

LambdaMamba / CTFwriteups

Code Issues Pull requests Actions Projects Security Insights

Files

- main
- ...
- files
- img
- README.md
- The_Library**
- files
- img
- README.md
- READMe.md
- solved.png
- picoCTF_2022
- .gitignore
- README.md

CTFwriteups / VishwaCTF_2022 / OSINT / The_Library /

Add file ...

LambdaMamba Update README.md a08c992 · 2 years ago History

Name	Last commit message	Last commit date
..		2 years ago
files	Added writeup for VishwaCTF The Library	2 years ago
img	Added writeup for VishwaCTF The Library	2 years ago
README.md	Update README.md	2 years ago

README.md

The Library (Category: OSINT)

The challenge is the following.

Challenge 69 Solves

The Library

The Library

449

Send a 'hello' to "The Librarian" from the bot list on the Discord server, and he shall guide you further.

Note : The attached files are NOT hints or steps to the challenge, they are guides to message the bot and troubleshooting.

[Howtodm.jpg](#) [Troubleshoot...](#)

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And we are given two images files [Howtodm.jpg](#) and [Troubleshoot.jpg](#).

The challenge mentions Note : The attached files are NOT hints or steps to the challenge, they are guides to message the bot and troubleshooting., so we know that these are simply instruction pictures.

I DMed Hello to the The Librarian, and gave me the following reply,

Hello

The Librarian BOT 03/19/2022

Welcome! Bring me what I ask and I shall take you on a journey across the land of books.
Here is the first step -

'Very few of us are what we seem.'
Tommy is to call on Miss Glen at what time? Give me the time in 12 hr format (HH:MM) (without am/pm) and I will lead you further.

So now I need to use OSINT to find the answer to [Tommy is to call on Miss Glen at what time?](#). I searched this into Google,



Tommy is to call on Miss Glen at what time?



All Images News Videos Shopping More Tools

About 7,360,000 results (0.53 seconds)

<https://en.wikipedia.org> › wiki › Partners_in_Crime_(sh...

Partners in Crime (short story collection) - Wikipedia

Bulger leaves soon afterwards and **Tommy** receives a note from **Miss Glen** asking for his help and for him to call on her at The White House, Morgan's Avenue, ...

and the top-most result is this [Partners in Crime Wikipedia](#). Since this bot was called [The Librarian](#), I automatically assumed that I am supposed to look for things related to fiction, so this [Partners in Crime](#) by Agatha Christie was the most likely candidate for the answer.

Partners in Crime (short story collection)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

For other uses, see [Partners in Crime \(disambiguation\)](#).

Partners in Crime is a short story collection by British writer [Agatha Christie](#), first published by [Dodd, Mead and Company](#) in the US in 1929^{[1][2]} and in the UK by [William Collins, Sons](#) on 16 September of the same year.^[3] The US edition retailed at \$2.00^[2] and the UK edition at seven shillings and sixpence (7/6).^[4] All of the stories in the collection had previously been published in magazines (see [First publication of stories](#) below) and feature her detectives **Tommy** and **Tuppence** Beresford, first introduced in [The Secret Adversary](#) (1922).

This collection of detective short stories has a theme connecting the stories, as well, "a group of short detective stories within a detective novel."^[5]

The collection was well received on publication, with the "merriest collection",^[6] with amiable parodies,^[6] to one reviewer who was less impressed, saying the stories were "entertaining enough".^[7] One noted that "By having two detectives who are usually alternately successful she [Christie] has always a foil, less obtuse than 'my dear Watson'.^[8] "Her literary skill is equal to the task" of parodies of the style of well-known detective writers.^[8] Some of the authors parodied in the 1920s are long-forgotten, yet a review in 1990 commented that "the parodies are not sharp enough for this to matter very much" to prevent enjoyment of the stories.^[9] It also noted that the plot of one story, "The House of Lurking Death", "anticipates" a detective novel published in 1930 by Dorothy Sayers.^[9]

Contents [hide]

- 1 Plot introduction
- 2 The stories and their detective parodies
- 3 Plot summaries
 - 3.1 A Fairy in the Flat
 - 3.2 A Pot of Tea
 - 3.3 The Affair of the Pink Pearl

Partners in Crime



First US edition

Author	Agatha Christie
Cover artist	Not known
Country	United States
Language	English
Genre	Detective fiction Short stories
Publisher	Dodd, Mead (US) Collins (UK)
Publication date	1929
Media type	Print (hardback & paperback)

I saw that [Tommy](#) is one of the main characters, and searching this name on the Wikipedia page returned many results.

To narrow it down, I searched for [Miss Glen](#), and found out that she only appears in [The Man in the Mist](#).

The Man in the Mist [edit]

Tommy and Tuppence have had a setback, failing to solve their latest case involving a stolen pearl necklace. Instead, the local police inspector apprehended the culprit. Having withdrawn to lick their wounds with cocktails in a hotel, they meet an old acquaintance, Mervyn Estcourt, known as "Bulger", who is in the company of the famous actress Gilda Glen. She is renowned for her beauty and rumoured to be notable for her lack of intelligence. **Miss Glen** seems puzzled by Tommy's *Father Brown* disguise and Tommy ambiguously confirms his detective credentials. The directions from Bulger as to the way back to the station include a walk down Morgan's Avenue. **Miss Glen** is startled by this advice and Bulger laughs at her belief that the road in question is haunted by the ghost of a policeman who was killed and yet still walks his spectral beat. **Miss Glen** leaves hurriedly. Bulger tells them that she is engaged to marry Lord Leconbury, who meets the actress outside the door to the hotel. Bulger leaves soon afterwards and Tommy receives a note from **Miss Glen** asking for his help and for him to call on her at The White House, Morgan's Avenue, at 6.10 pm.

A shabbily dressed and aggressive young man bursts into the hotel. Sitting near Tommy and Tuppence, he tells them that his name is James Reilly, and he is a pacifist poet enamoured of Gilda. She once cared for him, but does no longer since her engagement to Lord Leconbury. Still angry, he leaves as suddenly as he arrived. Tommy and Tuppence walk to Morgan's Avenue, in a thick fog. Tuppence is startled when a policeman looms up out of the mist just near to the White House. Recovering herself, she sees Reilly enter the house. The policeman confirms that the house is the residence of Mrs Honeycott, and that he saw someone who resembles **Miss Glen** enter there a few minutes before.

About to enter the house, they hear a cry and Reilly runs out, leaving what looks like red paint from his hand on a gatepost as he does so. The two enter the house and meet Ellen, the maid, who is indignant about the visit by Reilly. Then they meet Mrs Honeycott. Mistaking Tommy for a real priest, she asks for his help with Gilda who is her sister. Some twenty years before, at the age of seventeen, she married a man against the wishes of her family, and now wants a divorce to marry Lord Leconbury. Her husband is refusing to grant her this wish, although the marriage took place so long ago that Mrs Honeycott cannot remember his name. She confirms that it was Reilly whom she saw rush upstairs and as quickly down again. Tommy asks to be shown upstairs where they find Gilda's body, her head smashed in on one side by a blunt instrument. Tuppence fetches the policeman from outside. Questioning reveals that Mrs Honeycott heard her sister entering the house at eight minutes past six as she was re-setting the main clock. This agrees with the time at which the policeman himself saw the actress enter, just before Tommy and Tuppence walked up Morgan's Avenue.

The next day, Reilly is arrested and Tommy and Tuppence meet with his solicitor, Mr Marvell. Reilly insists that the woman was dead when he entered her room. That would mean either Ellen or Mrs Honeycott killed her. Tommy suddenly realises no one inside the house saw Gilda enter, they only heard the door open. Before that the two women already in the house were in the kitchen, where they could not see or hear anyone entering with a key. Just because they heard the door banging, it does not prove anything. It could just as easily have been someone leaving the house, like the policeman they saw at the gate and who carries a truncheon, which would serve as the blunt instrument needed to carry out the deed, especially as the policeman was Gilda's husband of long ago.

Also, the only time that is mentioned in [The Man in the Mist](#) was 6:10 pm, therefore I assumed this would be the answer. The bot said to Give me the time in 12 hr format (HH:MM) (without am/pm), so I tried patterns like 6:10 and 06:10. Turns out 06:10 was the correct answer.

06:10

 The Librarian BOT 03/21/2022
Good job, here is the next part -
He appeared to help the Son of Neptune, this seer has a history of helping heroes on their quests. He is also acknowledged in mythology to guide a voyage to retrieve what?

The bot gave the next question, and when I saw Son of Neptune, I immediately assumed that it was related to Rick Riordan because I read a lot of Percy Jackson in my childhood and knew that the protagonist, Percy Jackson is the son of Greek god Poseidon, who is referred to as Neptune in Roman mythology.

And searching this title up on [Wikipedia](#) has confirmed my assumption.

The Son of Neptune



From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

For other uses, see [Sons of Neptune](#).

The Son of Neptune is a 2011 fantasy-adventure novel written by American author Rick Riordan, based on Greek and Roman mythology. It is the second book in [The Heroes of Olympus](#) series, preceded by [The Lost Hero](#) and followed by [The Mark of Athena](#). The story follows the adventures of amnesiac Percy Jackson, a demigod son of Neptune also known as Poseidon, as he meets a camp of Roman demigods and goes to Alaska with his new friends Hazel Levesque and Frank Zhang to free the Greek god of death, Thanatos, and help save the world from Gaea, the earth goddess. The novel is narrated in third-person, switching between the points of view of Percy, Frank, and Hazel.

The book received mostly critical acclaim, won the [Goodreads Choice Award](#) in 2011,^[2] and appeared on several bestseller lists.^[3]

The Son of Neptune was first published in hardcover on October 4, 2011, by Disney-Hyperion with a cover designed by illustrator John Rocco. After an initial hardcover printing of three million copies, the book has since been released in paperback as well as an audiobook and e-book, and has been translated into 37 languages.^[4]

Contents [hide]	
1	Development
2	Plot
3	Major characters
3.1	Viewpoint
3.2	Other
4	Release
4.1	Critical reception
5	Sequels
6	References

The Son of Neptune



First edition cover

Author	Rick Riordan
Cover artist	John Rocco
Country	United States
Series	The Heroes of Olympus (book 2)
Genre	Fantasy, Greek and Roman

The question mentions He is also acknowledged in mythology to guide a voyage to retrieve what?, with an emphasis on the what, so I assumed that we're supposed to look for the object Percy Jackson has retrieved in his quests.

I went ahead to [Riordan Fandom site about Percy Jackson's Quests](#), and saw that there were multiple objects that Percy Jackson had to retrieve.

Percy Jackson and the Olympians

- The Quest for the Master Bolt - Led by Percy Jackson in [The Lightning Thief](#). (succeeded)
- The Quest for the Golden Fleece - Led by Clarisse La Rue in [The Sea of Monsters](#). (succeeded)
- The Quest for Artemis - Led by Zoë Nightshade in [The Titan's Curse](#). (succeeded)
- Quest for Pan - Led by Grover Underwood throughout the first series, until [The Battle of the Labyrinth](#). (succeeded)
- Quest for Daedalus - Led by Annabeth Chase in [The Battle of the Labyrinth](#). (succeeded)
- Quest for the Flying Chariot - Led by Clarisse La Rue before [The Last Olympian](#). (succeeded)
- Quest to blow up the Princess Andromeda - Led by Charles Beckendorf in [The Last Olympian](#). (succeeded)
- Quest to save Olympus from the Titan Army and Typhon (The Battle of Manhattan) - Led by Percy Jackson in [The Last Olympian](#). (succeeded)

The Heroes of Olympus

- The Quest to Free Hera - Led by Jason Grace in [The Lost Hero](#). (succeeded)
- The Quest to Free Thanatos - Led by Frank Zhang in [The Son of Neptune](#). (succeeded)
- The Quest for the Athena Parthenos - Annabeth Chase's solo quest in [The Mark of Athena](#). (succeeded)
- The Quest to the Doors of Death - Led by Nico di Angelo across Greece and Iapetus across Tartarus in [The House of Hades](#). (succeeded)
- The Quest for the Physician's Cure - Led by Leo Valdez in [The Blood of Olympus](#), though technically Frank Zhang, Piper McLean, Annabeth Chase, Hazel Levesque, and Jason Grace all found ingredients for it. (succeeded)

The bot didn't say anything specific about the object, so I decided to try each possible object like master bolt, golden fleece, flying

chariot , etc. from the [Riordan Fandom](#) site about Percy Jackson's Quests.

master bolt
golden fleece

The Librarian BOT 03/21/2022
Well done, here is the next part

'The year without a summer, a vacation, and a classic was created.'

