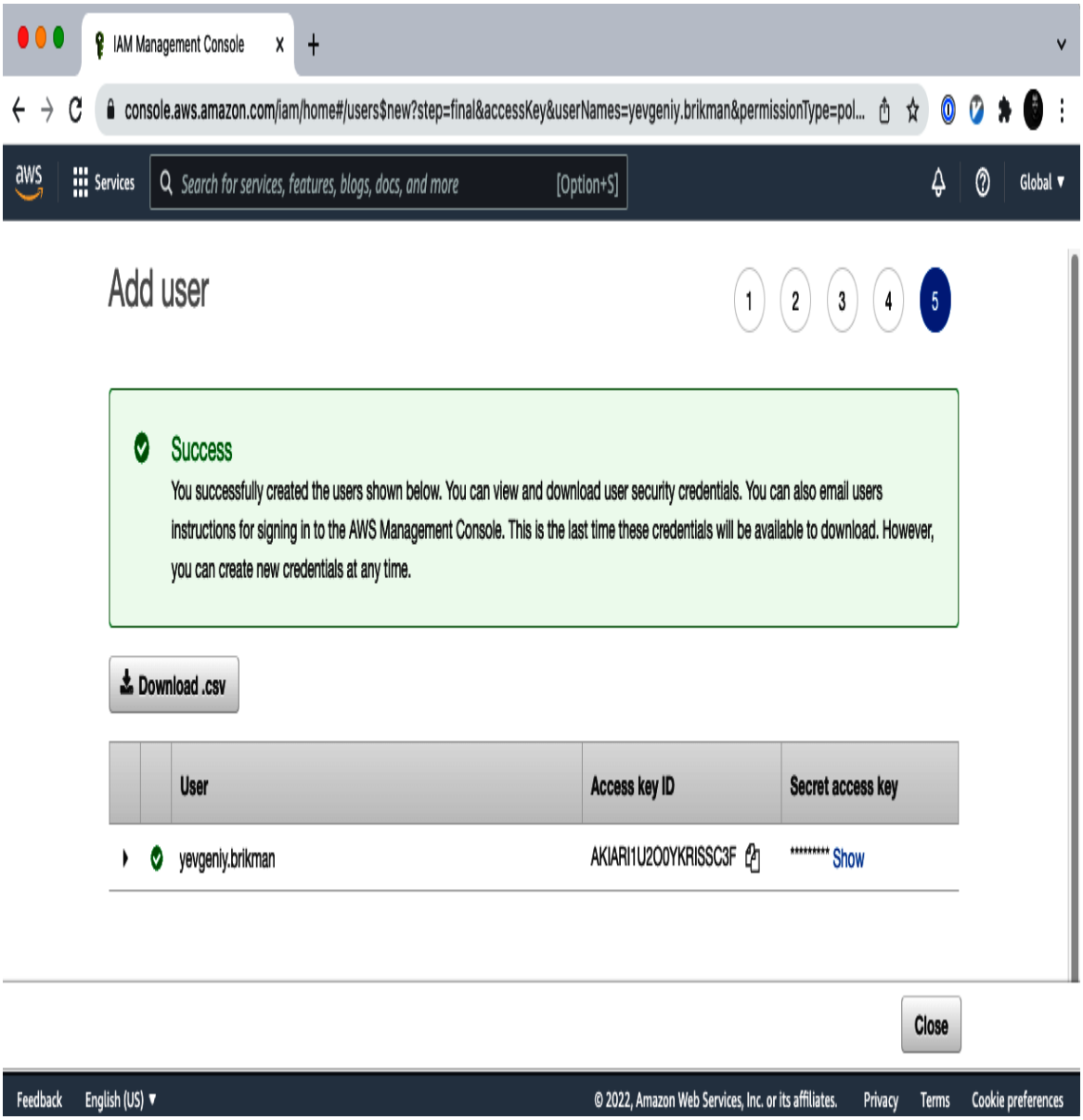

Figure 2-3. Store your AWS credentials somewhere secure. Never share them with anyone. (Don't worry, the ones in the screenshot are fake.)

Installing Terraform

The easiest way to install Terraform is to use your operating system's package manager. For example, on macOS, if you are a Homebrew user, you can run the following:

```
$ brew tap hashicorp/tap
$ brew install hashicorp/tap/terraform
```

On Windows, if you're a Chocolatey user, you can run the following:

```
$ choco install terraform
```

Check the Terraform documentation for installation instructions on other operating systems, including the various flavors of Linux.

Alternatively, you can install Terraform manually by going to the Terraform home page, clicking the download link, selecting the appropriate package for your operating system, downloading the ZIP archive, and unzipping it into the directory where you want Terraform to be installed. The archive will extract a single binary called *terraform*, which you'll want to add to your `PATH` environment variable.

To check whether things are working, run the `terraform` command, and you should see the usage instructions:

```
$ terraform
Usage: terraform [global options] <subcommand> [args]

The available commands for execution are listed below.
The primary workflow commands are given first, followed by
less common or more advanced commands.

Main commands:
  init          Prepare your working directory for other commands
  validate      Check whether the configuration is valid
  plan          Show changes required by the current
configuration
  apply         Create or update infrastructure
  destroy       Destroy previously-created infrastructure

(...)
```

For Terraform to be able to make changes in your AWS account, you will need to set the AWS credentials for the IAM user you created earlier as the environment variables `AWS_ACCESS_KEY_ID` and `AWS_SECRET_ACCESS_KEY`. For example, here is how you can do it in a Unix/Linux/macOS terminal: