

Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century
Studies Conference

SPEAKING NATURE

March 31-April 2, 2011
Pitzer College, Claremont, CA

Acknowledgments

Organizer: Sumangala Bhattacharya, Assistant Professor of English, Pitzer College

Co-organizer: Barri J. Gold, Associate Professor of English, Muhlenberg College

Conference Assistants:

Conference Liaison: Raquel Jacobovich, Pitzer College, '11
Conference Assistant: Anna Pan, '14

Conference Sponsors: The INCS conference 2011 is generously sponsored by the Pitzer College Dean of Faculty and the Campus Life Forum and Strategic Initiative Funds; by Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies; and by Routledge Annotated Bibliography of English Studies (Routledge ABES).

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Conference Website Designer: Laurie Babcock, Office of Public Relations

Conference Registration: Conference registration packets and on-site registration will be available on Thursday (Claremont Doubletree, 3:30-5 p.m.), Friday (Scott Hall Courtyard, 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.; break for lunch), Saturday (Scott Hall Courtyard, 7 a.m.-noon).

Your registration provides admission to all panels, presentations and talks. A continental breakfast will be available on Friday and Saturday starting at 7:00 a.m. in the Scott Hall courtyard. Coffee, tea and refreshments during breaks will be available in Scott Hall courtyard. Your registration also includes three receptions (Thursday, Friday and Saturday), two lunches (Friday and Saturday) and a banquet (Saturday). Please check the schedule for times and locations.

Transportation from the hotel to Pitzer campus: For those who want to walk: the hotel is located 1.1 miles from Pitzer campus (about a 15 minute walk). Turn East on Foothill Boulevard. Turn right on Dartmouth Avenue. Then turn left on Twelfth Street/Platt Avenue. Follow Platt Avenue to Pitzer College.

There will also be a bus running from the hotel to campus: Friday and Saturday mornings 7 a.m. – 8 a.m. Afternoon/Evening shuttle schedule TBA.

Parking: Conference attendees can park for free in Lot 15 (see Pitzer College map) on the corner of Claremont and Ninth. No permits are required.

Wireless Access: For basic web browsing: use CINE wireless ssid (no user name or password required).

For anything more in-depth, please follow these instructions: Attach to the "Claremont" SSID. There is nothing to configure on the connection. Once connected open a web browser and the Claremont Colleges Wireless access page will open. In the "Username" box type "wlguest@pit" and the password "Pitzer123". Once authenticated, they are attached. The browser window needs to stay open, if closed it will disconnect the connection.

Keynote and Featured Speakers

James Kincaid, Aerol Arnold Professor of English, University of Southern California

James Kincaid is a widely recognized authority on Victorian literature and culture. Professor Kincaid, who has been a Guggenheim Fellow, won teaching awards and run two prestigious summer seminars for the National Endowment for the Humanities. He has published in many major scholarly journals and popular periodicals and newspapers. His recent books include *Child-Loving: The Erotic Child and Victorian Culture* (1992); *Annoying the Victorians* (1994); *My Secret Life* (1996); *Erotic Innocence: The culture of child molesting* (1998)

Robert Polhemus, Professor Emeritus in English, Stanford University

Robert Polhemus has interests in has interests in the workings of literary history; 19th-century British literature (especially the novel); 20th-century British fiction; the visual arts (including film); and cultural psychology. He is particularly interested in desire, love, comedy, inter-generational psychology, and the seeking and rendering of faith in literature and art. His recent books include: *Lot's Daughters: Sex, Redemption, and Women's Quest for Authority* (2005); and *Erotic Faith: Being in Love from Austen to Lawrence* (1990).

