

Better Secrets Management

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Day Zero

KubeCon Chicago 2023

Justin Mitchel

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- Founder of CodingforEntrepreneurs.com
- Author of [Road to Kubernetes](#)
- 21m+ views & 250k+ subs on YouTube
- 800k+ students on Udemy
- Top 25 course on freeCodeCamp



3 days ago



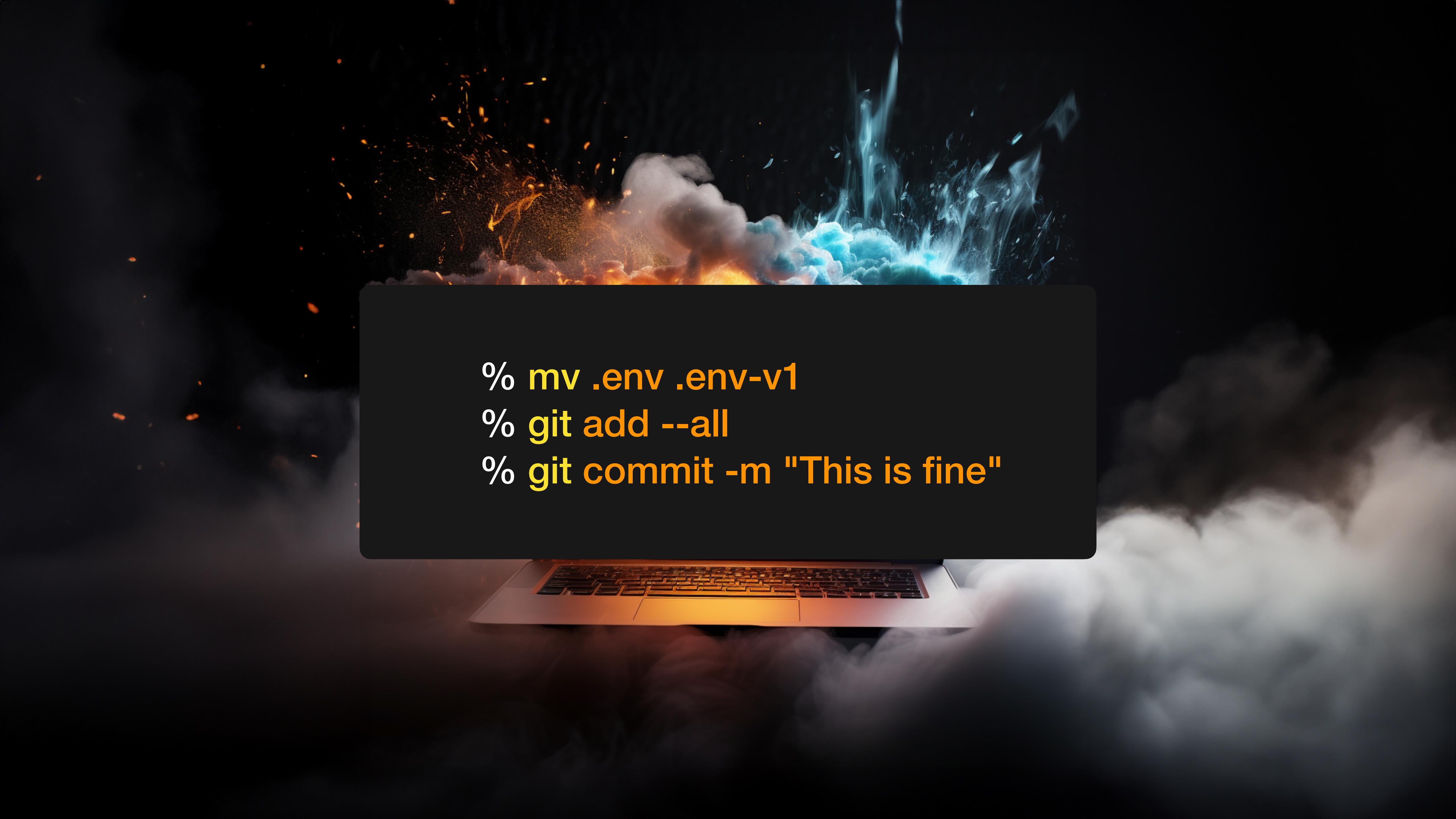
Thank you to Akamai for sponsoring this workshop.

