

# PIONEER

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# CONNECT

FEBRUARY 4, 2017



# STORM

FINDING JESUS IN THE  
GATHERING DARK

# 4

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# WELCOME

*to Pioneer*

A few lines from Henry Longfellow's *Psalm of Life* offers acuminous advice:

Life is real! Life is earnest!  
And the grave is not its goal;  
Dust thou art, to dust returnest,  
Was not spoken of the soul.

Not enjoyment, and not sorrow,  
Is our destined end or way;  
But to act, that each to-morrow  
Find us farther than to-day.

This is essential to remember when confronted by a storm: we are created with a disposition to move forward. The storm seeks to darken the path and confound our internal compass. However, when you find yourself in the company of Jesus and clothed in His grace, His light expels darkness. We welcome you this morning as we run into the loving arms of our Friend, Deliverer and King.

—José Bourget



## PIONEER MEMORIAL CHURCH

8655 UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD, BERRIEN SPRINGS, MI 49103

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday (8 to 5) • Friday (8 to 12)

**PHONE** – 269.471.3133

**FAX** – 269.471.6152

### LIVE STREAMING

[www.newperceptions.tv](http://www.newperceptions.tv)  
Sabbath 11:45 AM

### ONLINE

[www.pmchurch.org](http://www.pmchurch.org)  
[www.newperceptions.tv](http://www.newperceptions.tv)

### RADIO

WAUS – 90.7 FM  
Sabbath 11:30 AM



### NOMINATING REPORT

Scan this code to view the most recent Nominating Committee Report.



### FIND A SABBATH SCHOOL

# FIND IT HERE

CONNECT • GROW • SERVE • GO



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**THE FOURTH  
WATCH BLOG**

The Confession of  
Julian Barnes

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**PIONEER LIFE**

Sharing Your Faith

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**8**

**WE WORSHIP**

9:00 AM Service

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**10**

**SABBATH SCHOOL**

The Baptism and Filling of  
the Holy Spirit

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**11**

**WE WORSHIP 2**

11:45 AM Service

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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# THE CONFESSION OF JULIAN BARNES

BY DWIGHT K. NELSON

A friend of mine put me onto the Christian philosopher James K. A. Smith (Calvin College) and his book, *How (Not) to Be Secular: Reading Charles Taylor*. Smith's book, as it turns out, is "an idiot's guide" (my words) to the massive tome (900 pages) of the Canadian philosopher Charles Taylor, *Secular Age*—a work recognized as a definitive analysis of our secular age. Smith describes Taylor's work as "a genealogy of the secular and an archaeology of our angst" (ix) and sets out to make Taylor's provocative conclusions accessible to the rest of us mortals.

Both Taylor and Smith turn to the memoir of the English writer Julian Barnes, *Nothing to Be Frightened Of*, a book Smith describes as "an existential map of our secular age" (4). In it Julian Barnes admits, "I was never baptized, never sent to Sunday School. I have never been to a normal church service in my life" (5). I.e., his is the life most of us would consider secular.

And yet consider the poignant depth of the confession Barnes makes: "I don't believe in God, but I miss Him" (5).

How many people today would identify with his confession: "I don't believe in God, but I miss Him"?

The striking point James Smith's book drives home is that the world the church occupies today is a very changed world. The answers we've prepared in order to witness to our faith are questions seculars aren't even asking. For many of them nothing is "missing" from their lives—"so you can't just come proclaiming the good news of a Jesus who fills their 'God-

shaped hole.' They don't have any sense that the 'secular' lives they've constructed are missing a second floor" (vii). I.e., this isn't Paul's Mars Hill (Acts 17) world where even the intellectuals are surrounded by their gods. "No, it seems that many have managed to construct a world of significance that isn't at all

bothered by questions of the divine" (ibid).

And yet in Julian Barnes's confession we hear the faint longing of the secular heart. "I don't believe in God, but I miss Him." It's what Taylor and Smith describe as the "haunting" of the secular mind, a longing for the transcendent (God) while embracing only the immanent (this world of here and now). Most of us, Smith observes, live in the in-between of these two worlds, "where both our agnosticism and our devotion are mutually haunted and haunting"(4).

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**THE ANSWERS WE'VE PREPARED IN ORDER TO WITNESS TO OUR FAITH ARE QUESTIONS SECULARS AREN'T EVEN ASKING.**

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So shall we abandon any effort to connect with this secular age for Christ? Not at all. First, I think of John Stott's counsel to Christians who want to witness to their faith, "Remember—the other man's conscience is always on your side." I.e., the Spirit of God impresses divine truth via the conscience. Thus the "haunting" that Julian Barnes's confession intimates reflects the light planted deep within the heart, **"the true light, which enlightens everyone . . ." John 1:9 NRSV emphasis supplied).** Or as Paul put it: **"God has dealt to each one a measure of faith" (Romans 12:3).** Good news—no one you meet is beyond the reach of God.