Harriet Ritvo, Arthur J. Conner Professor of History, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Harriet Ritvo teaches courses in British history, environmental history, the history of human-animal relations and the history of natural history. She is the author of *The Dawn of Green: Manchester, Thirlmere, and Modern Environmentalism* (2009), *The Platypus and the Mermaid, and Other Figments of the Classifying Imagination* (1997), *The Animal Estate: The English and Other Creatures in the Victorian Age* (1987), and *Noble Cows and Hybrid Zebras: Essays on Animals and History* (2010)

Laura Skandera Trombley, President, Pitzer College

President Trombley is a noted Mark Twain scholar and in March 2010 completed her fifth book, *Mark Twain's Other Woman: The Hidden Story of His Final Years*, published by Knopf. The paperback edition will be issued on March 8, 2011. Her other books include *Mark Twain in the Company of Women* (1994), *Constructing Mark Twain: New Directions in Scholarship* (2002), *Critical Essays on Maxine Hong Kingston* (1998) and *Epistemology: Turning Points in the History of Poetic Knowledge* (1986). As a graduate student she discovered the largest known cache of Mark Twain letters and she appeared in Ken Burns' documentary on Mark Twain.

Anca Vlasopolos, Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Wayne State University

Anca Vlasopolos has published a detective novel, a memoir, various short stories, over 200 poems, the poetry collection *Penguins in a Warming World* (2007) and the non-fiction novel *The New Bedford Samurai* (2007). She was born in 1948 in Bucharest, Rumania. Her father, a political prisoner of the Communist regime in Rumania, died when Anca was eight. After a sojourn in Paris and Brussels, at fourteen she immigrated to the United States with her mother, a prominent Rumanian intellectual and a survivor of Auschwitz.

While at the conference, check out the following exhibition:

**"Stealing Fire: José Clemente Orozco's Prometheus at 80" at the
Pomona College Museum of Art**

Thursday, March 31

Registration: Claremont Doubletree Hotel,
4-6 p.m.

Opening Reception & Reading: Claremont Doubletree Hotel
5-7 p.m.

Anca Vlasopolos, Professor of English and Comparative Literature,
Wayne State University

From "Isles of the Blessed"

A brief, first-person, multi-voiced narration of *Bleak House* from the perspectives of the captive birds in the novel. The audience will hear from Boythorn's "most astonishing bird" and from one of Miss Flite's prisoners.

Friday, April 1

REGISTRATION: Scott Hall Courtyard, 7-3

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST: Scott Hall Courtyard: 7

SESSION 1: 8-9:30 a.m.

1A NATURE & RACE I (Broad Hall 210)

Moderator: Laura Harris—Pitzer College

Maria Jose Afanador-Llach—University of Texas, Austin
Science, Nature, and Politics in the Early Republic: Colombia, 1808-1830

Миун Gleeson—University of Missouri, Kansas City
Nature as Pretext: Lynch Law in Nineteenth-Century Literature and the Southern Press

Ana Hontanilla—University of North Carolina, Greensboro
"Natural rights: Benevolence and Politics in *The Sensitive Black Slave* by Luciano María Comella"

1B BRITONS & NATURE (Broad Hall 207)

Moderator: Anca Vlasopolos—Wayne State University

Victoria Abboud-Grande Prairie Regional College
Lucy's Eden: Uses of the Gardens in Charlotte Brontë's *Villette*

Zak Sitter-Trinity College
The "Alphabet of Nature": Dialect Poetry and Spelling Reform in Mid-Century Britain

Richard Hill-Chaminade University
Scott and Edinburgh: memorializing Edinburgh's Old Town in *The Heart of Midlothian*
Paper read by: Mary Ann Davis—University of Southern California

Margaret Kolb—University of California, Berkeley
Moral Necessities: The Natural Figures of Scott's Narrative Transgressions

1C AMERICAN LANDSCAPES (Broad Hall 110)

Moderator: Iain Crawford—University of Delaware

Rickie-Ann Legleitner—University of South Dakota
"Free as the golden orioles:" Inspiring Natural Spaces and Constraining Urban and Domestic Spaces in Fanny Fern's *Ruth Hall*

Christopher Oliver—University of Virginia
The Mississippi Landscapes and Anti-Slavery Panoramas

1D ECOLOGY & ETHICS I (Fletcher 104)

Moderator: Charles Greer—Indiana University

Emily Howard—University of Michigan
Mansfield Park's Soil and the Grounds of Knowledge

Barri J Gold-Muhlenberg College
Energy, Ecology and Victorian Fiction

Margaret Wright-SUNY at Stonybrook
Prophets of Nature: The Nature/Culture Duel in the Victorian Novel

Refreshment Break: Scott Hall Courtyard

3B URBAN NATURES (Broad Hall 110)

