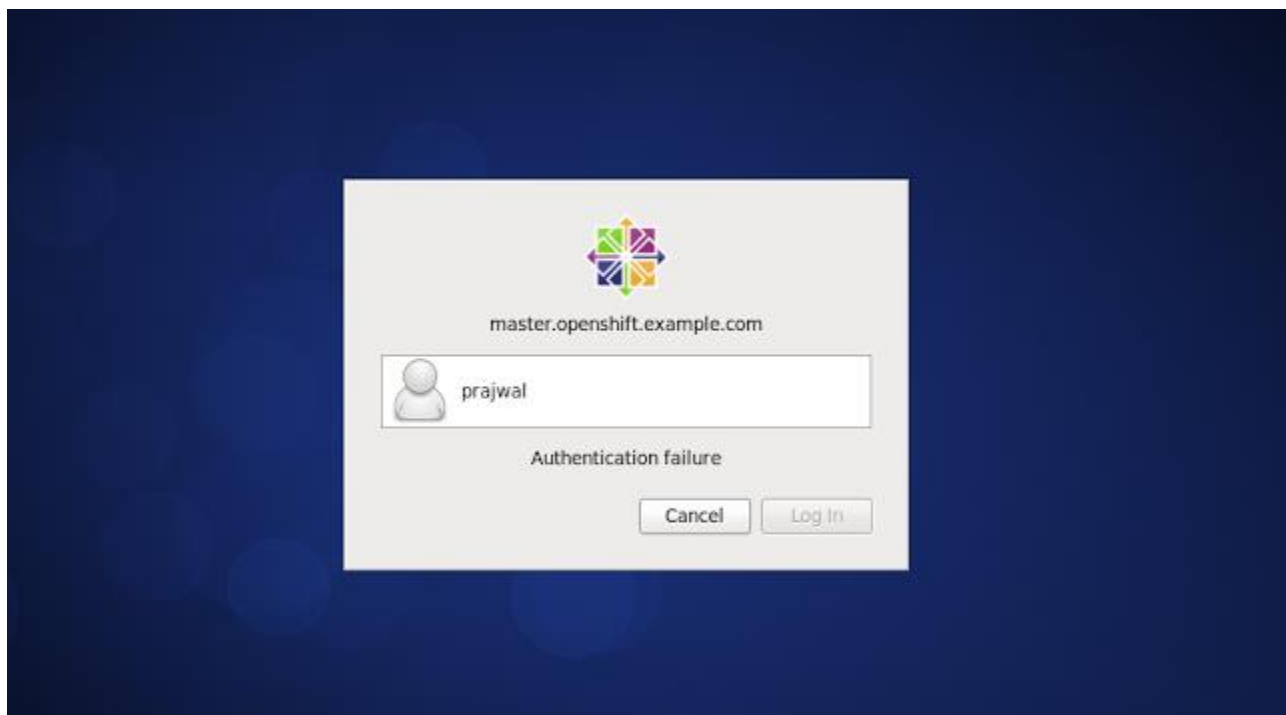


Using CentOS 6 VM on VMware:

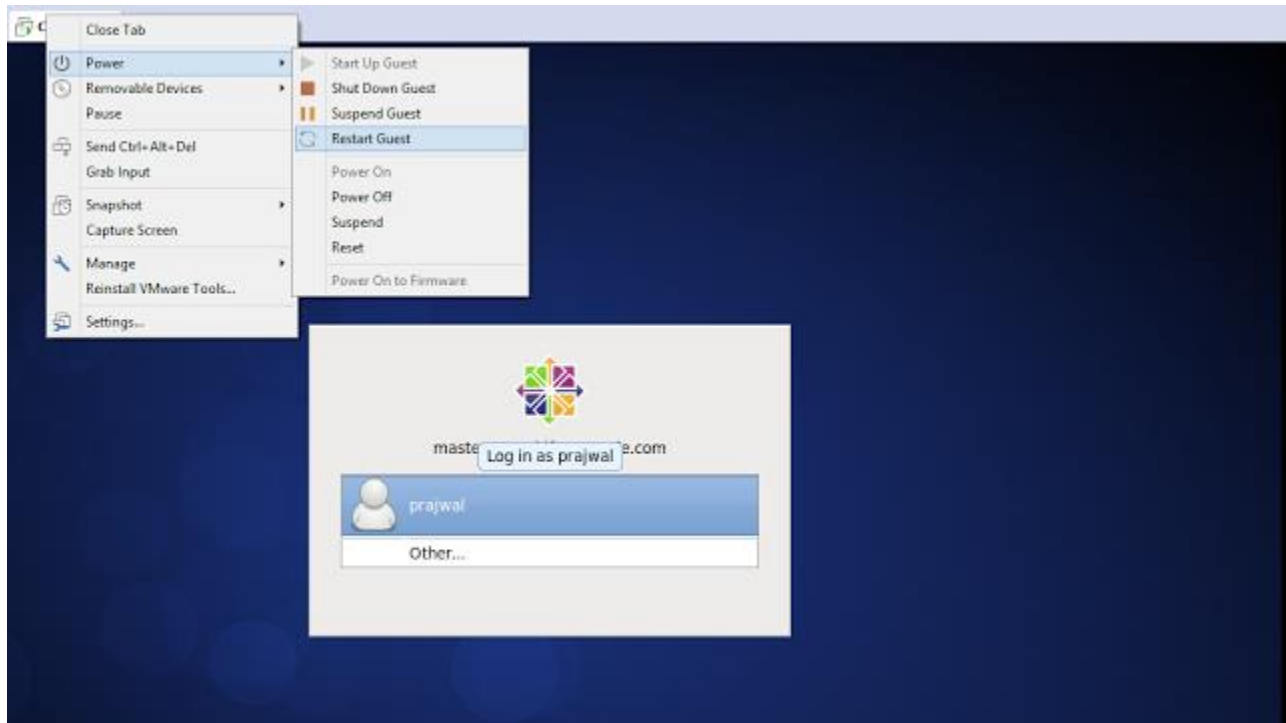
1. Start your VM, and boot the system.



System boots up and we get the login panel, and it shows the password is incorrect.

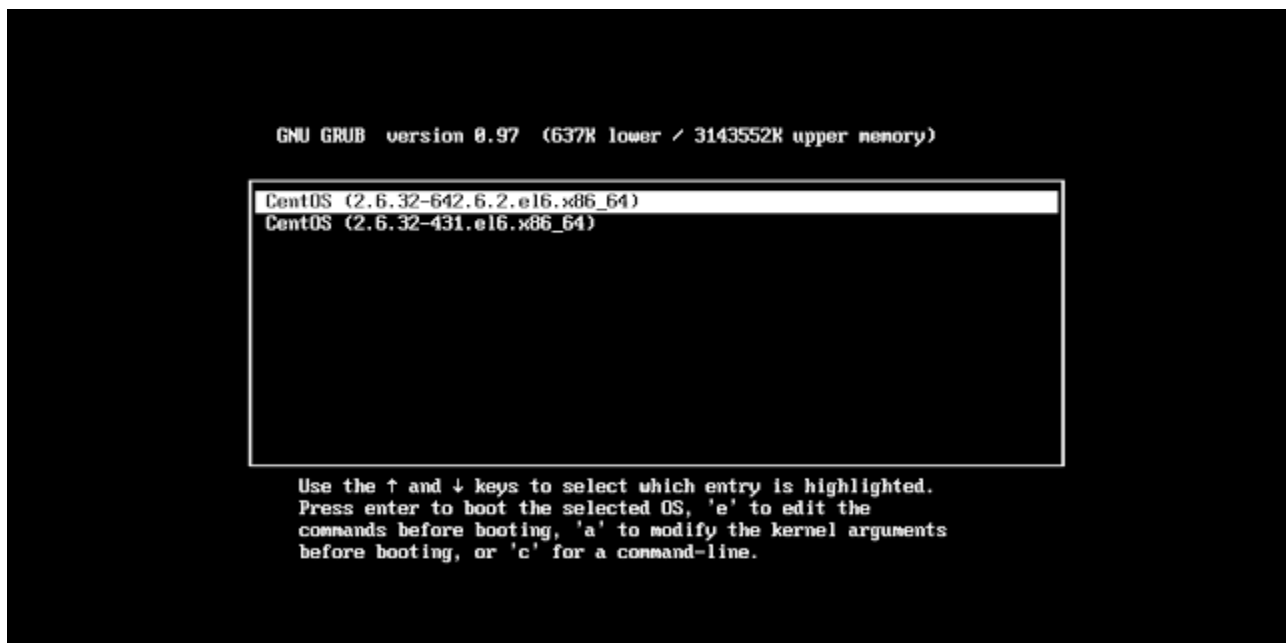


Since there is no way in to my system, so lets reboot the system and edit the boot loader (Grub) restart right click on the machine tab, Power >> Restart Guest

