

"Scandals"—on the screen. Alice Faye comes in and finds Rudy Vallee entertaining Adrienne Ames. The scene is from the Fox adaption of George White's stage success

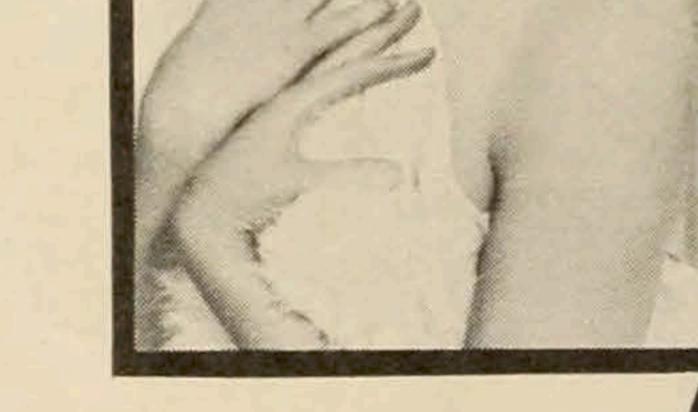
By Nina Remen

UDY VAL-

Rudy Still Has His "Vagabond Dreams"

LEE is still seeking the girl of his vagabond dreams. But he is beginning to fear that they will never come true that he'll never find her.

"I've taken a lot of ribbing about that ideal girl," he says. "Well, I still have the ideal, but I doubt if I will ever find anybody to fill the requirements."



Fay Webb — brunette and beautiful. But her romance with Rudy lasted less than two years

Five years ago,

before Rudy's marriage to Fay Webb—before the flood of rumor and scandal accompanying their divorce proceedings, Vallee described to the world the kind of girl he wanted to marry. "The girl," he said, "of my vagabond dreams." Among her attributes were these:



When Vallee described the dream girl thus, in 1929, he was keeping a close lookout for her, and his hopes were high. He had already been married once, but his ideal was not touched by disillusion. Finally he found Fay

Webb.

Today, the search is on again—and the standards are practically the same —but his chances of finding her, he thinks, are slim.

"You see," he explains, "I've lost faith in so many people. And I've found that usually where there is a great attractiveness, whether it is beauty or talent, there is always an accompanying weakness. "I mean that for more than one person I've known in the past few years. People you trust in business or socially. Loyalty seems to be an unknown quality these days. "I doubt if I ever again could have complete confidence in anyone, al-PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 123

Her face and form must be beautiful and she must be a brunette.

She must not be too young. A wife of twenty-five would be all right for me. She must be faithful. And I wouldn't inquire too closely into her life before I knew her.

The modern girl who insists on paying half the bills would have no charm for me. My ideal girl would not drink with another man if I were not present.

She would have patience and understanding enough to leave me alone when I wanted to be alone.



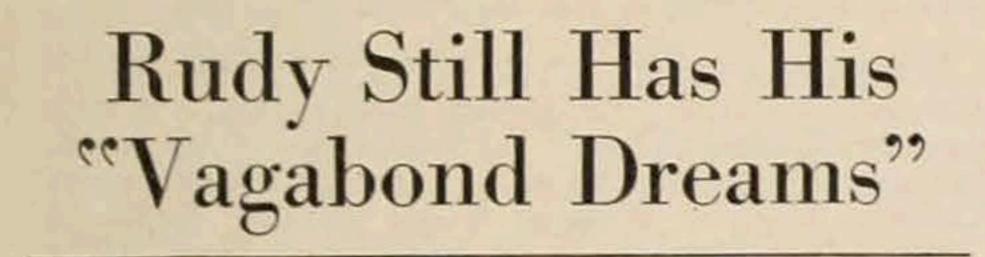
Alice Faye and he are an ideal screen couple. But both deny rumors of a romance. So Rudy must just keep on dreaming

