Nyanshell part 1

This terminal teaches about Linux file attributes, which are often overshadowed by the more commonly used file permissions. It also teaches about how the etc/passwd file determines a user's shell.

The terminal is in the Speaker Unpreparedness Room in Hermy Hall if you are playing the game. If not, access the terminal directly at https://docker2019.kringlecon.com/?challenge=nyanshell&id=5ce125ad-f059-4198-adb0-4c6fba3cdd4d.

Someone has been playing games with Alabaster. They have changed his shell so that he cannot use his terminal. Alabaster says some important words: overwrite, chatter, immutable, and sudo -1.



Two more hints are available in the game. "On Linux, a user's shell is determined by the contents of /etc/passwd," and "sudo -l says I can run a command as root. What does it do?"

If you switch user (su) to Alabaster's account to see what a flying hatted cat and a toaster pastry look like, you can get your terminal back with Ctrl-C.

Questions

- 1) What file is being executed instead of Alabaster's normal shell, bash?
- 2) What are the file permissions on the flying cat file?
- 3) Where is the real BASH shell file?
- 4) Can you copy the real BASH on top of (overwrite) the flying cat file?