



SHALL WE PLAY A GAME?

che abbiamo a noi. Robert

quando il mio amico hacker incontra la realtà

Matteo "tussy" Falsetti. Gianfranco "OK" Cotti.

un po' lo in ogni forma e uno smartphone in ogni fase

Lecco, 28/01/2020



The Italian Job, 1969
Troy Kennedy Martin



The Italian Job, 2003
Troy Kennedy Martin, Donna Powers





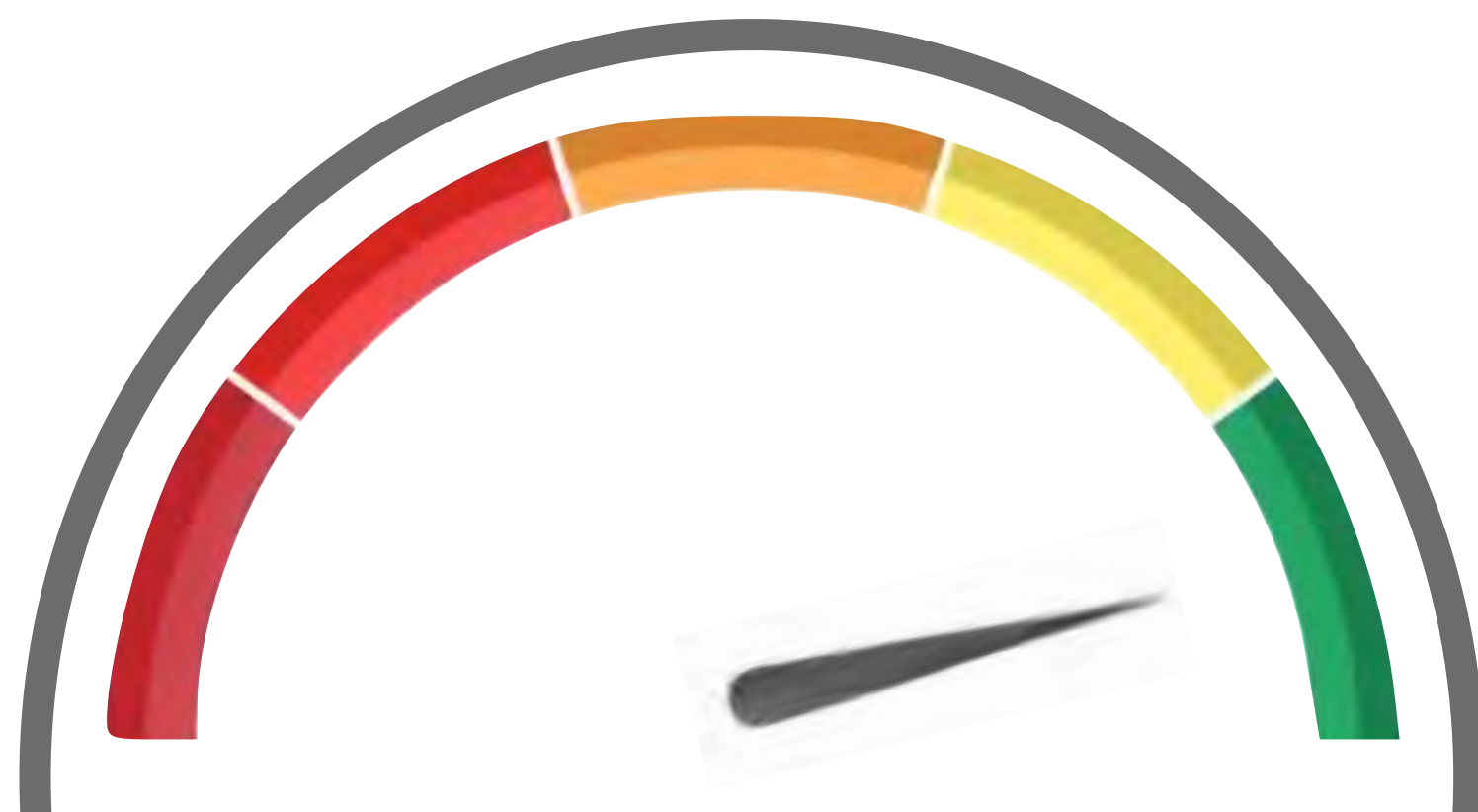




NET 1300

NET 1300 : THE "

HOLLYWOOD



Has New York's traffic light system been HACKED? Researcher claims to be able to control Manhattan traffic (and says the same technique will

Local

Can hackers take over traffic lights?

L.A. NOW

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA -- THIS JUST IN

« Previous Post | L.A. NOW Home | Next Post »



Engineers who hacked into L.A. traffic signal computer, jamming streets, sentenced

DECEMBER 1, 2009 | 7:17 AM

Two L.A. traffic engineers who pleaded guilty to hacking into the city's signal system and slowing traffic at key intersections as part of a labor protest have been sentenced to two years' probation.

Authorities said that Gabriel Murillo, 40, and Kartik Patel, 37, [hacked into the system](#) in 2006 despite the city's efforts to block access during a labor action.

Fearful that the strikers could wreak havoc, the city temporarily blocked all engineers from access to the computer that controls traffic signals.

But authorities said Patel and Murillo found a way in and picked their targets with care -- intersections they knew would cause significant backups because they were close to freeways and major destinations.

The engineers programmed the signals so that red lights for several days starting Aug. 21, 2006 would be extremely long on the most congested approaches to the intersections, causing gridlock. Cars backed up at Los Angeles International Airport, at a key intersection in Studio City, at access onto the clogged Glendale Freeway and throughout the streets of Little Tokyo and the L.A. Civic Center area, sources told The Times at the time. No accidents occurred as a result.

As part of their plea deal, the engineers agreed to pay \$6,250 in restitution and completed 240 hours of community service.

-- Shelby Grad

JALOPNIK

Drive Free or Die.

MORNING SHIFT NICE PRICE OR CRACK P

How To Hack A Tr

41.6K



om the *Italian Job* remake where the traffic control center and changes all Turns out that it's not too difficult t

"Green Lights Forever: Analyzing the ed in 2014 by the Electrical Engineer he University of Michigan, researche ity holes in the road agency's traffic ts have been getting new attention t

e accessibility of the network to hack n the network lacking secure authent ames and passwords, and that the tr oloits.

a road agency in Michigan, the resear s at each intersection and were able t deo camera via an Ethernet connecti

igated uses commercially available r ther 5.8 GHz or 900 Mhz. Figure 2 sh

Green Lights Forever: Analyzing the Security of Traffic Infrastructure

Branden Ghena, William Beyer, Allen Hillaker, Jonathan Pevarnek, and J. Alex Halderman

Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department
University of Michigan

{brghena, wbeyer, hillaker, jpevarne, jhalderm}@umich.edu

Abstract

The safety critical nature of traffic infrastructure requires that it be secure against computer-based attacks, but this is not always the case. We investigate a networked traffic signal system currently deployed in the United States and discover a number of security flaws that exist due to systemic failures by the designers. We leverage these flaws to create attacks which gain control of the system, and we successfully demonstrate them on the deployment in coordination with authorities. Our attacks show that an adversary can control traffic infrastructure to cause disruption, degrade safety, or gain an unfair advantage. We make recommendations on how to improve existing systems and discuss the lessons learned for embedded systems security in general.

1 Introduction

Traffic signals were originally designed as standalone hardware, each running on fixed timing schedules, but have evolved into more complex, networked systems. Traffic controllers now store multiple timing plans, integrate varied sensor data, and even communicate with other intersections in order to better coordinate traffic.

Studies have shown the benefits of a well coordinated traffic signal system in terms of wasted time, environmental impact, and public safety [2], but coordination has been difficult to achieve due to the geographic distribution of roadways and the cost of physical connections between intersections. Wireless networking has helped to mitigate these costs, and many areas now use intelligent wireless traffic management systems [10, 32, 33]. This allows for new capabilities including real-time monitoring and coordination between adjacent intersections. However, these improvements have come with an unintended side effect. Hardware systems that had previously been only physically accessible are now remotely accessible and software controlled, opening a new door for attackers.

To test the feasibility of remote attacks against these systems, we perform a security evaluation of a wireless traffic signal system deployed in the United States. We discover several vulnerabilities in both the wireless network and the traffic light controller. With coordination from the road agency, we successfully demonstrate sev-

eral attacks against the deployment and are able to change the state of traffic lights on command.

The vulnerabilities we discover in the infrastructure are not a fault of any one device or design choice, but rather show a systemic lack of security consciousness. We use the lessons learned from this system to provide recommendations for both transportation departments and designers of future embedded systems.

2 Anatomy of a Traffic Intersection

The modern traffic intersection is an amalgamation of various sensors, controllers, and networking devices. Figure 1 shows some common devices found at intersections.

2.1 Sensors

Sensors are used to detect cars and inspect infrastructure. Induction loops (also known as in-ground loops) are frequently used to detect vehicles. These devices are buried in the roadway and detect cars by measuring a change in inductance due to the metal body of the vehicle. Video detection is also frequently used to sense vehicles at intersections. In the United States, 79% of all vehicle detection systems use video detection or induction loops [18]. Microwave, radar, and ultrasonic sensors are less common, but also used [17]. Video cameras are also commonly installed to allow remote inspection of the intersection.

2.2 Controllers

Traffic controllers read sensor inputs and control light states. The controller is typically placed in a metal cabinet by the roadside along with relays to activate the traffic lights. Sensors are typically directly connected to the controller, allowing it to combine vehicle detection information with pre-programmed timing controls in order to determine the current state of the traffic lights.

Intersections can be configured to operate in several different modes. In the simplest case, pre-timed mode, lights are controlled solely on preset timings [8]. More complicated controllers function in a semi-actuated mode where the side street is activated based on sensors and the main street otherwise runs continuously. In fully-actuated mode, both streets are serviced based on sensor input [36].

Controllers can function as isolated nodes or as part of an interconnected system. Isolated intersections maintain



icer of security

ions. He y, downtown imed with ough a

revealed ment of e sensors after

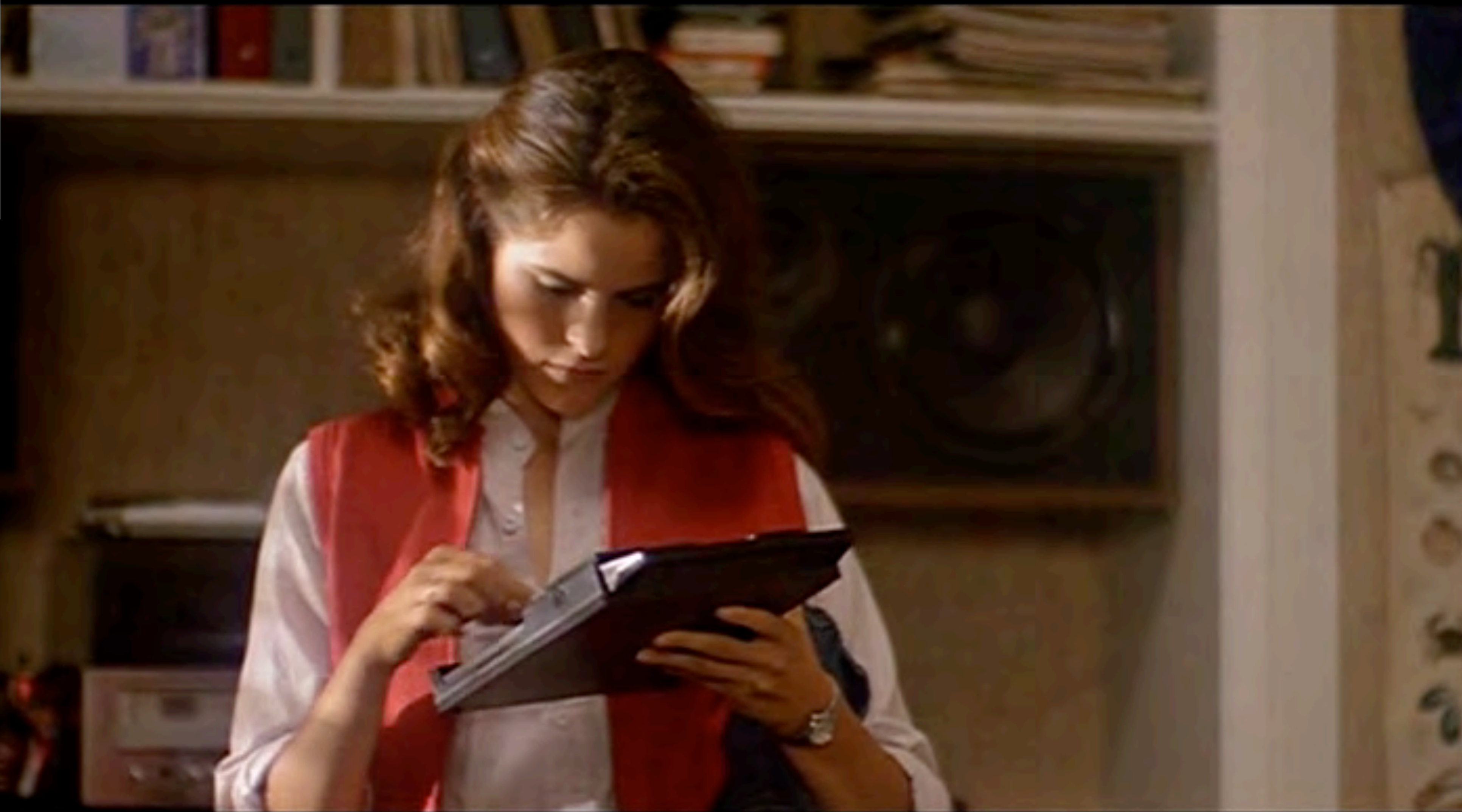


Wargames, 1993

Lawrence Lasker, Walter F. Parkes



WINNER: NONE

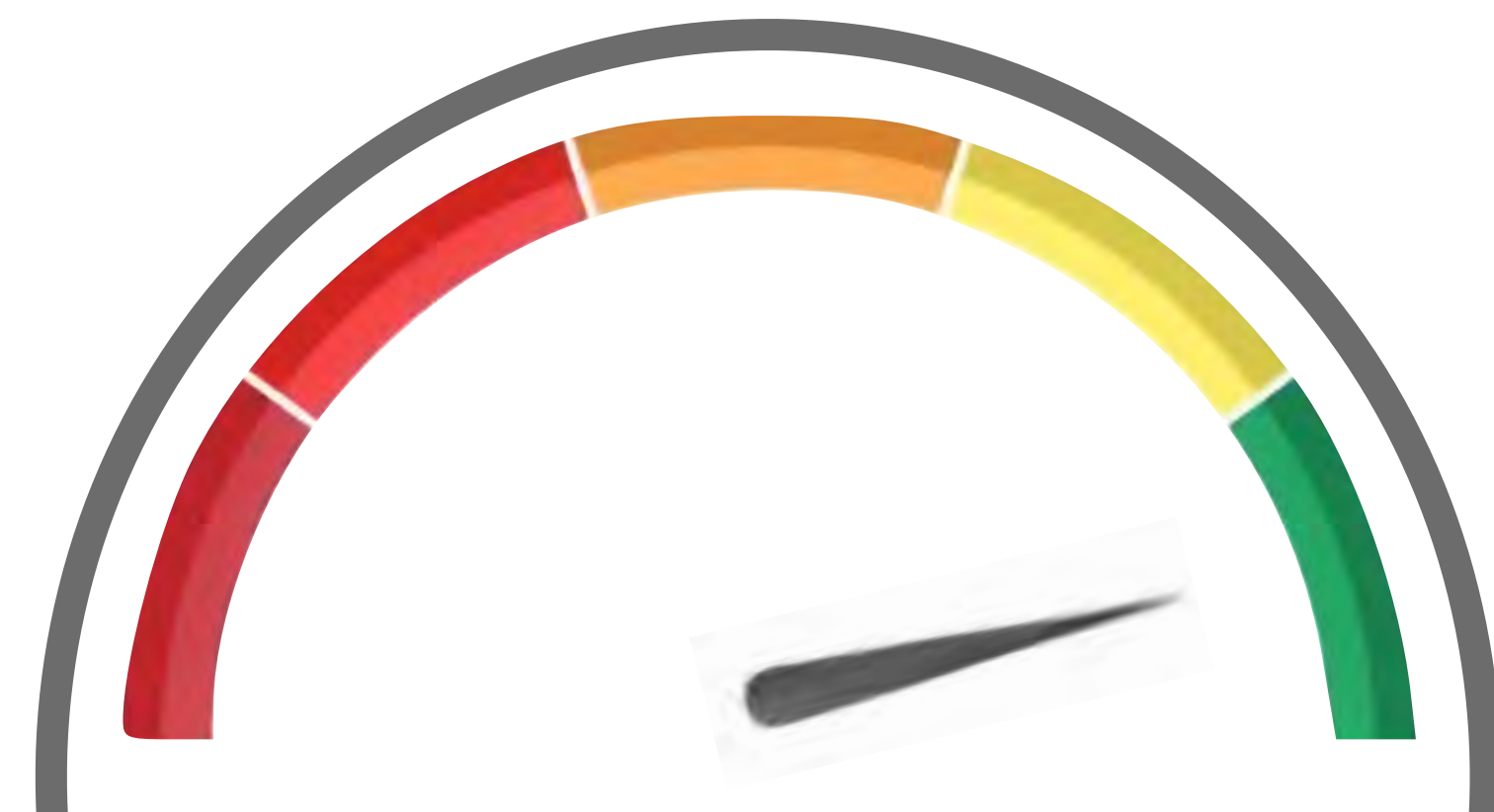
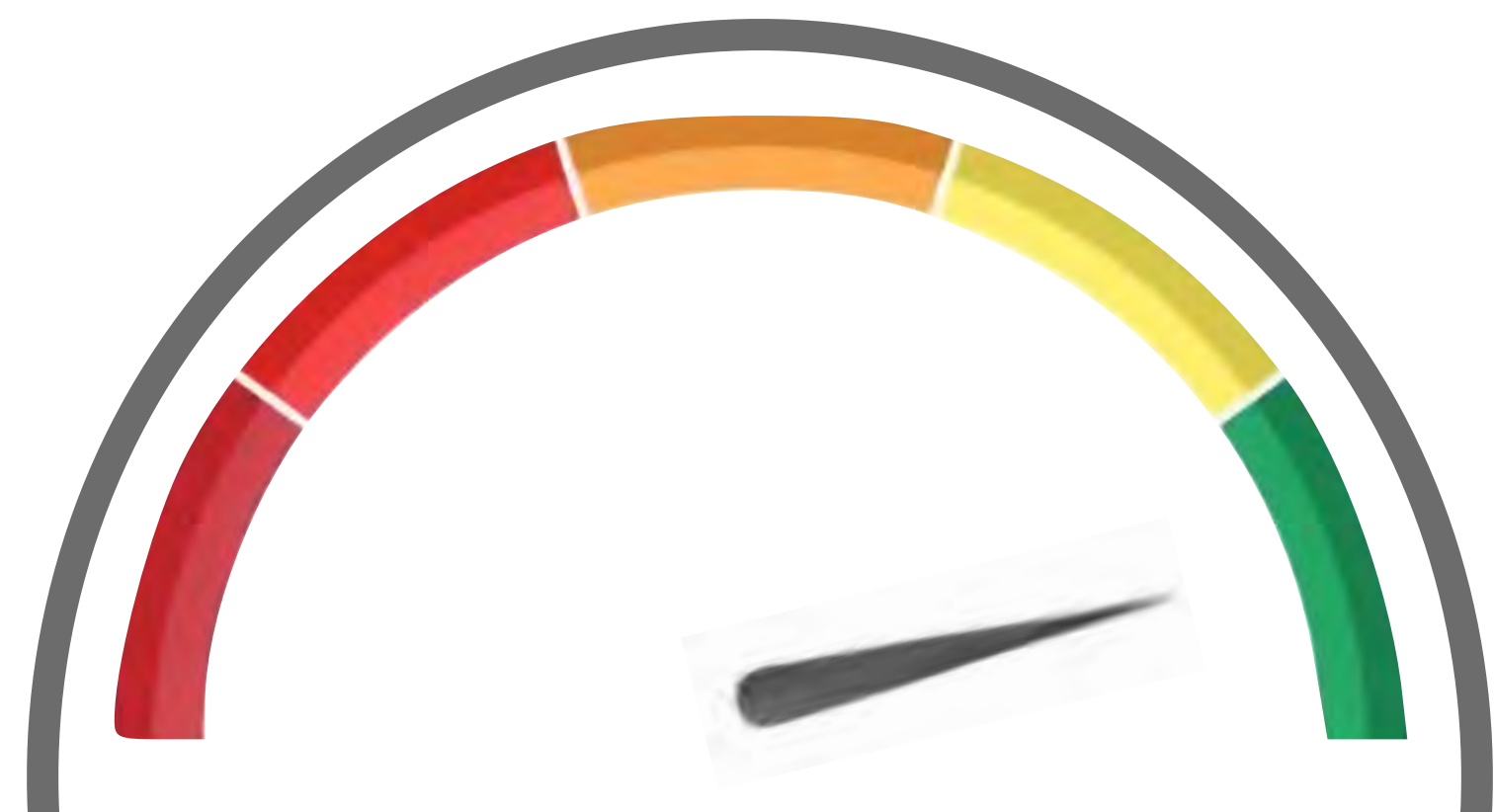




Real Time

Great Game

Hollywood



Student Hacks High School, Changes Applications

By **Catalin Cimpanu**



Tenaflly High School has informed parents earlier this morning that its internal IT systems, changed grades to improve his GPA, and other documents for the purpose of evaluating

The New Jersey-based high school has not named the student, but school enforcement is currently handling the investigation.

According to reports in local media [1, 2], the teen gained access to the school's management system, and Naviance, a nationwide IT system that tracks grades, and other documents for the purpose of evaluating

NetHunter
<https://www.kali.org/kali-linux-nethunter/>

CALIFORNIA

Riverside student hacks into school computers and changes grades, authorities say



A student is accused of tricking his teachers into sharing their personal computer login information by posing as a high-ranking administrative official. (Bill O'Leary / Washington Post)

By ALEXA DÍAZ | STAFF WRITER AUG. 5, 2019 | 11:44 AM

A Riverside high school student could face felony charges after authorities say he tricked his teachers into revealing their computer login information to polish his own grades and worsen others.

LATEST CALIFORNIA >

CALIFORNIA

Public service, celebrations mark Martin Luther King Jr. holiday in L.A.

Jan. 19, 2020

CALIFORNIA

Number of bodies found buried in Tijuana home now up to 4

Jan. 19, 2020

CALIFORNIA

A baby gorilla is born at L.A. Zoo, the first in over 20 years

Jan. 19, 2020

CALIFORNIA

Family skeptical about integrity of San Diego State investigation into student's death

Jan. 19, 2020

CALIFORNIA

Suspect in killing of MMA gym owner dies after fight with fellow inmate, officials say

Jan. 19, 2020





Real World

Great Game: The

Hollywood



Backdoor

A hole in the security of a system deliberately left in place by designers or maintainers. The motivation for such holes is not always sinister; some operating systems, for example, come out of the box with privileged accounts intended for use by field service technicians or the vendor's maintenance programmers.

Jargon File, 1994

Secret SSH backdoor in Fortinet hardware found in more products

Company warns customers to remove undocumented authentication feature ASAP.

DAN GOODIN - 1/22/2016, 9:30 PM




A recently identified backdoor in hardware sold by security company Fortinet has been found in several new products, many that were running current software, the company warned this week.



The undocumented account with a hard-coded password came to light last week when [attack code exploiting the backdoor was posted online](#). In response, Fortinet officials said it affected only older versions of Fortinet's FortiOS software. The company went on to say the undocumented method for logging into servers using the [shell \(SSH\) protocol](#) was a "remote management" feature that had been removed in July 2015.

FURTHER READING
Et tu, Fortinet? Hard-coded password raises new backdoor eavesdropping fears



In a [blog post published this week](#), Fortinet revised the statement to say the backdoor was active in several current company products, including some versions of its FortiSwitch, FortiAnalyzer, and FortiCache devices. The company said it made the discovery after careful review of its products. Company officials wrote:

“

As previously stated, this vulnerability is an unintentional consequence of a feature that was designed with the intent of providing seamless access from an authorized FortiManager to registered FortiGate devices. It is important to note, this is not a case of a malicious backdoor implemented to grant unauthorized user access.

In accordance with responsible disclosure, today we have issued a security advisory that provides a software update that eliminates this vulnerability in these products. This update also covers the legacy and end-of-life products listed above. We are actively working with customers and strongly recommend that all customers using the following products update their systems with the highest priority:

- FortiAnalyzer: 5.0.0 to 5.0.11 and 5.2.0 to 5.2.4 (branch 4.3 is not affected)

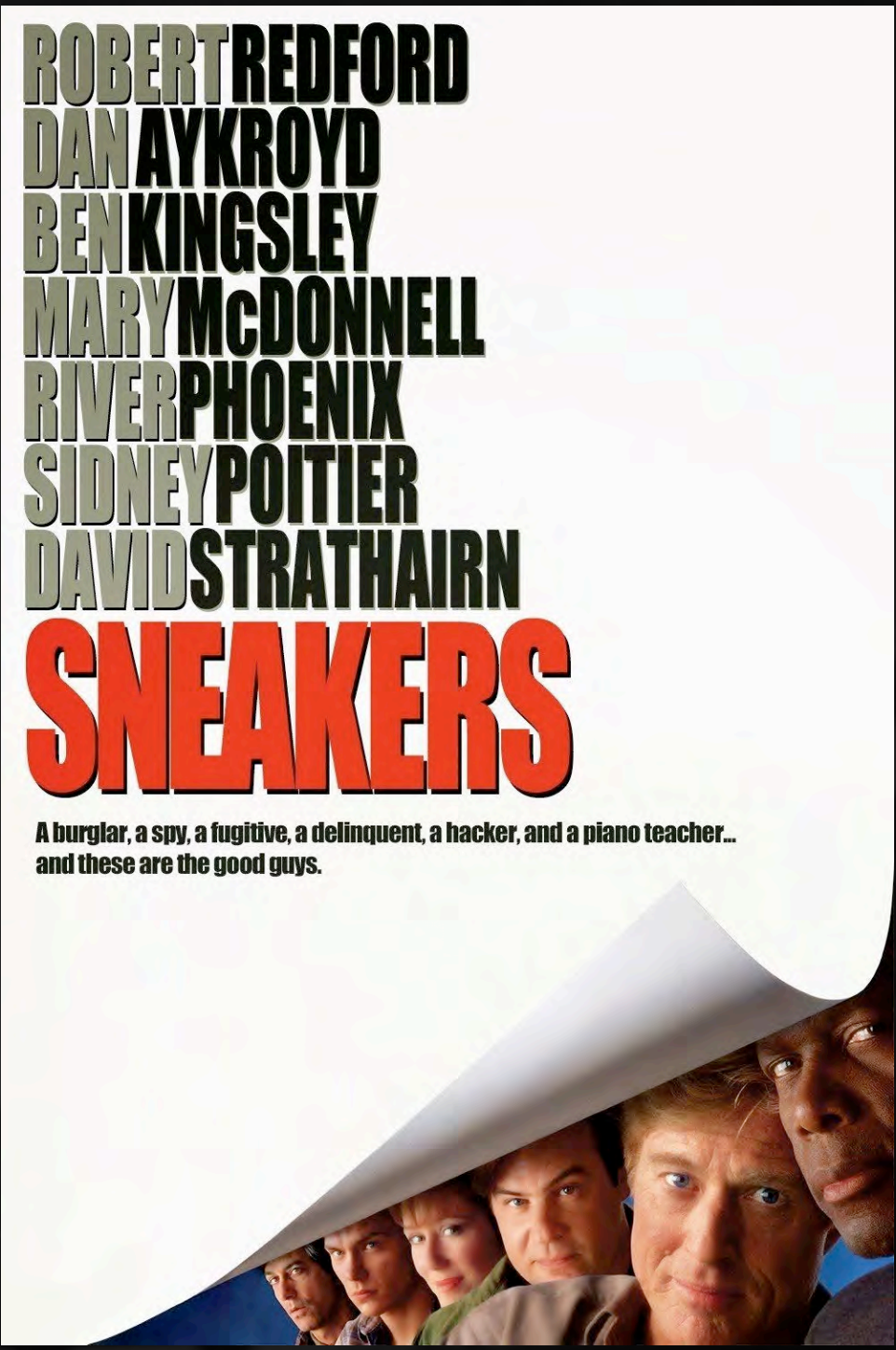
Backdoors Keep Appearing In Cisco's Routers

By [Lucian Armasu](#) July 19, 2018



CISCO

Over the past few months, not one, not two, but five different backdoors joined the list of security flaws in Cisco routers.