In this classic, the names of the creation and creator are often confused. Give me the name of the university where the creator studied and I shall give you the next piece of the puzzle.

As the bot responded to golden fleece, that was the answer to this question. For the next question, the bot mentions In this classic, the names of the creation and creator are often confused. . I immediately assumed that the bot was talking about Frankenstein, because I remember in literature class that the English teacher always talked about how "Frankenstein is not the name of the monster, but it's the name of the creator, who is Victor Frankenstein."

The bot says Give me the name of the university where the creator studied , so I assumed that I was supposed to look for the university where Victor Frankenstein studied. I opened up [Victor Frankenstein on Wikipedia](#), and searched university . There were multiple instances of the string university in this Wikipedia article, and I saw that the History section of the article was the most relevant.

History [edit]

Victor Frankenstein was born in [Naples](#), [Italy](#) (according to the 1831 edition of Shelley's novel) with his [Swiss family](#).^[7] He was the son of Alphonse Frankenstein and Caroline Beaufort, who died of [scarlet fever](#) when Victor was 17.^[8] He describes his ancestry thus: "I am by birth a [Genevieve](#); and my family is one of the most distinguished of that republic. My ancestors had been for many years counsellors and syndics; and my father had filled several public situations with honour and reputation."^[9] Frankenstein has two younger brothers—William, the youngest, and Ernest, the middle child.^[10] Frankenstein falls in love with [Elizabeth Lavenza](#), who became his adoptive sister (his blood cousin in the 1818 edition) and, eventually, his fiancée.^[11]

As a boy, Frankenstein is interested in the works of **alchemists** such as **Cornelius Agrippa**, **Paracelsus**, and **Albertus Magnus**, and he longs to discover the fabled **elixir of life**. At the age of fifteen, he loses interest in both these pursuits and in **science** as a whole after he sees a tree destroyed by a lightning strike and a scientist explains the theory of **electricity** to him. It seems to him as if nothing can really be known about the world, and he instead devotes himself to studying **mathematics**, which he describes as "being built upon secure foundations."^[12] However, at the **University of Ingolstadt in Bavaria**, Frankenstein develops a fondness for **chemistry**,^[12] and within two years, his commitment and scientific ability allow him to make discoveries that earn him admiration at the university. He then becomes curious about the nature of life and his studies lead him to a miraculous discovery that enables him to create life in inanimate matter.^[13]

Assembling a humanoid creature through ambiguous means, Frankenstein successfully brings it to life, but he is horrified by the creature's ugliness.^[14] He flees from his creation, who disappears^[14] and, after several negative encounters with the locals, swears revenge on his creator.^[15] When William is found murdered, Frankenstein knows instantly that his creation is the killer,^[10] but says nothing. The Frankensteins' housekeeper, Justine, is blamed for the boy's death and executed; Frankenstein is wracked with guilt but does not come forward with the truth because he thinks no one will believe his story, and he is afraid of the reactions such a story would provoke.^[16]

I tried various patterns like university at Ingolstadt, ingolstadt, ingolstadt university and University of Ingolstadt, and turns out University of Ingolstadt was the correct answer.

university at Ingolstadt
Ingolstadt
ingolstadt
ingolstadt university
University of Ingolstadt

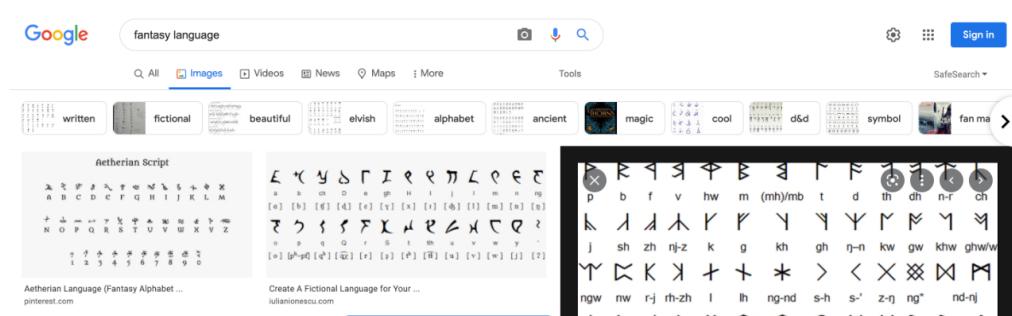
 The Librarian BOT 03/21/2022
Splendid, here is the next part -

What is the name of the dragon?

