Analysis of the bug

The seed read from the unitialized variable is not really random: it is determined by the functions that have been called before do_exec(). If the attacker can control the contents of the stack frame of a function called immediately before do_exec(), it can set the seed to a known value, essentially fixing the value of the canary.

We run server in a debugger and send the le\n string, to cause a call to do_login() immediately followed by a call do do_exec(). We set a breakpoint in do_exec() and send send 79 As of input. These will satisfy the fgets() in do_login(); then, the program will move to do_exec(). We can now verify that canary_seed is set to 0x41414141 and we can take note of the contents of the canary array after the call to setup_canary() (e.g., with x/xg canary). If we repeat these steps on the actual server, the same canary will be generated.