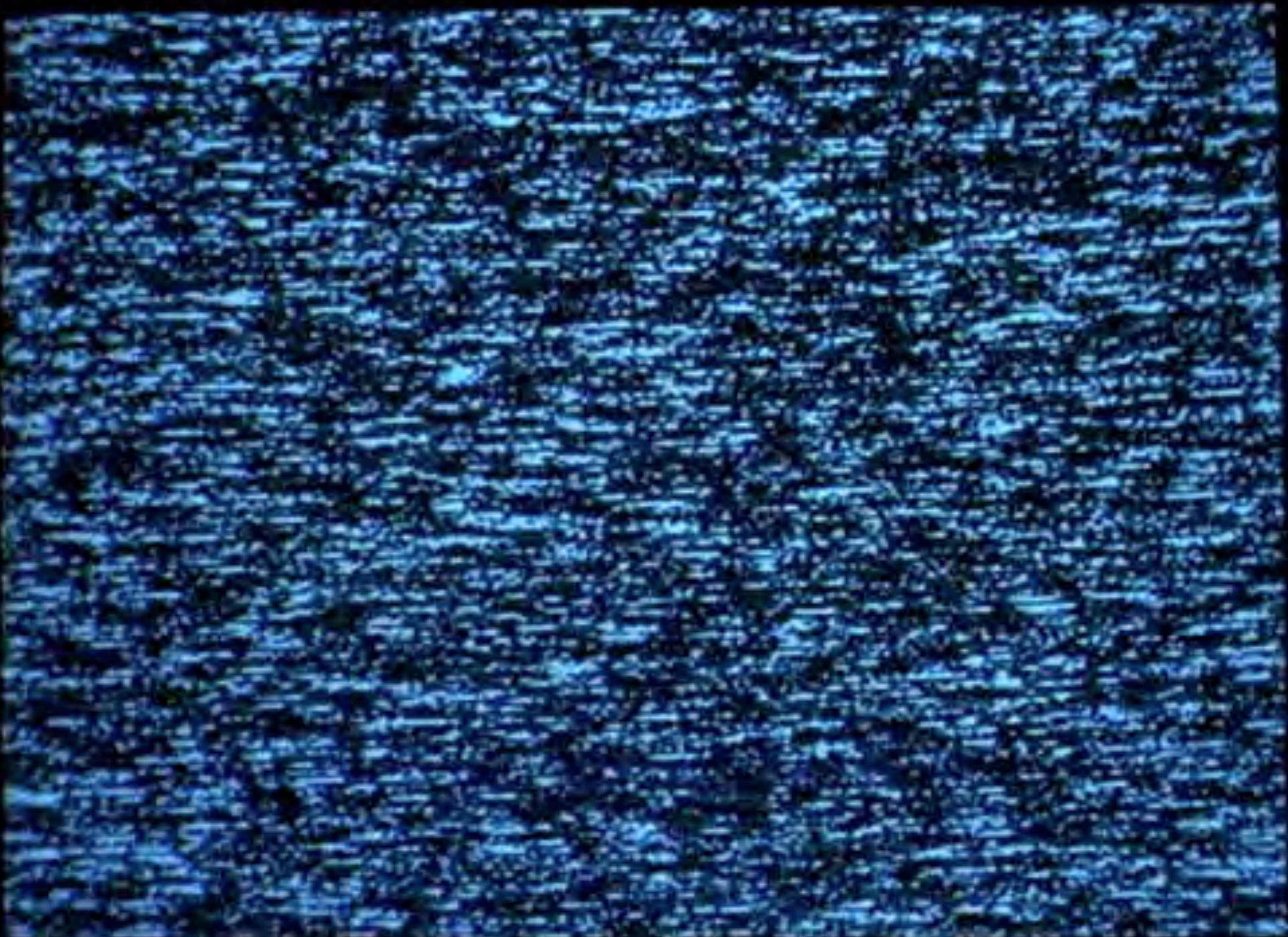
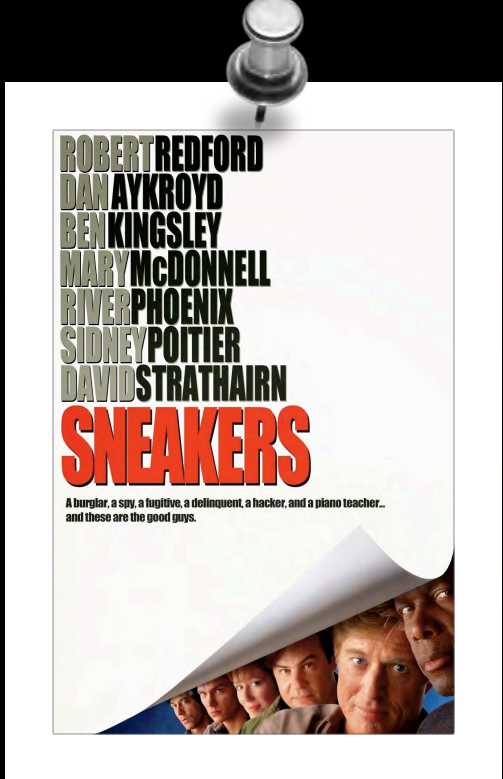


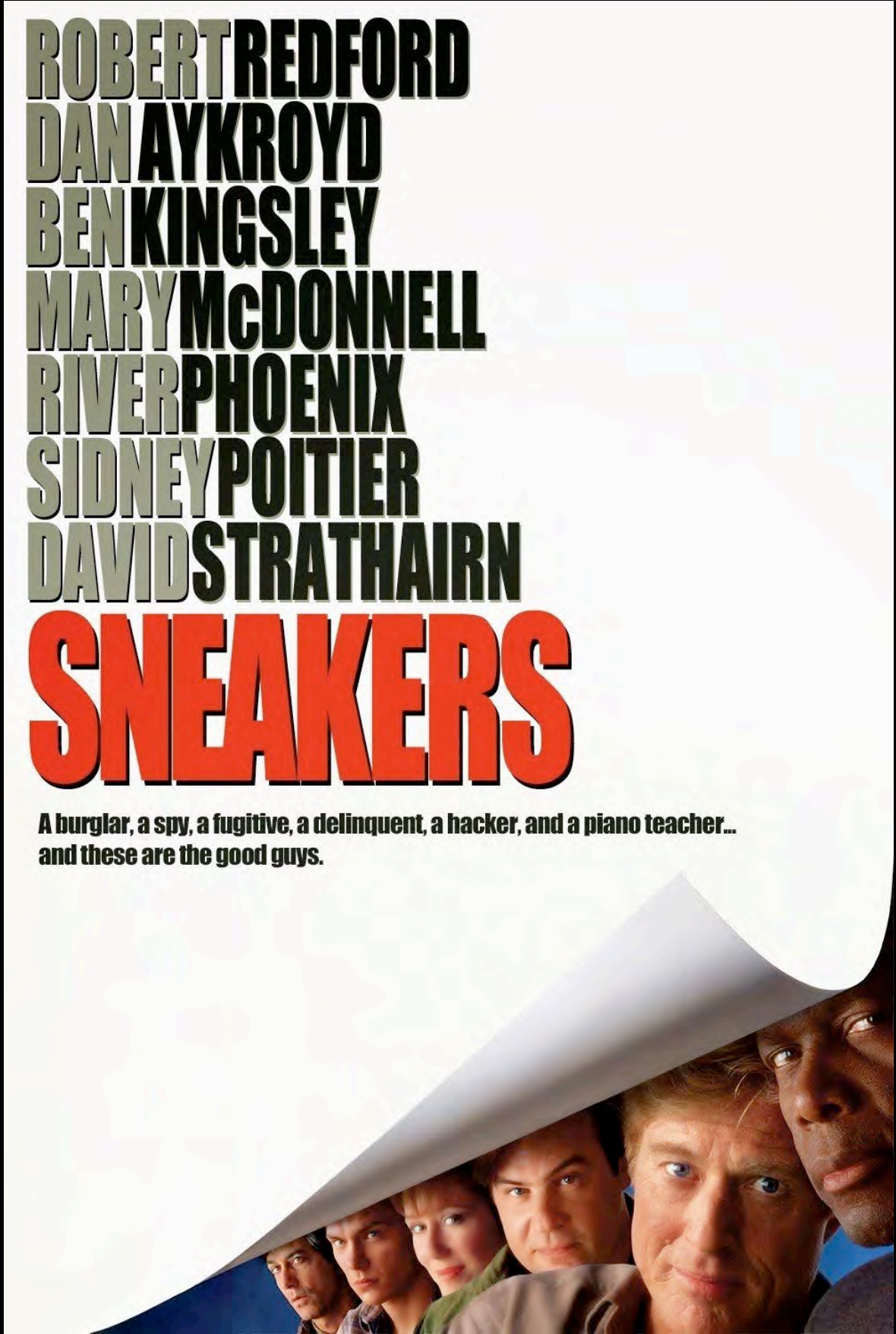
Sneakers, 1992

P. A. Robinson, L. Lasker, W. F. Parkes

S₁ E₁ T₁ E₁ C₃

A₁ S₁ T₁ R₁ O₁ N₁ O₁ M₃ Y₄

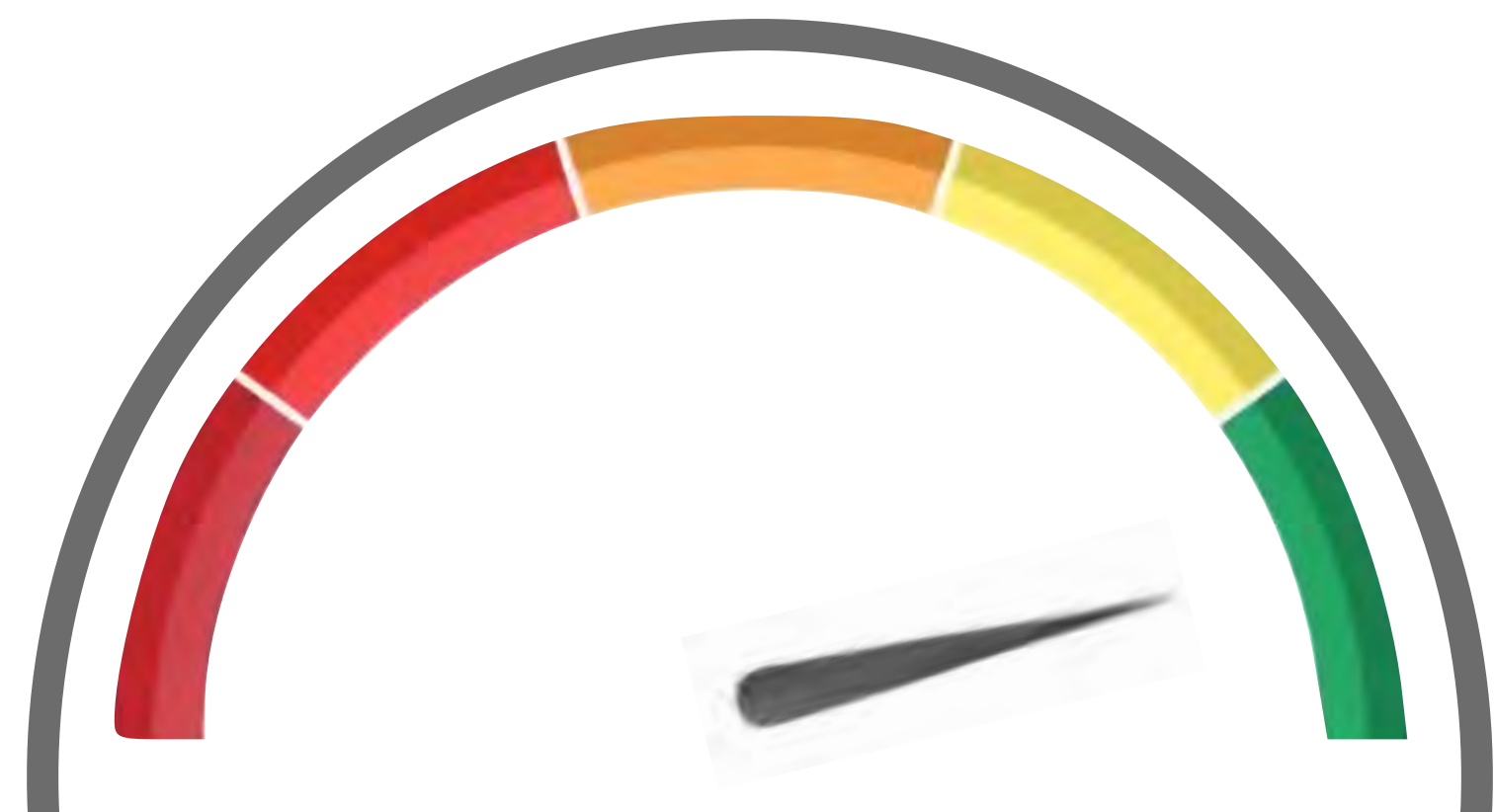




Real Time

Real Time

Hollywood

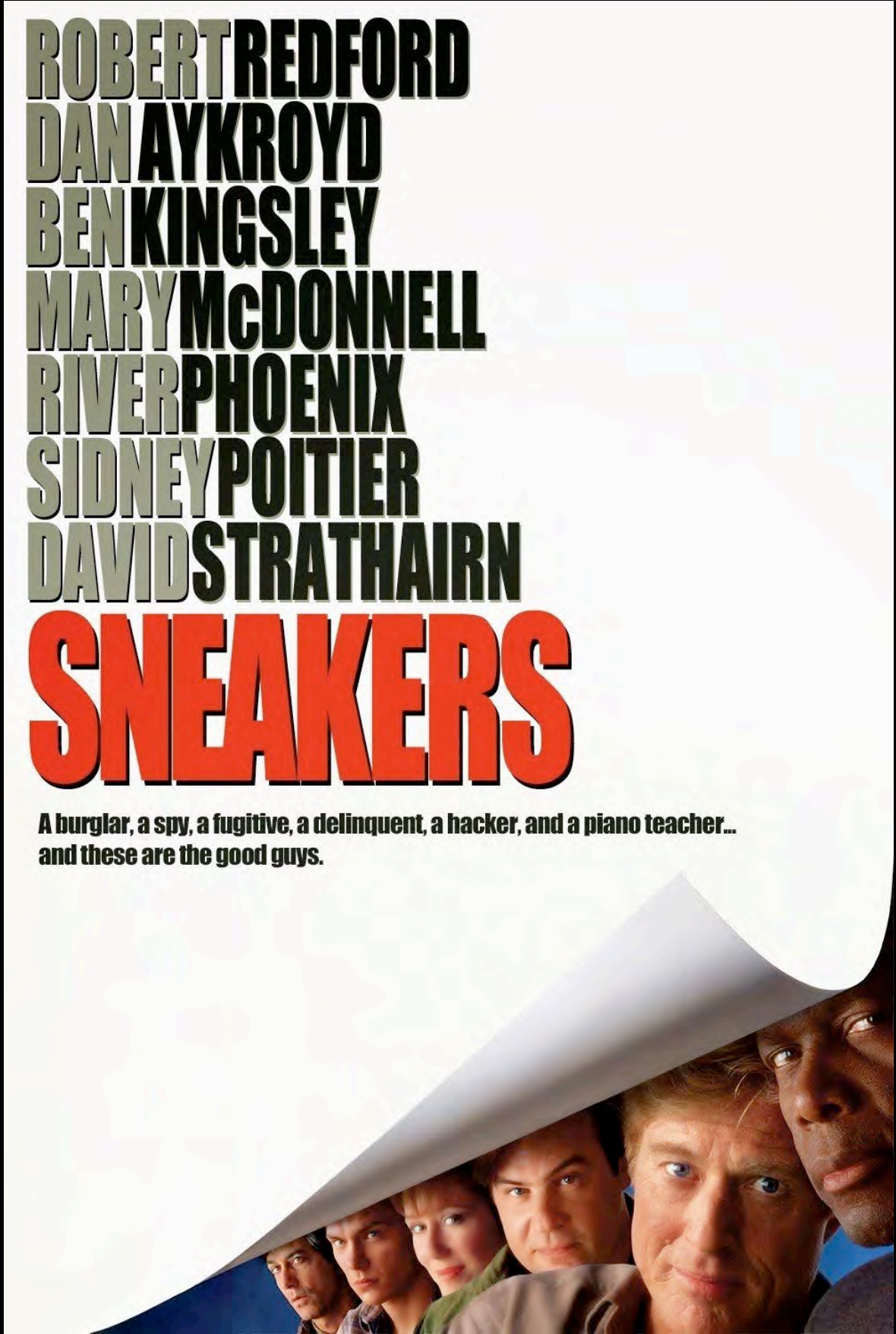




ROBERT REDFORD
DAN AYKROYD
BEN KINGSLEY
MARY McDONNELL
RIVER PHOENIX
SIDNEY POITIER
DAVID STRATHAIRN

SNEAKERS

A burglar, a spy, a fugitive, a diplomat, a hacker, and a piano teacher...
and these are the good guys.

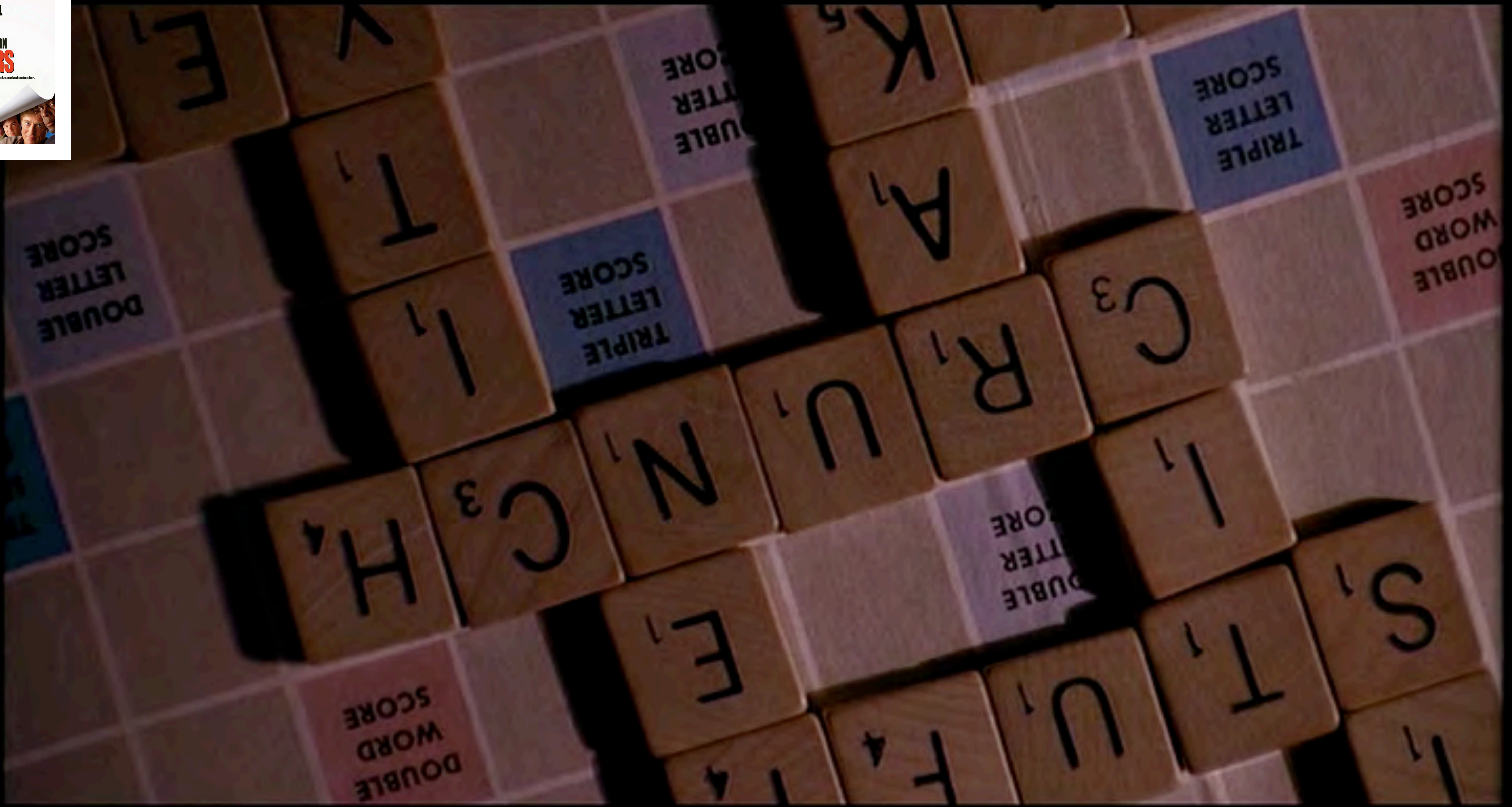
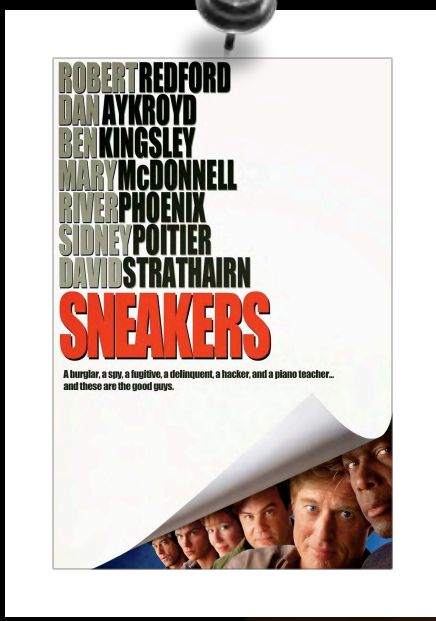


