



FROM EXO PLANET

ZEYNEB GÜÇ



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FROM EXO PLANET

HISTORY





Exo is a Chinese-South Korean boy band based in Seoul. Formed by S.M. Entertainment in 2011, the group consists of twelve members separated into two subgroups, EXO-K and EXO-M, performing music in Korean and Mandarin, respectively.

2011: Formation

In May 2011, at a Hallyu business seminar held at Stanford University, Lee Soo-man spoke about a strategy of debuting a new boyband, in which they would be divided into 2 subgroups, promoting the same music simultaneously in South Korea and China by performing songs in both Korean and Mandarin. After several changes, in December 2011, the group finalized their name to EXO, taken from the word exoplanet. They are divided into two subgroups, EXO-K ('K' for Korean) for South Korea and EXO-M ('M' for Mandarin) for China. They debuted their first televised performance on December 29, 2011.

2012: Debut and *Mama*

EXO-K and EXO-M's prologue single "What Is Love" was released on January 30, 2012, in mainland China and South Korea. The single peaked at number 88 on South Korea's Gaon Single Chart. On March 9, the group released their second prologue single "History

EXO-K and EXO-M released their debut single, "Mama", on April 8 followed by an EP *Mama*, on April 9. The two sub-groups would be promoting the album separately in two countries.

2013: *XOXO*, commercial success and Miracles in December

The group's first studio album, *XOXO* was released on June 2013 with two versions, a Korean-language "Kiss" edition and a Mandarin-language "Hug" edition.

A repackaged version of *XOXO*, titled *Growl*, was released on August 5, 2013 with three additional tracks. The reissue's lead single, "Growl", was released on August 1, 2013. As of December 2013, all versions of *XOXO* have collectively sold over 1,000,000 copies, making EXO the first Korean artist to sell over a million album copies in twelve years and breaking the record for being the fastest-selling K-pop act.

2014: *Overdose*, Kris' and Luhan's lawsuit and First Solo Concert

EXO's third EP, *Overdose*, was released on May 7, 2014. Originally scheduled to be released on April



21, The album reached 660,000+ preorders before its release, making it the most pre-ordered mini-album in history.

On May 15, 2014, S.M. Entertainment confirmed that EXO-M's leader, Kris, had filed a lawsuit against the agency to terminate his contract, stating violation of human rights as the main reason. On October 10, EXO-M's Luhan also filed a lawsuit against S.M. Entertainment to nullify his contract, because of health issues and being treated differently than the Korean members, therefore having no promotions.



The group held their first solo concert EXO From. EXOPLANET #1 - THE LOST PLANET starting May 24. Tickets for the concert sold out in **1.47** seconds.

2015: EXODUS, Tao's lawsuit, Japan debut, Collaboration with Star Wars and Sing For You

EXO's second solo concert was announced in January 2015 entitled EXO From. EXOPLANET #2 - The EXO'luXion.

EXO's second studio album, EXODUS, was released on March 30, 2015 in both Korean and Mandarin versions. Domestic pre-sales for the album surpassed 500,000 within 24 hours, setting a new record for pre-sales.

Tao filed an official lawsuit against SM Entertainment on August 24 for

the termination of his exclusive contract.

It was announced that EXO would be collaborating with Star Wars: The Force Awakens as part of the collaboration between S.M. Entertainment and Walt Disney. On November 9, the single "Lightsaber" was released with a special film to promote the movie ahead of its release in Korea.

On December 10, EXO released their 2nd winter special album Sing For You along with double title tracks "Sing For You" and "Unfair".



FROM EXO PLANET

MEMBERS



Baek Hyun

Full Name: Byun Baek Hyun

Position: Main Vocalist

Birthday: May 6, 1992

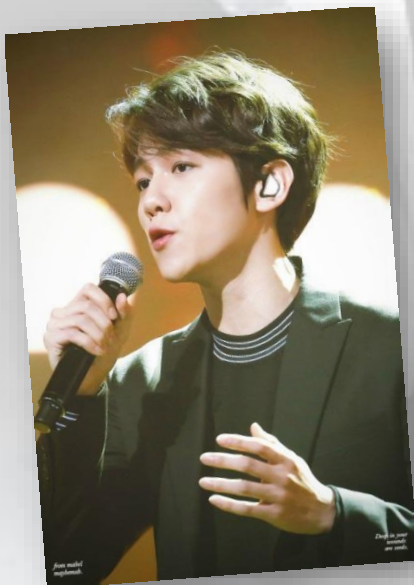
Height: 174 cm

Languages: Korean

Power: Light

Fun Facts:

- ◊ In EXO-K's dorm, he shares a room with ChanYeol
- ◊ Knows Hapkido.
- ◊ He can play the piano.
- ◊ ChanYeol says he "Yelp like a dog like 40 times before falling asleep!"
- ◊ He wanted to be a singer since he was in 4th grade, and told all his friends he was going to be a celebrity when he grows up.
- ◊ He want's EXO to go down in Korean music history, so that a 100 years from now, they will be remembered as a great group.
- ◊ His ideal type is someone who is full of charm.
- ◊ His ashion style is tidily casual.
- ◊ In the future he wants to try a hand at entertainment programs and acting.
- ◊ His favorite colors are Black, Grey, and White.
- ◊ His favorite number is 48.
- ◊ He likes Sci-Fi, fantasy, and action movies.
- ◊ His motto is "Life is only a path full of efforts."





Full Name: Do Kyung Soo

Position: Lead Vocalist

Birthday: January 12, 1993

Height: 173 cm

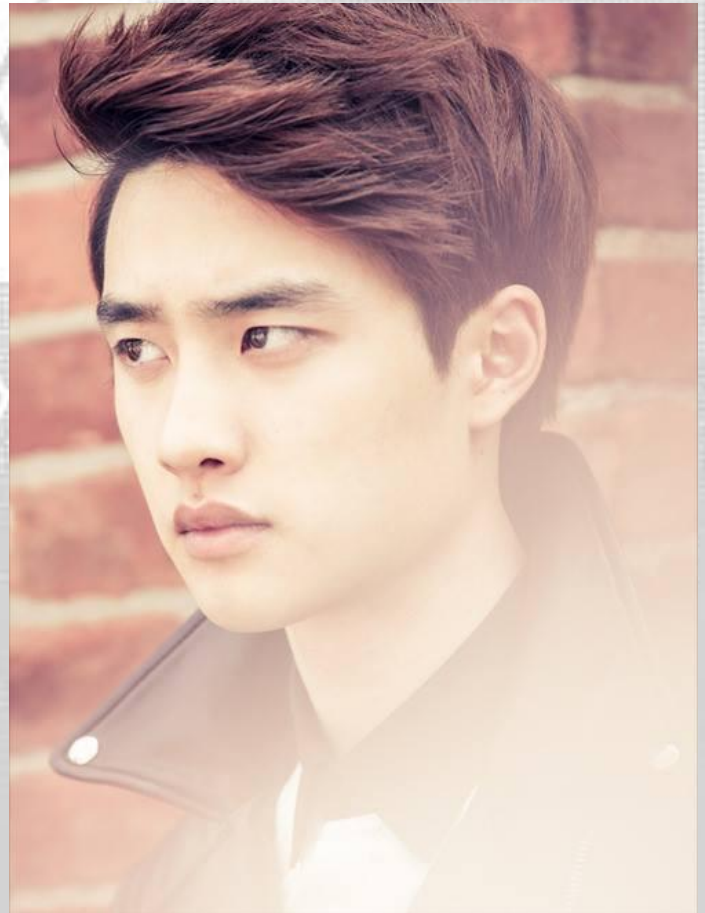
Blood Type: A

Languages: Korean, English

Power: Earth

Fun Facts:

- ◊ In EXO-K's dorm, he shares a room with Kai
- ◊ According to the other members, he is the clean freak of the group. SeHun: *"When you go to his room and open up all his drawers, I guarantee you you'll find everything neatly piled and organized. He even sorts his shirts by color and by type."*
- ◊ He is in charge of all of the cooking in EXO-K's dorm. In fact he also has interest in becoming a chef.
- ◊ Even before joining SM, he took vocal lessons.
- ◊ He want's EXO to become a group that is loved by all.
- ◊ Unlike many idols, D.O's parents were in full support of his dream and told him if he had a dream, he should try with all that he had to reach it and make it a reality.
- ◊ His favorite number is 1.
- ◊ Likes fantasy movies.
- ◊ His motto is "Be number 1".



