

**The Beginning of the End**

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| **Episode 12 Confessionals** | | |
| **Castaway** | **Old Count** | **New Count** |
| Cochran | 8 | 9 (+1) |
| Dawn | 1 | - |
| Sherri | 0 | - |
| Eddie | 2 | - |
| Erik | 3 | - |
| Brenda | 3 | - |
| Andrea | 4 | - |
| Reynold | 3 | - |

Day 30

1. **Reynold (1/3):** It's not the Three Amigos anymore. Malcolm's gone but the game is not over. At the end of the day, I'm still here. I'ma keep fighting.
2. **Eddie (1/2):** Since like day, pretty much 2, I have been playing with my back against the wall with Reynold. And we know we're on the chopping block every Tribal Council. However, we're still here. So, you know, just keep going. Keep rolling with the punches because you never know, anything can happen in this game.
3. **Cochran (1/9):** The Fans are desperate. They're cornered. They-they have no power. The power rests in the Favorites right now and I want to take away as much power and suck it up for myself as possible because I want to take control of the game, and I'll do it without remorse. I'll do it without any reservations. And it's scary that I'm saying that. I feel like I've turned into something that would scare my mother if she saw me. But I'm not the little Harvard nerd who was trembling in the bushes last time.
4. **Erik (1/3):** Tree Mail shocked me this morning. This game never stops. I mean, we woke up this morning, we're thinking, *“Oh, man, I hope there's some cool reward today.”* Nope, immunity. So now we have to beat Reynold and then we need to go to Tribal and vote him off because Reynold is a threat.

Day 31

1. **Reynold (2/3):** I am number one on the hit list, no doubt about it. I have to win or I'm going home. It's as simple as that.
2. **Cochran (2/9):** It might have been a big mistake stepping out of the game, but I couldn't last that much longer. As long as one of us wins immunity, it’s fine. The goal is to keep it out of the hands of Reynold.
3. **Brenda (1/3):** It's exciting because Reynold and Eddie didn't win immunity, so we can split the votes. We're good. One of them is going home.
4. **Reynold (3/3):** It was a must win for personal immunity. Didn't get it. It's basically Reynold's eulogy right now, but if they're smart, boom, now is the time to strike and blindside someone who could really win this game. There’s a lot of things they could still do strategically. Unfortunately, I'm not the conductor right now.
5. **Andrea (1/4):** I thought that after Reynold dropped out, I'd say, *“You know Brenda, you won the last immunity, could I just have this one?”* But she stood on that perch for hours. She really proved that she's a big threat to me, so there is a huge part of me that regretted promising to share the note with Brenda. When I found out it was the clue to the Hidden Immunity Idol, at that point, you know, I don't want to be suspicious so I just told my whole alliance. The most important thing about today is that the idol is not in Reynold or Eddie's hands.
6. **Cochran (3/9):** Erik finds the idol, and I'm thinking fantastic. I can probably tell him what to do with the idol, he'll do it, and before I have a chance to start celebrating, he's already handing the idol over to Andrea. Does he learn nothing?!
7. **Andrea (2/4):** I really want to get Reynold out, but I'm still contemplating if we do throw a blindside in there because it will be a game changer and more of an endgame move to get out a strategic threat now while they don't see it coming. Some blindsides need to happen before it happens to me.
8. **Cochran (4/9):** I think today's Immunity Challenge and the fight demonstrated by players like Andrea and Brenda, marked possibly the beginning of the end for the alliance of six. There’s still these two easy votes in Reynold and Eddie. We can split the votes between the two of them, and one will be sent packing. And yet, we’re seeing the self-interested desires bubbling to the surface and people are playing for the endgame now to secure their own victory instead of a group victory. (16:14 → 16:26 = 12s)
9. **Cochran (5/9):** Andrea is a smart player, and Andrea, like me, is thinking well beyond the six, and it's Andrea's opinion that the right big move to make is to blindside Brenda. She can go on an immunity streak. She’s one of the more capable challenge competitors in this game, but this game is all about timing.
10. **Dawn (1/1):** This is the longest I've been in the game. To be this close, makes me feel like these decisions are going to be the really critical ones for me. The best thing for the alliance would be to have, probably, Eddie or Reynold go next. But it's definitely an option to blindside Brenda. The biggest obstacle for me is not having an opponent out here. The biggest obstacle for me has been my mind.
11. **Andrea (3/4):** Finally, Reynolds went home, which is a huge relief. And now we're at final seven. We didn't make the big move tonight, but now I'm thinking about what's next. And the obvious is why don’t we blindside somebody when they don't see it coming? And this is going to come down to who we decide is the bigger threat.
12. **Cochran (6/9):** I'm all about making big moves, and Andrea to her credit, is willing to make a big move, but it's a big move I don't agree with. Once again, she's talking about taking out Brenda, but also Dawn, who’s probably my closest ally in this game.
13. **Brenda (2/3):** Cochran told me that Andrea wants to blindside me or Dawn and that shows just how untrustworthy she is, and so now I want Andrea out of the game because she wants me out of the game.
14. **Cochran (7/9):** Andrea, I think, is one of the few remaining independent thinkers, and that's a dangerous thing, and the time to make a big move is rapidly approaching. So if Andrea doesn't win the next Immunity Challenge and she doesn't play the idol, she might be going home.