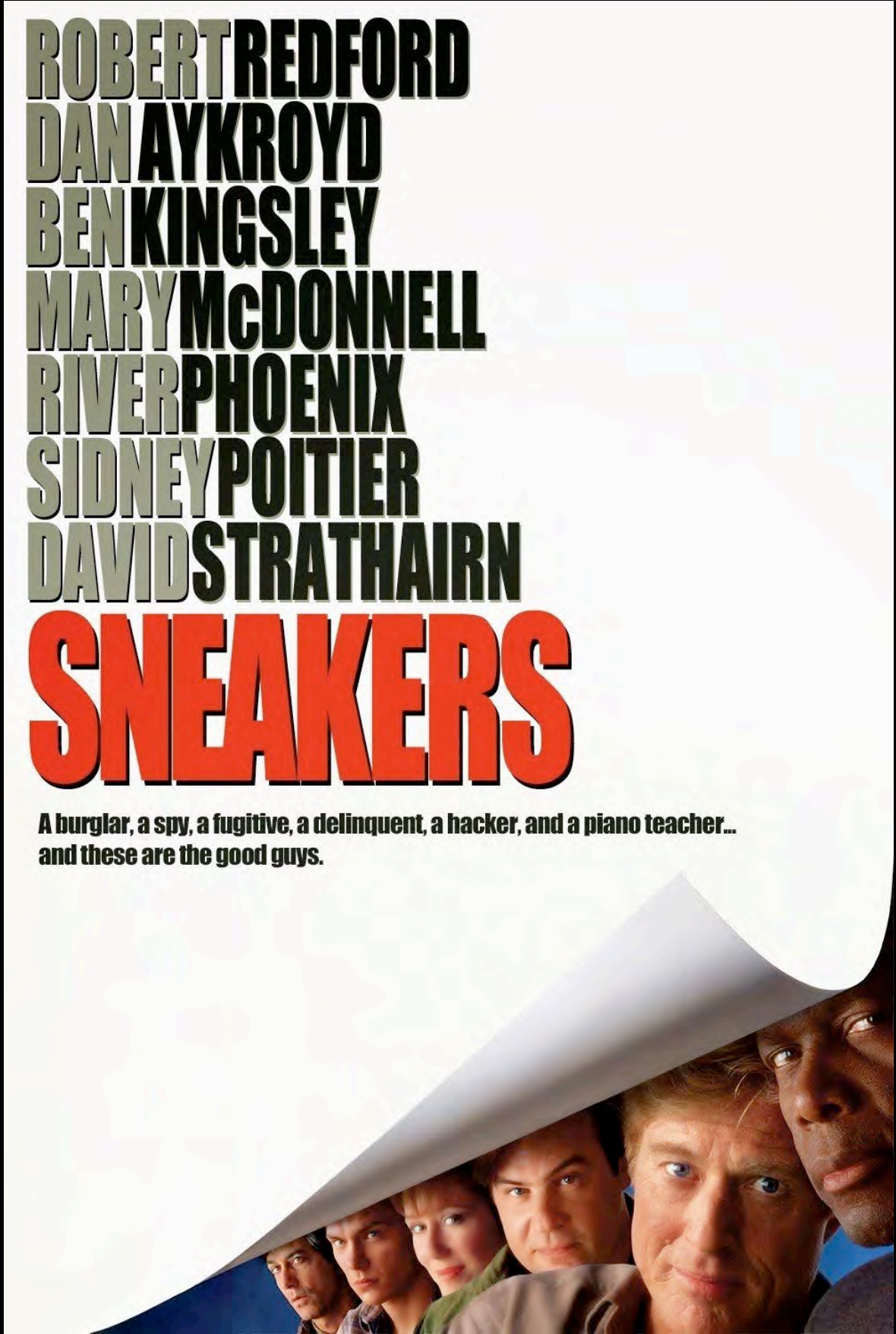
Real Time

Real Time

Hollywood





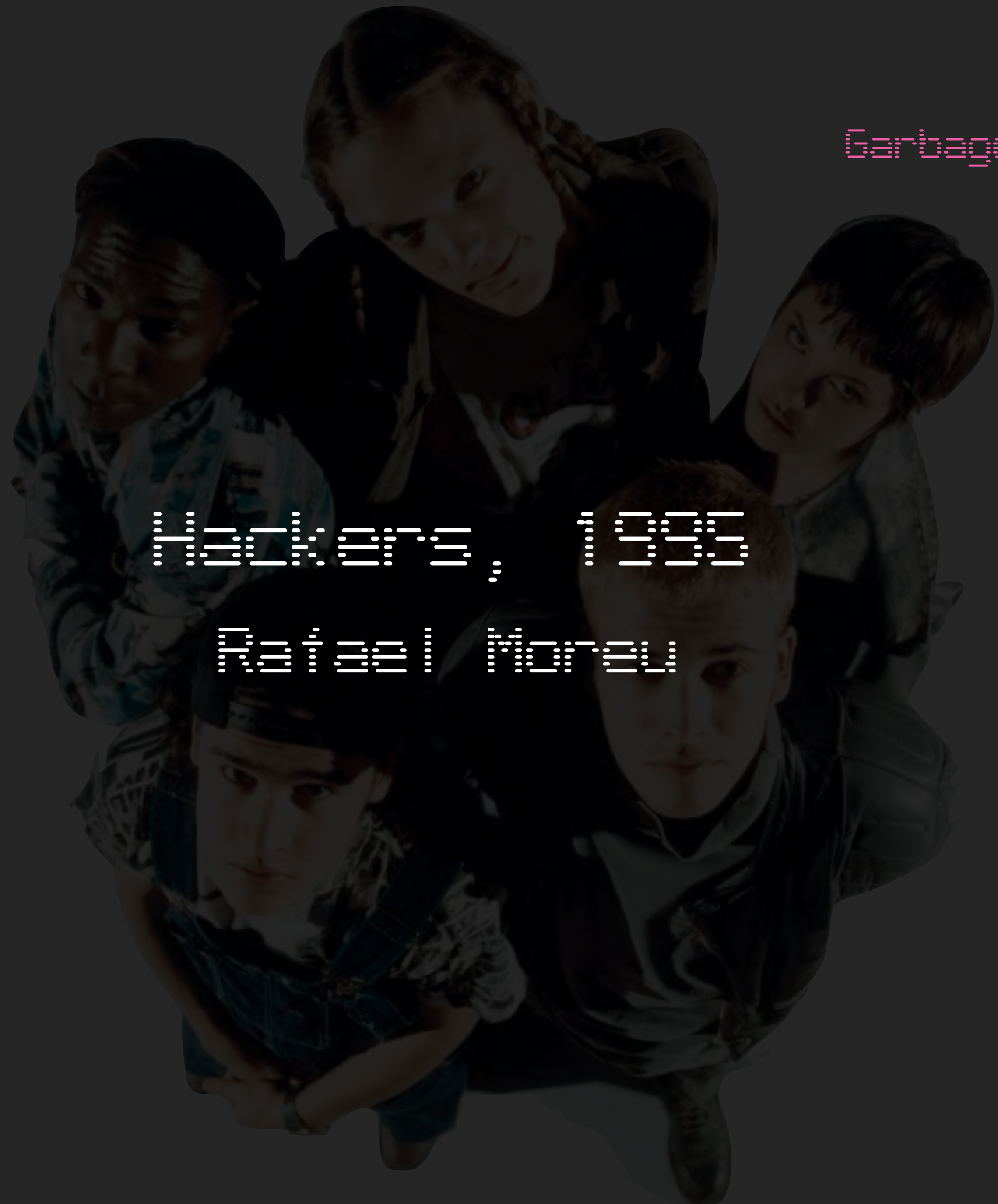


Real Time

Real Time

Hollywood





Hackers, 1995

Retail Review

Garbage >

CONFIDENTIAL
FILES

Do not delete
before final
backup is complete

FILE 1

waiting for backup

FILE 2

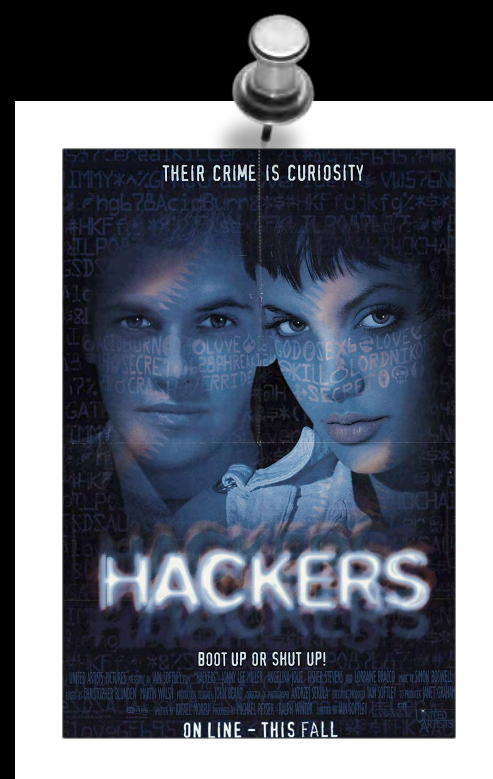
waiting for backup

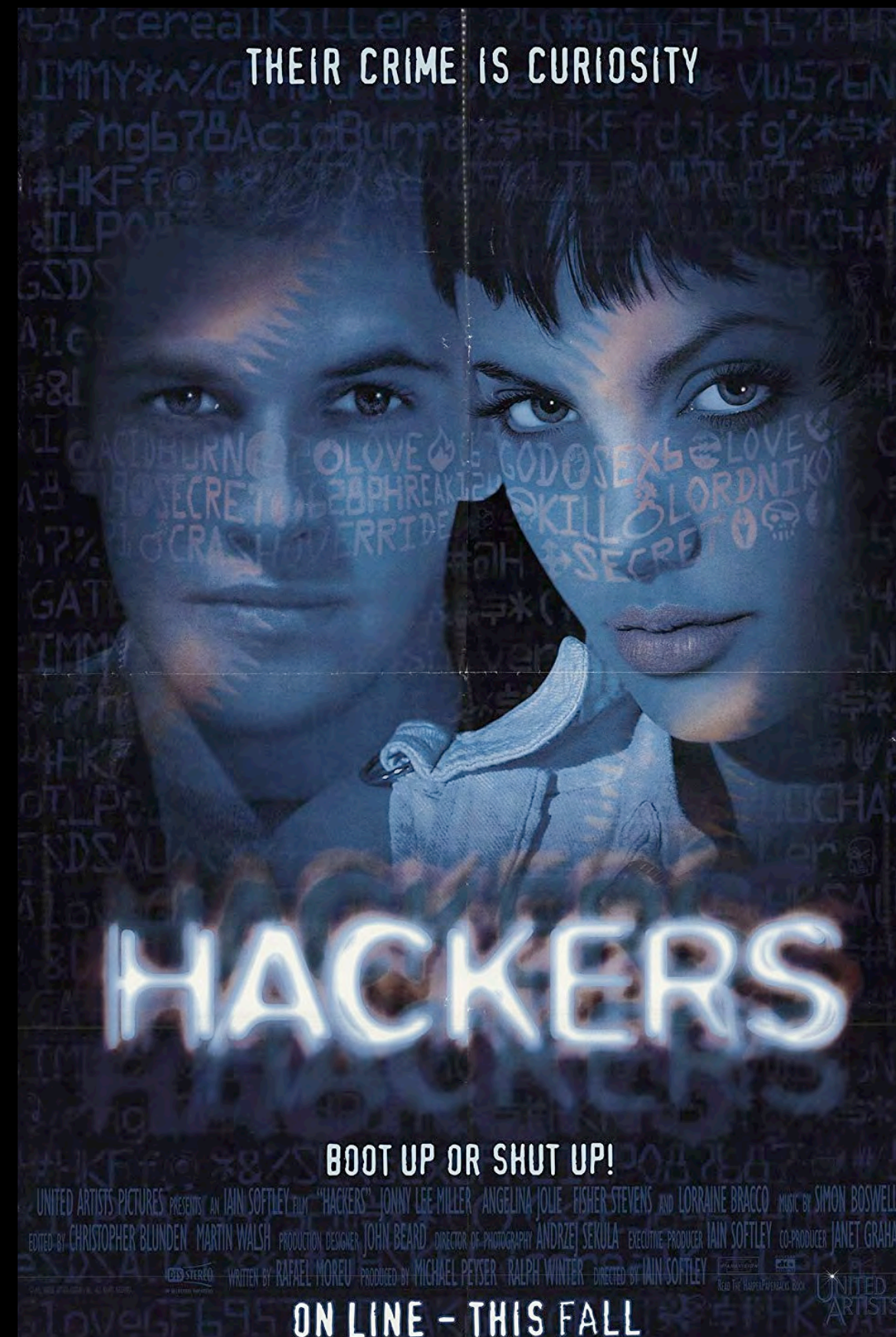
FILE 3

waiting for backup

FILE 4

waiting for backup

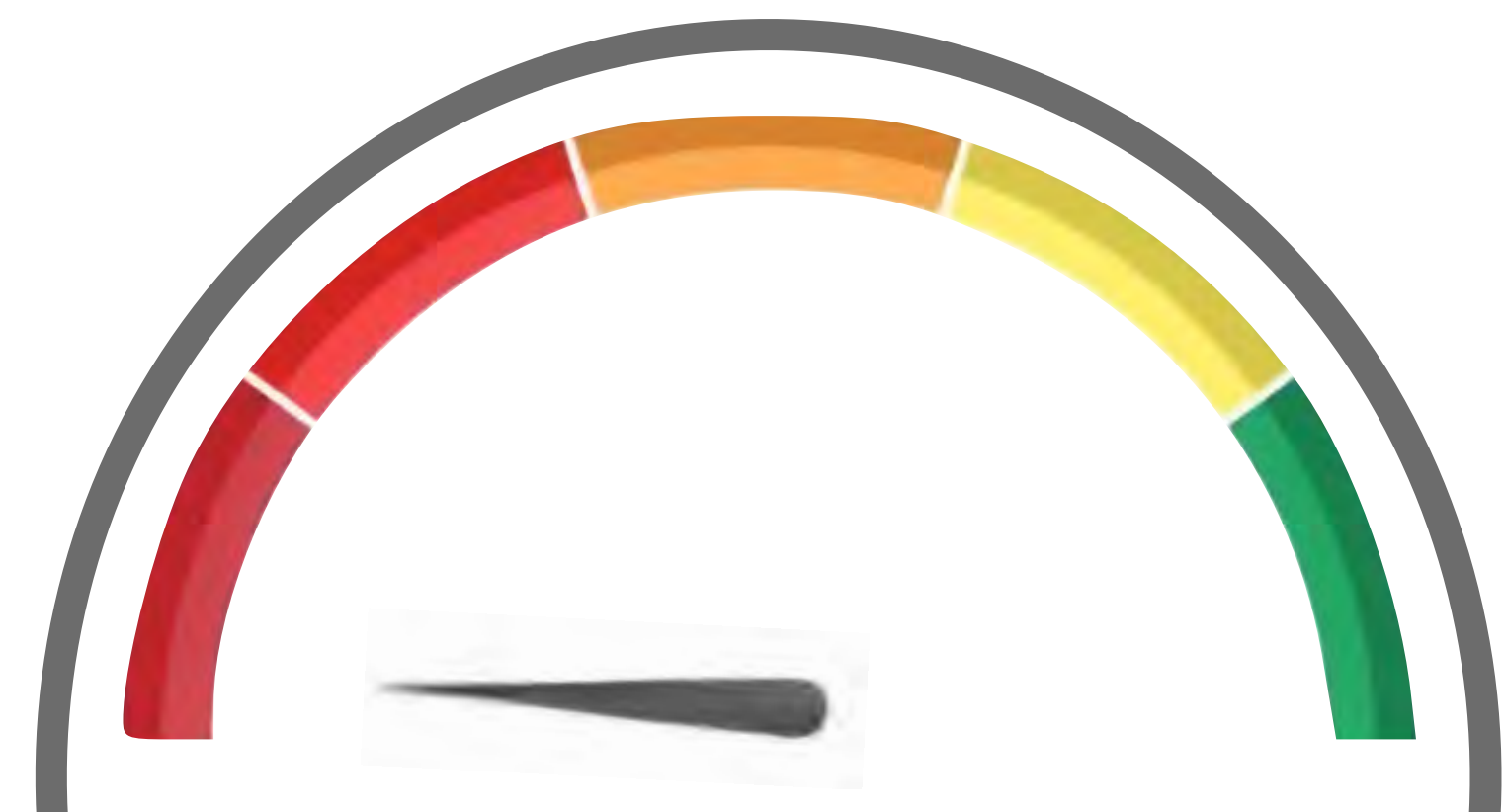


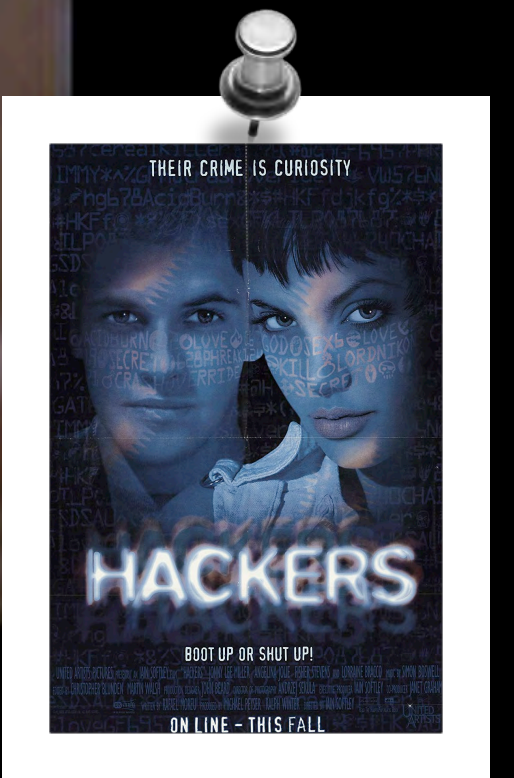


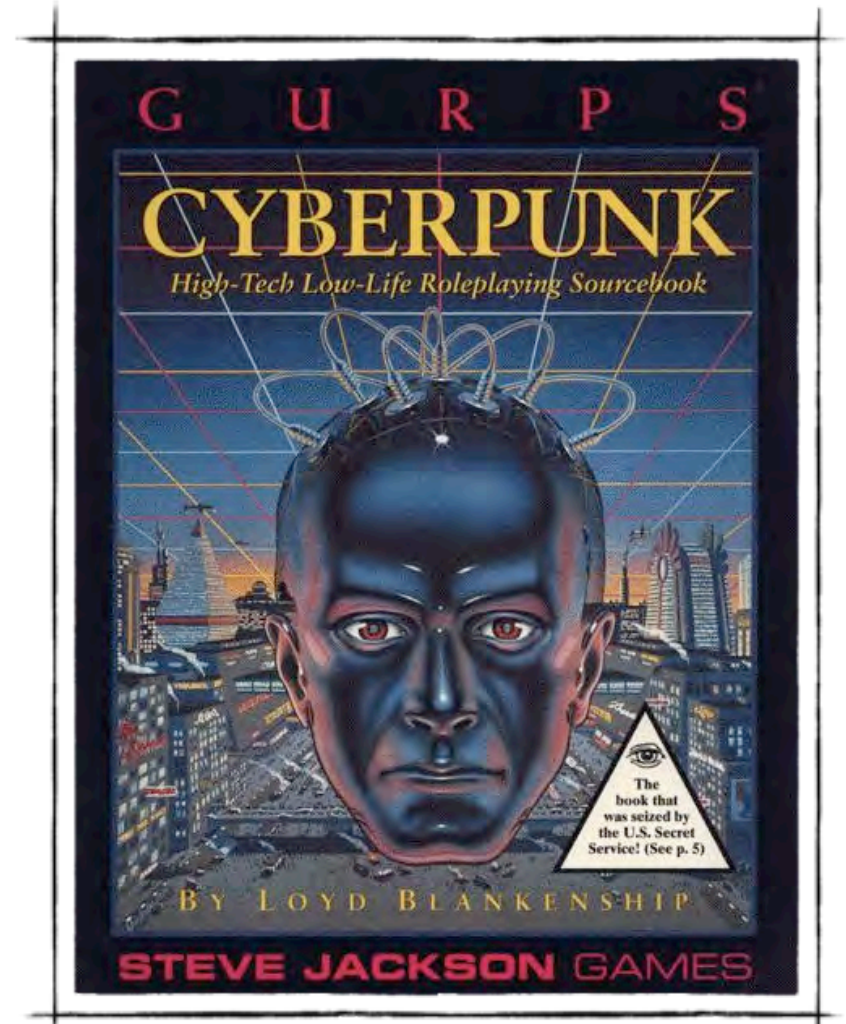
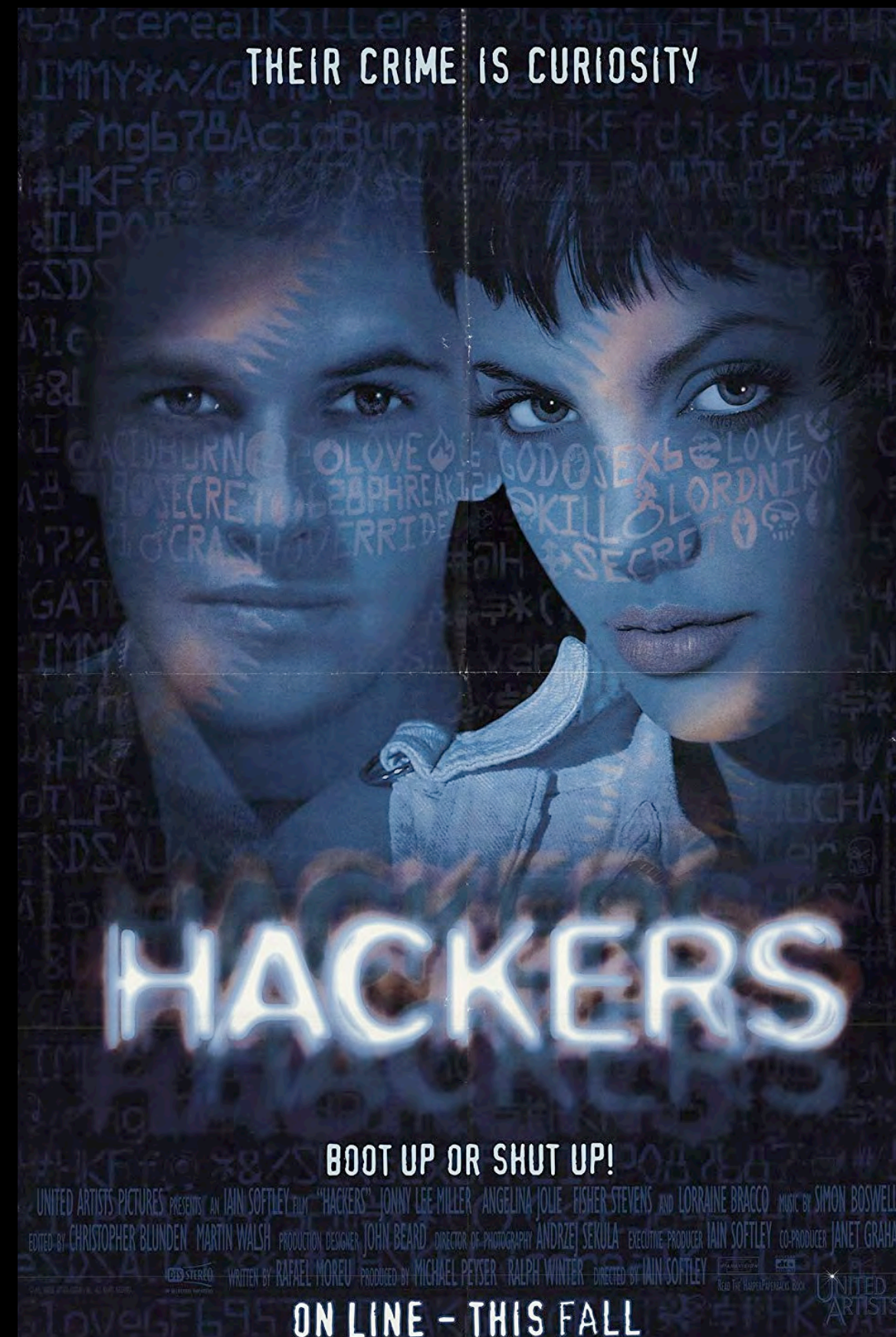
Real Time

Great Cable TV

Hollywood



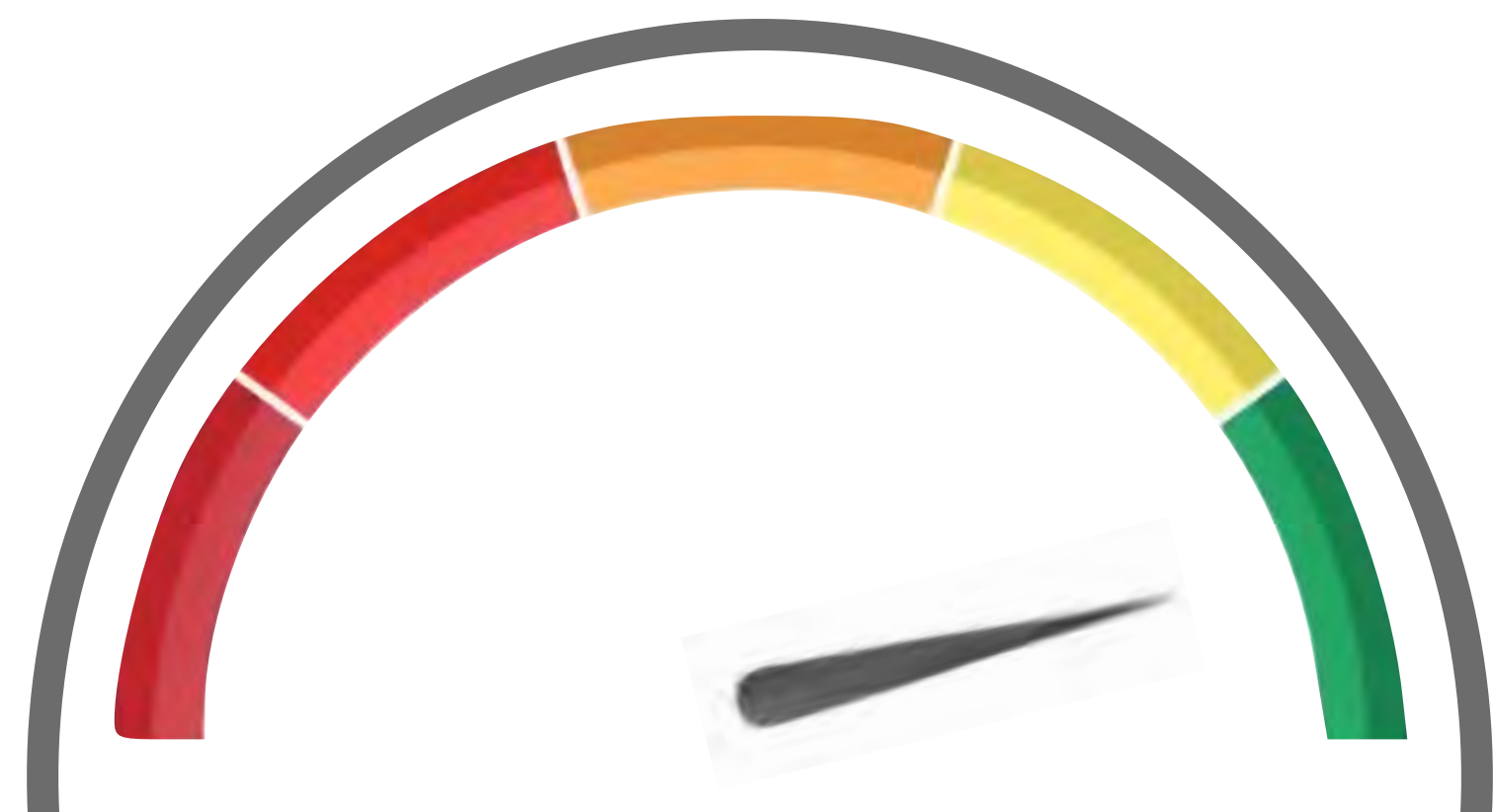




7 8 9 0

1 2 3 4 5 6

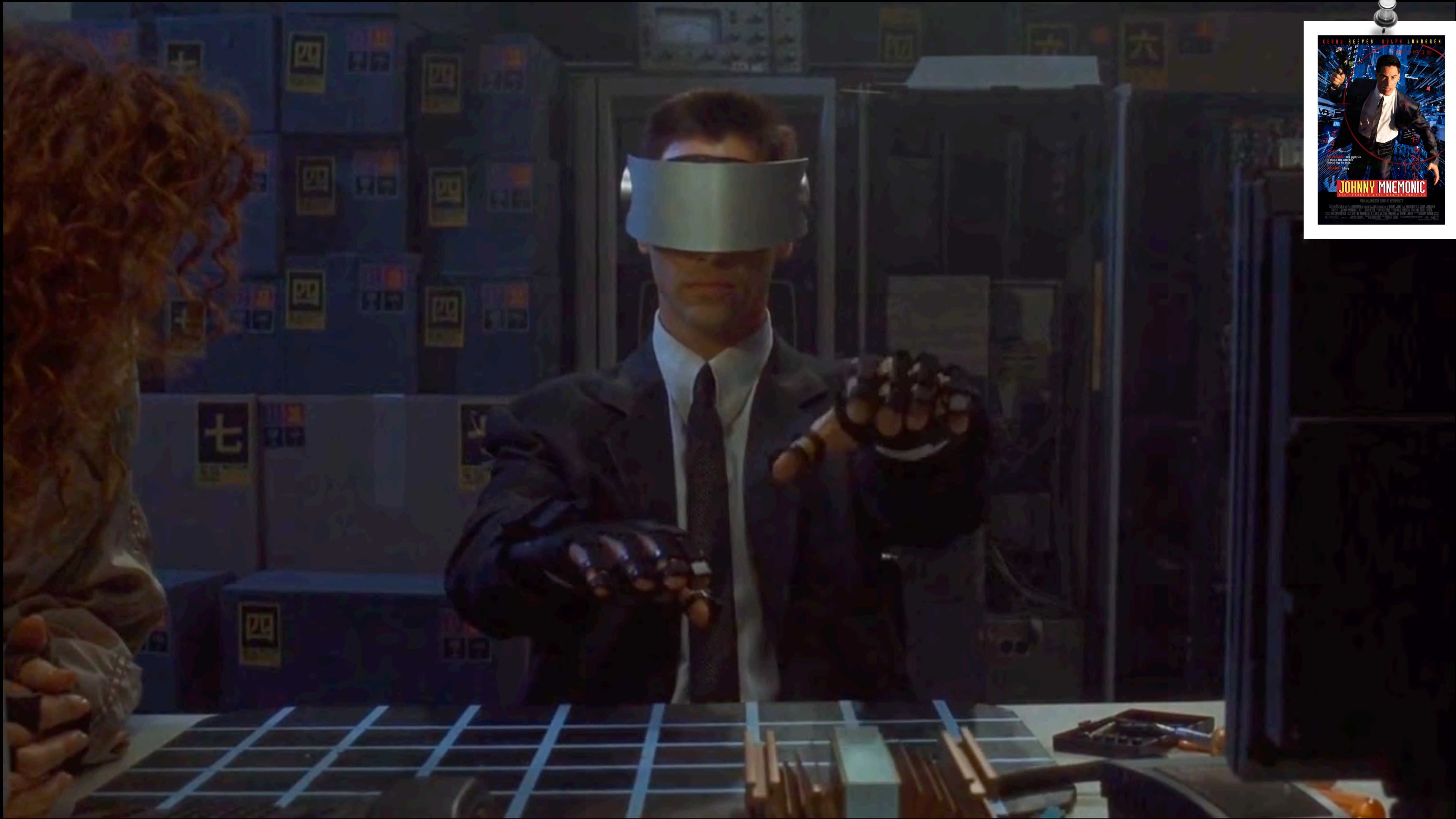
7 8 9 0





JOHNNY MNEMONIC, 1995
WILLIAM GIBSON



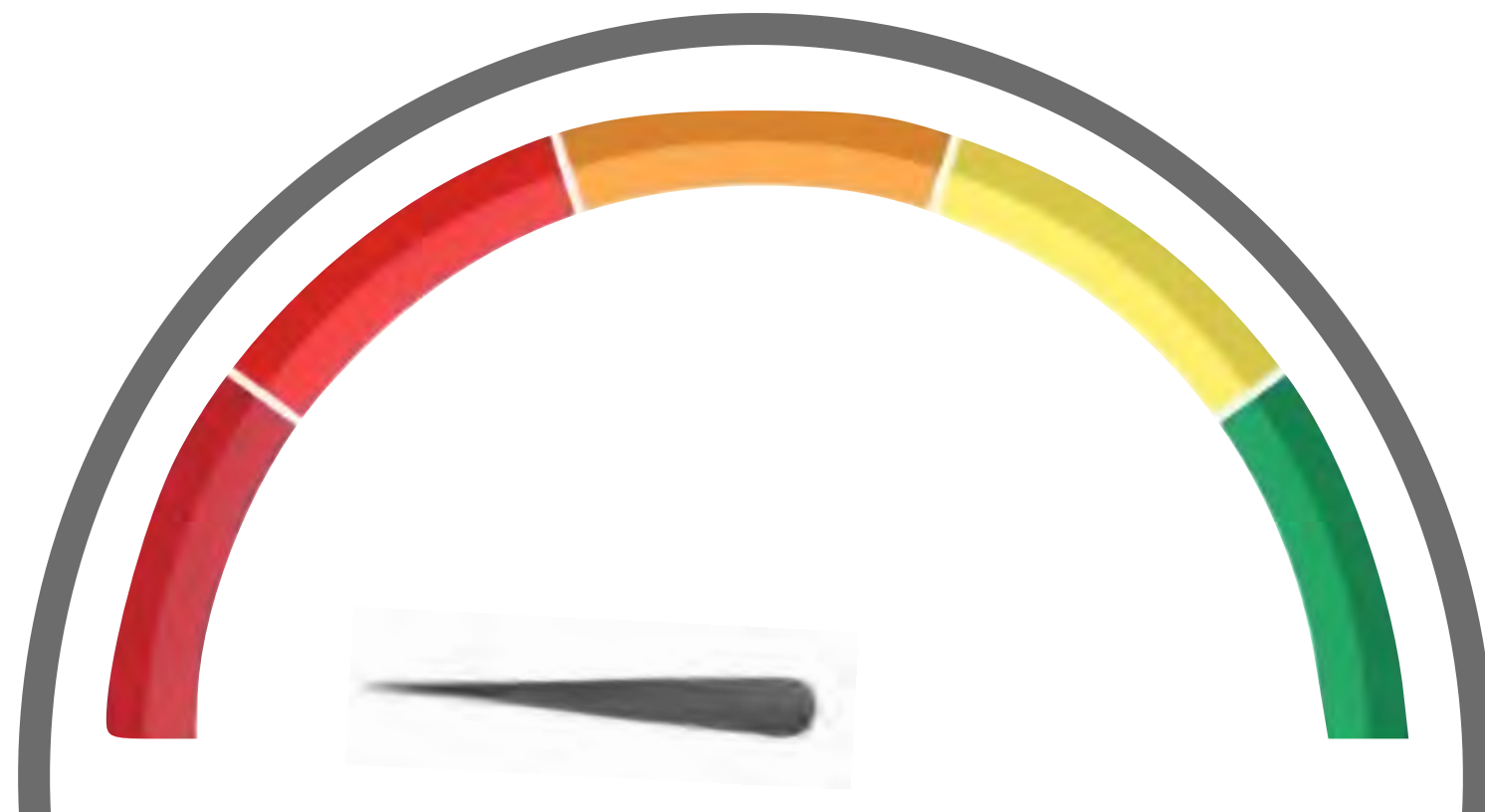
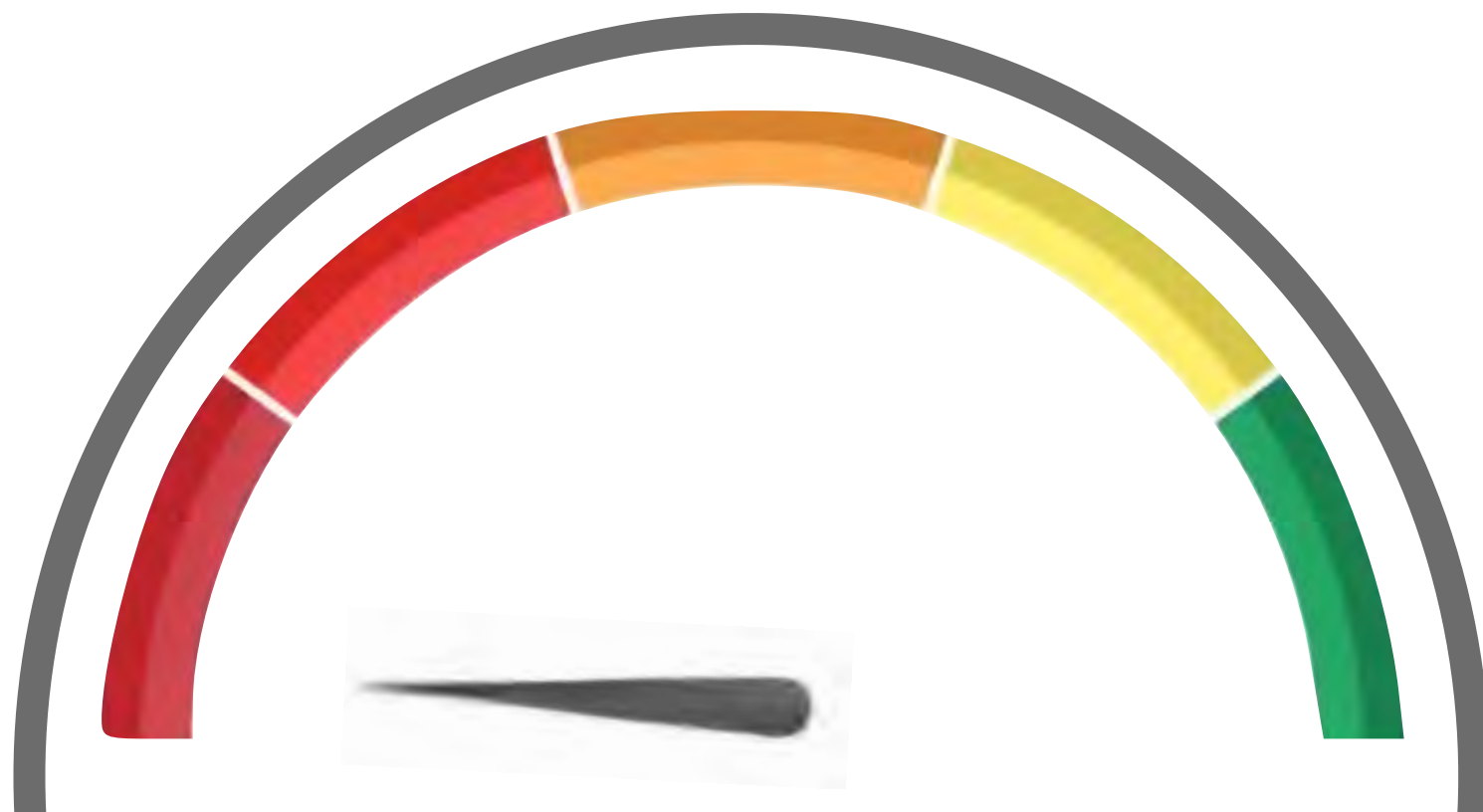


