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FLORIDA GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

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PUBLIC MEETING/WORKSHOP HEARING

LOCATION

Senate Building, 110  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

(Page Nos. 1 - 127)

Thursday, November 6, 2025

9:30 a.m. - 12:07 p.m.

BEFORE: Vice Chair Julie I. Brown  
Commissioner Chuck Drago  
Commissioner John D'Aquila  
Commissioner Tina Repp

Stenographically Reported By:  
I. Iris Cooper  
Stenographic Reporter

Job No.: 409227

1 APPEARANCES:

2

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

3

Vice Chair Julie I. Brown  
4 Commissioner Chuck Drago  
Commissioner John D'Aquila  
5 Commissioner Tina Repp

6

PARTICIPANTS:

7

- Emily Alvarado, Chief Attorney in Litigation

8

- Joe Dillmore, Director, Division of Pari-Mutuel  
9 Wagering

10 - Brandy Humphries - Administrative Assistant II

11 - Christina Linton, Chief of Intelligence & Analytical  
Support

12

- Brandon McCaffery, Deputy Executive Director

13

- Lisa M. Mustain, Director Of Administration

14

- Dixie Parker, Business Manager I

15

- Jamie Pouncey, Program Administration

16

- Karen Stelter, Chief of Revenue and Auditing

17

- Gary Snyder, Chief of Law Enforcement

18

- Marc Taupier, Deputy General Counsel

19

- Carl Herold, Director of Law Enforcement

20

- Elina Valentine, General Counsel

21

- Alana Zimmer, Executive Director

22

23 OTHERS PRESENT:

24 - Various Members of the Public

25 - The Florida Channel

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1 Thereupon, the following proceeding began at 9:30 a.m.:

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Good morning, everyone.

3 Today is Thursday, November 6, 2025. This is the  
4 Florida Gaming Control Commission's November agenda  
5 meeting. If you would please stand with us for the  
6 pledge of allegiance, which will be led by our new  
7 executive director, Ms. Alana Zimmer.

8 (Pledge of allegiance.)

9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you so much, and  
10 thank you all for traveling to this facility today.  
11 This is our first time in this room and appreciate  
12 you finding your way here to join us. We are going  
13 to begin our meeting.

14 I do want to note at the end of the meeting,  
15 we do have a closed attorney-client session,  
16 actually four of them, so we will be doing that as  
17 well.

18 But we are going to go right into our approval  
19 of meeting minutes for September 11th. May I  
20 please get a motion.

21 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I'll make a motion to  
22 approve the minutes.

23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And a second.

24 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say

1 aye.

2 (Multiple ayes.)

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And now we're  
4 going into our executive director update. She's  
5 sitting right here with us on the lecturn.

6 MS. ZIMMER: Good morning, everyone. Thanks  
7 for being here. I just have a couple of things  
8 today. First of all, we wanted to welcome our new  
9 Director of Communications, Malanie Eppers over  
10 here. And she comes to us from the Florida  
11 Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, so  
12 thank you, Malanie.

13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Welcome.

14 MS. EPPERS: Thank you. I'm excited.

15 MS. ZIMMER: And then the only other item we  
16 had today is we need to set our schedule for the  
17 January, February, and March meetings, so we have a  
18 couple options there.

19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Sure. Can we jump right  
20 into the January options?

21 MS. ZIMMER: Yes. We've got Wednesday the 7th  
22 and Thursday the 8th.

23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, both look  
24 amenable to me. Are you okay with it?

25 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I'm okay with that.

1 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'm all right with it.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Can we shoot for the 8th,  
3 if that work for you?

4 COMMISSIONER REPP: Yes. Absolutely.

5 MS. ZIMMER: And then the next one, the  
6 February options are Wednesday the 4th, Thursday  
7 the 5th, Wednesday the 11th, and Thursday the 12th.

8 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: 4th and 5th are good for  
9 me.

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: 4th and 5th are good.  
11 National Signing Day. Yes, February 5th.

12 MS. ZIMMER: And then for March, we've got  
13 Wednesday the 4th, Thursday the 5th, Wednesday the  
14 11th, and Thursday the 12th.

15 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I suggest the 5th.

16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Agree. Are you all okay  
17 with the 5th?

18 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Yes.

19 COMMISSIONER REPP: Yes.

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Let's stay consistent.

21 MS. ZIMMER: We might as well do April here,  
22 too. So we've got Wednesday the 1st, April Fool's  
23 Day.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: No.

25 MS. ZIMMER: Thursday the 2nd, Wednesday the

1 8th, and Thursday the 9th.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is everybody okay with  
3 April the 9th, Thursday?

4 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Yes.

5 COMMISSIONER REPP: Yes.

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Great. Thank you. Under  
7 your executive director report, are we going to  
8 hear from our director of law enforcement?

9 MS. ZIMMER: We sure are. Are you ready?

10 MR. HEROLD: Good morning, everybody. Happy  
11 to be here. Very excited about sharing our law  
12 enforcement operations for this past month, the  
13 month of October. Investigatively, we actually  
14 touched about 114 investigations, so those were  
15 actively being worked on.

16 We were involved in 17 -- hang on. We closed  
17 20 illegal casinos across the state and seized 802  
18 slot machines and arrested 20 persons, with a total  
19 of 41 criminal charges. We seized \$338,000 in  
20 illegal funds.

21 The operations were all across the state. We  
22 just had two operations this past week. Our  
23 investigative tempo is really humming along right  
24 now. I'm very please with it. We're involved in  
25 three, sometimes four operations every week.

1           The evidence side of it, the evidence folks  
2           were involved in 17 operations. Like I say, we  
3           seized those 802 slot machines. We also were able  
4           to seize two firearms, a pistol, and a long rifle,  
5           and 21 grams of marijuana, and a set of brass  
6           knuckles were seized.

7           VICE CHAIR BROWN: May I stop you. Do you  
8           have any questions?

9           COMMISSIONER DRAGO: No.

10          MR. HEROLD: From our intel and analytical  
11          side of the house, they were involved in 13  
12          background investigations, 10 business background  
13          investigations. And they also attended 11  
14          multi-agency intel meetings, which is fantastic.

15          Our investigative leads that we get in through  
16          the website and other ways, we received 300 total  
17          reports of criminal activity this past month, which  
18          is a little less than the last few months. It's  
19          been hovering around 330, 340, but still very  
20          high.

21          Of those 296, all but 4 of them were from  
22          citizens. And the four that remained were from  
23          other law enforcement agencies, so very pleased  
24          with the citizen participation in this.

25          Warehouse space, I'll preface it with we

1 currently have about 33 percent warehouse space  
2 remaining, but we continue to actively and  
3 aggressively pursue disruption on all of these  
4 machines.

5 As soon as the criminal cases are resolved, so  
6 far over the last two months, we have destroyed  
7 about 467 machines and about 150 other pieces of  
8 evidence that no longer need to be held but are not  
9 slot machines.

10 Our current slot machine count for warehouses  
11 is 7,492. We do have another destruction event  
12 scheduled for the first week of December. That  
13 will be about another 150 machines, but we do have  
14 other ones that have been identified as needing to  
15 be destructed, but we're waiting for the final  
16 approval from the State Attorney's Office.

17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Are you able, Director  
18 Herold, to disclose location of that event?

19 MR. HEROLD: Yes. This will be an event in  
20 Brevard County. We're very glad to have the  
21 investigative support and the continued support of  
22 our mission for going after illegal gambling by  
23 Sheriff Wayne Ivey, and we are going to have a very  
24 public event.

25 I will tease that and not really give it all

1 out, but there will be a very public event  
2 involving the disruption of those machines.

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: We are all looking forward  
4 to joining you.

5 MR. HEROLD: It should be quite thrilling, I  
6 will say. As far as staffing is concerned, we have  
7 newly-promoted special agent supervisor in South  
8 Florida. That was just early this week after  
9 interviewing and advertising and everything.

10 We are doing an onboarding for our cyber  
11 analyst. Hopefully, we'll have that individual on  
12 by the end of this month. We're also -- we have a  
13 forensic engineer analyst type individual that  
14 we've advertised again, and we feel very confident  
15 that we're going to have someone in that. And  
16 hopefully, we can get individual onboarded as well.

17 We have an administrative assistant in  
18 South Florida that began on the 31st of October, so  
19 we've got that position filled. And we currently  
20 have a few agent positions, but all of those have  
21 been advertised, and we are preparing to interview  
22 for those positions.

23 We have one in Tallahassee, one in central,  
24 and three in the south. So we hope to get those  
25 individuals onboarded pretty quickly. We continue

1 to work with other law enforcement agencies. This  
2 next comment I'll direct to Commissioner D'Aquila.

3 We have 38 active MOUs, so we continue to do  
4 that. And then also, I'm very proud of the work  
5 that our agents have done in Governor DeSantis's  
6 illegal immigration mission.

7 Our guys have been very active in that and  
8 continue to do that, so we're very thankful for  
9 that as well. That's about all I have.

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, any  
11 comments.

12 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I don't have any  
13 questions?

14 Director Herold, these reports are fantastic,  
15 and the data is just incredible. Would it be  
16 beneficial to post it monthly on our website for  
17 the public so that they can see each month the  
18 progression, as you say?

19 MR. HEROLD: I will explore that and make sure  
20 that is a good idea.

21 VICE CHAIR BROWN: That's great.

22 MR. HEROLD: And also I do remember from last  
23 month, there was a question about the dashboard for  
24 the commissioners. I will say that we are working  
25 on that. Ms. Mustain, the director of

1 administration, has got her folks working on that.  
2 It should be up shortly. We have not let that lie.

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you so much.

4 Commissioner D'Aquila.

5 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Yes. Thank you for  
6 that update Director Herold. That point about the  
7 MOUs I think is just very important. And I wanted  
8 to point out, yesterday, I think it was  
9 Representative Valdez at the House Industries and  
10 Professional Activities Committee raised that very  
11 point about our commission working with several  
12 other government agencies throughout the state.

13 I think the progress that you have made is an  
14 incredible example of what we can do and which we  
15 already are doing with lottery, for example, but  
16 with other agencies, government agencies both in  
17 the state and also outside the state as we move  
18 forward.

19 So thank you for sharing that. And also,  
20 although not mentioned, I want to commend you on  
21 the work that you have done with ICE. I'll leave  
22 it at that.

23 MR. HEROLD: Thank you for your kind words.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Director Herold,  
25 for your report.

1 Ms. Zimmer, do you have anything else to  
2 report under the executive director update? Thank  
3 you, and welcome. I know it's been a fast and  
4 furious pace, so thank you for it.

5 We're going on to Discussion of Renewal  
6 Application for Slot Machine License 3.1,  
7 Ms. Pouncey.

8 MS. POUNCEY: Good morning. Jamie Pouncey,  
9 for the record. Case No. 2025-060710 is Dania  
10 Entertainment Center, L.L.C. They submitted their  
11 application for their slot machine business license  
12 for the 2025 fiscal year.

13 They have submitted all the required  
14 documents. Their fees were paid yesterday, and  
15 they have satisfied all the requirements. We  
16 recommend the commission approve their license  
17 effective November 9, 2025 to November 8, 2026.

18 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

19 Commissioners, if there are no questions,  
20 seeing that all the statutory requirements have  
21 been complied with, can we please get a motion to  
22 approve the renewal of the slot machine license  
23 effective November 9th through November 8, 2026.

24 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So moved.

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

1 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say  
3 aye.

4 (Multiple ayes.)

5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Ms. Pouncey.  
6 Item 4.1.

7 MS. POUNCEY: Item 4.1, Case No. 2025-077669,  
8 South Florida Racing Association, doing business as  
9 Hialeah Park Racing & Casino. They've submitted an  
10 application to add additional cardroom tables to  
11 their facility.

12 They currently have 28 tables and are  
13 requesting to add an additional four. They've  
14 submitted the required documents, along with the  
15 \$1,000. per table fee. The Division recommends  
16 approval of this amendment.

17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Can we get a  
18 motion to approve.

19 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Motion to approve.

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

21 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say  
23 aye.

24 (Multiple ayes.)

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All right. We're going

1 into a discussion of default final orders, Item  
2 Nos. 5.1 through 5.6. I will note, all of them are  
3 related in that they're all permanent exclusion  
4 items.

5 MS. ALVARADO: Good morning. Emily Alvarado,  
6 for the record. 5.1 is 2024-071799, Ingrid Pujol.  
7 In the case materials, you were provided with an  
8 administrative complaint alleging that the  
9 respondent was excluded from Casino Miami on  
10 December 24, 2024.

11 She is subject to exclusion from all  
12 pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the  
13 state of Florida pursuant to 550.0251(6) and  
14 551.112 Florida Statutes. Respondent has been  
15 served with the administrative complaint and failed  
16 to respond within 21 days.

17 Therefore, the Commission should enter a final  
18 order finding that respondent was properly served,  
19 failed to respond within 21 days, that the facts in  
20 the administrative complaint are accepted as the  
21 facts in the case and concluding that respondent  
22 shall be added to the permanent exclusion list for  
23 all pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the  
24 state of Florida.

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Ms. Alvarado.

1 This was a self-exclusion patron?

2 MS. ALVARADO: They were, and then they were  
3 excluded again by the facility for entering.

4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

5 Commissioners, are there any questions? Can  
6 we get a motion to approve the staff  
7 recommendation.

8 COMMISSIONER REPP: I'll make a motion to  
9 approve the staff recommendation.

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

11 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say  
13 aye.

14 (Multiple ayes.)

15 VICE CHAIR BROWN: 5.2, Ms. Alvarado.

16 MS. ALVARADO: 5.2 is 2025-033067, Thomas  
17 Chadrick. In the case materials, you were provided  
18 with an administrative complaint alleging that  
19 respondent was excluded from OcalaBets on April 10,  
20 2025.

21 He is subject to exclusion from all  
22 pari-mutuel facilities in the state of Florida  
23 pursuant to Section 550.0251(6). Respondent was  
24 served with the administrative complaint and failed  
25 to respond within 21 days.

1           Therefore, the Commission should enter a final  
2 order finding that respondent was properly served  
3 and failed to respond within 21 days, that the  
4 facts in the administrative complaint are accepted  
5 as the facts in this case, and concluding that  
6 respondent will be added to the permanent exclusion  
7 list for all pari-mutuel facilities in the state of  
8 Florida.

9           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Ms. Alvarado.  
10 And just to confirm, Mr. Lott who was involved in  
11 this matter, was he permanently excluded statewide?

12           MS. ALVARADO: There was a case open against  
13 him. I can confirm for you as if he was excluded.  
14 But I know there was a case open against him.

15           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay. Thank you.

16           Commissioners, if there are no questions, can  
17 we get a motion to approve the staff  
18 recommendation.

19           COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So moved.

20           VICE CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

21           COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

22           VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say  
23 aye.

24           (Multiple ayes.)

25           VICE CHAIR BROWN: 5.3.

1 MS. ALVARADO: 5.3 is 2025-035432, Darcy  
2 Perez-Amuchastegui. In the case materials, you  
3 were provided with an administrative complaint  
4 alleging that respondent was excluded from Card  
5 House Port St. Lucie on April 24, 2025.

6 She is therefore subject to exclusion from all  
7 pari-mutuel facilities in the state of Florida  
8 pursuant to 550.0251(6). The respondent was served  
9 with the administrative complaint and failed to  
10 respond within 21 days.

11 Therefore, the Commission should enter a final  
12 order finding that the respondent was properly  
13 served, that they failed to respond within 21 days,  
14 that the facts in the administrative complaint are  
15 accepted as the facts in this case, and concluding  
16 that they will be added to the permanent exclusion  
17 list for all pari-mutuel facilities in the state of  
18 Florida.

19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

20 Commissioners, any questions? Can we get a  
21 motion to approve the staff recommendation.

22 COMMISSIONER REPP: I'll make that motion.

23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

24 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say

1 aye.

2 (Multiple ayes.)

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And we are on to 5.4.

4 MS. ALVARADO: 5.4 is 2025-037519, Zachary  
5 Kaplan. In the case materials, you were provided  
6 with an administrative complaint alleging that the  
7 respondent was excluded from Harrah's Pompano  
8 Casino on February 8, 2025.

9 He is subject to exclusion from all  
10 pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the  
11 state of Florida pursuant to 550.0251(6) and  
12 551.112 Florida Statutes. Respondent was served  
13 with the administrative complaint and failed to  
14 respond within 21 days.

15 Therefore, the Commission should enter a final  
16 order finding that the respondent was properly  
17 served, failed to respond within 21 days, that the  
18 facts in the administrative complaint are accepted  
19 as the facts in this case and concluding that the  
20 respondent will be added to the permanent exclusion  
21 list for all pari-mutuel and slot machine  
22 facilities.

23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Ms. Alvarado.  
24 This is another one where the individual was  
25 self-excluded in 2020 but somehow returned.

1 MS. ALVARADO: Right.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Commissioners, are there  
3 any questions on this?

4 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: No.

5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Can we get a motion to  
6 approve the staff recommendation.

7 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So moved.

8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

9 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say  
11 aye.

12 (Multiple ayes.)

13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: We have two more of these,  
14 5.5.

15 MS. ALVARADO: 5.5 is 2025-052746 Joane  
16 Marchese. In the case materials, you were provided  
17 with an administrative complaint alleging that the  
18 respondent was excluded from Harrah's Pompano  
19 Casino on July 9, 2025.

20 Therefore, subject to exclusion from all  
21 pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the  
22 state of Florida pursuant to 550.0251(6) and  
23 551.112 Florida Statutes. The respondent was  
24 properly served with the AC and failed to respond  
25 within 21 days.

1           Therefore, the Commission should enter a final  
2 order finding that the respondent was properly  
3 served, failed to respond within 21 days, that the  
4 facts in the administrative complaint are accepted  
5 as the facts in this case and concluding that they  
6 will be added to the permanent exclusion list for  
7 all pari-mutual and slot machine facilities in the  
8 state of Florida.

9           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. I just want to  
10 note on the investigative report, the dates are  
11 wrong. I think it references 2015. Is that  
12 something that can be changed?

13           MS. ALVARADO: I can speak with our  
14 investigators about updating the report.

15           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Can I get a motion to  
16 approve the staff recommendation.

17           COMMISSIONER REPP: I'll make that motion.

18           VICE CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

19           COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

20           VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say  
21 aye.

22           (Multiple ayes.)

23           VICE CHAIR BROWN: And our last one is 5.6.

24           MS. ALVARADO: 5.6 is Elliot Press,  
25 2025-052767. In the case materials, you have been

1 provided with an administrative complaint alleging  
2 that respondent was excluded from Casino at  
3 Dania Beach on July 15, 2025.

4 He is therefore subject to exclusion from all  
5 pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the  
6 state of Florida pursuant to 550.0251(6) and  
7 551.112 Florida Statutes. Respondent was served  
8 with the administrative complaint and failed to  
9 respond within 21 days.

10 Therefore, the Commission should enter a final  
11 order finding that respondent was properly served,  
12 failed to respond within 21 days, that the facts in  
13 the administrative complaint are accepted as the  
14 facts in this case and concluding that they'll be  
15 added to the permanent exclusion list for all  
16 pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the  
17 state of Florida.

18 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. I know that's a  
19 lot to say. Ms. Alvarado, do you know if the  
20 respondent ever returned the \$13,500?

21 MS. ALVARADO: We did not receive an update.  
22 I can also ask the investigators to go back and get  
23 an update on that, but I haven't received one.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Just to make  
25 the file complete.

1 Commissioners, any questions on this? Okay.

2 Can we get a motion to approve the staff  
3 recommendation.

4 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Motion to approve the  
5 staff recommendation.

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And a second.

7 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say  
9 aye.

10 (Multiple ayes.)

11 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. We are moving  
12 to the discussion of settlement offers, 6.1 through  
13 6.4. I will note that we do have a speaker that  
14 will be calling in on Item 6.4.

15 MS. ALVARADO: Item 6.1 is 2024-065648,  
16 St. Petersburg Kennel Club. On May 27, 2025, a  
17 three-count administrative complaint was filed  
18 against respondent alleging that respondent  
19 violated Rule 7511.205(17) by failing to include in  
20 its surveillance activity log a notation of the  
21 reading on the video that identified the point on  
22 the recording that the offense was recorded,  
23 failing to include in the surveillance activity log  
24 the date and time the equipment malfunctioned and  
25 repair occurred, and failing to include in the

1 surveillance activity log the times when three  
2 instances a monitoring ended.

3 The facility has two prior consent orders with  
4 the same offense. The respondent filed in response  
5 to the Commission's administrative complaint on  
6 June 17, 2025 proposing settlement in this matter.  
7 And this was presented at the September 11, 2025  
8 attorney-client meeting.

9 Here, the respondent is requesting that the  
10 Commission agree to the proposed terms in the  
11 consent order and will pay a \$750 fine.

12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

13 Commissioners, are there any questions on  
14 this? If not, can we get a motion to approve the  
15 stipulation and consent order.

16 COMMISSIONER REPP: I'll make that motion.

17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

18 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I'll second.

19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say  
20 aye.

21 (Multiple ayes.)

22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Item 6.2.

23 MS. ALVARADO: 6.2 is 2024-072045, Samantha  
24 Lynn Brown. On March 6, 2025, the Commission  
25 issued a letter of license denial notifying

1 petition of its intent to deny the application  
2 based on petitioner's misdemeanor conviction, which  
3 was petty theft.

4 On March 25, 2025, petitioner requested an  
5 informal hearing pursuant to Section 120.572  
6 Florida Statutes. At the informal hearing that was  
7 held on August 12, 2025, the petitioner testified  
8 to the circumstances that led to the conviction.

9 On October 8, the hearing officer issued a  
10 recommended order recommending denial of  
11 petitioner's application. At the October 16th  
12 Commission meeting, the Commission asked that the  
13 Division seek additional information from the  
14 petitioner and to negotiate settlement, if  
15 possible.

16 Here, the petitioner is requesting the  
17 adoption of the consent order granting petitioner's  
18 license with additional conditions included, that  
19 the petitioner shall notify the Commission within  
20 48 hours of any arrest, indictment, charge, or any  
21 criminal offense and that her license will be  
22 surrendered immediately upon arrest, indictment, or  
23 charge for any criminal offense or administrative  
24 offense.

25 And she also did provide two reference letters

1 that you guys asked for her to provide more  
2 information.

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: No. That's great. Thank  
4 you for your work on this and the creativity coming  
5 up with a conditional license.

6 Commissioners, are there questions of  
7 Ms. Alvarado?

8 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: No.

9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Okay. Can we get a motion  
10 to approve the stipulation and consent order.

11 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'll make that motion.

12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

13 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

14 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say  
15 aye.

16 (Multiple ayes.)

17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Passes unanimously. Item  
18 6.3.

19 MS. ALVARADO: Item 6.3 is 2025-007982, Ocala  
20 Breeders' Sales Company, Inc. On August 5, 2025,  
21 an amended administrative complaint was filed  
22 against respondent alleging that respondent  
23 violated Rule 75-11.025(18) Florida Administrative  
24 Code by failing to suspend play at the tables while  
25 there was inadequate monitoring.

1           This facility did not have any prior  
2 violations of this rule. The respondent filed in  
3 response to the Commission's administrative  
4 complaint on August 14th and 19th of 2025 proposing  
5 settlement upon this matter.

6           It was presented at the October 16th  
7 Commission meeting in an attorney-client session.  
8 Here, the respondent is requesting that the  
9 Commission consider and agree to the proposed  
10 terms, which will be a \$250 fine.

11           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Are there any questions?  
12 If not, can we get a motion to approve the  
13 stipulated and consent order.

14           COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Motion to approve.

15           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And a second.

16           COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

17           VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say  
18 aye.

19           (Multiple ayes.)

20           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. We have Item  
21 6.4. We're going to have Ms. Alvarado present it,  
22 and then we'll have the speaker address the  
23 Commission.

24           MS. ALVARADO: Item 6.4 is 2025-011289,  
25 Allison Lombardi. On April 11, 2025, the

1 Commission issued a letter of license denial  
2 notifying petitioner of its intent to deny her  
3 application based on her two felony convictions of  
4 assault and harassment with bodily fluid.

5 On May 1st, the petitioner requested an  
6 informal hearing, which was held on August 12,  
7 2025. On October 7, 2025, the hearing officer  
8 issued a recommended order recommending granting  
9 petitioner's application.

10 At the October 16th Commission meeting, the  
11 Commission asked that the Division seek additional  
12 information from petitioner and that we negotiate  
13 settlement.

14 Here, the petitioner is requesting the  
15 adoption of the consent order granting petitioner's  
16 license with additional conditions, including that  
17 petitioner shall notify the Commission within 48  
18 hours of any arrest, indictment, or charge of any  
19 criminal offense and that her license shall be  
20 surrendered immediately upon an arrest, indictment,  
21 or charged for any criminal or administrative  
22 offense. She also provided three recommendation  
23 letters.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, including one  
25 letter from a retired chief deputy, it looks like.

1 MS. ALVARADO: Yes.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

3 Ms. Parker, do we have -- we have her. Okay.

4 Ms. Lombardi, you have the floor. You may  
5 address the Commission. We're going to put you on  
6 a microphone so that the public can also hear.

7 MS. PARKER: Ms. Lombardi, go ahead.

8 MS. LOMBARDI: Hello.

9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Hello. We got you.

10 MS. LOMBARDI: Sorry. It's breaking up a  
11 little bit.

12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: We hear you perfectly.

13 MS. LOMBARDI: I was just asking, you know, to  
14 be reconsidered. I did have a couple letters  
15 written from some people in Ohio who understand the  
16 case and who knew what happened. I have been  
17 working really hard.

18 I have two daughters that I have raised and  
19 basically from managing restaurants, serving. I  
20 also had a business here. It was a pizzeria  
21 Italian restaurant in Florida, which I had for  
22 about three years.

23 I had ran it by myself for a year going  
24 through a divorce. Unfortunately, I did sell it.  
25 After I did sell it, I got a job with Club 52. I

1 was bartending there for a little bit, but I can  
2 only work downstairs until I got the license, the  
3 pari-mutuel license.

4 So I was just asking if you guys can  
5 reconsider. I really did enjoy working there.  
6 Like I said, I've been a bartender, a server. I  
7 was front house manager as well, so I definitely  
8 feel like I have proven that I can be in that kind  
9 of environment.

10 I'm just trying to find a way to raise my  
11 family down here. It was kind of unfortunate that  
12 I had to sell my restaurant, so I'm kind of upset  
13 about that. But hopefully in the future, I'll be  
14 able to open up another one.

15 Maybe once my daughters graduate from high  
16 school, it might be easier for me to do that. But  
17 I am just kind of asking for reconsideration and a  
18 chance to prove myself that I am able to work in  
19 that environment with the pari-mutuel license.

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Ms. Lombardi. I  
21 also wanted to thank you for the additional  
22 information you provided from your references. It  
23 provided, for me at least, a lot more clarity.

24 Commissioners, are there any questions of  
25 Ms. Lombardi?

1           There are no questions. Thank you. We're  
2 going to take you off the speakers.

3           MS. LOMBARDI: Okay. Thank you so much.

4           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you for your time.

5           All right. Commissioners, is there a motion  
6 or thoughts on this item? You can approve the  
7 conditional license.

8           COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'd like to make a motion  
9 to approve the conditional license.

10          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. For clarity,  
11 that's stipulation and consent order.

12          COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Including the stipulation  
13 and consent order.

14          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Can we get a  
15 second.

16          COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I will second that.

17          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Any discussion?  
18 All those in favor, say aye.

19          (Multiple ayes.)

20          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Passes  
21 unanimously. We are moving on to miscellaneous  
22 final orders 7.1 through 7.3.

23          Ms. Alvarado.

24          MS. ALVARADO: 7.1 is 2025-038263, Francisco  
25 Cortes. On August 13, 2025, the Division filed an

1 administrative complaint against respondent  
2 alleging the subject to exclusion from all  
3 pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the  
4 state of Florida pursuant to Section 550.0251(6)  
5 and 551.112 Florida Statutes based on his ejection  
6 from Gulfstream Park.

7 On October 2, 2025, the respondent filed an  
8 election of rights requesting a formal hearing, but  
9 failed to include all the information required by  
10 law. Specifically, he failed to include a  
11 statement identifying the material facts that were  
12 in dispute.

13 On October 9th, the Clerk of the Commission  
14 issued an order of dismissal informing respondent  
15 that the request is dismissed without prejudice and  
16 affording him 15 days to cure the defect. The  
17 respondent did not respond to the order of  
18 dismissal.

19 Therefore, the Commission should enter a final  
20 order dismissing the request for a hearing with  
21 prejudice, adopting the findings of facts and  
22 conclusions of law in the administrative complaint  
23 and permanently excluding respondent from all  
24 pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the  
25 state of Florida.

1           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. This one is  
2 pretty straightforward.

3           Commissioners, if there are no objections, can  
4 we get a motion to approve the staff recommendation  
5 as presented.

6           COMMISSIONER REPP: Motion to approve the  
7 staff recommendation as presented.

8           VICE CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

9           COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

10          VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say  
11 aye.

12          (Multiple ayes.)

13          VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. 7.2.

14          MS. ALVARADO: 7.2 is 2025-047305, Michael  
15 Sposato. On August 19, 2025, the Division filed an  
16 administrative complaint alleging that respondent  
17 is subject to exclusion from all pari-mutuel  
18 facilities and slot machine facilities in the state  
19 of Florida and subject to revocation of his slot  
20 machine/cardroom/pari-mutuel combination  
21 occupational license.

22          On September 30, 2025, respondent filed an  
23 election of rights form requesting a formal hearing  
24 for failing to dispute the material facts in the  
25 administrative complaint. On September 30th, the

1 Clerk of the Commission issued an order of  
2 dismissal informing respondent that the request for  
3 hearing was dismissed without prejudice and  
4 affording him 15 days to cure the defects in the  
5 election of rights.

6 He did not respond to the order of dismissal.  
7 Therefore, the Commission should enter a final  
8 order dismissing the request for hearing with  
9 prejudice, adopting the facts and conclusions of  
10 law in the administrative complaint permanently  
11 excluding respondent from all pari-mutuel and slot  
12 machine facilities in the state of Florida and  
13 individual from all pari-mutuel slot machine  
14 combination occupational license.

15 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

16 Commissioners, if there are no questions, can  
17 we get a motion to approve the staff recommendation  
18 on 7.2.

19 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'll make that motion.

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

21 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say  
23 aye.

24 (Multiple ayes.)

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Lastly, 7.3.

1 MS. ALVARADO: 7.3 is 2025-056582, Jack Suser.  
2 On August 28, 2025, the Division filed an  
3 administrative complaint alleging that respondent  
4 is subject to exclusion from all pari-mutuel and  
5 slot machine facilities in the state of Florida  
6 based on his ejection from PPI.

7 On September 23, 2025, respondent filed an  
8 election of rights requesting a formal hearing but  
9 failing to dispute the material facts. On  
10 September 24th, the Clerk of the Commission issued  
11 an order of dismissal informing him that his  
12 request was dismissed without prejudice and  
13 affording respondent 15 days to cure the defect.

14 On October 21st, respondent responded to the  
15 order of dismissal, but was past the 15-day  
16 deadline and continued to fail to dispute a  
17 material fact on the new election of rights.

18 Therefore, the Commission should enter a final  
19 order dismissing the request for hearing, adopting  
20 the finding of facts and conclusions of law in the  
21 administrative complaint, and permanently excluding  
22 him from all pari-mutuel and slot machine  
23 facilities in the state of Florida.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

25 Commissioners, can we please get a motion to

1 approve the staff recommendation on 7.3.

2 COMMISSIONER REPP: I'll make that motion.

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

4 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say  
6 aye.

7 (Multiple ayes.)

8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And we're going  
9 into a discussion of recommended orders. Back to  
10 Ms. Alvarado.

11 MS. ALVARADO: 8.1 is 2025-009157, Gerard  
12 Tait. This case came before you following a  
13 recommended order that was issued by the hearing  
14 officer.

15 An informal hearing was conducted on October  
16 8, 2025 regarding an administrative complaint  
17 seeking to the exclude respondent from all  
18 pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities in the  
19 state of Florida.

20 The hearing officer issued the recommended  
21 order on October 28th recommending permanent  
22 exclusion from all pari-mutuel and slot machine  
23 facilities.

24 Here, we ask that the Commission adopt the  
25 hearing officer's recommended order and add the

1     respondent to the permanent exclusion list for all  
2     pari-mutuel and slot machine facilities.

3             VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And thank you  
4     to the hearing officer for the work on this item.

5             Commissioners, if there are no questions, can  
6     we get a motion to enter a final order adopting the  
7     hearing officer's recommended order.

8             COMMISSIONER REPP: I'll make that motion.

9             VICE CHAIR BROWN: And a second, please.

10            COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

11            VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say  
12     aye.

13            (Multiple ayes.)

14            VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. We are going  
15     into discussion of request for waivers, Item 9.1.

16            MS. ALVARADO: 2025-061795, Amanda Nicole  
17     Jefferies. Here, the applicant applied for a slot  
18     machine/cardroom/pari-mutuel combination  
19     occupational license. Upon review, it was  
20     discovered that she had one misdemeanor offense of  
21     petty theft out of Miami-Dade County from April 1,  
22     2010.

23            The applicant seeks a waiver of the  
24     misdemeanor offense and issuance of a license.  
25     Here, she has paid all her court fines. She

1 originally answered no on her application. There  
2 are no other convictions, other than this petty  
3 theft.

4 Here, the Commission can decide whether to  
5 grant the waiver and issue the license. If not, we  
6 would ask that you authorize the Division to issue  
7 a letter of license denial in this case.

8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

9 Commissioners, any questions regarding the  
10 facts of this case?

11 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I don't have any  
12 questions. I guess I just want to comment on the  
13 case and the fact that it was a petty theft back in  
14 2010, 15 years ago. We don't think we have  
15 anything in the paperwork that I saw that indicates  
16 that she's continued that type of conduct or  
17 anything, right, Ms. Alvarado?

18 MS. ALVARADO: No, not that we have.

19 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So I'm just pointing that  
20 out for the record. Whenever we're ready to make a  
21 motion, I would, in fact, make a motion.

22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: I think we are ready for  
23 your motion.

24 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I make a motion to grant  
25 the waiver and issue the license.

1           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Can we get a  
2 second.

3           COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

4           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Is there any discussion?  
5 All those in favor, say aye.

6           (Multiple ayes.)

7           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Passes unanimously. Thank  
8 you. We're going to discussion of license denials,  
9 Item 10.1.

10          MS. ALVARADO: 2025-078078, Jason Gordon. The  
11 Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering received a  
12 completed application for Jason Gordon for a  
13 pari-mutuel wagering general individual  
14 occupational license on September 3, 2025.

15          The applicant was sent deficiency letters and  
16 failed to request a waiver. Upon review of the  
17 completed application, it appears that he was  
18 convicted of the felony offense of sale,  
19 manufacturer, or delivery or possession with intent  
20 to sell or manufacture or deliver cannabis out of  
21 St. Lucie County from April 3, 2017.

22          He originally answered yes on his application  
23 and did disclose the felony. His probation was  
24 terminated April 2, 2019, and he has paid all his  
25 court costs and fees from 2018. He has no other

1 convictions. Here, we would ask the Commission to  
2 authorize the issuance of a letter of license  
3 denial.

4 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Ms. Alvarado.  
5 He did not serve any time for this crime; correct?

6 MS. ALVARADO: No. I think he was just placed  
7 on probation.

8 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And as you point out, there  
9 are no other disqualifying offenses or arrests  
10 made?

11 MS. ALVARADO: No other disqualifying -- or  
12 convictions.

13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

14 Commissioners, do you have questions or  
15 thoughts on this item?

16 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Again, I just -- eight  
17 years ago, no indication that he's continuing to  
18 commit any type of criminal activity. He fulfilled  
19 all his obligations as relates to his probation.  
20 He wasn't even sentenced to any jail time for it.

21 So I'm just inclined to, again, consider the  
22 fact that this has been quite a while and give some  
23 consideration to allowing him to get a license and  
24 be successful and get a job and make a living.

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you,

1 Commissioner Drago. I appreciate your sentiment.

2 Commissioners, any other questions or  
3 thoughts? What is the license -- the position he's  
4 actually applying for? I'm just trying to find  
5 that.

