



Spiritual Habits

FOR ORDINARY PEOPLE

**Gratitude &
Generosity**

RUNNING WILD

WITH BEAR GRYLLS





DEION SANDERS

A close-up portrait of Deion Sanders, a Black man with short dark hair, looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. He is wearing a dark shirt and has his hands clasped in front of his chin, with two large, ornate rings visible on his fingers. The background is dark and out of focus.

POWER, MONEY, & SEX

How Success Almost
Ruined My Life

Foreword by T.D. Jakes

“The Bible describes it in the first chapter of Ecclesiastes as chasing after the wind, and that’s exactly what it was like.”

Deion Sanders

“I’d try to buy myself something to make me happy, and I was even emptier than before; nothing could possibly satisfy the hunger that was deep down inside of me.”

Deion Sanders



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“Above all else, guard your heart,
for everything you do
flows from it.”

(Proverbs 4:23)

Heart toxin 1:
Guilt

Healthy Heart Habit 1:
Confession

Heart toxin 2:

Anger

Healthy Heart Habit 2:

Forgiveness

Heart toxin 3:
Greed

Greed is a universal disease
Almost everyone has it

Greed is a universal disease
Almost everyone has it
But no one ever thinks
they have it.

Everyone thinks
greed is a **problem**

Everyone thinks
greed is a **problem**
No one thinks
it's **their** problem

“Then Jesus said to them, ‘Watch out! Be on your guard against **all kinds of greed**; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.’”

(Luke 12:15)

**Greed creeps in,
cleverly disguised**

**Greed creeps in,
cleverly disguised
whenever you start thinking,**

Greed creeps in,
cleverly disguised
whenever you start thinking,
“What I **have** is **not enough**.”

Do I have
“Then I’ll be happy!”
Syndrome?

“Then Jesus said to them, ‘Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.’ **Then he told them a story...**”

(Luke 12:15, 16a)

Parable of the Rich Fool

Luke 12:16-21

“The ground of a certain rich man
yielded an abundant harvest.”

(Luke 12:16b)

“Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain.’”

(Luke 12:18)

“And I’ll say to myself, ‘You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.’”

(Luke 12:19)

“But God said to him, ‘You fool!
This very night your life will be
demanded from you. Then who will
get what **you** have prepared for
yourself?’”

(Luke 12:20)

“This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for **themselves** but is **not rich toward God.**”

(Luke 12:21)

Why did God call him a fool?

- Not because he **had** stuff

Why did God call him a fool?

- Not because he **had** stuff
- Not because he **saved** stuff

Why did God call him a fool?

- Not because he **had** stuff
- Not because he **saved** stuff
- Because he **focused on his** stuff

His monologue has
58 words

His monologue has
58 words

13 are personal pronouns

His monologue has
58 words

13 are personal pronouns
“**Me, myself, I**”

Why did God call him a fool?

- Not because he **had** stuff
- Not because he **saved** stuff
- Because he **focused on his** stuff
- Because he **put his hope in his** stuff

“Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to **put their hope in wealth**, which is so uncertain, but to **put their hope in God...**”

(1 Timothy 6:17)

“The migration of hope.”

Andy Stanley

The core of greed:
Idolatry

Seeking from anything else
what I can only find in **God**

“Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil.”

(1 Timothy 6:9)

“Some people, eager for money,
have wandered from the faith and
pierced themselves with **many**
griefs.”

(1 Timothy 6:10)

True Happiness

- A sense of **identity**

True Happiness

- A sense of **identity**
- A sense of **destiny**

True Happiness

- A sense of **identity**
- A sense of **destiny**
- A sense of **security**

**HOW DO I COMBAT
GREED?**

**1. Develop the heart habit
of gratitude**

“Do not put your hope in wealth,
which is so uncertain, but put your
hope in God...”

(1 Timothy 6:17b)

“Do not put your hope in wealth,
which is so uncertain, but put your
hope in God....

...who **richly provides us with**
everything for our enjoyment.”

(1 Timothy 6:17b)

“Give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is God’s will for you in Christ
Jesus.”