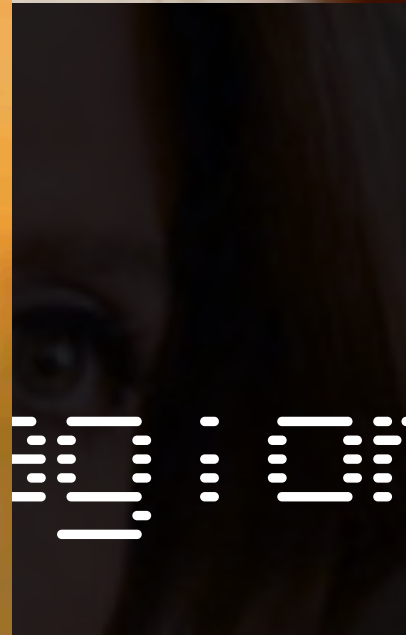


731 : 1300

731 : 1300 : 1300 : 1300

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PREMIERES SEPT 21 MONDAYS 10|9c abc #Castle



www.buycat.ru

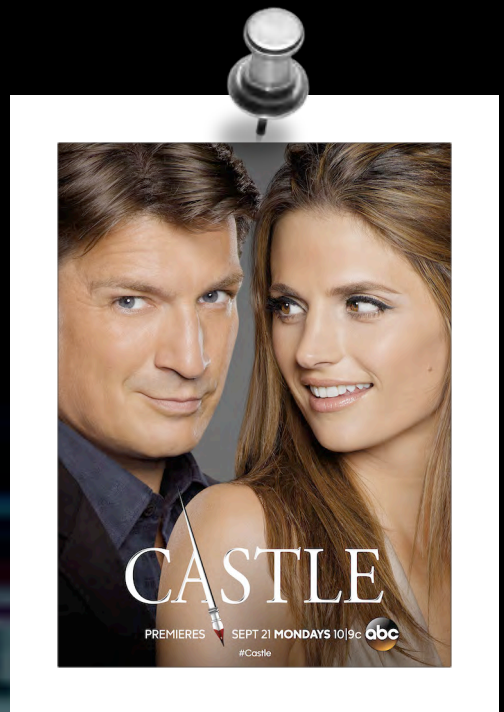


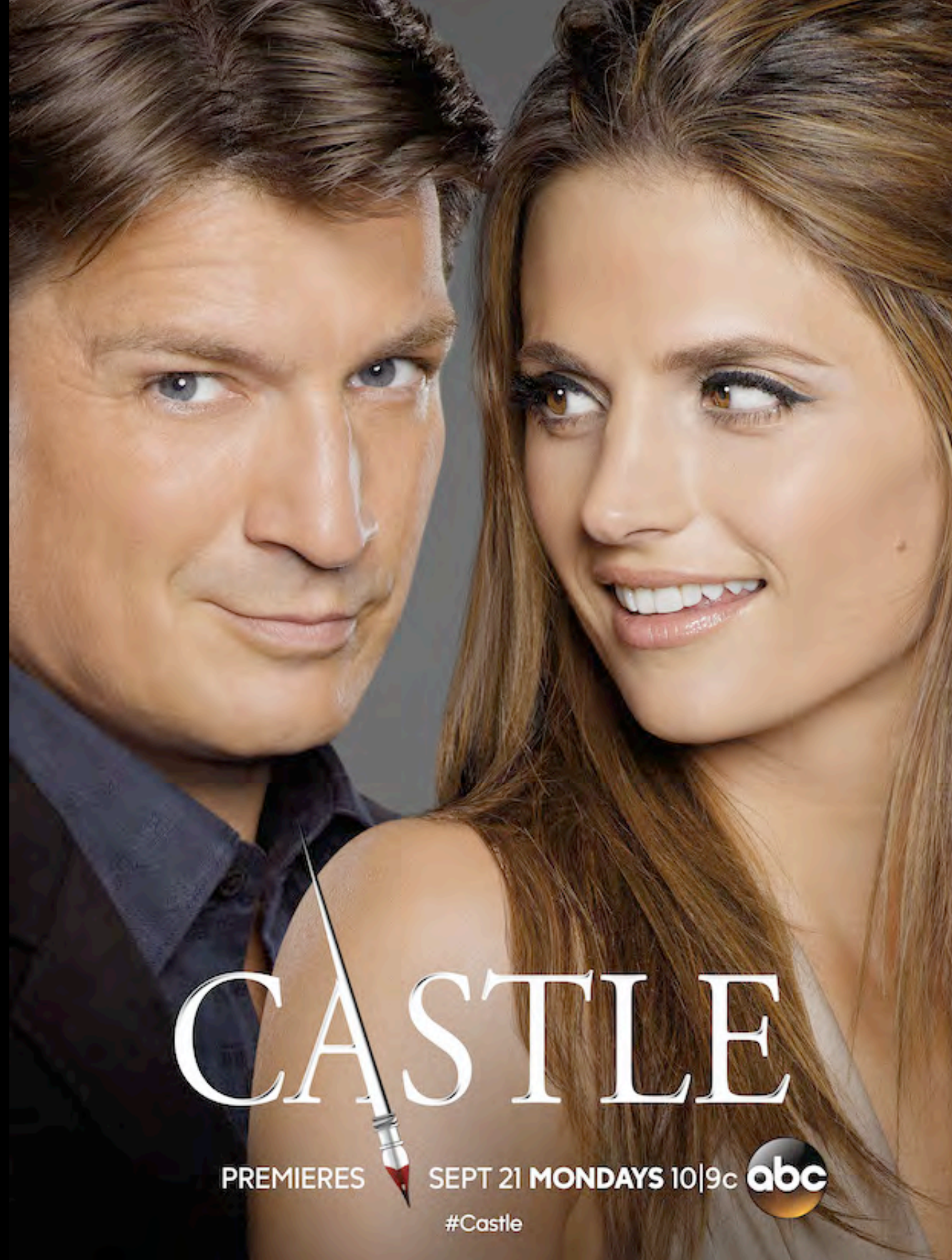
Software based rotor cypher /
Alphabetic substitution

FIREWALL #4

Multi-level brute force attack
Split into 4 sub-
single core / 4 core CPU

CTV

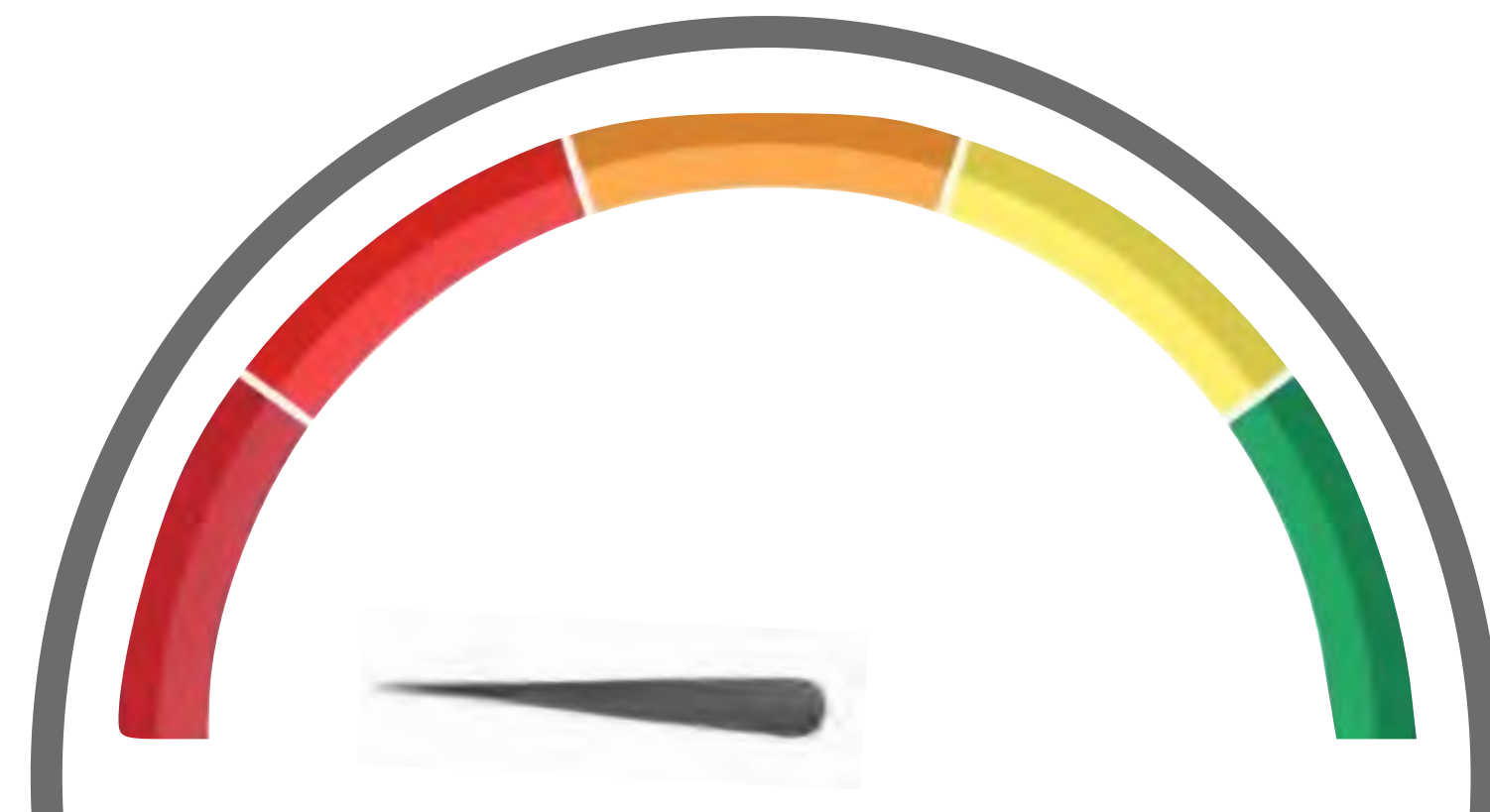
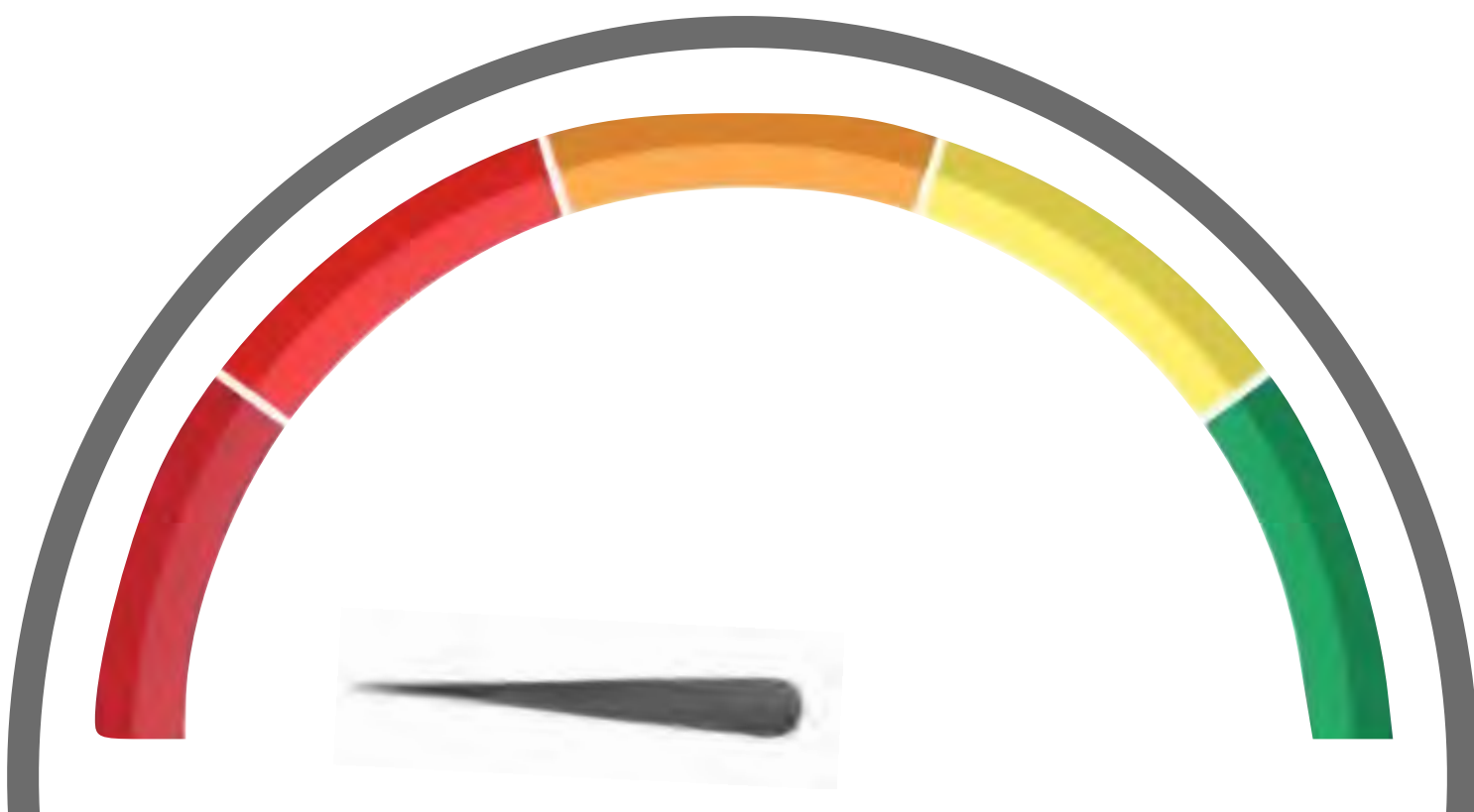
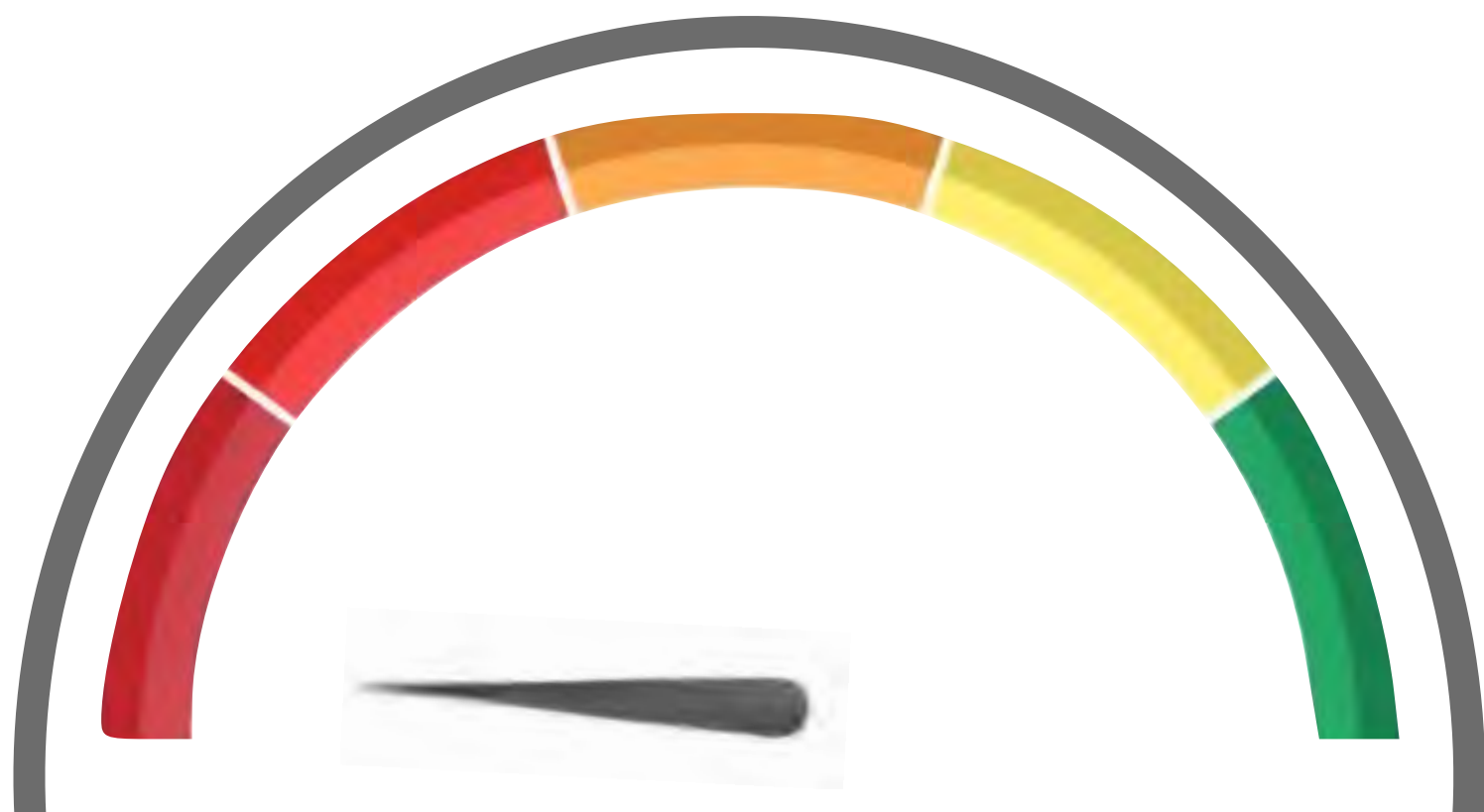




Real Time

Great Cable TV

Hollywood

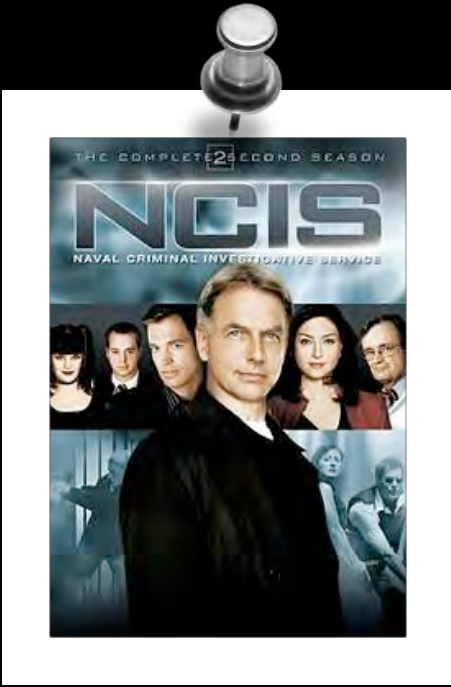




NCIS, Stagione 2 Episodio 5

double hacking





1995 BREAKING

REQUEST: 001548

FIREWALL CONNECTION BREACH

INTRUSION DETECTION - FIREWALL BREACH

Render[filename] userEntry

> batchRender[filename] userEntry

x?

xxxxxxx?

(shell) login....waiting...

> open{shell} login....waiting...

remote:hoist/dir[binhex] log???

> path:remote:hoist/dir[binhex] log???

variance = .00010.

> tar/variance = .00010.

... PORT SCAN

... OPTIMIZING OPERATIONS

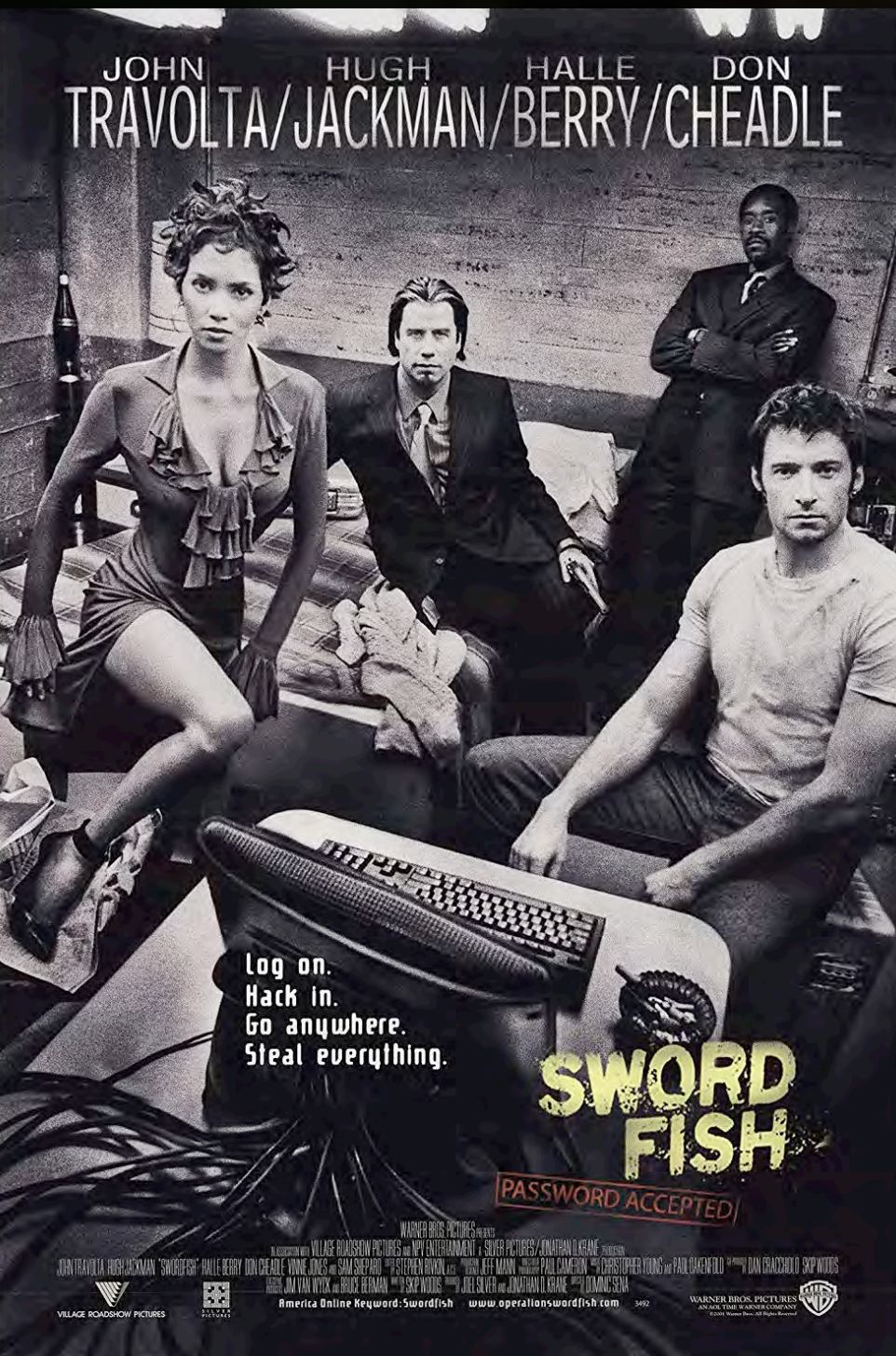


Real World

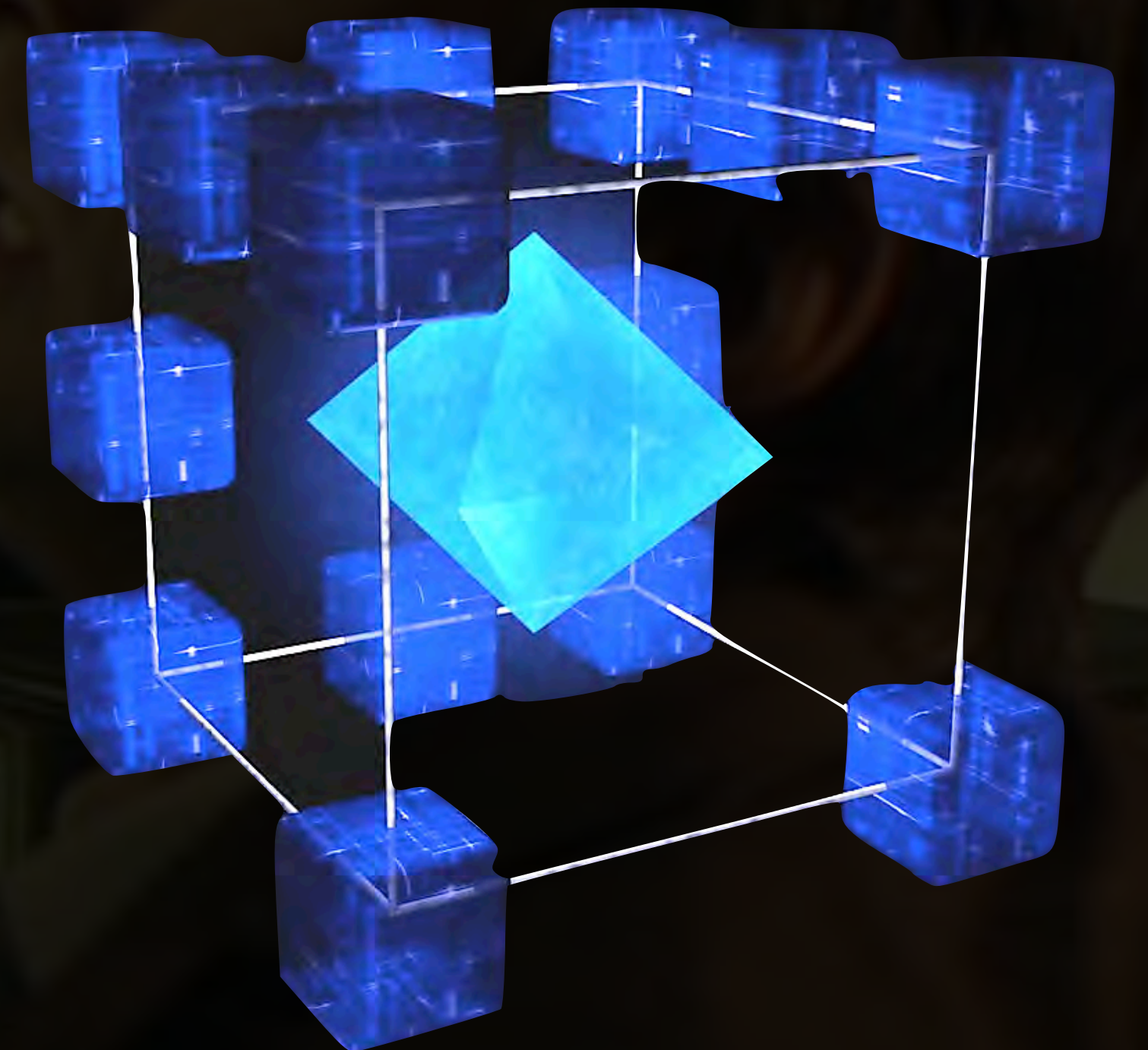
Practicality

Hollywood





Swordfish, 2001
Hack in. Go anywhere.