Moderator: Carolyn Betensky—University of Rhode Island

Jane Correia-University of California, Riverside
Human Nature's Destruction of the Natural World in Zola's *L'Assommoir*

Brian Cooper-Hobart and William Smith College
Appetites Natural and Unnatural: Malthus, Travel Accounts and the Population Principle

Margueritte Murphy-Hobart and William Smith College
Urban Nature: Haussmann's Parks and the Experience of the Working Class

3C TRANSCENDENTALS (Fletcher 104)

Moderator: Christopher Lay—Pitzer College

Nicholas Marino-CUNY Graduate Center
Unsettling the Landscape of Imagination: A Mid-Nineteenth Century Ecology of Mind

Margy Thomas-Baylor University
Walden: Thoreau's Lesson in Tactile Reading

Jordan Watkins – University of Nevada, Las Vegas
"The Central Figure of the Visible Sphere": The Invisible Spirit and the Godlike Individual in Emerson's Nature

Kile Jones-Claremont School of Theology
Naturalistic Ethics and the Environment

3D THE NATURAL MAN & THE NEW WOMAN (Fletcher 112)

Moderator: Jolene Zigarovich-Claremont Graduate University

Auth // God: 19th century baby house
Lara Karpenko-Carroll University
Defining The Natural Man: Anti-Consumerism In George Du Maurier's *The Martian*

Katy Branch-University of Texas, Austin
Women's "Nature" in *Indiana*: George Sand vs. Rousseauvian Education

Janet Broihier-University of Texas, Dallas
Exotic Nature: The Femme Fatale in Pierre Loti's *Le Roman d'un Spahi*

3E WORK, WASTE, ENERGY (Broad Hall 207)

Moderator: Barri J. Gold—Muhlenberg College

Sarah Alexander-University of Vermont
Realism Revisited: Dickens and the Physics of the Novel

Suzanne Raitt—College of William and Mary
Work, waste and *Our Mutual Friend*

Stella Pratt-Smith—University of Oxford (Balliol), UK
Fictions of Reality: The Literary Nature of C19th Electricity

LUNCH TALK: Founder's Room, 12:45-2:15

Introduction: Laura Harris, Professor of English, Pitzer College

Laura Skandera Trombley, President, Pitzer College

"Nature knows no indecencies; man invents them": Mark Twain's America

SESSION 4: 2:20-3:50 p.m.

4A ECOLOGY & ETHICS II (Fletcher 104)

Moderator: Andre Wakefield—Pitzer College

Andrew Haslit-Indiana University
Winslow Homer and Adirondack Conservation

Joshua Mabie-University of Minnesota
The Ecological Roots of a Theological Crisis: Melville, General Gordon and the Land of Milk and Honey

Charles Greer-Indiana University
Shannon Donnelly -- University of Akron
James J. Hayes--California State University, Northridge
"Re-examining George Perkins Marsh for the 19th Century Roots of Landscape Sustainability"

4B EMPIRE & RACE (Broad Hall 110)

Moderator: Christine Krueger—Marquette University

Rebecca Wigginton-University of Pittsburgh
The Colonial Gothic Landscape and the Body of the British Colonial Subject
democratic / female = dangerous?

Sharon Weltman-Louisiana State University
Unspeaking Nature: Race, Empire, and the Deaf-Mute in George Dibdin Pitt's *The String of Pearls, or the Fiend of Fleet Street*. 1847

British Gothic
B = 26 heraff
(1847)

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Composite 10E/03

Deborah Denenholz Morse—College of William and Mary
The Creole Beauty and Impure Nature: Racial Discourse and Fear of
Miscegenation in Anthony Trollope's *Dr. Wortle's School* (1880)

4C EVOLUTION & the NOVEL (Broad Hall 207)

Moderator: Johanna Smith—University of Texas, Arlington

Liz Corsun-Transylvania University
Criminal Nature: Late Victorian Fiction and the Call of the Wild

Peter Wagner-Universität Koblenz-Landau, Germany
Between Devil and Reptile: The "Nature" of the Jew in the Fiction of
Charles Dickens

JoAnn Kelly-University of Washington
Inheriting Character: Problems of Progress in the Evolutionary
Psychology of Herbert Spencer and Wilkie Collins