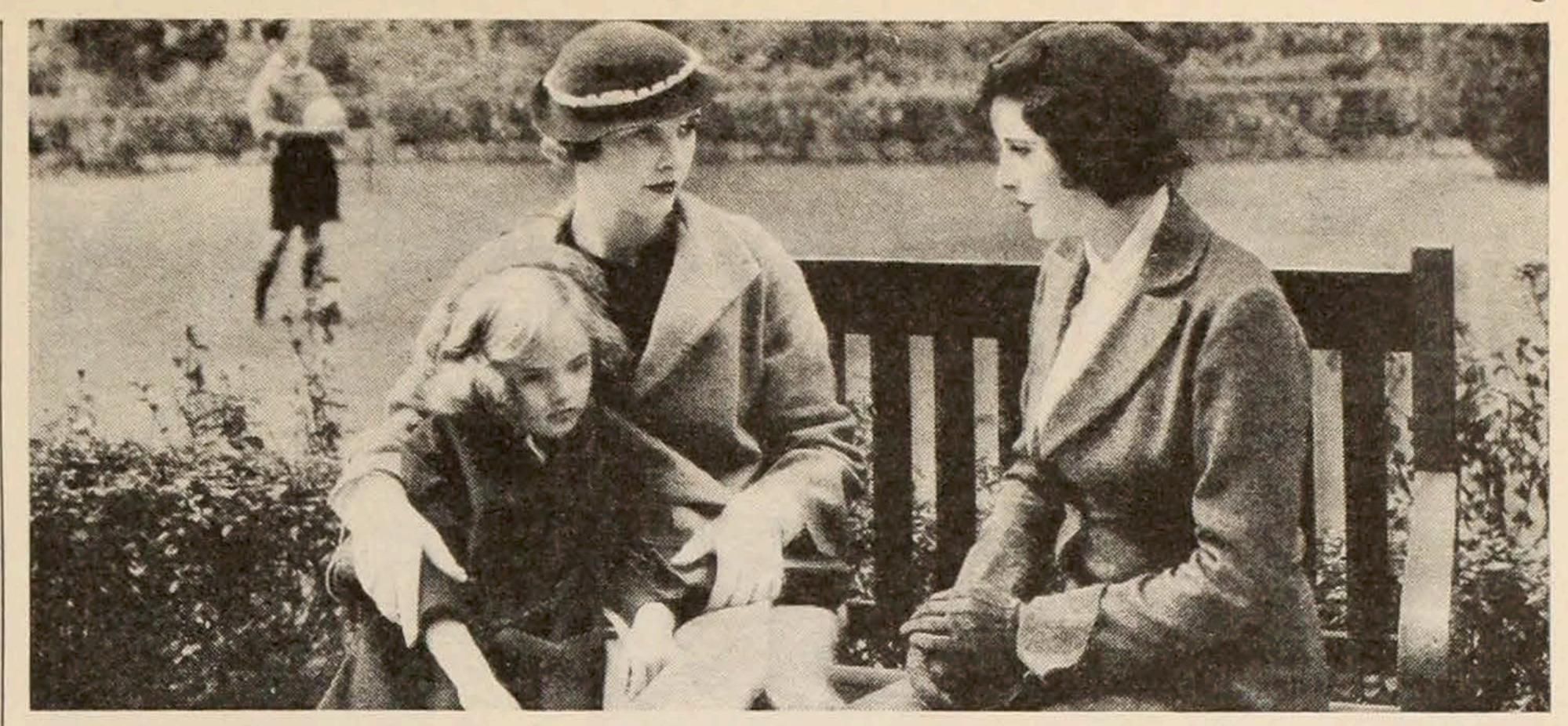
Rudy's first wife, Leonie Cauchois their marriage, in 1928, was annulled just twenty-three days later

PHOTOPLAY MAGAZINE FOR APRIL, 1934

now he's like a kid with a new toy. Just plain tickled, and eager for another chance to show his stuff.

That night at the preview, when "It Happened One Night" ran fourteen reels till midnight-with the audience so thoroughly enjoying the new Gable and so heartily sharing his adventures, that they never realized the picture was some four reels over length-a new confidence and a new ambition were born in Clark. Not that he sees himself as a great star now-far be that from one of Gable's modesty -but he does feel pictures have more to offer him than ever before.





