Mark Solms. *The scientific standing of psychoanalysis*

*Abstract.* The core scientific claims of psychoanalysis are summarized, and synthetic answers are given to the following three questions: (a) How does the emotional mind work, in health and disease? (b) What does psychoanalytic treatment aim to achieve? (c) How effective is it? While there are disagreements regarding specific details, there is a general agreement on some core claims of psychoanalysis. These core claims enjoy strong empirical support and are “evidence-based”. Psychoanalytic treatment is highly effective, often superior to cognitive-behavior therapy and to medication.

Morris N. Eagle. *Freud, aggressive drive and the law*

*Abstract.* The paper discusses Freud’s view of the law as the implementation of collective violence on the individual violator. The focus is on the implications of the link between the superego (as the source of moral judgment) and the aggressive drive, and it is suggested that we need to be ever vigilant regarding the danger of employing the law as a disguised means of taking pleasure in collective violence. The paper also discusses Freud’s conception of personal responsibility, according to which we are responsible for all our behavior, including unconsciously motivated behavior (such as slips and dreams). However, the kind of responsibility Freud has in mind is not the moral responsibility of blameworthiness or praiseworthiness, but rather responsibility in the sense that, whether or not acknowledged, all our behavior reflects our personal desires and motives.

Marco Innamorati, Ruggero Taradel & Renato Foschi, *Psychopathology and demonology: The “diagnosis” of possession during the 20th century*

*Abstract.* Young (2016) recently noticed a revival of the idea of the presence of the Devil and of the practice of exorcism. The history of Catholic demonology in its relation to psychopathology and psychotherapy is reconstructed. Demons, through the ages, have been conceived in terms of real
and concrete entities, and identified as responsible for psychological and physical illness, and for disasters in the natural world. Exorcism has survived to the expansion of psychotherapy because, within Catholic theology and culture, there has been a stubborn resistance against a metaphorical or symbolical interpretation of the figure of the Devil. The attempts of secularizing the concept of Devil – e.g., introducing the so called “Lucifer effect” (Zimbardo, 2007) – have not been completely successful. In some Catholic psychotherapeutic environments the belief in the Devil and in his active presence is still alive, as a possible explanation of bizarre, extreme or otherwise unexplainable phenomena.

Sándor Ferenczi, The psychology of hiking

Marco Casonato, Introduction

Abstract. The first paper written by Sándor Ferenczi is presented in its first translation worldwide, published in the following pages of Psicoterapia e Scienze Umane (2018, 52, 1: 51-54). It is a pre-analytic paper written in 1897 on the psychology of hiking and alpinism. The cultural atmosphere in which Ferenczi lived in Budapest is briefly described, and emphasized Ferenczi’s pioneering role in the formulation of what George S. Klein in the 1970s called “clinical theory”, and also in the thinking of authors such as Merton M. Gill.

Sándor Ferenczi, The psychology of hiking (1897)

Abstract. In this preanalytic paper, written by Sándor Ferenczi (1873-1933) in 1897, when he was 24 years old (the first article he published), the motivations for hiking and mountain climbing are discussed. The psychological, physical and esthetical aspects are considered, connected also to social classes. This is the first worldwide translation of this text.

Mauro Fornaro, Intervention: Mountaineering with Ferenczi, beyond Ferenczi

Abstract. The author, who is a philosopher, a psychoanalyst, and a member of “Italian Alpine Club” (Club Alpino Italiano [CAI]), in this commentary briefly reflects on Sándor Ferenczi’s 1897 paper published – in the first worldwide translation – in the previous pages of Psicoterapia e Scienze Umane (2018, 52, 1: 51-54). The author discusses some particular affective states with which the young Ferenczi, who at the time was 24 years old, explains the motivations of hiking, and contextualizes Ferenczi’s thinking with respect to the developments of mountaineering and to the greater explanatory power given to it by psychoanalysis, to which Ferenczi indirectly contributed.