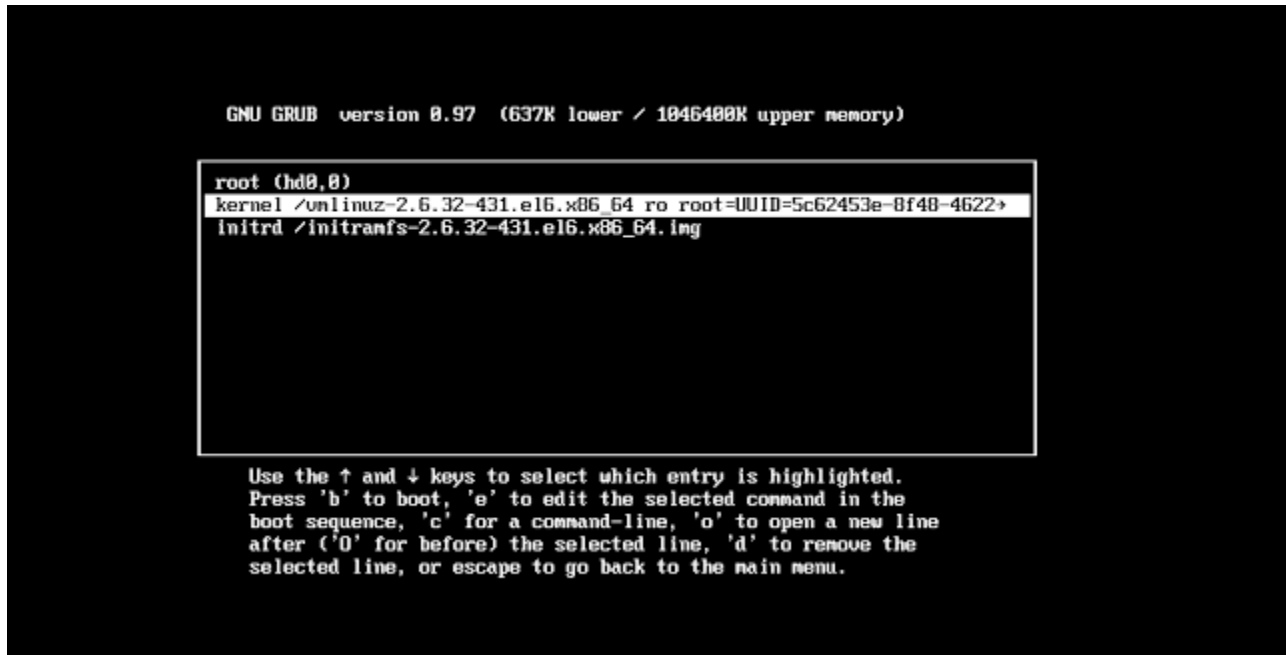


2. Press 'e' to edit the boot loader before booting.

Select CentOS Version



After selecting press "e" again which will take you to new window select the kernel you want to edit and press "e" to edit the kernel.



```
GNU GRUB version 8.97 (637K lower / 1846488K upper memory)

root (hd0,0)
kernel /vmlinuz-2.6.32-431.el6.x86_64 ro root=UUID=5c62453e-8f48-4622+
initrd /initramfs-2.6.32-431.el6.x86_64.img

Use the ↑ and ↓ keys to select which entry is highlighted.
Press 'b' to boot, 'e' to edit the selected command in the
boot sequence, 'c' for a command-line, 'o' to open a new line
after ('O' for before) the selected line, 'd' to remove the
selected line, or escape to go back to the main menu.
```

After that you get the screen same as above in the screenshot, mention the runlevel you want to boot your system, by default it is set to runlevel 5 that is GUI mode we need to boot in single user mode so give one space and press 1 and hit Enter.