6 MS. ALVARADO: Security officer.

7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Security officer. Thank  
8 you.

9 Commissioner Drago, whenever you're ready to  
10 make a motion, I think we're ripe for that.

11 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I would like to make a  
12 motion to grant the waiver and issue the license.

13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

14 MS. ALVARADO: Just for clarification, he did  
15 not apply for a waiver, so we'd just be granting  
16 the license in this instance.

17 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: That's exactly what I  
18 meant.

19 VICE CHAIR BROWN: That's what you said.

20 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: That's exactly what I  
21 said.

22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: You made that motion.

23 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I made that motion, yes.

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Can we get a second,  
25 Commissioner D'Aquila -- Commissioner Repp.

1 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Any discussion?

3 All those in favor, say aye.

4 (Multiple ayes.)

5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Passes unanimously. Onto  
6 discussion of final order pursuant to a request  
7 from the respondent, 11.1.

8 MS. ALVARADO: 2025-039911, Maydelis Morales.  
9 In the case materials, you were provided with an  
10 administrative complaint alleging that respondent  
11 was subject to exclusion from all pari-mutuel and  
12 slot machine facilities in the state of Florida, as  
13 well as seeking to revoke her slot  
14 machine/cardroom/pari-mutual combination  
15 occupational license based on the exclusion and the  
16 theft that led to her termination from Casino  
17 Miami.

18 Respondent responded to the complaint with an  
19 election of rights form indicating that she did not  
20 dispute the allegations in the administrative  
21 complaint waiving her rights to any form of a  
22 hearing and requesting that the Commission enter a  
23 final order imposing a penalty in this case.

24 Therefore, the Commission should enter an  
25 order adding the respondent to permanent exclusion

1 list for all pari-mutuel and slot machine  
2 facilities, as well as revoking her slot  
3 machine/cardroom/pari-mutual combination  
4 occupational license.

5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. If there are no  
6 questions, can we please get a motion to approve  
7 the staff recommendation as presented by  
8 Ms. Alvarado.

9 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I will make a motion  
10 to approve the staff recommendation.

11 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And a second.

12 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

13 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say  
14 aye.

15 (Multiple ayes.)

16 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. That item  
17 passes. We are going into a discussion of  
18 rulemaking. We do have a speaker on this Item  
19 12.1. But first, we're going to staff to give an  
20 overview.

21 Ms. Valentine.

22 MS. VALENTINE: Agenda Item 12.1 is the final  
23 public hearing on Rule 75-4.004. In front of the  
24 commissioners in the meeting materials is the  
25 proposed language that the Commission has

1 previously approved, as well as comments timely  
2 submitted by a permitholder, Tampa Bay Downs.

3 As a brief overview of the history of the rule  
4 and the reason for the rule amendment that you all  
5 initially looked at, effective July 1, 2024,  
6 Section 550.0121 53 Florida statutes was amended to  
7 remove certain limitations on a permitholder's  
8 ability to amend the performance dates identified  
9 in the permitholder's pari-mutuel wagering  
10 operating license.

11 Such limitations include requiring any change  
12 to be minor involving operating permitholders  
13 located within 50 miles of the applicant. As  
14 currently enacted, Section 550.012153 provides that  
15 the Commission may approve changes to performance  
16 dates after the issuance of an operating license  
17 and that in making the determination, the  
18 Commission may consider the impact of such change  
19 in state revenue.

20 To reflect the change in the law, the  
21 Commission proposed amending Rule 75-4.004. The  
22 proposed change to the rule only removes any  
23 reference to such limitations which are no longer  
24 in effect.

25 Following the notice of proposed rule, the

1 Commission timely received public comments from  
2 Tampa Bay Downs, Inc. and at Tampa Bay Downs  
3 request held a public hearing on the rule. The  
4 Commission then received additional comments on the  
5 rule from Tampa Bay Downs.

6 The verbal and written public comments  
7 provided by counsel for Tampa Bay Downs are  
8 included in the meeting materials. As an overview  
9 of the comments, Tampa Bay Downs is requesting that  
10 Rule 75-4.004 be further amended to provide that  
11 the Commission shall approve any application for a  
12 change in performance dates, providing certain  
13 requirements are met.

14 In support of the request, counsel for Tampa  
15 Bay Downs states that the rule in its proposed form  
16 does not explicate any standards for the approval  
17 of an application to change performance date and  
18 that the lack of standards and requirements create  
19 uncertainty for Tampa Bay Downs as to the approval  
20 of any such application.

21 The rule as it existed since 2016 did not  
22 require the Commission to approve any application  
23 for a change in performance dates and did not  
24 include any standards that were unrelated to the  
25 minor change limitation.

1           Counsel for Tampa Bay Downs acknowledges that  
2           the proposed rule requires an applicant to submit  
3           certain forms to the Commission to apply for a  
4           change in performance date.

5           By law, the forms are in themselves rules, as  
6           they are documents that impose requirements and  
7           solicit information. It is the position of  
8           Commission staff that the existing statutory and  
9           rule framework provides the necessary standards for  
10          a permit holder to request an amendment of its  
11          performance dates and for the Commission to process  
12          such an application.

13          Specifically the rule, the forms adopted by  
14          reference therein in Section 550.0121 53 set forth  
15          the requirements that a permit holder must meet in  
16          order to change its performance dates.

17          In Section 120.60, Florida Statutes requires  
18          the Commission to timely process the application  
19          and notify the applicant of any deficiency.

20          Finally, the Commission does not have and has not  
21          used unbridled discretion in approving or denying  
22          applications for changes to performance dates.

23          Based on the forgoing, Commission staff  
24          request that the Commission reject the language  
25          suggested in the public comments or during the

1 public hearing and instead approve the proposed  
2 language of the rule as originally noticed for  
3 final adoption and authorize Executive Director  
4 Zimmer to execute all documents necessary to  
5 effectuate the final adoption of the rule.

6 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Ms. Valentine, that was an  
7 excellent overview. It answered any questions I  
8 had and really appreciate the summary.

9 Commissioners, are there any questions of  
10 Ms. Valentine before we get to our speaker? I will  
11 note we have just one speaker on this item, but  
12 anybody from the public can address this as well at  
13 this time.

14 Mr. Rutledge, please come to the podium.

15 MR. RUTLEDGE: Madam Vice Chair,  
16 Commissioners, Staff, Gary Rutledge, Rutledge  
17 Ecenia, on behalf of Tampa Bay Downs. I'd like to  
18 echo your comments about Ms. Valentine. She did a  
19 great job, other than the conclusion.

20 Very briefly, date changes used to be very  
21 controversial when everybody had to conduct live  
22 racing. So we had a lot of provisions and  
23 statutes --

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Could you put the  
25 microphone a little bit closer.

1           MR. RUTLEDGE: They were very contentious  
2 proceedings because of the competition within the  
3 industry. And a few years ago, of course, there  
4 was a deregulation of dates. Greyhound tracks were  
5 prohibited from live racing in the future, and  
6 other facilities had the option to race or not  
7 jai alai, harness, et cetera.

8           The bottom line is the only facilities that  
9 conduct live performance now are the horse tracks,  
10 Gulfstream Park, and Tampa Bay Downs, and I think  
11 there are a couple of jai alai facilities that do.

12           So what you have is no real live activity,  
13 except those few places. So Tampa Bay Downs  
14 concern -- and everybody's been very cooperative  
15 with the Commission about this is what do we have  
16 to do to get a date change in the future?

17           We recognize that it's permissible for the  
18 Commission to do so. But as long as we submit the  
19 required documentation and the forms and we have a  
20 couple of suggestions that we provided that are in  
21 front of you that if we provide the appropriate  
22 forms and/or if we're still conducting the full  
23 schedule of live racing, if you want to mandate  
24 that that still be the case, why shouldn't we get  
25 the date changed?

1           So the problem with this is there's no  
2           standard, with all due respect to the Commission,  
3           as to why you would approve or disapprove this if,  
4           in fact, they want to make these changes. So we're  
5           not trying to be difficult.

6           We just want to make sure what we know what  
7           the rules are in this regard. and there was a  
8           process in this regard in the past where competing  
9           permitholders could file objections and so forth.  
10          None of that is applicable anymore.

11          And we support the change in the deletion of  
12          those requirements. But if, in fact, Tampa Bay  
13          Downs or, for that matter, Gulfstream Park were to  
14          file a submission for a date change to delete or  
15          substitute or add some dates, and they file all of  
16          the paperwork accordingly with the Commission and  
17          particularly if they're going to still maintain a  
18          full schedule of live racing under the statute,  
19          what is it that you would want further from us?

20          So at the conclusion of our comments that  
21          Ms. Valentine did a good job of explaining our  
22          thoughts, we want to have the suggested changes  
23          made that we articulated or alternatively for the  
24          Commission to at least come up with a standard as  
25          to what you will look at in terms of whether or not

1 to approve these changes in this the future.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Rutledge.

3 Commissioners, does anybody have any questions  
4 of Mr. Rutledge? Thank you.

5 Is there anybody else from the public that  
6 would like to address us on this item?

7 Ms. Valentine, if you could just respond to  
8 the concerns Mr. Rutledge has. You stated in your  
9 summary, but regarding the standards.

10 MS. VALENTINE: Yes, of course. As I said in  
11 my overview, under Section 120.60, the Commission  
12 is required to process an application. If the  
13 Commission notes any deficiencies within 30 days,  
14 it has to notify the permitholder.

15 For example, if the form, which again, the  
16 form itself sets the standards and the requirements  
17 regarding information that a permitholder must  
18 provide regarding the change in the racing date.

19 And if there's any deficiencies, that would if  
20 finance had caused the Commission to deny the  
21 application, Commission staff would issue a  
22 deficiency letter and would allow the permitholder  
23 to fix any such deficiency.

24 Once an application is complete, it can't just  
25 sit there. There is a requisite amount of time

1 that the Commission staff has to process the  
2 application that has to go in front of the  
3 commissioners for approval or disapproval.  
4 Otherwise, the law requires the application to be  
5 deemed approved.

6 And so that's the requirements on the  
7 Commission. In addition, under 550.0121(5), again,  
8 the legislature did grant the Commission discretion  
9 even through amending the statute to remove this  
10 limitation on minor racing dates and involving  
11 other permitholders.

12 And so for the Commission to vote to narrow  
13 the legislative discretion, that's something the  
14 Commission can do. That is not something that the  
15 Commission staff would advise commissioners to do.

16 And then finally the legislature did retain  
17 the requirement that the Commission could consider  
18 the impact on state revenues in approving or  
19 disapproving the change.

20 And so if the only requirements are that you  
21 submit an application and there is no  
22 consideration, the Commission would be removing a  
23 consideration that the legislature wanted the  
24 Commission to perhaps consider.

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. I think you did

1 a great job at explaining the standards and the  
2 rule. And it's very clear to me that your legal  
3 interpretation is right on point with regard to the  
4 rule.

5 Commissioners, do you have any questions of  
6 Ms. Valentine? Okay. We're moving to the  
7 discussions of the rule now. What we have before  
8 us is the original proposed language of the rule to  
9 consider or incorporating the public comments that  
10 were made and provided to us.

11 So I will open it up to the floor for the  
12 Commission to deliberate. I support  
13 Ms. Valentine's proposed language, personally.

14 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I think it was very  
15 helpful. Thank you, Mr. Rutledge. And thank you,  
16 Ms. Valentine, for the information because you  
17 clarified it for me personally, and the questions I  
18 had were all answered today. So I'm satisfied as  
19 to the information that we have received at this  
20 point.

21 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you,  
22 Commissioner Drago. Commissioners?

23 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I agree with  
24 Commissioner Drago on this matter.

25 VICE CHAIR BROWN: We are ripe to make a

1 motion to approve the original proposed language of  
2 the rule and proceed to final adoption authorizing  
3 executive director to complete all necessary  
4 paperwork to complete the final adoption of the  
5 rule. Can we get a motion to that effect.

6 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: So moved.

7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And a second.

8 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

9 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Any discussion? All those  
10 in favor, say aye.

11 (Multiple ayes.)

12 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you for your  
13 participation in this, Mr. Rutledge.

14 We are going on to actually public comment.  
15 Is there anybody from the public that would like to  
16 address us? I do have a speaker here.

17 Mr. Dan McGinn, I believe you'd like to  
18 address us before we go to our attorney-client  
19 meeting. Good morning.

20 MR. MCGINN: Morning. Thank you, Chair and  
21 Commissioners. I'm here to speak on behalf of the  
22 respondent in Item 14.3, which is part of the  
23 closed attorney-client privilege section.

24 For the record, the respondent's name is  
25 Hector Garcia Cornejo Ysantana. I will probably

1 for the sake of the transcript just refer to him as  
2 respondent, if necessary.

3 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you.

4 MR. MCGINN: Before we get into this, I do  
5 want to say thank you to you, General Counsel  
6 Valentine, Chief Alvarado, and Deputy Chief  
7 Taupier. We as an industry are very quick to point  
8 out when they are perceived shortcomings with the  
9 process, but we don't often speak out when things  
10 go smoothly.

11 And I really do appreciate the efforts they  
12 put in in kind of bringing this in hopefully  
13 towards a landing, but we'll see how the  
14 attorney-client session goes. Really what this  
15 matter is about is kind of what happens when  
16 advocacy meets legislative prerogative to involve  
17 themselves in civil affairs and the whole process  
18 there.

19 Underlying this matter is a debt of less than  
20 \$2,000 for veterinary supplies. And what happened  
21 due to the nature of the industry and, you know,  
22 trainers and other horsemen being sometimes  
23 residents domestically, sometimes residents  
24 foreign.

25 The bill went to the domestic location outside

1 of the season. The administrative complaint was  
2 properly served overseas to the respondent, so he  
3 did respond to this. In the meantime, there was a  
4 civil matter for the debt that was filed.

5 There is legislative hook for debts by  
6 licensees of the Commission if the debt either  
7 deals with a license facility or some part of the  
8 racing industry, racing or jai alai. Here, it did.  
9 It's veterinary supplies.

10 So what happened is aspiring attorneys who  
11 recognize there's an opportunity for a cottage  
12 industry here. Your staff is very familiar with  
13 them. When they get a debt like this, they  
14 immediately contact the Commission.

15 The Commission does what it is obligated to do  
16 when it has that information, files an  
17 administrative complaint. So now we have parallel  
18 tracks of a civil case and an administrative case.  
19 In this instance, the underlying civil case has  
20 been resolved.

21 The debt has been paid. What we're hoping to  
22 do with the help of the Commission staff and their  
23 attorneys is to resolve the administrative matter  
24 and, you know, just kind of let everybody do their  
25 thing going forward.

1           So if there are any questions, I'd be happy to  
2 answer them. Otherwise, I don't want to take up  
3 too much time.

4           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. McGinn.  
5 Commissioners, are there any questions?  
6 Thank you for coming before us today.

7           With that, is there anybody from the public  
8 that would like -- it looks like Mr. Rutledge would  
9 like to.

10          MR. RUTLEDGE: Briefly with regards to the  
11 first matter that's going to be considered in the  
12 attorney-client session, St. Petersburg Kennel  
13 Club. Since I won't be here for the  
14 attorney-client session, I want to just give you a  
15 couple of thoughts which are set forth in  
16 correspondence on a proposed settlement.

17          There are two issues with regards to this  
18 administrative complaint. One has to do with an  
19 individual that was not on the surveillance list at  
20 the facility. I would just point out a couple of  
21 things.

22          There was quite a bit of the confusion in the  
23 original investigation. It had incorrect dates and  
24 so forth. The Commission got it squared away, and  
25 so we're not contesting that.

1           But there was a lot of time and energy and  
2 money that went into get that squared away on the  
3 front end. There was no question about the  
4 individual being authorized to be there.

5           He wasn't on the list. That's regrettable.  
6 That's unfortunate, but he was a licensed person.  
7 There was never any allegation of any untoward  
8 conduct during the surveil activity.

9           The second issue had to do with the damaged  
10 card. As you know, damaged cards have to be taken  
11 out of play and accounted for. It was. It was  
12 accounted for. It was sealed, the dates and so  
13 forth.

14           It was merely the neglect of having a table  
15 number on the envelope that had the damaged card  
16 which was replaced. And so we would ask for your  
17 consideration for our proposed settlement that will  
18 be before you in the attorney-client session.  
19 Thank you.

20           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Rutledge.

21           Is there anybody else from the public that  
22 would like to address us before we turn over to our  
23 attorney-client meeting portion? Seeing none, I'm  
24 going to turn it over to Ms. Valentine.

25           MS. VALENTINE: The office of the general

1 counsel requests the commissioners to close the  
2 meeting so that the Office of the General Counsel  
3 may seek advice from the commissioners in a closed  
4 meeting concerning litigation style for the Florida  
5 Gaming Control Commission versus St. Petersburg  
6 Kennel Club, Inc., Case No. 2025-001169,  
7 Florida Gaming Control Commission versus Pavlo  
8 Kapynos, Case No. 2025-033551,  
9 Florida Gaming Control Commission versus  
10 Hector Garcia Cornejo Ysantana, Case No.  
11 2025-059681.

12 And Florida Gaming Control Commission versus  
13 Arcade 20, Payment Alliance International, Inc.,  
14 Vantage Technical Service, Inc., and Tri Eagle ATM  
15 Inc., Case No. 25-CA-000541.

16 This advice relates to litigation strategy and  
17 settlement negotiation and will require discussion  
18 of active criminal investigative or intelligence  
19 information and may therefore be discussed in  
20 private pursuant to Sections 16.716 and 286.011(8)  
21 Florida Statutes.

22 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you, Ms. Valentine.  
23 In connection with the performance of our  
24 regulatory duties, it is necessary for the  
25 Commission to hear information that is exempt or

1 confidential.

2 Specifically, Commission counsel will be  
3 discussing litigation strategy and settlement  
4 negotiations with the Commissioners related to the  
5 aforementioned litigation style previously  
6 disclosed.

7 The closed meeting is scheduled for  
8 approximately 45 minutes. It could be a little bit  
9 shorter than that or a little bit longer. Those in  
10 attendance will be Vice Chair Julie Brown,  
11 Commissioner Chuck Drago, Commissioner Tina Repp,  
12 Commissioner John D'Aquila.

13 And under our Commission staff, Executive  
14 Director Alana Zimmer, Deputy Executive Director  
15 Brandon McCaffery, General Counsel Elina Valentine,  
16 Director of PMW Joe Dillmore, Director of Gaming  
17 Enforcement Carl Herold, Chief of Law Enforcement  
18 Gary Snyder, Deputy General Counsel Marc Taupier;  
19 Chief Attorney Emily Alvarado, Chief Attorney Renee  
20 Harkins, and Senior Attorney Justin Hundersmarck,  
21 Business Manager Dixie Parker, Administrative  
22 Assistant Brandy Humphries, and our certified court  
23 reporter.

24 In accordance with Sections 16.716 and  
25 286.011(8)(c) Florida Statutes, the closed meeting

1 is necessary. The specific reasons for such a  
2 necessity will be recorded by our certified court  
3 reporter.

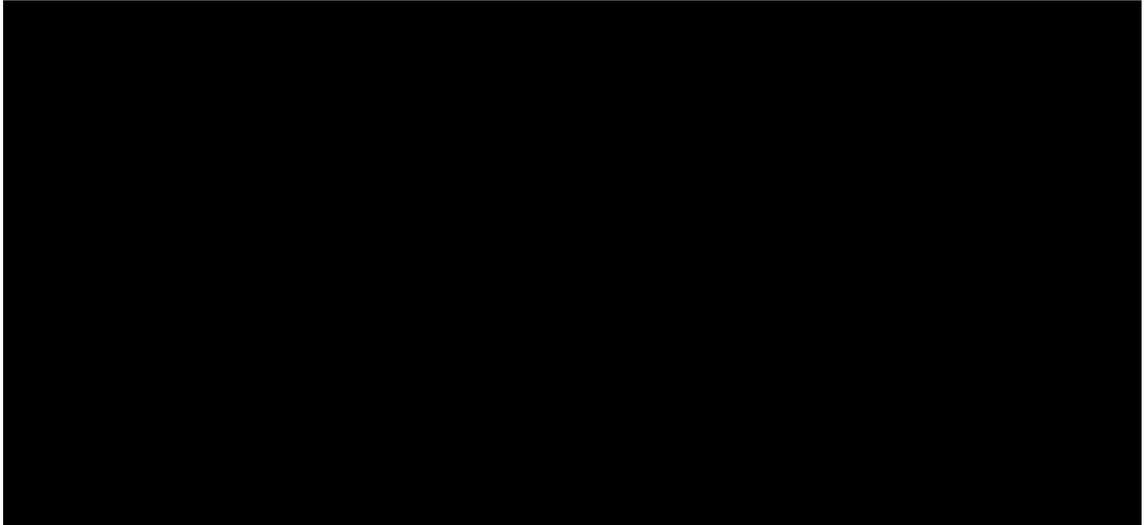
4 No portion of the closed meeting will be off  
5 the record. The court reporter's notes will be  
6 fully transcribed and filed with the Clerk of the  
7 Commission and then made public upon conclusion of  
8 the litigation.

9 I will note for the record that the time is  
10 now 10:29 a.m. I'll ask the Florida Channel to  
11 discontinue the live feed for the next 45 minutes  
12 so that the Commission may conduct the closed  
13 meeting.

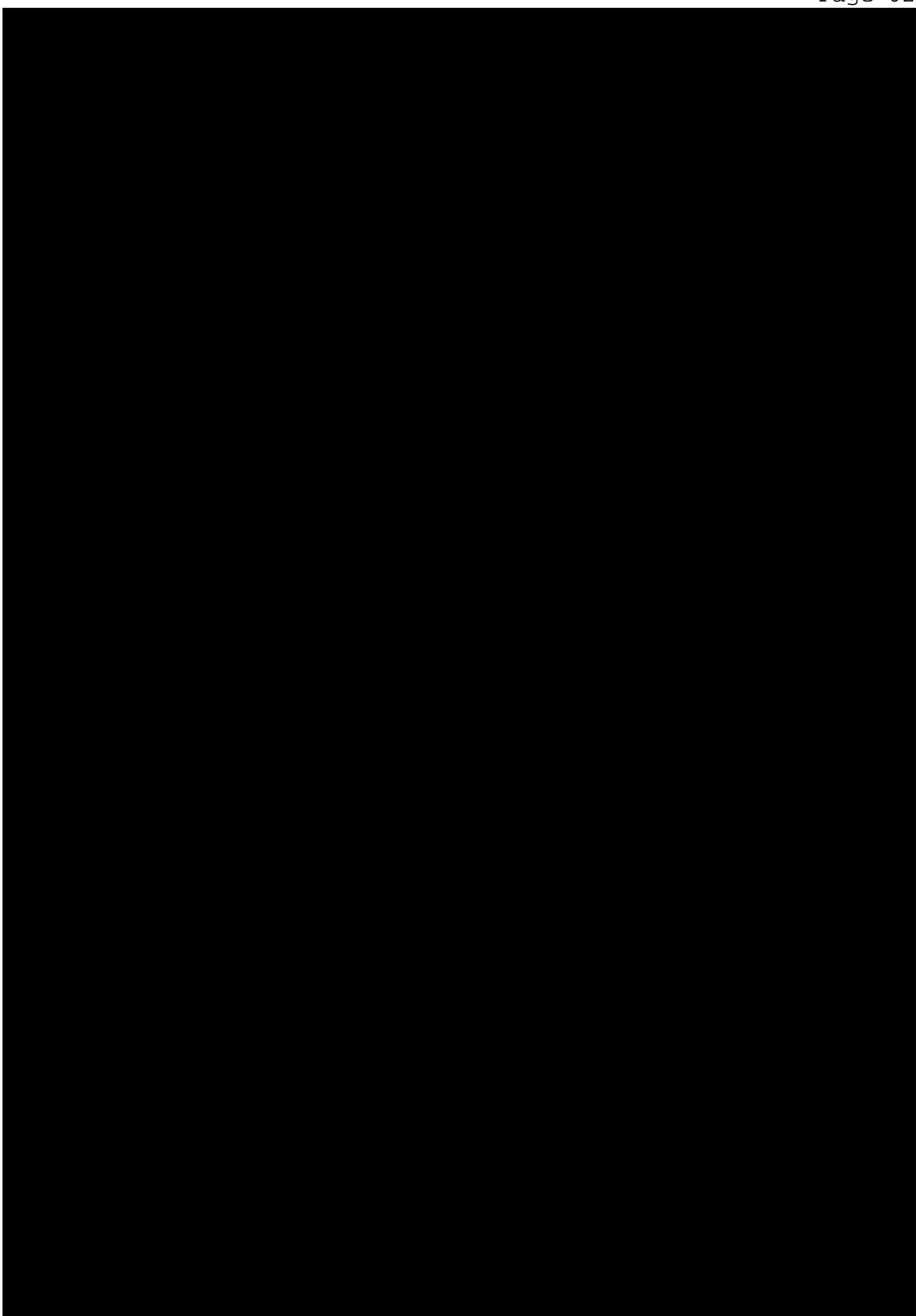
14 We want to thank the public for being here  
15 today, and we will see you in about 45 minutes.  
16 Thank you.

17 (Recess 10:30 a.m. until 10:40 a.m.)