Massimiliano Sommantico, Sibling relationship in psychoanalytic and psychological research

Abstract. With a literature review of the psychoanalytic and psychological research on sibling relationship, it is discussed how the theme of sibling relationship has been treated, more or less explicitly, by classic authors and within the contemporary international panorama. The first part of the paper focuses on classic authors of the psychoanalytic tradition, with a particular emphasis on theoretical developments. Subsequently, three specific contemporary psychoanalytic theorizations on sibling relationship are compared: René Kaës in France, Luis Kancyper in Argentina, and Juliet Mitchell in England. The final part of the paper presents a synthetic review of psychological research on sibling relationship.

Berthold Rothschild, Identity politics: So what? Psychoanalytic reflexions on identity and politics

Abstract. Recent events in global and local politics have given space for a wider application of psychological terms in political analysis. More and more the term “identity politics” is used in the most varied circumstances. There is a long tradition of critical position against the widespread use of psychological and psychoanalytic terms and concepts by journalists and politicians, especially in the historical use of Erikson’s concept of identity of the late 1950s. It is argued that a loose application of the identity concept in politics is not only useless and redundant, but also harmful.
Giorgio Antonucci, «If you listen to me and if you believe in me»
Giorgio Antonucci, I was born under a black sun (Giulia)

Abstract. After an introduction by Eugenia Omodei Zorini – who presents Giorgio Antonucci (1933-2017), a Florence psychiatrist who was actively involved, with Franco Basaglia, in the movement for human rights of psychiatric patients and the closing of mental hospitals in Italy – two writing by Giorgio Antonucci are reprinted: a brief note and the first poem of the collection “I was born under a black sun (Giulia)”, that appeared in issue no. 2/1974 of the Italian journal Psicoterapia e Scienze Umane.

Traces

Abstract. After having reviewed Freud’s position on extra-sensory perception (ESP) and his disagreement with Ernest Jones, the explicit “resistance” of Freud and other psychoanalysts towards ESP phenomena and the general tendency to ignore them are discussed. Since ESP phenomena in psychoanalysis manifest themselves specially in dreams, four dreams – made in analysis by patients of Emilio Servadio, Alessandro Calvesi, Loredana Micati Zecca, and Elvio Fachinelli – are reported. These dreams seem to show that these patients were able to know aspects of their analysts’ life only through extra-sensory perception. These four dreams, and the relationship between dream and ESP, are discussed.

Discussions
Pietro Pellegrini, For the future of the Italian Law no. 180/1978 on psychiatric reform

Abstract. On the fortieth anniversary of the Law no. 180/1978 on the Italian psychiatric reform that led to the closing of the Psychiatric Hospitals, the premises for its functioning are recalled: a policy in support of individual and social rights and universal public welfare. The enlargement of individual rights and at the same time the economic compatibility of social rights has created a contradictory condition and a growth of social exclusion. Mental health services seek to implement inclusion in communities where the social pact has changed. Therefore it is necessary to re-read the rules on the voluntary/obligatory nature of treatment, social danger, practice and organization of services, maintaining a universalistic approach. In 2015 also the Judicial Psychiatric Hospitals were closed.


Abstract. Some key aspects of Pietro Pellegrini’s paper are critically examined. It is argued that some of Pellegrini’s comments risk of turning any discussion on the Italian Law no. 180/1978 into an ethical debate on citizenship rights, preventing to see the actual consequences of this Law on the treatment of mental health disorders and the organization of psychiatric services. The actual ethical nature of certain positions is questioned, it is argued that it must be confronted with the suspicion of ideology, on the one hand, and with the need of scientific research and training of mental health professionals, on the other.