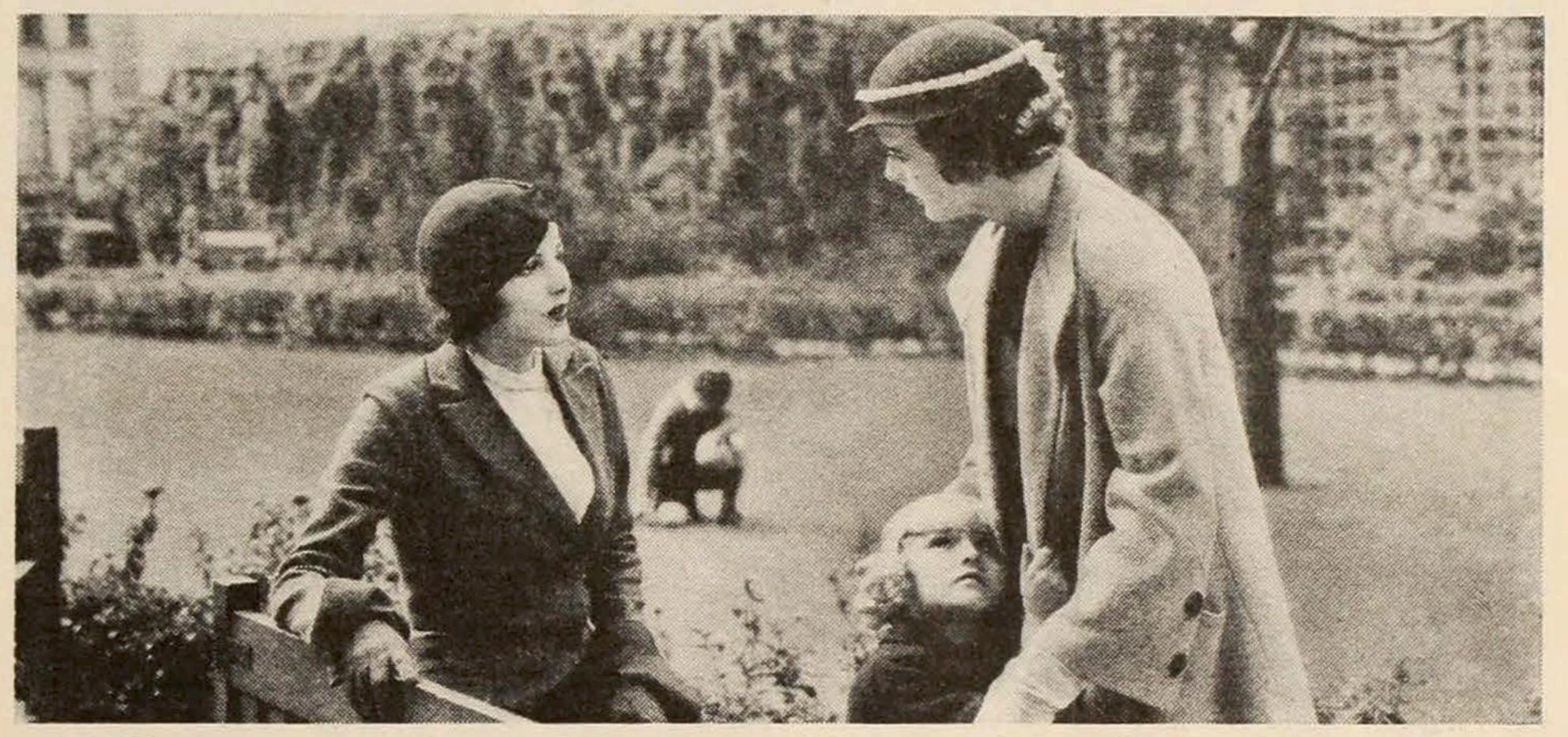
"Ethel dear . . . you've been hanging to mother's skirts all day, I can't imagine why she's so listless, Mrs. Ross."

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 42]

though I keep trying to tell myself that this should not be so. I don't want to mistrust everybody; it's a rotten way to go through life. Yet, if you only knew the friends I thought were real who have turned out to be traitors, both in business and in my private life, you could understand perhaps why I've developed this slant on people.

"You see," he went on, and his eyes had the hurt expression of a child who first discovers there is no Santa Claus, "I'd always hoped to find a girl who might be like my mother; a girl who might have some domestic instincts-to cook, to keep house, to sew a little. She wouldn't have to do these things, understand. But I'd like to know she could, and would, if luck ever turned.

"I still say there are many fine girls in the world, girls who would make splendid wives. Except that I would be awfully careful, perhaps very suspicious, and certainly I would have to be very, very sure of the girl I would fall in love with again."



"Often constipation makes children like that, Mrs. Green. Remember that droopy spell Jackie had? I gave him a laxative—Fletcher's Castoria—it was all he needed!"

"What quality, Rudy, would you place as topmost on your 'ideal' requirements, now?" I asked him.

He looked a little abashed, got up and walked around the room a few moments, then sat down again. Perhaps he wasn't going to answer that one.

"Fidelity? Loyalty?" I prompted.