Kubernetes Secrets Resource

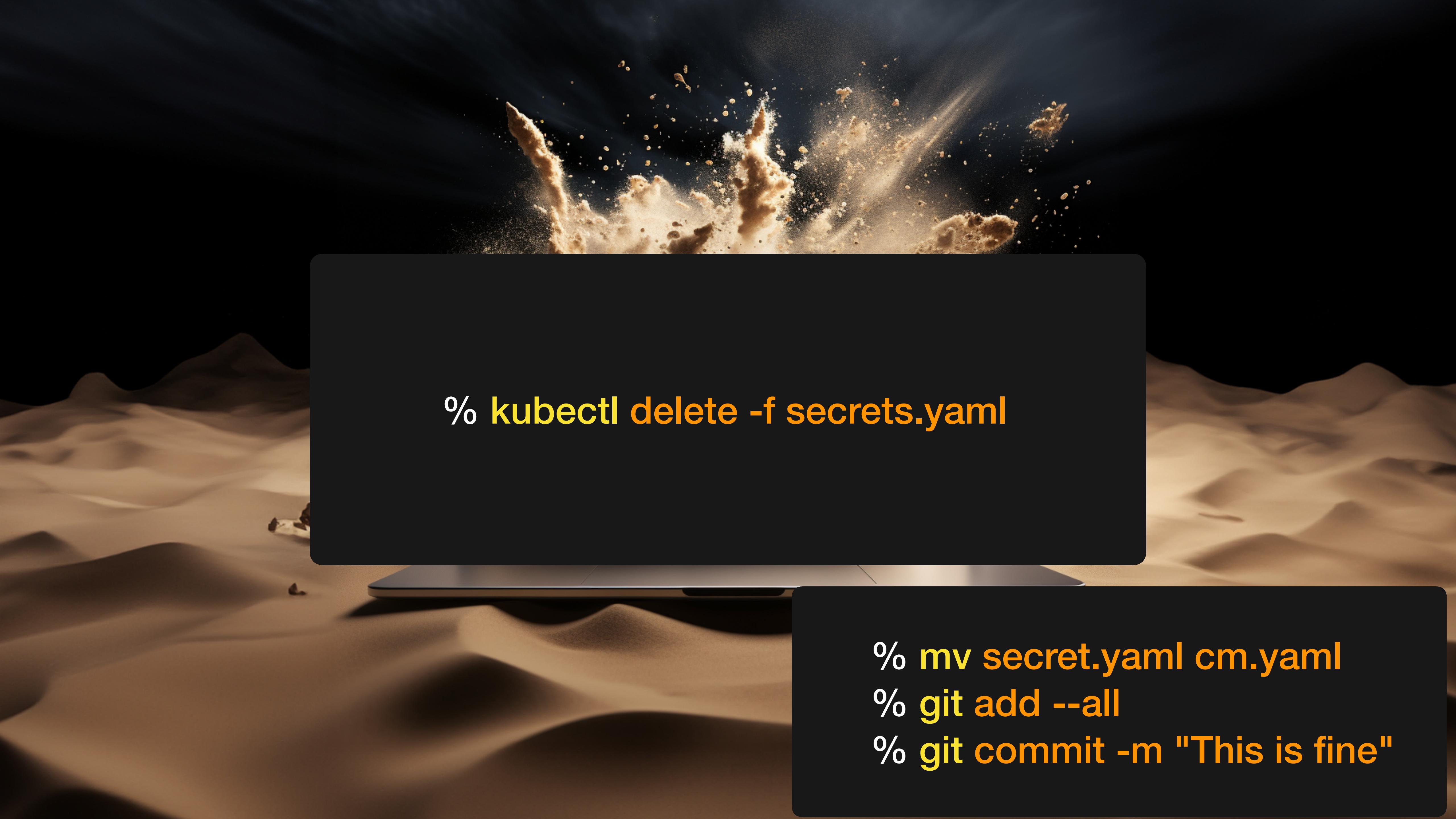
dotenv (.env)

```
API_VERSION=1
API_KEY_SECRET="some secret value"
API_KEY_PUBLIC="some non-secret value"
STAGE="prod"
```

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: Secret
metadata:
  name: sample-k8s-secret
  namespace: default
stringData:
  API_VERSION: 1
  API_KEY_SECRET: "some secret value"
  API_KEY_PUBLIC: "some non-secret value"
  STAGE: "prod"
---
apiVersion: v1
kind: Secret
metadata:
  name: sample-k8s-secret-2
  namespace: default
data:
  API_VERSION: MQ==
  API_KEY_SECRET: c29tZSBzZWNyZXQgdmFsdWU=
  API_KEY_PUBLIC: c29tZSBub24tc2VjcmV0IHZhbHVl
  STAGE: cHJvZA==
```



```
% mv .env .env-v1  
% git add --all  
% git commit -m "This is fine"
```



% kubectl delete -f secrets.yaml

% mv secret.yaml cm.yaml
% git add --all
% git commit -m "This is fine"

Kubernetes Secrets Resource

!dotenv (.env)

```
API_VERSION=1
API_KEY_SECRET="some secret value"
API_KEY_PUBLIC="some non-secret value"
STAGE="prod"
```

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: Secret
metadata:
  name: sample-k8s-secret
  namespace: default
stringData:
  API_VERSION: 1
  API_KEY_SECRET: "some secret value"
  API_KEY_PUBLIC: "some non-secret value"
  STAGE: "prod"
---
apiVersion: v1
kind: Secret
metadata:
  name: sample-k8s-secret-z
  namespace: default
data:
  API_VERSION: MQ==
  API_KEY_SECRET: c29tZSBzZWNyZXQgdmFsdWU=
  API_KEY_PUBLIC: c29tZSBub24tc2VjcmV0IHZhbHVl
  STAGE: cHJvZA==
```



HashiCorp
Vault



kubernetes



Vault Secrets Operator

Vault Kubernetes



Agenda

- Provision VM on Akamai Connected Cloud
- Install Vault
- See a few more memes
- Vault CLI + UI
- Vault Auth + ACL Policies
- Vault Secrets Engine
- HTTP Methods for Vault API
- Provision Kubernetes Cluster
- Configure Vault Agent Operator on K8s
- Sidecar Injector with Vault



<https://github.com/codingforentrepreneurs/kubecon23-chi>

1. Go to cfe.sh/github
2. Navigate to `kubecon23-chi`
- 3 Clone or Fork Repo: *kubecon23-chi*



linode.com/cfe

For VM + Managed Kubernetes





Local Installs

Vault (optional)

<https://kirr.co/xfdde3>

Kubectl:

<https://kirr.co/qqjzil>

Helm

<https://kirr.co/890eiu>

VS Code (optional):

<https://kirr.co/wai0jb>

Vault Bootstrap Script:

<https://kirr.co/6k05g8>

firewall

1. Login to linode.com
2. Navigate to Firewalls
3. Create new firewall called “vault-firewall”
4. Incoming Rule: Enable SSH
5. Incoming Rule: Custom Port 8200

vm

New Linode instance*

Image: Ubuntu 22.04 LTS

Region: Chicago, IL

Plan: Linode 2gb

Label: vault-node1

Select the ***vault-firewall***

*minimum spec

K8S

New Kubernetes cluster*

Label: vault-k8s-kubecon

K8s Version: 1.27

HA: n/a

Node Pool Shared CPU: Linode 2gb

*minimum spec

VAULT_ADDR="http://<your-ip>:8200"



workspace (Workspace)



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1:

o

% **ssh root@<your-ip>**



```
$ curl -fsSL https://kirr.co/f9t9jt -o bootstrap_vault.sh  
$ sudo chmod +x bootstrap_vault.sh  
$ sudo ./bootstrap_vault.sh
```

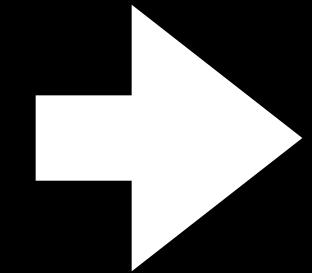
Demo

Provision VM + Install Vault

<https://kirr.co/6k05g8>

[https://gist.github.com/codingforentrepreneurs/
22995fd1411969127604fd9fbabf30d4](https://gist.github.com/codingforentrepreneurs/22995fd1411969127604fd9fbabf30d4)

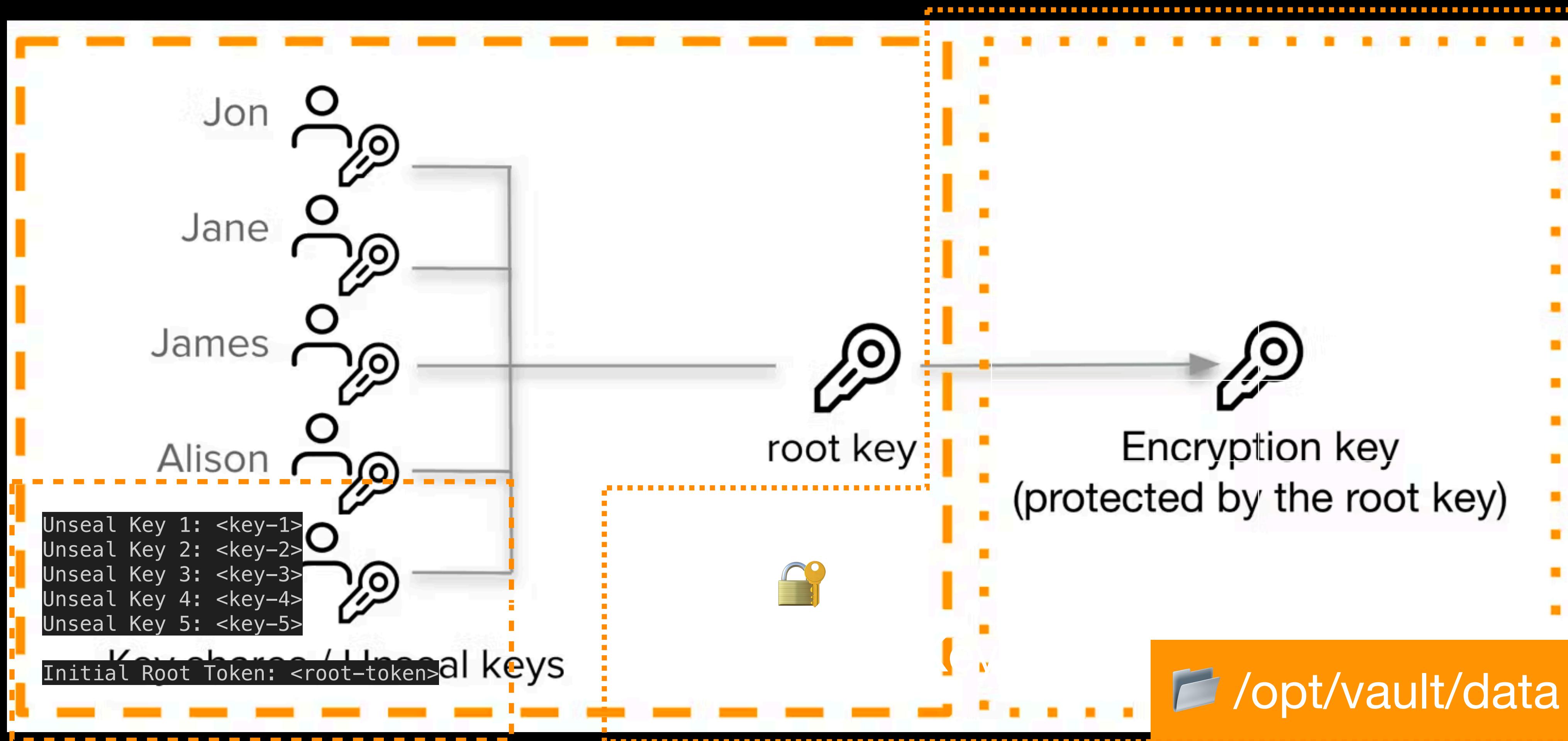
```
$ vault operator init
```



```
Unseal Key 1: <key-1>
Unseal Key 2: <key-2>
Unseal Key 3: <key-3>
Unseal Key 4: <key-4>
Unseal Key 5: <key-5>
```

```
Initial Root Token: <root-token>
```