WORM GENERATOR TOOL V.1.2 LONDON, NJ
IP ADDRESS PROTOCOL ROUTER SERVICE INTERRUPT QUERY

COMPILING OBJECTS

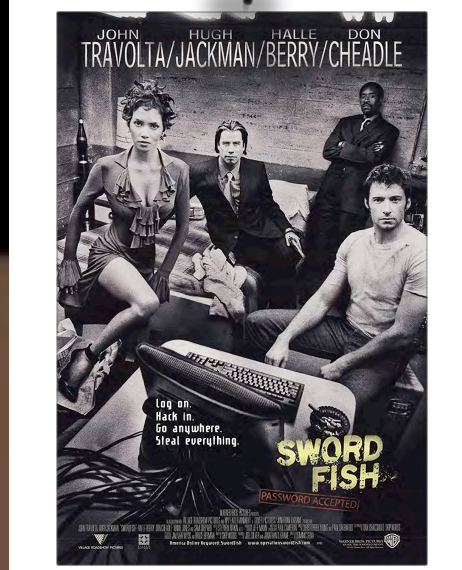
V.1.2 TOOL SET

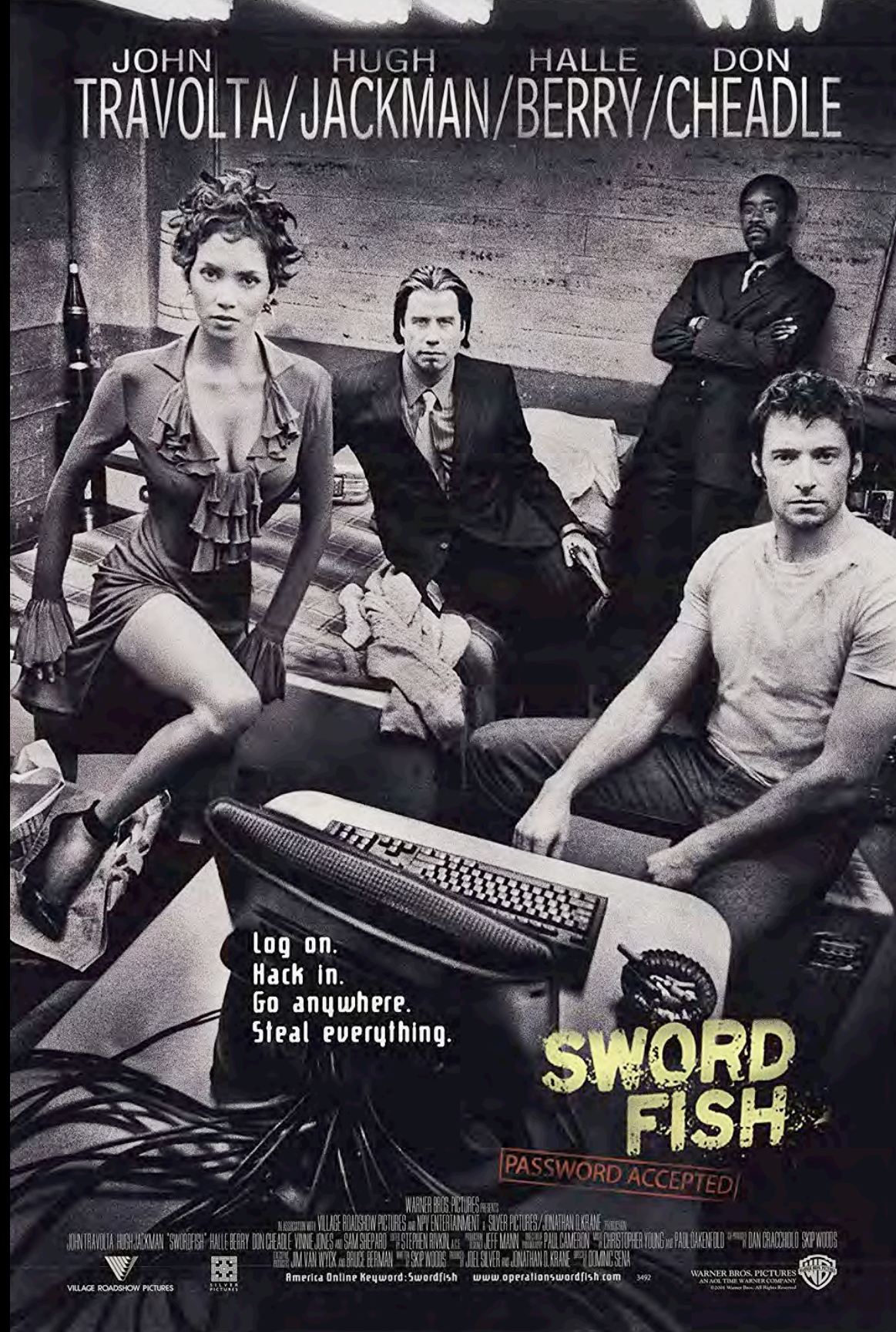


INPUT ROUTING

LOCAL 1	1
LOCAL 2	2
SAT - AL2	3
SAT - J1B	4
NETWORK A	5
NETWORK B	6

STRENGTH

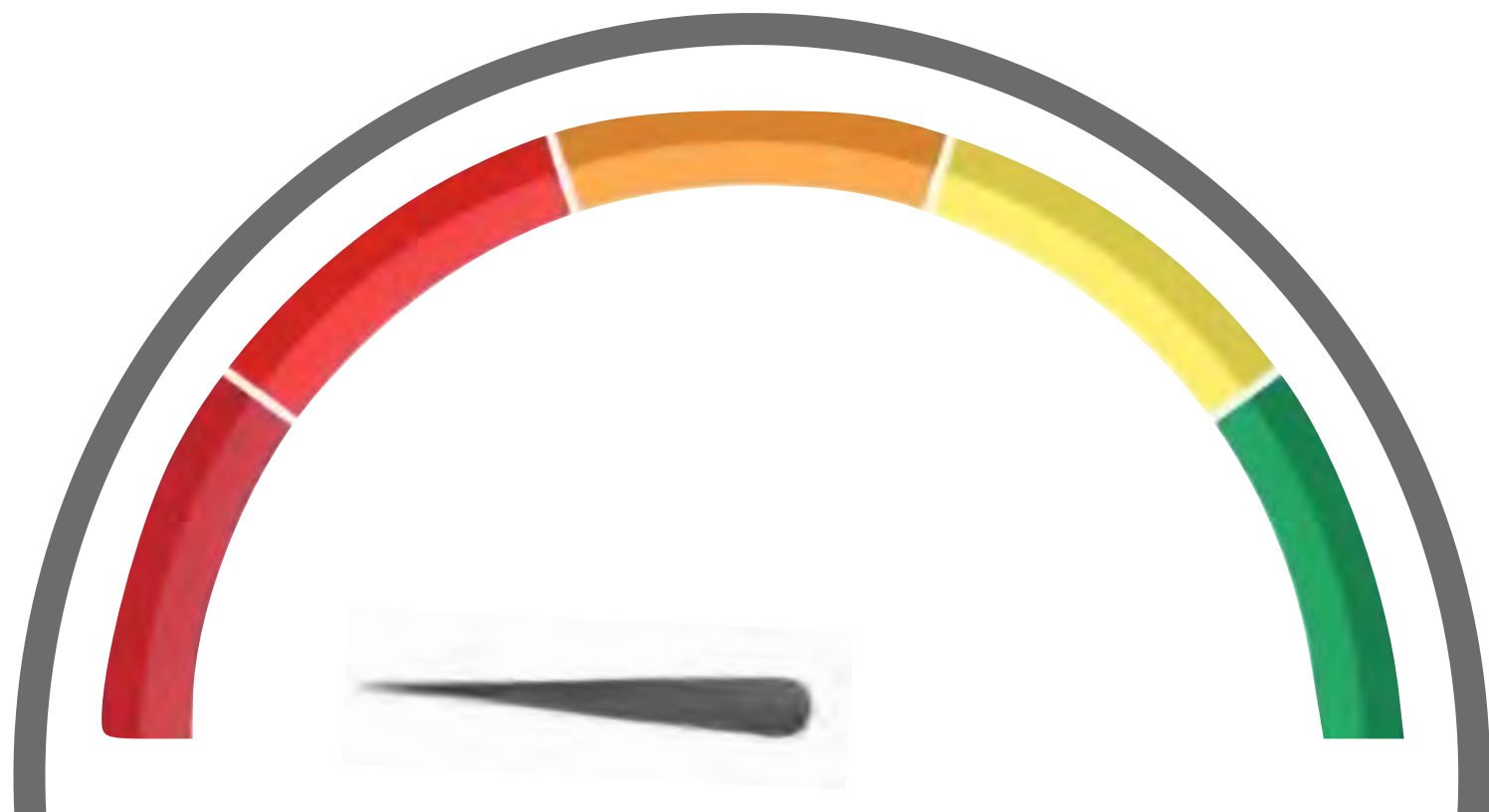




Real Time

Real Time: the

Hollywood





SKYFALL

007

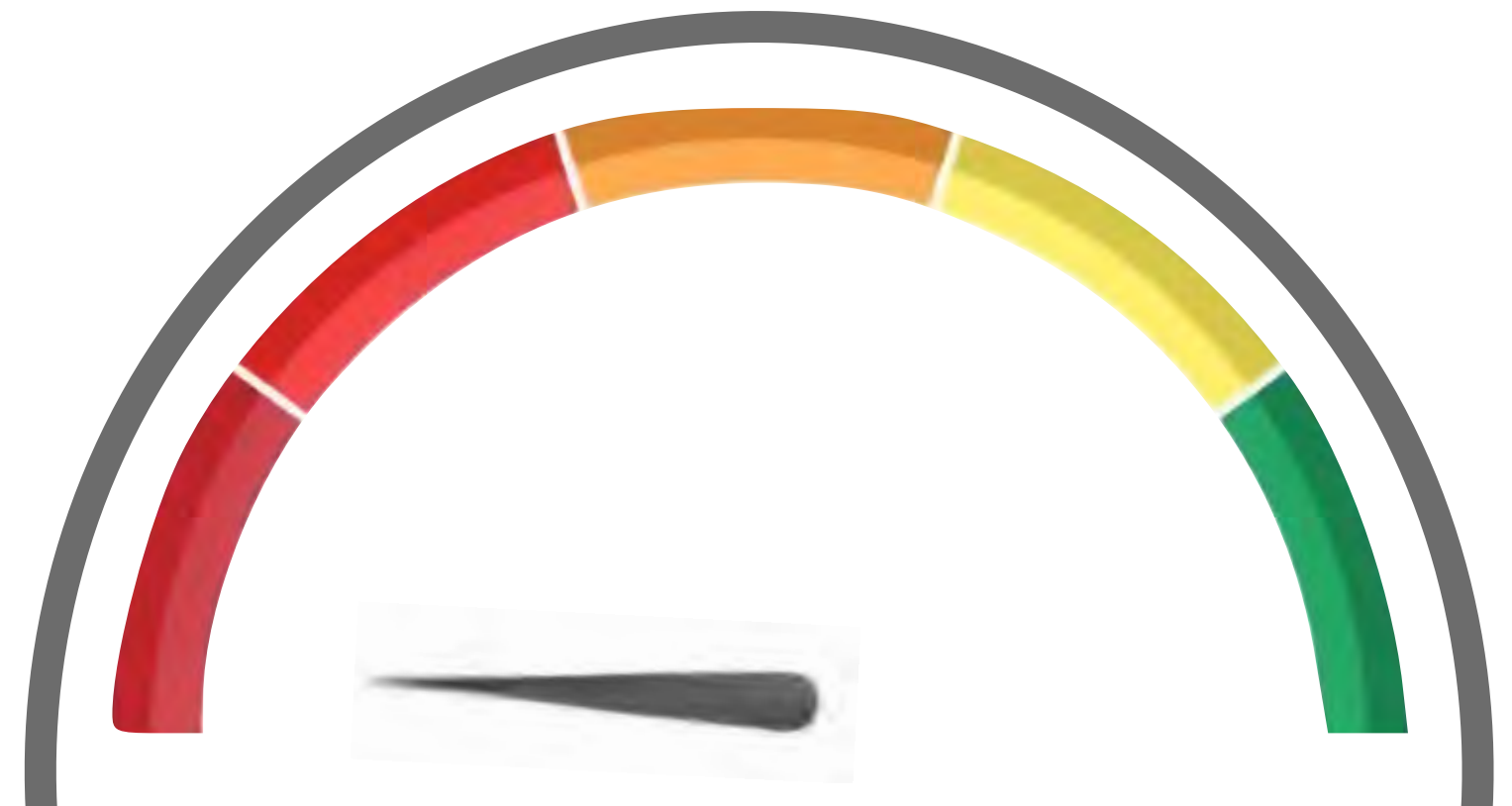
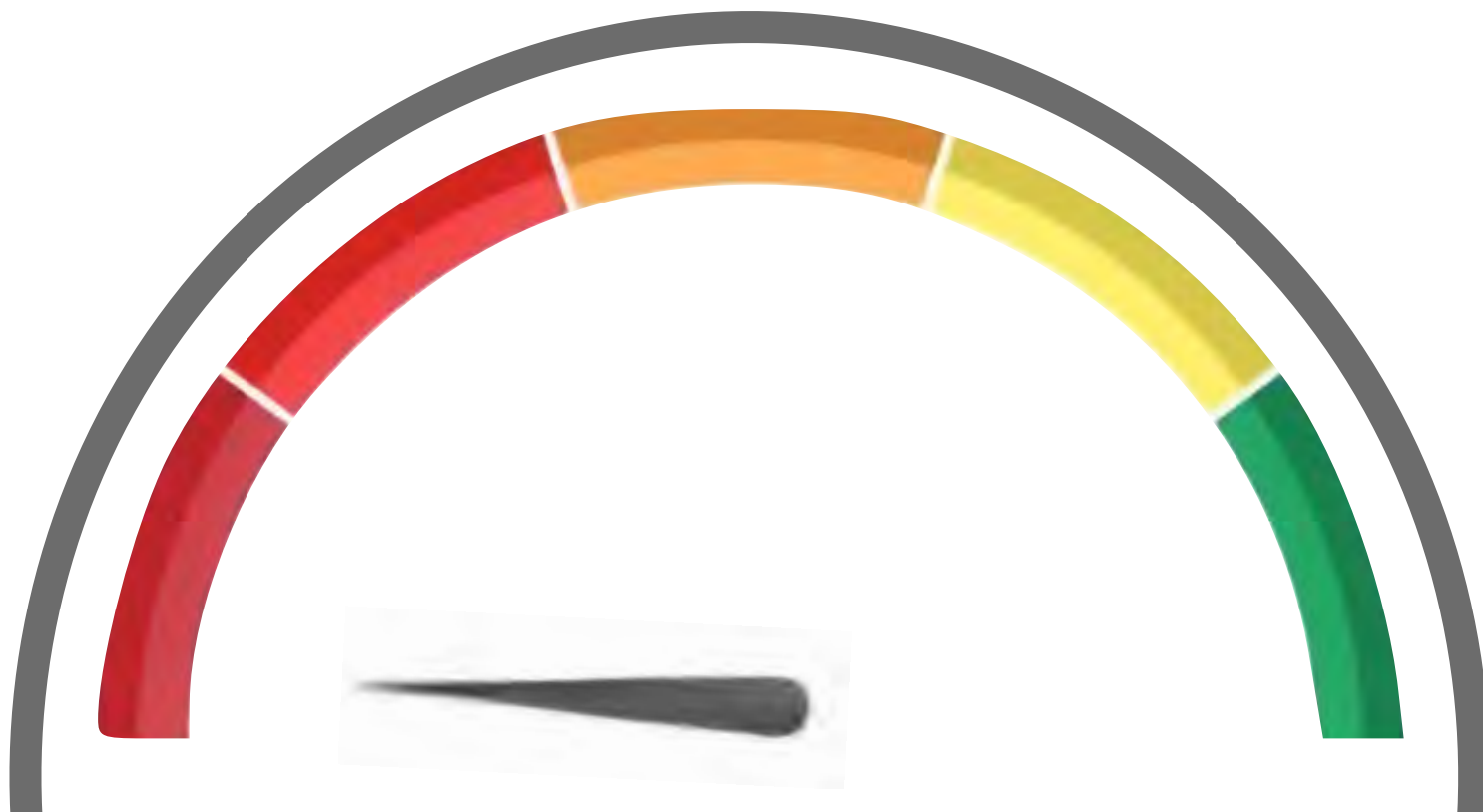
ALBERT R. BROCCOLLI'S FON PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS DANIEL CRAIG AS JAMES BOND 007™ IN "SKYFALL"
JAVIER BARDEM RALPH FENNES RAOUL HARRIS BERENICE MARLOTTE WITH ALBERT FINNEY AND JUDE HENCH AS "M"
BY ANDREW NOAKES DAVID POPE MUSIC BY THOMAS NEWMAN COSTUME DESIGNER JANNY TENDINE EDITOR STUART BAIRD, A.C.E. PRODUCTION DESIGNER DENNIS GASSNER
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JONAS BECKING AND BOB PROBST PRODUCED BY MICHAEL G. WILSON AND BARBARA BROCCOLLI WRITTEN BY NEAL PURVIS & ROBERT WADE AND JOHN LOGAN
DIRECTED BY SAM MENDES #Skyfall

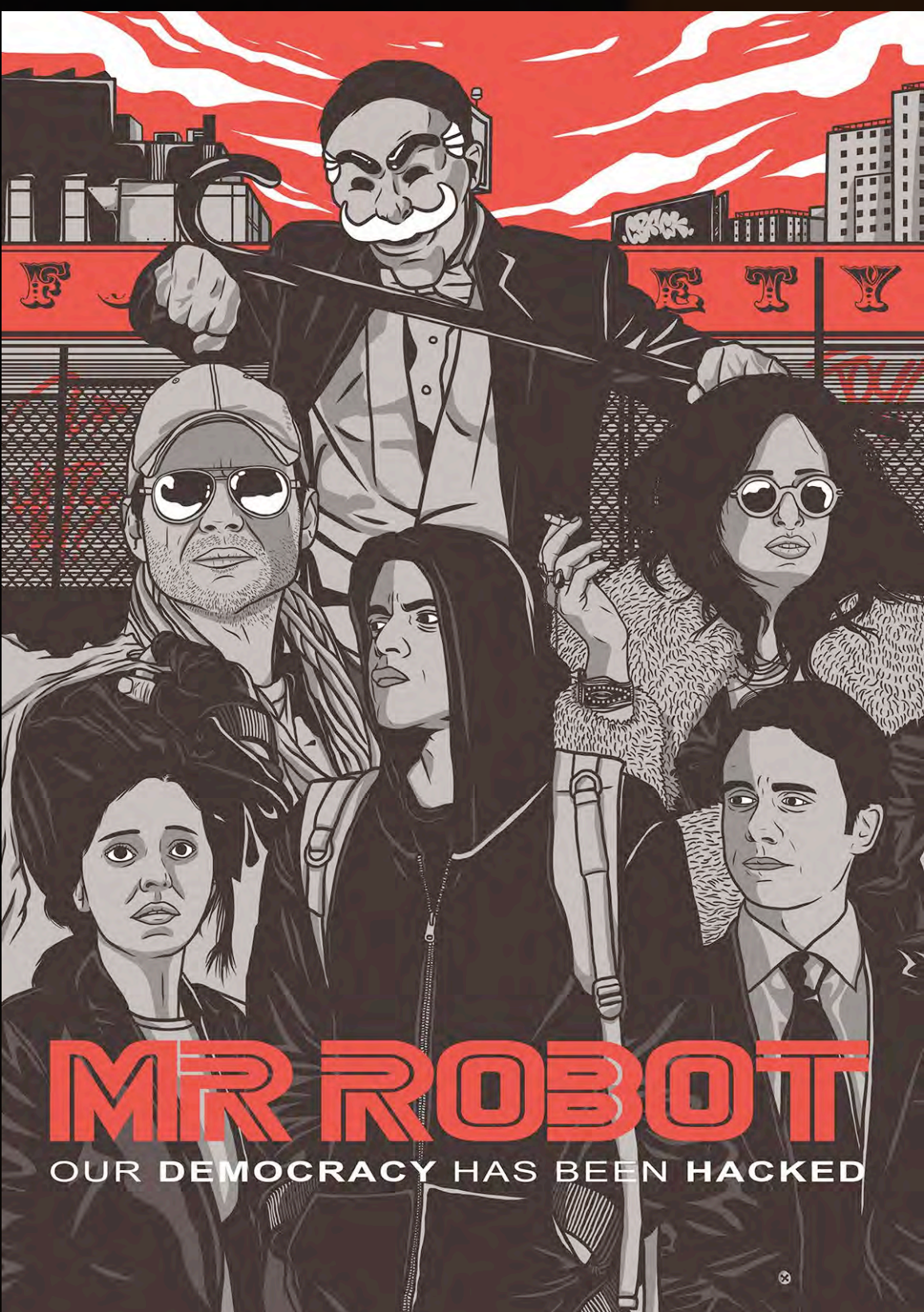
MGM COLUMBIA PICTURES
COMING SOON IN IMAX

Real Time

Great Cab: It's

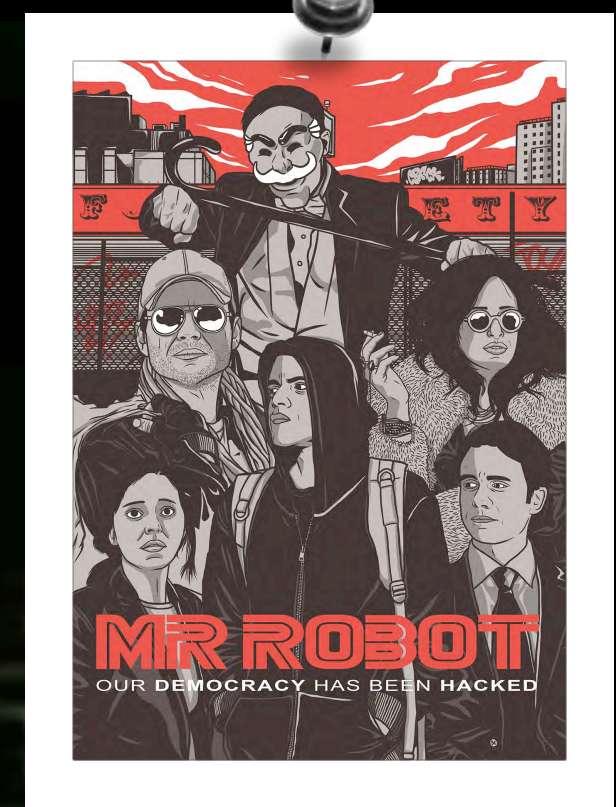
Hollywood



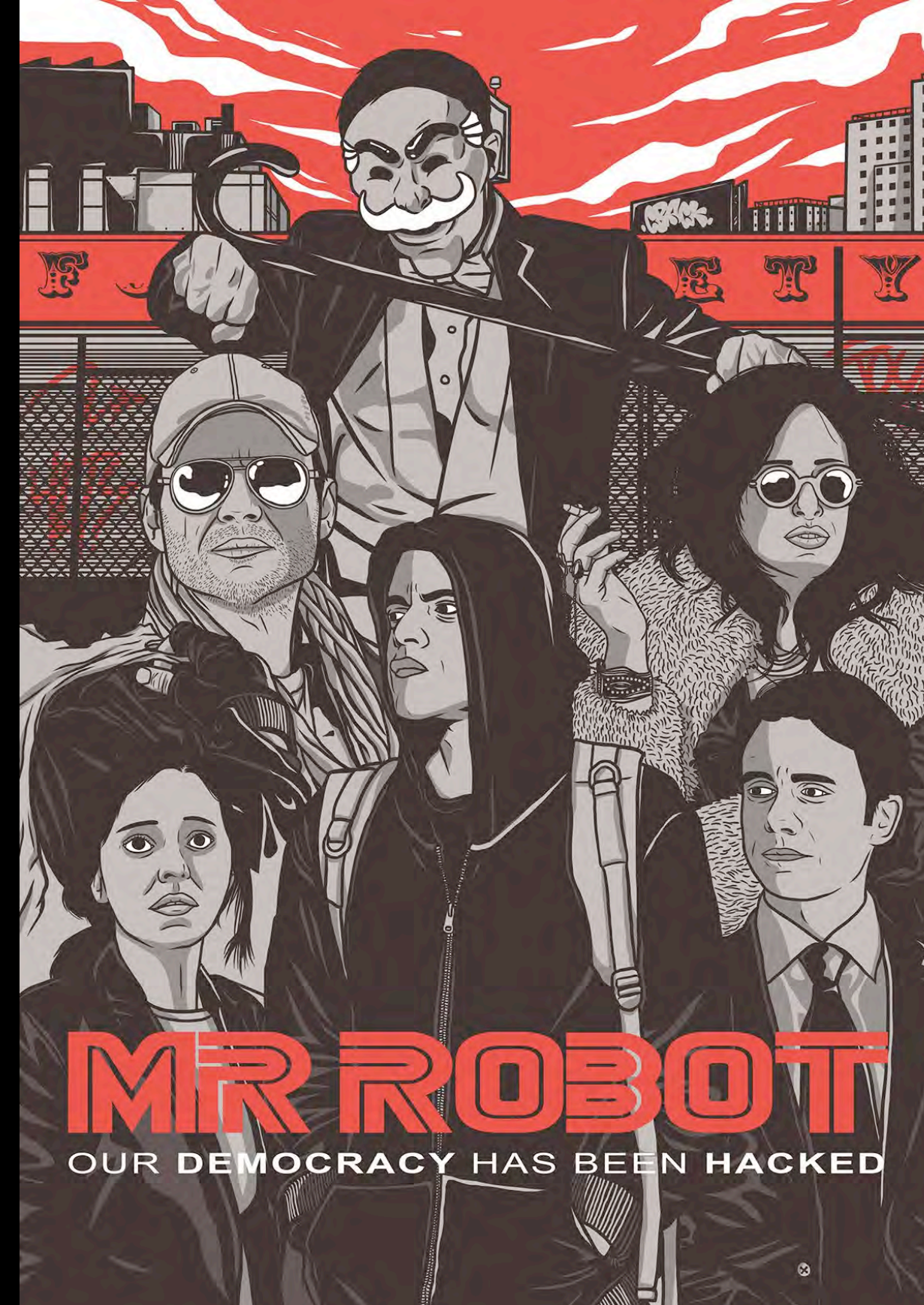


Mr. Robot
2015 - 2019
Sam Esmail





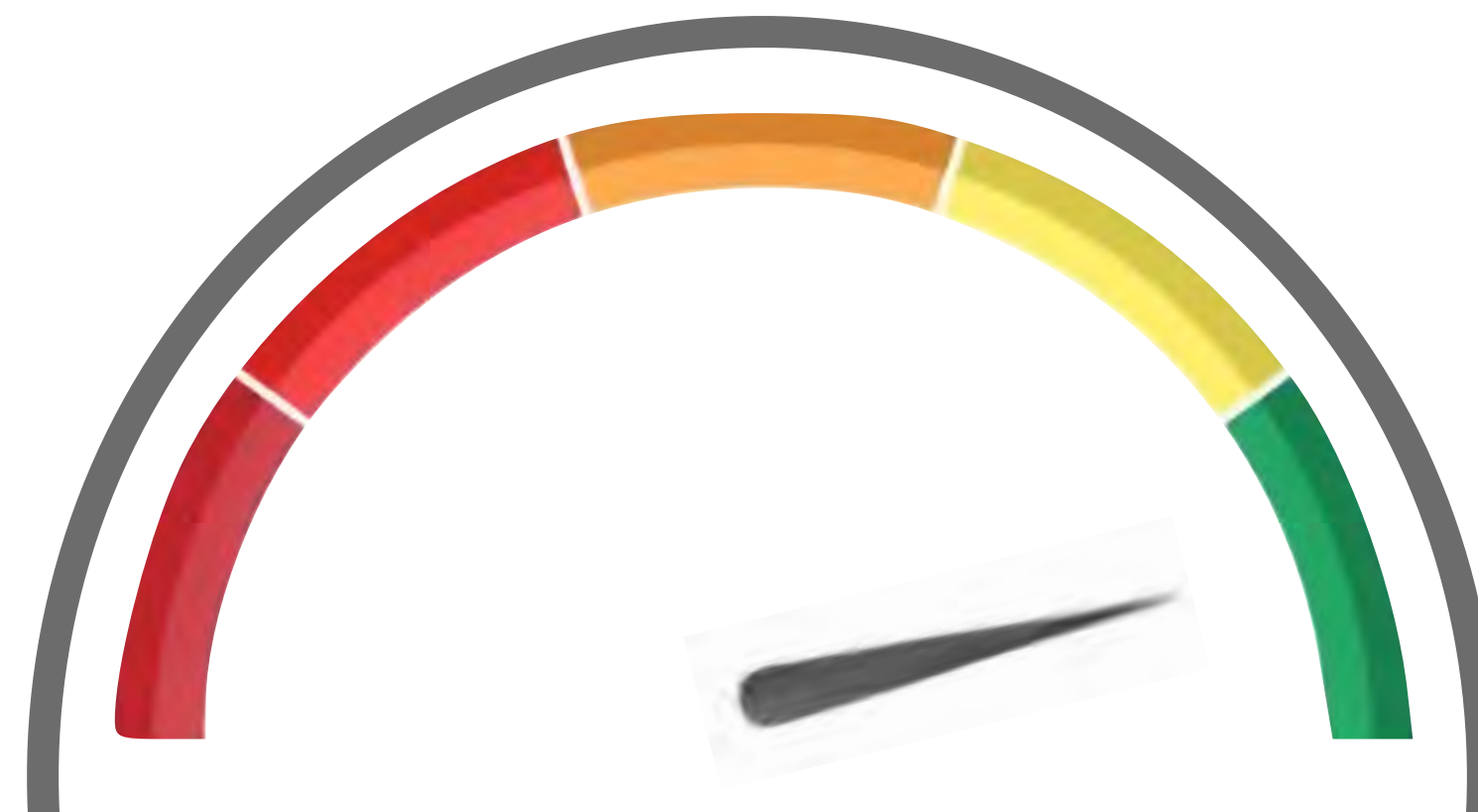
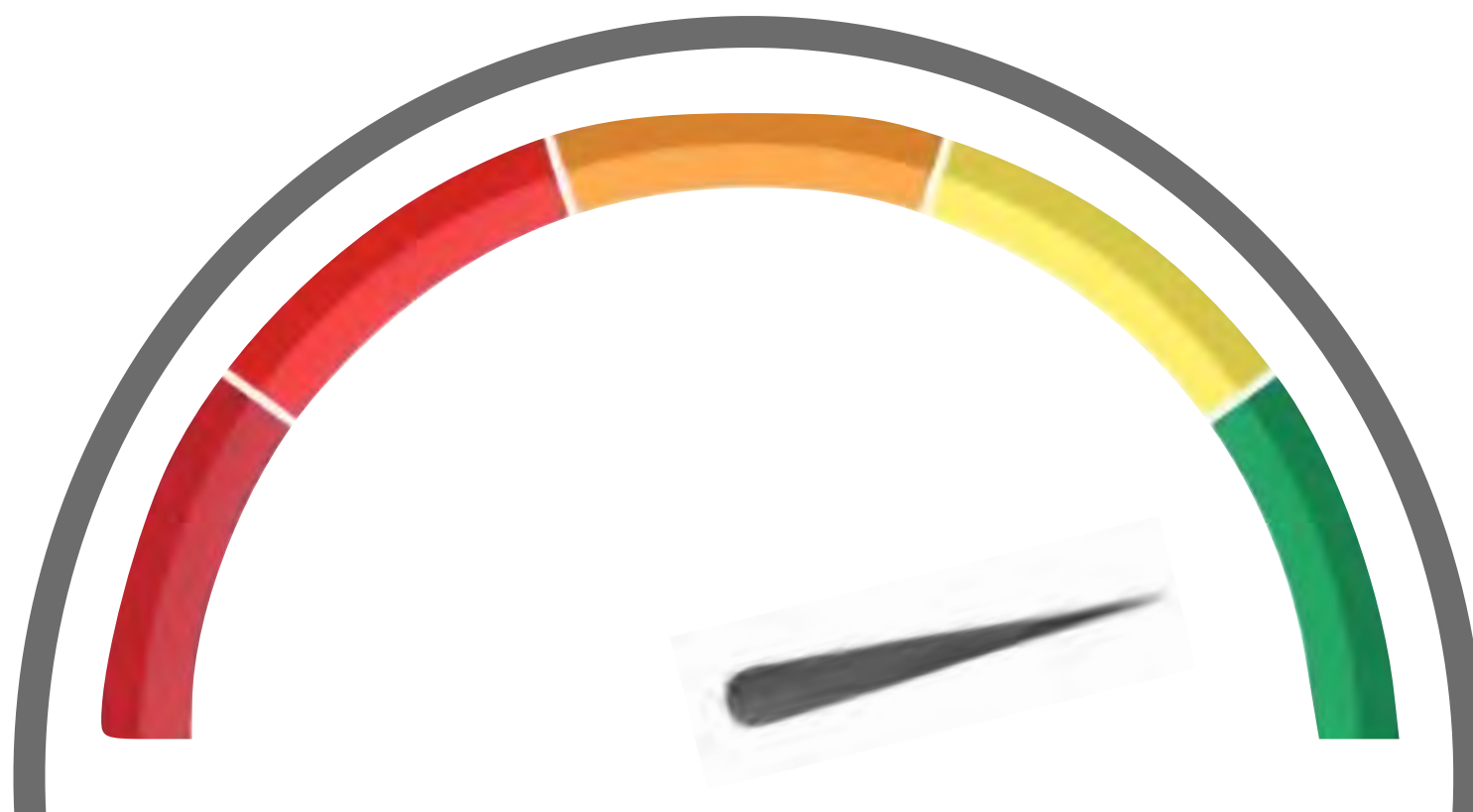
USA #MrRobot