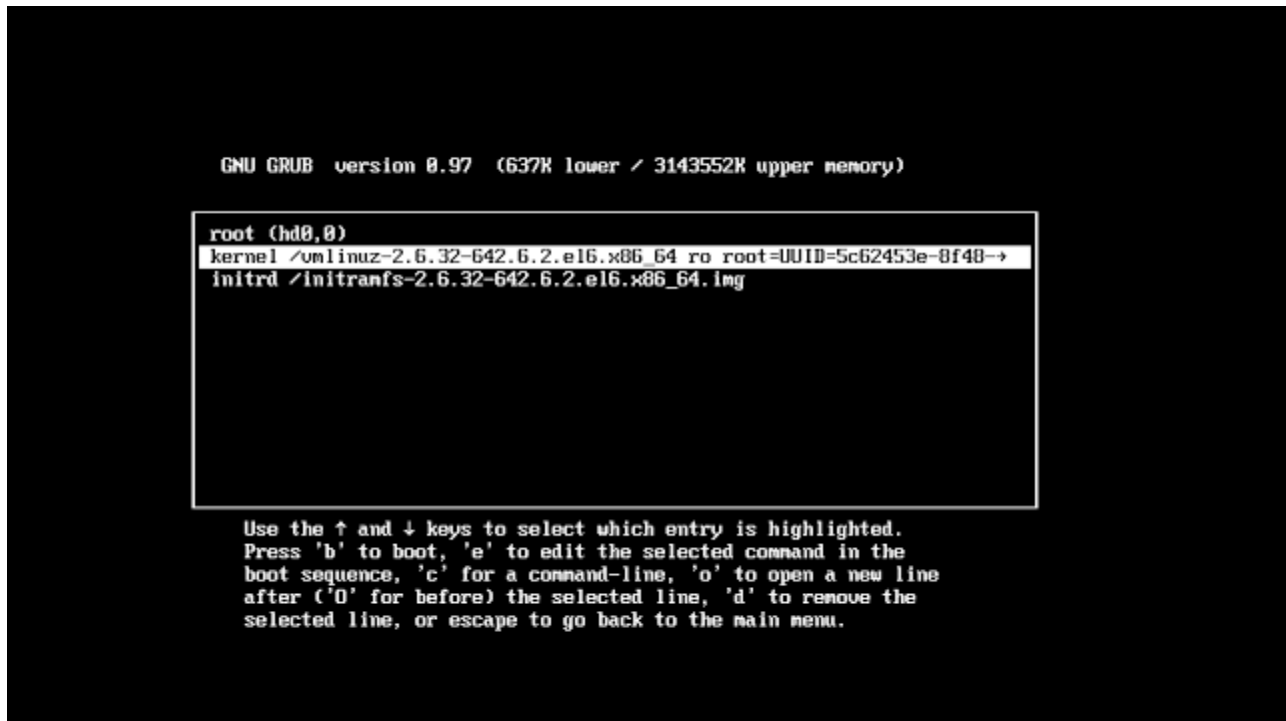
3. Type '1' at the end of the line to select single user mode and hit enter



```
[ Minimal BASH-like line editing is supported. For the first word, TAB
lists possible command completions. Anywhere else TAB lists the possible
completions of a device/filename. ESC at any time cancels. ENTER
at any time accepts your changes.]

<TYPE=pc KEYTABLE=us rd_NO_DM rhgb quiet 1
```

4. Highlight the list item with kernel 'vmlinuz' in it by using the arrow keys and press 'b' to boot the system with the new argument.