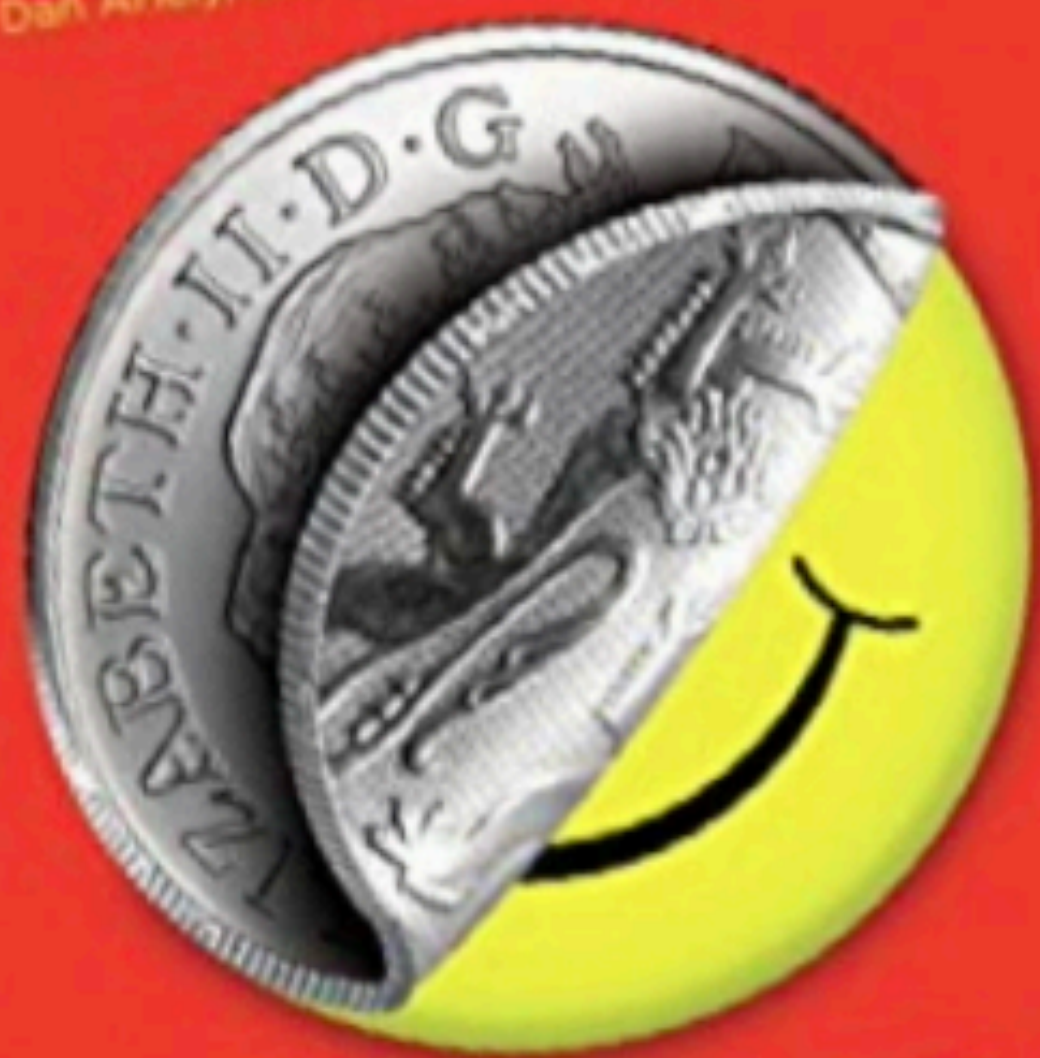
(1 Thessalonians 5:18)

**2. Develop the heart habit
of generosity**

“Command them to do good, to be
rich in good deeds, and to be
generous and willing to share. In
this way they will lay up treasure for
themselves as a firm foundation for
the coming age, so that they may
take hold of the life that is truly life.”