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Comments on the case of Giulio [no. 2/2017]: Alfio Maggiolini, Jutta Beltz, Gabriele Rocca

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Patricia R. Everett, Mabel Dodge Luhan, A.A. Brill, and the Psychoanalytic Adventure in America. London: Karnac, 2016 (Andrea Castiello d’Antonio)

Books Received
The International Journal of Psychoanalysis, 2017, Volume 9, nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 (Pietro Pascarelli)
Magma. International Journal in the Humanities and Social Sciences, 2017, Volume 15, no. 2 (Antonio Restori)
Vita e Pensiero, 2017, Year 104, no. 6 (Paolo Migone)

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Issue no. 2, 2018, Volume 52

Vittorio Lingiardi, Diagnosis: Sense and sensibility. Introduction to Nancy McWilliams’ presentation of the Second Edition of the Psychodynamic Diagnostic Manual (PDM-2)

Abstract. The keynote address held by Nancy McWilliams on the occasion of the Italian presentation of the Second Edition of the Psychodynamic Diagnostic Manual (PDM-2) is briefly introduced. Nancy McWilliams’ keynote address is defined as “a perfect example of equilibrium between life and thought”, and seen in the scientific and interpersonal contexts of the birth of PDM-2. It is emphasized the role played by some authors – such as Sidney Blatt, Jonathan Shedler, Drew Westen, Otto Kernberg, Allen Frances, etc., whose papers appeared also in the journal Psicoterapia e Scienze e Umane – who contributed to the creation of a “diagnostic sensibility” among Italian clinicians. Finally, the overall structure of PDM-2 is described, and Karl Jaspers’ exhortation according to which «every diagnostic system must remain a torment» is reminded, in light of the necessary tension between the unique aspects of the single patient and the need of seeing them within a general theoretical framework.
Nancy McWilliams, *The long journey of psychodynamic diagnosis*

*Abstract.* The issue of psychodynamic diagnosis, and its difference from the descriptive approaches of the DSM and ICD systems, are discussed, and the Second Edition of the *Psychodynamic Diagnostic Manual* (PDM-2) is presented. In particular, some differences from the First Edition of PDM of 2006 are highlighted: a new section for the Elderly, the separation between Childhood and Adolescence sections, the widening of mental capacities in Axis M, the introduction of a psychotic personality organization, the inclusion and description of several assessment instruments, the introduction of borderline personality in addition to borderline level of organization, etc. The conceptualization of personality (Axis P) according to PDM-2 and the levels of personality organizations (healthy, neurotic, borderline, and psychotic) are presented with more detail, and some unsolved controversies are mentioned.

Paolo Migone, *Presentation of the Second Edition of the Psychodynamic Diagnostic Manual (PDM-2)*

*Abstract.* The Second Edition of the *Psychodynamic Diagnostic Manual* (PDM-2), edited by Vittorio Lingiardi and Nancy McWilliams, published in 2017 in the United States and in 2018 in Italy, is presented. The six sections of PDM-2 (Adults; Adolescents; Childhood; Early Childhood; Elderly; Assessment instruments and clinical cases) are briefly described, and the main differences between PDM-1 and PDM-2 are highlighted (PDM-1 was published in 2006 in the United States and in 2008 in Italy). At the end of the article the main assessment instruments recommended by PDM-2 for each diagnosis are listed (a total of 200 instruments).

Cesare Romano, *The Rebekka Freud riddle*

*Abstract.* Rebekka was Jacob Freud’s second wife. In this paper are reviewed the few historical data pertaining Rebekka Freud. It is suggested a new interpretation of some of Sigmund Freud’s dreams that could confirm Marie Balmary’s conjecture that Rebekka killed herself. It is showed in a succession of Sigmund Freud’s dreams occurred in the fall of 1898, the second Jacob Freud’s death anniversary, the recurrence of few topics dealing with unfortunate wedding and suicide. It is argued that these dreams are a clue of an unconscious Freud’s digging up his father’s past to solve Rebekka’s riddle.

Paolo Migone & Giovanni Liotti, *Psychoanalysis and cognitive-evolutionary psychology: An attempt at integration.* With an Introductory note by Paolo Migone, and a list of some publications by Giovanni Liotti

*Abstract.* The abandonment of the theory of trauma in 1897 was a trauma for Freud himself, who was led to “despair”, and possibly reacted with an overemphasis on inner fantasies and drive theory. In a way, today we are facing a second trauma in the history of psychoanalysis: we might call it the “abandonment of drive theory”, i.e., human beings strive not primarily to reduce drives but rather in order to seek objects, assign meanings, and assimilate new schemas. The current challenge is a revision of the psychoanalytic theory of motivation based on converging evidence from cognitive science, ethology, infant research, and psychotherapy research. Among the many models currently suggested in contemporary psychoanalysis, Weiss & Sampson’s “Control-Mastery Theory” is discussed in light of cognitive science and evolutionary epistemology: namely, within the frame of the 1960 classic by Miller, Galanter & Pribram *Plans and Structure of Behavior*, Edelman’s neurobiological theory, and Bowlby’s attachment theory.