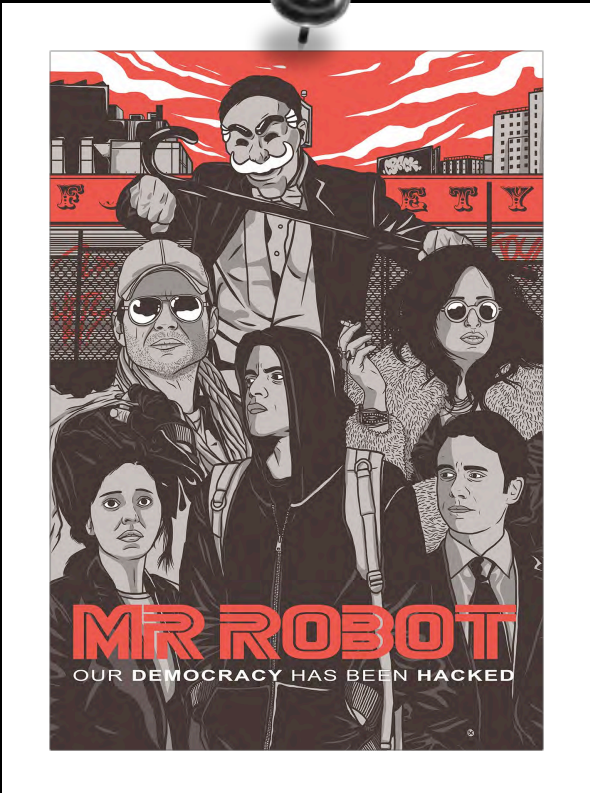


Real World

Practicality

Hollywood



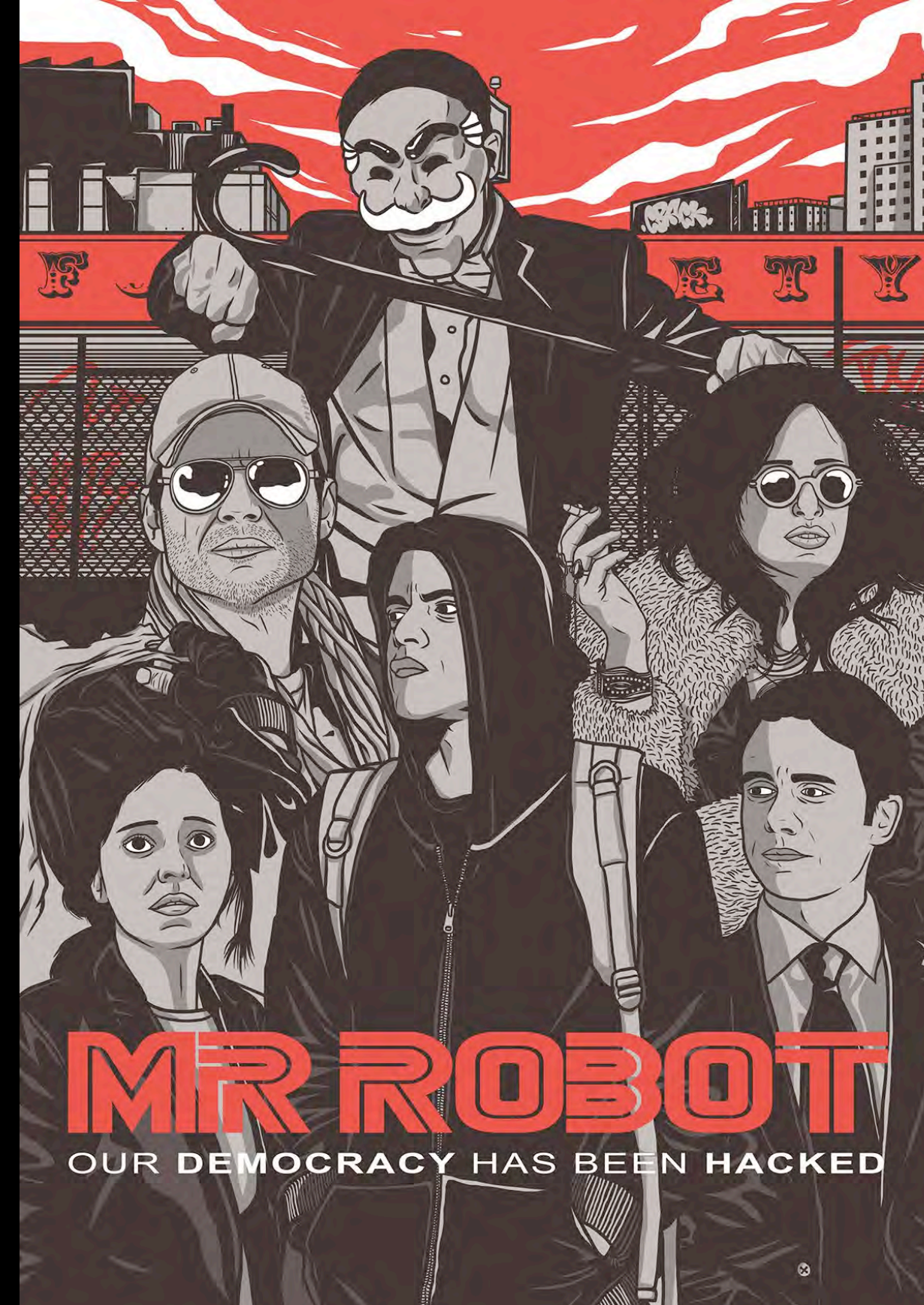


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Details Apply



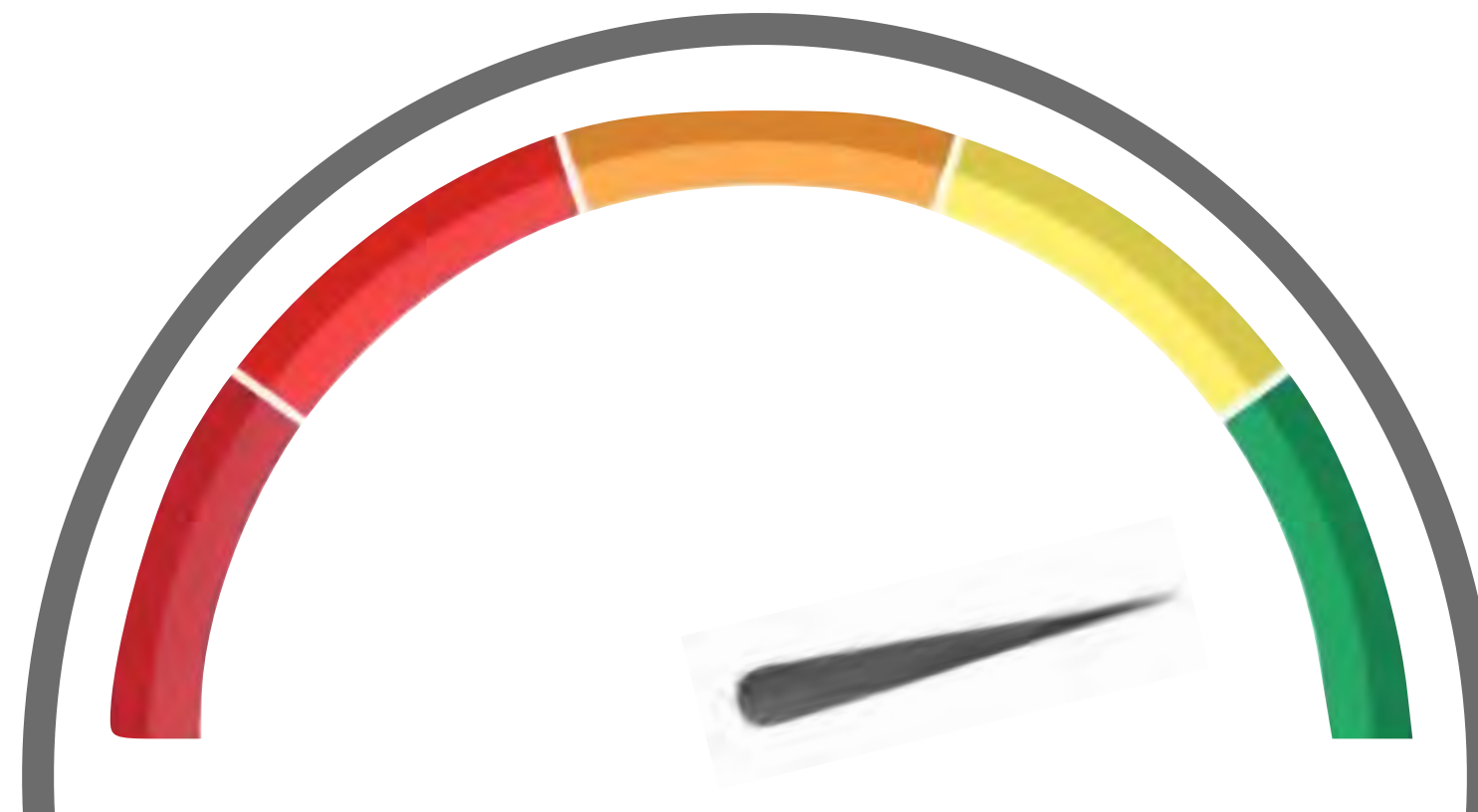
 [CLICK HERE](#)



Realism

Practicality

Hollywood





The Hacker News

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BadUSB Malware Code Released – Turn USB Drives Into Undetectable CyberWeapons

October 04, 2014 Swati Khandelwal



Once again USB has come up as a major threat to a vast number of users who use USB drives – including USB sticks and keyboards. Security researchers have released a bunch of hacking tools that

Popular This Week

Microsoft Warns of Unpatched IE Browser Zero-Day That's Under Active Attacks

Saudi Prince Allegedly Hacked World's Richest Man Jeff Bezos Using WhatsApp

250 Million Microsoft Customer Support Records Exposed Online

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Broadening the Scope: A Comprehensive View of Pen Testing

USB Flash Drive Malware: How It Works & How to Protect Against It

★★★★★ (3 votes, average: 4.33 out of 5)

FACEBOOK TWITTER

December 16, 2019

USB Flash Drive Malware: How It Works & How to Protect Against It

From the University of Illinois USB flash drive malware is a

Back in 2016, researchers from the University of Illinois around the University campus to see how peripheral devices were found by students and staff, and the researchers used the device to try to access the content.

For a hacker trying to contaminate a computer, this video paints a picture of how careless we can be when using a device.

Let's hash it out.

A History of USB Drive Malware

USB Drive Malware: How It Works & How to Protect Against It

August 20, 2018 05:54 PM 7



USB charging cable, one that can compromise a peripheral device capable of typing and

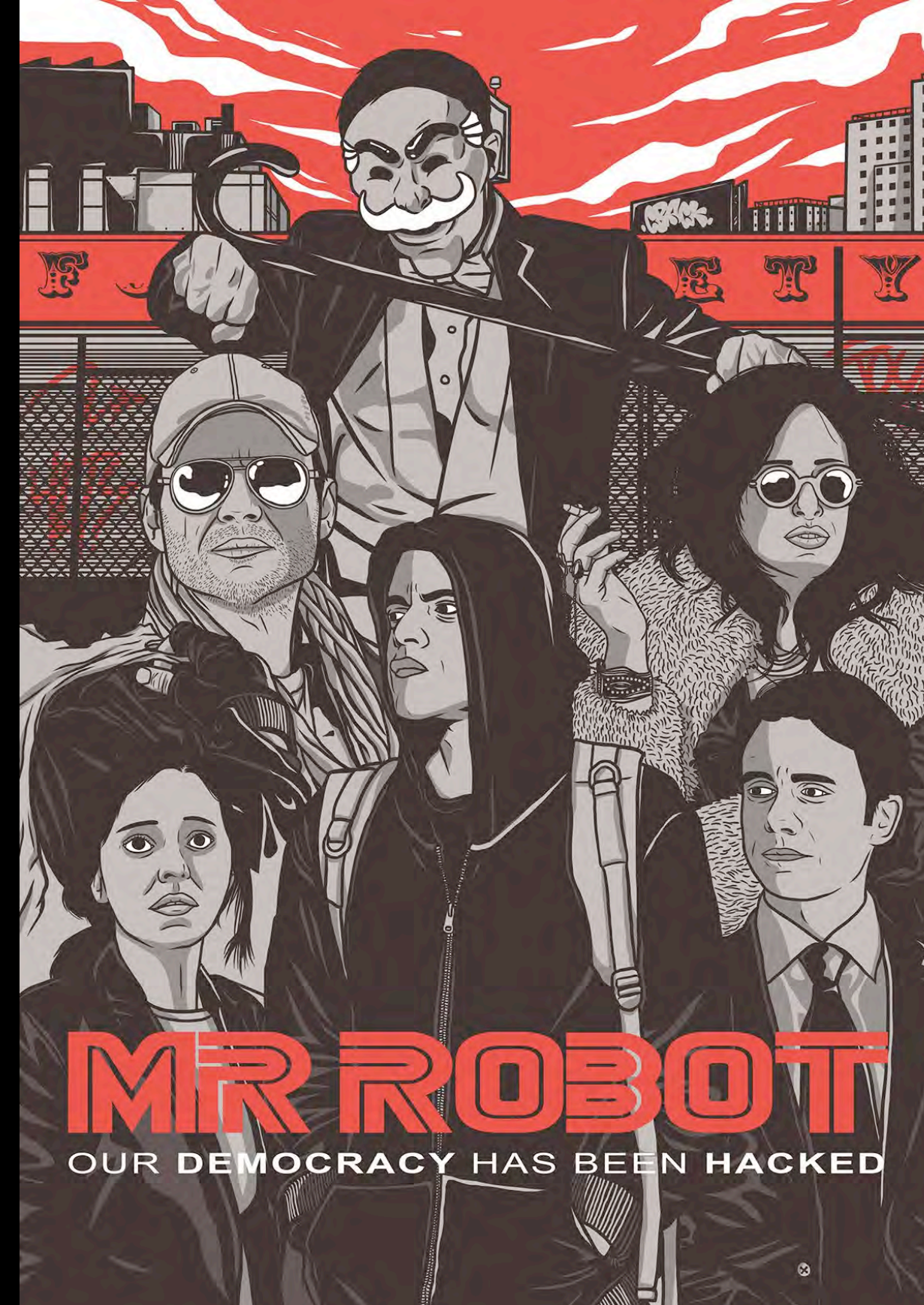
research from Karsten Nohl and his team at the University of Illinois to reprogram the controller chip of a USB device (HID).

keyboard that issues a rapid succession of settings to redirect traffic.

with a charging cable, something that is as

and power to pass through so it will fulfill its function by any type of device that powers up. This is not raising suspicions about plugging the

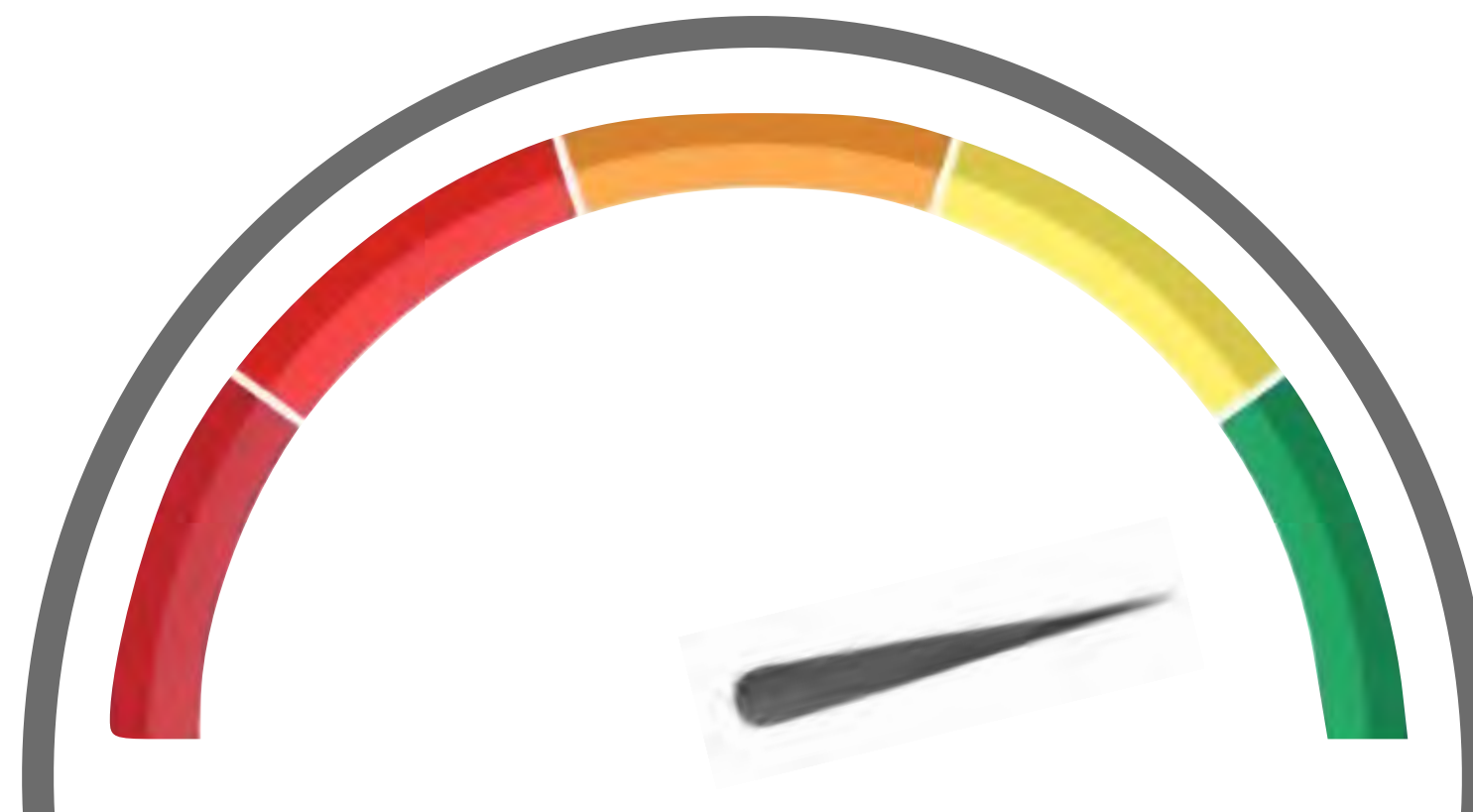
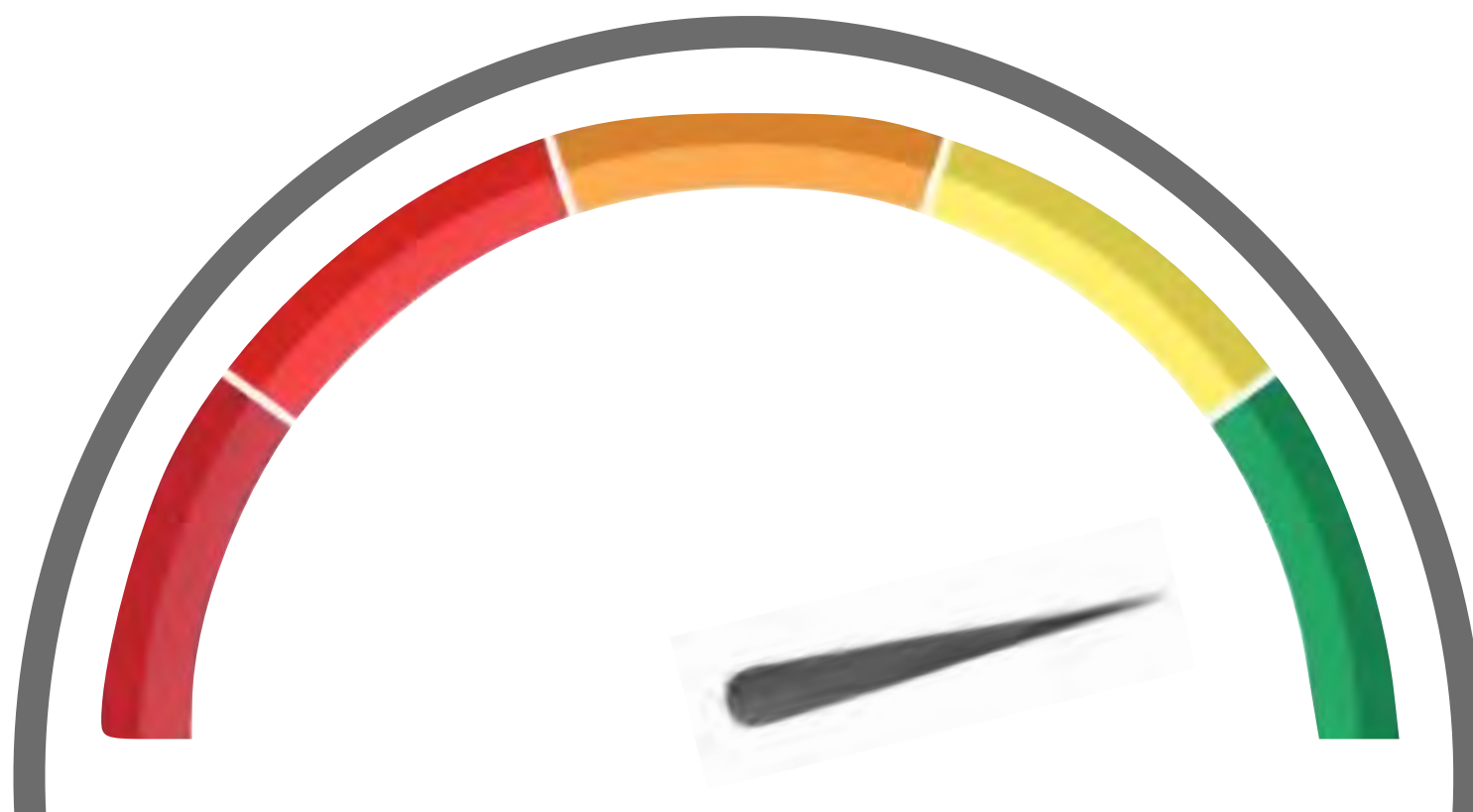
Behind the USBHarnoon project are Olaf Tan and Dennis Goh of [RFID Research Group](#), Vincent Yiu of