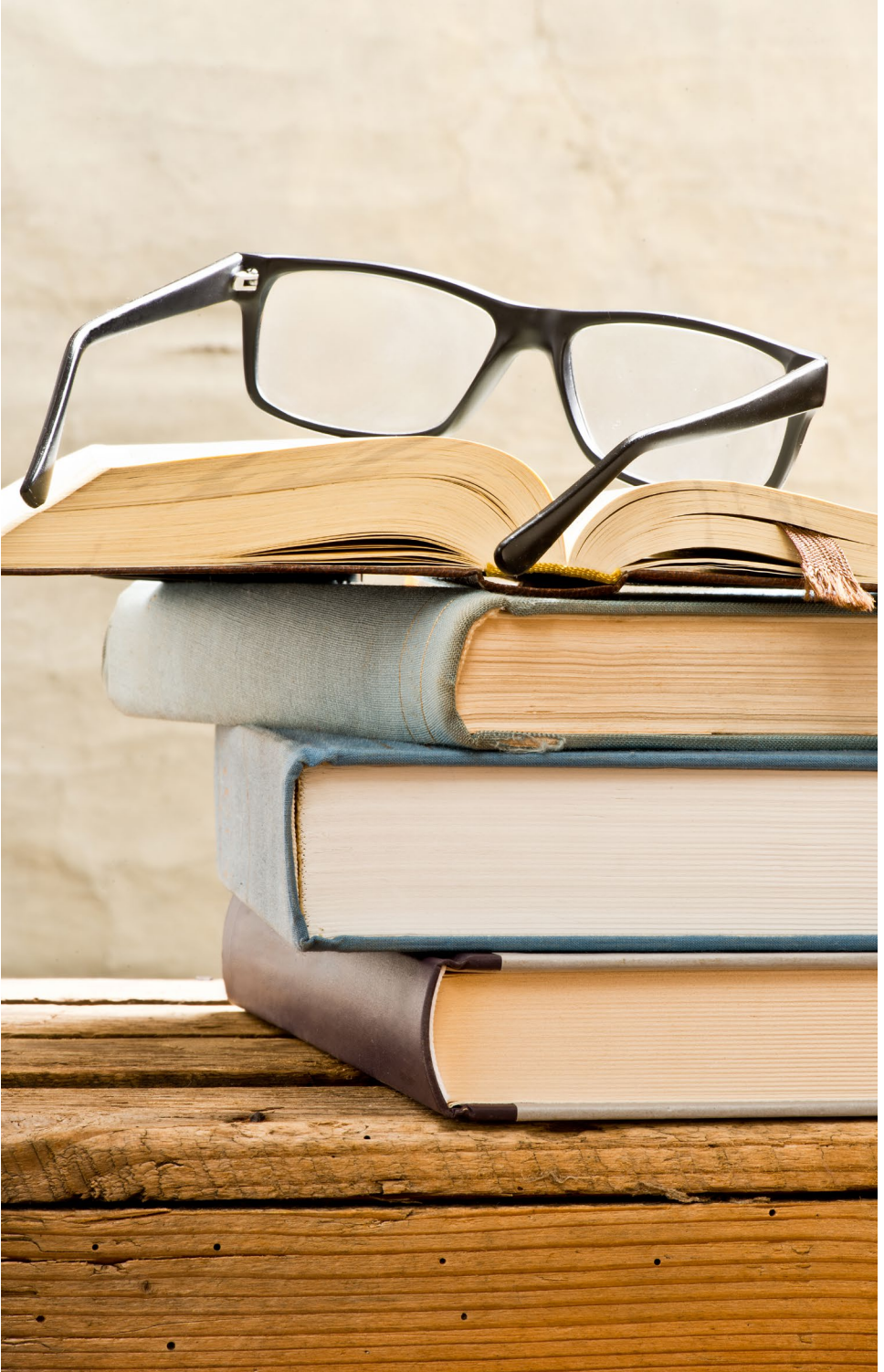
Second, the power of love may be the most persuasive argument God can make—through you. A 900-page tome

would be enough to scare anyone away from plunging into our secular world for Christ. But intellectual prowess is hardly ever overcome by a matching wit. The power of change is embedded in selfless love. "The strongest argument in favor of the gospel is a loving and lovable Christian" (*Ministry of Healing* 470).