Shamir's secret sharing



SYSTEM ACTIVATION
SYSTEM ACTIVATION IN PROGRESS



\$ vault login

Error authenticating: error looking up token: Get "https://
127.0.0.1:8200/v1/auth/token/lookup-self": http: server gave HTTP
response to HTTPS client

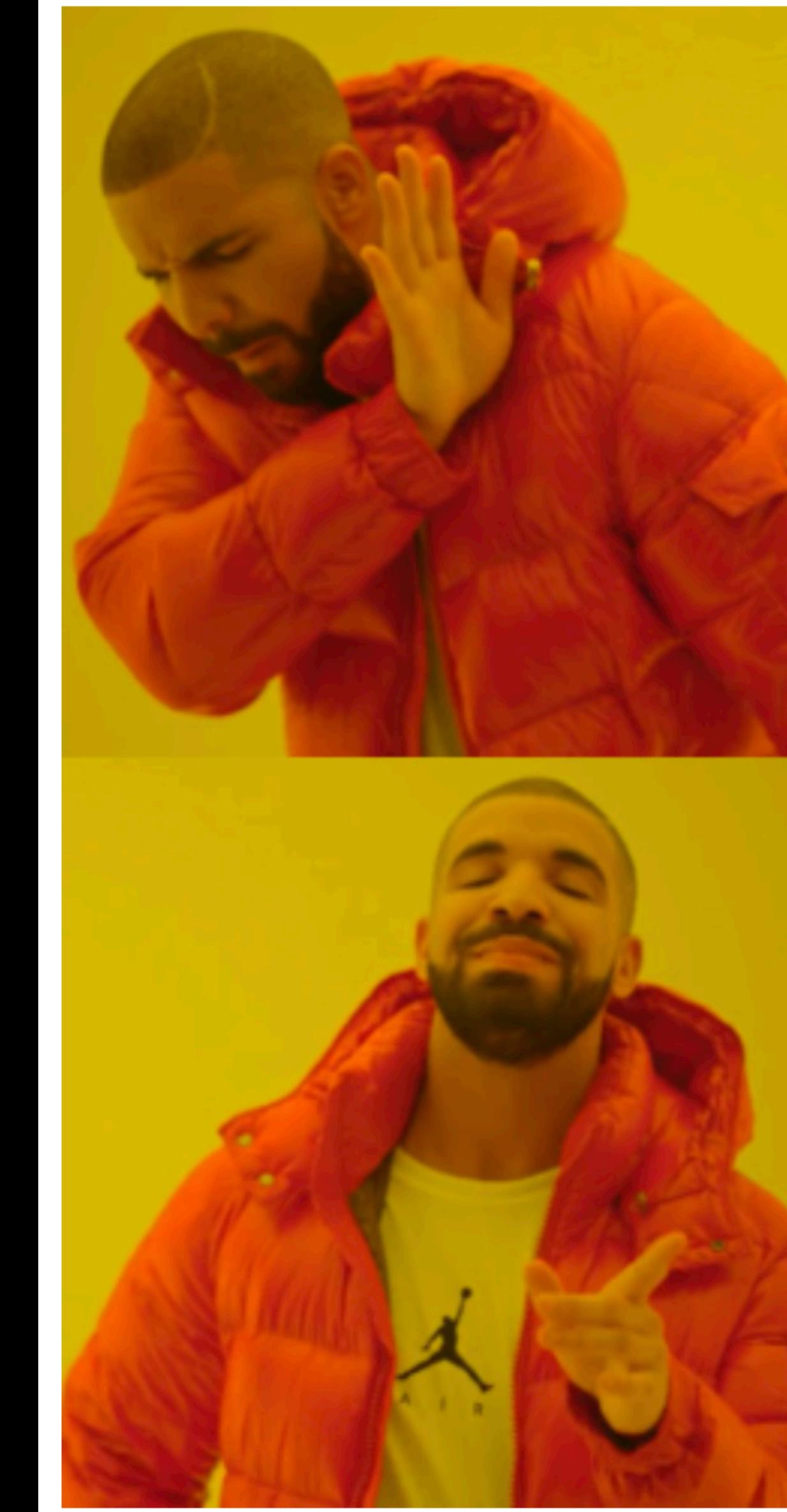
```
$ echo 'export VAULT_ADDR="http://127.0.0.1:8200"' \  
      >> ~/.bashrc  
$ source ~/.bashrc  
$ echo $VAULT_ADDR
```

\$ vault login

Error authenticating: error looking up
token: Error making API request.

URL: GET http://127.0.0.1:8200/v1/auth/
token/lookup-self
Code: 503. Errors:

* Vault is sealed



sealed
=
no access

unsealed
=
access

```
$ vault secrets enable -version=2 kv
```

Error enabling: Error making API request.

URL: POST http://127.0.0.1:8200/v1/sys/
mounts/kv
Code: 503. Errors:

* Vault is sealed



sealed
=
no access

unsealed
=
access

```
$ vault operator init  
$ vault operator unseal  
$ vault login
```

SYSTEM ACTIVATION
SYSTEM ACTIVATION IN PROGRESS

Unseal
key

SYSTEM
ACTIVATION

SYSTEM
ACTIVATION

SYSTEM
ACTIVATION



```
$ vault operator unseal  
$ vault secrets enable -version=2 kv
```

```
$ vault operator seal
```

`http://<your-ip>:8200/`

`$ vault operator unseal`

Unseal Vault

Vault is sealed

Unseal Vault by entering portions of the unseal key. This can be done via multiple mechanisms on multiple computers. Once all portions are entered, the root key will be decrypted and Vault will unseal.