SeHo

Full Name: Kim Joon Myun

Position: Lead Vocalist, Leader

Birthday: May 22, 1991

Height: 176 cm

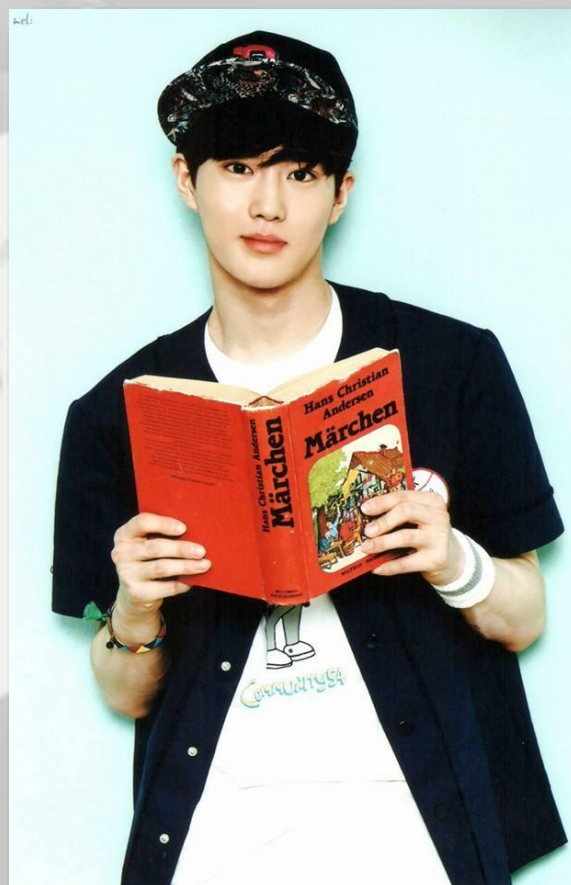
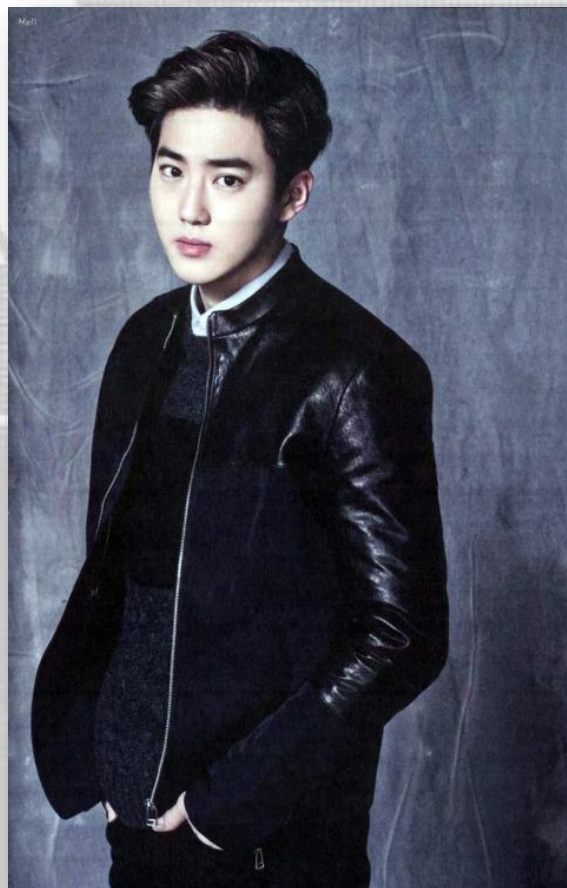
Blood Type: AB

Languages: Korean

Power: Water

Fun Facts:

- ◊ It is said that he is the 2nd Choi Siwon of Super Junior.
- ◊ He is very polite.
- ◊ He's wanted to be a singer ever since he was in Elementary school.
- ◊ In EXO-K's dorm, he shares a room with SeHun
- ◊ He joined SM after he was street casted.
- ◊ His ideal type is a girl with literary interests and has long straight hair.
- ◊ He likes to go to the Han River.
- ◊ He has a habit of saying "Ah!" to clear his throat.
- ◊ His favorite number is 8.
- ◊ His favorite is Violet and Gold.
- ◊ His favorite movie is "Pirates of the Caribbean".
- ◊ His motto is "Know yourself".



Kai

Full Name: Kim Jong In

Position: Main Dancer, Vocalist, Rapper, Visual

Birthday: January 14, 1994

Height: 182 cm

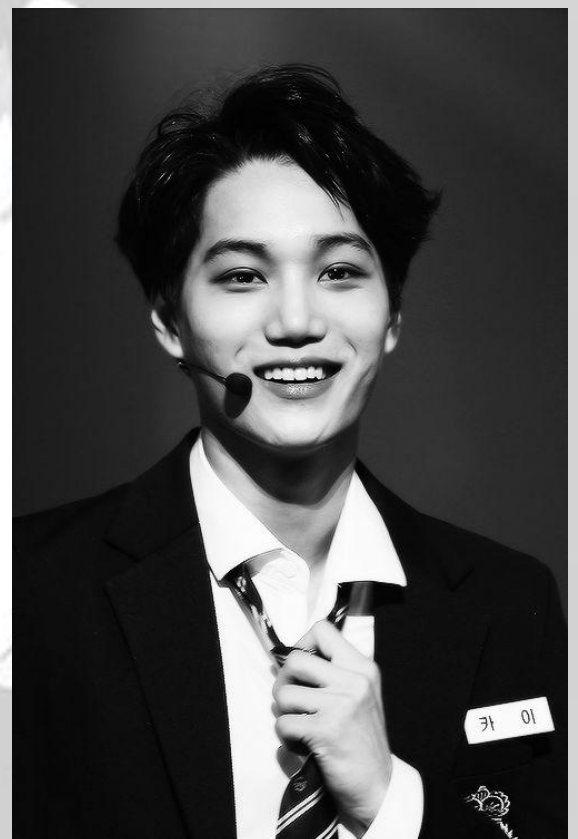
Blood Type: A

Languages: Korean

Power: Teleportation

Fun Facts:

- ◊ He was the first member of EXO to be revealed.
- ◊ He has two older sisters.
- ◊ Knows a variety of dances including Ballet, Jazz, Hiphop, Popping, Locking.
- ◊ In EXO-K's dorm, he shares a room with D.O
- ◊ According to the EXO-K, Kai is the best gamer out of all of them and is said to be a "sniper".
- ◊ It has been said that the EXO members cannot help but get bossed around by him when it comes to dancing, and only Taemin can control him.
- ◊ His favorite number is 1.
- ◊ He often goes to SM's practice room or the rooftop.
- ◊ His favorite colors are Black, Red, Sky Blue.
- ◊ His favorite movie is "Pirates of the Caribbean".



