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\expandafter $\langle token_1 \rangle \langle token_2 \rangle$

This command tells T_EX to expand $\langle token_1 \rangle$ according to its rules for macro expansion *after* it has expanded $\langle token_2 \rangle$ by one level. It's useful when $\langle token_1 \rangle$ is something like '{' or \string that inhibits expansion of $\langle token_2 \rangle$, but you want to expand $\langle token_2 \rangle$ nevertheless.

Example:

\def\aa{xyz}
\tt % Use this font so '\' prints that way.
[\string\aa] [\expandafter\string\aa]
[\expandafter\string\csname TeX\endcsname]
produces:
[\aa] [xyz] [\TeX]