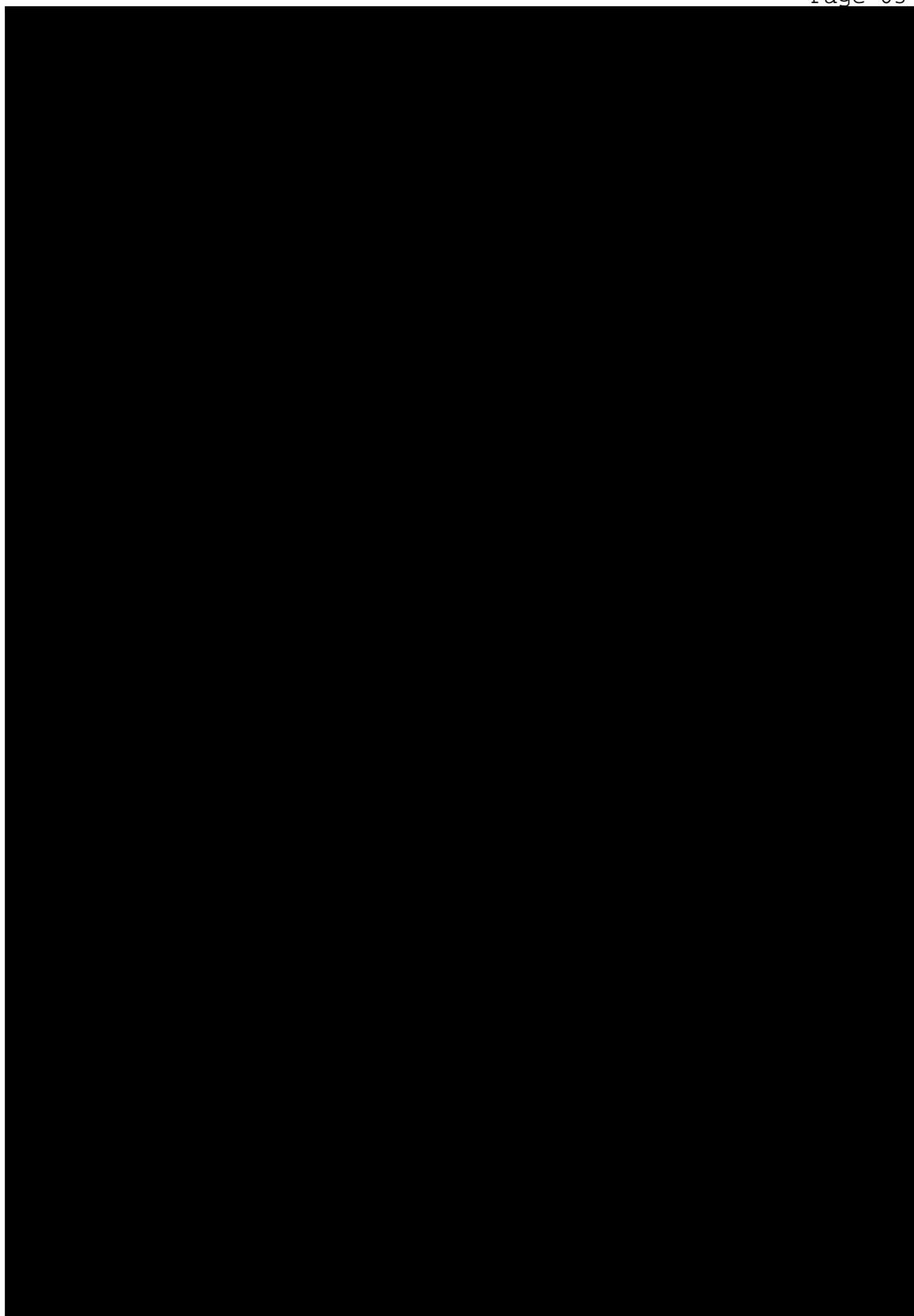
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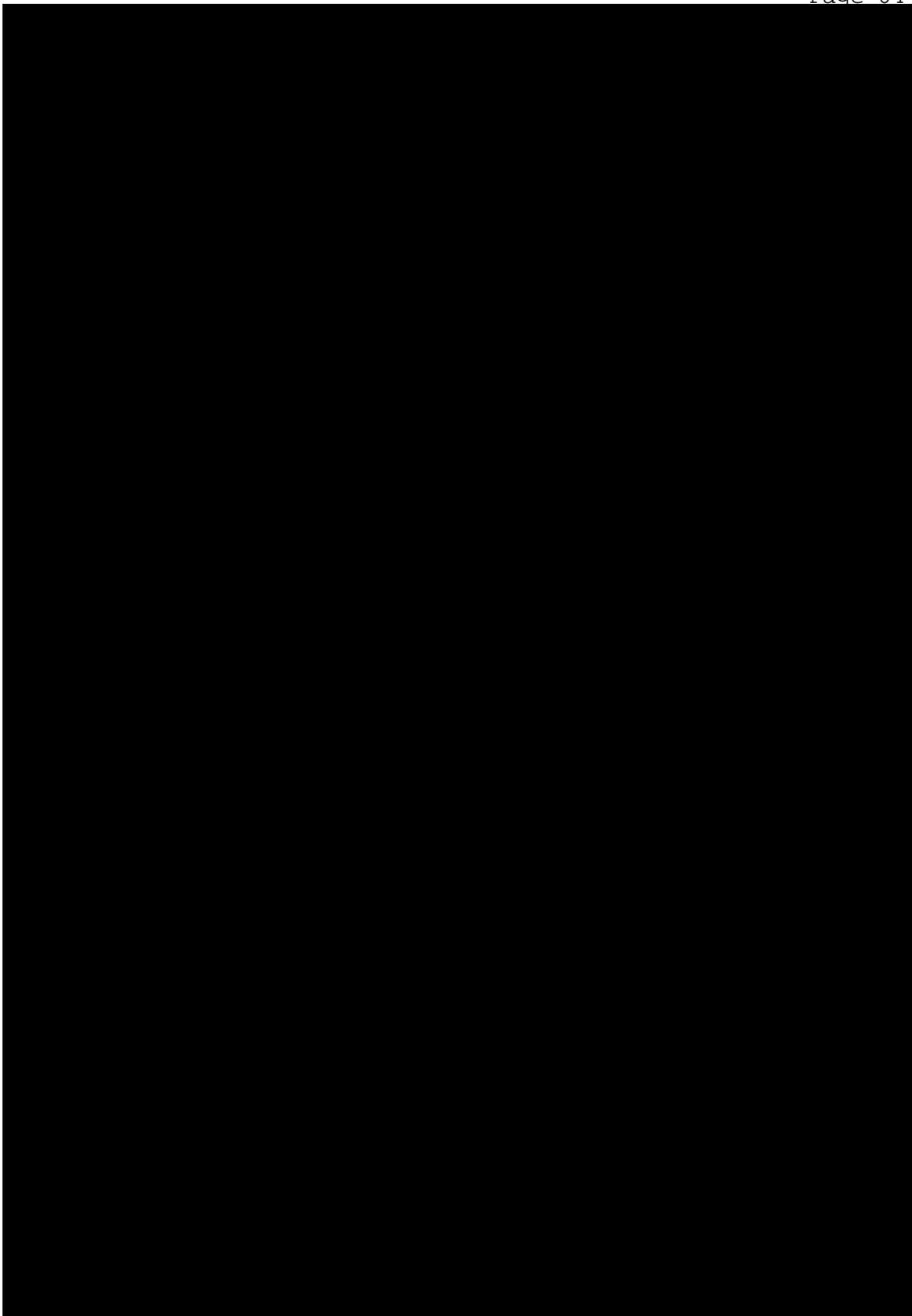
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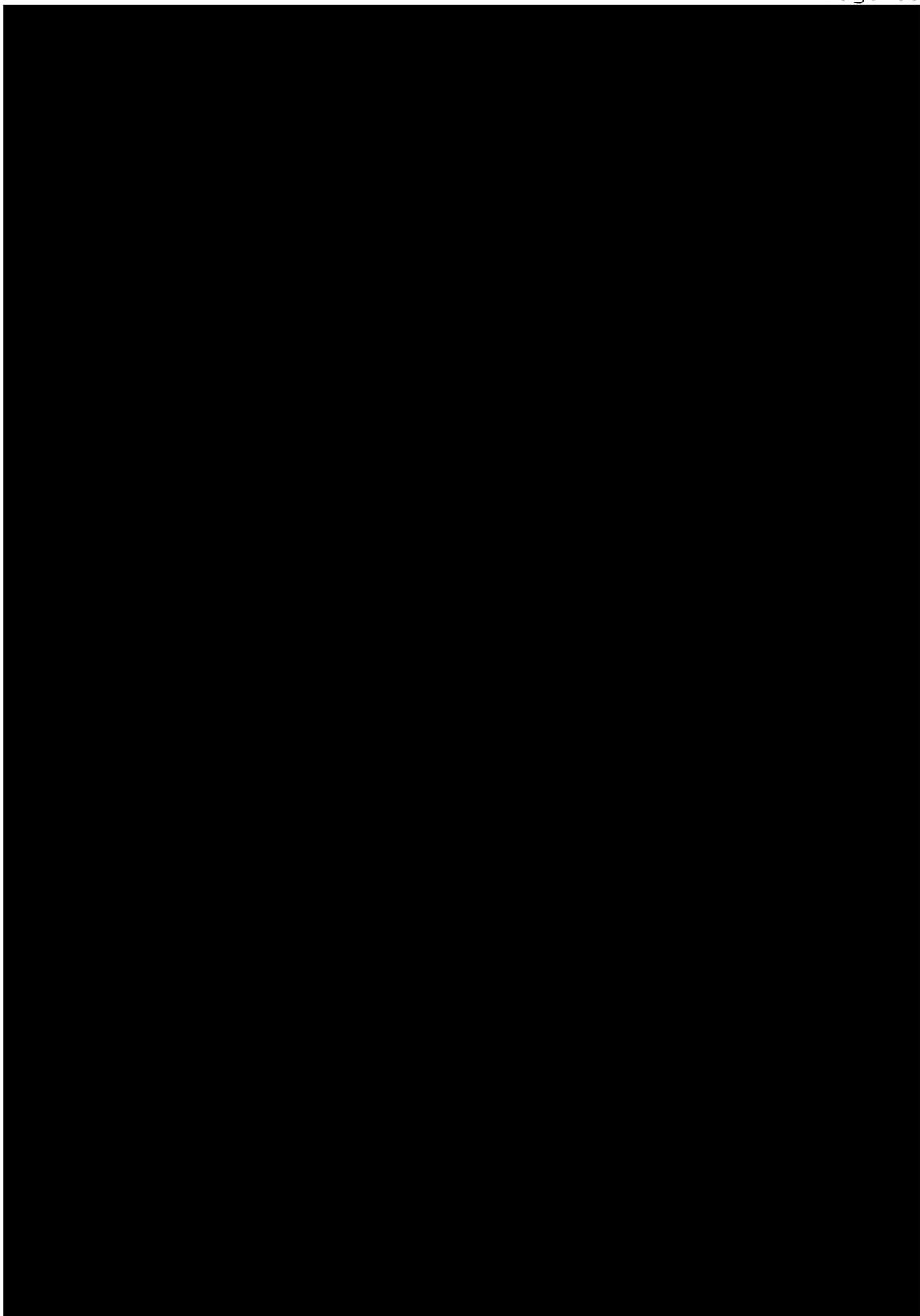
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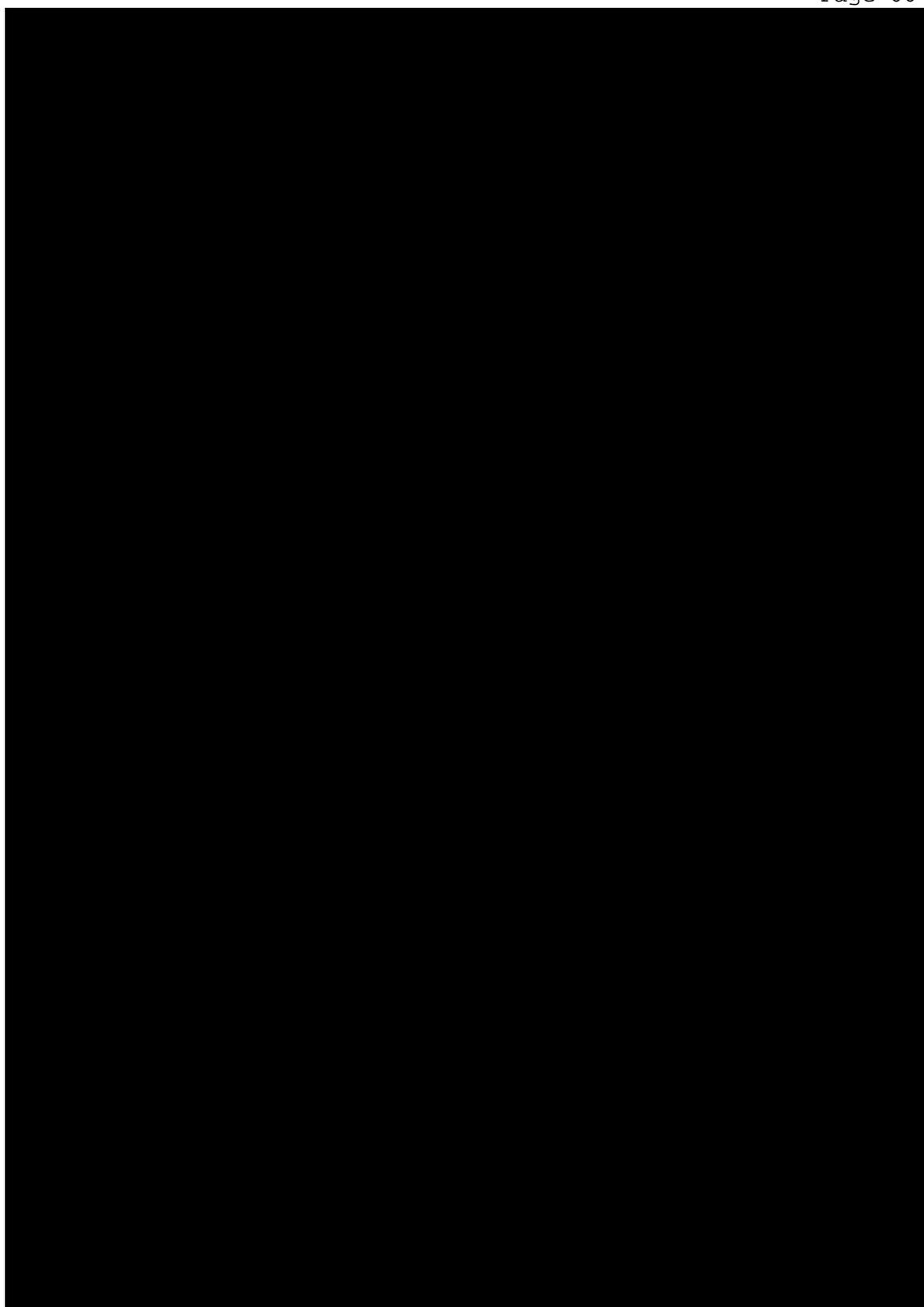
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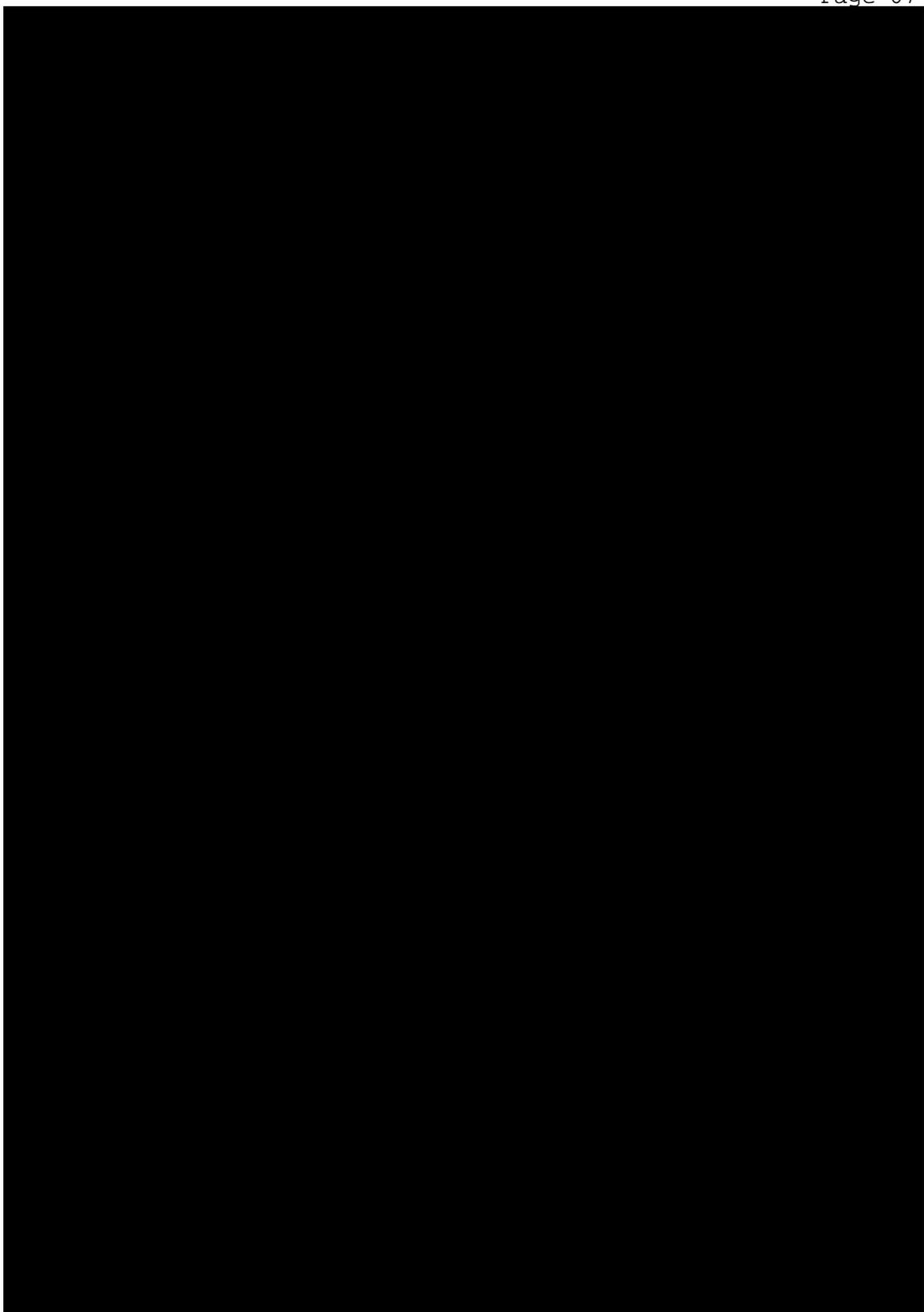
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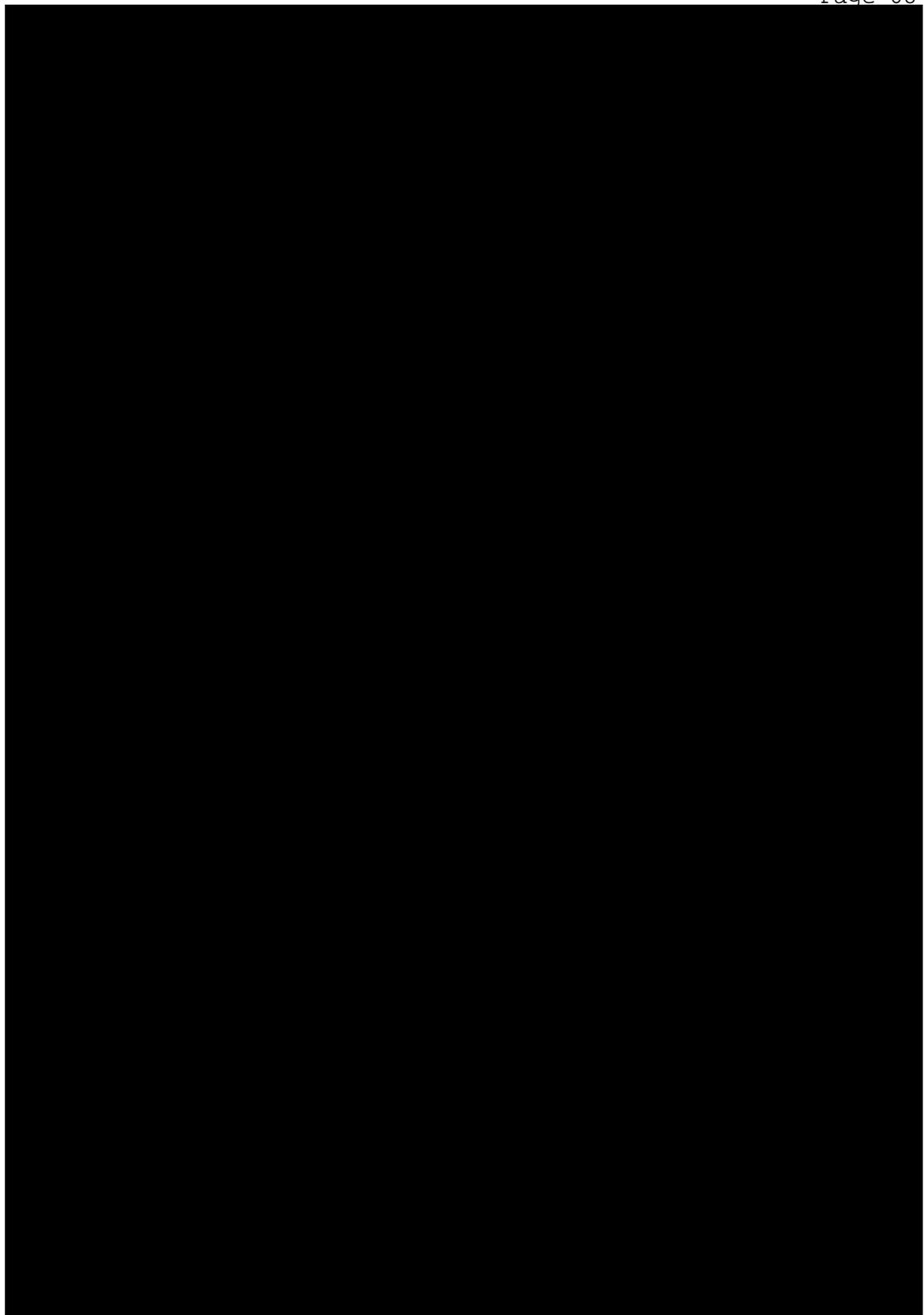
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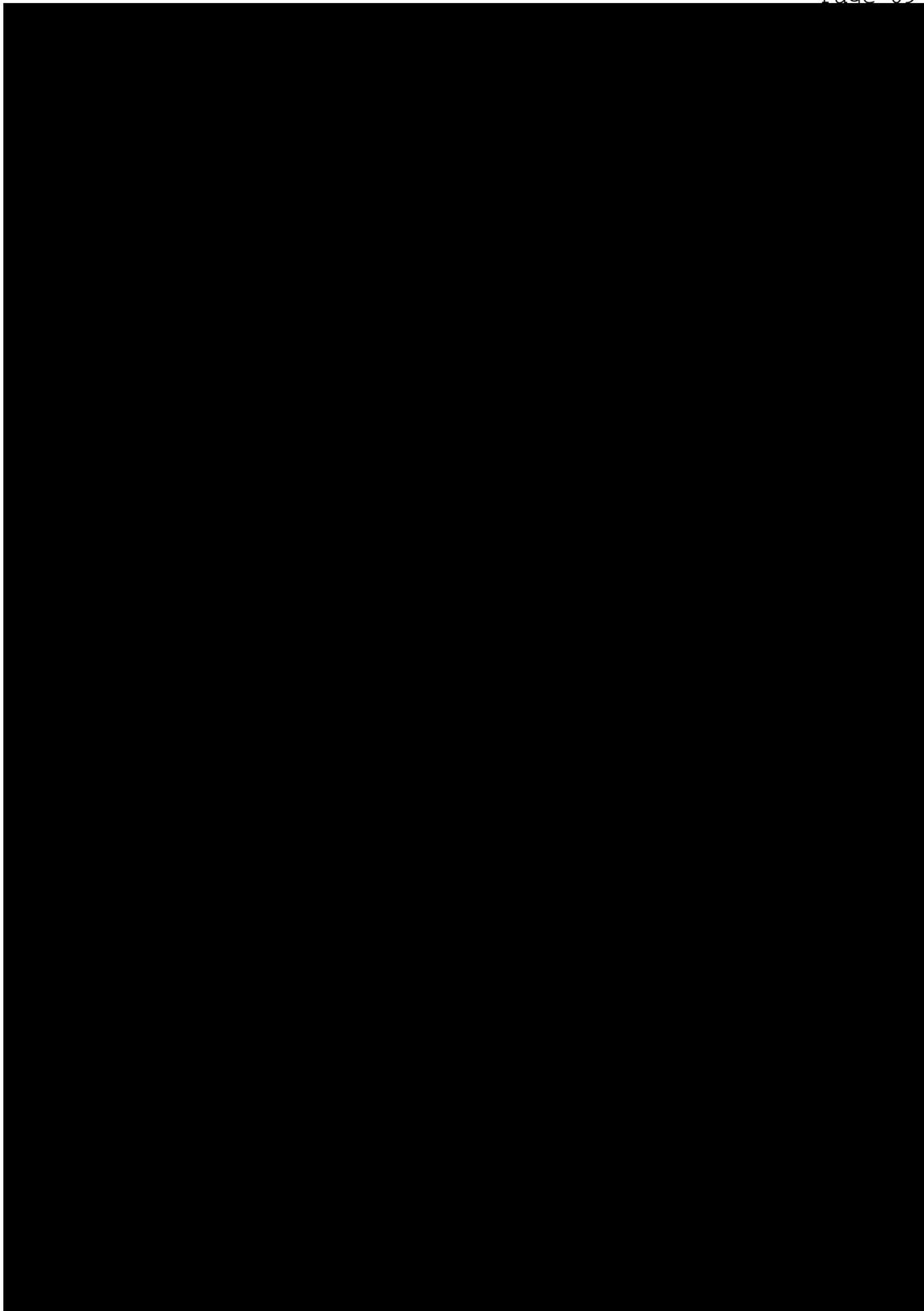
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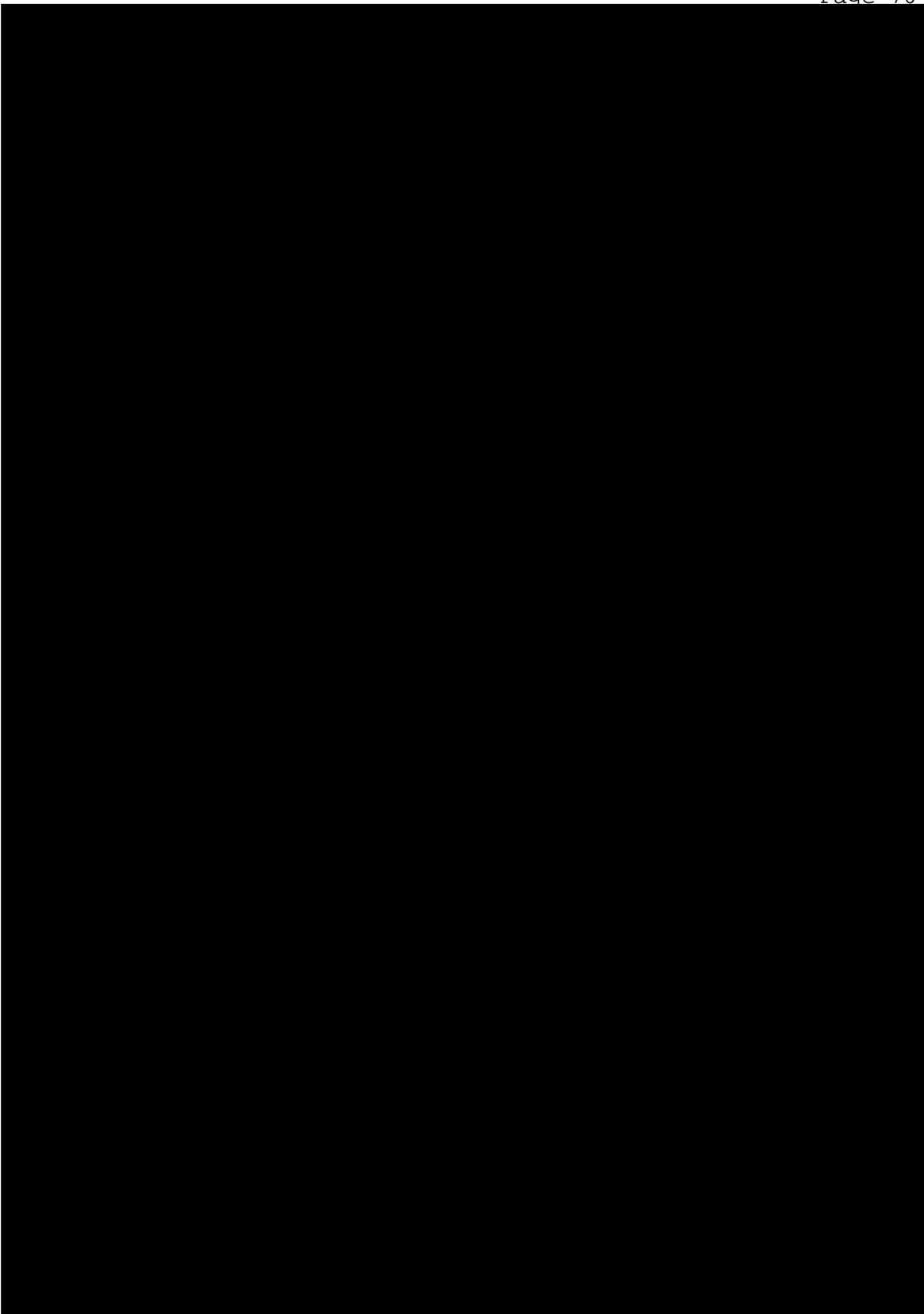
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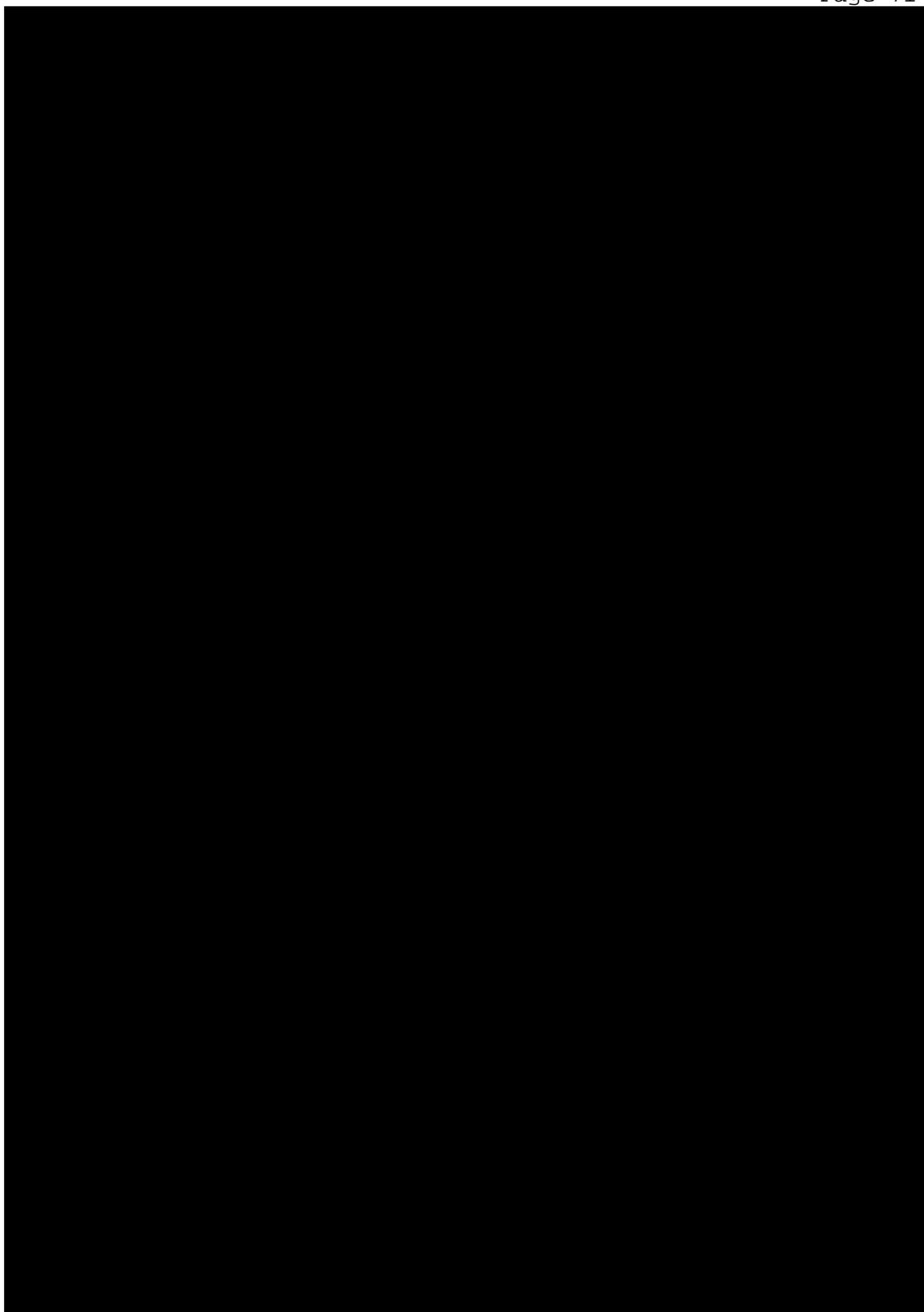
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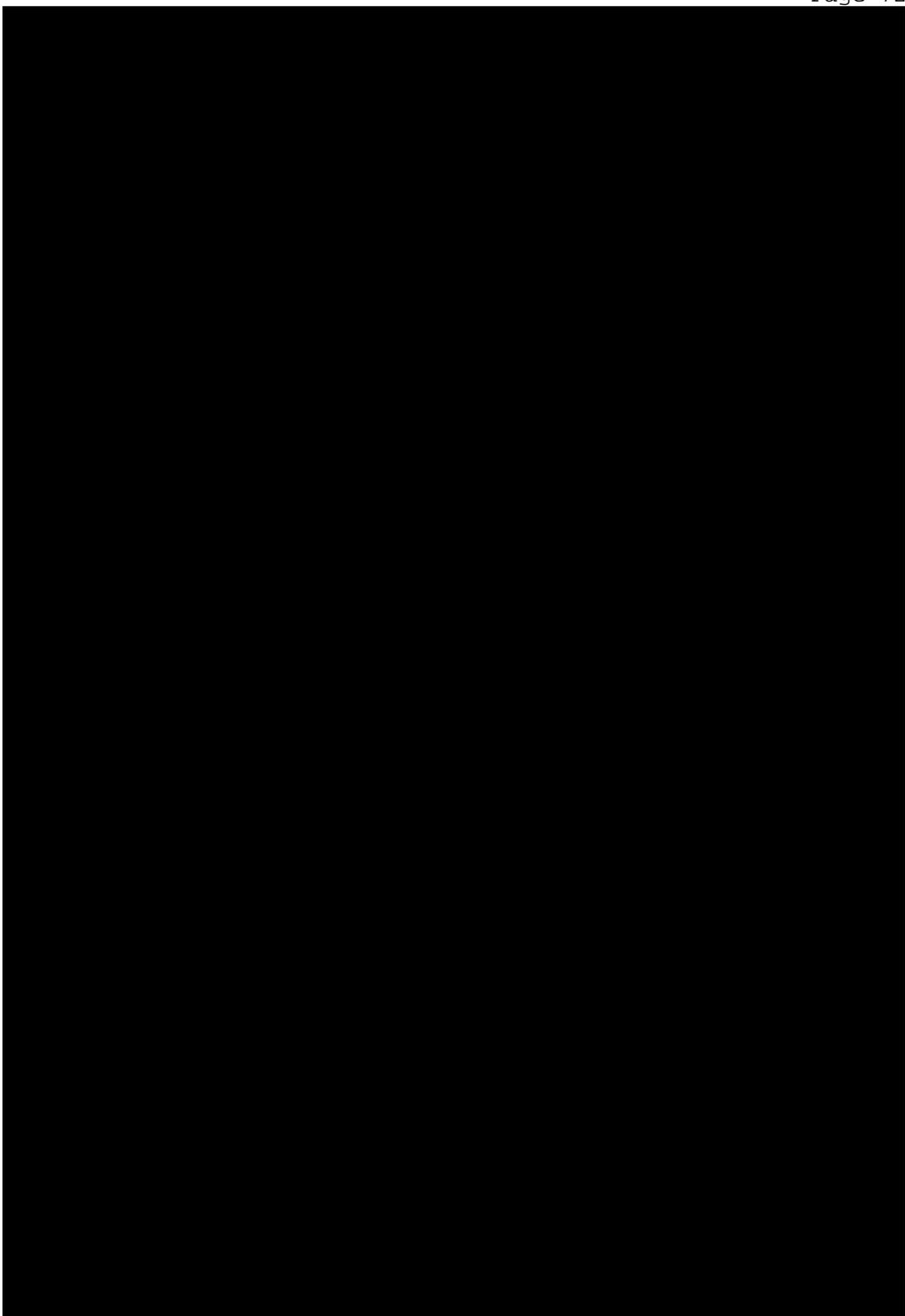
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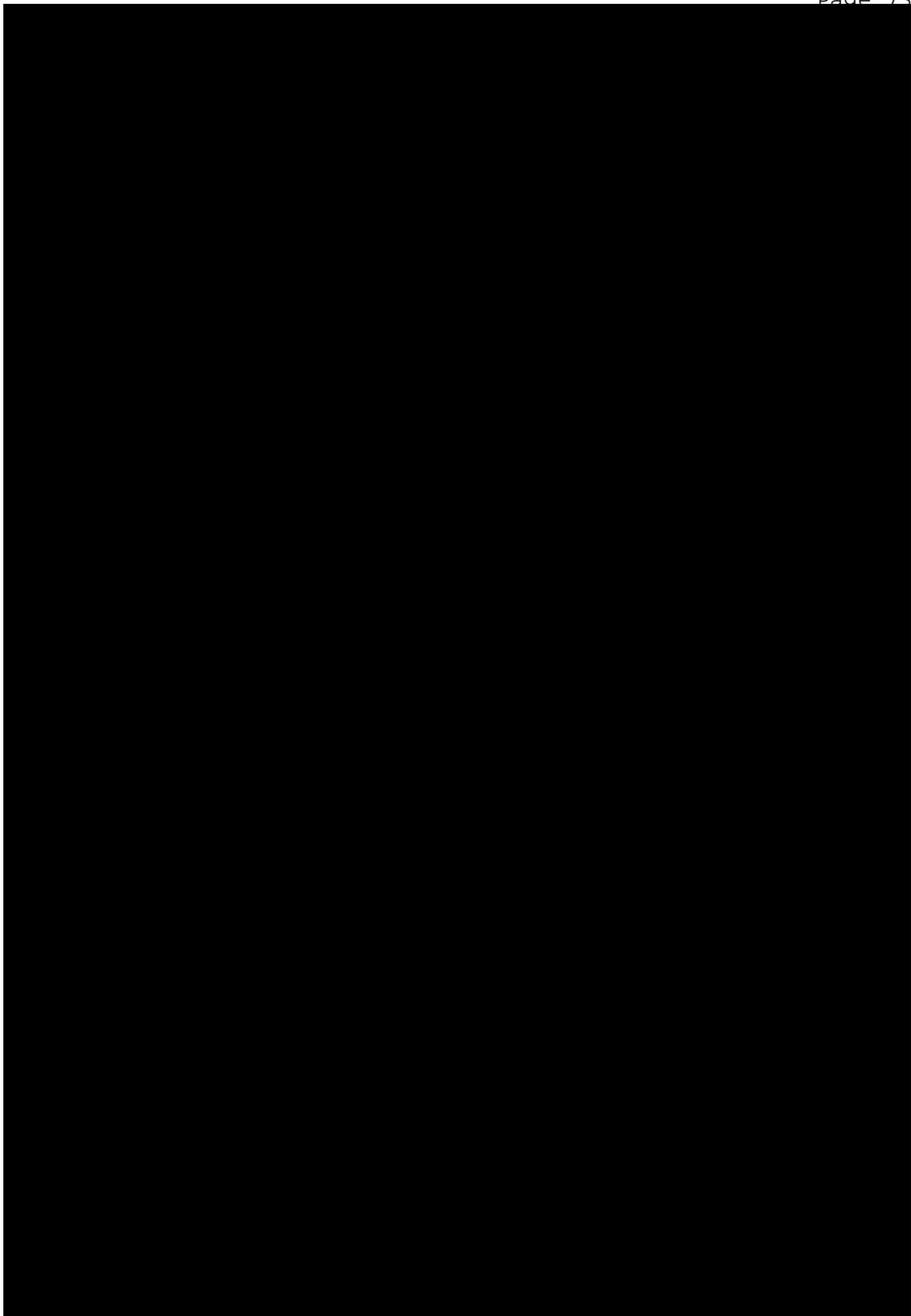
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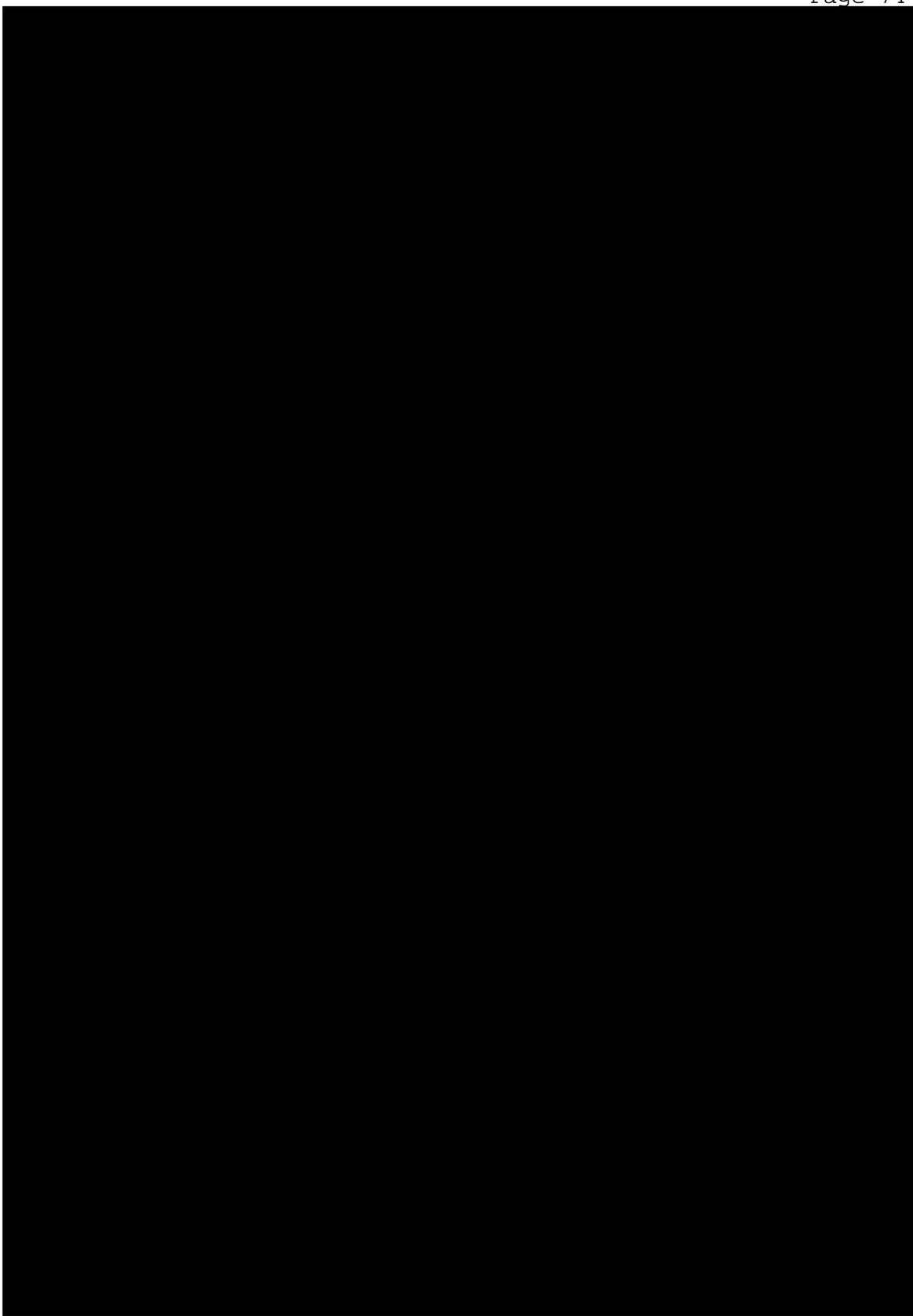
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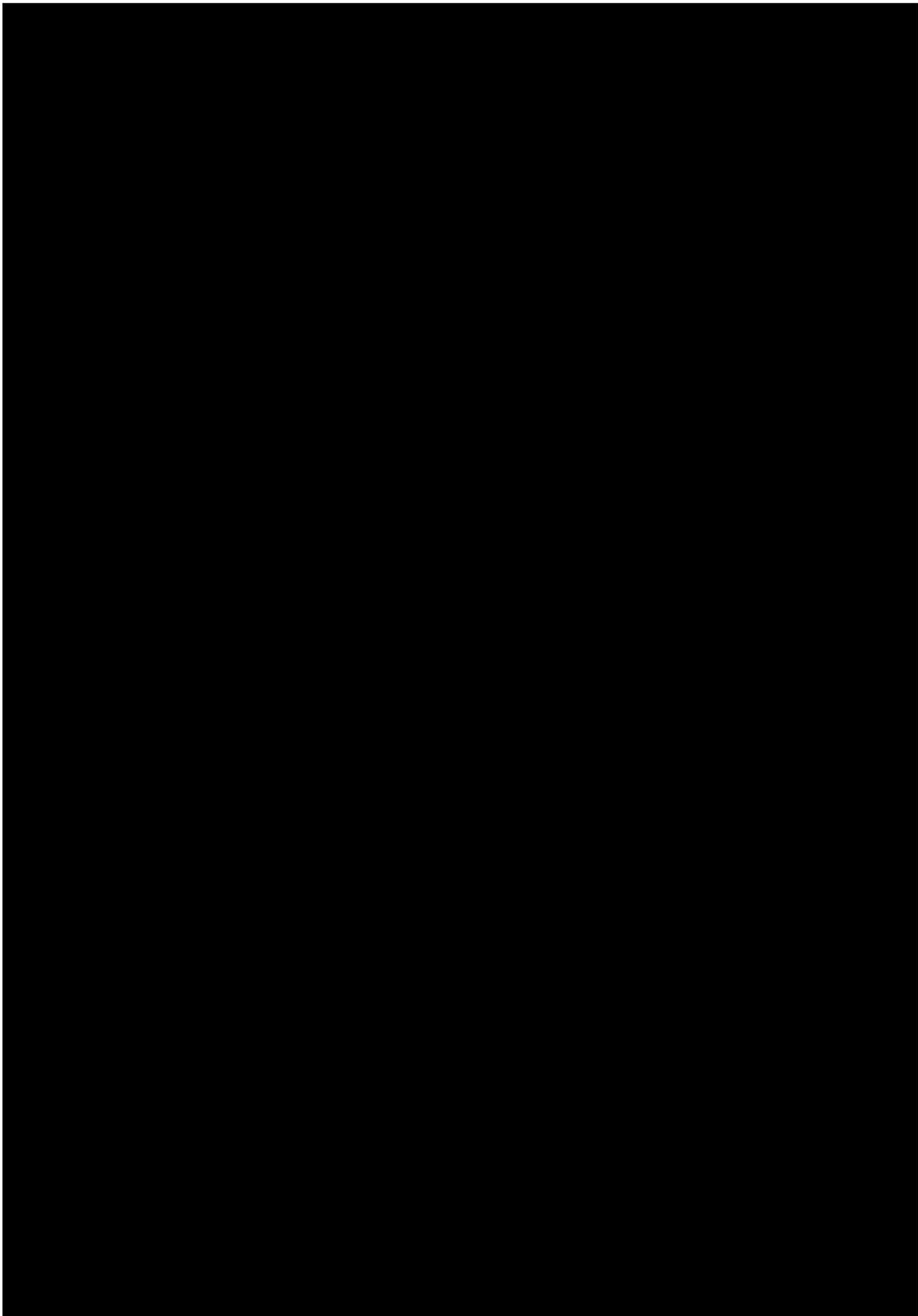