Chan Yeol

Full Name: Park Chan Yeol

Position: Main Rapper, Vocalist

Birthday: November 27, 1992

Height: 185 cm

Blood Type: A

Languages: Korean

Power: Fire (Phoenix)

Fun Facts:

◊ In EXO-K's dorm, he shares a room with BaekHyun.

◊ BaekHyun: "Chanyeol's breathing is way too loud! And on top of that, he does this loud sniffing thing before he falls asleep. I just can't fall asleep with all that noise."

◊ He has a habit of following the rhythm with his hands.

◊ His favorite number is 21.

◊ He is very passionate about playing and learning instruments and wants to improve his skill at playing the guitar and drums.

◊ He has a bright and positive personality.

◊ His ideal type is someone who is cute, smiles a lot, and is sincere.

◊ His role models are Eminem and Jason Mraz.

◊ His favorite movie is "School of Rock".

◊ His motto is "Enjoy yourself".



Se Hun

Full Name: Oh Se Hoon

Position: Lead Dancer, Rapper, Maknae

Birthday: April 12, 1994

Height: 181 cm

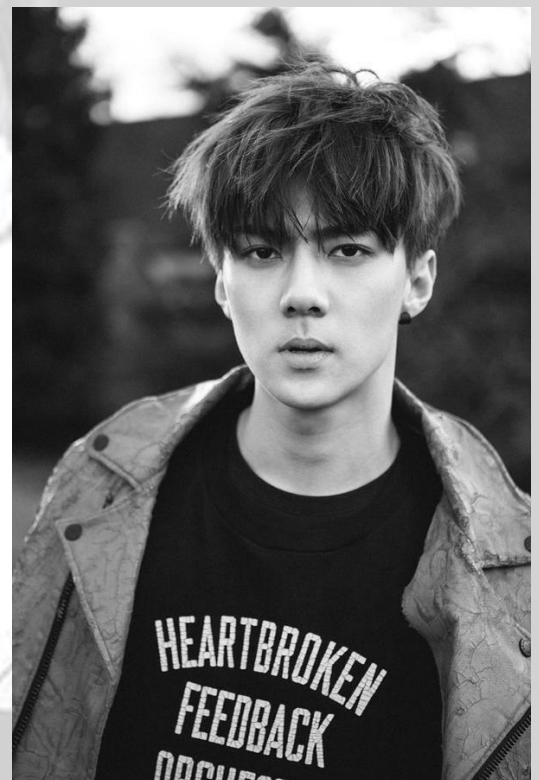
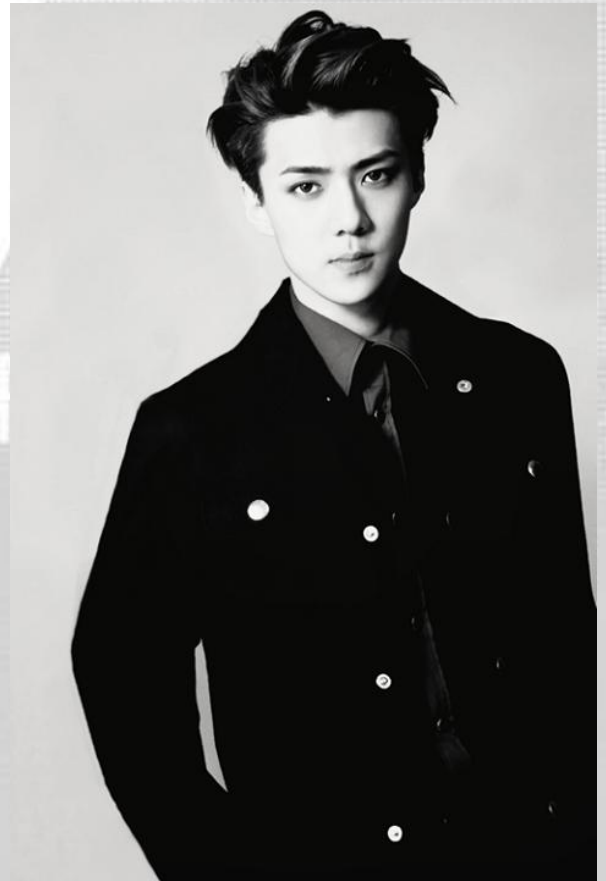
Blood Type: O

