

# Learn how to (not) use secrets with OWASP Wrong Secrets

Jeroen Willemsen

Project leader OWASP WrongSecrets & PSA

OWASP

# About me

Jeroen Willemsen

<https://allmylinks.com/commjoenie>





A close-up photograph of two monkeys. The monkey on the left is seen in profile, whispering into the ear of the monkey on the right. The monkey on the right is looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. The background is dark and out of focus.

**Can you keep  
a secret?**

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# Examples of secrets



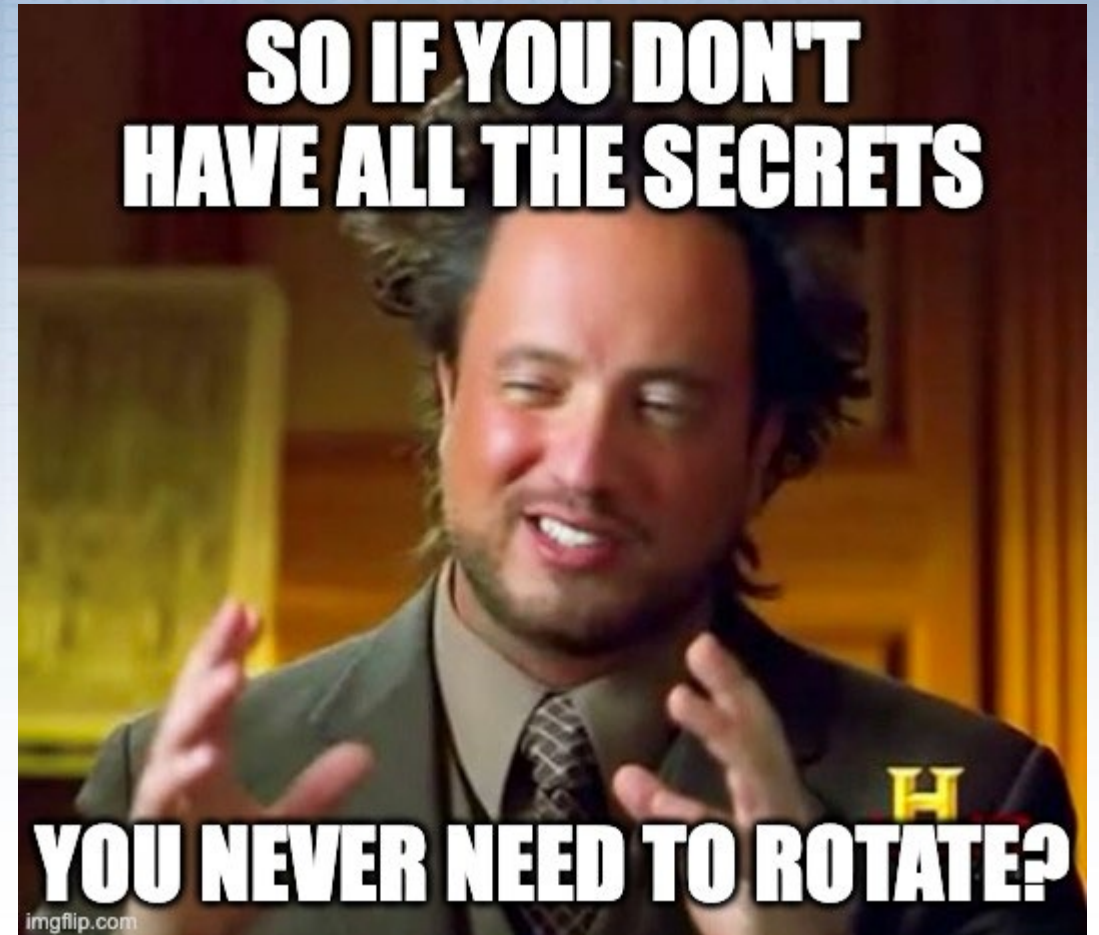
# Where would you store a secret when on K8S?

- In code?
- In your container?
- In your K8s...?
- In your secrets manager?
- In your platform providing solution?
- In your... ?



# If you had to rotate all your organization's secrets...

- 🔍 Do you know where they are?
- 🎯 Do you know their purpose?
- 🕒 Can you rotate timely?
- 🤔 Do you....