Two reasons why you are just what God needs to love the Julian Barnes's of this world back to Him. They don't believe in Him, but they miss Him—you know Him, and you love them—talking about a match made in heaven—let's go! ■

You can follow Pastor Dwight's blog at [www.pmchurch.tv/blog](http://www.pmchurch.tv/blog).





# SHARING YOUR FAITH

BY TABITHA UMALI

A few months ago I, together with Bible Worker volunteer and PMC member Bob Wilkens, visited a recent Connect Card interest that had requested Bible studies and only given a name and an address on the decision card.

We arrived at 5 o'clock in the pouring rain, said a prayer and then made a dash for the front door. After one ring of the doorbell, an older Creole American woman opened the door. Her first words were, "Well, hello and who are you?" We gave our introductions and told her that we were with PMC and that we wanted to respond and talk to her about her recent request for Bible studies. As she invited us inside with a warm smile she said that she was so happy that we came.

For an hour we visited, and in that time we talked about her recent move to Berrien Springs, her still unpacked boxes, politics, racism in America, slavery, and literature. She then began sharing her life story with both of us.

We learned that she is a retired doctor and that she wants to start a nonprofit organization locally to help black American youth, and that is why she moved to the area. I then asked the question of how she began attending PMC. She told us that she was Catholic, but her neighbors did not have a car so she offered to drive them to church. As it turned out, her neighbors attend PMC. After a few weeks of dropping the family off and picking them up, she thought she might as well attend the church service. Her face lit up as she began telling us how much she has

enjoyed the music and Pastor Dwight's sermons. She said after a few weeks of attendance, she decided that she would continue to attend PMC church service and continue to attend the Catholic church for the Eucharist service. She then added that the Eucharist service was the only thing that was missing in her church experience at PMC.

After chatting with her a little more we set up a time for Bible studies. As we were leaving she told us with excitement that she was looking forward to having more conversations with us and learning more about the Bible and our biblical perspective.

It's a wonderful experience to be able to learn and listen to someone else's story and faith and to share our own. That is why here at PMC we have a Bible Worker program. We believe that this is a wonderful opportunity to have a positive impact on those around us by sharing the Gospel. We invite you to be a part of this experience by contacting Tabitha Umali at [tabitha.umali@pmchurch.org](mailto:tabitha.umali@pmchurch.org). ■

*Tabitha Umali is the Bible Worker Coordinator here at PMC.*

## SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY

Please indicate  
"Master Plan-Evangelism"  
on your tithe envelope.

# WE WORSHIP

CONNECT • GROW • SERVE • GO

**Opening Voluntary** *Alleluia! Laudamus Te (We Praise You) • Alfred Reed*

**Introit** *Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above • Anonymous Melody*

**Call to Worship** José Bourget

Jesus was sent to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

**But we come before him, kneeling in prayer for His mercy.**

Great is your faith! May God grant your prayerful desires.

**Let us worship God in expectation of his miracles!**

**Doxology** *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow • 2*

**Invocation** Dwight K. Nelson

**Hymn of Praise** *Praise Him! Praise Him! • 249*

**Congregational Prayer** José Bourget  
*We Would See Jesus • st. 1 of 494*

**Worship in Music** *Variations on a Shape Note Tune • John Vinson*

**Tithes & Offerings** World Budget  
*Precious Lord, Take My Hand • James Dorsey / Robert Smith*

**Children's Story** John Kent, Andrews Academy

**Scripture** Hebrews 5:7-9 NIV • Jeanette Snorrason & Brynja Davis

During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.

**Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered**

and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

**Hymn of Preparation** *Prince of Peace, Control My Will • 153*



**Sermon** "STORM: Finding Jesus in the Gathering Dark"—4 • Dwight K. Nelson

**Connect Card**

**Hymn of Commitment**

*Trust and Obey* • 590

**Benediction**

**Closing Voluntary**

*Praise to the Lord* • *Anonymous Melody*

PRESIDING PASTOR: José Bourget; ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan  
WORSHIP IN MUSIC: Andrews Academy Concert Band; Byron Graves, director  
Andrews Academy Wind Ensemble

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# MUSIC ALIVE

## ALLELUIA!

"**A**lleluia!" rings out in today's instrumental worship music. The word is Latin, from the Hebrew "hallelujah" meaning "praise ye the Lord." This radiant word appears in Psalms 111 to 113 and 115 to 117, as well as in several verses of Revelation 19 as the cry in heaven "of a great multitude." In common usage, the word is focused particularly on the celebration of Christ's resurrection. By

stark contrast, many local churches omit the word in the weeks leading to their celebration of Christ's resurrection. This practice can serve to underscore the joy of the word once it emerges after weeks of waiting. But many other churches would welcome this ebullient word throughout the year. Alfred Reed's "Alleluia! Laudamus Te" expresses the word instrumentally. ■