Languages: Korean

Power: Wind

Fun Facts:

- ◊He joined SM in 2008 by a casting system
- ◊He specializes in dancing and acting
- ◊In EXO-K's dorm, he shares a room with SuHo
- ◊Hes a former uljjang
- ◊He at first is shy, but once he gets to know you he becomes more lively.
- ◊His role model is BoA.
- ◊His favorite numbers are 3, 5, and 7.
- ◊His ideal type is a girl who is kind.
- ◊He has a habit of sticking out his tongue.
- ◊His favorite colors are Black and White.
- ◊He likes action movies.
- ◊His motto is "Let's live while doing things we like".



Chen

Full Name: Kim Jong Dae

Position: Main Vocalist

Birthday: September 21, 1992

Height: 178 cm

Power: Lightning

Fun Facts:

- ◊ His ideal girl is someone who is a girl who seems like an older sister.
- ◊ In their Korean dorm he shares a room with Lay, but in China he shares a room with Kris.
- ◊ He performed on the SM Orchestra section at SBS Gayo Daejun.
- ◊ He likes to wear simple things.
- ◊ Joined SM in 2011.



Ray

Full Name: Zhang Yi Xing

Position: Main Dancer, Vocalist

Birthday: October 7, 1991

Height: 179 cm

Weight: 60 kg

Blood Type: A

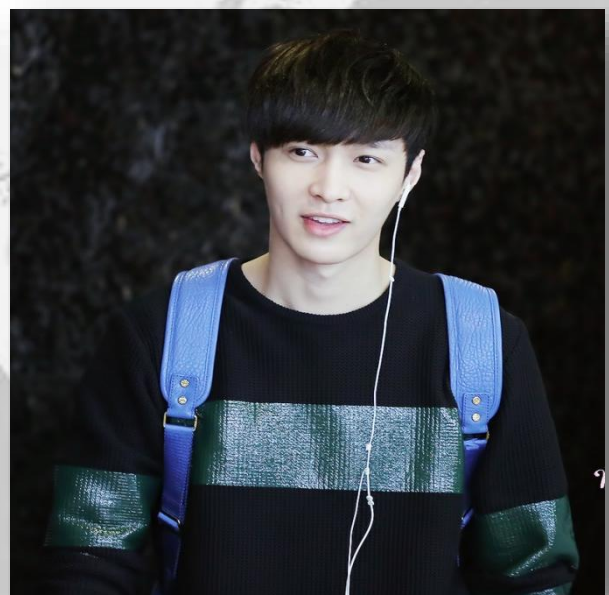
Languages: Chinese, Korean

Educations: Hunan Normal University High School

Power: Healing

Fun Facts:

- ◊ He was scouted in Wuhan, China in 2008
- ◊ In 2005 he won 3rd place on Star Academy
- ◊ He can play piano and the guitar.
- ◊ His ideal girl is someone who is cute and filial.
- ◊ He is very forgetful.
- ◊ Likes to eat junk food
- ◊ In their Korean dorm he shares a room with Chen, but in China he shares a room with LuHan.
- ◊ When there is nothing to do he will cook.
- ◊ When he's on stage and hears the music, he gets excited and focuses on the dance and music.



XiuMin

Full Name: Kim Min Seok

Nickname: Lil' Fattie, Bao Zi (Little Bun)

