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Computer Science 303: WebSec · Lecturer: John Richter

Mini-essay I

What is security?



*Security: A vital aspect of
Humanity. The freedom from all threats
Presented by our criminals and those
Who have nefarious intent.*

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We complicate our words and thoughts.
We obfuscate our reasoning.¹
But really simple is it all
Once absent is the seasoning.

When looking at security,
We consider our ability,
The very strength of our defence
Against a possible offence.

What measures do we have in place?
What are the ways in which we brace
Ourselves against potential threat
(Including that already met.)

For property, there's boundary walls
For networks, we have firewalls.
Through subtle ways, things can slip through
The holes, the flaws, and gaps in glue.

In ancient times the Greeks (of course)
Brought a "gift" - a wooden horse.
They gave it as a symbol, "Sorry".
The Trojans took it sans a worry.

It was a trap, a devious plan
To worm inside the Trojan clam.
It worked. And now, in modern times,
We use the term for modern crimes.

"It looks so great - just click the link;
We'll give you stuff: don't stop to think."
But now we're in and have control
We see, we hear - all through this mole.

So have a look at your Android,
And now become so paranoid²,
That you will never ever trust
That nothing through your walls can bust.

¹ <http://www.jstor.org/stable/20027310>

² <http://www.forbes.com/sites/andygreenberg/2013/02/14/frost-attack-unlocks-android-phones-data-by-chilling-its-memory-in-a-freezer/>