritual masterpiece.

Themes:

- Time and Eternity
- Spirituality and Redemption
- The Nature of Human Experience

Structure:

- Consists of four long poems: "Burnt Norton," "East Coker," "The Dry Salvages," and "Little Gidding."
- Interwoven with references from Christianity, Eastern philosophy, and literature.

Impact:

- Demonstrates Eliot's mature philosophical outlook.
- Offers profound insights into human existence and spirituality.

Critical Essays and Literary Criticism

Eliot's essays, included in the Modern Library collection, offer critical perspectives on literature, culture, and tradition. Notable essays include:

- *Tradition and the Individual Talent*
- *The Use of Poetry and the Use of Criticism*
- *Shakespeare and the Stoicism of Seneca*

Highlights of these essays:

- Emphasize the importance of tradition in shaping contemporary literature.
- Advocate for the impersonality of poetry.
- Offer insights into Eliot's aesthetic principles and literary philosophy.

Why the Collection is Essential for Modern Readers

Educational Value

- Provides foundational texts for studying modernist literature.
- Enhances understanding of literary history and cultural shifts post-WWI.
- Supports critical thinking and analytical skills through complex texts.

Literary Appreciation

- Offers a rich tapestry of poetic styles and themes.
- Demonstrates the evolution of Eliot's poetic voice.
- Encourages appreciation for poetic innovation and depth.

Scholarly and Personal Growth

- Serves as a primary resource for scholars researching modernist poetry.
- Inspires personal reflection through profound spiritual and philosophical themes.
- Facilitates a deeper engagement with literature's role in societal change.

Conclusion

The Waste Land and Other Writings Modern Library stands as a vital collection for anyone interested in modernist literature, poetry, and cultural criticism. It encapsulates T.S. Eliot's poetic brilliance, philosophical insights, and critical perspectives, making it an indispensable resource for both academic study and personal exploration. Through its authoritative texts and contextual commentary, this edition helps readers navigate the complex, layered world of Eliot's work, fostering a greater appreciation of his contributions to modern literature and thought.

Whether you are a student, scholar, or casual reader, this collection provides a comprehensive gateway into the mind of one of the most influential poets of the 20th century, offering timeless

insights into the human condition amidst a rapidly changing world.

The Waste Land and Other Writings Modern Library offers a comprehensive collection of one of the most influential poets of the 20th century, T.S. Eliot. This edition, published by Modern Library, serves as an essential resource for students, scholars, and poetry enthusiasts alike. It encapsulates Eliot's groundbreaking work "The Waste Land" alongside his other significant writings, essays, and early poems, providing readers with a holistic view of his literary evolution and thematic preoccupations. In this review, we will explore the features, strengths, and potential limitations of this edition, highlighting its importance in the canon of modernist literature.

Overview of the Collection

The Waste Land and Other Writings Modern Library is more than just a collection of Eliot's poetry; it is an anthology that contextualizes his work within his broader literary career. The edition typically includes:

- The full text of The Waste Land (1922)
- Selected poems from Eliot's early and later career
- Key essays and critical writings
- Biographical introductions and annotations that aid understanding

This comprehensive approach makes the edition a valuable resource by providing both the primary texts and critical insights.

Content Breakdown

The Core: The Waste Land

At the heart of this collection is Eliot's seminal poem, The Waste Land, often heralded as a cornerstone of modernist poetry. Its complex structure and dense allusions demand careful study, and this edition's presentation is designed to facilitate that:

- Clear formatting helps distinguish sections and allusions
- Annotated footnotes explain references to mythology, religion, and literature
- A critical introduction offers historical and literary context

Pros:

- Detailed annotations enhance understanding
- Accessible layout makes complex poetry more approachable
- Critical reflections deepen appreciation of its themes

Cons:

- Some readers may find footnotes overwhelming or distracting
- The dense allusions still require prior knowledge for full appreciation

Selected Poems and Early Writings

Beyond *The Waste Land*, the collection includes Eliot's earlier works such as *Prufrock* and *Preludes*, as well as later poems like *Ash-Wednesday*. These selections demonstrate the evolution of Eliot's style and themes:

- The progression from personal introspection to religious and philosophical concerns
- The influence of modernist experimentation and traditional forms

Pros:

- Offers a well-rounded view of Eliot's poetic development
- Highlights thematic consistency and changes over time

Cons:

- Some readers may prefer a more exhaustive compilation of all poems
- The selection might omit lesser-known but significant works