Position: Lead Vocalist

Birthday: March 26, 1990

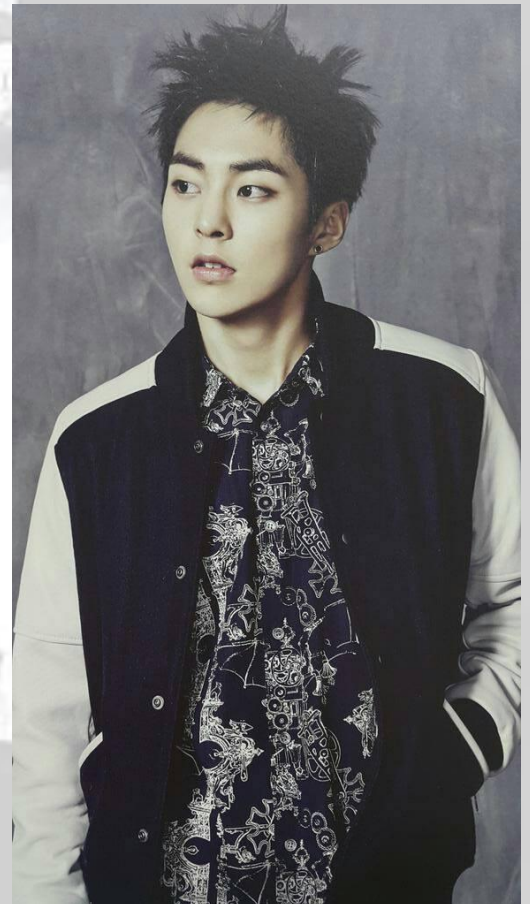
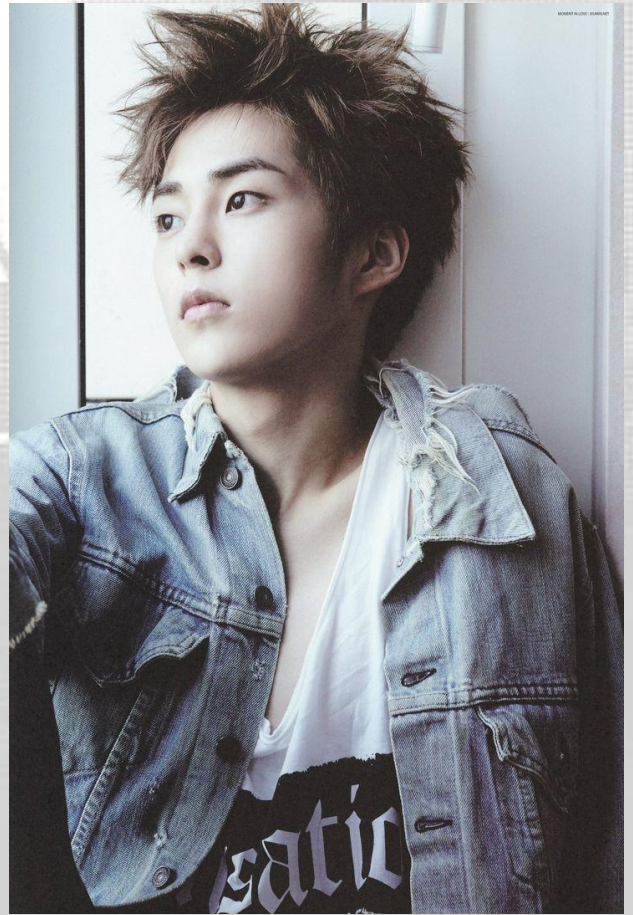
Height: 176 cm

Languages: Korean, Chinese

Power: Ice

Fun Facts:

- ◆ Knows Taekwondo and Kendo
- ◆ In their Korean dorm he shares a room with Kris and Luhan, but in China he shares room with Tao.
- ◆ His ideal type of girl is someone who he can hug and can give comfort to others.
- ◆ He got into SM when he entered the "Every Sing" competition and won 2nd place.
- ◆ Said to be the funniest member of EXO-M
- ◆ He is very neat and clean.
- ◆ He was mentioned in f(x)'s Amber's thanks to in the "Pinnocchio" album.
- ◆ He is close with Super Junior M's Henry.
- ◆ Though he has a very small and cute figure, he is the strongest in EXO-M.





EXODUS

Track List.

1. *Call Me Baby*
2. *Transformer*
3. *What If..*
4. *My Answer*
5. *Exodus*
6. *El Dorado*
7. *Playboy*
8. *Hurt*
9. *Lady Luck*
10. *Beautiful*



”**Call Me Baby**,” a club-banger, takes a bit before it finally settles into its main melody. It was somewhat of a relief because I thought we almost had another ”**Wolf**” on our hands. For a lead single, this has a lot going on (but then, again, when you have 10 members singing, that’s not unforeseen). **Chanyeol**’s raps keep the time while **Chen**’s voice spirals into falsetto far more than the others when they start each line. Danceable and catchy, it’s definitely a lot of fun.

”**Transformer**” chugs along, buoyed by raps by **Chanyeol**, **Kai**, and **Sehun**. Bass beats, hip-hop styles, and crooning (especially by **Suho** and **Baekhyun**) make this track pop. A lot.

”**What If...**” is a ballad, but I thought it was sung in an interesting way. While a bit slow for my pace, the singing was remarkably fast-paced, like they were trying to pack a lot of thoughts into a 4-minute song.

There’s tons of good eye imagery in here:

The eyes that are too late, the eyes that lost you
I’m becoming more and more sorry,
looking at you with these kinds of feelings
(my heart looking at you)