Unseal Key Portion

Unseal

[Seal/unseal documentation](#)



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1:

```
% export VAULT_ADDR="http://<your-ip>:8200"  
% vault login  
% vault operator unseal
```



Demo: Seal + Unseal

```
$ vault operator init
$ vault login
$ echo "export VAULT_ADDR=\"http://127.0.0.1:8200\" "
      >> ~/.bashrc
$ source ~/.bashrc
$ echo $VAULT_ADDR
$ vault login
$ vault secrets enable -version=2 kv
$ vault operator unseal
$ vault secrets enable -version=2 kv
$ vault operator seal
```

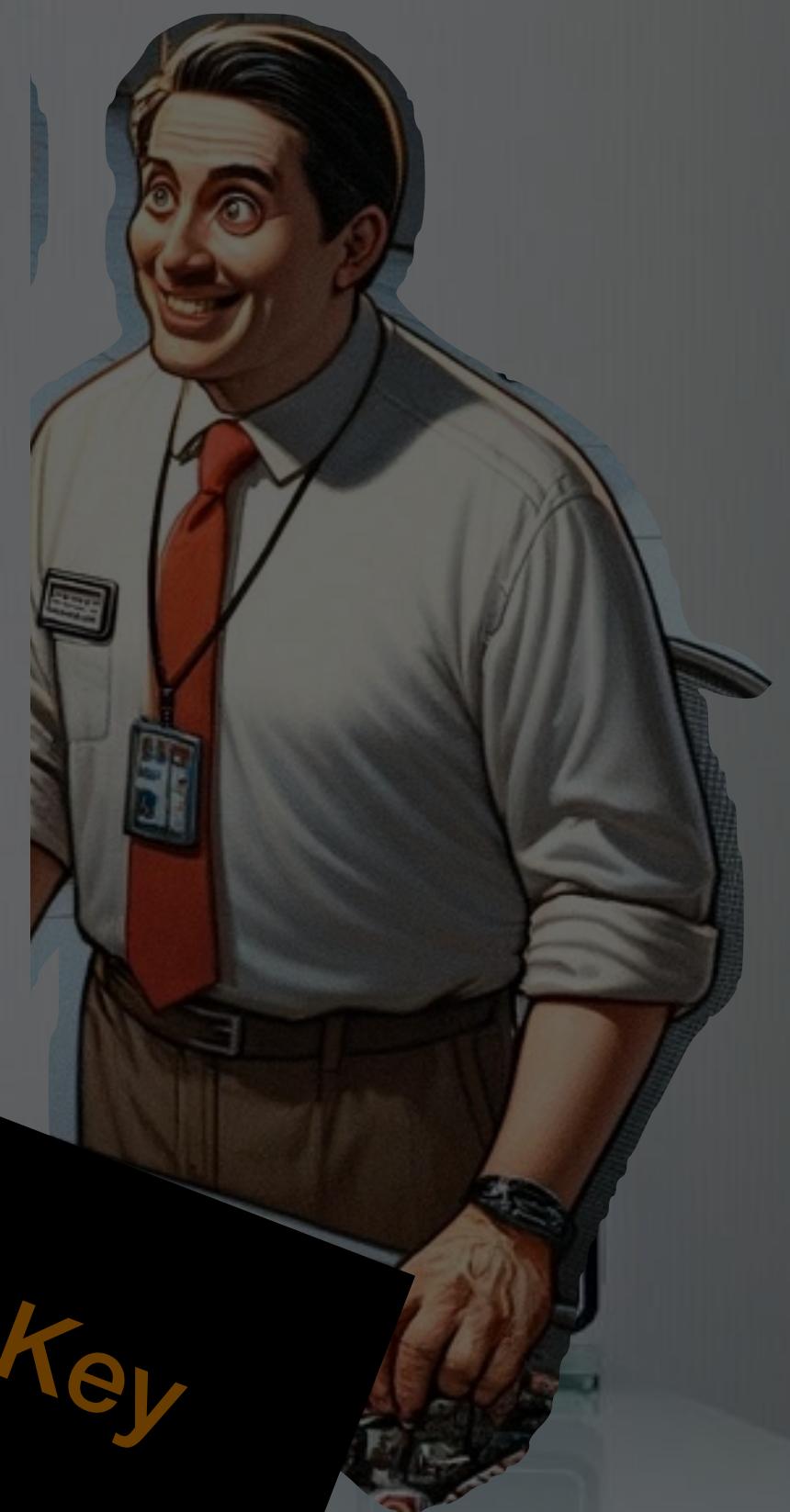
Unseal vault in ui

Managing Tokens + Share Keys

```
Unseal Key 1: <key-1>
Unseal Key 2: <key-2>
Unseal Key 3: <key-3>
Unseal Key 4: <key-4>
Unseal Key 5: <key-5>
Unseal Key 6: <key-6>
Unseal Key 7: <key-7>
```



Quit





Rotate Unseal Keys*

```
$ vault operator rekey -init -key-shares=8 -key-threshold=5  
$ vault operator rekey
```

*Requires Unseal Keys

Generate New Root Token....

```
$ vault token create -field=token
```

(Spoiler alert: not really)

Revoke Token

```
$ vault token revoke <vault-token>
```

Generate New Root Token*

```
$ vault operator generate-root -init  
$ vault operator generate-root  
$ vault operator generate-root \  
  -decode=<encoded-token> \  
  -otp=<otp-from-init>
```