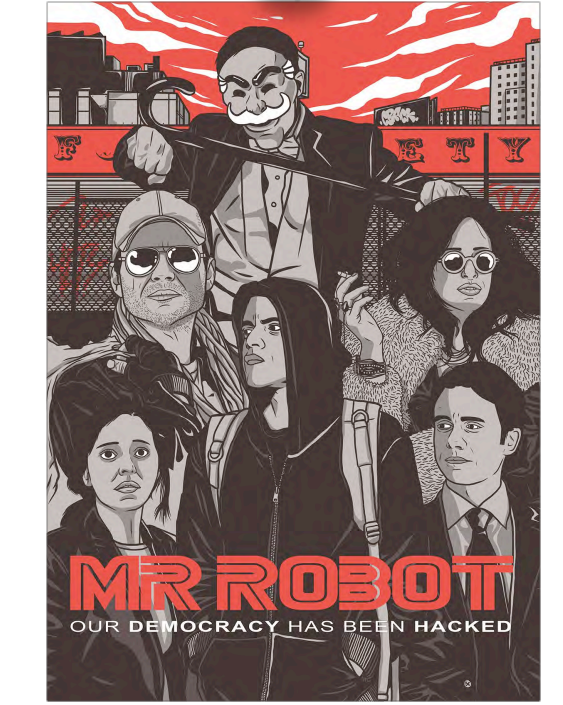


Realism

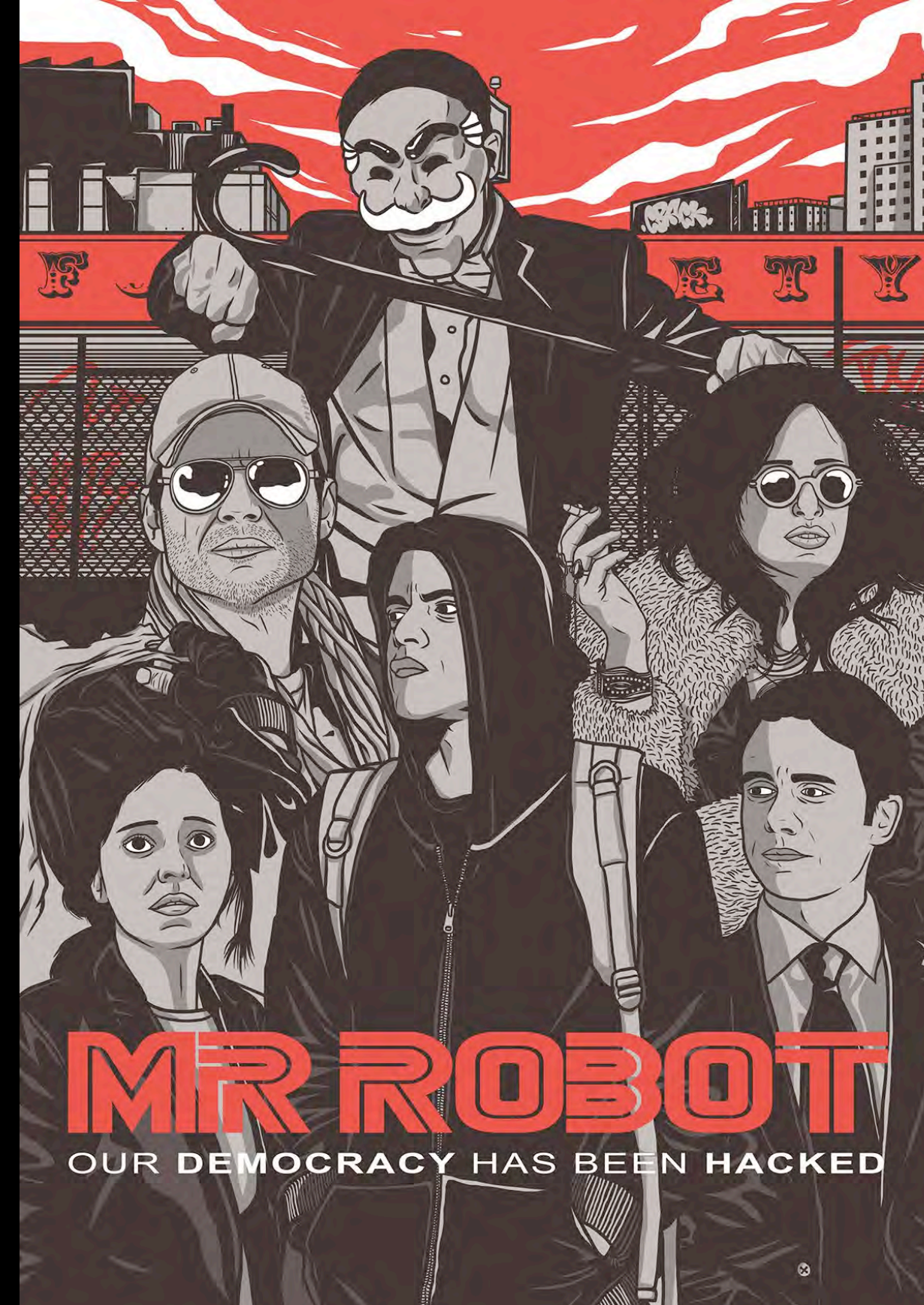
Practicality

Hollywood





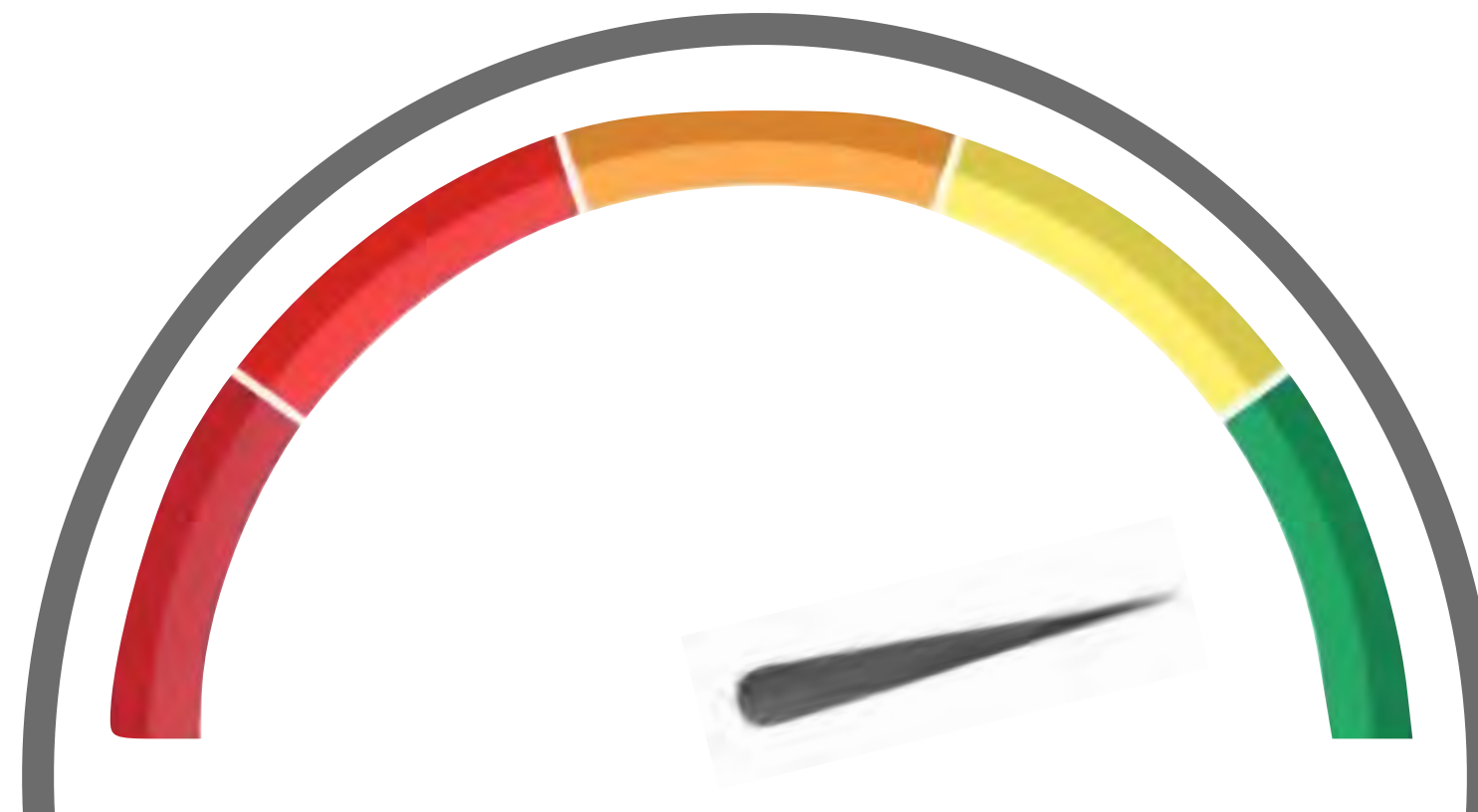
USA



Realism

Practicality

Hollywood





```

simple ducky payload.txt - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
REM My First payload
WINDOWS r
DELAY 100
STRING notepad.exe
ENTER
DELAY 200
STRING Hello world! I'm in your PC!
  
```

S
D
in
R
m
T

INVERSE PATH

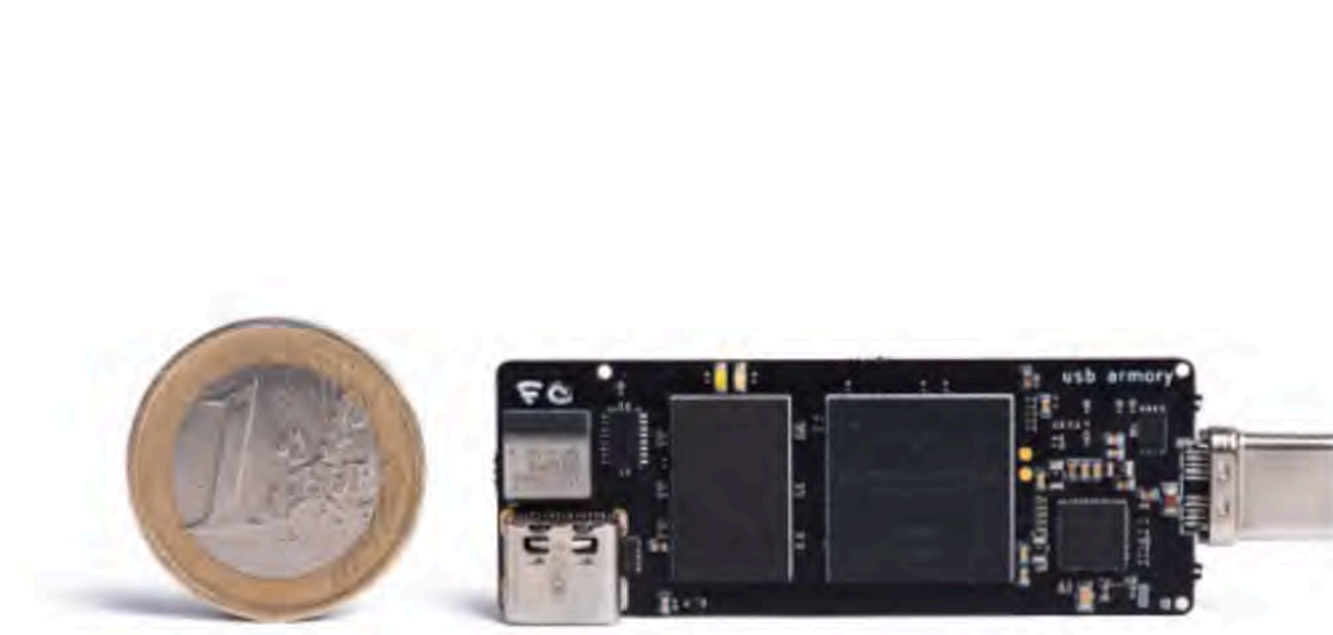
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USB ARMORY MK II MK I



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OPEN SOURCE FLASH-DRIVE SIZED COMPUTER



The **USB armory** from **F-Secure** is an open source hardware design, implementing a flash drive sized computer.

The compact USB powered device provides a platform for developing and running a variety of applications.

The security features of the USB armory System on a Chip (SoC), combined with the openness of the board design, empower developers and users with a fully customizable USB trusted device for open and innovative personal security applications.

The hardware design features the NXP i.MX6UL processor, supporting advanced security features such as secure boot and ARM® TrustZone®.

The USB armory hardware is supported by standard software environments and requires very little customization effort. In fact vanilla Linux kernels and standard distributions run seamlessly on the tiny USB armory board.

- NXP i.MX6UL/i.MX6ULZ ARM® Cortex™-A7 900Mhz, 512MB/1GB DDR3 RAM
- USB host powered (<500 mA) device with compact form factor (65 x 19 x 6 mm)
- ARM® TrustZone®, secure boot + storage + RAM
- Secure elements Microchip ATECC608A and NXP A71CH
- internal 16GB eMMC + external microSD
- u-blox ANNA-B112 Bluetooth module
- debug accessory support for UART, GPIO, SPI, I²C, CAN breakout
- customizable LEDs, including secure mode detection
- supported by vanilla Linux kernels and distros
- USB device emulation (CDC Ethernet, mass storage, HID, etc.)
- Open Hardware & Software

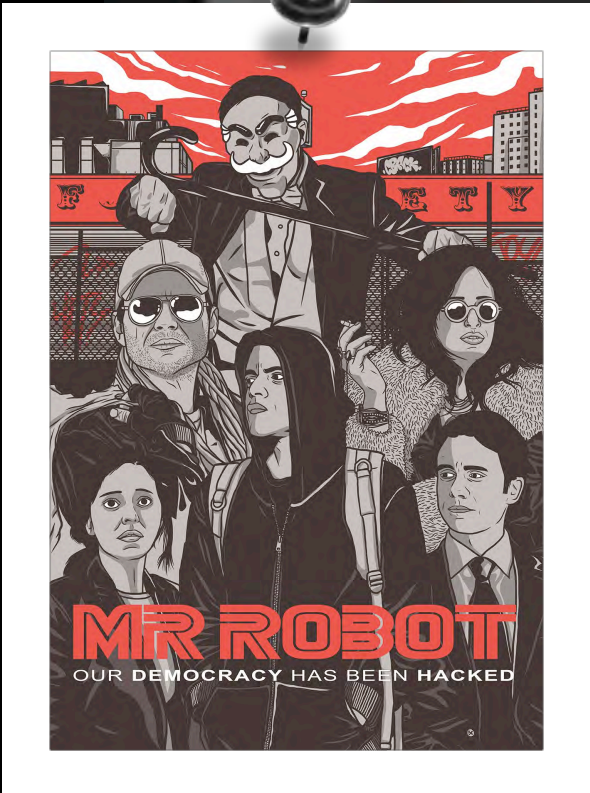
APPLICATIONS

The USB armory board has been created to support the development of a variety of security applications.

The capability of emulating arbitrary USB devices in combination with the i.MX6UL SoC speed, the security features and the

The following example security application ideas illustrate the flexibility of the USB armory concept:

- Hardware Security Module (HSM)
- encrypted file storage with malware scanning, host



BSN

Security

Hackers clone p

"You shou

By Jack Clark in

Black Hat 201

use of femtoce
femtocell, allow
nearby mobile

The exploit wa
Vegas after be
by Verizon and
already been r

Femtocells are
reach places,
themselves an

DIY

How To Make a Wi-Fi Antenna Out Of a Pringles Can

By [Ian Buckley](#) / February 3, 2017 / 10 minutes

Affiliate Disclosure: By buying the products we recommend, you help keep the site alive. [Read more.](#)

DIY solutions to extending Wi-Fi have existed for as long as Wi-Fi itself has. Ingenious internet users have been using everything from kitchen foil and food strainers, to home made Yagi style antennas to boost their Wi-Fi ranges. While there are many ways you can **fine tune** your home Wi-Fi system without building additional hardware, there are simple DIY solutions that can also make a real difference to your surfing experience.



Improve Your Wi-Fi Signal at Home & Outside with These Android Apps

Looking to improve the Wi-Fi signal in your home or find a Wi-Fi connection when you're out? This article has you covered.

[READ MORE](#)



Before you start though, make sure you have checked whether you have any **other problems** with your Wi-Fi connection.

Meet the \$250 Verizon device that



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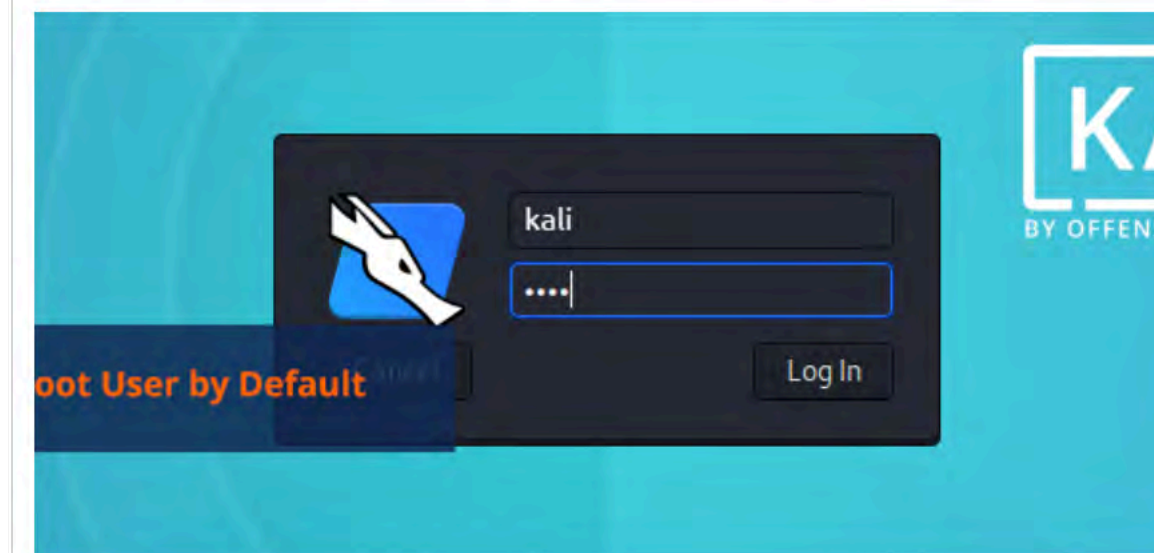
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Latest Kali Linux News and Tutorials

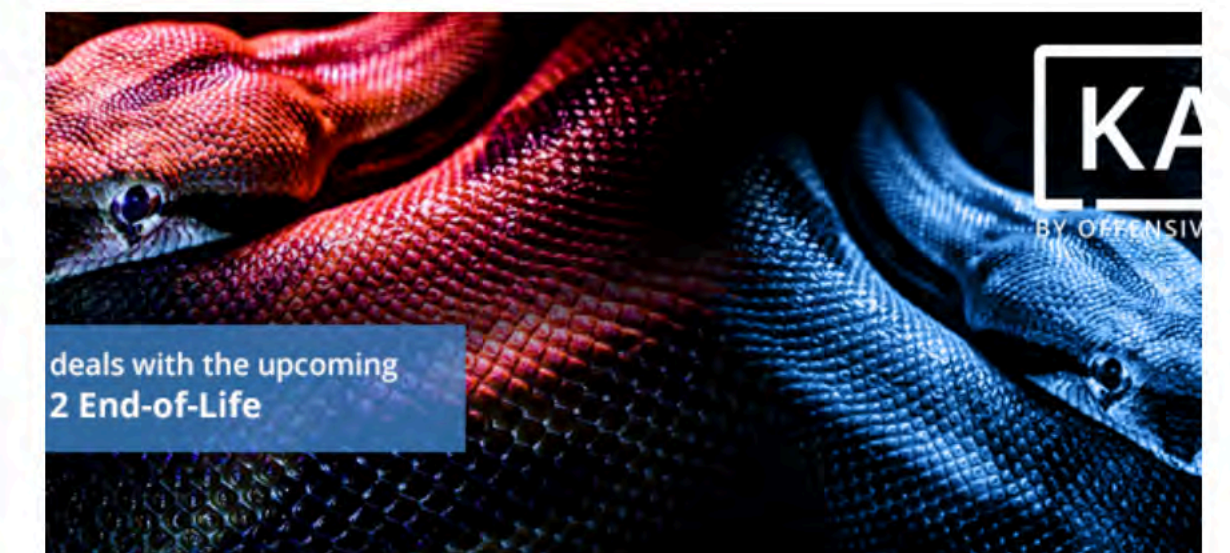
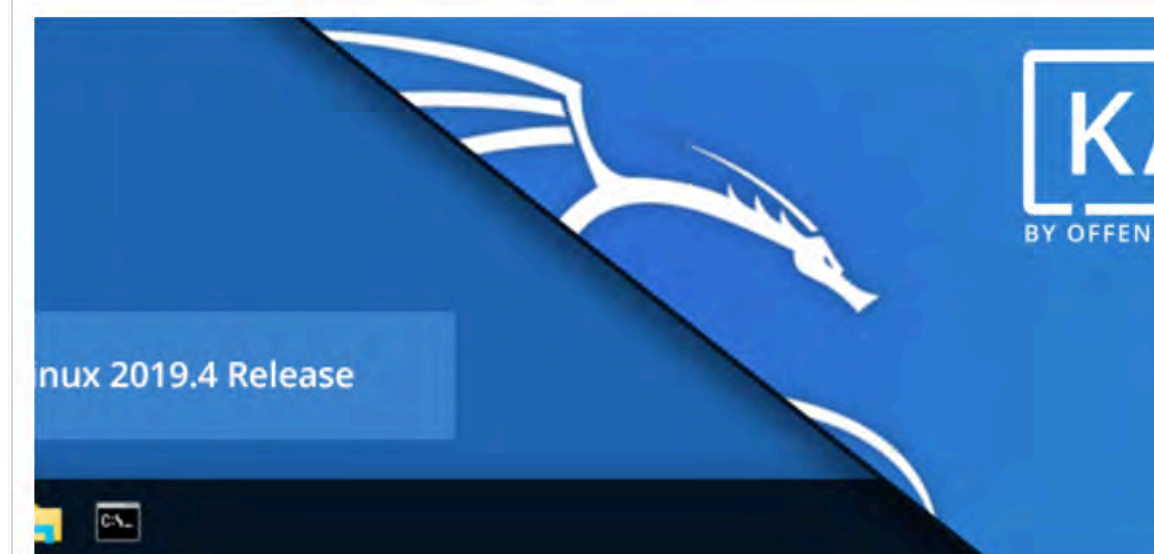


Kali Default Non-Root User

🕒 December 31, 2019 👤 elwood ➦ Kali Linux News

For years now, Kali has inherited the default root user policy from BackTrack. As part of our evaluation of Kali tools and policies we have decided to change this and move Kali to a "traditional default non-root user" model. This change will be part of the 2020.1 release, currently scheduled for late January. However, you will notice this change in the weekly images starting now.

[READ MORE](#)



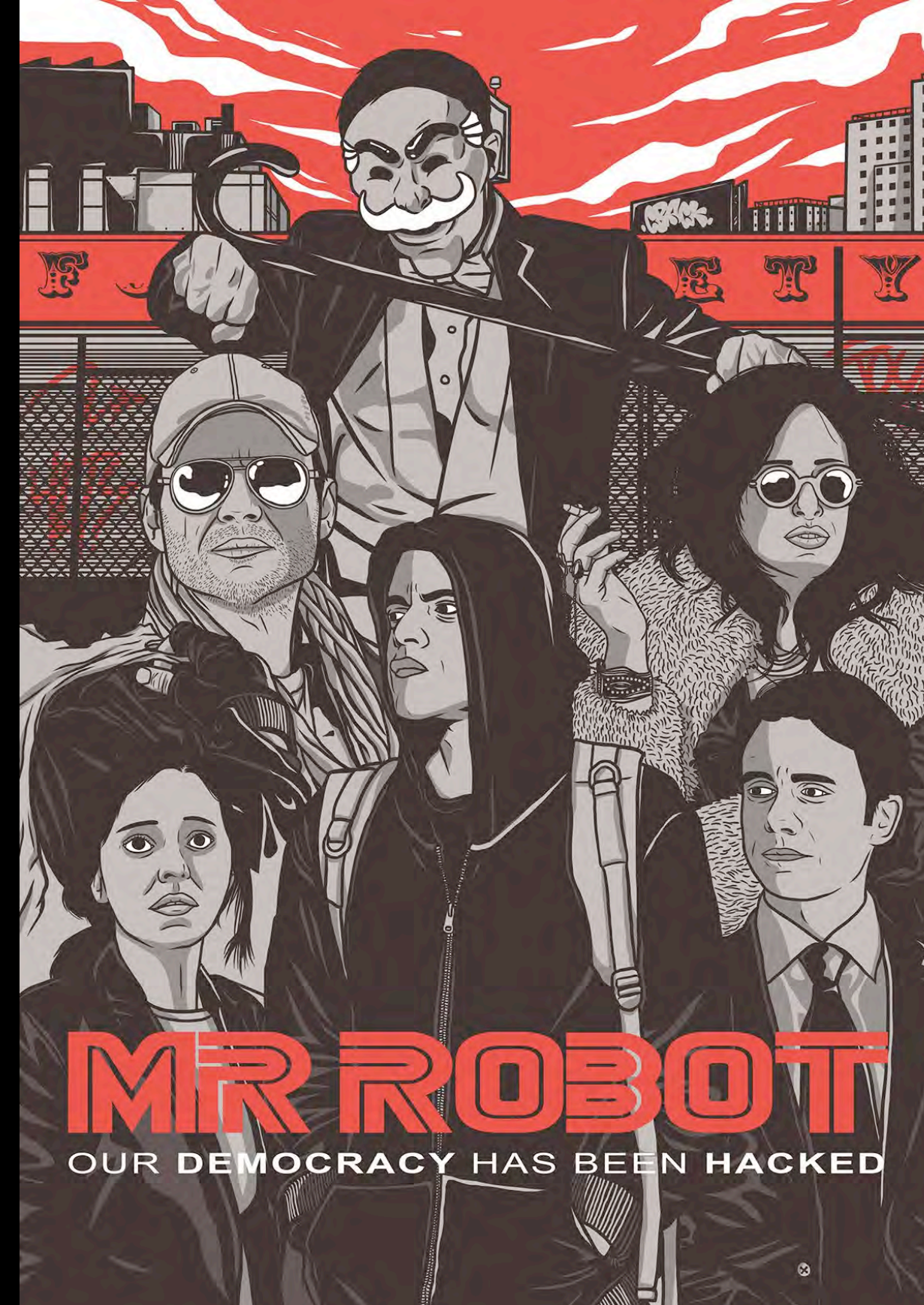
How Kali deals with the upcoming Python 2 End-of-Life

🕒 December 16, 2019 👤 elwood ➦ Kali Linux News

Five years ago, the Python developers announced that they will stop supporting Python 2 in 2020. For a long time, nobody cared and Python 3 adoption was slow. But things have changed a lot lately as the deadline is right around the corner (1st January).

[READ MORE](#)

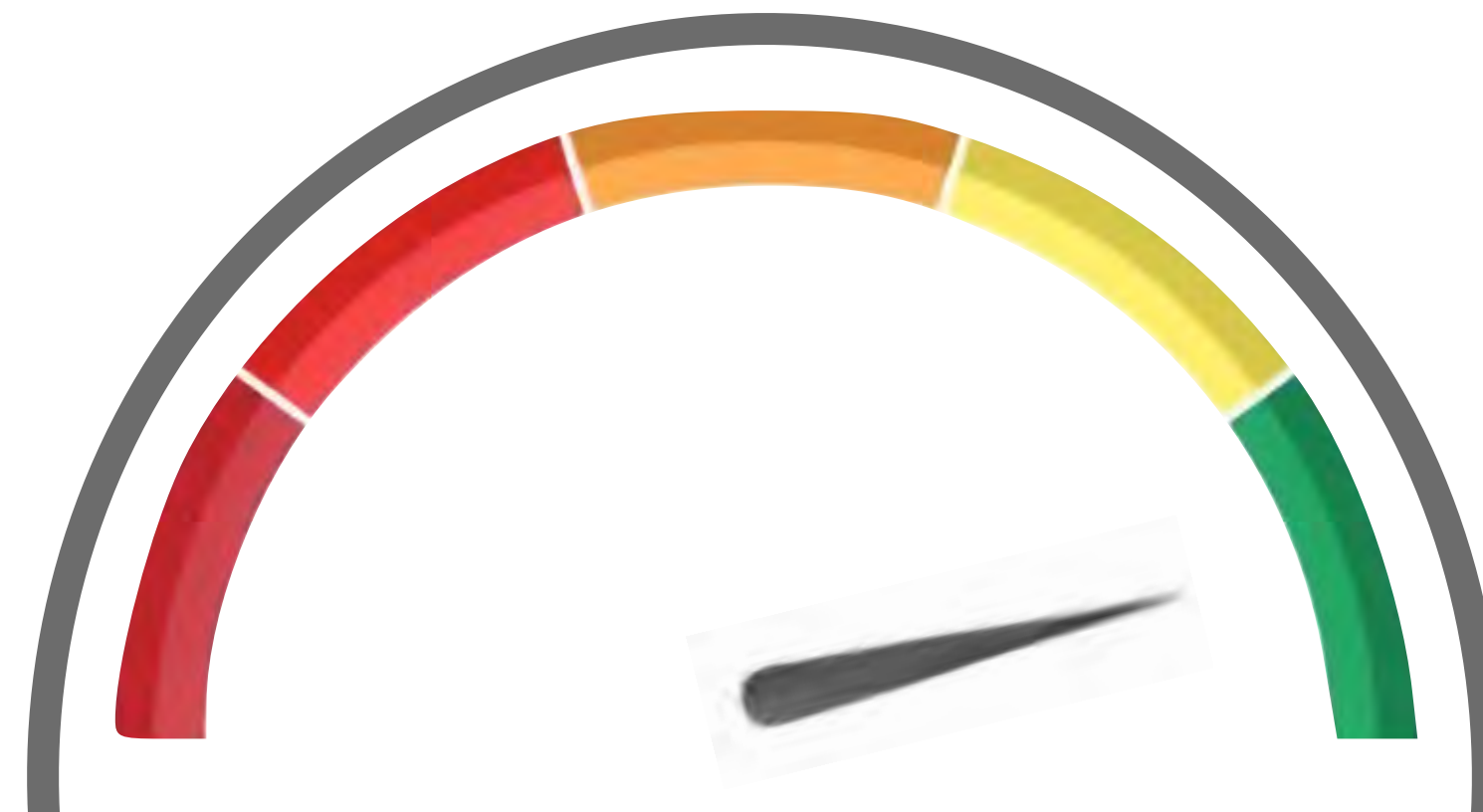




Realism

Practicality

Hollywood





Who Am I
Kein System
ist sicher, 2014
V. F. B. O., B. B. O.

