

THURSDAY: ONLY YOU

Sometimes when I go exploring for music I find something I like but it's a complete mystery how it came to be. I can't tell you much of anything about this artist – only that he's German, he's repped by a company in the Netherlands, and his genre is house/electronica. And that's it, apart from the fact he's got more tracks you can listen to on SoundCloud. My favorites so far are this faintly retro piece embedded here (on SoundCloud at Only You) and Fade – both make fairly mellow listening. His more popular works are a little more aggressive, like Gunshots and HWAH.

Caught a late summer bug, not firing on all cylinders. Here's some assorted odds and ends that caught my eye between much-needed naps.

- Infosec firm approached investment firm to play short on buggy medical devices (Bloomberg) – Jeebus. Bloomberg calls this “highly unorthodox,” but it's just grossly unethical. Why didn't this bunch of hackers at MedSec go to the FDA and the SEC? This is a shakedown where they get the market to pay them first instead of ensuring patients are protected and shareholders of St. Jude medical device manufacturer's stock are appropriately informed. I call bullshit here – they're trying to game the system for profit and don't give a

shit about the patients at risk. You know when the maximum payout would be? When patient deaths occurred and were reported to the media.

- Apple iPhone users, update your devices to iOS 9.3.5 stat: serious malware designed to spy and gain control of iPhone found (Motherboard) – Hey look, a backdoor applied after the fact by a “ghost” government spyware company. The malware has been around since iPhone 5/iOS 7; it could take control of an iPhone and allow a remote jailbreak of the device. Interesting this Israeli spyware firm received a big chunk of cash from U.S. investor(s).
- Apple filed for patent on unauthorized user biometric data collection system (AppleInsider) – If an “unauthorized user” (read: thief) uses an iPhone equipped with this technology, the device could capture a photo and fingerprint of the user for use by law enforcement. Not exactly rocket science to understand how this might be used by law enforcement

remotely to assure a particular contact (read: target) is in possession of an iPhone, either. Keep an eye on this stuff.

- India-France submarine construction program hacked (NDTV) – The Indian Navy contracted construction of (6) Scorpene-class submarines from French shipbuilder DCNS. Tens of thousands of pages of information from this classified project were leaked; the source of the documents appears to be DCNS, not India. The French government as well as India is investigating the hack, which is believed to be a casualty in “economic war.”
- Hacking of Ghostbusters’ star Leslie Jones under investigation (Guardian) – Jones’ website and iCloud accounts were breached; initial reports indicated the FBI was investigating the matter, but this report says Homeland Security is handling the case. Does this mean an overseas attacker has already been identified?
- Taiwanese White hat hacker and open government activist named to digital policy role

(HKFP) – Audrey Tang, programmer and consultant for Apple, will shift gears from private to public sector now that she's been appointed an executive councillor for digital policy by Taiwan. Tang has been part of the Sunflower Student Movement which has demanded greater transparency and accountability on Cross-Strait Service Trade Agreement with China while resisting Chinese reunification.

- Oops! Recent Google Apps outage caused by...Google? (Google Cloud) – Change management boo-boo borked an update; apparently engineers working on an App Engine update didn't know software updates on routers was in progress while they performed some maintenance. Not good.
- Gyroscope made of tiny atomic chamber could replace GPS navigation (NIST.gov) – A miniature cloud of atoms held in suspension between two states of energy could be used as a highly accurate mini-gyroscope. National Institute of Standards and

Technology has been working a mini-gyro for years to provide alternate navigation in case GPS is hacked or jammed.

- Tim Berners-Lee wants to decentralize the internet (Digital Trends) – The internet has centralized into corporate-owned silos of storage and activities like Facebook, Google and eBay. Berners-Lee, who is responsible for the development of browsing hyperlinked documents over a network, wants the internet to be spread out again and your data in your own control.

That's enough to chew on for now. Hope to check in Friday if I shake off this bug.