# WE STUDY

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**Song Service**

Rachel Sauer

**Scripture & Prayer**

Psalm 127:3-5 • Mordekai Ongo

**Special Feature**

In Response to a Crisis—H.E.L.P.  
Panel Discussion: Mikelle Wile, Joffrey St. Hillare,  
Silas Oliveria, Carlisle Sutton, Deslynne Roberts

**Offertory**

*All Creatures of Our God and King* • arr. Duane Funderburk

**Bible Study**

“The Baptism and Filling of the Holy Spirit” • Classes

**Theme Song**

*Make Me a Blessing*

Make me a blessing; make me a blessing.  
Out of my life may Jesus shine.  
Make me a blessing; O Savior, I pray.  
Make me a blessing; to someone today.

“Make Me a Blessing,” Ira Bishop Wilson  
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**Benediction**

Rachel Sauer

ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan  
OFFERTORY: Carlos Lozano, violin

# WE WORSHIP 2

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## **As We Begin**

*Fanfare and Flourishes (We Praise You) • James Curnow*

## **Praise**

*Whom Shall I Fear • It Is Well With My Soul • No Longer Slaves*

## **Prayer**

José Bourget

## **Tithes & Offerings**

*Variations on a Shape Note Tune • John Vinson*

## **Children's Story**

John Kent, Andrews Academy

## **Bible Reading**

Hebrews 5:7-9 NIV

## **Worship in Music**

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand • James Dorsey / Robert Smith*

## **Sermon**

"STORM: Finding Jesus in the Gathering Dark"—4 • Dwight K. Nelson

## **Connect Card**

*Trust and Obey • 590*

## **As We Depart**

*Alleluia Laudamus Te (We Praise You) • Alfred Reed*

WORSHIP COORDINATOR: José Bourget; ORGAN: Kenneth Logan  
CELLO: Josh Hong, Johnny Schnepf; GUITAR: Jacob Mondak; PIANO: Peggy Schnepf  
VIOLIN: Johann Moore, Hadassah Schnepf; VOCALS: Ben Salmon, Shally Torres  
WORSHIP IN MUSIC: Andrews Academy Concert Band; Byron Graves, director

**SUBMIT** announcements by emailing [bulletin@pmchurch.org](mailto:bulletin@pmchurch.org) or by going to [www.pmchurch.org/announcements/submit](http://www.pmchurch.org/announcements/submit). Requests must be received **Monday by 5:00 PM** for consideration.

**NEXT WEEK'S OFFERING**  
PMC Operating Expense

**SUNSET TODAY** • 6:02  
**SUNSET NEXT FRIDAY** • 6:11

## PIONEER PULPIT

| 02 • 11 |

### DWIGHT K. NELSON

“STORM: Finding Jesus in the Gathering Dark”—5

| 02 • 18 |

### PATHFINDER SABBATH

## FINANCIAL FEATURE

### WORLD BUDGET

Habakkuk looked at the political, social, and economic situation around him. He was shocked and wanted God to do something to fix it. When God showed him how it was going to be fixed, Habakkuk was even more perplexed. And yet, Habakkuk decided that although he didn't understand God's answer, he would still praise Him and trust Him with every situation of his life. As we look at this world today, let us also decide to trust God no matter what happens. Let us give what we can to help spread the Good News of Christ's soon return with the rest of the world!

### Visitors' Dinner

Join us today after second service in the PMC Commons (downstairs) for a home-cooked vegetarian meal.

### Family Vespers

TODAY • 6:00 PM  
YOUTH CHAPEL

Join us for a special prayer service for this country.

### Adventurer Teacher Needed

The Adventurer Club is looking for a teacher to work with our Helping Hands class. Please contact us for more info at [adventurers@pmchurch.org](mailto:adventurers@pmchurch.org).

### House of Prayer—2 Sessions

WEDNESDAYS • 7:00 AM/7:00 PM

Join us morning (Youth Chapel) or evening (Sanctuary) for group praying—bring your Bible, bring a friend.

### Because We Care

If or when you are sick or may have to go to the hospital, PMC wants to support you. Feel free to call the church office (471.3133) and let us know if we can pray for you and/or if you would like a pastoral visit. And if you want your name on the printed prayer list or mentioned in the pastoral prayer, please let us know.