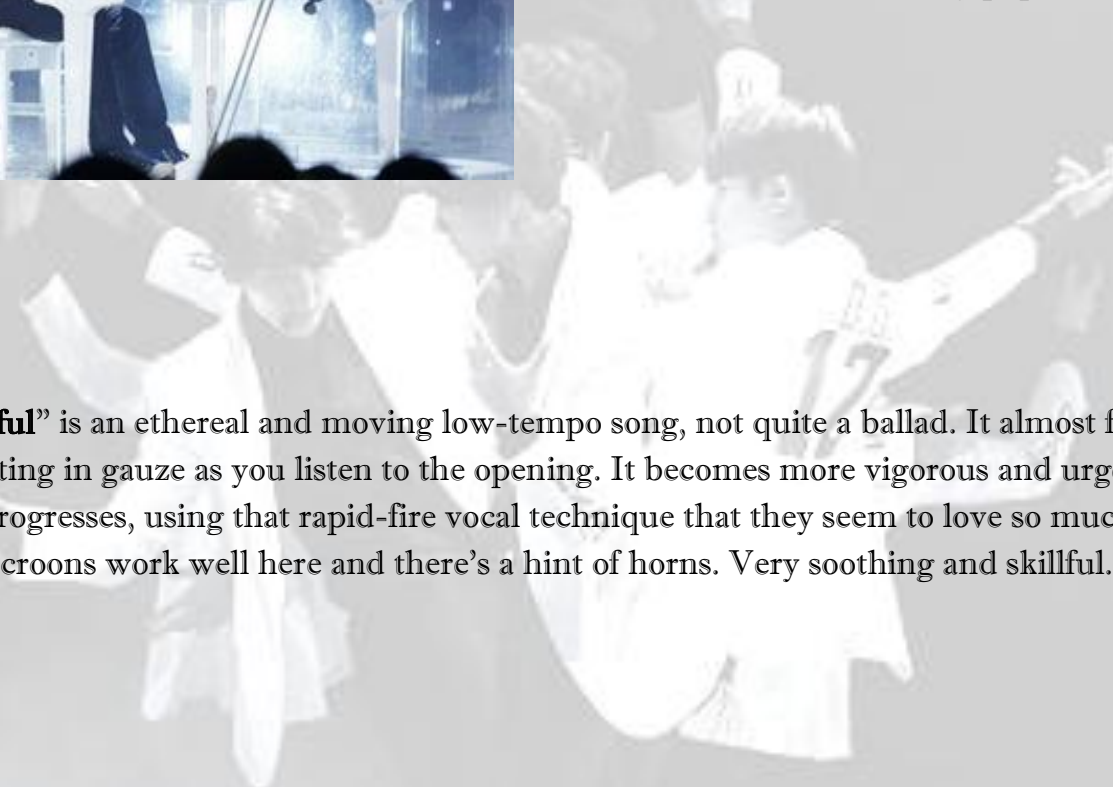
And those are only a handful of optical references. No matter. It still felt fervent and earnest and kind of sad.



”**My Answer**” has acoustic piano; it’s notably slower and more heartfelt than ”What If..” It’s a very minimalist piece, throwing the sextet’s great voices into sharp contrast. What is their answer?
”*The answer is you.*”

”**Hurt**” is a body-moving track with lyrics that reflect (as if you couldn’t guess) pain. Basically, his girl hurt him, but he can’t forget her and still misses her. All this conspires to drive him mad. It’s a club tune to be sure, but the happy, dance-around-the-room beat hides the ”**Hurt.**” There are some interesting squelching synths during the break that really pop, too.

”**Beautiful**” is an ethereal and moving low-tempo song, not quite a ballad. It almost feels like you’re sitting in gauze as you listen to the opening. It becomes more vigorous and urgent as the song progresses, using that rapid-fire vocal technique that they seem to love so much. The croons work well here and there’s a hint of horns. Very soothing and skillful.





SING FOR YOU

Tracklist.

- 1. Unfair*
- 2. Sing For You*
- 3. Girl x Friend*
- 4. On the snow*
- 5. LET GO TO SABBATH (Bonus Track)*



”Unfair”

A jaunty piano starts off this cheerful mid-tempo pop number. The boys bring their trademark croons to the title track, energizing the song with their delivery, **Chanyeol**’s deep voice contrasting nicely with **Baekhyun**’s falsetto. It’s danceable and ultraslick, begging you to get on your feet and move. The song itself is about how the girl is being ”unfair” to them by looking so hot.



”Sing For You”

The second of their dual title tracks, this is a guitar-driven ballad. Here, they pour their hearts out, some of them tenderly half-whispering their parts. When they get to the chorus, though, **Baekhyun**, **Chen**, and **D.O.** really wrench the vocals from their souls and put on an impassioned performance. The song itself is an endearing winter confession.



”Girl x Friend”

Extending the piano influence to another song, the boys crank out another medium-tempo tune. This time, it has different twists from the first to shake things up. **Kai**’s backing vocals where he interjects something between another boy’s lines are amusing and make this song pop. The rest handle their duties well, but I think **Kai**’s parts give it more of a rhythm and make it catchier. It’s about trying to get out of the friendzone and be a girl’s boyfriend.

”On the Snow”

Snaps, harmonies, and backing vocals characterize this ballad. During the chorus, however, it picks up some and becomes a soft pop tune instead, and the boys’ delivery gets louder and more heartfelt. Equal parts sugary and silky, this lush ballad deserves more than a single listen. The lyrics talk about love and loss in winter and how they want her back.