*Requires Unseal Keys

Demo: Managing Tokens & Share Keys

```
$ vault operator rekey -init -key-shares=8 -key-threshold=5  
$ vault operator rekey
```

```
$ vault token create -field=token  
$ vault token revoke <vault-token>
```

```
$ vault operator generate-root -init  
$ vault operator generate-root  
$ vault operator generate-root \  
  -decode=<encoded-token> \  
  -otp=<otp-from-init>
```

Users

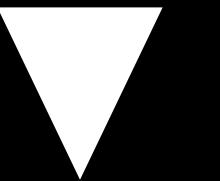


```
$ vault auth enable userpass
```

User Login

```
$ curl -X POST \  
--data '{"password": "<pw>"}' \  
$VAULT_ADDR/v1/auth/userpass/login/<un>
```

```
$ vault login -method=userpass username=<username>
```



Use User Token

```
$ curl -X GET --header "X-Vault-Token: <token>" \  
$VAULT_ADDR/v1/<mount>/data/path/to/secret/
```

```
$ vault kv get -mount=<mount> path/to/secret/
```

Enable Username + Passwords

```
$ vault auth enable userpass  
$ vault write auth/userpass/users/<username> \  
password=<good-password>
```

*Requires Unseal Keys

Enable Username + Passwords

```
$ openssl rand -base64 32  
$ vault write auth/userpass/users/cfe-user \  
password=<good-password>
```

*Requires Unseal Keys



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1:

```
% export VAULT_A  
% vault login -me
```

HTTP



```
const password = 'foo';

vault.auths()
  .then((result) => {
    if (result.hasOwnProperty('userpass')) return undefined;
    return vault.enableAuth({
      mount_point: mountPoint,
      type: 'userpass',
      description: 'userpass auth',
    });
  })
  .then(() => vault.write(`auth/userpass/users/${username}`, { password, policies: 'root' }))
  .then(() => vault.userpassLogin({ username, password }))
  .then(console.log)
  .catch((err) => console.error(err.message));
```



```
Python 3.11.4 (main, Jun 20 2023, 17:23:00) [Clang 14.0.3 (clang-1403.0.22.14.1)] on darwin
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
>>> import hvac
>>> client = hvac.Client()
>>> client.auth.userpass.login(
...     username='<some_username>',
...     password='<username_password>',
... )
```



Demo: Create User & Login

```
$ vault auth enable userpass  
$ openssl rand -base64 32  
$ vault write auth/userpass/users/cfe-user password=<password>
```

```
# on local machine  
% vault login -method=userpass username=cfe-user  
% vault token create
```

Policies

Error creating token: Error making API request.

URL: POST http://172.234.28.183:8200/v1/auth/token/create

Code: 403. Errors:

- * 1 error occurred:
 - * permission denied

Vault Policy Format

`path/to/policy/doc.hcl`

```
path "<mount>/path/to/resource/" {
    capabilities =["create", "update", "patch", "read", "list",
"delete", "sudo"]
}
```

\$ **vault policy write <policy-name> path/to/policy/doc.hcl**

Vault Policy

`policies/token-policy.hcl`

```
path "auth/token/*" {
    capabilities =["create", "update", "patch", "read", "delete"]
}
```

```
$ vault policy write user-token-policy ./policies/token-policy.hcl
```

Attach Policy to User

```
$ vault policy write user-token-policy ./policies/token-policy.hcl
```

```
$ vault write auth/userpass/users/cfe-user/polices  
policies="user-token-policy"
```

```
$ vault read auth/userpass/users/cfe-user/
```



← →

workspace (Workspace)



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1:

```
% vault token create  
% vault token create -policy="user-token-policy" -policy="other"
```



Demo: Token Policies

```
$ mkdir -p ./policies/  
$ nano ./policies/token-policy.hcl
```

```
path "auth/token/*" {  
    capabilities =["create", "update", "patch", "read", "delete"]  
}
```

```
$ vault policy write user-token-policy ./policies/token-policy.hcl  
$ vault write auth/userpass/users/cfe-user/policies policies="user-token-policy"  
$ vault read auth/userpass/users/cfe-user/
```

```
# on local machine  
% vault login -method=userpass username=cfe-user  
% vault token create -policy="user-token-policy"
```

Key Value Secrets Engine

Key-Value Secrets Engine

- Decide the engine mount path
- Decide the secret path
- Configure access permissions via policy

Key-Value Secrets Engine

- Engine Mount Path → `cfe`
- Secret Storage Path → `project/dev/web`
- Access Policy → `<mount>/data/<secret-path>`
`cfe/data/project/dev/web`
- Deletion Policy →
 - `cfe/delete/project/dev/web`
 - `cfe/undelete/project/dev/web`
 - `cfe/destroy/project/dev/web`

Enable Key-Value Secrets Engine

Engine mount path is **cfe**

```
$ vault secrets enable -path="cfe" -version=2 kv
```

Configure Secret Access Policy

Engine mount path is **cfe**

Secret path is **project/dev/web**

Secret policy is **cfe-kv-secret-policy**

policies/cfe-kv-secret-policy.hcl

```
path "cfe/data/project/dev/web" {  
    capabilities =["create", "update", "patch", "read", "list"]  
}
```

\$ **vault policy write cfe-kv-secret-policy ./policies/cfe-kv-secret-policy.hcl**

Attach Secret Access Policy

Engine mount path is **cfe**

Secret path is **project/dev/web**

Secret policy is **cfe-kv-secret-policy**

```
$ vault write auth/userpass/users/cfe-user/policies policies="cfe-kv-secret-policy, user-token-policy"
```

