**Prompts**

When running a playbook, you may wish to prompt the user for certain input, and can do so with the ‘vars\_prompt’ section.

A common use for this might be for asking for sensitive data that you do not want to record.

This has uses beyond security, for instance, you may use the same playbook for all software releases and would prompt for a particular release version in a push-script.

Here is a most basic example:

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- hosts: all

remote\_user: root

vars:

from: "camelot"

vars\_prompt:

- name: "name"

prompt: "what is your name?"

- name: "quest"

prompt: "what is your quest?"

- name: "favcolor"

prompt: "what is your favorite color?"

If you have a variable that changes infrequently, it might make sense to provide a default value that can be overridden. This can be accomplished using the default argument:

vars\_prompt:

- name: "release\_version"

prompt: "Product release version"

default: "1.0"

An alternative form of vars\_prompt allows for hiding input from the user, and may later support some other options, but otherwise works equivalently:

vars\_prompt:

- name: "some\_password"

prompt: "Enter password"

private: yes

- name: "release\_version"

prompt: "Product release version"

private: no

If Passlib is installed, vars\_prompt can also crypt the entered value so you can use it, for instance, with the user module to define a password:

vars\_prompt:

- name: "my\_password2"

prompt: "Enter password2"

private: yes

encrypt: "sha512\_crypt"

confirm: yes

salt\_size: 7