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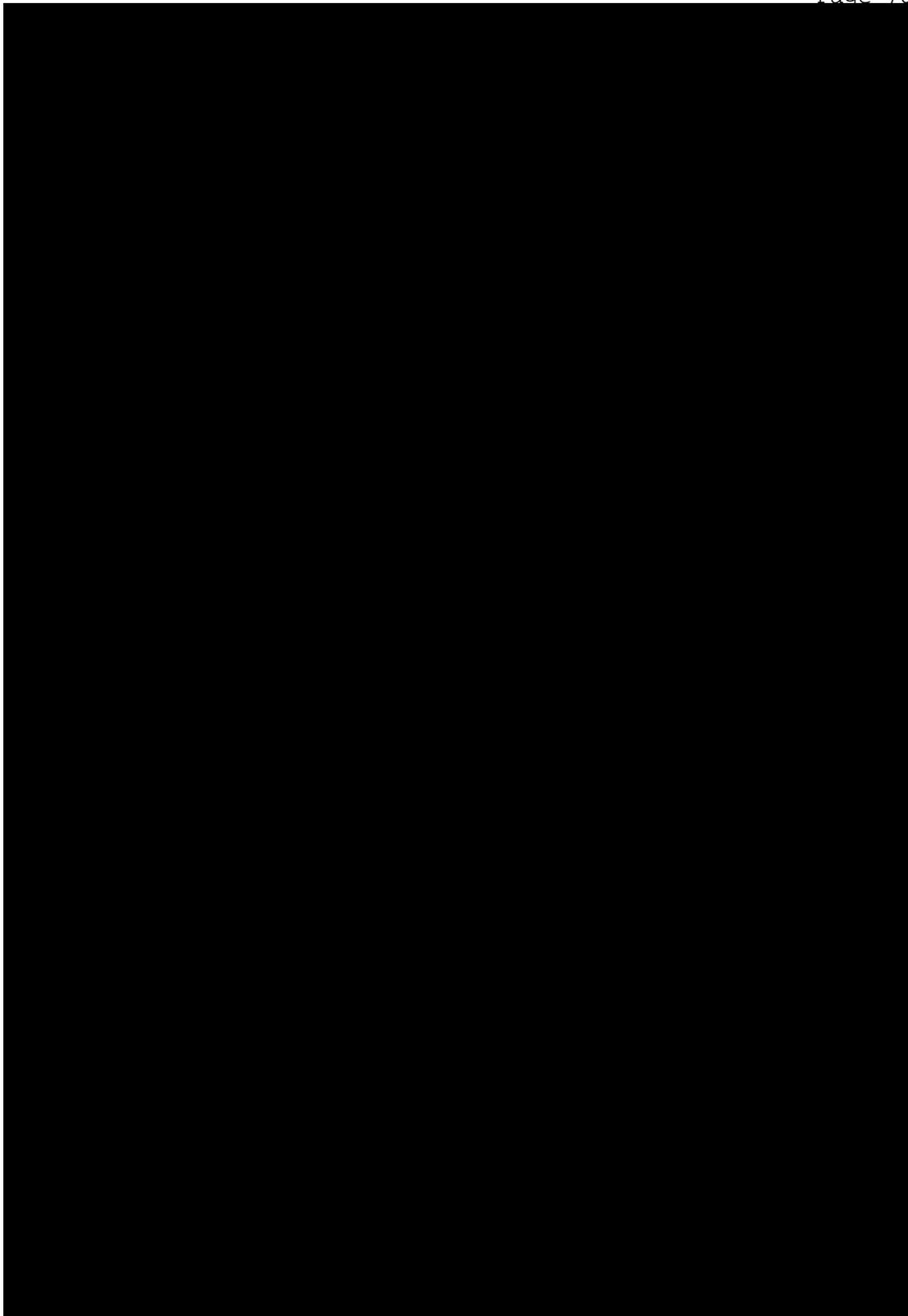
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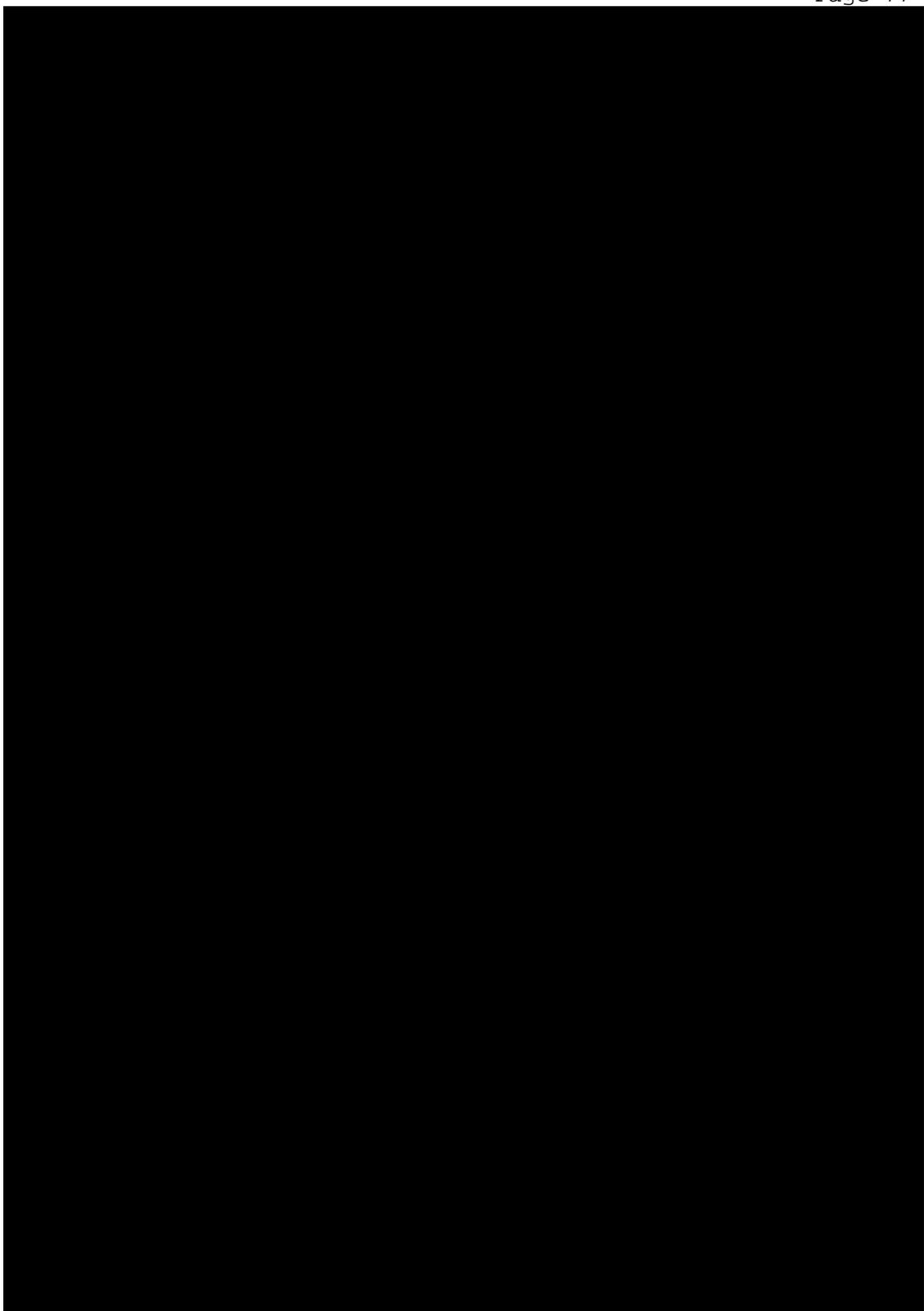
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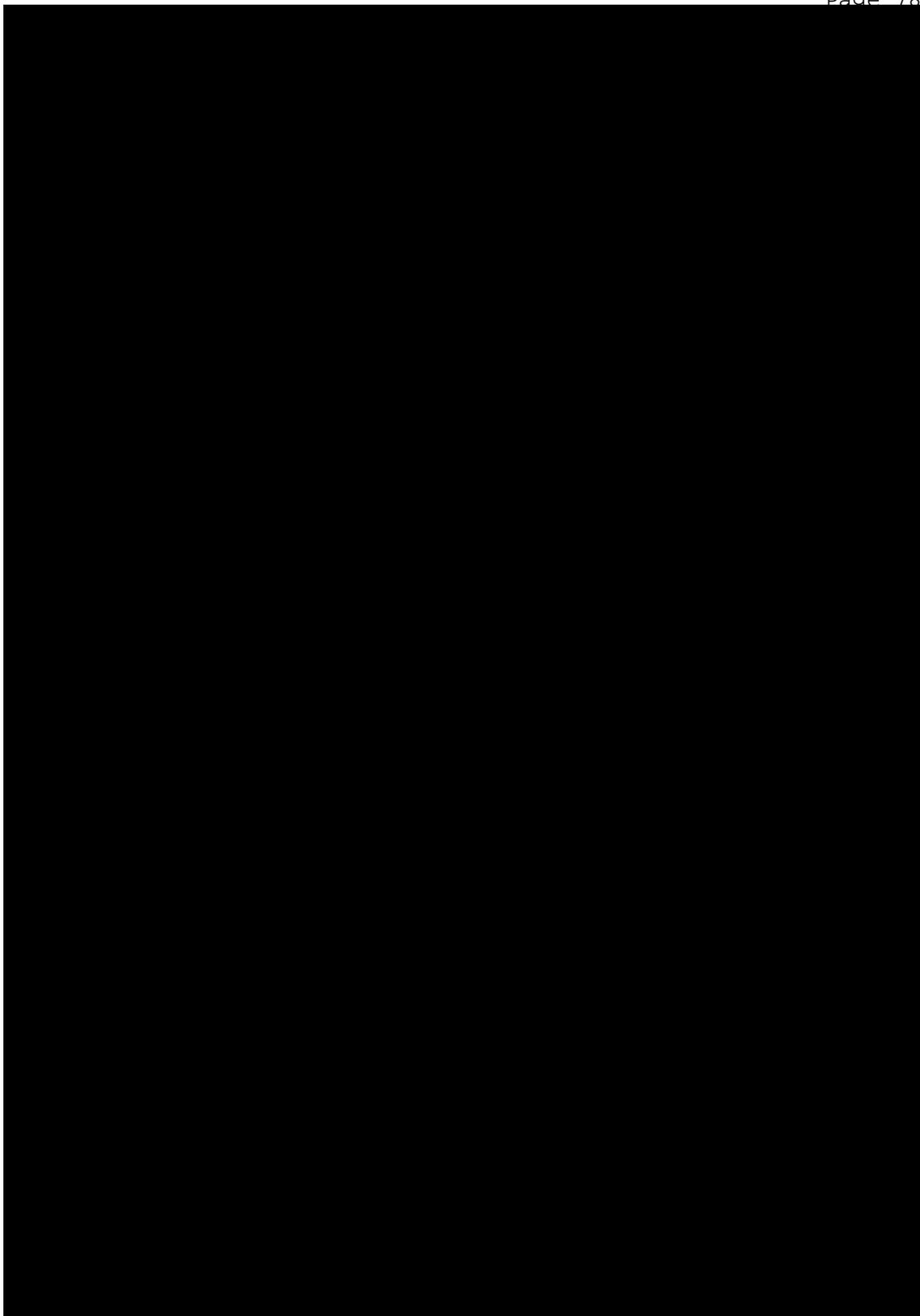
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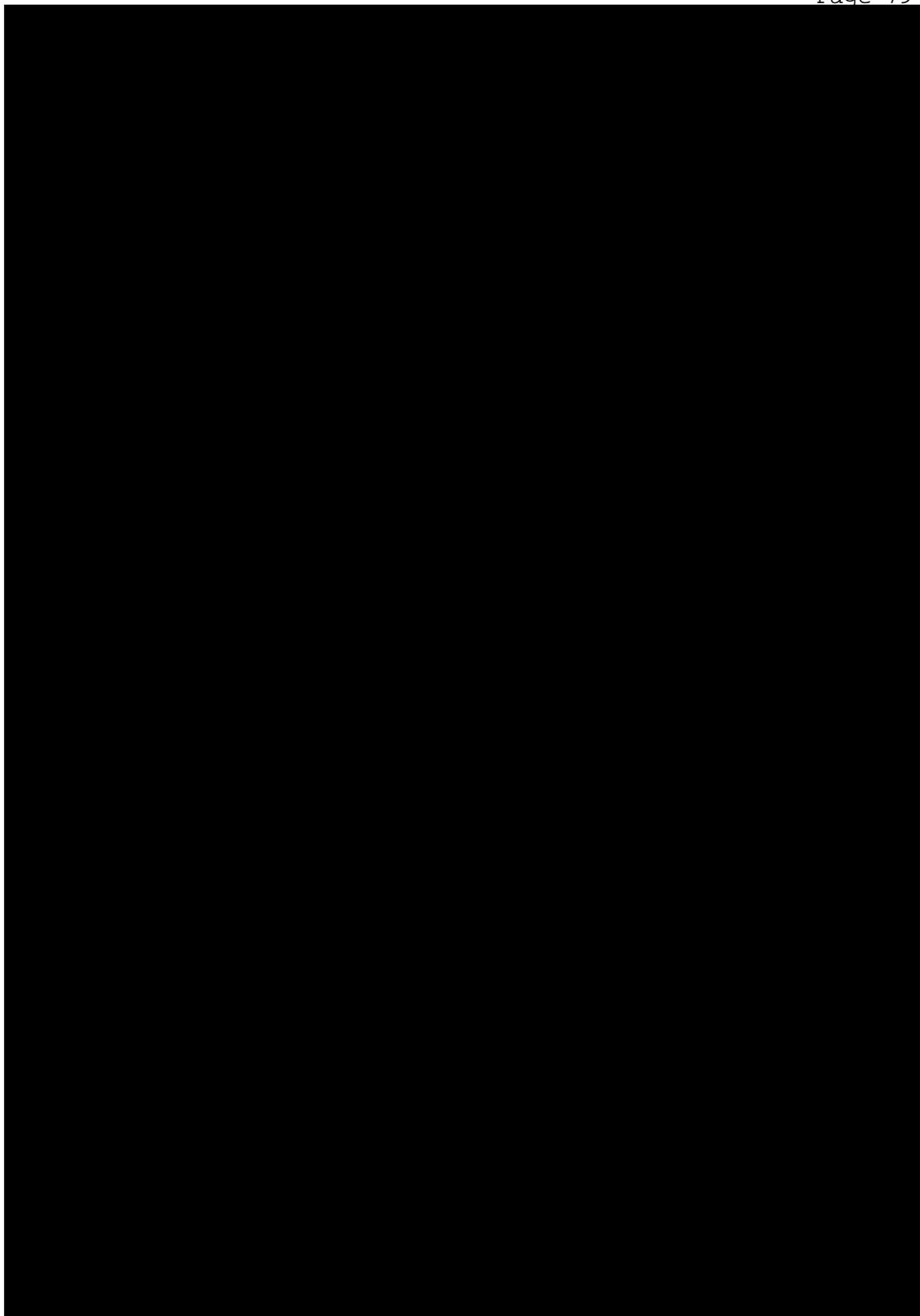
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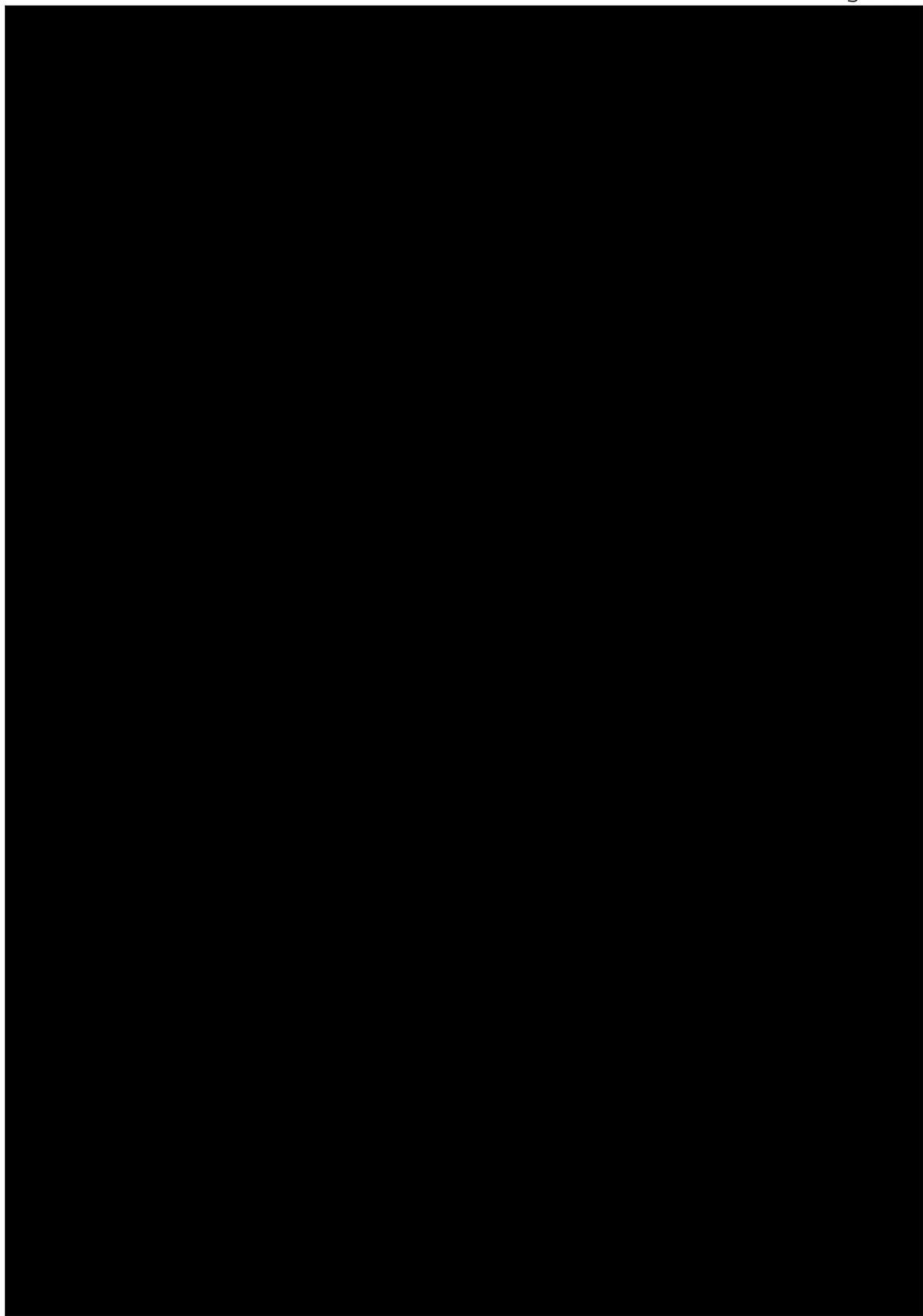
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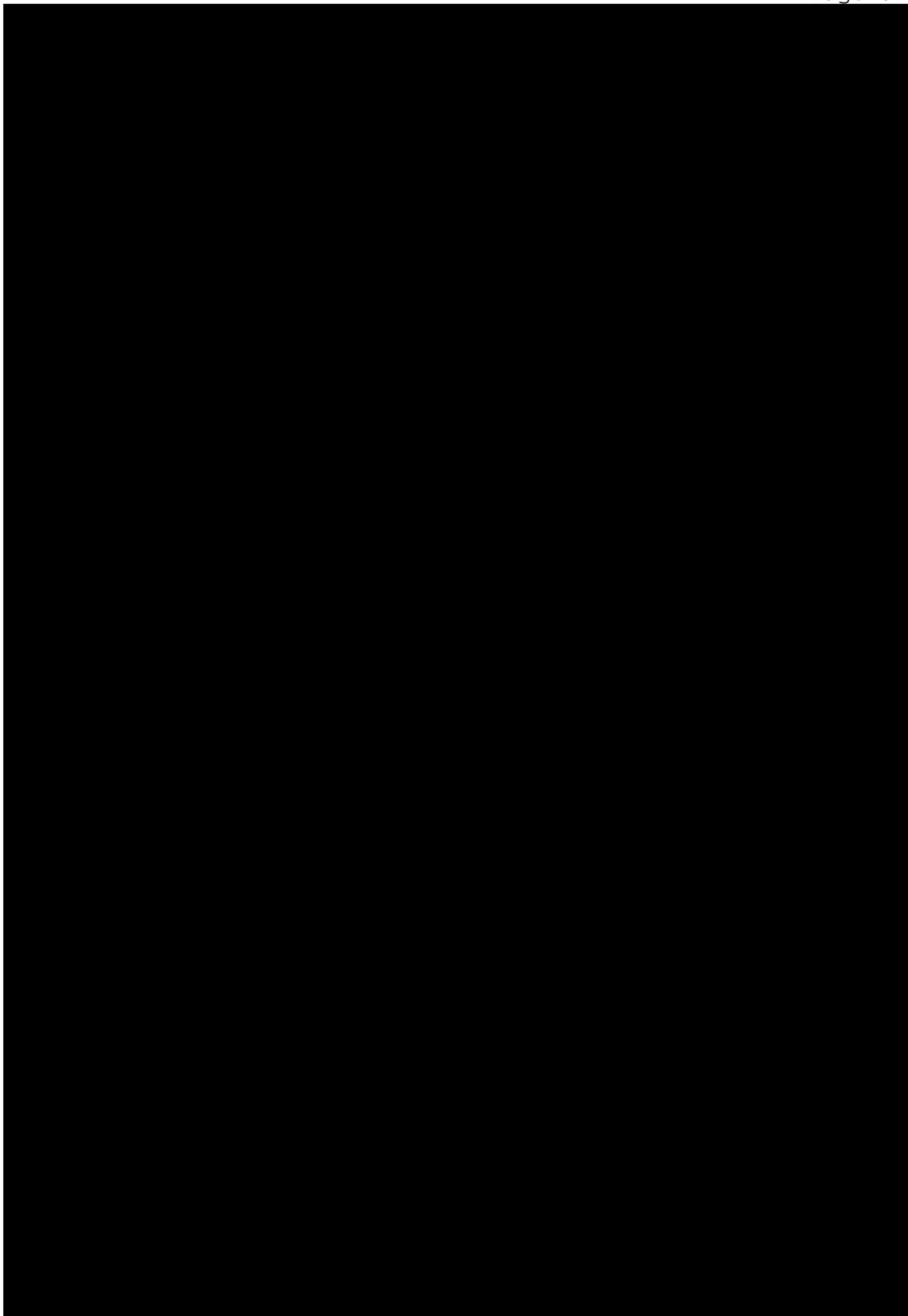
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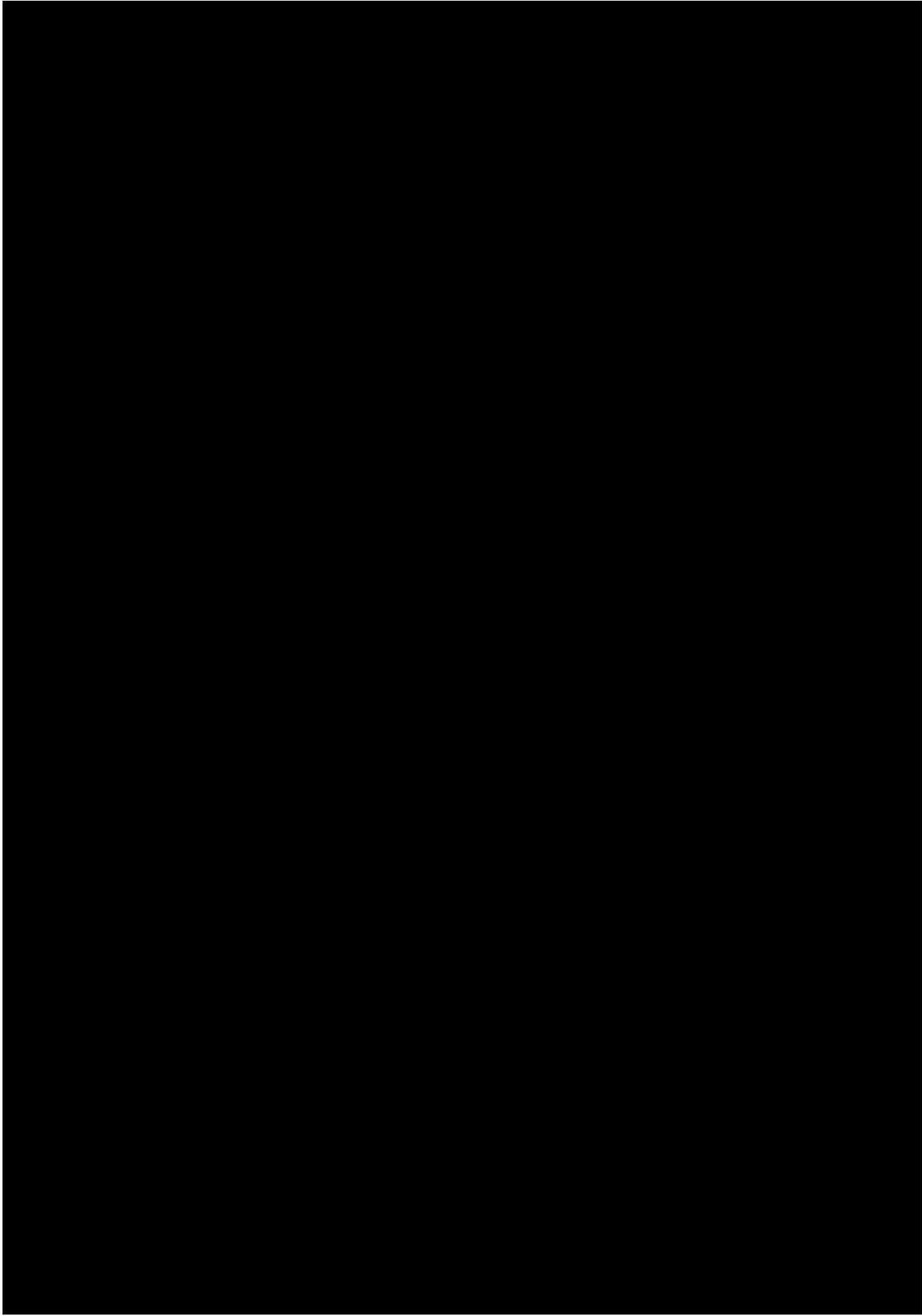
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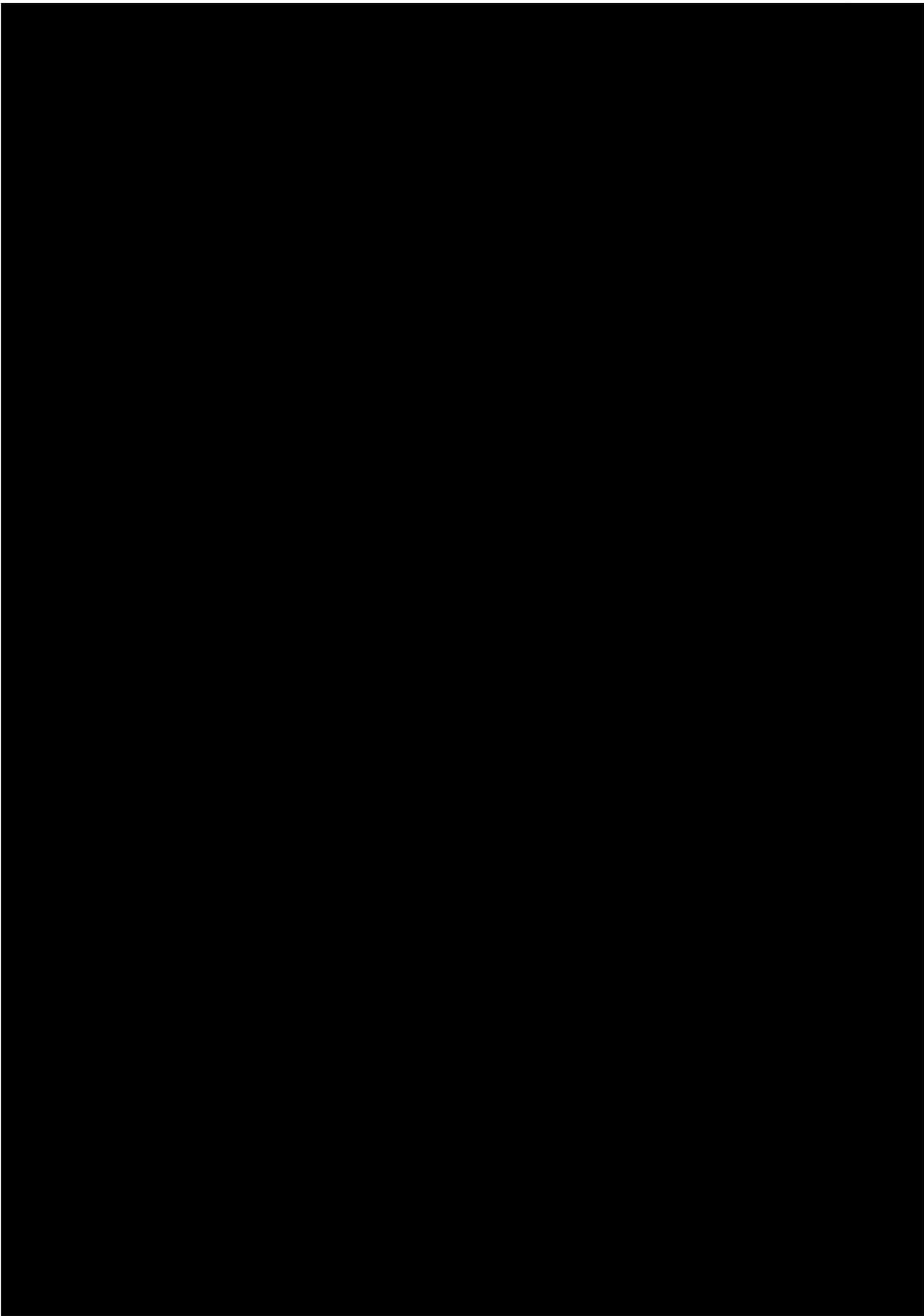
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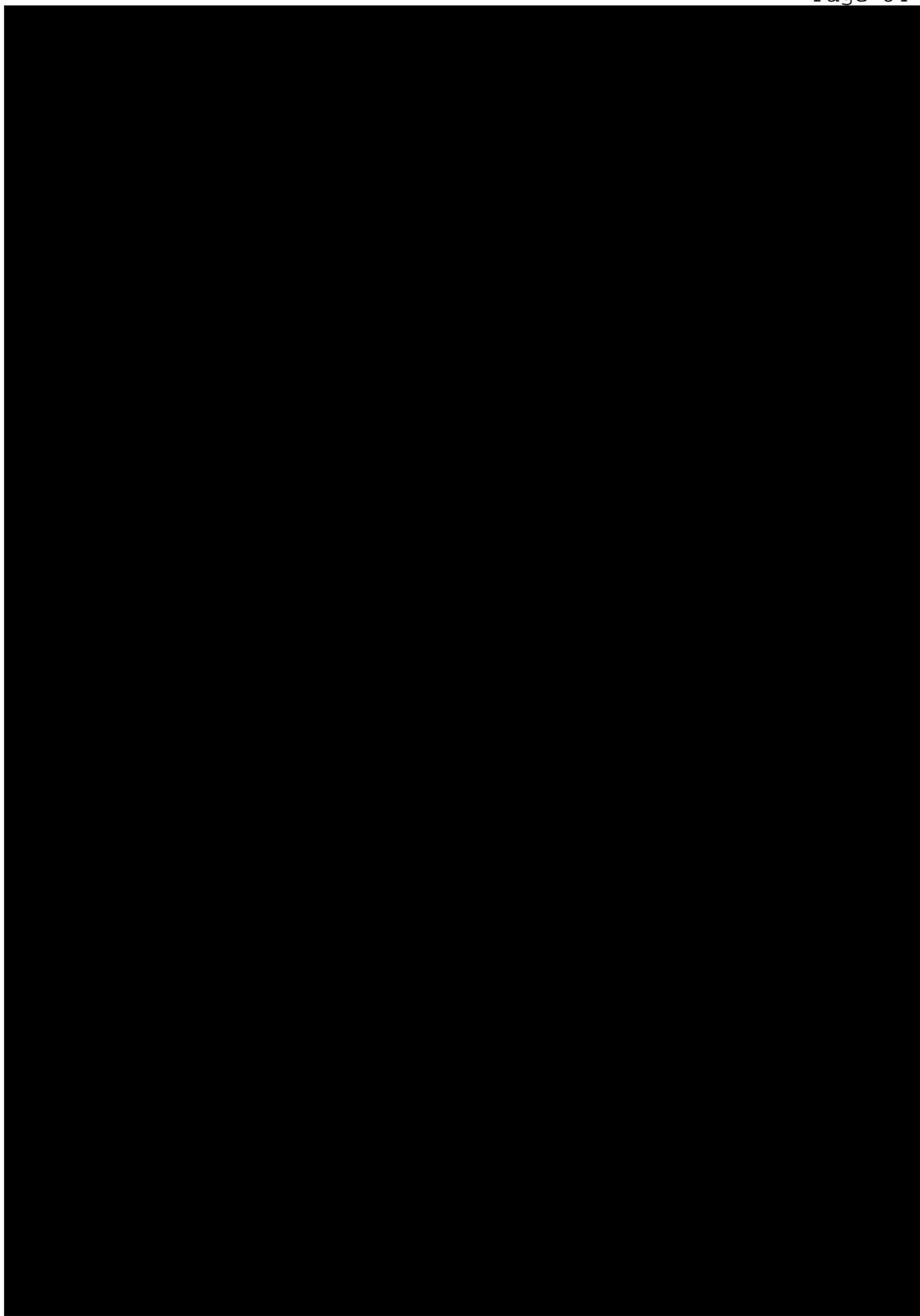
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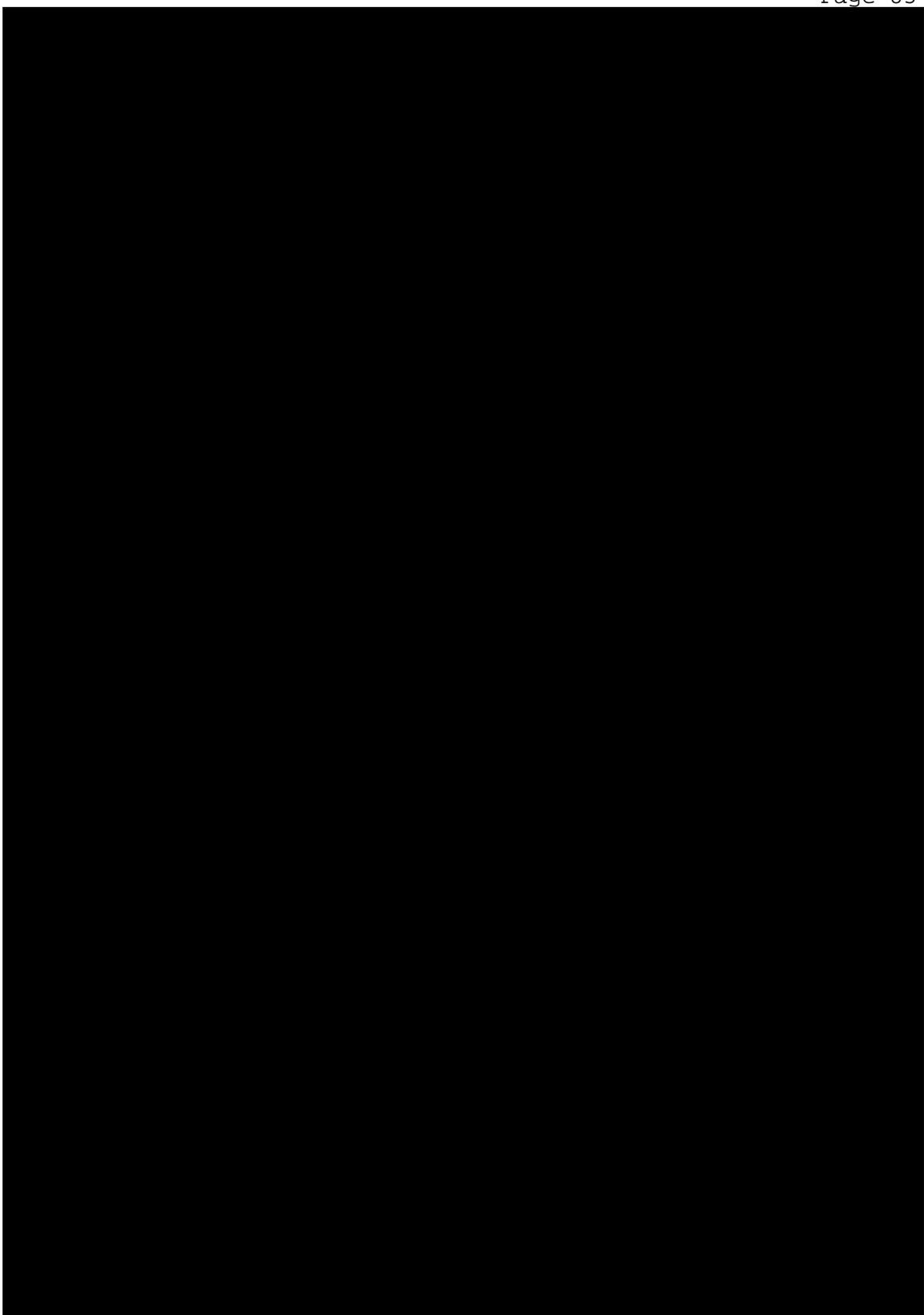
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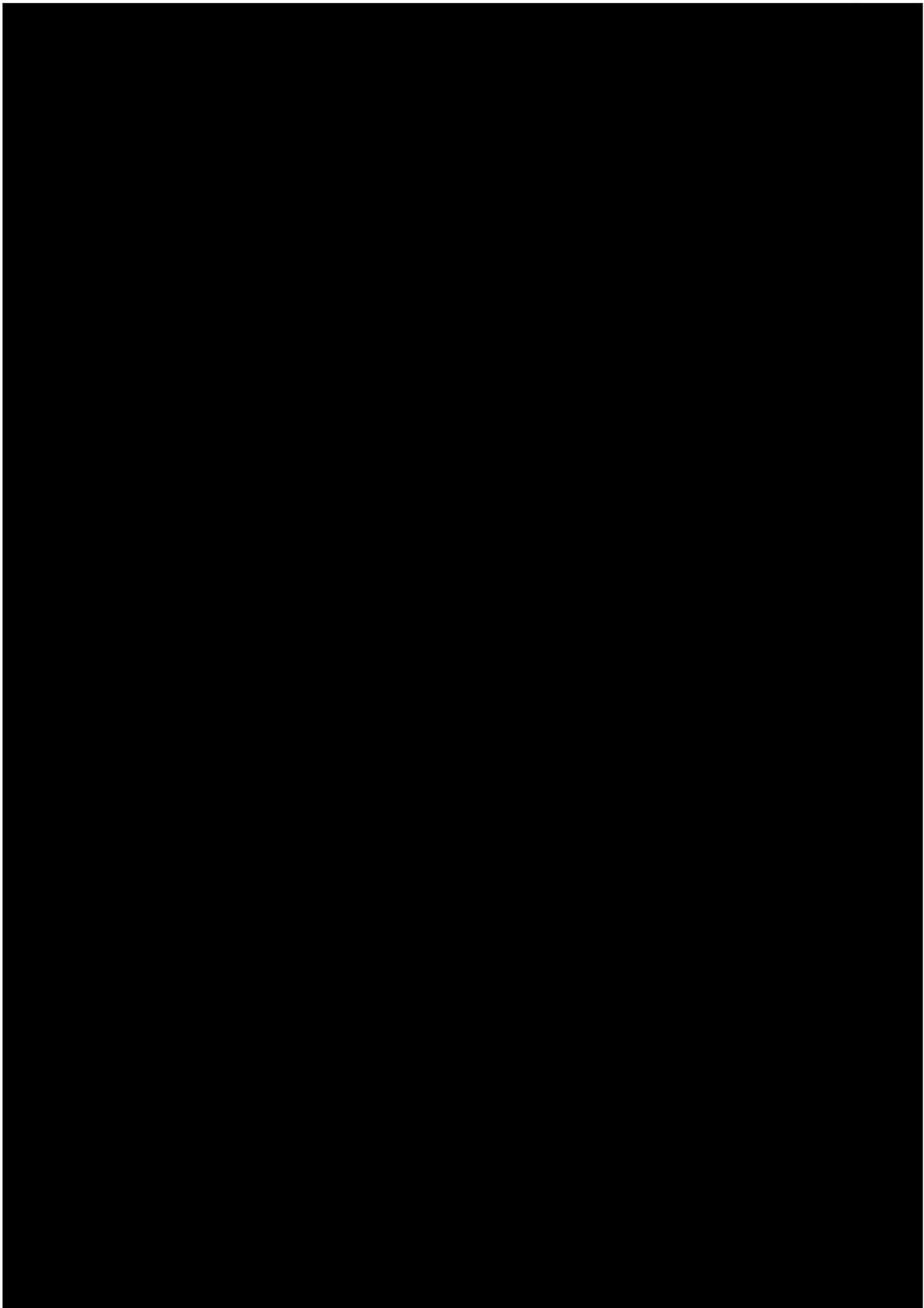
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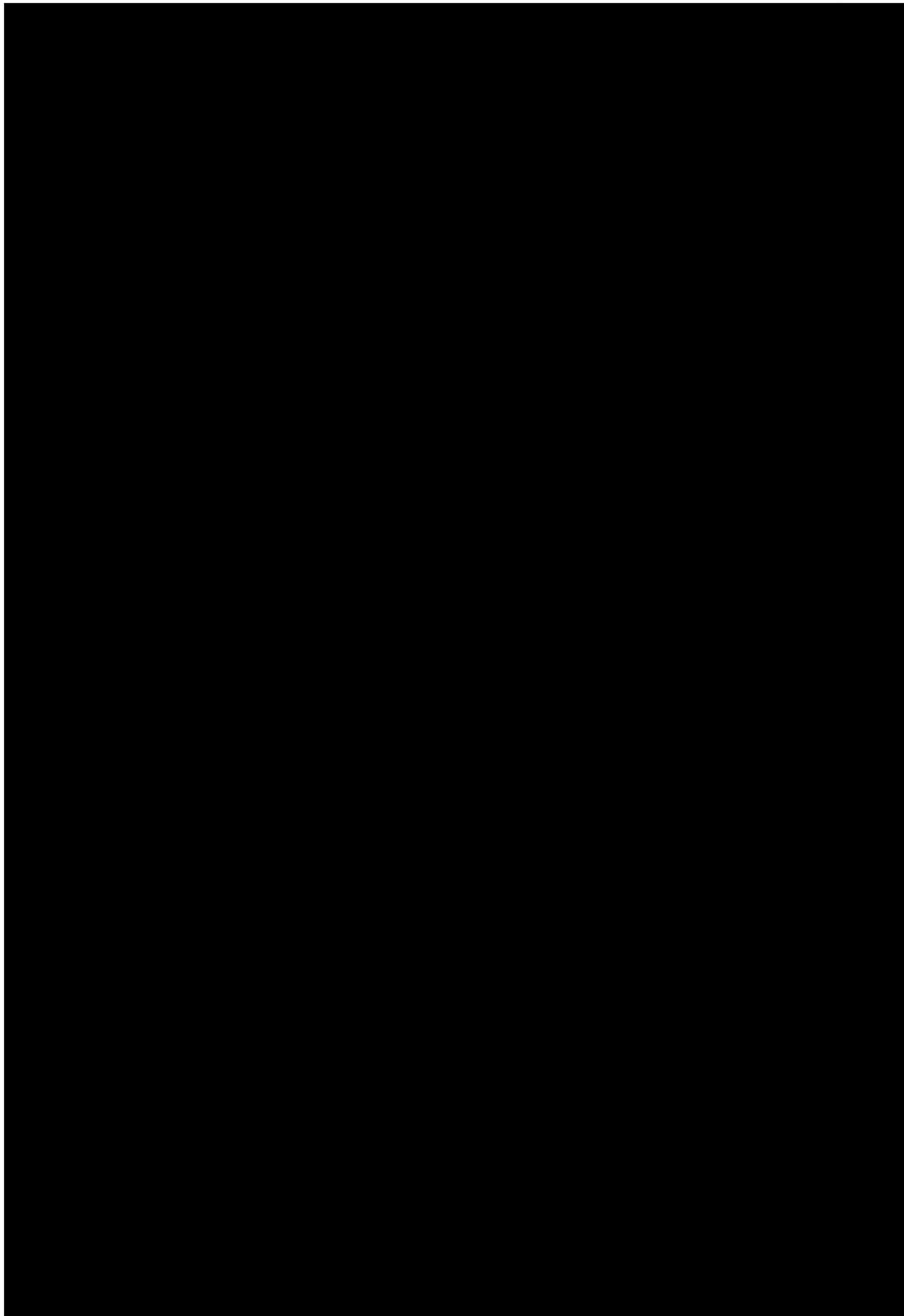
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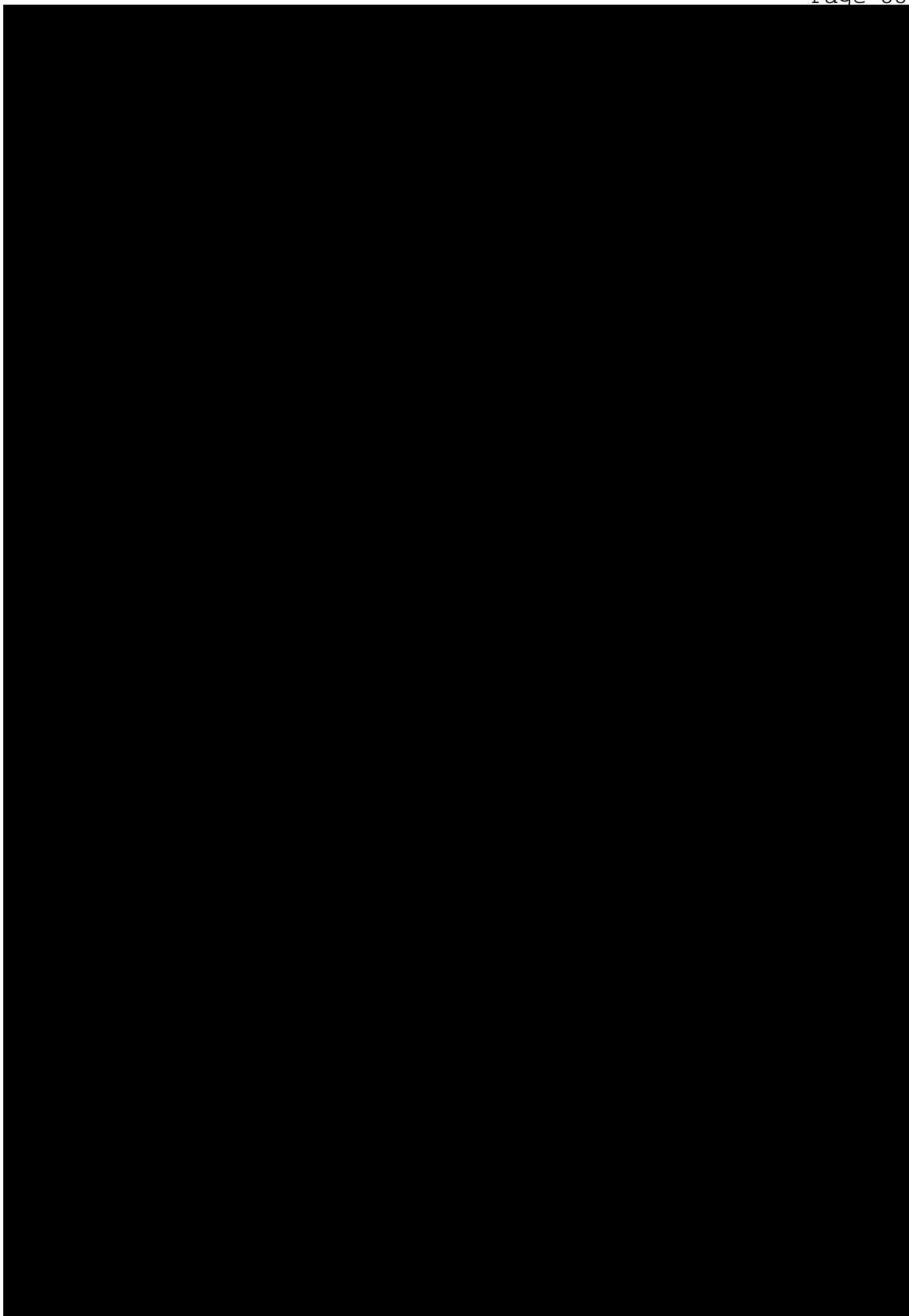