(1 Timothy 6:18, 19)

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Dan Ariely, author of *Predictably Irrational*

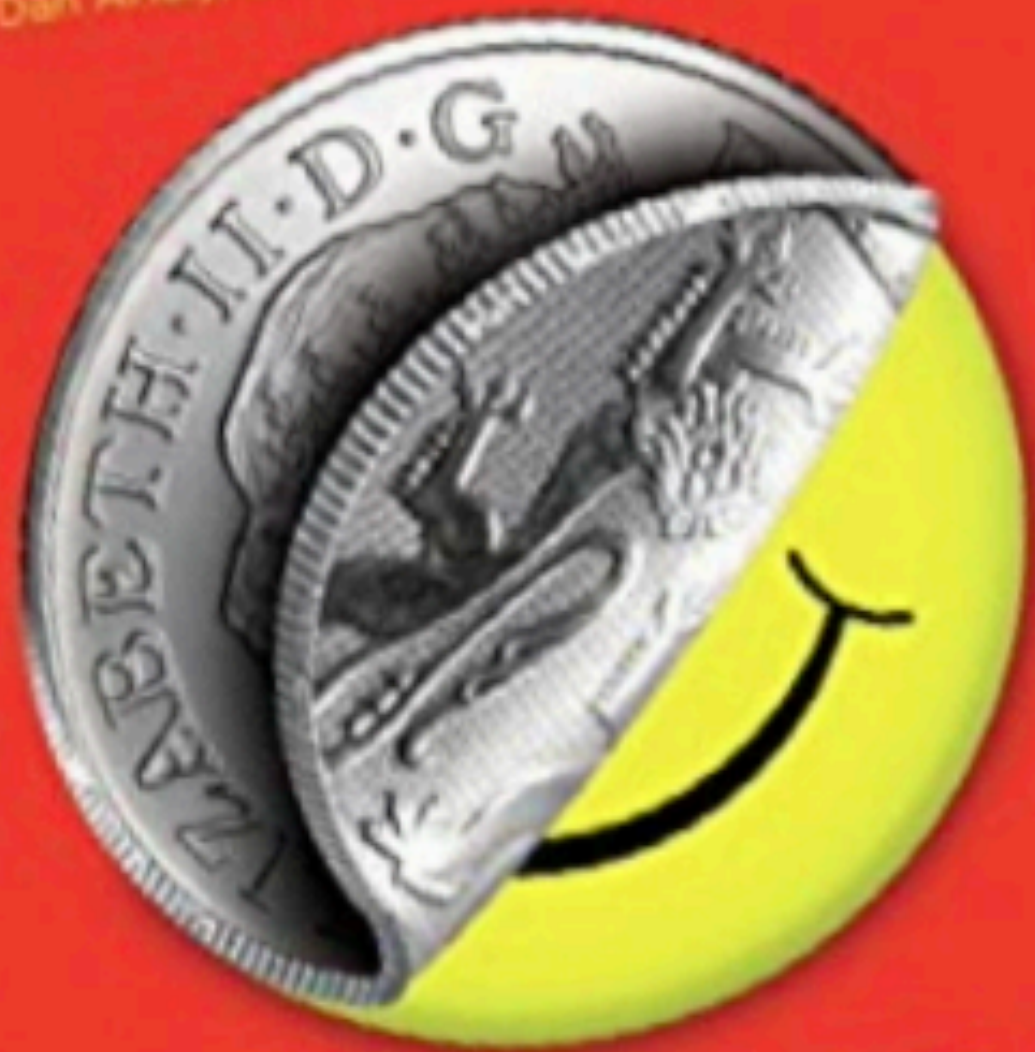


HAPPY MONEY

The New Science of
Smarter Spending

ELIZABETH DUNN & MICHAEL NORTON

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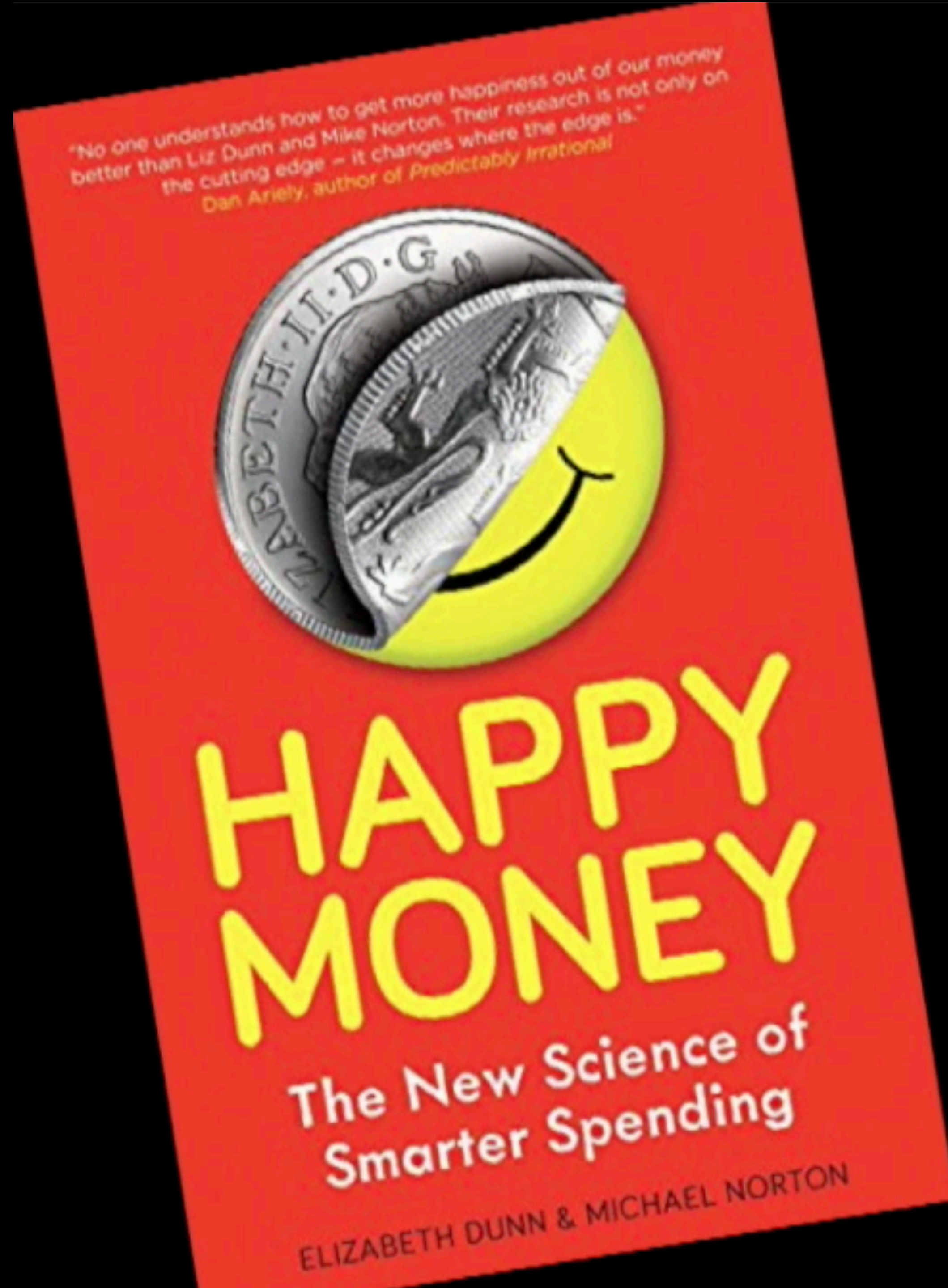


