

Exercise 2.55.

Eva Lu Ator types to the interpreter the expression

```
(car ''abracadabra)
```

To her surprise, the interpreter prints back `quote`. Explain.

Answer.

We know that the expression `''abracadabra` is equivalent to `'(quote abracadabra)` literally. This indicates that the expression typed in by Eva will be interpreted as

```
(car '(quote abracadabra))
```

respectfully. Furthermore, the derived expression will evolve into

```
(car (list 'quote 'abracadabra))
```

in which the interpreter therefore prints back `quote`.

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