4D VISUAL CULTURES & TECHNOLOGIES I (Broad Hall 210)

Moderator: Christine Penhale-University of British Columbia, Canada

Michael Kramp-Lehigh University
Samuel Bourne's India and the Natural Demise of British Imperialism

Brenda Mann Hammack-Fayetteville State University
Linda Bierds' *The Profile Makers*: Neo-Victorian Studies in Photography

Jesse Hoffman-Rutgers University
In Memoriam and Tennyson's Pencil of Nature

4E ROMANTICS & SCIENCE (Fletcher 112)

Moderator: Beth Lau—California State University, Long Beach

Kim Wheatley—College of William and Mary
Percy Bysshe Shelley and the Materiality of Nature

Irina Strout-University of Tulsa
Solving the Enigma of Otilie in the Chemistry of Love in J.W. von
Goethe's *Elective Affinities*

Ve-Yin Tee-Nanzan University, Japan
The Moral Language of Nature

FEATURED TALK: Benson Auditorium, 4-5 p.m.

Introduction: Deborah Denenholz Morse, Professor of English, College
of William and Mary

Robert Polhemus, Professor Emeritus in English, Stanford University

God Defying in Paint and Poetry: The "Speaking Nature" of Orozco's
Prometheus and Shelley's *Prometheus Unbound*

RECEPTION: McConnell Living Room, 5:15-6 p.m.

ROUTLEDGE/ABES SPONSORED KEYNOTE LECTURE:

Benson Auditorium, 6-7:30 p.m.

Introduction: Sumangala Bhattacharya, Assistant Professor of English,
Pitzer College

James Kincaid, Aerol Arnold Professor of English, University of Southern California

The Laborious Construction of the Natural Child

Dinner on your own

Saturday, April 2

REGISTRATION: Scott Hall Courtyard, 7 a.m.- 3 p.m.

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST: Scott Hall Courtyard: 7 a.m.

SESSION 5: 8 - 9:30 p.m.

5A EVOLUTION & the CHILD (Fletcher 104)

Moderator: Danielle Coriale- Pennsylvania State University

Christopher Noble-Azusa Pacific University
The Manliness of Miracles: Kingsley's *The Water Babies* and the
Newman Controversy of 1864

Carla Coleman-University of South Carolina, Aiken
Wondering While Wandering: Perception, Devolution and Evolution in
Kingsley's *The Water-Babies*

5B TRAVELLING NATURES (Broad Hall 210)

Moderator: Michael Kramp-Lehigh University

Beth Nardella-West Virginia University
William Henry Edwards: Recovering the Work of an American
Entomologist and Naturalist

Iain Crawford-University of Delaware
In His Peculiar Artistic Light: Dickens, Martineau and Representing
American Nature

Mary Fanslow-Eastman Chemical Company
Connecting with Nature: The "Wild Grandeur" of Southern Appalachian
Resorts

5C NERVES, MINDS, & BODIES (Fletcher 112)

Moderator: Theri' Pickens—Pitzer College

Hosanna Krienke-Northwestern University
The Roots of Action: Eliot and Lewes' Embodied Cognition

Atia Sattar-Pennsylvania State University
Scripting Clinical Experience: Tuesday Lessons by Jean Martin Charcot

Saskia Voorendt-Victoria University, NZ
Morphine Addiction in George MacDonald's *Donal Grant*.

Laura Faulk-Louisiana State University
Victorian Doctors and Love-Sick Women

5D FLORAL DISCOURSES (Broad Hall 207)

Moderator: Lynn Voskuil-University of Houston

Christine Penhale-University of British Columbia, Canada
Interdisciplinary Cross-Pollination: The Botanical Language of Darwin
and Ruskin

Katarina Gephardt-Kennesaw State University
"The Organic Yet Pruned Growth": The English Garden and the Idea of
Europe in the 1790s

Phyllis Catsikis-Simmons College
"With Passionate Regret": Nature, Memory and the Victorian Flower
Mission

Suzanne Braswell-University of Miami, Coral Gables
Hothouse Blooms: Huysman, Mallarmé and the Language of Flowers

Refreshment Break: Scott Hall Courtyard

SESSION 6: 9:40-11:10

6A LANDSCAPES & TRAVEL (Broad Hall 110)