HAPPY MONEY

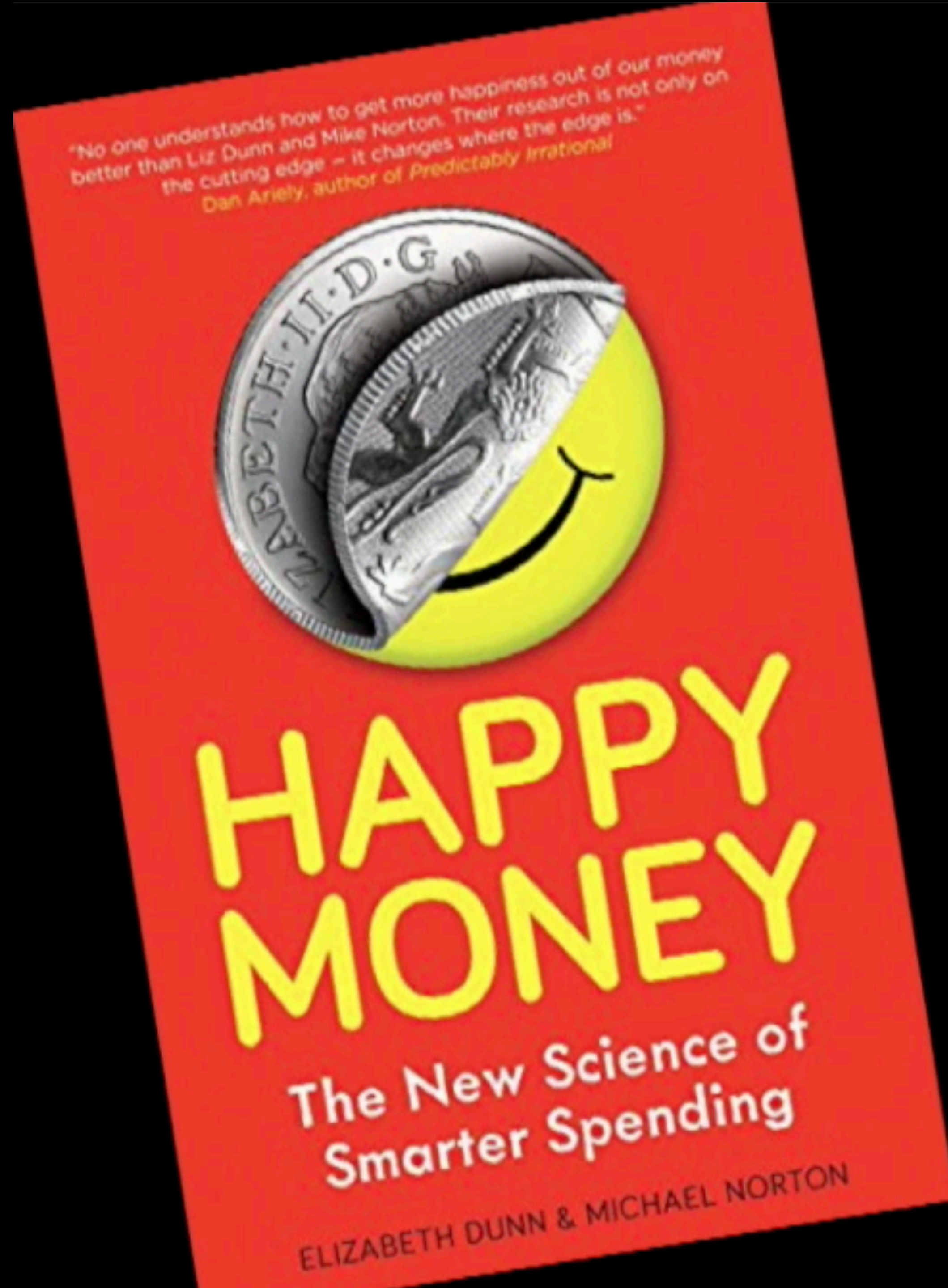
The New Science of
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