Vault Key-Value Put: Command Line Args

Mount path is **cfe**
Secret path is **project/dev/web**

Key-value data

```
{  
  "username": "justin",  
  "stage": "dev",  
}
```

```
$ vault kv put -mount="cfe" project/dev/web \  
username=justin \  
stage=web
```

Vault Key-Value Put: External File

`samples/key-value-data.json`

Mount path is `cfe`

Secret path is `project/dev/web`

```
{  
    "username": "justin",  
    "stage": "dev",  
    "version": "1.0.1",  
    "updated": "11-6-23"  
}
```

```
$ vault kv put -mount="cfe" project/dev/web @samples/  
key-value-data.json
```

Vault Key-Value Put: API Request

Mount path is **cfe**

Secret path is **project/dev/web**

```
$ export VTOKEN=$(vault token create -field=token)
$ curl -X PUT \
  --header "X-Vault-Token: $VTOKEN" \
  --data '{"data": {"username": "jcurl", "stage": "curly"}}' \
$VAULT_ADDR/v1/cfe/data/project/dev/web
```

Vault Key-Value GET

Mount path is **cfe**

Secret path is **project/dev/web**

```
$ vault kv get -mount=cfe project/dev/web
```

```
$ curl -X GET \  
  --header "X-Vault-Token: $VTOKEN" \  
  $VAULT_ADDR/v1/cfe/data/project/dev/web
```

Vault Key-Value GET Version

Mount path is **cfe**

Secret path is **project/dev/web**

Secret version: **2**

```
$ vault kv get -mount=cfe -version=2 project/dev/web
```

```
$ curl -X GET \  
--header "X-Vault-Token: $VTOKEN" \  
$VAULT_ADDR/v1/cfe/data/project/dev/web?version=2
```

Demo: Vault Secrets Engine

```
$ vault secrets enable -path="cfe" -version=2 kv  
$ mkdir -p ./policies/  
$ nano ./policies/cfe-kv-secret-policy.hcl
```

```
path "cfe/data/project/dev/web" {  
    capabilities =["create", "update", "patch", "read", "list"]  
}
```

```
$ vault policy write cfe-kv-secret-policy ./policies/cfe-kv-secret-policy.hcl  
$ vault write auth/userpass/users/cfe-user/policies policies="cfe-kv-secret-policy, user-token-  
policy"  
$ vault kv put -mount="cfe" project/dev/web \  
    username=justin \  
    stage=wew  
$ vault kv get -mount="cfe" project/dev/web  
$ vault kv get -mount="cfe" -version=1 project/dev/web
```

Kubernetes



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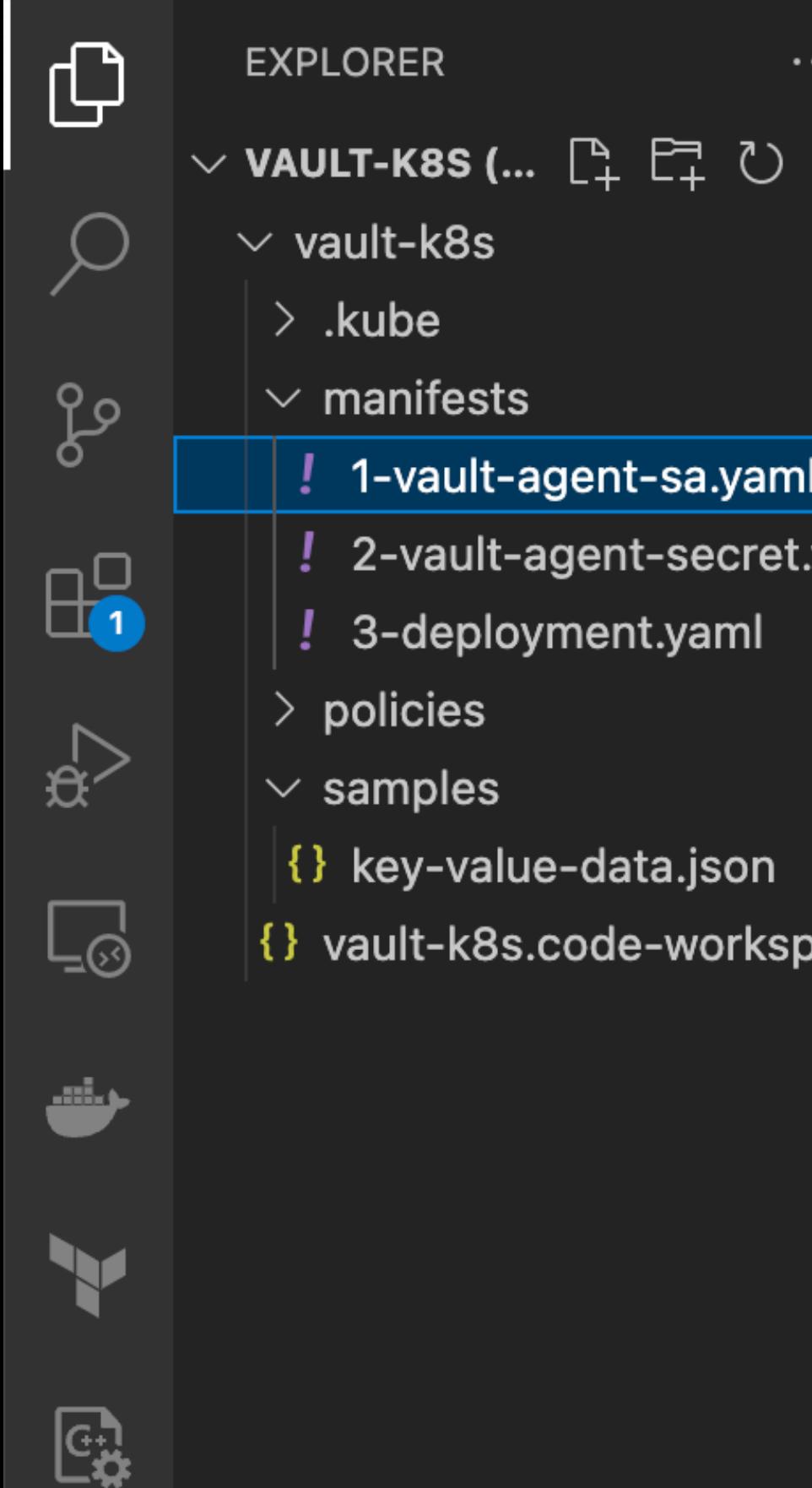
TERMINAL