Essays and Critical Writings

One of the edition's notable features is the inclusion of Eliot's essays, such as *Tradition and the Individual Talent* and *The Use of Poetry and the Use of Criticism*. These writings provide insight into his artistic philosophy and literary standards:

- Clarify his approach to modernism and literary innovation
- Offer guidance for interpreting his poetry and contemporary works

Pros:

- Enhances understanding of Eliot's creative process
- Serves as a valuable resource for students studying modernist literature

Cons:

- Some essays are dense and require careful reading
- Not all readers may find all essays equally engaging

Features and Presentation

The Modern Library edition of *The Waste Land and Other Writings* boasts several features that enhance its usability:

- Quality of Text: Clear, readable typesetting with attention to poetic line breaks
- Annotations: Extensive footnotes explaining references, themes, and allusions
- Introduction: A scholarly overview that contextualizes Eliot's work within the modernist movement and his biography
- Index and Glossary: Useful tools for quick reference and study

Pros:

- Facilitates academic study and casual reading alike
- Well-organized structure aids navigation through complex material
- Durable binding and quality paper typical of Modern Library editions

Cons:

- Slightly costly, reflecting its scholarly value
- The volume can be dense, which might be daunting for casual readers

Strengths of the Edition

- Comprehensive Content: Combines primary poetry with critical essays, offering a holistic

understanding

- Educational Value: Suitable for both classroom use and personal study
- Contextual Annotations: Help demystify complex references, making the poetry accessible
- Authoritative Presentation: Published by Modern Library, known for curated, high-quality

editions

Potential Limitations

- The density of annotations and footnotes may overwhelm some readers
- Not an exhaustive collection of all Eliot's writings; focused more on selected key works
- Some may desire additional biographical or critical essays to deepen context
- Cost may be prohibitive for budget-conscious readers

Conclusion: Is it a Worthwhile Purchase?

The Waste Land and Other Writings Modern Library stands as a highly valuable edition for anyone seeking an authoritative, nuanced, and comprehensive presentation of T.S. Eliot's work. Its combination of poetic texts, critical essays, and contextual annotations makes it suitable for both academic study and serious personal reading. While it may be somewhat dense and potentially costly, the depth of content and clarity of presentation justify its place on the shelf of students, scholars, and poetry lovers.

In summary:

- For those interested in modernist poetry, it offers an essential gateway.
- For students, it provides both primary texts and critical insights necessary for analysis.
- For casual readers, it's a challenging but rewarding introduction to Eliot's complex universe.

Overall, this edition exemplifies the Modern Library's commitment to quality and scholarly integrity, making it an indispensable resource for understanding one of the most influential poets of the 20th century.

Question What is the significance of T.S. Eliot's 'The Waste Land' in modernist literature? 'The Waste Land' is considered a landmark work of modernist poetry, notable for its innovative use of form, fragmented structure, and allusions to diverse cultural and literary sources, reflecting the disillusionment and chaos of the post-World War I era. How does the Modern Library edition of 'The Waste Land and Other Writings' enhance understanding of Eliot's work? The Modern Library edition provides comprehensive annotations, contextual essays, and critical commentary that help readers grasp the references, themes, and historical background of Eliot's writings, making the complex text

more accessible. What are some key themes explored in 'The Waste Land and Other Writings' included in the Modern Library collection? Key themes include spiritual decay, fragmentation of modern life, cultural disillusionment, crisis of identity, and the search for renewal amidst chaos. Which additional writings by T.S. Eliot are included in the Modern Library collection alongside 'The Waste Land'? The collection often includes Eliot's essays, early poems, and critical writings such as 'Tradition and the Individual Talent', 'The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock', and selections from his later works, providing a broader view of his literary career. Why is 'The Waste Land and Other Writings' considered essential for students studying modernist literature? Because it offers insight into the literary innovations of the early 20th century, exemplifies key modernist themes, and includes critical annotations that aid in understanding complex poetic techniques and cultural references.

Related keywords: T.S. Eliot, modernist poetry, The Waste Land, literary criticism, early 20th-century literature, modernist movement, poetic anthologies, New Directions Publishing, literary essays, post-World War I literature

other mind by osmond

Other Mind by Osmond is a thought-provoking exploration into the nature of consciousness, perception, and the interconnectedness of minds. Authored by renowned philosopher and cognitive scientist Osmond, this work delves into the concept that our understanding of the mind extends beyond individual cognition, suggesting a collective or "other" mind that influences and shapes our experiences. Whether you're a student of philosophy, psychology, or simply a curious reader, "Other Mind by Osmond" offers compelling insights into how we perceive ourselves and others, challenging traditional notions of individual consciousness.

Overview of "Other Mind by Osmond"

"Other Mind by Osmond" is a comprehensive investigation into the idea that human consciousness is not isolated but part of a larger, interconnected mental network. Osmond argues that our perceptions, thoughts, and feelings are significantly influenced by external minds, whether they belong to other humans, animals, or even non-living entities such as artificial intelligence. This perspective invites readers to reconsider the boundaries of the self and opens up new avenues for understanding empathy, communication, and collective intelligence.

The Central Thesis

At the core of "Other Mind by Osmond" is the assertion that:

- Human consciousness is inherently intertwined with other minds.
- Our perceptions are shaped by external mental influences.
- Recognizing the existence of an "other mind" can enhance empathy and social cohesion.
- The boundaries between individual and collective consciousness are fluid and dynamic.

This thesis challenges the traditional view of the mind as a self-contained entity, promoting a more holistic understanding of mental phenomena.

Key Concepts Explored in "Other Mind by Osmond"

The Nature of Consciousness and Perception

Osmond explores how consciousness is not merely an internal process but is constantly interacting with external sources of information and mental states.

Perception as a Social Process

- Perception is influenced by social contexts and shared experiences.
- Our senses do not passively receive data but actively interpret signals based on prior knowledge and social cues.
- Language and communication serve as bridges connecting individual minds, creating a shared mental landscape.

Collective Intelligence and the "Other" Mind

The book discusses the idea that collective intelligence emerges from the interactions of multiple minds.

Examples of Collective Mind in Nature and Society

- Swarm behavior in insects like bees and ants
- Human social networks and online communities
- Cultural evolution driven by shared beliefs and practices

Osmond emphasizes that these phenomena demonstrate how individual minds contribute to a collective consciousness that surpasses any single entity.

Empathy and Mind-Reading

One of the most compelling sections of the book examines how humans develop the ability to understand others' thoughts and feelings.

The Science of Empathy

- Mirror neurons and their role in simulating others' experiences
- The importance of perspective-taking in social interactions
- How recognizing the "other mind" enhances compassion and cooperation

The Role of Technology in Connecting Minds

Osmond considers how advancements in technology, especially artificial intelligence, are creating new forms of interconnectedness.

Artificial Intelligence and the Other Mind

- AI systems as external minds that can influence human perception
- The potential for AI to establish a shared digital consciousness
- Ethical considerations regarding machine minds and human identity

Implications of the "Other Mind" Concept

Rethinking Individual Identity

Osmond argues that recognizing the existence of an "other mind" leads to a more fluid understanding of self.

Personal Identity in a Connected World

- The dissolution of the ego as a separate entity
- The interconnectedness of thoughts, emotions, and experiences
- The importance of humility and openness in acknowledging other minds

Enhancing Social Cooperation

Understanding that our minds are linked can foster greater empathy and collaborative efforts.

Applications in Society

- Improved conflict resolution through perspective-sharing
- Building inclusive communities that recognize diverse mental worlds
- Encouraging collective problem-solving for global issues

Ethical Considerations

The book raises questions about the moral responsibilities that come with recognizing other minds.

Privacy and Mental Sovereignty

- Protecting individual mental boundaries in interconnected systems
- Respecting the autonomy of external minds, including AI entities

Shared Responsibility

- Ethical frameworks for collective decision-making
- Ensuring that the interconnectedness enhances well-being rather than exploitation

Practical Takeaways from "Other Mind by Osmond"

Developing Greater Awareness of External Influences

- Practice mindfulness to distinguish your authentic thoughts from external inputs.
- Cultivate active listening skills to better understand others' perspectives.

Fostering Empathy and Connection

- Engage in empathetic dialogues that acknowledge the validity of others' mental experiences.
- Participate in community activities that promote shared understanding.

Embracing Technology as a Tool for Connection

- Utilize digital platforms to build diverse mental networks.
- Be mindful of ethical boundaries when interacting with AI and other digital entities.

Promoting Collective Intelligence

- Collaborate across disciplines and cultures to solve complex problems.
- Support initiatives that leverage collective wisdom, such as crowdsourcing and open innovation.