Day 33

1. **Erik (2/3):** That challenge was right up my alley. I mean, I killed it, and won immunity. And this time around, I've learned from mistakes that I’ve made in the past. So this is not any kind of moral decision for me to make, whether or not to give it to someone else or keep it, this is a safety blanket that the can get me farther in this game.
2. **Andrea (4/4):** Brenda made my job tonight pretty easy by being a challenge threat. So I wanted Brenda out, I talked to everybody, and now she's going. And I feel bad for the kid because going back to my first season, I felt completely comfortable, and then, bam!, I was blindsided. So I know what it's like to be lied to. I have a Hidden Immunity Idol, I'm going to bring it to Tribal Council. If all of a sudden I feel paranoid, I would play it. But right now, it does seem like my ducks are in a row, and it's going to work out.
3. **Eddie (2/2):** I have been tricked, fooled, and pretty much every other adjective before every Tribal Council, but I feel a little bit differently tonight. Andrea told me that everybody is going to blindside Brenda and there’s really absolutely no reason to lie to me. They know I don't have a Hidden Immunity Idol, so for the first time in, you know, 33 days, I-I think I'm going to Tribal Council with, uh… with an idea of actually who we're voting for and who's going home.
4. **Cochran (8/9):** I haven't been able to mention Eddie's name for the past 10 days without Andrea saying, *“No, Eddie is harmless. I control his vote. He’s fantastic, he’s great.”* And now it all makes sense, she wants to go to the final three with him. Whether it's personal, whether it's strategic, I don't know, but the fact of the matter is, Eddie is moving up on Andrea's priority list so I'm worried that I'm going to be replaced by Eddie. I admire Andrea for having a game plan, but that plan doesn't include me. I want to be a part of everybody's plan, and if I'm not a part of your plan, Andrea, you're not going to be a part of mine.
5. **Brenda (3/3):** I know that Andrea wants to blindside me so this is a very tricky vote. It's like a leap of faith. Like, okay, I'm writing down Andrea and I hope I don't go home. So I'm in huge danger. But the plan's already been enacted, I just have to just let it ride.
6. **Cochran (9/9):** Once again, I have to trust Erik, the ice cream scooper, who gave up his idol and was promptly voted out, and that's scary.
7. **Erik (3/3):** Andrea came up to me and pretty much said she wants to take me all the way to the end. And I think I believe it, but I mean, I helped her get that Hidden Immunity Idol. So I have an in with both alliances at this point. Both alliances think I'm on their side. But Cochran hasn't promised me final three, so if they split the vote, I could totally shake things up. The first time I played the game, I was pretty much at the mercy of what every-- anybody else wanted to do. This time around it's very different. I'm actually in control of the game it feels like, and I'm going to do whatever is best for me.