# Can you tell us

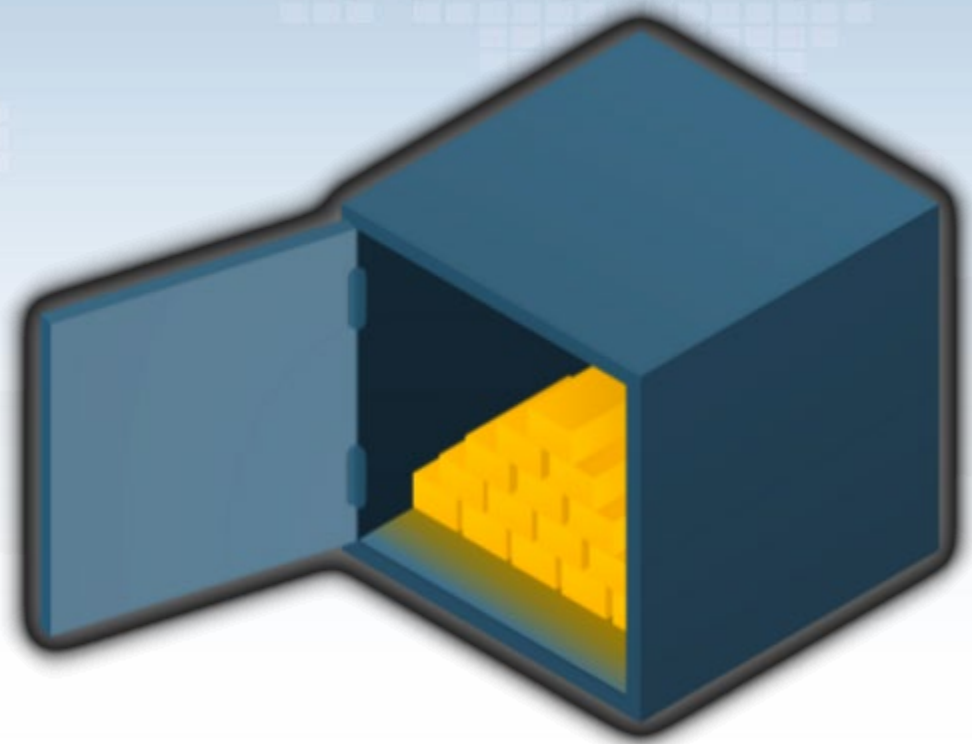
- When your secret was last “borrowed” by your ex-colleague?
- When your secret was not working anymore?







# Introducing Project WrongSecrets

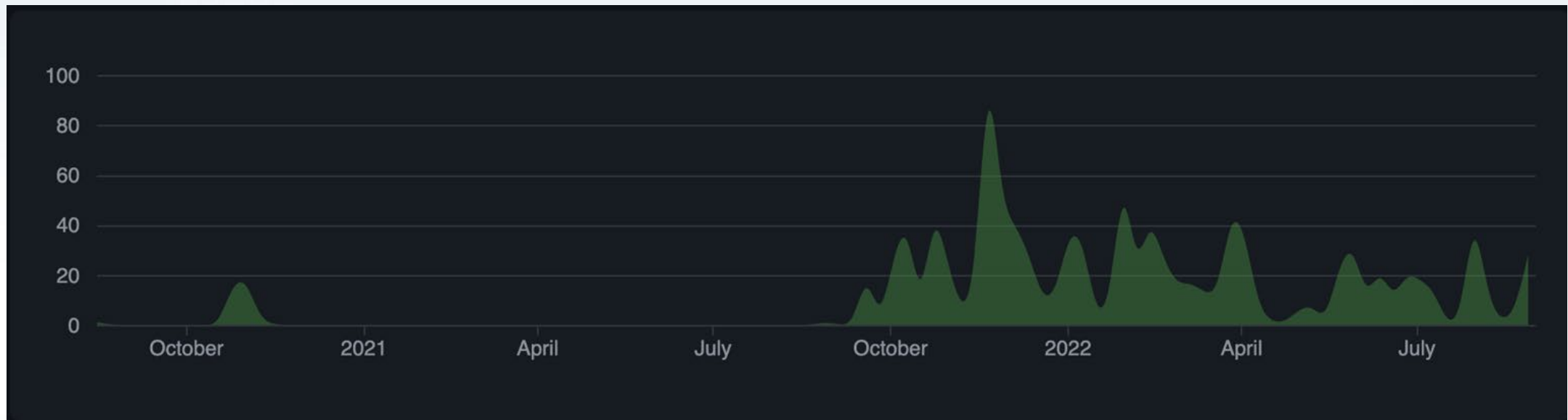
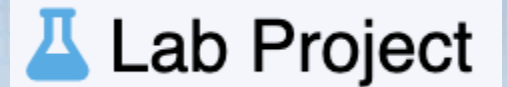


# Today

- Project WrongSecrets
- Docker Demo on Heroku
- AWS Demo
- A few take-aways
- Where do we go from Here?