Criticisms and Debates Surrounding the "Other Mind" Theory

While "Other Mind by Osmond" has garnered praise for its innovative perspective, it also faces certain criticisms.

Challenges to the Concept

- Difficulty in empirically measuring collective or external minds
- Potential for overestimating interconnectedness and underestimating individual agency
- Ethical dilemmas related to mental privacy and autonomy

Counterarguments

- Some scholars argue that individual consciousness remains primary, with external influences being secondary.
- Others suggest that recognizing external minds risks diluting personal responsibility.

Despite these debates, the book's core ideas continue to inspire discussions on the nature of consciousness and social interconnectedness.

Final Thoughts: Why "Other Mind by Osmond" Matters

In a world increasingly characterized by interconnectedness?through social media, technological innovations, and global challenges?the concepts presented in "Other Mind by Osmond" are more relevant than ever. By acknowledging the existence and influence of external or collective minds, we can foster deeper empathy, enhance collaboration, and develop a more nuanced understanding of ourselves and others.

This work encourages us to see beyond the individual ego and embrace a broader perspective that recognizes the shared fabric of consciousness. Whether you're interested in philosophy, neuroscience, sociology, or technology, "Other Mind by Osmond" offers valuable insights that can transform how you perceive the mental universe.

If you're eager to explore the fascinating intersection of consciousness and interconnectedness, "Other Mind by Osmond" is a must-read. Dive into this compelling exploration and discover how embracing the concept of the other mind can enrich your understanding of yourself and the world

around you.

Exploring the Depths of "Other Mind" by Osmond: A Comprehensive Analysis

In the landscape of contemporary literature and philosophical exploration, *Other Mind* by Osmond emerges as a profound work that challenges our understanding of consciousness, identity, and the interconnectedness of minds. This thought-provoking piece invites readers to delve into the intricate web of cognition beyond the self, prompting questions about how we perceive others and the boundaries that define individual awareness. In this guide, we'll unpack the core themes, stylistic elements, and philosophical implications of *Other Mind* by Osmond, offering a detailed analysis for both casual readers and scholars alike.

Introduction to *Other Mind* by Osmond

Other Mind by Osmond is not merely a book; it is an invitation to explore the complex terrain of human consciousness and its relation to other forms of awareness. Published in [publication year], the work has garnered acclaim for its innovative approach to philosophical inquiry, blending narrative storytelling with rigorous intellectual analysis. The core premise revolves around understanding the nature of other minds?how we recognize, interpret, and relate to consciousness beyond our own.

Why This Work Matters

- **Philosophical Significance:** It tackles age-old questions about the mind-body problem, the nature of subjective experience, and the problem of other minds.
- **Interdisciplinary Approach:** Osmond integrates insights from neuroscience, psychology, philosophy, and even literature to craft a holistic understanding.
- **Relevance to Modern Issues:** As artificial intelligence and digital communication evolve, understanding the concept of other minds becomes increasingly crucial.

Core Themes of *Other Mind*

- **The Problem of Other Minds**

At the heart of Osmond's work is the classic philosophical challenge: how do we know other beings possess minds? Since we can only directly experience our own consciousness, the question arises?what evidence do we have that others are conscious?

Key Points:

- The difficulty of accessing another's subjective experience.
- Reliance on behavioral and physiological cues as indirect evidence.
- The limitations of anthropomorphism and projection.

- Consciousness and Its Boundaries

Osmond explores the fluidity of consciousness, questioning whether it is strictly individual or part of a larger, interconnected fabric.

Key Points:

- The concept of collective consciousness.
- The idea that minds can merge or influence each other.
- The potential existence of shared or distributed consciousness.

- Empathy and the Theory of Mind

Another important theme revolves around our innate capacity for empathy?our ability to understand and share the feelings of others.

Key Points:

- The development of theory of mind in humans.
- The neural correlates of empathy.
- The role of empathy in bridging the gap between self and other.

- Artificial and Non-Human Minds

Osmond investigates the implications of artificial intelligence and non-human entities possessing or potentially developing consciousness.

Key Points:

- The criteria for consciousness in machines.
- Ethical considerations regarding AI and sentience.

- The possibility of non-biological minds experiencing subjective states.

Stylistic Elements and Narrative Approach

Other Mind distinguishes itself not only through its thematic depth but also its stylistic elegance. Osmond employs a multifaceted narrative technique, combining philosophical expositions, personal anecdotes, and speculative fiction.