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1:

```
% export KUBECONFIG=~/.kube/config
% kubectl get nodes
```





! 1-vault-agent-sa.yaml ×

vault-k8s > manifests > ! 1-vault-agent-sa.yaml > apiVersion

```
1 apiVersion: v1
2 kind: ServiceAccount
3 metadata:
4   name: vault-auth
5   namespace: default
6 ---
7 apiVersion: rbac.authorization.k8s.io/v1
8 kind: ClusterRoleBinding
9 metadata:
10  name: role-tokenreview-binding
11  namespace: default
12 roleRef:
13   apiGroup: rbac.authorization.k8s.io
14   kind: ClusterRole
15   name: system:auth-delegator
16 subjects:
17 - kind: ServiceAccount
18   name: vault-auth
19   namespace: default
```



← →

🔍 vault-k8s (Workspace)



EXPLORER

...

✓ VAULT-K8S (... ⓘ ⓘ ⓘ ⓘ)

- ✓ vault-k8s
 - > .kube
 - ✓ manifests
 - ! 1-vault-agent-sa.yaml
 - ! 2-vault-agent-secret.yaml
 - ! 3-deployment.yaml
 - > policies
 - ✓ samples
 - { } key-value-data.json
- { } vault-k8s.code-workspace



! 2-vault-agent-secret.yaml ×

vault-k8s > manifests > ! 2-vault-agent-secret.yaml > ...

```
1 apiVersion: v1
2 kind: Secret
3 metadata:
4   name: vault-auth-secret
5   annotations:
6     | kubernetes.io/service-account.name: vault-auth
7 type: kubernetes.io/service-account-token
8
```



← →

workspace (Workspace)



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1:

% **kubectl apply -f manifests/**



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1: zsh

```
% export SA_JWT_TOKEN=$(kubectl get secret vault-auth-secret -o jsonpath={.data.token} | base64 -d)

% export CLUSTER_CERT=$(kubectl config view -o 'jsonpath=.clusters[0].cluster.certificate-authority-data' --raw | base64 -d)

% export K8S_HOST=$(kubectl config view -o 'jsonpath=.clusters[0].cluster.server')

# use root token
% vault login

% vault auth enable kubernetes
% vault write auth/kubernetes/config \
token_reviewer_jwt="$SA_JWT_TOKEN" \
kubernetes_host="$K8S_HOST" \
kubernetes_ca_cert="$CLUSTER_CERT" \
issuer="https://kubernetes.default.svc.cluster.local"
```

```
# copy result
% kubectl config view -o 'jsonpath={.clusters[].cluster.certificate-authority-data}' --raw

% python3
>>> import base64
>>> encoded_value = """<paste text here>"""
>>> print(base64.b64decode(encoded_value).decode())
```

Vault Auth Kubernetes Role

```
$ vault write auth/kubernetes/role/vault-auth-sa-role \  
  bound_service_account_names=vault-auth \  
  bound_service_account_namespaces=default \  
  token_policies=cfe-kv-secret-policy \  
  ttl=24h
```

Helm Install Vault Secrets Operator

```
% helm repo add hashicorp https://helm.releases.hashicorp.com
% helm repo update
% helm search repo hashicorp/vault-secrets-operator

% helm install vault hashicorp/vault \
--set="injector.enabled=true" \
--set="global.externalVaultAddr=$VAULT_ADDR" \
--set="tlsDisable=true"
```

```
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
spec:
...
template:
  metadata:
    ...
  annotations:
    vault.hashicorp.com/agent-inject: "true"
    vault.hashicorp.com/role: "vault-auth-sa-role"
    vault.hashicorp.com/agent-inject-secret-config: "cfe/data/project/dev/web?version=1"
    vault.hashicorp.com/agent-inject-template-config: |
      {{- with secret "cfe/data/project/dev/web" -}}
      API_USER="{{ .Data.data.username }}"
      {{- end -}}
spec:
  serviceAccountName: vault-auth
  containers:
    - name: web
      image: codingforentrepreneurs/vault-py:latest
      env:
        - name: ENV_VERSION
          value: "1"
        - name: ENV_PATH
          value: /vault/secrets/config
        - name: PORT
          value: "8080"
  ports:
    - containerPort: 8080
```



workspace (Workspace)



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1:

```
○ % kubectl apply -f manifests/
% kubectl get pods
% kubectl port-forward deployments/web 8080:8080
% kubectl logs deployments/web --container vault-agent
% kubectl logs deployments/web --container vault-agent-init
```



Thank you

Justin Mitchel
cfe.sh

x.com/justinmitchel

linkedin.com/in/justinmitchel

udemy.com/u/justinmitchel