Moderator: Katarina Gephardt—Kennesaw State University

Jennifer Camden-University of Indianapolis
The Wilds of Central America in Wilkie Collins's *The Woman in White*

Verónica Uribe-Universidad de los Andes, Colombia
Translating the Landscape: the Colombian Chorographic Commission

Mai-Lin Cheng-Robert D. Clark Honors College
Byron in Ruins

6B SEX, WOMEN, NATURE (Broad Hall 207)

Moderator: Kyla Tompkins—Pomona College

Julie Codell-Arizona State University
Rossetti's Beauties, Beasts, Birds and Botanicals

Karen Jones-University of Kent, UK
'Lady Wildcats and Wild Women': Hunting, Gender and the Politics of
Show(wo)manship in the Nineteenth century American West

Mary Ann Davis-University of Southern California
"The Fundamental Form": Sadomasochism's Edgeplay in Nineteenth-
Century Sexology

Eadaoin Agnew-Kingston University, UK
"An Old Vagabond": Superiority, Sovereignty and Sexuality in Marianne
North's Representations of India's Natural History

6C NATURE & RACE III (Fletcher 112)

Moderator: Mary Jean Corbett--Miami University

Vincent Fitzgerald-Notre Dame de Namur University
Unnatural Naturalism: The Jukes of New York State

Ronald Rubin-Pitzer College
Tarzan's Genes: Heredity and Nobility in Burroughs's Tarzan of the Apes

Johanna Smith-University of Texas, Arlington
Struggles for existence in *The House of Mirth*

Tiffany Aldrich MacBain-University of Puget Sound
Bad Blood: The Nature of Inheritance in *The Portrait of a Lady*

6D AHNCA PANEL: FASHIONING NATURE (Broad Hall 210)

Moderator and Panel Organizer: Marni Kessler—University of Kansas

Rozanne Stringer-University of Kansas

Renatured: The Black Female Body in Frédéric Bazille's *La Toilette*, 1870

Ting Chang-Carnegie Mellon University

Monumental and Miniature Representations of the British Empire: China in Nineteenth-Century London

Susan Hiner-Vassar College

Dressing Up Nature: Grandville's *Les Fleurs Animées* in the Kingdom of Fashion

Refreshment Break: Scott Hall Courtyard

SESSION 7: 11:20-12:50

7A BEASTS & PETS II (Fletcher 112)

Moderator: Sharon Weltman-Louisiana State University

Michelle Mattern-University of Virginia

Dogs and Death in Dickens

Shefali Rajamanner-University of Southern California

Can the Subaltern Roar? Writing the Beast in 19th-C Hunting Narratives

Aislinn Hunter-Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Canada

Enigmatic Witness: Pet Dogs as Beloved Objects in the Victorian Era

James Hoff-CUNY Graduate Center

"Like a Bird's Life:" Animal Consciousness in Ralph Waldo Emerson and William James

7B EMPIRE & SCIENCE (Fletcher 104)

Moderator: Lara Karpenko—Carroll University

Richard Somerset—Université Nancy, France

Insight into Things Past": the recasting of natural and civil history

Tamara Ketabgian-Beloit College

Technical Nature: Reading Scientific Design in Wells and Late Natural Theology

Garrett Peck-University of British Columbia, Canada

Realism and Victorian Astronomy: The Limits of Critique in Thomas Hardy's *Two on a Tower*

Erika Behrisch Elce-Royal Military College of Canada

"Matters of Exact Science": Regulating Amateur Science in the Admiralty's Manual of Scientific Enquiry

7C RADICAL EPISTEMOLOGIES (Broad Hall 210)

Moderator: Mary Jean Corbett—Miami University

Danielle Coriale-Pennsylvania State University

When Zoophytes Speak: the Naturalist Fantasies of G. H. Lewes

Anna Maria Jones-University of Central Florida

From Universal Law to Universal Love: Natural Law in Harriet Martineau's Radical Ethics of "Unindividualism"

Rebecca Mitchell-University of Texas Pan American, Panel Organizer

Feeling One's Way: Arnold Toynbee, Jude the Obscure and the Optimism of Epistemological Uncertainty