# What is it?

- Vulnerable app & secret detector testbed
- Goals:
  - Educate on secret management and its pitfalls
  - Help people reflect on their secrets management strategy
  - Promote secrets management as important facet of security





# Special Thanks

## Leaders:

- Ben de Haan @bendehaan
- Jeroen willemsen @commjoen

## Top contributors:

- Nanne Baars @nbaars
- Marcin Nowak @MarcinNowak-codes
- Joss Sparkes @remakingeden
- Tibor Hercz @tiborhercz
- Filip Chyla @fchyla
- Dmitry Litosh @Dlitosh
- Josh Grossman @tghosth
- Spyros @northdpole

- Mike Woudenberg @mikewoudenberg
- Ruben Kruiver @RubenAtBinx
- Finn @f3rn0s
- Alex Bender @alex-bender
- Rick M @kingthorin

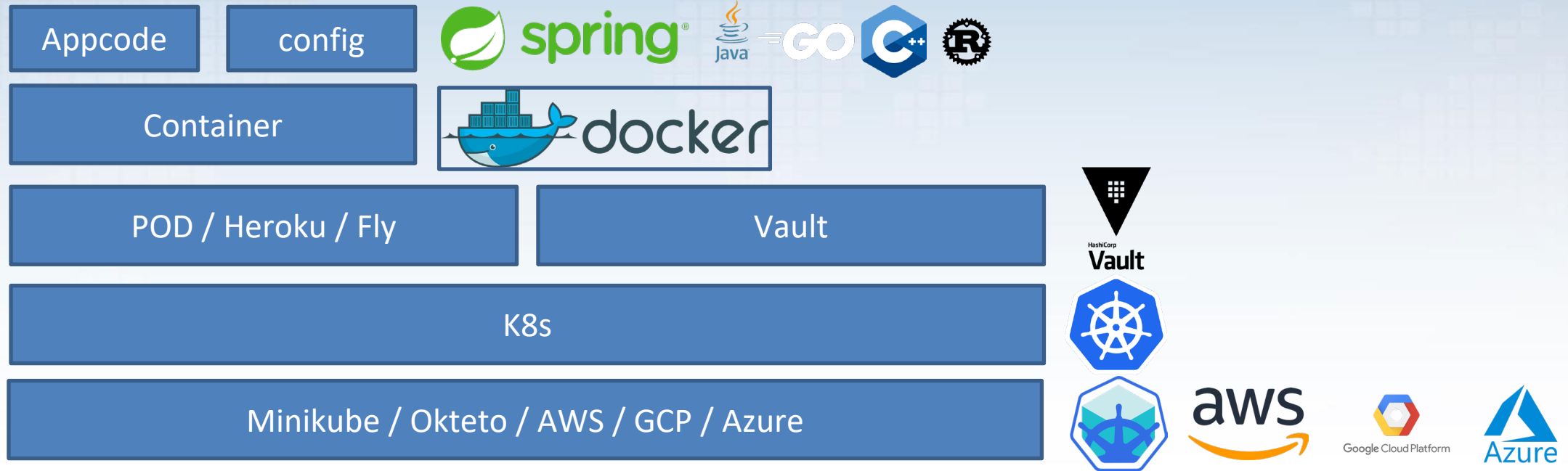
## Testers:

- Dave van Stein @davevs
- Marcin Nowak @MarcinNowak-codes
- Marc Chang Sing Pang @mchangsp

## Special mentions for helping out:

- Madhu Akula @madhuakula
- Björn Kimminich @bkimminich

# Overall architecture





## Docker Demo at Heroku

Why hardcoding secrets in application code & docker containers are a bad idea





## AWS Demo

Terraform State should always be protected & Kubernetes defaults might not be helpful either.

**Soo how should we do it?**

# So how should we do it?

Resources/further reading on secrets management:

- [Blog: 10 Pointers on Secrets Management](#)
- [OWASP SAMM on Secret Management](#)
- [The secret detection topic at Github](#)
- [OWASP Secretsmanagement Cheatsheet](#)
- [Open CRE on Secrets Management](#)

**Use OWASP WrongSecrets as a secret detection benchmark**



# A few takeaways

- Never hardcode anywhere
- Don't just trust defaults
- Rotate secrets/use ephemeral secrets
- Reduce blast radius
- Reduce exposure
- Have logging & alerting in place!

# Where do we go from here?

- LCM activities (Dependencies, K8s version, Terraform version)
- Improve development experience with better live-reloading
- Secret hiding in binaries (Swift?)
- Other type of challenges and mistakes spotted in the wild

# Where do we go from here?

- UI Improvements
- Secret detection testbed extension.
- Expanded CTF mode!

See: <https://github.com/commjoen/wrongsecrets/issues>



# We can really use your help!

☆ Promote <https://github.com/commjoen/wrongsecrets>

GitHub Stars & social media

🖥️ Take the project for a spin

💬 Give feedback

File an issue or contact us on OWASP Slack in channel #project-wrongsecrets

🔧 Improve the project: File PRs!

# Questions?



-  Twitter: @BJFdeHaan
-  Email: [ben.dehaan@owasp.org](mailto:ben.dehaan@owasp.org)
-  Twitter: @commjoenie
-  Email: [jeroen.willemsen@owasp.org](mailto:jeroen.willemsen@owasp.org)