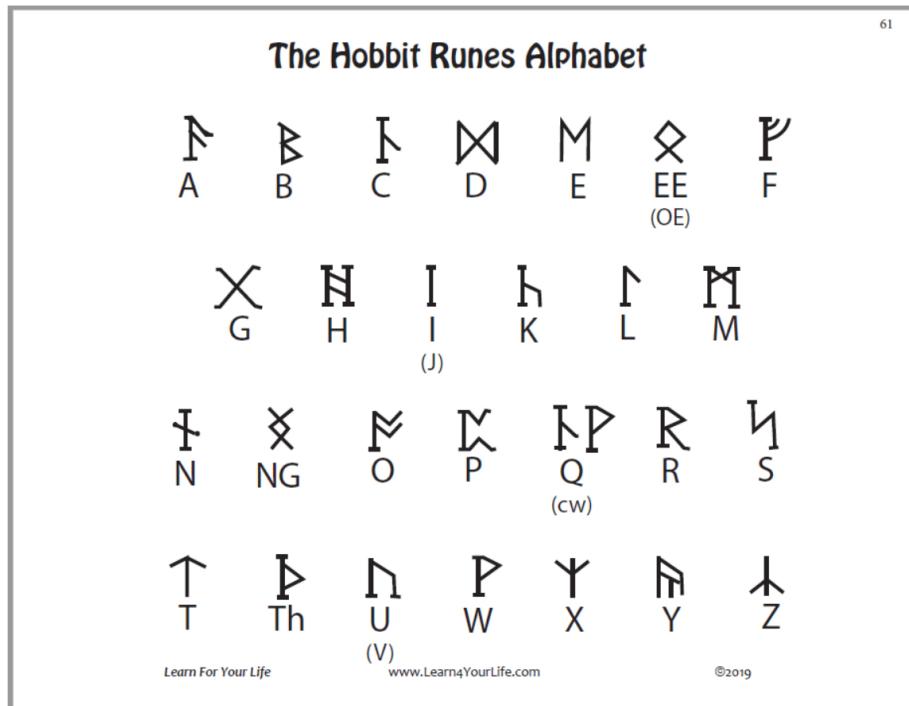
The bot then gave me the following image.

Also, the bot only asks us: What is the name of the dragon?

As it mentions dragon, I assumed that this would be related to fantasy fiction. So I went to Google images and searched [fantasy language](#). Among the results, I found a text similar to the one the bat gave us.



By digging deeper into the similar images section, I found out that this language was called [Cirth](#), which is a [script of runes created by Daeron from Lord of the Rings](#). I found a [translation sheet here](#),



And I went ahead and translated half of the text by hand,

[STAND BY THE GREY STONE HWEN THE THRVS KNOCKS AND THE SETTING SUN](#)

At this point, I decided to input this text to Google and see if it can auto-complete it for me.

Google

STAND BY THE GREY STONE HWEN THE THRVS KNOCKS AND THE SETTING SUN

All Images Videos News Shopping More Tools

About 1,810,000 results (0.40 seconds)

Showing results for [STAND BY THE GREY STONE WHEN THE THRUSH KNOCKS AND THE SETTING SUN](#)
[Search instead for STAND BY THE GREY STONE HWEN THE THRVS KNOCKS AND THE SETTING SUN](#)

"Stand by the grey stone when the thrush knocks, and the setting sun with the last light of Durin's Day will shine upon the key-hole." — J.R.R. Tolkien, The Hobbit. "Thrushes are large speckled brown birds with a special fondness for snails, whose shells they remove by breaking them against stones.

<https://www.tednasmith.com/tolkien/when-the-thrush-...>

[When the Thrush Knocks - Ted Nasmith](#)

Therefore, the full decoded text should be

[Stand by the grey stone when the thrush knocks, and the setting sun with the last light of Durin's Day will shine upon the key-hole](#)

I couldn't find anything related to dragons from this text, so I decided to look up [dragons in lord of the rings](#) instead, and came across the [Tolkien Wiki page about Dragons](#).