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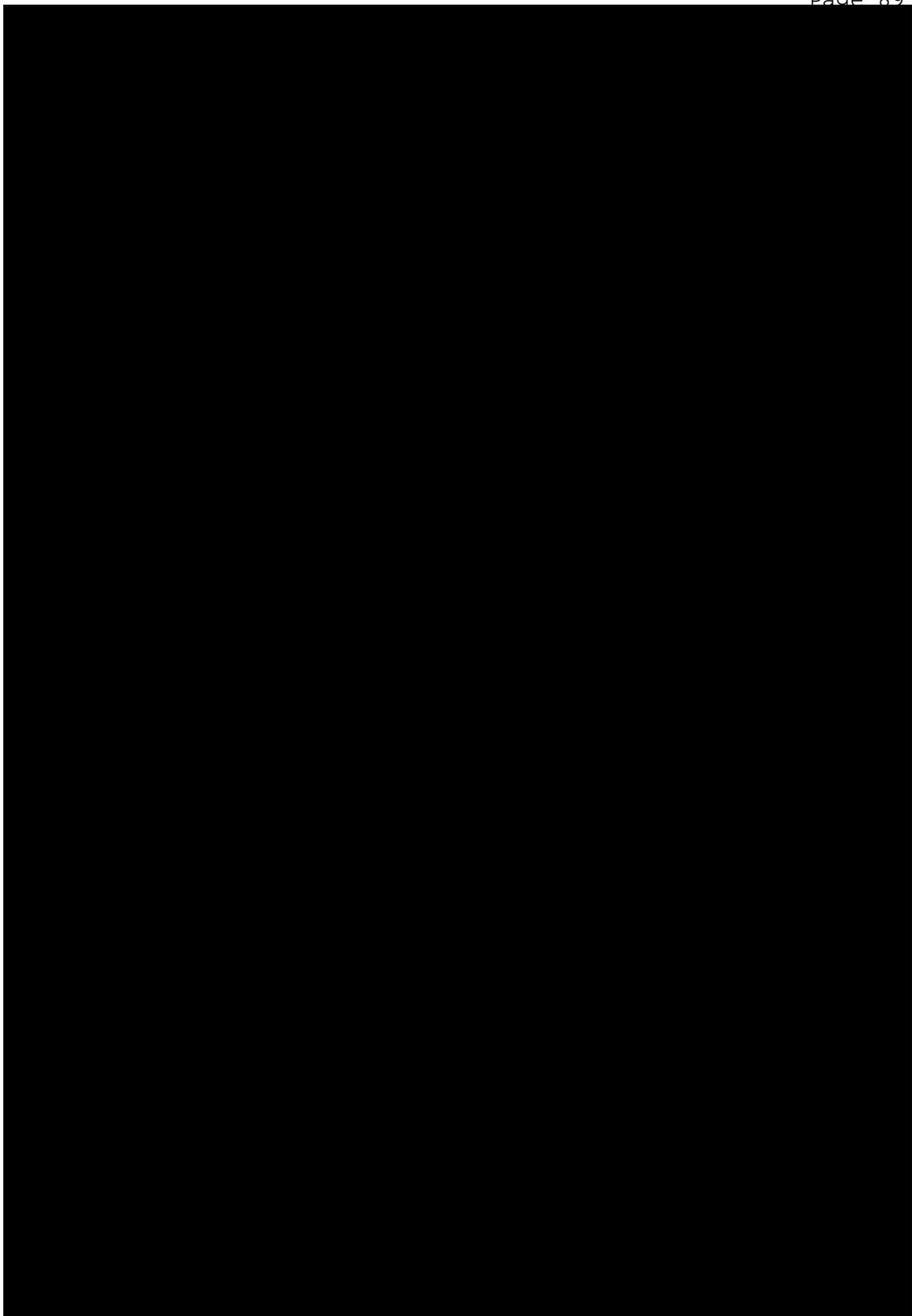
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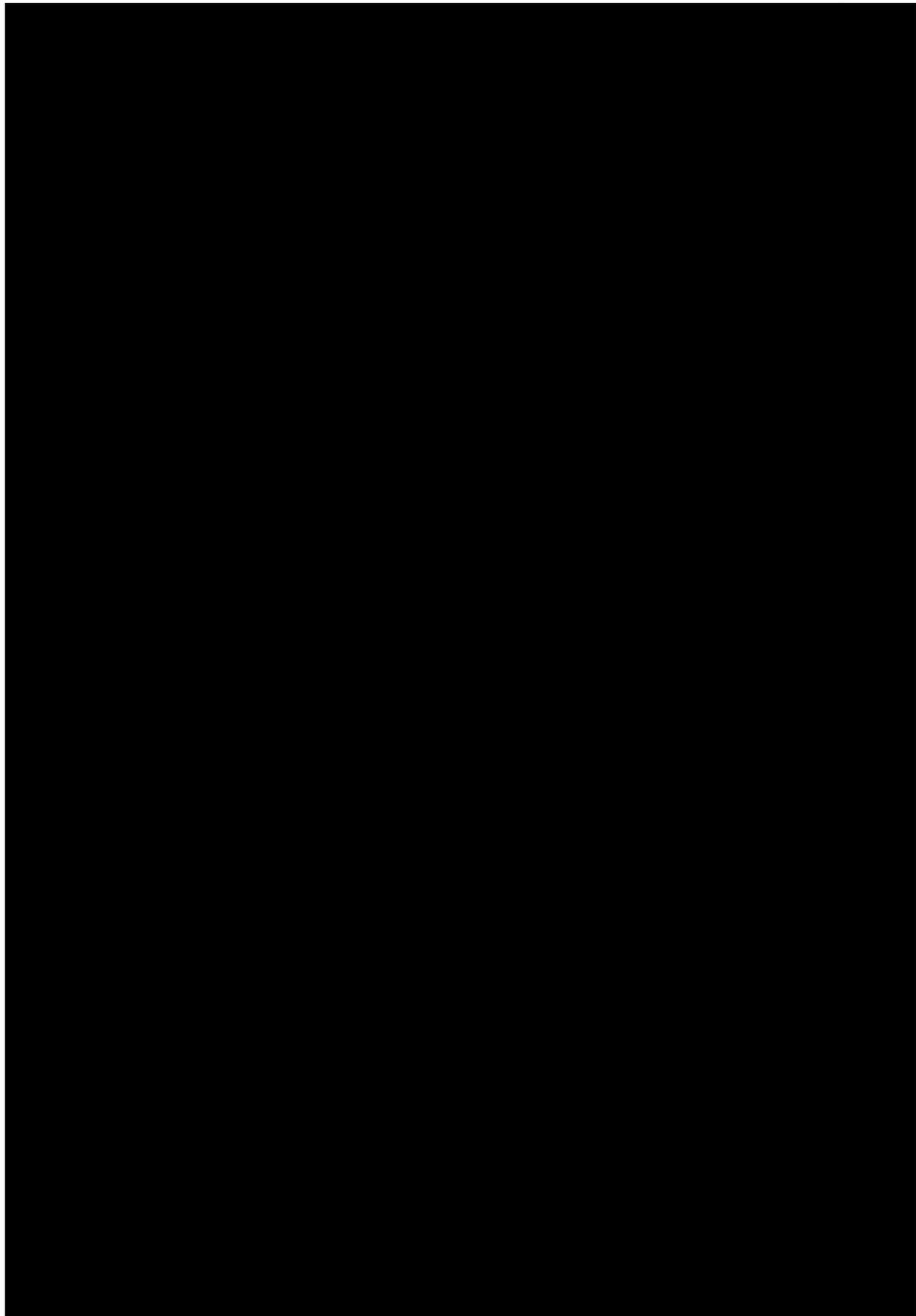
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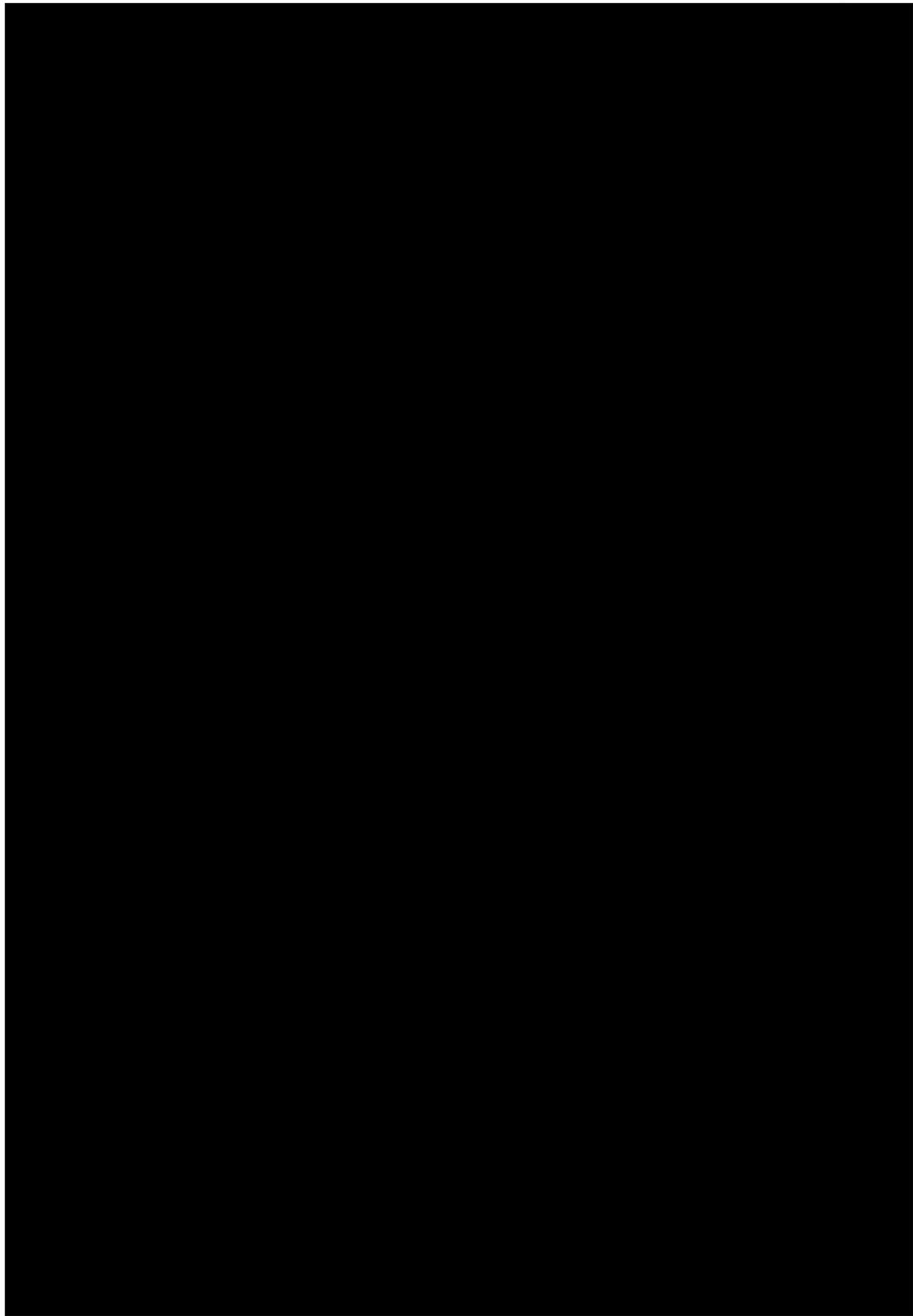
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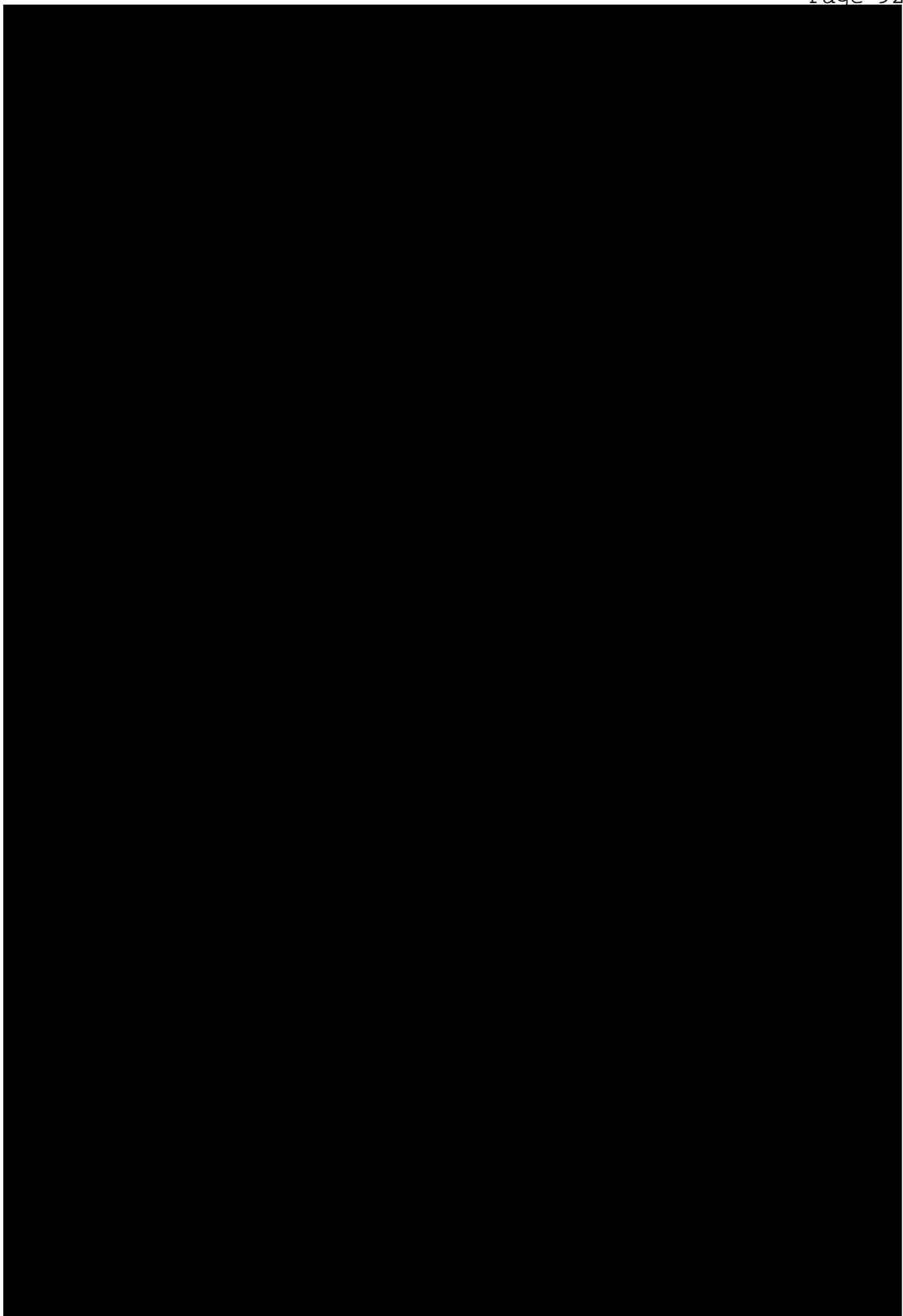
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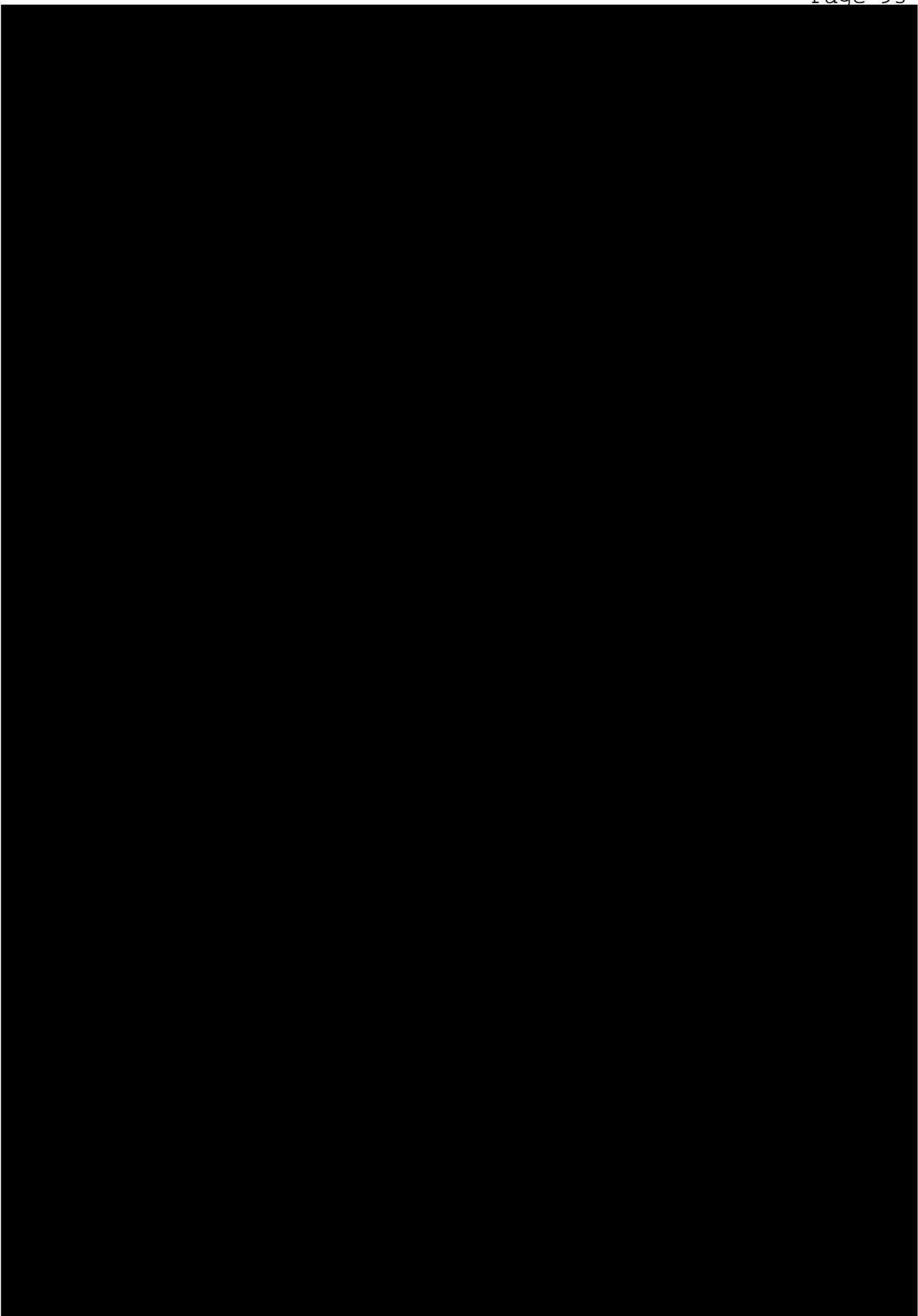
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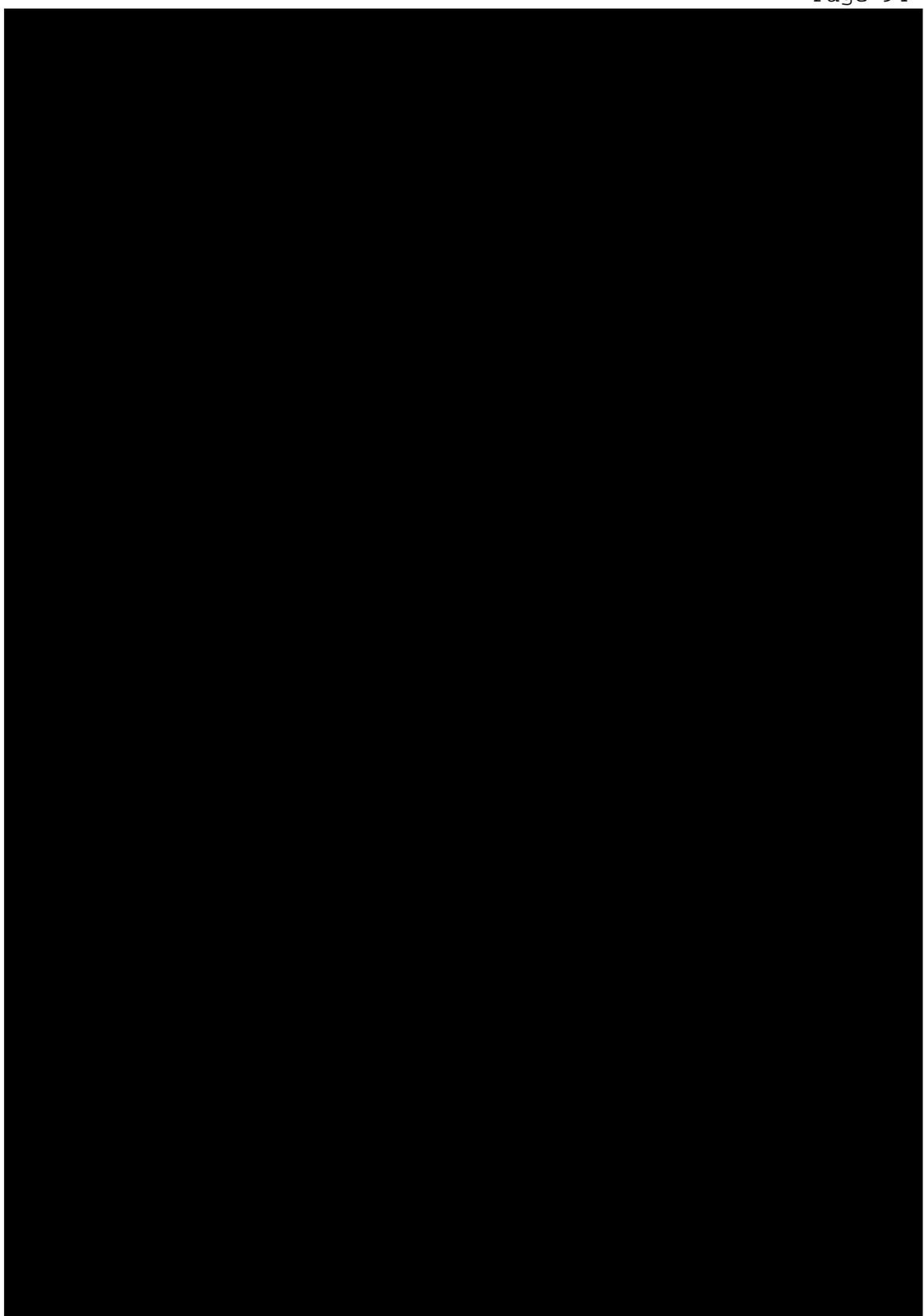
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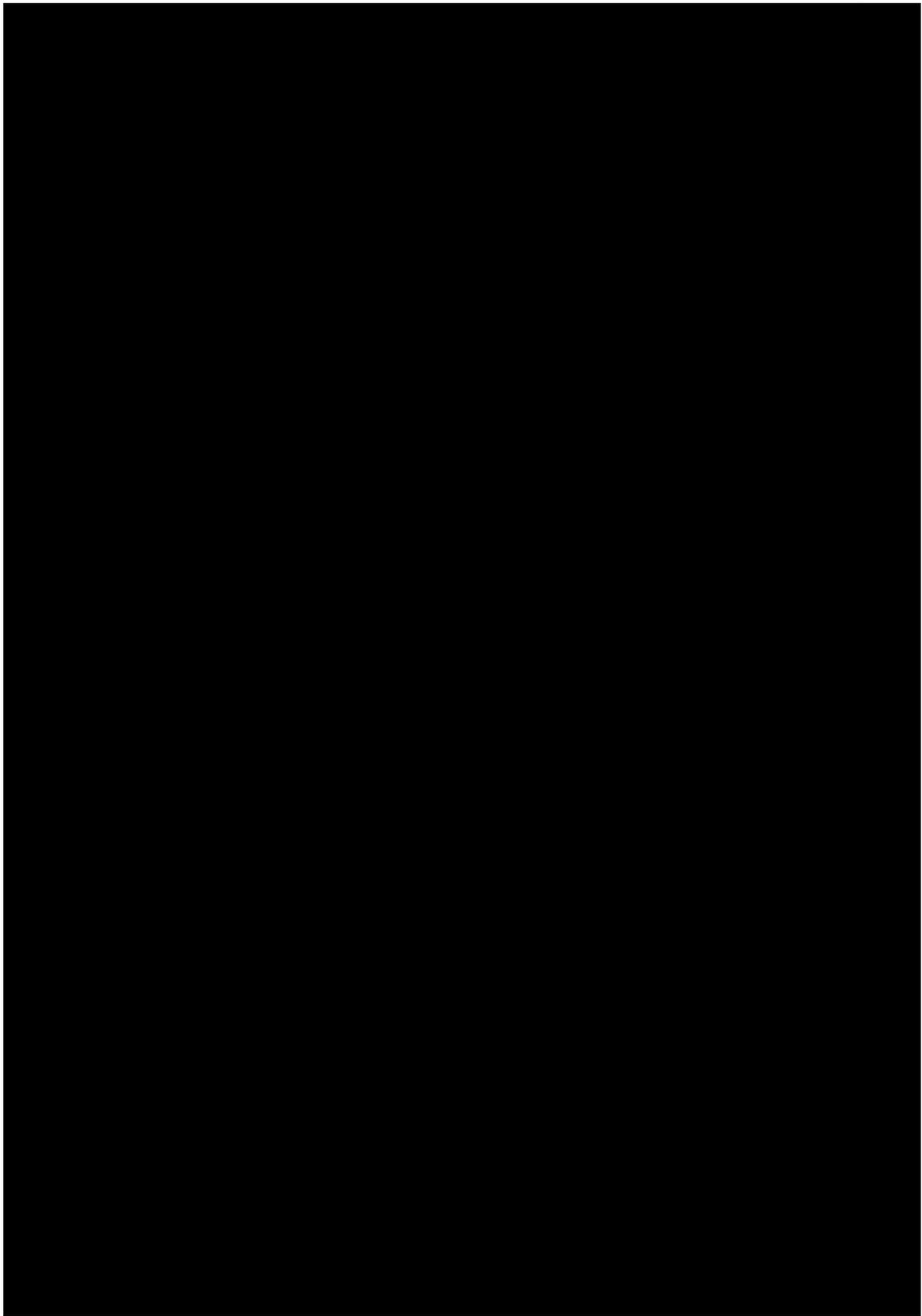
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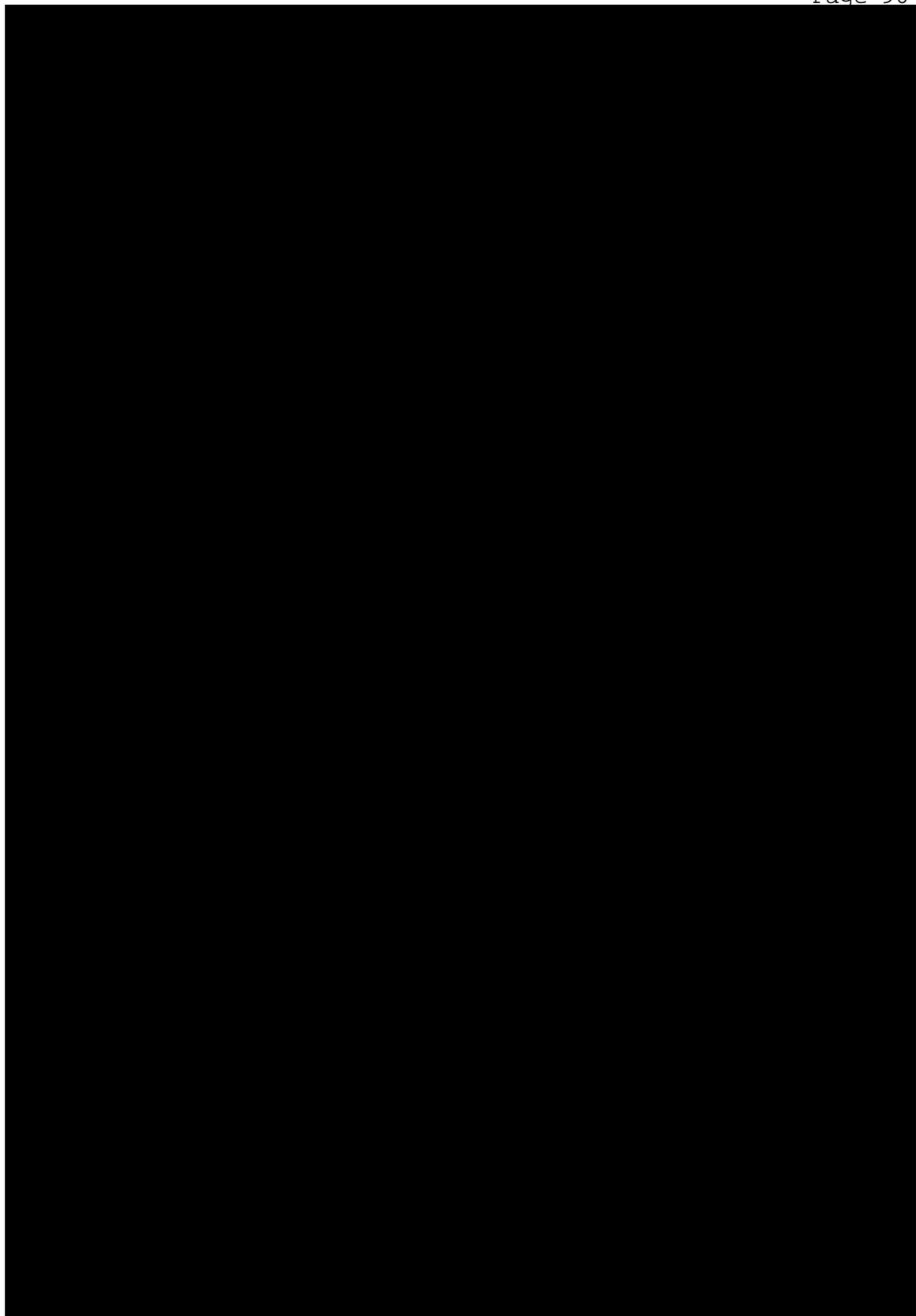
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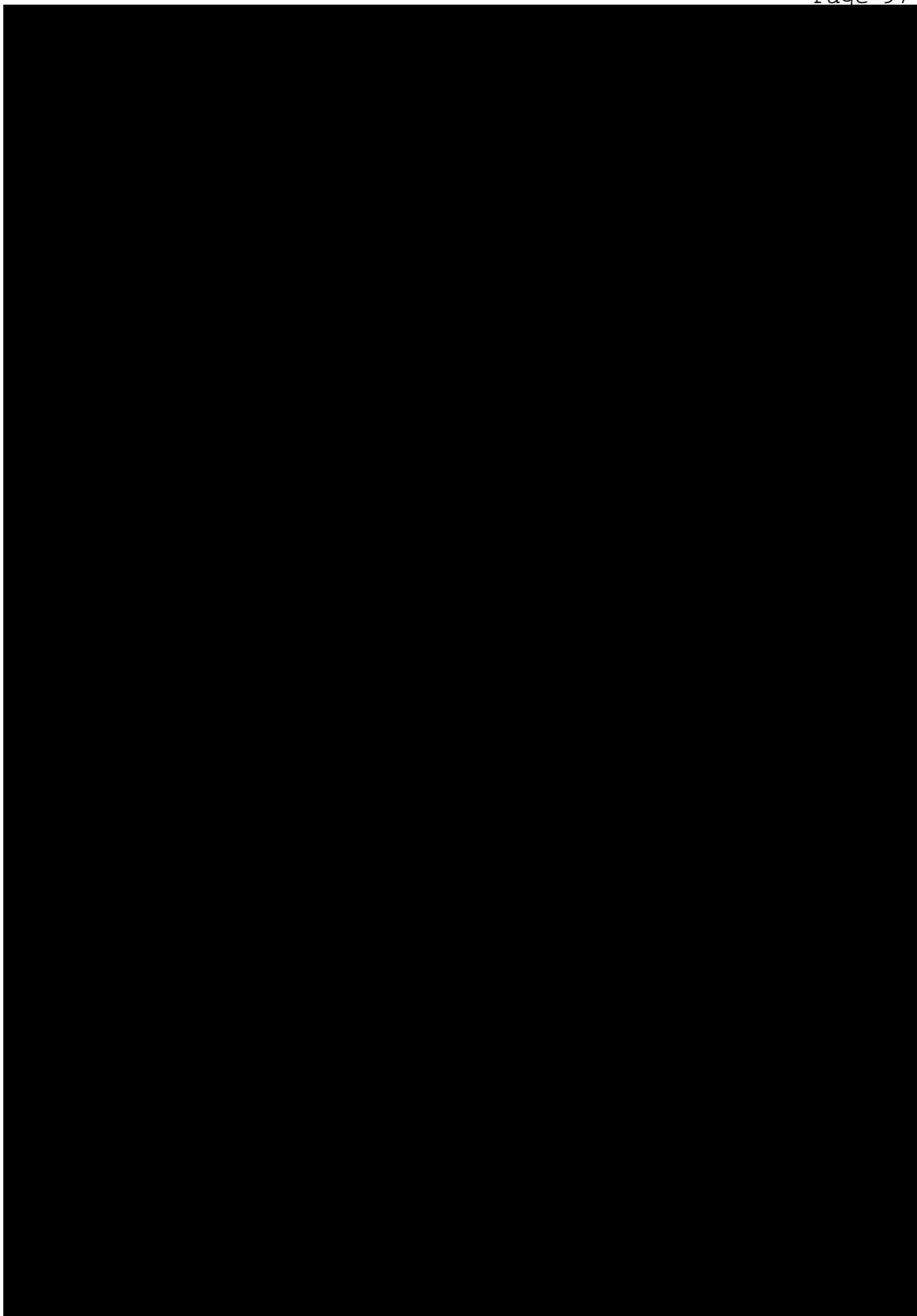
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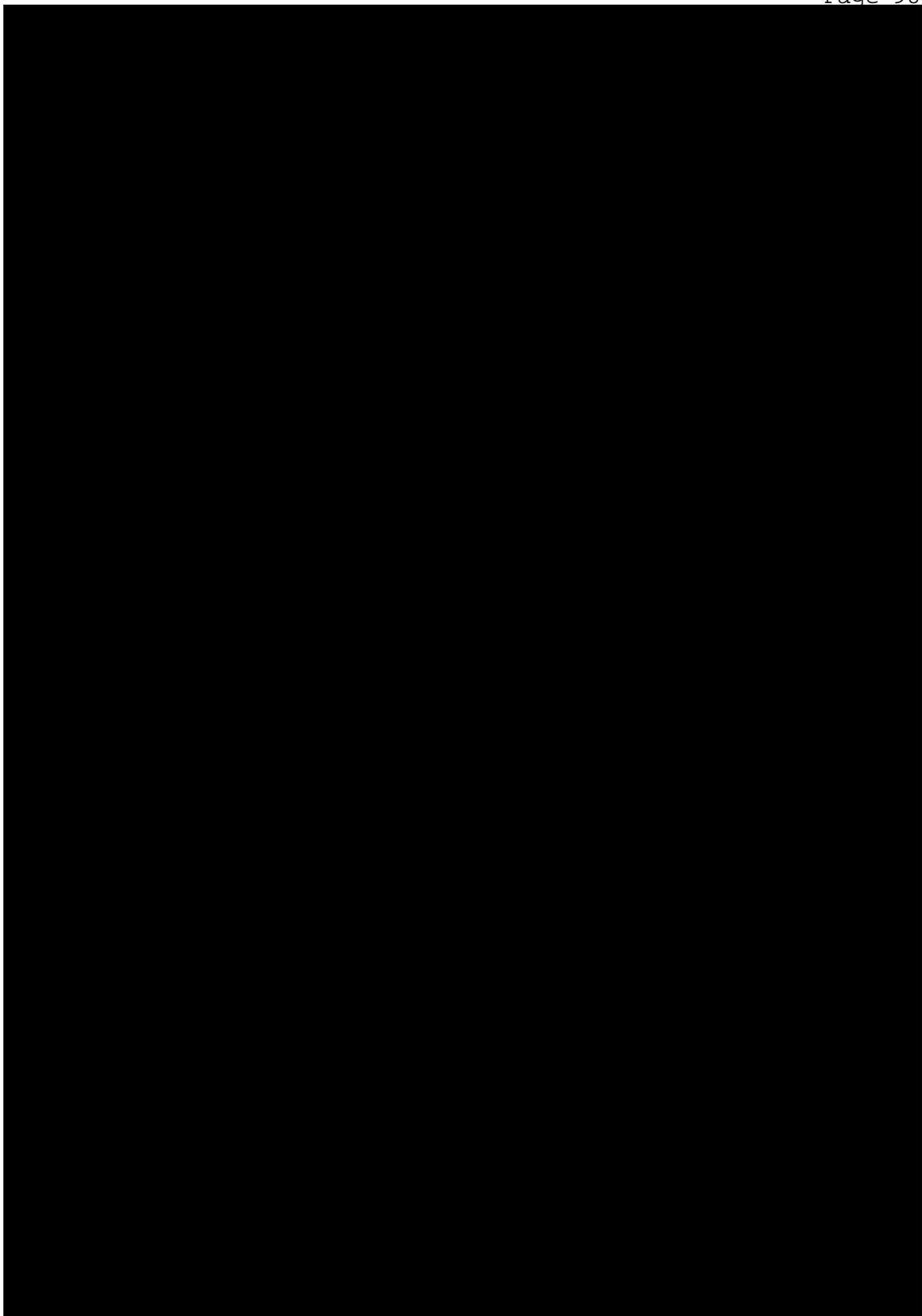
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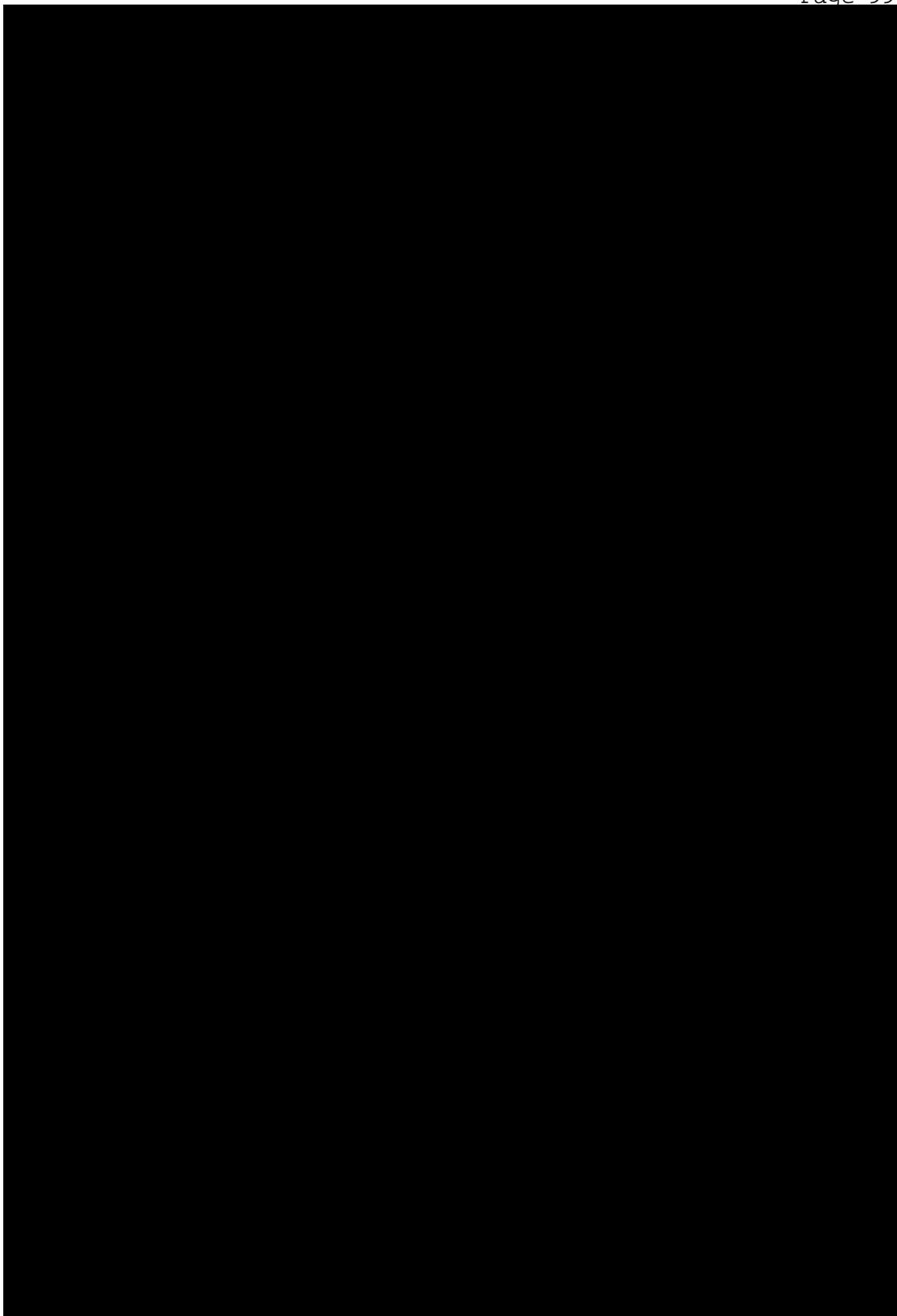
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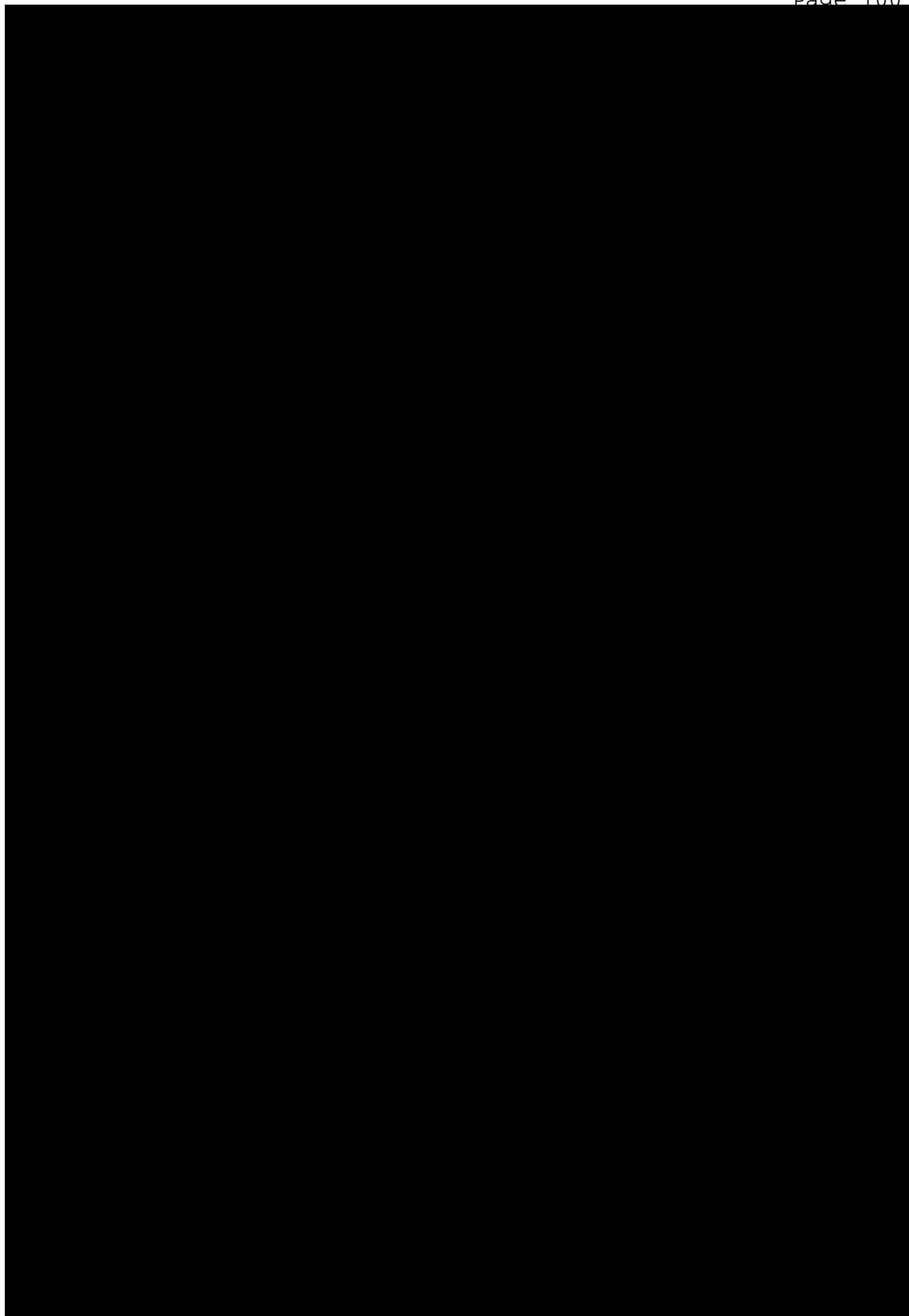