Genie Babb-University of Alaska

Burning out the Beast: *The Island of Doctor Moreau* as Critique of A. R. Wallace's Evolutionary Theism

7D FEARSOME NATURE (Broad Hall 207)

Moderator: Jeffrey Groves—Harvey Mudd College

Lilja M Sautter-Victoria University of Wellington, NZ

"Grand in the extreme, a sight never to be forgotten": Descriptions of New Zealand Nature in the Journals of Ann Fletcher Jackson

Greg O'Brien-University of North Carolina, Greensboro

"Joy follows in the train of this disaster:" Humor and Politics in the New Orleans Flood of 1849

Leila S. May-North Carolina State University

Save Us from the Wrath of Nature: The Victorian Fear of Atavism

Jolene Zigarovich-C Claremont Graduate University

'Disaster at Sea': Shipwrecks and the Cultural Imagination

7E HARDY & NATURE (Broad Hall 110)

Moderator: Deirdre D'Albertis—Bard College

Alicia Christoff-Amherst College

Ruskin, Hardy and the Uses of Fallacy

Samantha Briggs-University of Leicester, UK

Bride Capture: Marriage and Victorian Anthropology in Thomas Hardy's Fiction

Jennifer Fuller-University of Tulsa
Beyond Gold-Filters: Defining Landscape in Thomas Hardy's Wessex

Rachel Hollander-St. John's U, Staten Island
New Men: Nature and Ethics in Hardy and Schreiner

LUNCH/ACTIVITIES: 12:50-2:15 p.m.

Box Lunches: Founder's Room
INCS Board Lunch (McConnell Living Room)
Walking Tour of the Claremont Colleges with Stuart McConnell,
Professor of History, Pitzer College

SESSION 8: 2:30-4 p.m.

8A (META) MORPHOLOGY (Broad Hall 207)
Moderator: Julie Codell- Arizona State University

Teresa Mangum-University of Iowa
Paedomorphosely Perverse; or, the Disadvantages of Youth

Helena Michie-Rice University
Robyn Warhol-Ohio State University
Victorian Dinner Guest: The Lives of George Scharf, Bachelor

Lynn Voskuil-University of Houston
Torrid Zones and Tropical Nature: Nineteenth-Century Plant-Hunters
and the Global Imagination

Alexandra Wettlaufer-University of Texas, Austin
Human/Nature: Grandville's Metamorphoses and the Modern Subject

8B VISUAL CULTURES & TECHNOLOGIES II (Broad Hall 210)
Moderator: Stella Pratt-Smith- University of Oxford (Balliol), UK

Joon Hyung Park-Texas A & M University
Subjective Vision, Masculinity and Nineteenth-Century Optics: Emerson
on Goethe and the Panorama

Margaret Gover-University of California, Riverside
Attempting to Focus: Nineteenth-Century Professional and Popular
Accounts of the Virtual Focus

Alison Klaum-University of Delaware
"From Specimens Grown": 1850s Print Culture, Floral Nature and "The
Great Water-Lily of America"

8C NATURAL EPISTEMOLOGIES (Broad Hall 110)

Moderator: Tamara Ketabgian-Beloit College

Jean Arnold-California State University, San Bernardino
The Empirical Empire: A Geography of Victorian Scientific Knowledge

David Cowles-Francis Marion University
Nature, Language, Creation and Truth in Robert Browning's *The Ring*
and the Book

ROUNDTABLE ON SUSTAINING THE PROFESSION:

Broad Center Performance Space, 4:15-5:15 p.m.

Introduction: Sumangala Bhattacharya, Assistant Professor of English,
Pitzer College

James Kincaid, Teresa Mangum, Helena Michie, Susan Morgan,
Deborah Denenholz Morse, Robert Polhemus, Harriet Ritvo

RECEPTION: Grove House, 5:15-6 p.m.

KEYNOTE LECTURE: Benson Auditorium 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Introduction: Barri J. Gold, Associate Professor of English, Muhlenberg
College

**Harriet Ritvo, Arthur J. Conner Professor of History, Massachusetts
Institute of Technology**

Strangers or Brothers? Animal Migration and Assimilation

BANQUET: Founders' Room, 7:30-9:30 p.m.



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