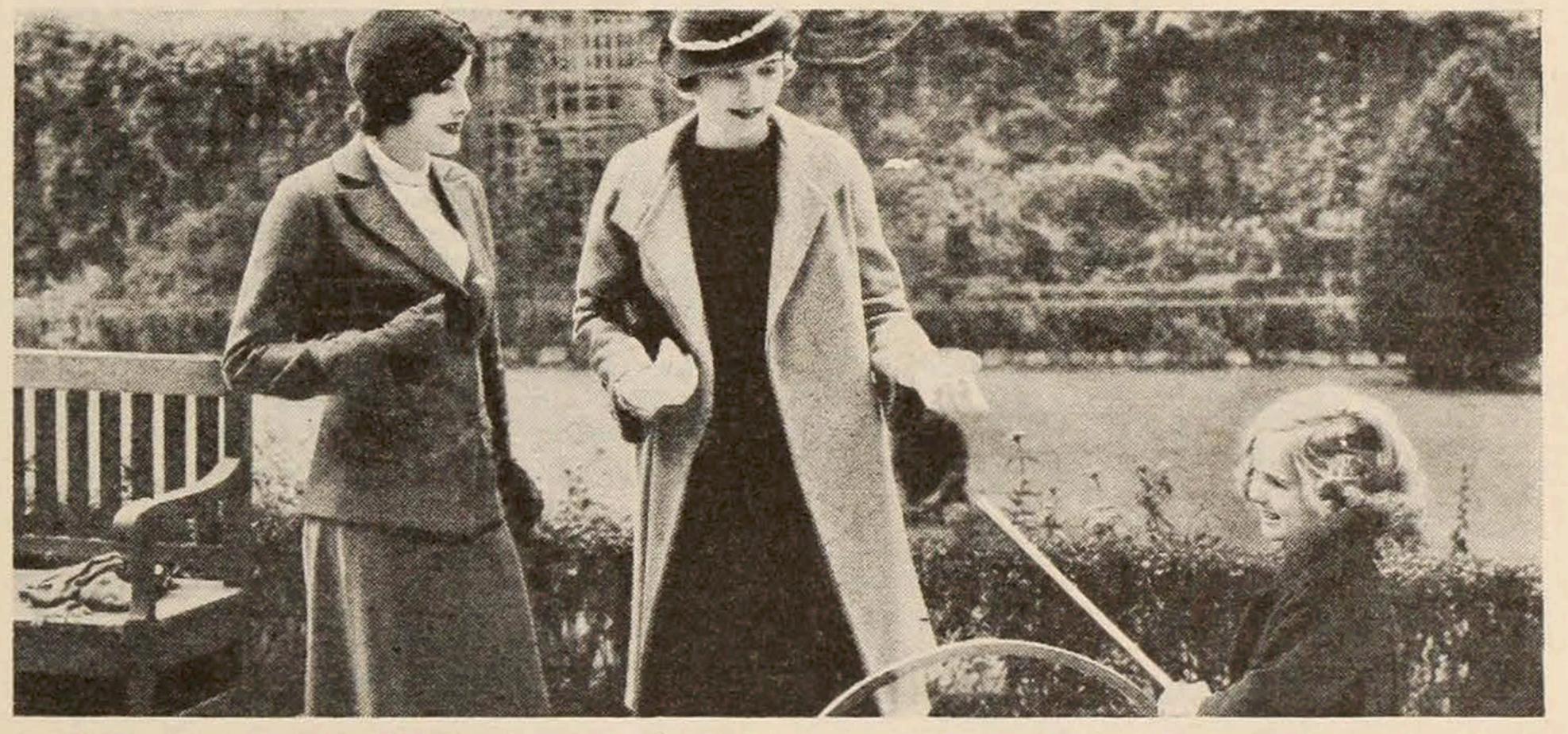
"THAT, a man takes for granted. I mean, when a girl shows you she cares by her gestures of affection; when a man is convinced a girl has singled him out as the important person in her life, you'd naturally take it for granted that she'd stand by in the face of temptation."

"What then? What are the specifications for this ideal girl now?"

"Physical attractiveness, first," Rudy answered. "I suppose that shouldn't be. But it's the way I feel about it."

Well, that's no change from his 1929 list, so far.

"Men have a way of idealizing the women they love, I suppose. To others, she may be very plain-nothing at all to rave about. But to one man, she is the acme of perfection. A perfect blending of beauty and personality." Amplifying his requirements in 1929, Rudy says: "I'd like for the girl to be companionable and sympathetically understanding in the face of obstacles and difficulties." Gossips have speculated that Alice Faye might be Rudy's new dream girl. These rumors he denies emphatically. There is something ironic about Vallee and his search for his ideal girl. If he had stayed in the little New England town where he was born, he might have found her there. But, today, he is a national figure. He can stand before a microphone and broadcast to the world a description of the girl he wants. His requirements have been printed, read, discussed. But he can't find her.



"Doesn't Ethel look bright and happy today, Mrs. Ross? I followed your advice and gave her some Fletcher's Castoria last night."

"Fine! Fletcher's Castoria is a wonderful laxative for children. It's made especially for them. It's gentle, doesn't have any harsh drugs in it. These

strong drugs are what make most laxatives so harmful for children. And Castoria has such a pleasant taste! And when you buy it, always look for the signature, Chas. H. Fletcher on the carton!"

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