”LIGHTSABER”

Probably the most enjoyable song on this album for this beat junkie, this EDM track features staccato vocals, dance breaks, and synth wub-wubs ftw! The track, produced specifically with Star Wars in mind, even has Darth Vader’s ominous breathing at the beginning. The lyrics are clever, alluding to how the boys are a girl’s life saver (rhymes with ”lightsaber”).



After 12 weeks of the 12 members of EXO, MBC Everyone's EXO's Showtime, whether the viewers like it or not, has finally bid its goodbye. The last episode which received the highest rating during its time-slot was an episode of mixed happiness and sadness. Happiness for the members' antics never failed to shower laugh-out-louds. And of course, sadness for it was the last time we're seeing them in that kind of situation.

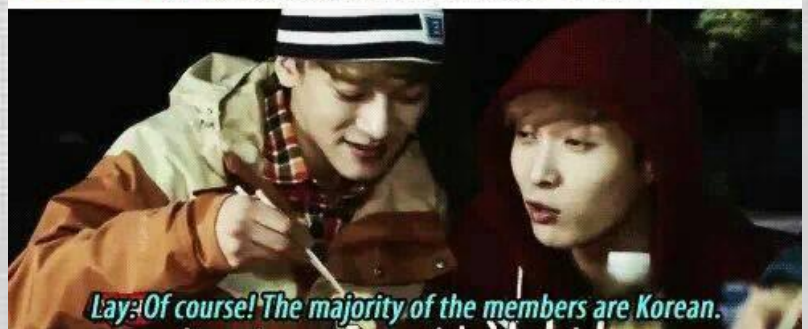
Yeah, sure, we'll be following them in other shows. But, it'll never be as carefree as Showtime had been. And aside from their stage performances, they might not even appear as a whole in variety programs. So, undeniably, it will be missed a lot.

The Members

The different sides and almost true selves of the EXO members were finally showcased in this special reality program. Aside from being known as EXO as a whole, these boys who cried wolf have now let their individuality out of the cave.

CHANYEOL

Despite being too playful and sometimes childish, he's still a member that can be relied on. Haven't you noticed, every time they have to draw lots or do something it's always him who took charge?

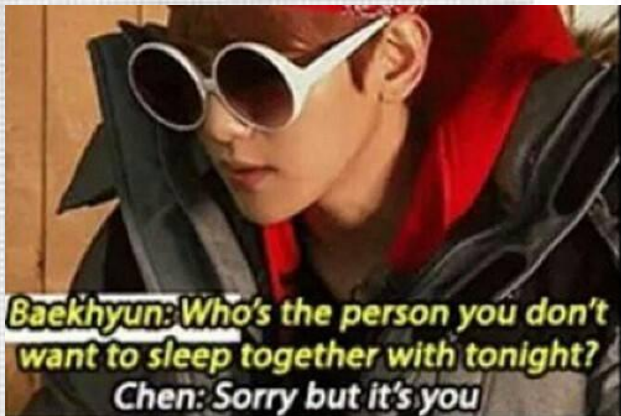


D.O.

D.O. who is known as a mild person, unexpectedly possess a little bit of the Beagle touch too. He was the one who played a prank on Luhan by leaving him alone in the Horror House. He was the one too who convinced Baekhyun to urge Suho to go into the winter water when they visited the beach.

SUHO

Suho, indeed, is the leader. I don't know how EXO would be like if he wasn't the leader. Even though he has that bossy attitude at times, he certainly still deserved the position.



BAEKHYUN

He is just one cool and funny guy. If there's a leader among EXO's Beagle line, it's definitely him. I was already drawn to him before. And now, I am even more drawn because his personality is just so fun.



CHEN

In my viewpoint, he is the least beagle among the three beagles of EXO. I think he's that type who can be bouncy or serious depending on his mood and situation. Plus, he's so thoughtful too. I agree to Sehun that he is EXO's mother and not Suho or D.O.

SEHUN

He's really the baby of the group. Even with his height and all, you can feel that he still needs taking care of. Indeed, he is a *maknae*.



KAI

He may act cool with his dancing skills on stage, but in normal situations, he is, well, normal. The Kai on stage is so unlike the Kai out of the stage. Like Sehun, you can grasp from the way he is that he is still young. And like Tao, he's very delicate too. Indeed, he is a *maknae*.



XIUMIN

If D.O. is taciturn, then this guy is more taciturn. He doesn't speak a lot. But he appears to have a strong charm among the viewers. More than the leader, he is more respected.

LAY

I don't know how to label Lay. Even though he speaks little, he's not the same with D.O. and Xiumin. He is the least attention-grabbing in the group. In Episode 6, I thought he should be the one cleaning the plates with Tao instead of Kris. But since his persona doesn't emerge a lot even the members could not think of him. I guess he is just lost most of the time and doesn't really care of how he appears on TV.



A few minutes later.....



THE BEST FANDOM “EXO-L”



"No matter if the opportunity I would love to be galaxy one day"

Leyneb G ÜG