5. The system will boot into single user mode and you will see bash prompt, now change the password.

Type `passwd <user>`



eg: `passwd`

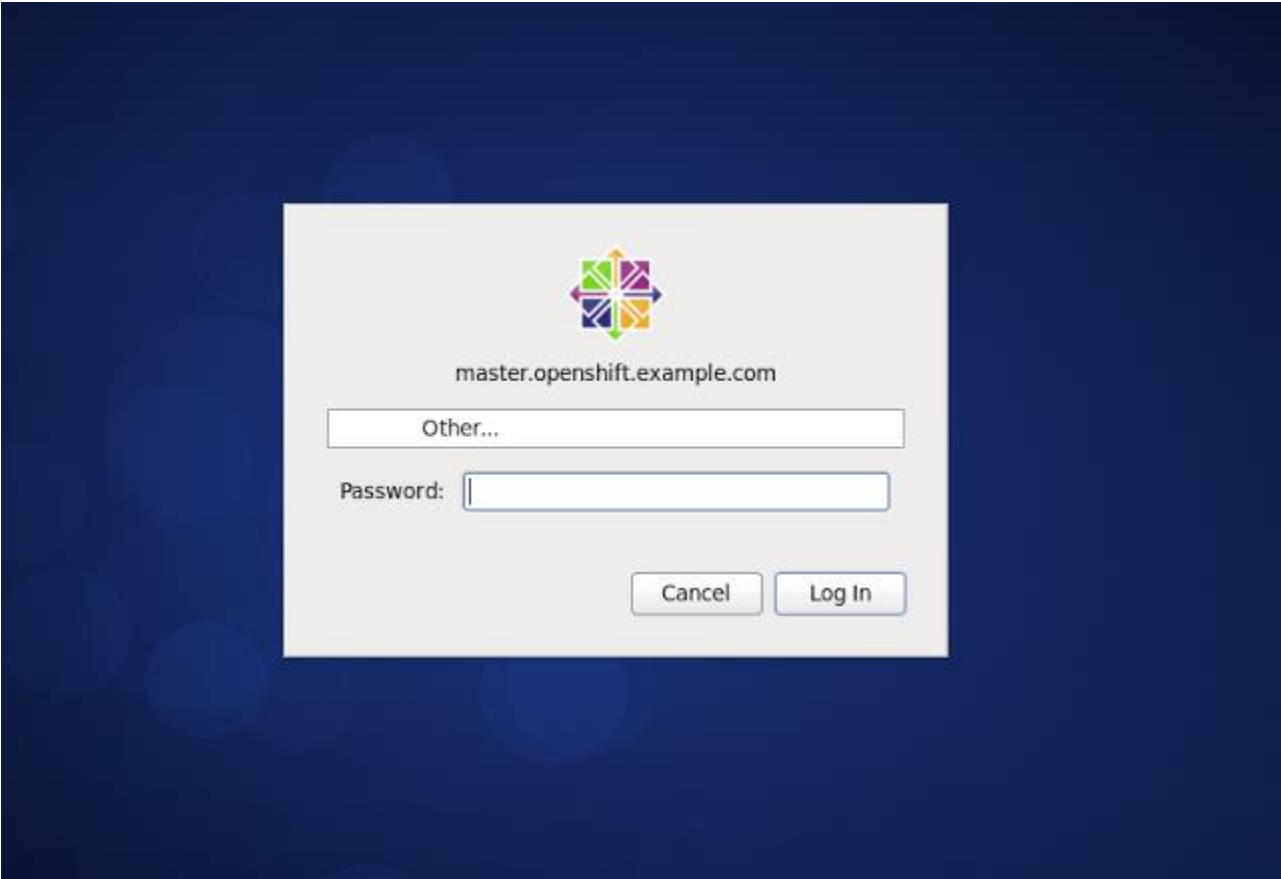
```
Telling INIT to go to single user mode.  
[root@master ~]# passwd  
Changing password for user root.  
New password:  
BAD PASSWORD: it is based on a dictionary word  
Retype new password:  
passwd: all authentication tokens updated successfully.  
[root@master ~]#
```

And if we don't mention any parameter to passwd command it will be changing password for the root user

6. Type 'init 5' to run the system with Full Multiuser with Networking (GUI) mode.

```
Telling INIT to go to single user mode.  
[root@master ~]# passwd  
Changing password for user root.  
New password:  
BAD PASSWORD: it is based on a dictionary word  
Retype new password:  
passwd: all authentication tokens updated successfully.  
[root@master ~]# i  
bash: i: command not found  
[root@master ~]#  
[root@master ~]#  
[root@master ~]#  
[root@master ~]#  
[root@master ~]#  
[root@master ~]# init 5_
```

7. Login with the new password.



After this you will be able to login to the machine with new password

Note: In this article i have changed the root password you can change the password of any user as mentioned in step 5 , This document works well for centos/rhel 5 and 6