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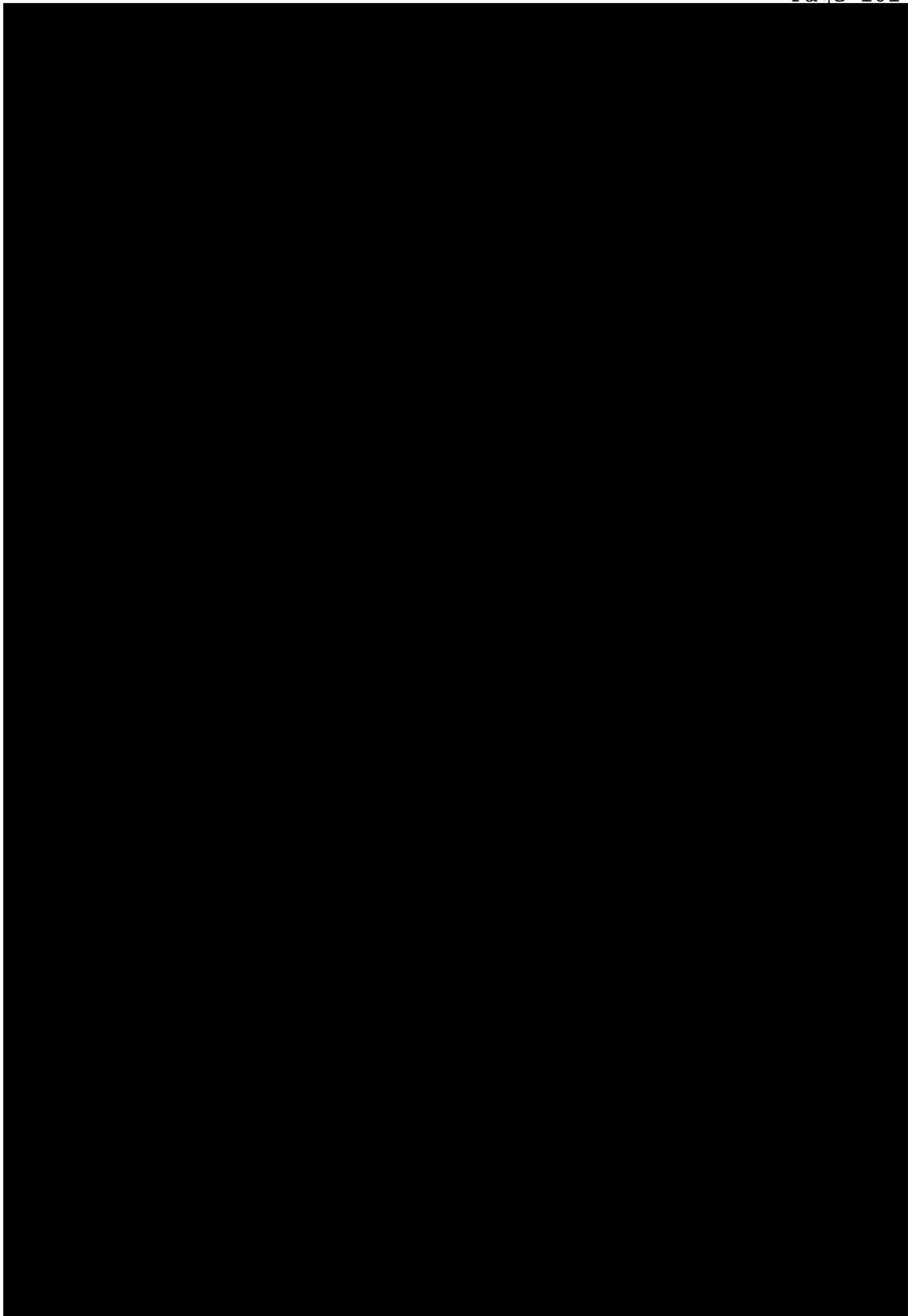
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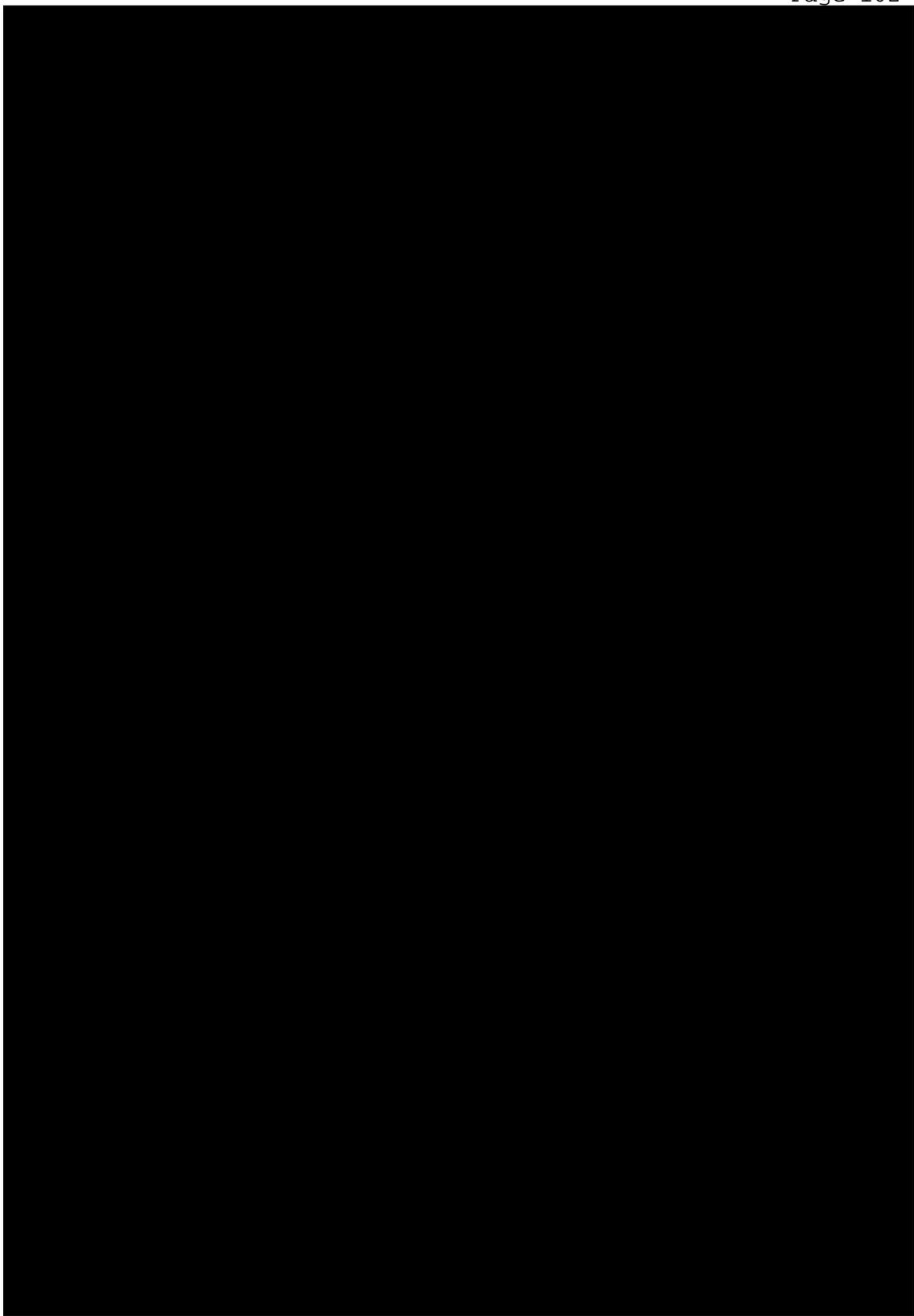
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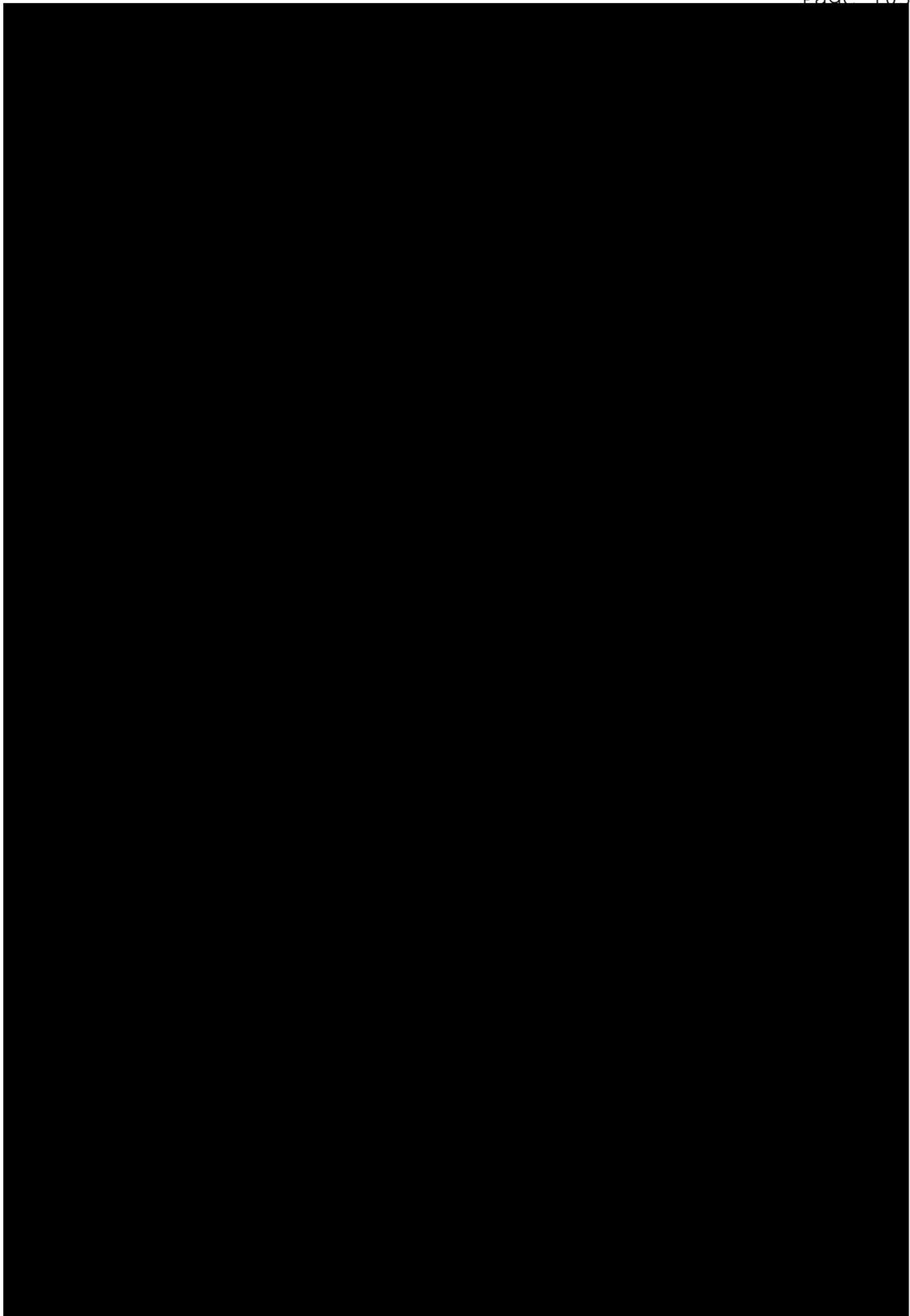
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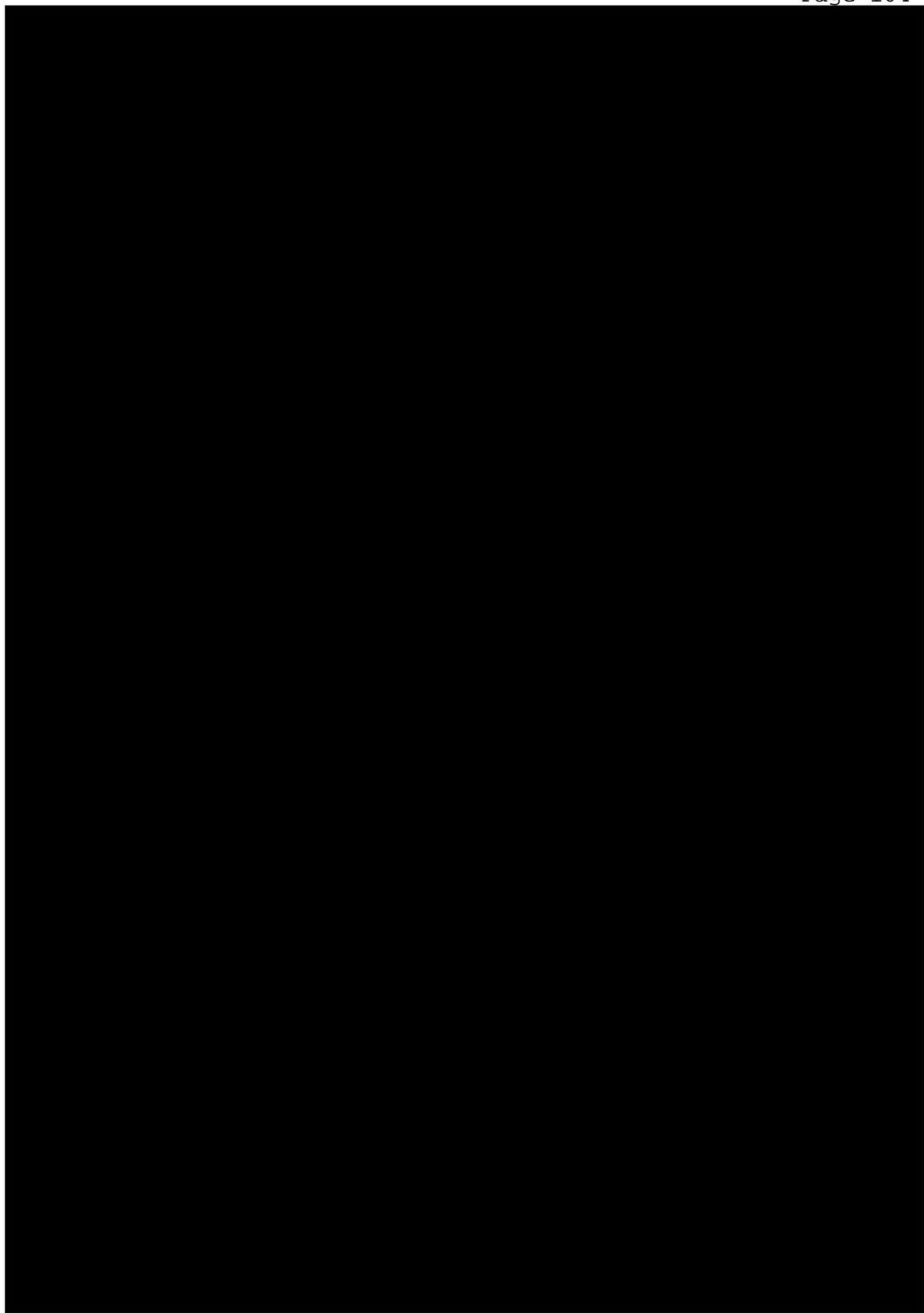
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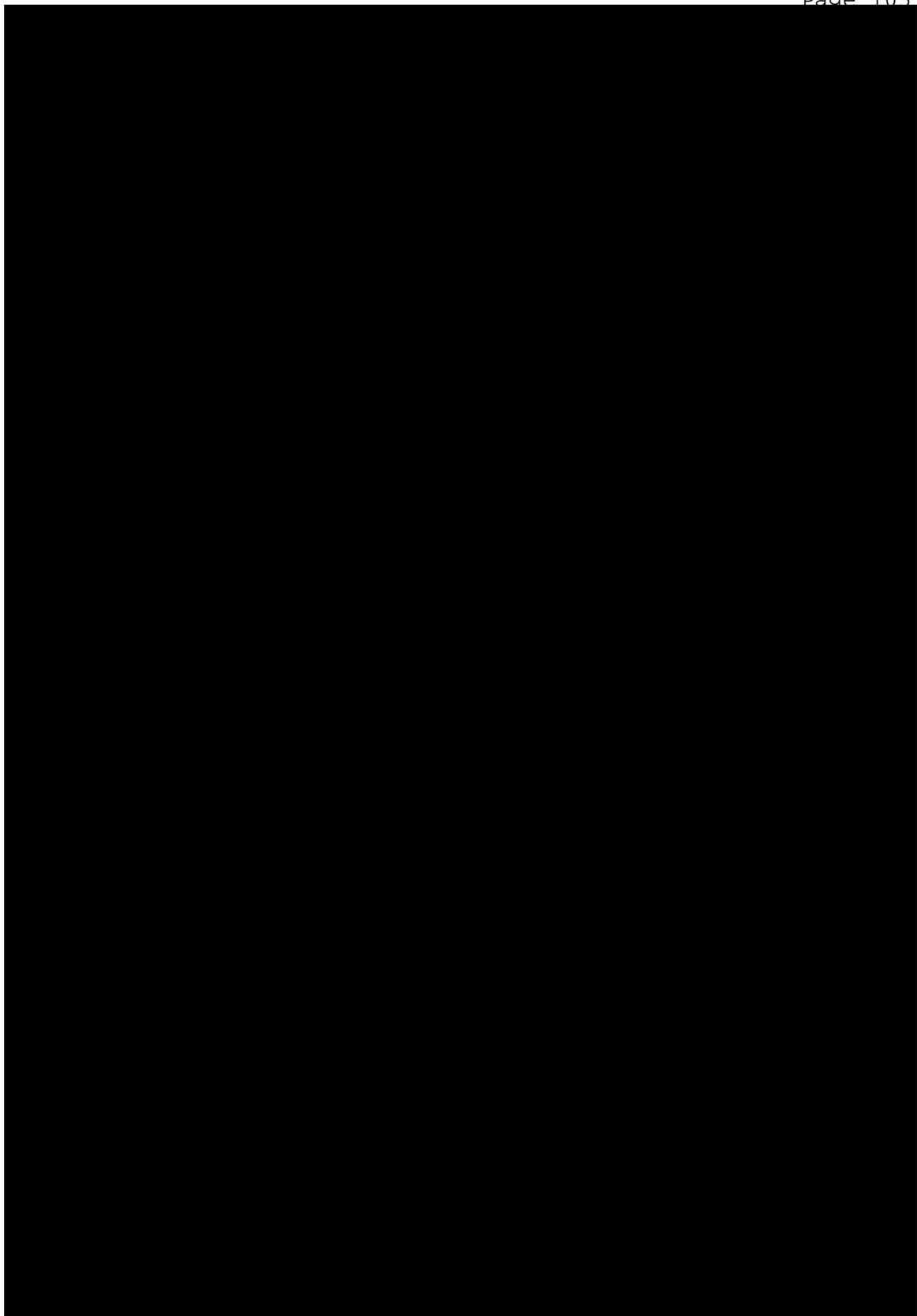
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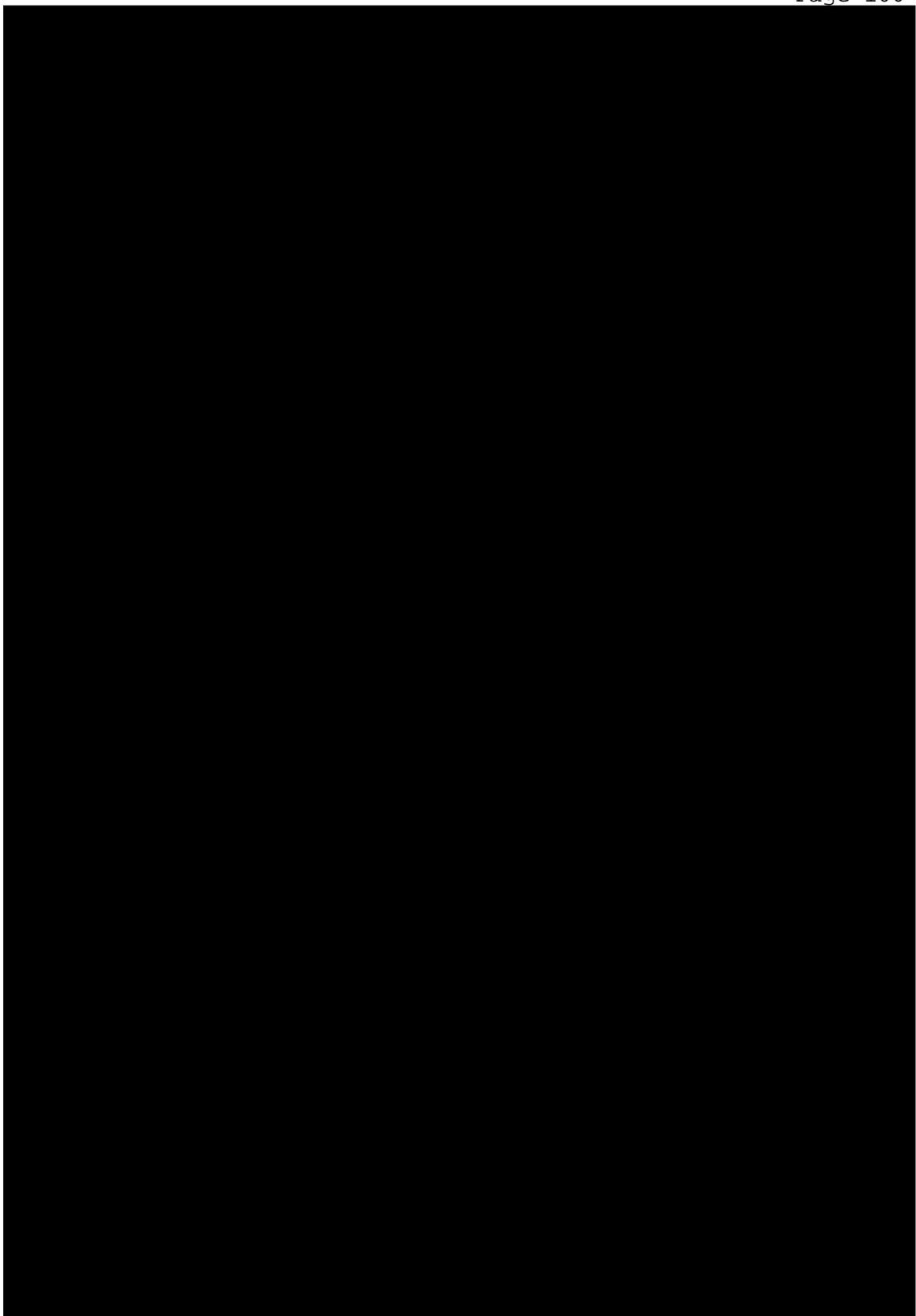
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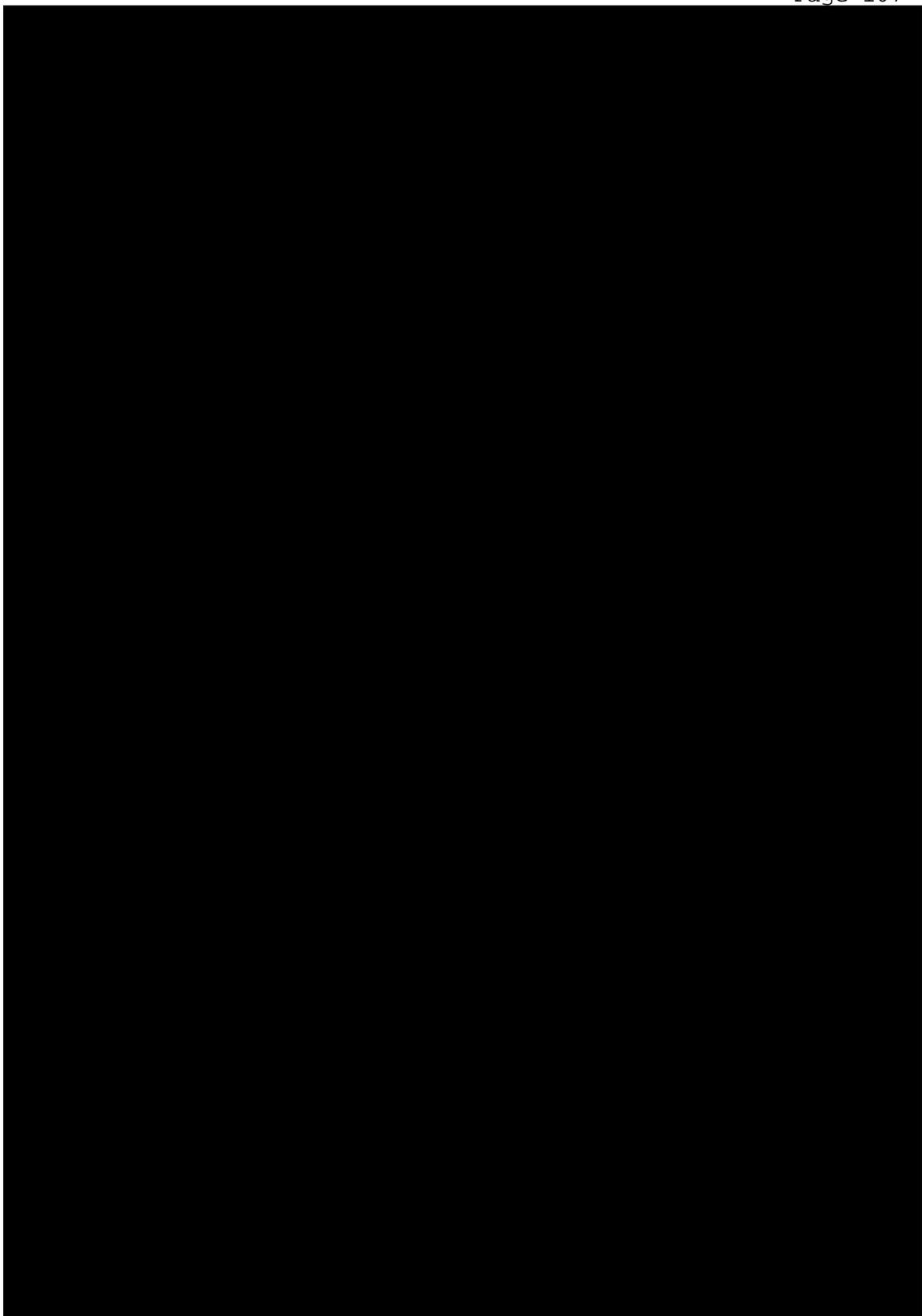
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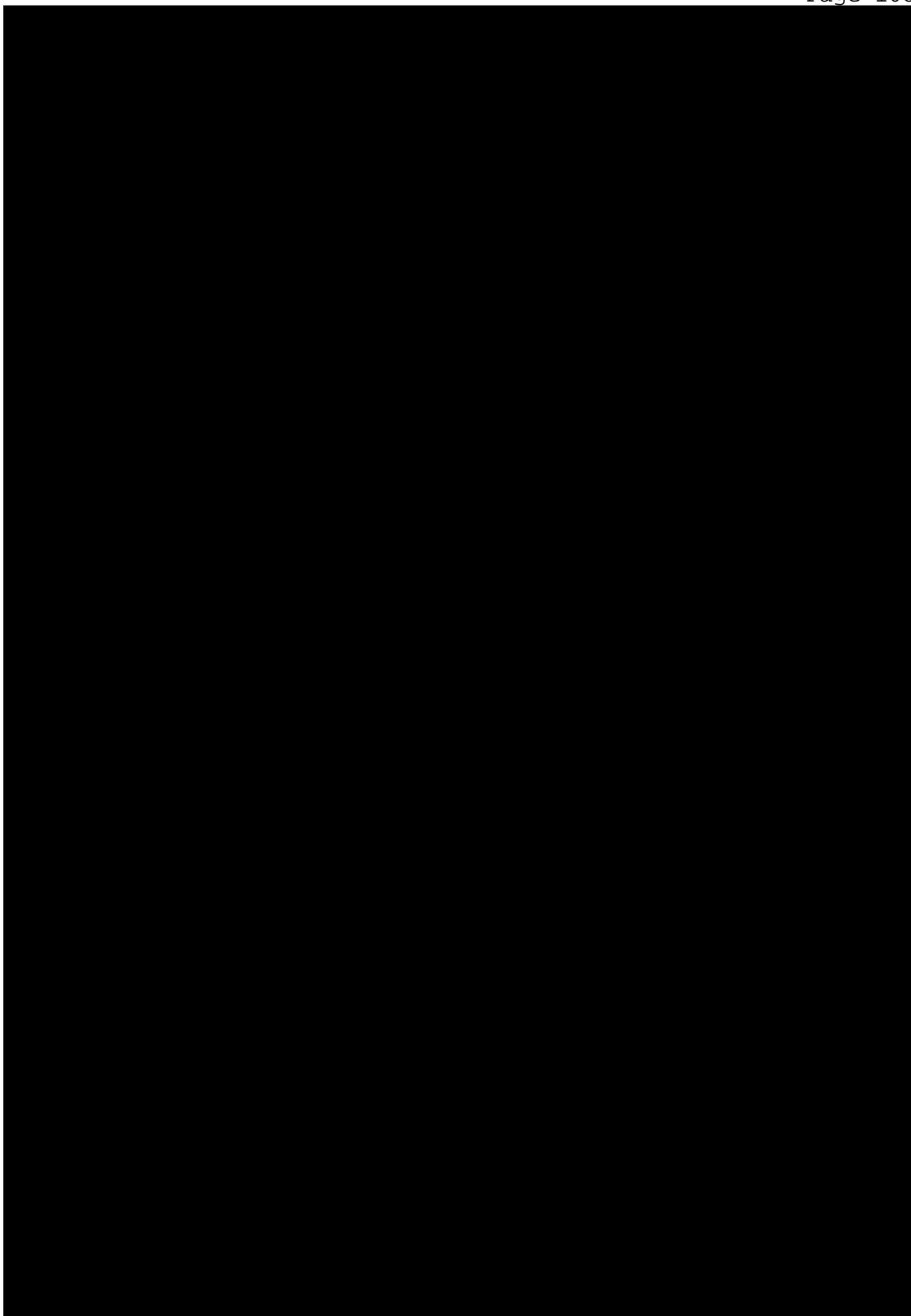
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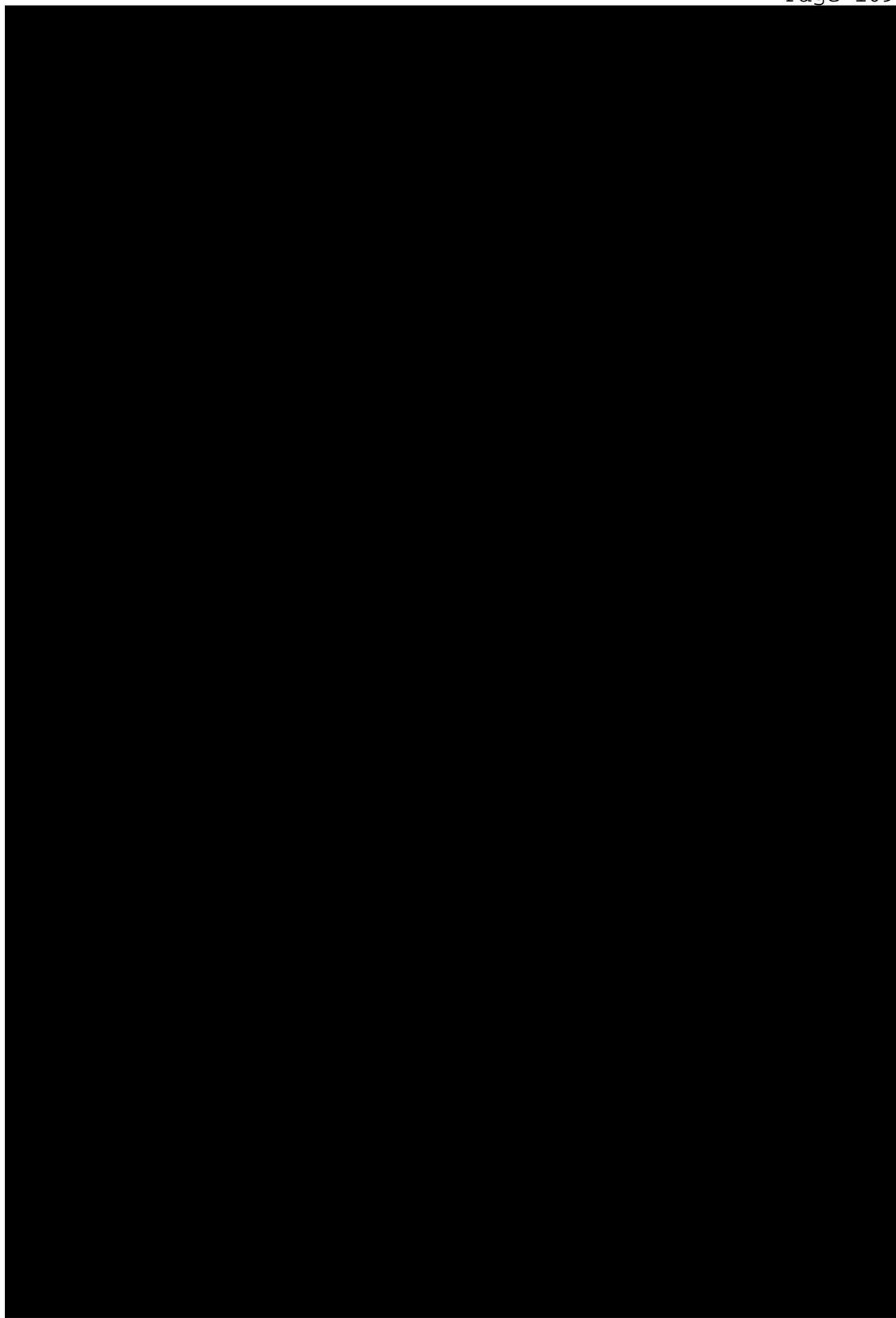
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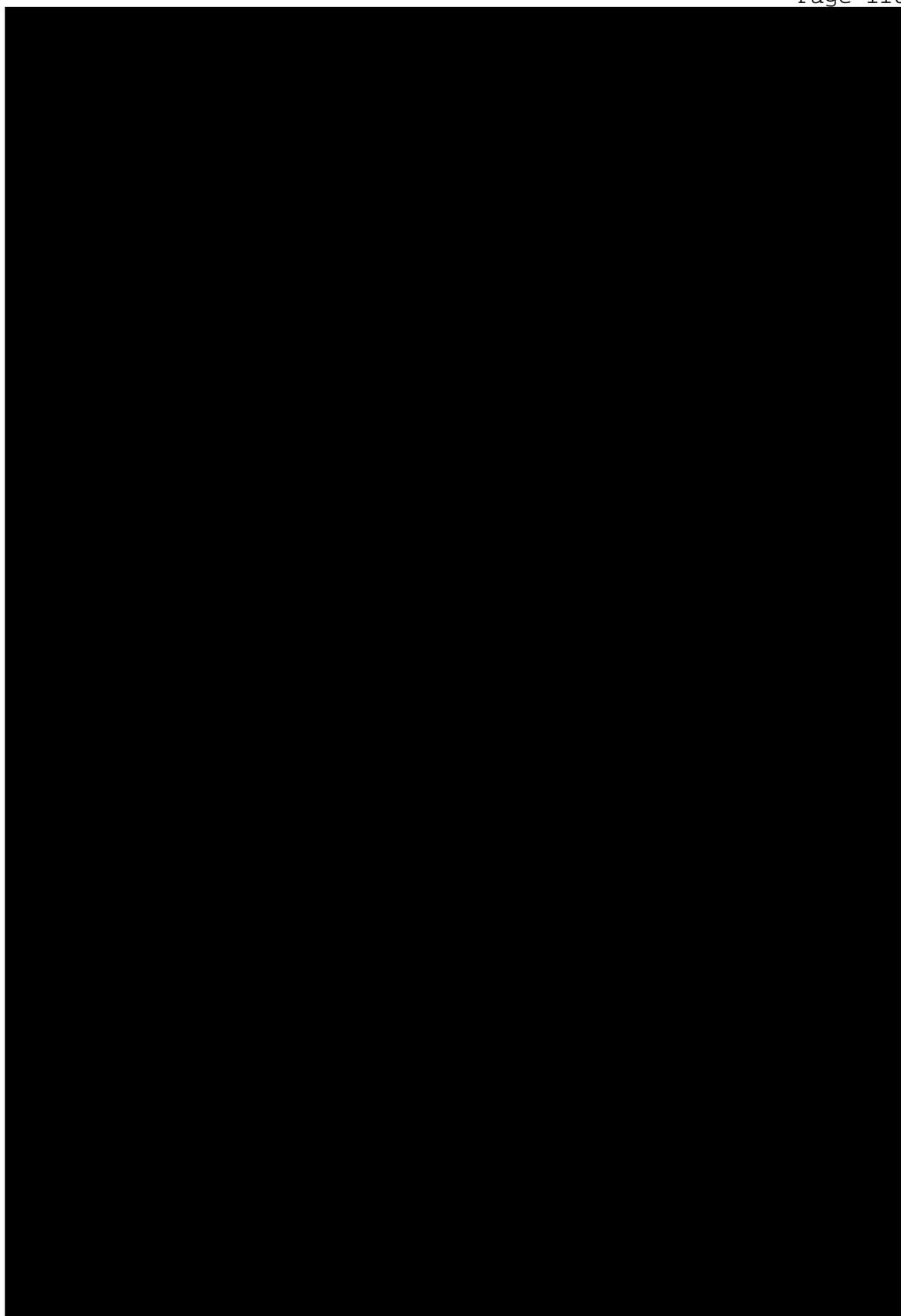
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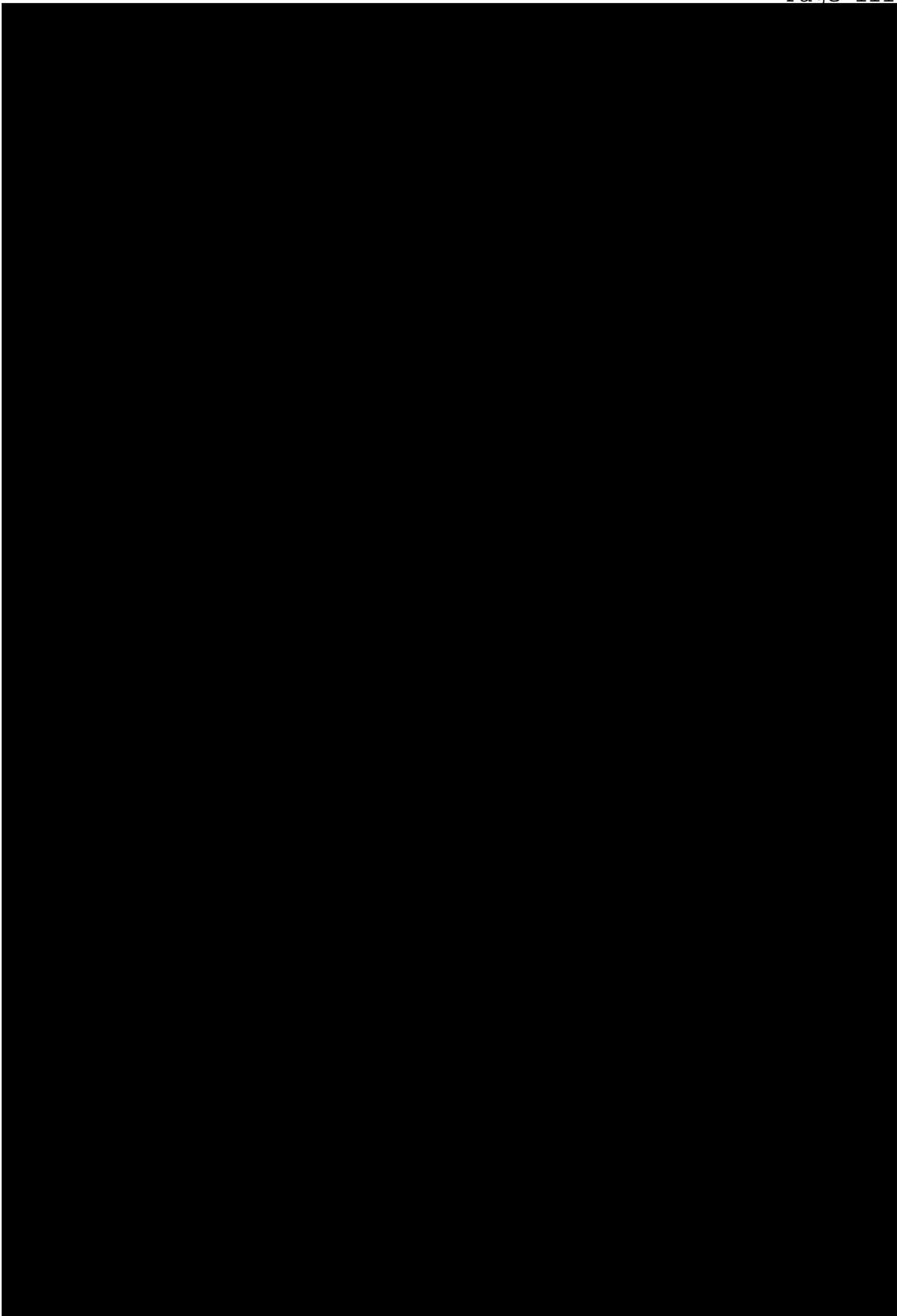
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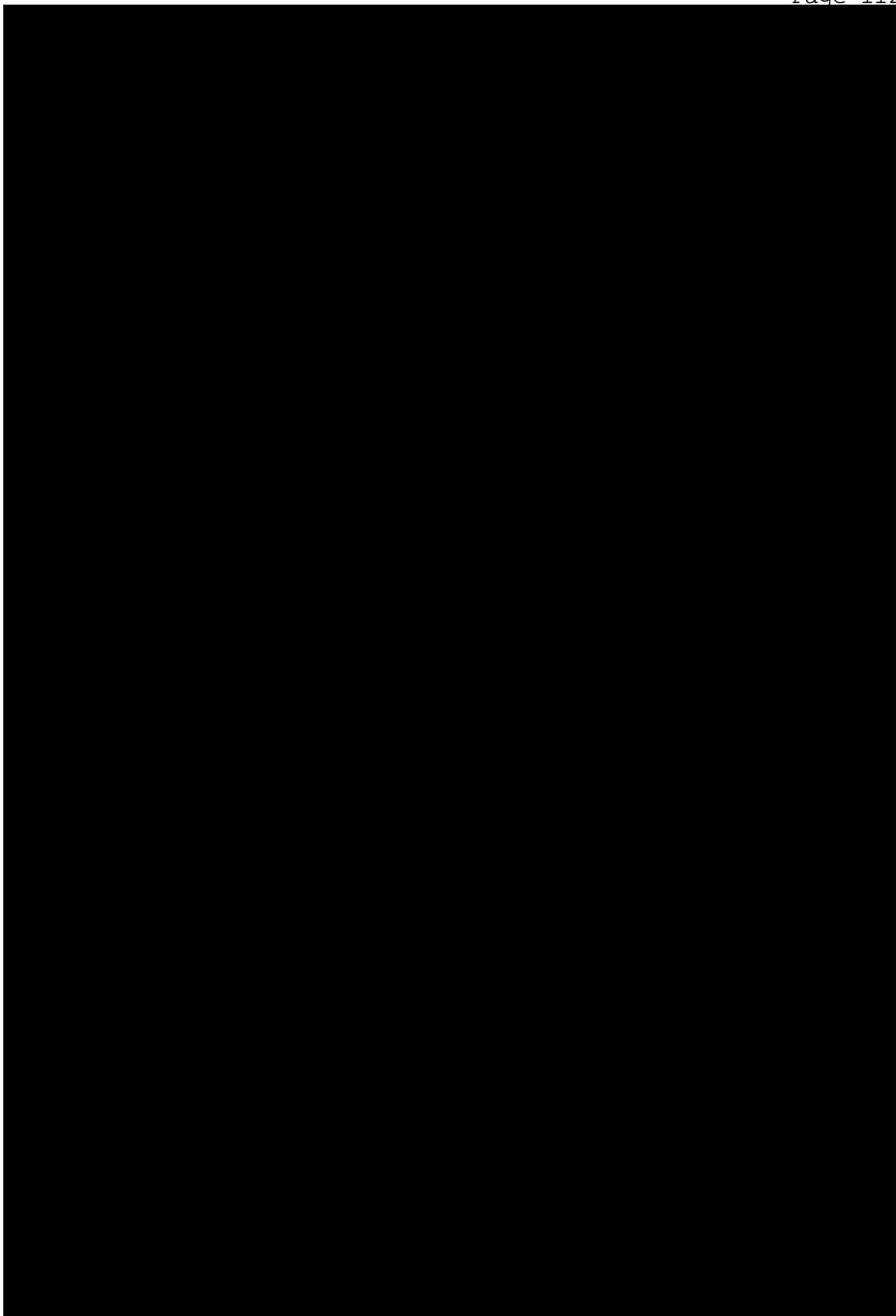
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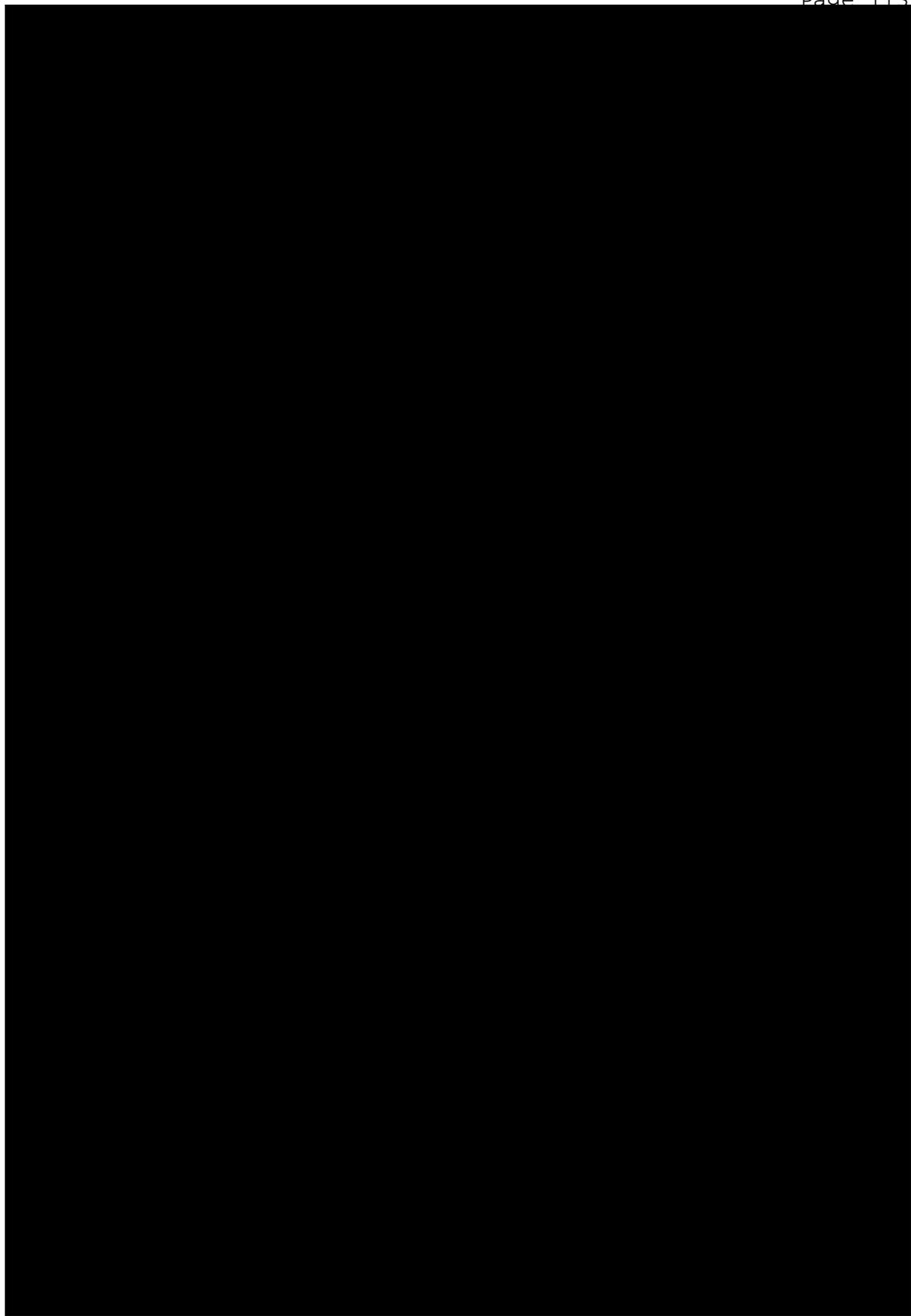