**Place All
Your
Passwords
In The
Proper
Container**



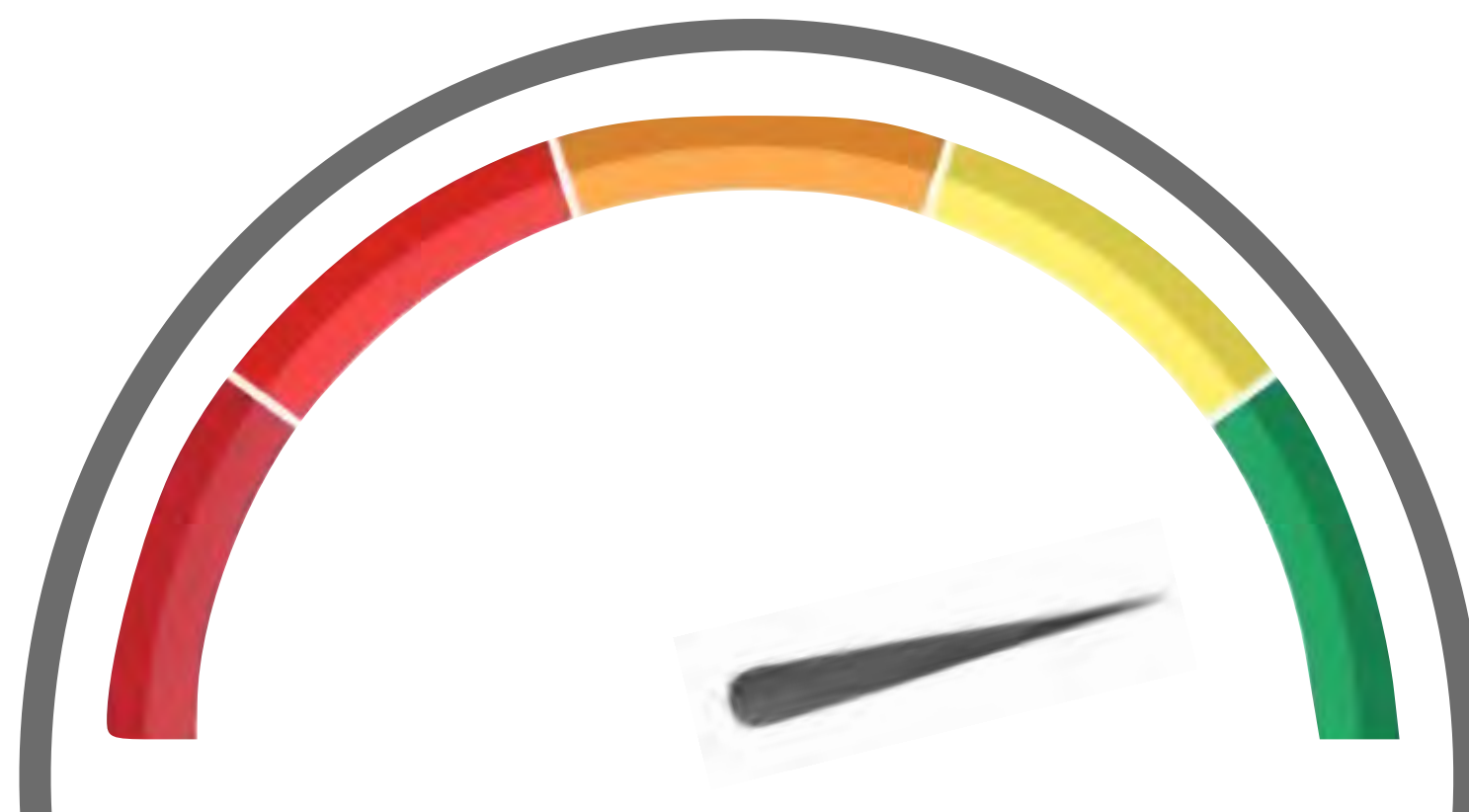




net : end

net : cab : it :

hol : wood

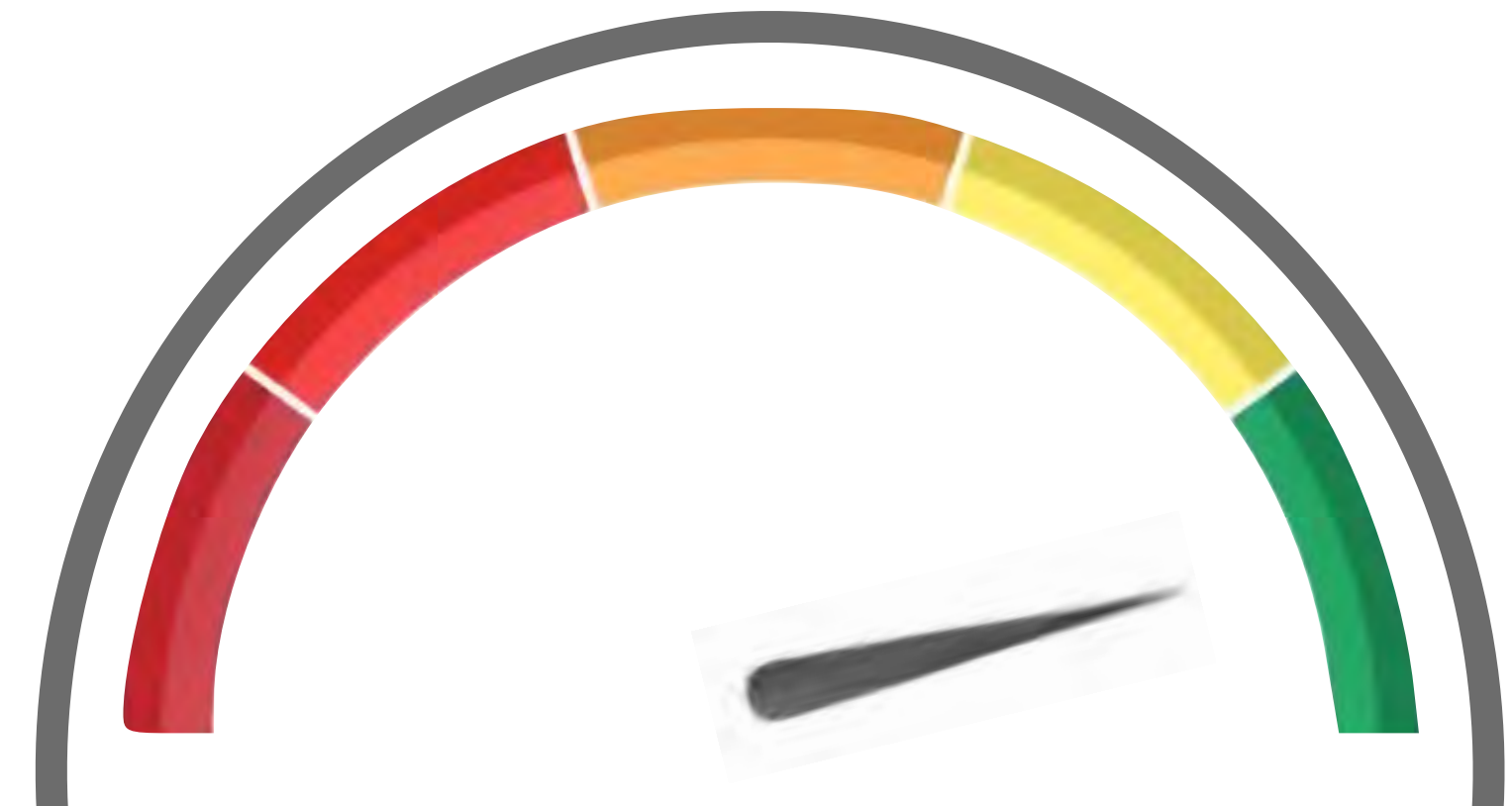




Net: 1300

Net: cab: 1111

Net: 1000





Blackhat, 2015

Morgan Davis Foehl





To: r.donahue@secure.nsa01.gov
From: b.hitchens@secure.nsa01.gov
Subject: Revised draft of intelligence report
Received: Today



FROM MICHAEL MANN DIRECTOR OF HEAT, COLLATERAL AND THE INSIDER
CHRIS HEMSWORTH

blackhat

WE ARE NO LONGER IN CONTROL

LEGENDARY PICTURES AND UNIVERSAL PICTURES PRESENT A LEGENDARY PICTURES/FORWARD PASS PRODUCTION A MICHAEL MANN FILM
CHRIS HEMSWORTH "BLACKHAT" TANG WEI VIOLA DAVIS RITCHEY COSTER HOLT MCCALLANY YORICK VAN WAGENINGEN AND WANG LEEHOM
MUSIC BY HARRY GREGSON-WILLIAMS EDITOR JEFFREY ROSS EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS OLLEEN ATWOOD PRODUCED BY JOHN NELSON PHILIP BRENNAN AND JOE WALKER
SCREENPLAY BY STEPHEN RIVKIN AND JEREMIAH O'NEILL DIRECTED BY MICHAEL MANN
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ERIC McLEOD ALEX GARCIA PRODUCED BY THOMAS TULL AND MICHAEL MANN
CASTING BY JON JASHNI
COSTUME DESIGNER MICHAEL MANN AND MORGAN DAVIS
FOHLE AND MICHAEL MANN
MICHAEL MANN

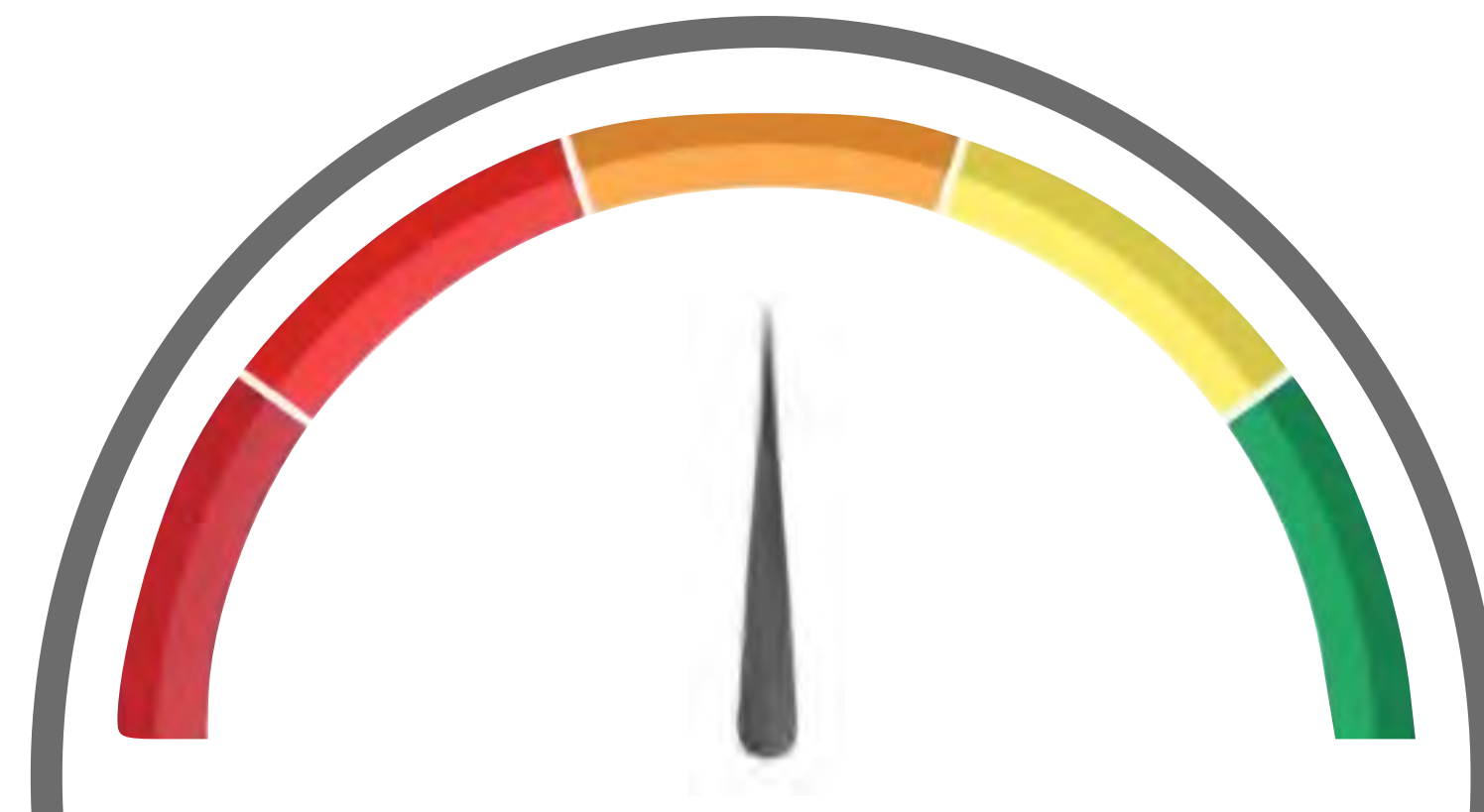
COMING SOON



Real Time

Real Time

Hollywood



5

Next year, nearly half of phone calls will be scams.

Percentage of spam calls in the United States*

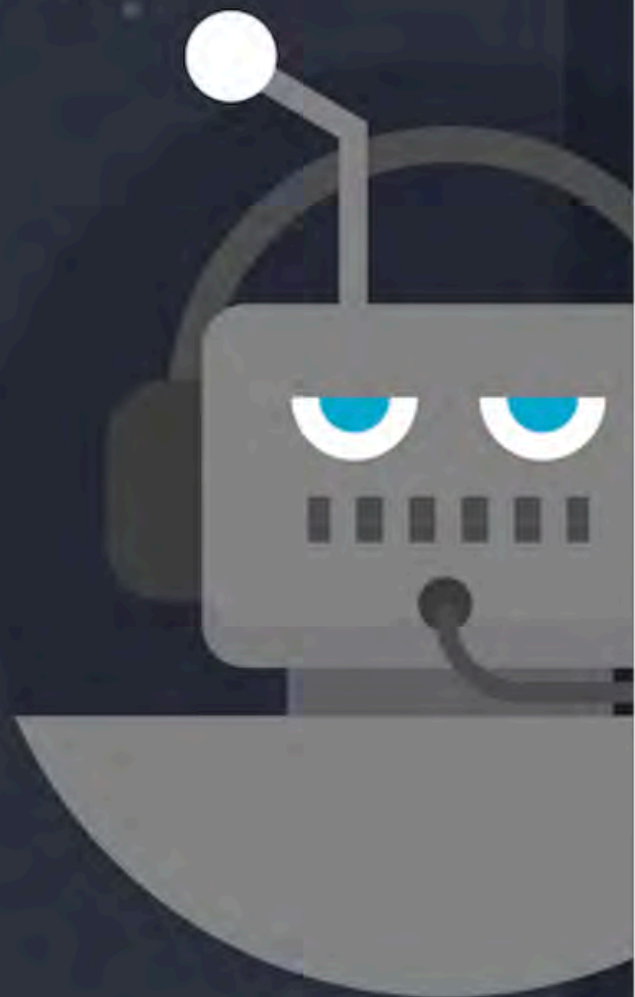
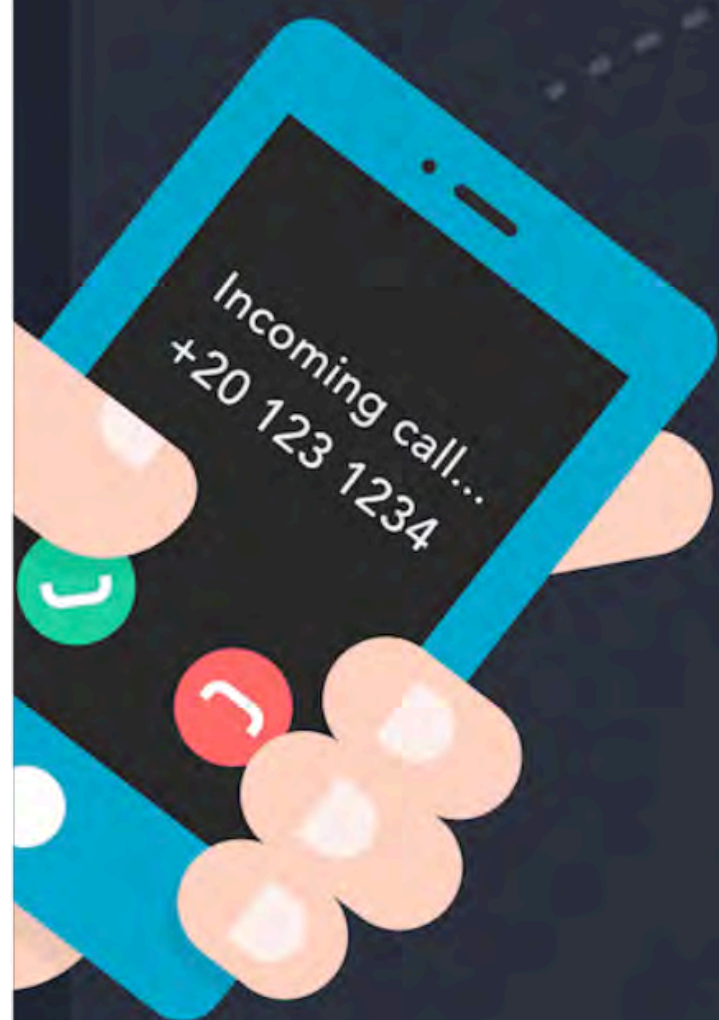
2017

29%

2018

45%

*According to First Onion



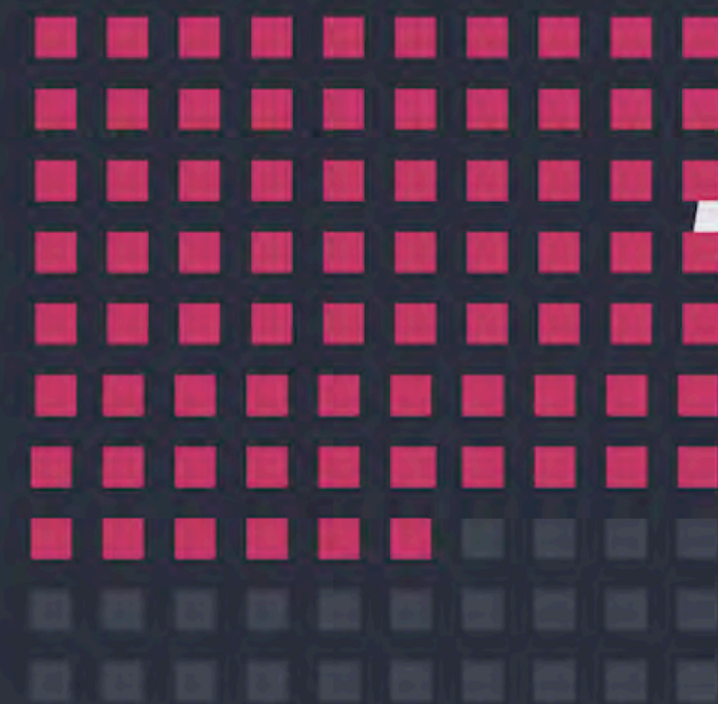
2

Cyber attackers now mainly prey on enterprises.

2017

76%

of businesses were victims of phishing attacks.



Kaspersky Lab's Anti-Phishing system was triggered

246,231,645

times in 2017.

Kaspersky Lab Anti-Phishing.



WARNING!

Phish detected.



Snowden, 2015

K. Fitzgerald, O. Stone

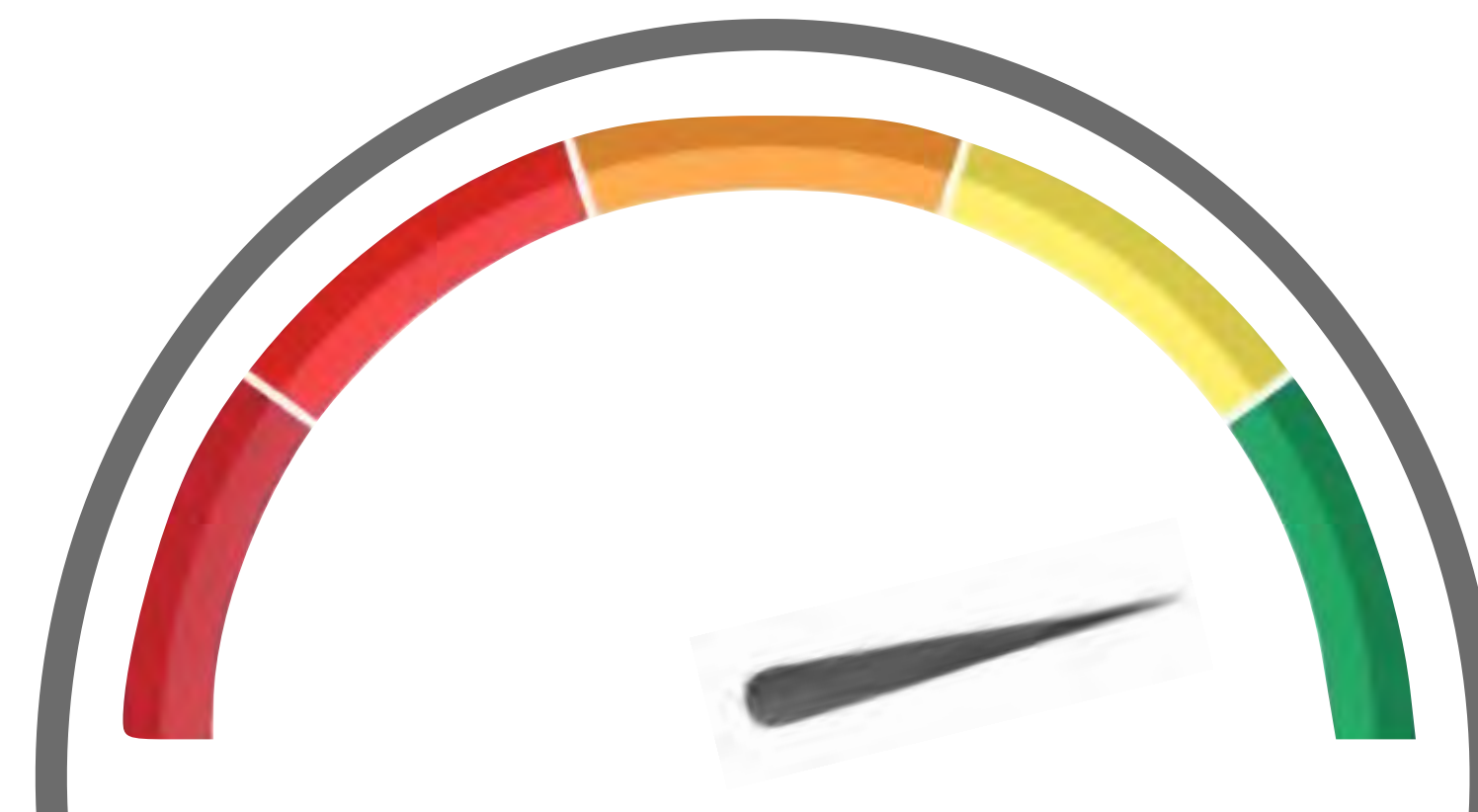
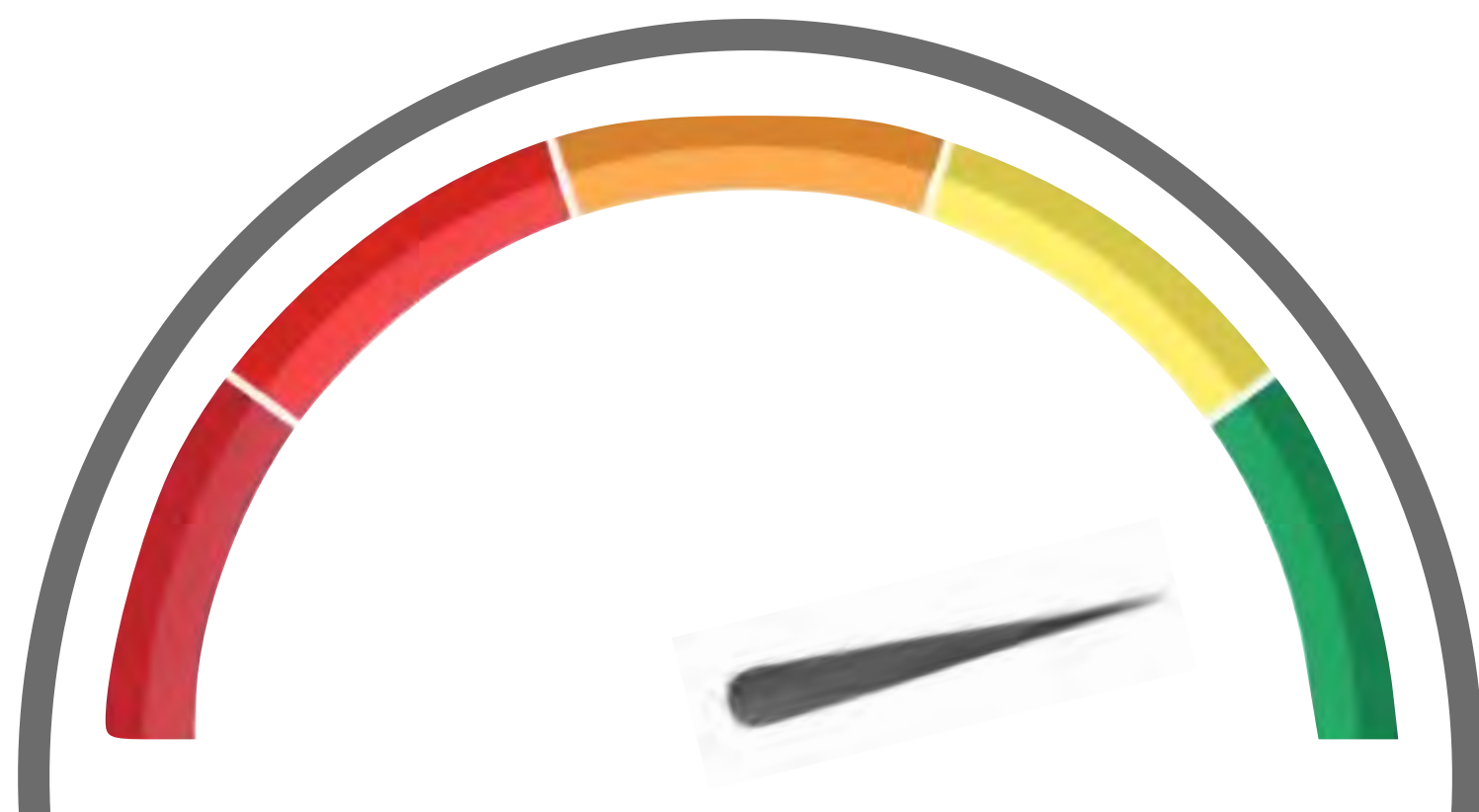




Real Time

Practical: the

Hollywood



Microsoft labels US gov threat' in plan to cut off

By Tom Warren | @tomwarren | Dec 5, 2013, 3:36am EST
Source [Microsoft Fire Hose](#)

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microsoft logo granite stock 1020

Microsoft is unveiling an aggressive plan today to combat gov threat' in plan to cut off Smith, Microsoft's general counsel, says the software giant s customers about government surveillance of the internet, ar with improved encryption, legal protections, and source cod [blog post](#), Smith labels government snooping an "advanced generally used to describe teams of hackers that coordinate governments.

Microsoft's response follows recent revelations that the NSA

Schneier on Security



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NSA Eavesdropping on Google and Yahoo Networks

The *Washington Post* [reported](#) that the NSA is eavesdropping on the Google and Yahoo private networks -- the code name for the program is MUSCULAR. I may write more about this later, but I have some initial comments:

- It's a measure of how far off the rails the NSA has gone that it's taking its Cold War-era eavesdropping tactics -- surreptitiously eavesdropping on foreign networks -- and applying them to US corporations. It's skirting US law by targeting the portion of these corporate networks outside the US. It's the same sort of legal argument the NSA used to justify [collecting](#) address books and buddy lists worldwide.
- Although the *Washington Post* article specifically talks about Google and Yahoo, you have to assume that all the other major -- and many of the minor -- cloud services are compromised this same way. That means Microsoft, Apple, Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, Badoo, Dropbox, and on and on and on.
- It is well worth re-reading all the government denials about bulk collection and direct access after [PRISM](#) was exposed. It seems that it's impossible to get the truth out of the NSA. Its carefully worded denials always seem to hide what's really going on.
- In light of this, PRISM is really just insurance: a way for the NSA to get legal cover for information it already has. My guess is that the NSA collects the vast majority of its data surreptitiously, using programs such as these. Then, when it has to share the information with the FBI or other organizations, it gets it again through a more public program like PRISM.
- What this really shows is how robust the surveillance state is, and how hard it will be to craft laws reining in the NSA. All the bills being discussed so far only address portions of the problem: specific programs or specific legal justifications. But the NSA's surveillance infrastructure is much more robust than that. It has many ways into our data, and all sorts of tricks to get around the law. Note [this quote](#) from yesterday's story:

John Schindler, a former NSA chief analyst and frequent defender who teaches at the Naval War College, said it is obvious why the agency would prefer to avoid

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About Bruce Schneier



I am a [public-interest technologist](#), working at the intersection of security, technology, and people. I've been writing about security issues on my [blog](#) since 2004, and in my monthly [newsletter](#) since 1998. I'm a fellow and lecturer at Harvard's [Kennedy School](#) and a board member of [EFF](#). This personal website expresses the opinions of neither of those organizations.

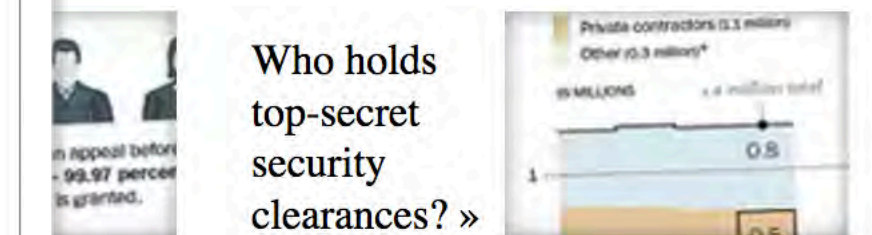
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[NSA Spied on Prominent Muslim](#)



tion program

ties to a wide range of digital information, including it does not require individual warrants. Instead, it illance Act (FISA). Some documents describing the onal details about how the program operates, ogram interacts with the Internet companies. These [Read related article.](#)



gram collects from the fiber-optic cable networks ect North America to the rest of the world.

