Transcript

No phishing!

Cut to interior of a basement man cave, complete with widescreen TV theatre and various posters and collectible merchandise from the TV show "Warrior Man."

Zhang

Hmm...

Kevin

Ah-ha! Greetings, Battle Brother! Are you ready to binge-watch all 3 seasons of Warrior Man with me this weekend?!

Zhang

Uh, I'm not sure actually. This email from MyWebFlix says I need to update my payment method or they'll cancel my service. I was about to sign in and enter a new credit card.

Cut to a shot of the myWebFlix email. It says "We recently failed to validate your information. We need you to complete a brief validation process to verify your account. Once that information has been updated, you can continue enjoying MyWebFlix. Please click the button below to get started. UPDATE ACCOUNT DETAILS."

Kevin

Whoa. Whoa. Whoa. Pump the brakes on your chariot, Zhang. You know that's probably a phishing email, right?

Zhang

Well, I clicked the link to sign in and the web site looks authentic.

Cut to what appears to be the MyWebFlix.com sign-in page on Zhang's computer screen.

Kevin

Nope, it's not. Look closely at the URL.

Zhang

Hmmm...

Cut back to CU of url in address bar which says "https://www. MyWebFllix.com". Highlight the extra "l".

Kevin

See? It's misspelled – there's an extra "l" in the domain name. That's what these kinds of emails often do – link to a fake web page that mimics the url and homepage of a legitimate website. Then they get you to enter personal information like a password or credit card number.

Zhang

So I shouldn't have clicked on the link?

Kevin

Nope. When going to any page where you have an account, the best thing to do is type the url in manually and then create a bookmark to go there in future. So you are never relying on someone else's link.

Zhang

By Odin's ghost! I thought I was safe as long as the url started with "https." The "s" is supposed to stand for Security!

Kevin

Well, most of the time it does. But cyber criminals are now getting good at faking that too, so it's no guarantee.

Zhang

How can I defeat an enemy who sends such crafty emails?

Kevin

You can spot a phishing email when it urgently asks you to do any or all of these things:

"Common Phishing Email Asks."

Kevin

Update account. Validate. Verify. Click here.

Kevin

There's usually a sense of urgency. Sometimes they come in the form of business deals that are too good to be true.

RBC Cyber Security Animation

Transcript

Zhang

So the African prince who needs me to help import his gold?

Kevin

Delete.

Zhang

And this one saying I need to re-enter my password to regain access to my music account?

Kevin

Delete.

Zhang

And this one about a special offer to purchase a limited edition Warrior Man Battle Blade?

Kevin

Oh no, no, no. That one's legit. I forwarded that to you. I just got mine.

Zhang

Together we march ...

Kevin and Zhang together

... through the gates of Valhalla!

Zhang

Are those authentic Battle Slippers?

Kevin

Well, Valhalla can get a little drafty.

END