[edit] Individual dragons

- **Glaurung** – Father of Dragons, slain by **Túrin Turambar**. First of the Uruloki, the Fire-drakes of Angband. He had four legs and could breathe fire, but didn't have wings.
- **Ancalagon the Black** – first and mightiest of the Winged-dragons, slain by **Eärendil** in the **War of Wrath**.
- **Scatha** – Slain by Fram of the **Éothéod**. Apparently a cold-drake. Described as a "long-worm", although this imprecise term seems to be more of an expression rather than a separate taxonomic group.
- **Smaug** – the last great dragon of **Middle-earth**, slain by **Bard of Esgaroth**. A winged Urulökë.
- **Gostir** – was one of the Dragons of Morgoth only known by name.

- An unnamed dragon appears in [Hobbit](#) verse, said to have had red eyes, black wings and teeth like knives.[\[19\]](#)

I didn't know which dragon, so I decided to try them all,

Glaung
Ancalagon
Scatha
Smaug

 The Librarian BOT 03/21/2022
Great job on persevering, this is the last part -



These Symbols might make you feel pretty Lost, but not as much as a severed hand right in the



Give me the deciphered text and I shall give you the flag.

Therefore, `smaug` was the answer to this question. Now for the final question, the following images were given.



I know that this is a [Pigpen Cipher](#), and deciphering the first picture would give,

`NISVYETEPRISTNUFO`

However, the bot did not respond to that, so I thought the second image might contain more information. I did a reverse image search, and the [webpage for the Architect of the Capitol](#) came up.

 EXPLORE THE CAPITOL CAMPUS ▾ WHAT WE DO ▾ ABOUT US ▾ SEARCH 



So apparently, this architecture was called the Rotunda. The bot says These Symbols might make you feel pretty Lost, but not as much as a severed hand right in the before the image. Thus, I decided to look up severed hand in rotunda on Google, and the first result, which was a Wikipedia page on The Lost Symbol looked pretty relevant as it says Solomon's severed right hand in the middle of the Capitol Rotunda. Also because the bot capitalizes Symbols, I knew this was referring to The Lost Symbol.

Google search results for "severed hand in rotunda". The search bar shows the query. Below it, a link to the Wikipedia page on The Lost Symbol is shown, followed by the title "The Lost Symbol - Wikipedia". A snippet of text from the page is displayed: "... who has left Solomon's severed right hand in the middle of the Capitol Rotunda in a recreation of the Hand of Mysteries. Mal'akh then contacts Langdon, ...".

So I looked up the lost symbol cipher on Google, and saw that most of them had the keyword magic squares in them.

Google search results for "the lost symbol cipher". The search bar shows the query. Below it, a link to the Wikipedia page on The Lost Symbol is shown, followed by the title "The Lost Symbol - Wikipedia". A snippet of text from the page is displayed: "... who has left Solomon's severed right hand in the middle of the Capitol Rotunda in a recreation of the Hand of Mysteries. Mal'akh then contacts Langdon, ...".

I looked up the lost symbol cipher magic squares, and came across this website that talks in detail about the cipher used in the book. I saw that the Pig-pen part was correct, but the cipher used in The Lost Symbol uses one additional step, which was the magic square.

The Secret Hides Within The Order

Langdon then realized, the clue to solving the code was a magic square:

16	3	2	13
5	10	11	8
9	6	7	12
4	15	14	1

When arranged correctly, each row of numbers should add up to thirty-four. Here's the rearranged message:

J E O V
A S A N
C T U S
U N U S

It may still look like gibberish, but it has been rearranged into Latin. "Jeova" is the root for the modern word "Jehova". The completed message says:

Jeova Santcus Unus

This translated into English means:

One True God

So I went ahead and arranged NISYTYETPRISTNUFO into a 4x4 square,

1 2 3 4
N | | S | Y
| | | |
T F T P

R I S T
 N U F O

And I rearranged the letters as shown in the [website](#).

N	I	S	T	O	S	I	N
T	E	T	P	T	I	S	P
R	I	S	T	R	E	T	T
N	U	F	O	Y	F	U	N

The rearranged text would be,

OSINTISPRETTYFUN

Which makes sense, so I went ahead and sent this text to the bot,

OSINTISPRETTYFUN



The Librarian BOT 03/21/2022
 Congratulations on getting through all the challenges, here is your flag.
 vishwaCTF{b00ks_d0_b3_1nt3r3st1ng!}

Therefore, the flag is,

vishwaCTF{b00ks_d0_b3_1nt3r3st1ng!}