## **Andrews Academy International Festival**

FEBRUARY 10 • 10:45 AM  
AA CHAPEL & COMMONS

In celebration of International Appreciation Week (February 6–10), we invite you to celebrate our cultural diversity. Our Andrews Academy Family enjoys this event with music, special performances, native costume fashion show, Spanish class skits, food fair and more during our International Festival Assembly followed by an International Food Potluck. You are invited to wear your national costume to this event and please bring your traditional vegetarian dish to share at the food fair!

## **Scrapbooking Together**

FEBRUARY 12 • 1:00 TO 6:00 PM  
PMC COMMONS

Bring your favorite snack and enjoy time working on your projects. We will provide the chocolate and prizes. If you have questions, email [sherrie.davis@lakeunion.org](mailto:sherrie.davis@lakeunion.org).

## **Adventist Retirees of Michiana**

FEBRUARY 12 • 1:00 PM  
VILLAGE SDA CHURCH

Come to the monthly ARM potluck and enjoy guest musician Karin Thompson playing her cello. Bruce Stover, Oronoko-Berrien Springs Fire Chief, will be our featured speaker. He will address Fire Safety for Senior Citizens. This potluck meeting is open to all Adventist retirees, not just retired Adventist Church employees. Bring your food and enjoy the program and fellowship. For more information contact Ralph Wood ([rcwood90@gmail.com](mailto:rcwood90@gmail.com)).

## **Vienna Boy's Choir Concert**

FEBRUARY 12 • 7:00 PM  
HOWARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

The Vienna Boys' Choir, composed of boys between the ages of 10 to 14, perform an encompassing range that includes Medieval, motets and lieder, and compositions by Mozart, Bruckner, Gluck and Schubert.

## **Financial Peace University**

FEBRUARY 23 • 6:30 TO 8:00 PM  
PMC YOUTH CHAPEL

When was the last time you had peace about your finances? Come learn biblical principals to help manage personal finances through Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University. The average family pays off \$5,300 in debt in the first 90 days! For more info or to register visit [www.pmchurch.org/financialpeaceuniversity](http://www.pmchurch.org/financialpeaceuniversity) or call the church office at 269.471.3133.

## **Adventist Youth Ministry Training Basic Staff**

FEBRUARY 10  
PMC JUNIOR 1 SABBATH SCHOOL

**PFAD 001** – Pathfinder Club ministry: Its Purpose, History, and Relationship to Church and Adventurers (7 PM)

FEBRUARY 11  
PMC JUNIOR 1 SABBATH SCHOOL

**PFAD 002** – Introduction to Pathfinder Organization (3 PM)

**PFAD 003** – Introduction to Pathfinder Club Programing and Planning (4:15 PM)

**PFAD 005** – Basic Drill Intro (6:30 PM)

## **More Announcements**

For more PMC and community announcements, please visit our website at [www.pmchurch.org/announcements](http://www.pmchurch.org/announcements).



**| TRANSFERS IN |**

Ackles, Dorothy  
AGEE, Adahlia  
AGEE, Toni  
AGEE, Zipporah  
KARR, Tamara  
KIM, Peter  
KIM, Susie  
TRIPP, David  
WEIKUM, Donald  
WEIKUM, Lenore

**| TRANSFERS OUT |**

ATKINS, Andrew  
FEPULEAI, Aleni  
FERGUSON, Alyssa  
FERGUSON, Caryl Lynn  
FERGUSON, David  
GARCIA, Marianela  
GONZALEZ, Genesis  
HEARN, Joseph  
KOTANKO, Lonnie  
MAZUR, Kelder  
NYACHIEO, Ruth  
RODRIQUEZ, Kitty  
SHELLEY, Cyndy

**| FROM |**

Beaver Dam, WI  
Alpha & Omega • Warren, OH  
Alpha & Omega • Warren, OH  
Alpha & Omega • Warren, OH  
Laconia, NH  
Elkhart, IN  
Elkhart, IN  
Charlotte, MI  
Saginaw, MI  
Saginaw, MI

**| TO |**

Bolingbrook • Romeoville, IL  
Samoan • Vista, CA  
Collegedale, TN  
Collegedale, TN  
Collegedale, TN  
Hialeah, FL  
Clear Lake, WI  
Tabernacle • Portland, OR  
CrossWalk • Redlands, CA  
Vancouver Hispanic • Burnaby, BC  
Michiana African • Berrien Springs, MI  
Apison, TN  
Calvary Road • Niles, MI

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TRANSFORMING  
THIS **GENERATION**



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