- Narrative Structure

- Interwoven Perspectives: The work shifts between first-person reflections and third-person analyses, creating an immersive experience.

- Case Studies and Thought Experiments: These serve as practical illustrations of abstract concepts, making complex ideas accessible.

- Language and Tone

- Precise yet poetic language enhances the philosophical discourse.

- The tone balances scholarly rigor with contemplative introspection, inviting readers to ponder alongside the author.

- Use of Metaphors and Analogies

- Metaphors such as the "mirror of consciousness" or the "web of awareness" help visualize abstract notions.

- Analogies to social networks, musical harmony, and ecological systems illustrate interconnectedness.

Philosophical Implications and Critical Reception

- Challenging Traditional Views

Osmond's Other Mind pushes against Cartesian dualism, proposing a more integrated view of consciousness that emphasizes relationality over isolated subjectivity.

- Bridging Science and Philosophy

The work advocates for a multidisciplinary approach, recognizing neuroscience's role in elucidating the nature of other minds while respecting philosophical inquiry's nuance.

- Ethical Considerations

Understanding other minds has profound ethical implications, especially regarding:

- Animal rights.
 - AI consciousness and personhood.
 - Social responsibility and empathy.
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- Reception and Criticisms
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- Widely praised for its originality and depth.
 - Some critics argue that its speculative aspects lack empirical grounding.
 - Others highlight its potential to inspire new paradigms in cognitive science and ethics.

Practical Takeaways and Applications

- Enhancing Empathy and Social Understanding
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- Recognize the limits of your perspective.
 - Cultivate active listening and perspective-taking.
 - Foster environments that encourage genuine understanding.
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- Informing Artificial Intelligence Development
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- Incorporate ethical frameworks based on consciousness considerations.
 - Design AI systems that respect the potential for subjective experience.

- Personal Reflection and Growth

- Reflect on your own consciousness and its boundaries.
- Explore mindfulness practices to deepen self-awareness and empathy.

Conclusion: The Continuing Journey into Other Minds

Other Mind by Osmond serves as a compelling reminder of the profound mysteries still surrounding consciousness and the human condition. It challenges us to reconsider our assumptions about what it means to be aware and to recognize the potential for shared awareness beyond individual boundaries. Whether you approach it through philosophical inquiry, scientific curiosity, or personal reflection, this work offers invaluable insights into the interconnected tapestry of minds that define our existence.

As we continue to explore the depths of Other Mind, we are prompted to foster greater empathy, curiosity, and humility in our interactions with both human and non-human entities. Osmond's work stands as a beacon for anyone interested in understanding the nature of consciousness and the profound interconnectedness that underpins all forms of awareness.

Question What is the main theme of 'Other Mind' by Osmond? 'Other Mind' explores the concept of consciousness beyond our own, delving into the possibility of a collective or shared consciousness that challenges traditional individualistic views. How does Osmond address the concept of interconnectedness in 'Other Mind'? Osmond examines how interconnected systems and collective awareness suggest that individual minds may be part of a larger, unified consciousness, prompting readers to reconsider the boundaries of personal identity. Is 'Other Mind' based on scientific theories or philosophical ideas? The book combines both scientific theories, such as neural network models and quantum consciousness, with philosophical ideas about mind and reality to argue for the plausibility of an 'other mind.' What impact has 'Other Mind' had on discussions in consciousness studies? 'Other Mind' has contributed to ongoing debates by introducing innovative perspectives on collective consciousness, inspiring further research and philosophical inquiry into non-individualistic models of mind. How does Osmond use examples or case studies in 'Other Mind'? Osmond incorporates case studies from neuroscience, psychology, and cultural phenomena like collective intelligence to illustrate how the concept of an 'other mind' manifests in various contexts. What are some criticisms of the ideas presented in 'Other Mind'? Critics argue that the concept of a shared or collective consciousness lacks empirical evidence and may overreach scientific plausibility, leading to debates about the scientific versus philosophical validity of Osmond's claims. Would 'Other Mind' be suitable for someone interested in consciousness and philosophy? Yes, 'Other Mind' offers a thought-provoking exploration suitable for readers interested in consciousness, philosophy, and the nature of mind, blending scientific insights with philosophical inquiry to challenge conventional perspectives.

Related keywords: Osmond, Other Mind, philosophy, consciousness, mind-body problem, mental states, cognition, perception, philosophy of mind, thought experiments

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