Writeup by Cole Barrios

EMERSON CALDERÓN

Name: Emerson "Em" Calderón

Pronouns: He/They

Age: 18

Height/Weight: 5'11" / 130 lbs.

Major: History Ethnicity: Chicano **Sexuality:** Asexual

Relationships: River Mei (roommate, childhood friend). Oliver Xu (roommate), Wesley Eckman (roommate) Parents: Dr. Esther Calderón (famous archaeologist),

Jonathan Calderon-Williams (city accountant) Strengths: Insightful, trustworthy, empathetic Weaknesses: Self-critical, controlling, obsessive

Quirks: Medieval weapons collector, miser



Overview:

Emerson Calderón is one of the four protagonists of Closet Campaign. He has a thoughtful, warm personality and an inquisitive mind. He's also a little obsessive—In the second grade. Emerson read one ancient culture encyclopedia and decided to chase that niche for the rest of his life.

Eager to contribute to the highest level of discourse, Emerson has spent his whole life working towards academic prestige and puts himself under immense pressure to succeed, often to an unhealthy degree. These high expectations often bleed into his personal life—although he is a kind, reliable friend, he has a hard time letting go of other people's opinions.

A person of focus, Emerson sees the newly discovered portal in his closet as a roadblock to achieving his goals and tries his best to not let it affect his productivity—and yet, as a

person of integrity, Emerson feels responsible for protecting his friends and the university as a whole from whatever finds its way out of the closet.



Appearance:

Emerson is a tall, tense young man with a stick-thin frame that makes his otherwise academic outfits look like baggy streetwear. He keeps his face clean-shaven and wears his dark brown hair in a mid-tapered crew cut. His skin is a pale brown, accommodating both his Chicano heritage and his penchant for reading indoors.

He wears horn-rimmed spectacles and "dresses grandpa style" according to River, though he'd contend a more apt description would be 'dark academia.' In fact, most of his accessories follow that aesthetic—he carries his textbooks in a worn leather knapsack, walks to school in dress shoes, and wears a wristwatch, although he's more likely to just check his phone.

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RIVER MEI

Name: Richard "River" Mei Pronouns: They/Them (AMAB)

Age: 17

Height/Weight: 5'6" / 150 lbs.

Major: Music Performance - Percussion

Ethnicity: 1st generation Chinese-American (Han)

Sexuality: Pansexual

Relevant Relationships: Emerson Calderón (roommate, childhood friend), Oliver Xu (roommate), Wesley Eckman (roommate)

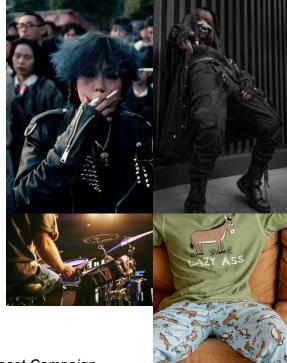
Parents: Heather Mei (biomedical engineer),
Andrew Mei (high-profile software developer)

Strengths: Deft, introspective, creative **Weaknesses:** Messy, inattentive, imposter

syndrome

Quirks: Impulsive, space cadet, J-culture & fantasy

nerd



Overview:

River Mei is one of the four protagonists of *Closet Campaign*. Though they seem shy and quiet in public, their close friends know them for their sincere compassion, booming laughter, and penchant for creating chaos in even the smallest of circumstances. River also has a strong

rebellious streak, forged by the authoritarian parenting style they were subjected to in their youth.

Against their parent's wishes, River auditioned for and was selected to enroll in the university's highly acclaimed jazz performance program as a percussionist. Their skill and instinct are undeniable, but due to childhood bullying and their parent's intense disdain for their career choices, River often suffers from low self-esteem and has a hard time trusting their own judgment. This is often made worse by the music department's hyper-competitive environment and the zero-sum attitude of many of their classmates.

A big fan of fantasy, River is initially excited, if not apprehensive, about the prospect of the portal. To be honest, though, thinking about the portal at all is a waste of time—especially when they should be practicing instead.

Appearance:

River is a shorter AMAB non-binary person with long, wild dyed hair, nose and ear piercings, and an average build under layers and layers of clothing. They have no facial hair, a slight tan, and terrible posture from hunching over their various instruments and poring through their fantasy book collection.

Outdoors, depending on their mood and energy levels, they alternate between outlandish '70s punk-rock attire, Japanese techwear, and pajamas, hoodies, and sweatpants. They usually prefer to keep their hair in a bun out of convenience, save for when they're making a fashion statement, going insane on the drums, or relaxing.

