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Description

Connect to this PostgreSQL server and find the flag! psql -h saturn.picoctf.net -p 52873 -U postgres pico Password is postgres

Hint: What does a SQL database contain?

Solution

According to the hint, nothing much was required. Just the knowledge of how Postgres database work and SQL language in general.

I went ahead and connected to the Postgres server.

```
kali@kali: ~/Downloads/_flag.png.extracted/secret

File Actions Edit View Help

(kali@ kali) -[~/Downloads/_flag.png.extracted/secret]

$ psql -h saturn.picoctf.net -p 52873 -U postgres pico

Password for user postgres:
psql (16.3 (Debian 16.3-1+b1), server 15.2 (Debian 15.2-1.pgdg110+1))

Type "help" for help.
```

I then used the \1 flag to list all the databases in the server.

pico=# \l e	Insert La	Refe	rences F	Review Vie	w Help					Comments ~~
List of databases										
Name	Owner	Encoding	Locale	Provider	Collate	Ctype	ICU Locale	ICU Rules	Access privileges	
pico postgres	postgres postgres		libc libc	V \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \		en_US.utf8 en US.utf8		Norma Aptes, 12	∨ d _c Replace Dic	
template0	postgres		l libc			en_US.utf8		Styles	=c/postgres postgres=CTc/postgres	
template1	postgres 	UTF8	libc 		en_US.utf8	en_US.utf8		 	=c/postgres postgres=CTc/postgres	
(4 rows)										

I found a database named pico interesting. I use \c flag followed by the database name to connect to it for further analysis.

```
pico=# \c pico
psql (16.3 (Debian 16.3-1+b1), server 15.2 (Debian 15.2-1.pgdg110+1))
You are now connected to database "pico" as user "postgres".
```

After a successful connection to pico database, I used the \dt flag to l to list all the database tables in the pico database.

```
pico=# \dt List of relations
Schema | Name | Type | Owner
public | flags | table | postgres
(1 row)
```

A table named flags caught my eyes. I proceeded to examining what flags were stored in there. I ran this command "select * from flags". This command returns each and every record stored in the flags table, this is possible when * flag is used in SQL which specifies 'everything'. And That's how I retrieved the flag "picoCTF{L3arN_S0m3_5qL_t0d4Y_21c94904}".