**Traces**


*Abstract.* An object relations theory is important in psychoanalysis because it has implications for ego formation. The Freudian theory of ego development is discussed, and some attempts at theoretical revisions are presented. The theories of the following authors, among others, are briefly discussed: Edith Jacobson, Margaret Mahler, Heinz Kohut, Melanie Klein (who saw
ego formation as dependent from object relations), and Ronald Fairbairn (who carried Melanie Klein’s ideas to their extreme consequences). It is argued, among other things, that within the psychoanalytic movement there are irreconcilable positions. (This article appeared as Introduction to the Italian edition of Arnold H. Modell’s book Object Love and Reality. An Introduction to a Psychoanalytic Theory of Object Relations. New York: International Universities Press, 1968 [Amore oggettuale e realtà. Teoria psicoanalitica delle relazioni oggettuali. Turin: Boringhieri, 1975, pp. ix-xvi], and appeared also in Psicoterapia e Scienze Umane, 1975, 9, 1: 1-3)

Discussions
Pietro Pellegrini, Comment on Morris N. Eagle’s article “Freud, aggressive drive and the law” [(Psicoterapia e Scienze Umane, 2018, 52, 1: 17-30]
Abstract. There is a tendency to expand clinical conditions, particularly personality disorders, that may lead to non-imputability. This is in contrast with the cautions expressed by Freud, and with the positions of part of psychiatry which considers essential the right to trial to all people even if affected by mental disorders. An acknowledgment of responsibility is important in the judicial and psychiatric expertise fields, as well as essential for programs of care, rehabilitation and social inclusion

Clinical Cases
Massimiliano Sommantico, The case of Simona
Comments on the case of Simona: Riccardo Galiani, Giorgio Meneguz

Book Reviews
Book Reviews
Sergio Benvenuto, Leggere Freud. Dall’isteria alla fine dell’analisi. [Reading Freud. From Hysteria to the End of Analysis] Nocera Inferiore (Salerno): Ortothes, 2017 (Pietro Pascarelli)

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Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association, 2017, Volume 65, nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 (Jutta Beltz & Luisella Canepa)
Jutta Beltz & Luisella Canepa, Comment on the Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association
Jonathan Shedler, *Where is the evidence for “evidence-based” therapy?*

*Abstract.* The term “evidence-based” therapy has become a de facto code word for manualized therapy, most often brief, highly scripted forms of cognitive behavior therapy. It is widely asserted that “evidence-based” therapies are scientifically proven and superior to other forms of psychotherapy. Empirical research does not support these claims, but shows that “evidence-based” therapies are weak treatments. Their benefits are trivial, few patients get well, and even the trivial benefits do not last. Troubling research practices paint a misleading picture of the actual benefits of “evidence-based” therapies, including sham control groups, cherry-picked patient samples, and suppression of negative findings.

Adriano Zamperini, David Primo & Ines Testoni, *Masculinity: Identification, roles, and subjects*

*Abstract.* Over the last decades, the study of the Masculine has entered in the field of social sciences as a central research topic. In particular, Critical Studies on Men & Masculinities (CSMM) provide insightful tools to understand both the role of masculinity in sustaining asymmetric power dynamics in gender relations, and the heterogeneous ways in which subjects get to define themselves as men. Nevertheless, there are still numerous theoretical aporias open to debate. This paper aims both at summarizing the focal points of the debates on masculinities, and at assessing the contribution of a dialogue between CSMM and psychoanalytic language in the study of men’s subjectivities. A promising point of contact to make this dialogue possible is Judith Butler’s post-structuralist rearticulation of Freud’s and Lacan’s works about the development of sexual identity.