WESLEY ECKMAN

Name: Wesley Eckman, "The Eckster" (self-attributed)

Pronouns: He/Him

Age: 19

Height/Weight: 6'0" / 150 lbs. **Major:** Neuroscience (Pre-Med)

Ethnicity: White Sexuality: Straight

Relevant Relationships: Emerson Calderón (roommate),

River Mei (roommate), Wesley Eckman (roommate) **Parents:** Daisy Eckman (quantitative analyst), Walter

Eckman (tech billionaire)

Strengths: Assertive, charismatic, detailed **Weaknesses:** Selfish, hotheaded, materialistic **Quirks:** Neat freak, gamer, sleep-deprived

Overview:

Wesley Eckman is one of the four protagonists of *Closet Campaign*. Decisive, direct, and highly motivated, Wesley's animated nature and magnetic personality encourage the people around him to strive for success—or act a little goofy, depending on his mood. He and River often act as catalysts for the roommates' various hijinks.

As the heir to a billionaire tech mogul, Wesley has been afforded every advantage in life. He is an overachiever through and through with the intellect and

aptitude to back it up. Because Wesley is so used to success, even the smallest failures hit him hard, provoking episodes of disproportionate anger and frustration, often to the dismay of his peers. As for free time, Wesley abides by the 'work hard play hard' mindset. By day, he's an A-plus student, and by night, he's a high-ranking competitive gamer, although has yet to find out that burning both ends of the candle has its consequences.

To Wesley, the portal is nothing more than a nuisance; one he would rather not deal with, if he can help it. To that end, if the portal doesn't pose an immediate threat to him or his stuff, he'll often avoid having anything to do with it—even if it means leaving more work for the others. This goes directly against Emerson's philosophy of shared responsibility, causing tension between the two.

Appearance:

Wesley is a tall, fit, conventionally attractive white guy with mid-length flowing blonde hair, blue eyes, and delicate facial features. He generally stays clean-shaven, though he has been known to grow a mustache every now and then. His friends think it looks awful.

Unlike the students who come from more storied riches, Wesley likes to flaunt his wealth. His clothing and style choices give off a very "West Egg" impression—which is to say, over-dressed, flashy, and explicitly expensive. Like sports coats in the summertime.

Character Profile by Cole Barrios



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OLIVER XU

Name: Oliver Xu Pronouns: He/Him

Age: 18

Height/Weight: 6'3" / 250 lbs. **Major:** Civil Engineering

Ethnicity: 4th-generation Chinese-American

Sexuality: Straight

Relevant Relationships: Emerson Calderón

(roommate), River Mei (roommate), Wesley Eckman

(roommate)

Parents: Jenny Xu (paralegal), Steve Xu (retired teacher,

stay-at-home dad)

Strengths: Stoic, athletic, quick-witted

Weaknesses: Socially anxious, tongue-tied, low EQ **Quirks:** Massive anime nerd, chronic overthinker

Overview:

Oliver Xu is one of the four protagonists of *Closet Campaign*. Despite his imposing stature (boasting 250 pounds of mainly muscle), Oliver is the most quiet and gentle of the bunch, often preferring to watch cartoons and play mobile games during his free time. Due to his intense social anxiety, human interaction can be a lot for

him, especially after a long day of practice, classes, and hitting the books.

Scouted by the university for D1 tennis, Oliver is taking full advantage of his athletic scholarship to pursue a career in civil engineering. Although school doesn't come as naturally to him as it does to the others, Oliver is a hard worker. He hopes to graduate with a stable, decent-paying job in order to help pay for his younger brother's college tuition and to make sure his parents can retire early.

Self-admittedly, Oliver is a little too excited about the portal, but who can blame him? He's been watching that exact trope show up in the majority of modern anime for years—it's like a dream come true. Or, it would be, if he didn't carry his family's future on his shoulders. For Oliver, when the cards are down, family comes first.

Appearance:

Oliver is a tank of a man with a buzz cut, hazel eyes, a strong jaw, and a "resting bitch face," much to his dismay. He is very tan and muscular, due to all the time he spends conditioning for tennis on and off the court, though it would be hard to tell at a glance due to the oversized clothes he wears.

Oliver has no interest in fashion and dresses completely for comfort, which means tennis shoes, basketball shorts, and graphic tees with his favorite shows or sports teams on them. Unless, of course, his coach forces him to wear proper tennis attire. He's pretty spartan about his accessories, carrying everything he'll need for the day in one very large gym bag, which is a little unhygienic, sure, but it makes things easy.