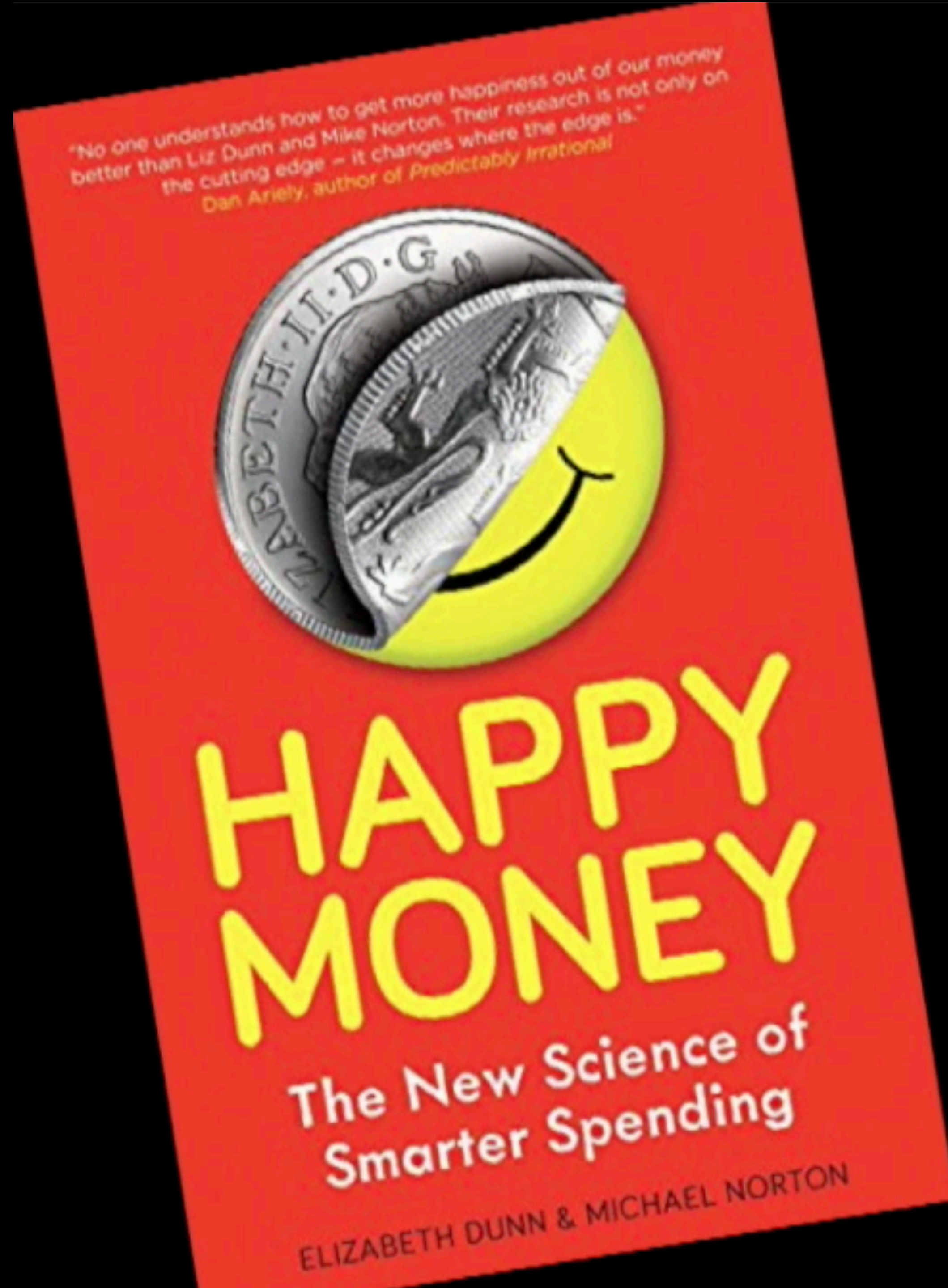
“If you think money doesn’t buy happiness, then you’re not spending it right.”