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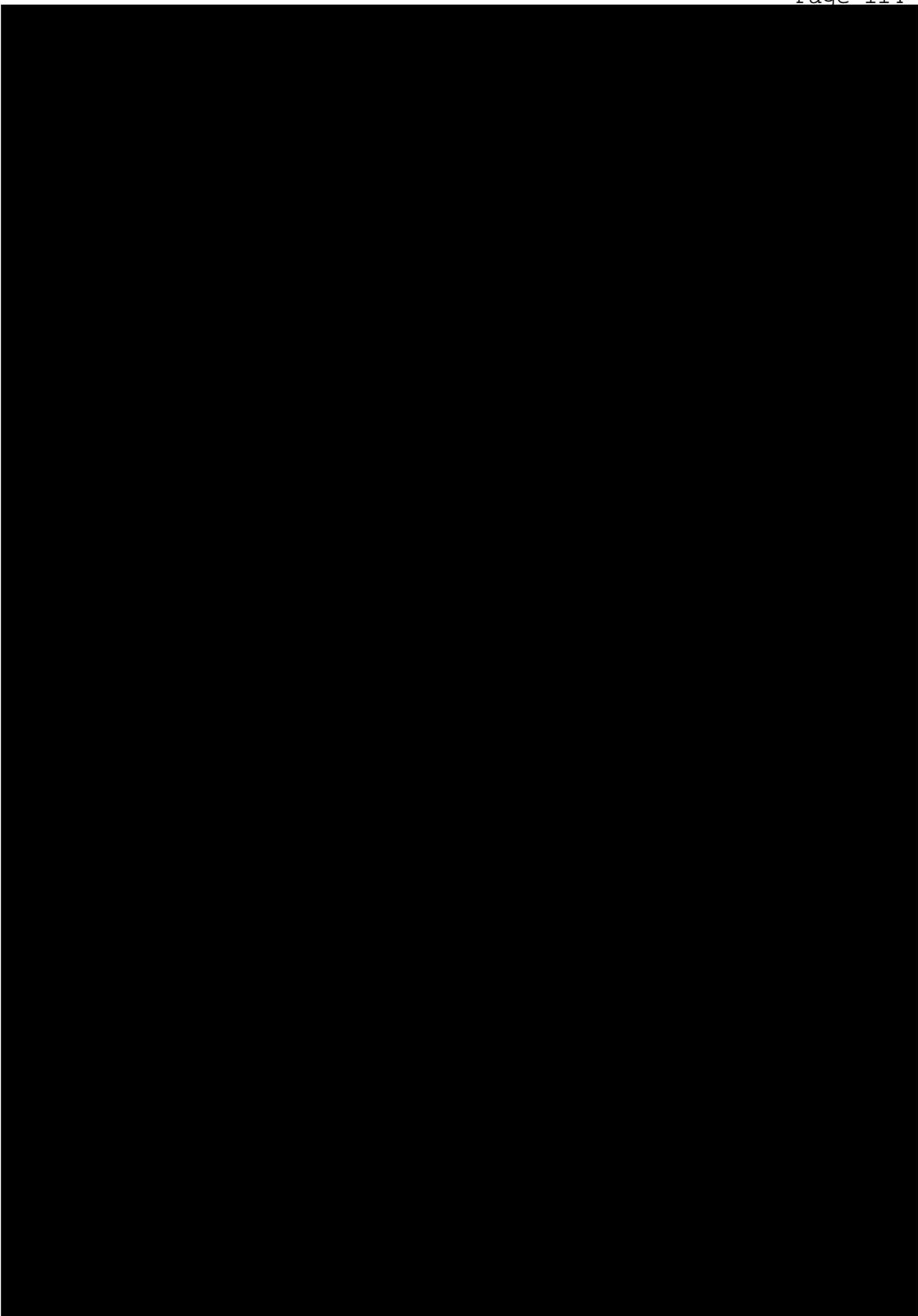
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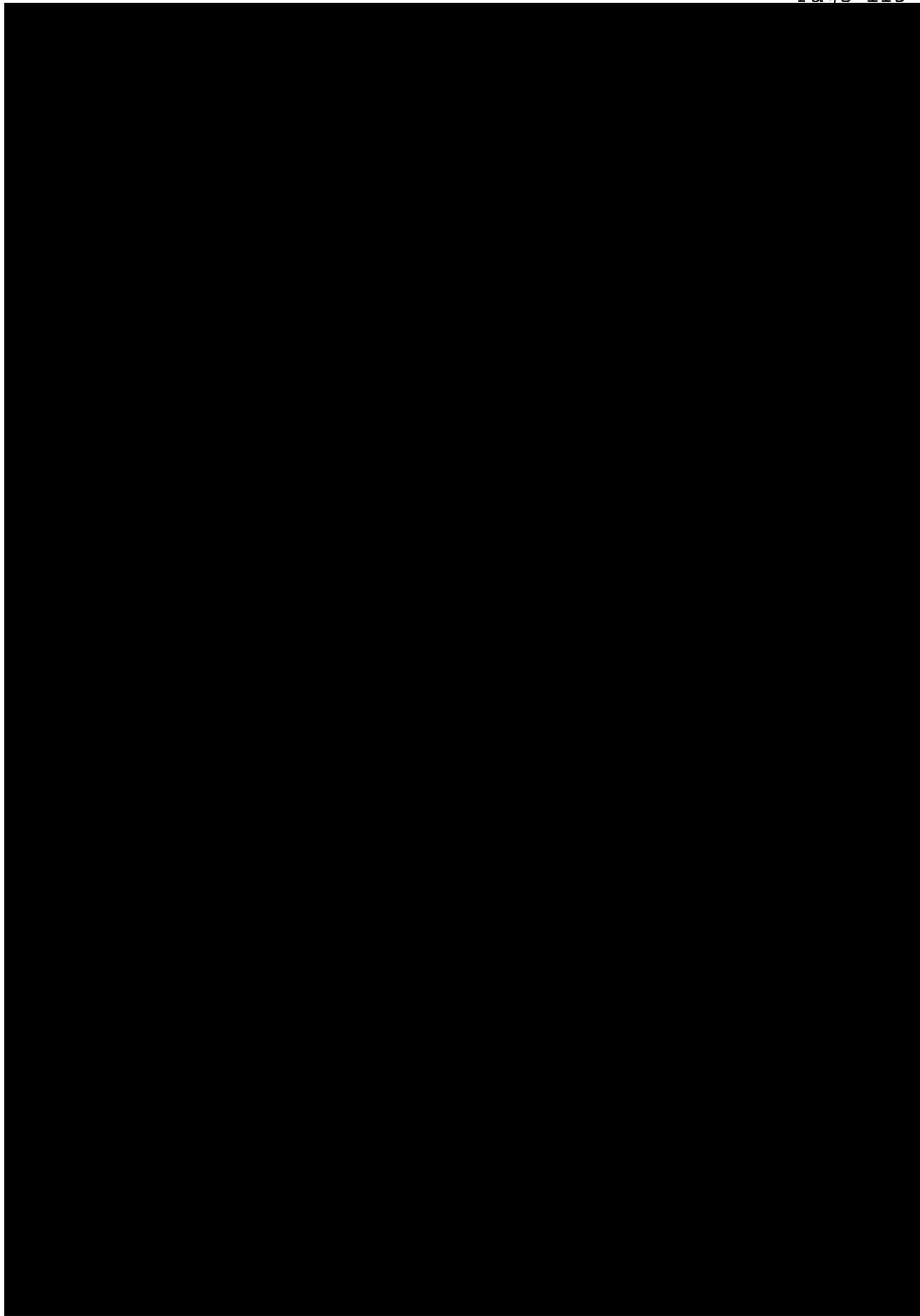
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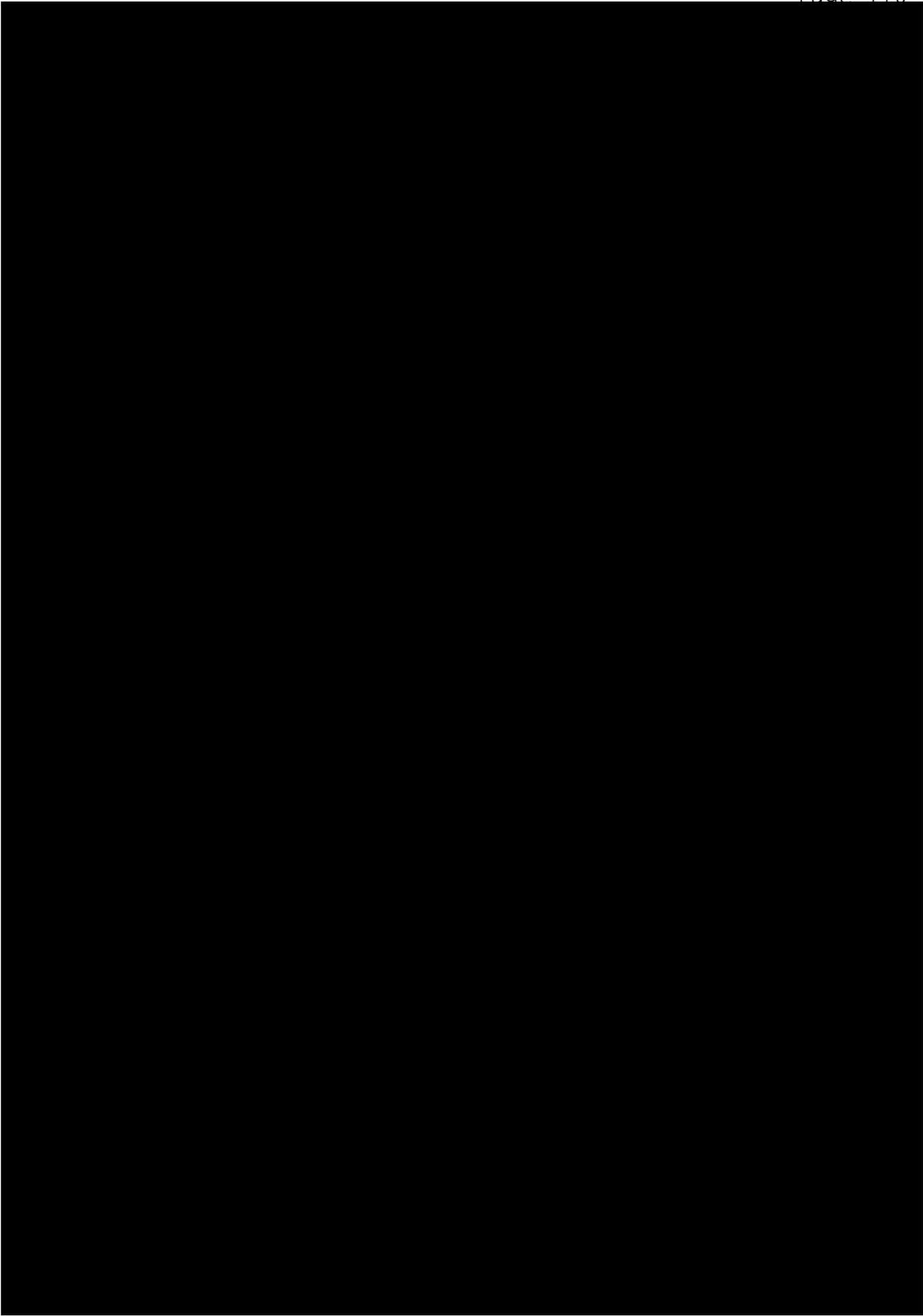
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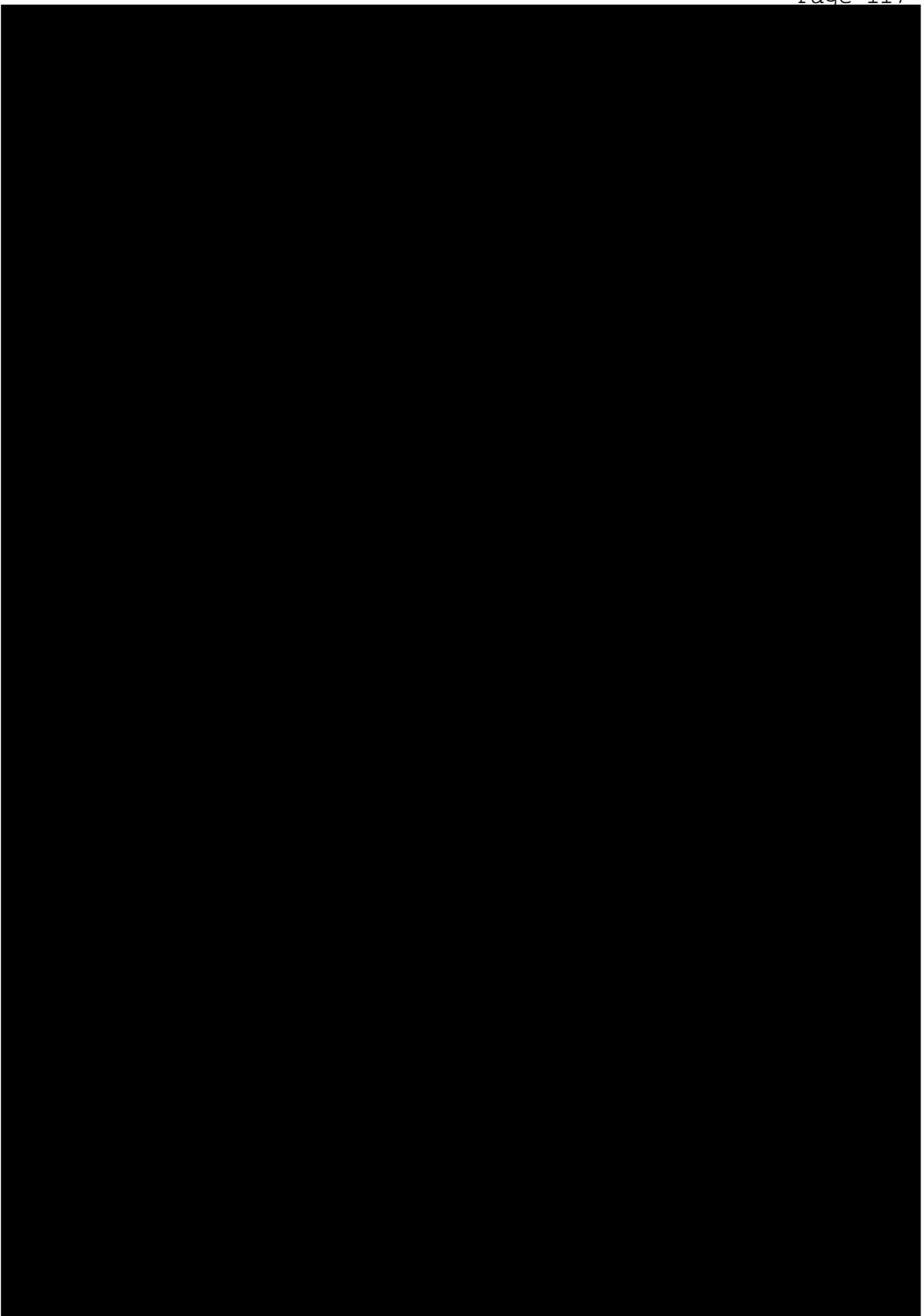
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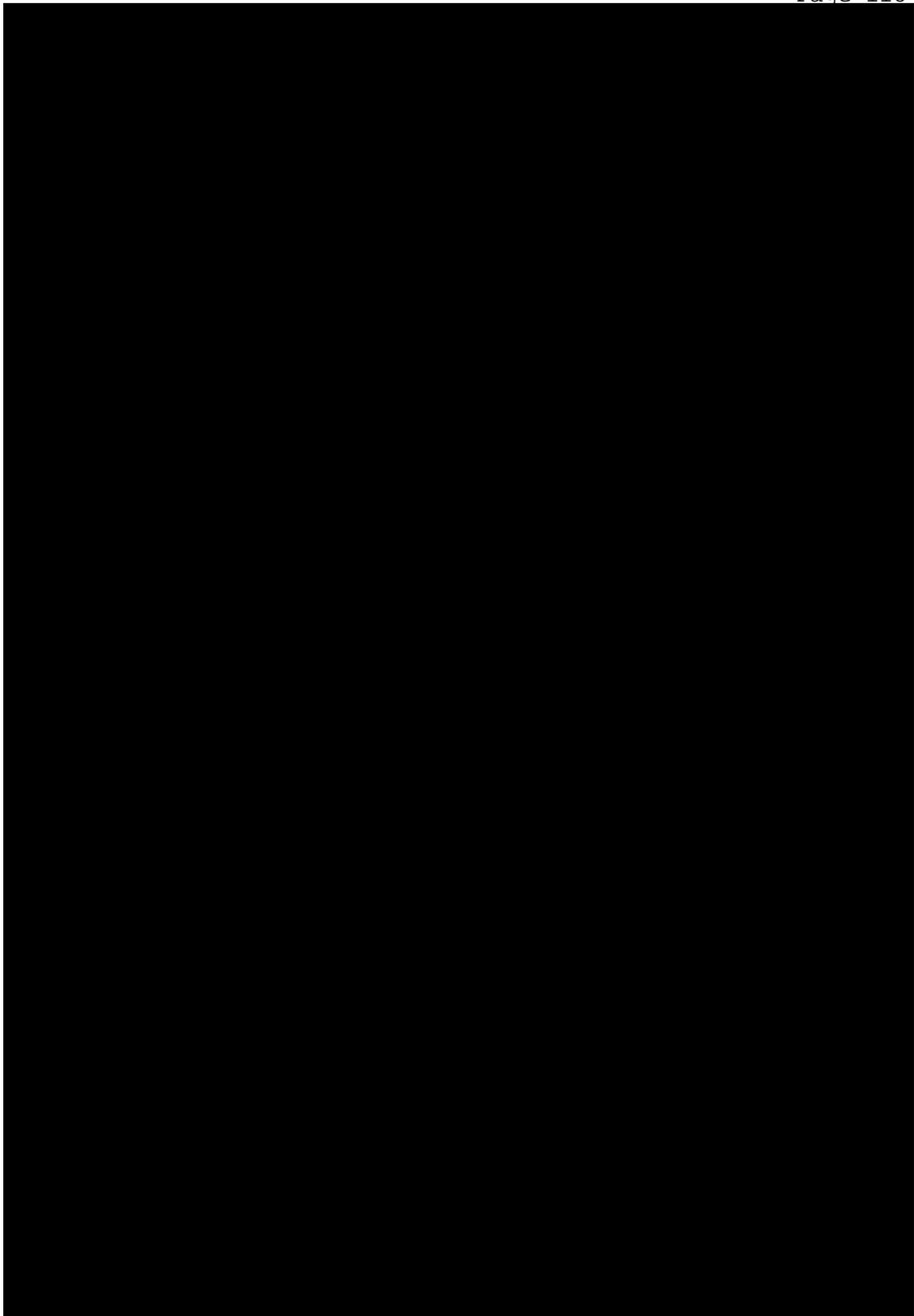
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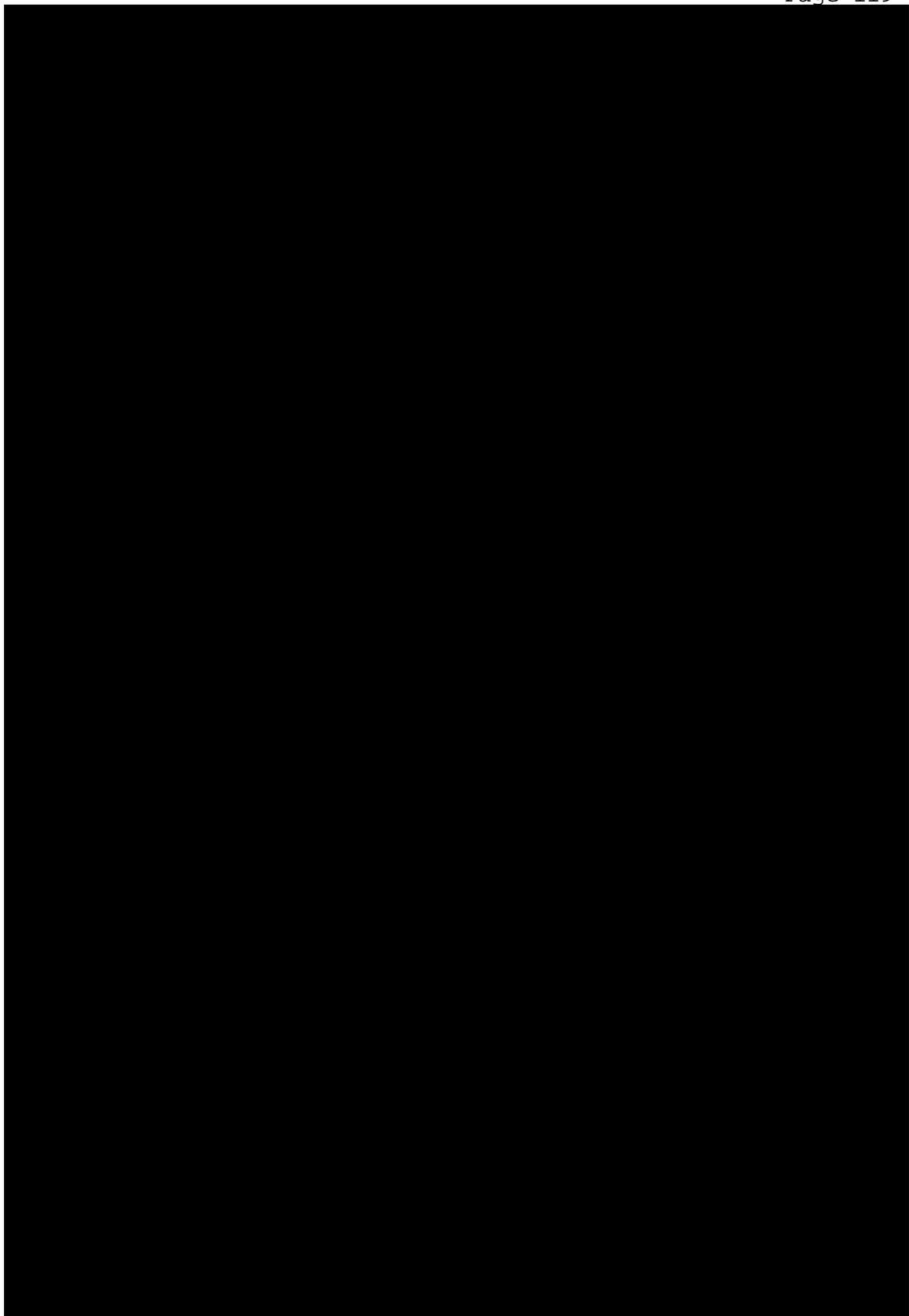
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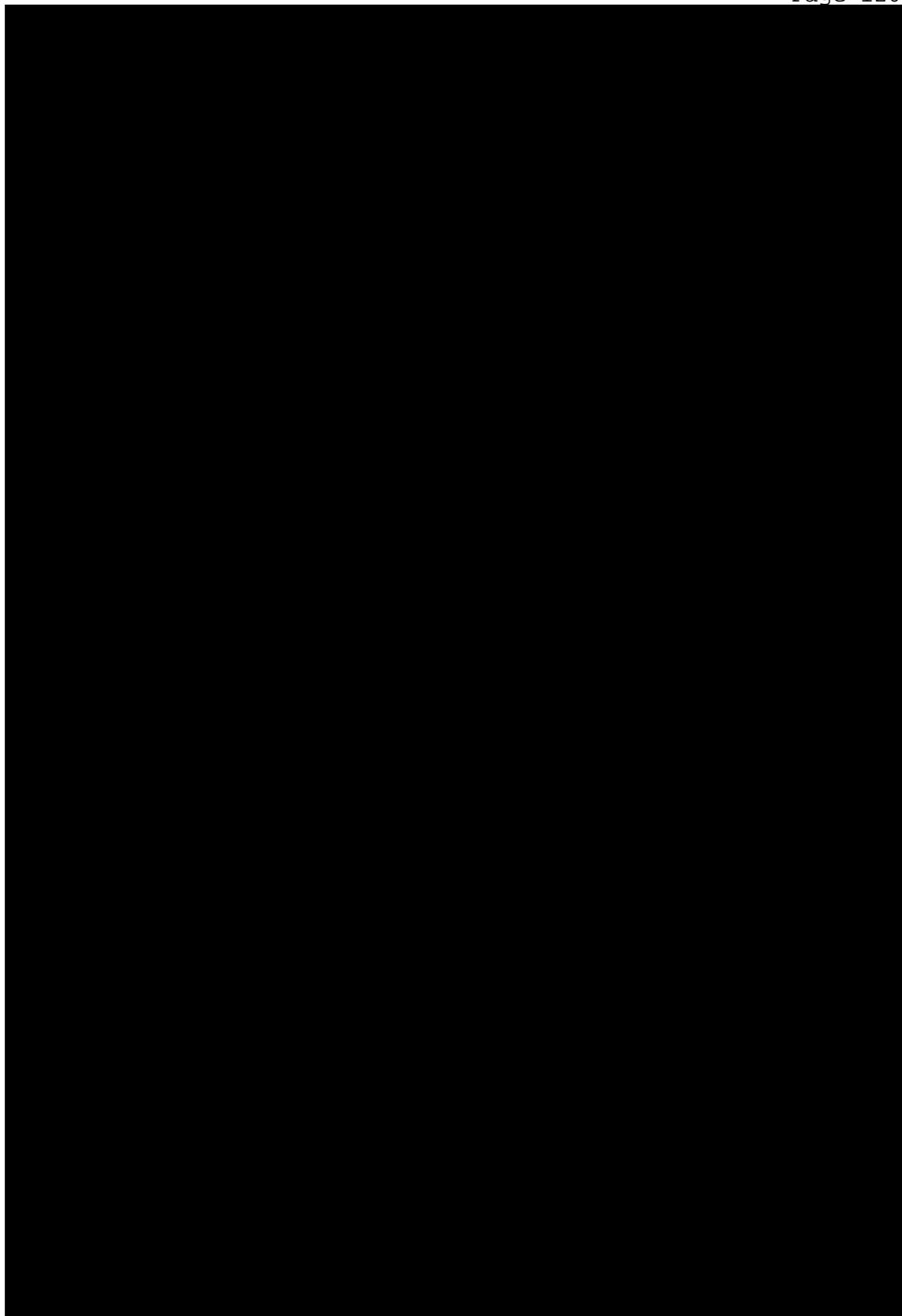
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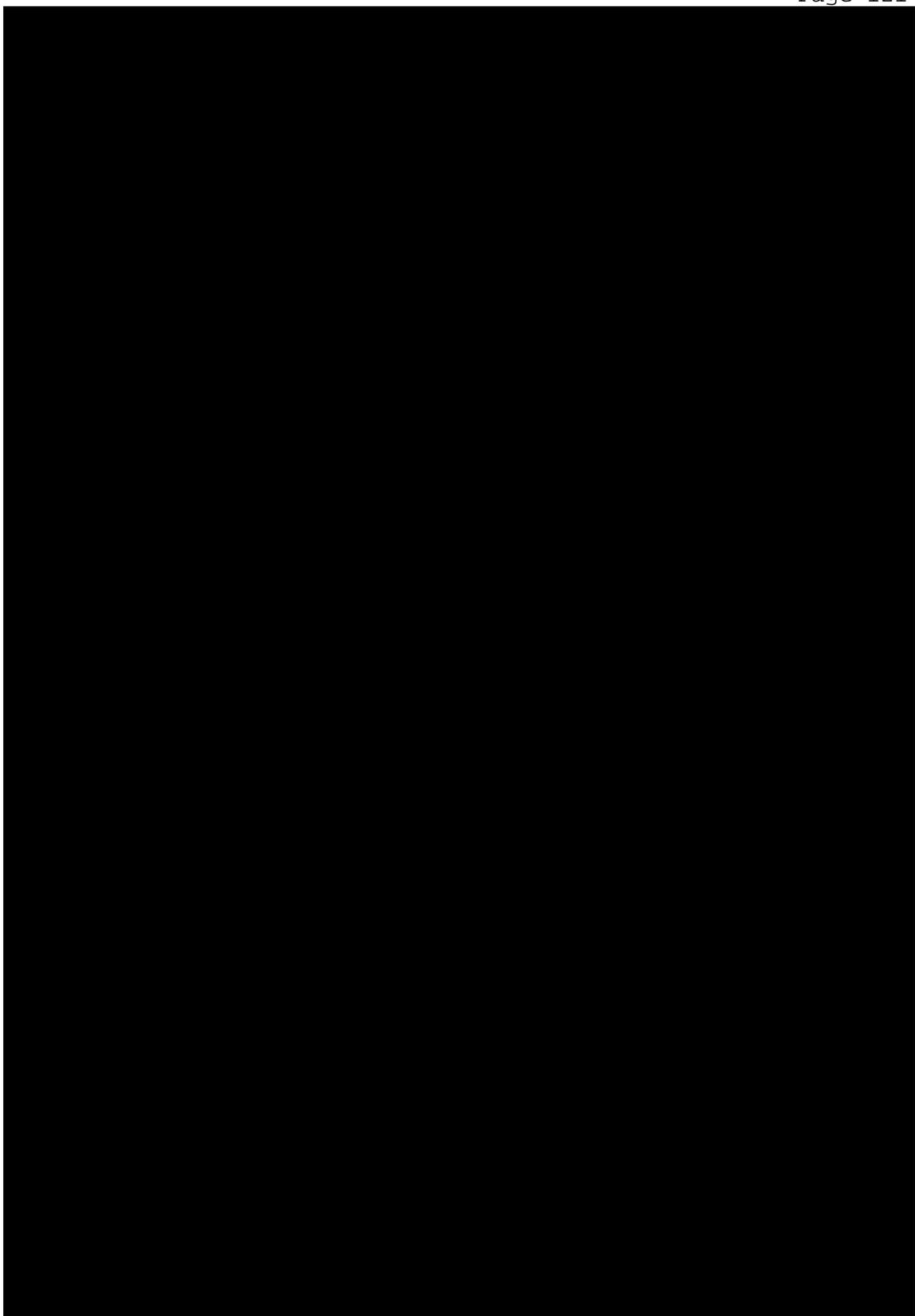
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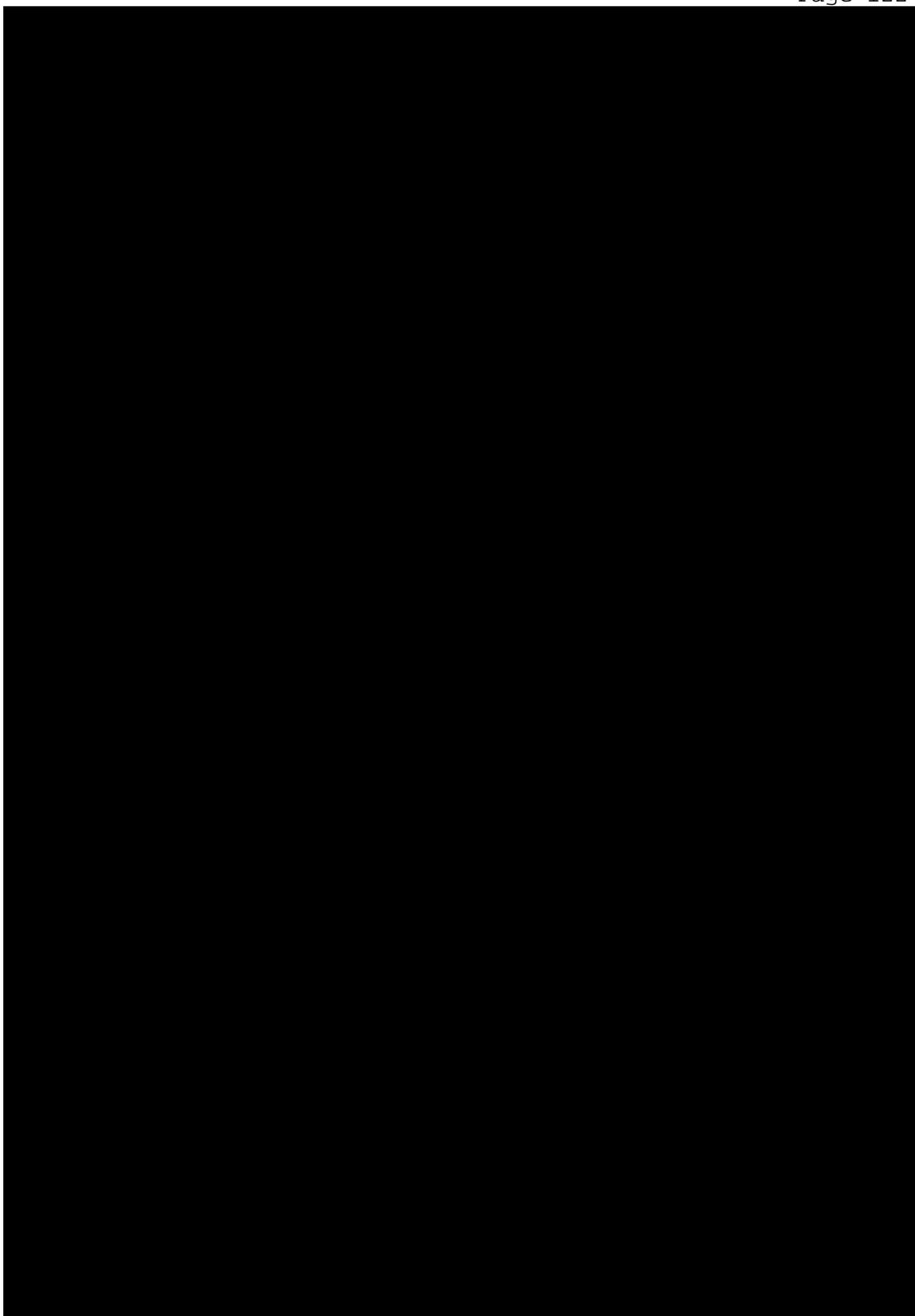
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16           VICE CHAIR BROWN: Good afternoon. We are  
17 back. This is the Florida Gaming Control  
18 Commission's November meeting. The time is now  
19 12:03 p.m. The closed meeting is terminated, and  
20 our public meeting is hereby reopened.