Luigi Antonello Armando, *The lament of a poet. A reading of Freud’s On transience*

*Abstract.* In 1916 Freud published an essay he wrote in 1915 (*On transience*), in which he reported his attempt to alleviate the anxiety of a young poet, commonly recognized as Reiner Maria Rilke, for his feared impending “end of all things”, that is for the disappearance of all the beauty of nature and art. It is argued that Freud’s attempt failed because it was founded on a misunderstanding of the meaning of this poet’s anxiety, and suggested that its recognition can be of advantage to psychoanalytic research.
Riccardo Gramantieri, *Freud and the repression of Oedipus at Colonus*

*Abstract.* This note begins from the observations made by Franco Maiullari in his article “Antigone, a repressed psychoanalytic scene” (*Psicoterapia e Scienze Umane*, 2017, 51, 4: 559-580), where he says that also the Sophoclean tragedy *Oedipus at Colonus*, like *Oedipus Rex*, should be analyzed from a psychological and relational point of view. The purpose of this short article is to add a series of complementary remarks to Franco Maiullari’s well-argued examination, suggesting an explanation for the absence of references to *Oedipus at Colonus* in the Freudian works.

**Traces**

*In the form of a narration... Stories and people*

Pier Francesco Galli, *Introductory note*


Martti Siirala, Excerpts from the preface by Martti Siirala to the 1971 Italian edition of his 1964 book *Medicine in Metamorphosis. Speech, Presence, and Integration*

*Table of Contents of the Proceedings of the 8th International Congress of Psychotherapy edited by Pier Francesco Galli* (Milan: Feltrinelli, 1973)

*Abstract.* After an Introductory note by Pier Francesco Galli, his Preface to the Proceedings of the 8th International Congress of Psychotherapy (Milan, Italy, August 25-29, 1970), organized by Galli himself, is reprinted. The title of this Congress was “Psychotherapy and the Human Sciences”, and the Proceedings appeared in Italian as Volume no. 30 of the book series “Library of Psychiatry and Clinical Psychology” of Feltrinelli publisher. These Proceedings were an abridged edition of all papers and discussions of the 8th Congress of the International Federation for Psychotherapy (IFP), while the official Proceedings, published by the IFP and edited by Heinrich Karl Fierz e Theodor Spoerri (Basel: Karger, 1972) did not include some papers and all the discussions. As an appendix, excerpts of the preface by Martti Siirala to the 1971 Italian edition to his 1964 book *Medicine in Metamorphosis. Speech, Presence, and Integration* (London: Tavistock, 1969), in which he talks also of the Milan IFP Congress of 1970, are reprinted. At the end there is the Table of Contents of the Proceedings of the 8th International Congress of Psychotherapy, with the names of all presenters and of those who intervened in the discussions.

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*Comments on the case of Simona* [n. 2/2018]: Pier Luigi Rocco, Valentina Boursier, Nadia Scopsi, Stefania Napolitano, Serena Calò, Massimiliano Sommantico

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*Contemporary Psychoanalysis*, 2017, Volume 53, nos. 3, 4; 2018, Volume 54, nos. 1, 2 (Paolo Migone)

Paolo Migone, *Comment on Contemporary Psychoanalysis*

*Revue Française de Psychanalyse*, 2017, Volume 81, nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 (Luigi Antonello Armando)

Luigi Antonello Armando, *Comment on the Revue Française de Psychanalyse*

*Family Process*, 2018, Volume 57, no. 2 (Paolo Migone)

*Clinical Psychology: Science and Practice*, 2018, Vol. 25, no. 2 (Paolo Migone)

*Psychiatric Clinics of North America*, 2018, Volume 41, no. 2 (Paolo Migone)

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**Issue no. 4, 2018, Volume 52**