“Thanks to decades of research, we now know what kind of spending **does** enhance our happiness...”



“Spending money on **others** — from giving to charity to buying gifts for friends and family — **reliably makes us happier.**”



“Ask yourself one question every time you reach for your wallet:
Am I getting the **biggest happiness bank for my buck?**”

Generosity is not just
about **finances**;
it is **all-pervasive**

(Jesus said) “The eye is the lamp of the body. If your **eyes** are **healthy**, your whole body will be full of light. But if your **eyes** are **unhealthy**, your whole body will be full of darkness.”

(Matthew 6:22,23)

The original Greek for
healthy implies **generous**

The original Greek for
healthy implies **generous**
The original Greek for
unhealthy implies **stingy**

(Jesus said) “The eye is the lamp of the body. If your **eyes are generous**, your whole life will be full of light. But if your **eyes are stingy**, your whole life will be full of darkness.”

(Matthew 6:22,23)

BOTTOM LINE:

**Do I see the world
with generous eyes or
stingy eyes?**

“I got up and opened my Bible to a passage that said, ‘If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.’”

Deion Sanders

“‘For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation’ (Romans 10:9-10).”

Deion Sanders

“The words hit me like a ton of bricks. I knew they were meant for me and at that precise moment I was delivered. I put my trust in Jesus and I asked Him into my life.”

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