21           We are going back to Items 14.1 through 14.4.  
22 I'm going to take them up individually.  
23 Commissioners, can we please get a motion on  
24 Item 14.1 after our discussions during our  
25 attorney-client meeting.

1 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: I'll make that motion.

2 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And the motion would be to  
3 authorize staff to continue negotiations?

4 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Yes.

5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Can we get a second.

6 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: Second.

7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say  
8 aye.

9 (Multiple ayes.)

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: On to 14.2. Commissioners,  
11 again, after our discussions in our attorney-client  
12 session, can we please get a motion to authorize  
13 staff to continue pre-negotiations in 14.2.

14 Ms. Valentine, is that the correct way to  
15 phrase it, authorize staff to continue --

16 MS. VALENTINE: Yes.

17 COMMISSIONER REPP: I'll make that motion.

18 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Based on our discussions.  
19 A second.

20 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

21 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say  
22 aye.

23 (Multiple ayes.)

24 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. 14.3, same  
25 thing. If we are so inclined, can we get a motion

1 to authorize staff to continue negotiations based  
2 on our discussions.

3 COMMISSIONER D'AQUILA: I will make that  
4 motion.

5 VICE CHAIR BROWN: And can we get a second.

6 COMMISSIONER REPP: Second.

7 VICE CHAIR BROWN: All those in favor, say  
8 aye.

9 (Multiple ayes.)

10 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. And last, onto  
11 14.4. Commissioners, is there a motion on this  
12 item? Commissioner Repp, I think.

13 COMMISSIONER REPP: I make a motion to  
14 designate Deputy Executive Director McCaffery, the  
15 authorized representative to attend mediation and  
16 proceed with the Commission's guidance.

17 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Is there a  
18 second.

19 COMMISSIONER DRAGO: Second.

20 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Any discussion? All those  
21 in favor, say aye.

22 (Multiple ayes.)

23 VICE CHAIR BROWN: Thank you. Ms. Valentine,  
24 is there anything else to address before we  
25 adjourn?

1 MS. VALENTINE: No.

2 THE COURT: Thank you. Thank you all for  
3 being here. Have a wonderful day. This meeting is  
4 adjourned.

5 (Proceeding concluded at 12:07 p.m.)

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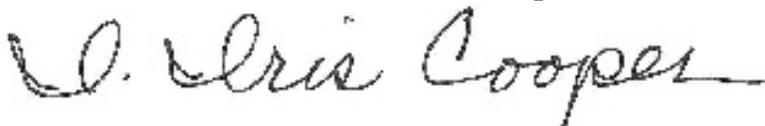
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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF LEON

I, I. IRIS COOPER, do hereby certify that I  
was authorized to and did stenographically report  
the foregoing proceeding, and that the transcript  
is a true and complete record of my stenographic  
notes.

Dated this 26th day of November, 2025.



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I. Iris Cooper  
Stenographic Reporter  
Notary Public, State of Florida  
My Commission No. 1366674  
Expires: February 7, 2028