Pier Francesco Galli, *Editorial: Psychoanalysis between philosophy and history*

Lawrence Friedman, *Is there a usable Heidegger for psychoanalysts?*

*Abstract.* Heidegger tried to grasp the whole of reality unbroken by seemingly irreconcilable divisions such as fact and value, objectivity and subjectivity. Since that defies ordinary language, he hoped to coin terms that, though contradictory in a sentence, would suggest a unified world when repeatedly used together in a novel but regular way. Ultimately, Heidegger grudgingly admitted that this unified view turned out to be an impersonal subjectivism. In this philosophy persons were useful only as stepping-stones to Being, i.e., to an “everything” that would swallow both patient and analyst. But Heidegger’s terms in themselves are deceptively warm and empathetic unlike their meaning for Heidegger, who is austerely unconcerned with the details of individual lives. Indeed, it is Heidegger’s very grimness that holds a lesson for analysts, evoking the chilly void at the extreme end of the psychoanalyst’s (fortunately incomplete) deconstructive work.

Robert D. Stolorow, *Intervention: Using Heidegger*

*Abstract.* The author answers affirmatively to the question contained in the title of the article by Lawrence Friedman “Is there a usable Heidegger for psychoanalysts?”, published in issue no. 3/2016 of the *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association* and translated into Italian in the previous pages of this issue no. 4/2018 of *Psicoterapia e Scienze Umane*. In answering this question, the intellectual path that led the author to study Heidegger’s *Being and Time* and to deepen his existential analytic is traced. In particular, the phenomenology of anxiety (*Angst*) and trauma is discussed.

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Antonio Imbasciati, *The unconscious and the consciousness of memory: A contribution from neuroscience*

**Abstract.** By integrating general psychology, perinatal clinical psychology, neuroscience and psychoanalysis, the relation between memory and consciousness is discussed, aiming at a unitary definition of the concept of unconscious. Memory is out of consciousness: sometimes a remembering arises. Distinguishing memory from remembering is essential. In this framework, in the institutional culture of psychoanalysis – also today – the unconscious has been considered only what Freud described: but this is only what appears in the analyst’s consciousness, in specific moments of his/her relationship with a patient, and that the analyst translates into some forms of verbal interpretation. The first aim of this paper, which is the continuation of previous contributions, is a clarification of some conceptions that are present in the public image of psychoanalysis and that may damage its scientific identity.

**Traces**


**Abstract.** The *International Federation of Psychoanalytic Societies (IFPS)* was founded in 1962, and during its first 20 years in the psychoanalytic movement there was a division between the so-called “orthodox” and “liberal” psychoanalysis. The *International Psychoanalytic Association (IPA)* was orthodox, did not admit all psychoanalytic societies, and some of them did not want to enter the IPA. Four groups of non-IPA psychoanalysts from Europe, USA, Central and South America came together to discuss their approaches, and founded the IFPS that at the beginning was a loose organization with no statute for 12 years. The first three secretaries generals came from the German psychoanalytic society (DPG) and influenced the IFPS for 21 years. Several international conferences were held, and new societies became members. The original theoretical background of the IFPS is analyzed, and the identity crisis that followed the sixth IFPS Forum of 1977 in Berlin is discussed.

Paolo Migone, *Reflections on Daniel N. Stern’s line of research.* With a comment by Giovanni Liotti

**Abstract.** Daniel N. Stern’s line of research, beginning with the 1998 paper of the *Boston Change Process Study Group (BCPSG)* on “Non-interpretive mechanisms in psychoanalytic therapy: The ‘something more’ than interpretation”, is critically discussed. In particular, the concept of “present moment” is analyzed, and confronted with Irwin Hoffman’s conceptualization of ritual and spontaneity in the psychoanalytic process. At the end there is an intervention by Giovanni Liotti (both interventions by Migone and Liotti were e-mails sent on April 21, 2002).

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Elisabetta Arfini, *The case of Matteo*

*Comments on the case of Matteo:* Giulio Cesare Zavattini, Adriana Grotta

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*Book Review Essay*

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Psyche. Zeitschrift für Psychoanalyse und ihre Anwendungen, 2017, Volume 71, nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9/10, 11 & 12 (Silvano Massa)

Silvano Massa, Comment on Psyche

La società degli individui, 2018, Year XXI, no. 2 (no. 62) (Paolo Migone)

aut aut, 2018, Year 68, no. 379 (Paolo Migone)

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