

**I’m a Mental Giant**

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| **Episode 01 Confessionals** | |
| **Castaway** | **Count** |
| Michele | 2 |
| Aubry | 3 |
| Tai | 6 |
| Cydney | 3 |
| Joe | 2 |
| Jason | 5 |
| Julia | 1 |
| Scot | 5 |
| Debbie | 4 |
| Nick | 3 |
| Neal | 5 |
| Peter | 3 |
| Anna | 6 |
| Alecia | 4 |
| Caleb | 3 |
| Liz | 4 |
| Jennifer | 3 |
| Darnell | 4 |

Day 1

1. **Peter (1/3):** Being an ER doctor, it’s gonna be difficult for me to not show how smart I am, to express humility, but I can’t deal with ignorant people ‘cause they think they know what they’re talking about.
2. **Debbie (1/4):** This game is largely a brain game, and in these challenges I am going to kick ass. Because, puzzles lay down for me like lovers.
3. **Scot (1/5):** I am a former professional basketball player. I was the guy that did all the things nobody else wanted to do. I'd go knock people on the ground, I'd push people out of the way, I did it better than most guys. People I'm gonna get along with are guys that are strong, and if you show weakness, bye-bye! *(cackles maniacally)*
4. **Jason (1/5):** My bread and butter has always been bounty hunting. You kick in the door, you raid the house, you snatch the guy up, hog-tie him like a pig, throw him in the back of your truck and take off. I don't care, I just need to get my paycheck, and you're my paycheck.
5. **Anna (1/6):** I do try and use my looks to my advantage in poker. If I feel like a male is staring at my boobs, I might push them up a little more.
6. **Nick (1/3):** My life has definitely been easier because I'm better looking than most people. And that sounds terrible, it sounds awful, but it's the truth. My looks will definitely help me. 39 days and a million bucks in my pocket at the end.
7. **Caleb (1/3):** People will probably recognize me from *Big Brother*, but being an outdoorsman, this game is totally for me. I don't mind gettin' dirty at all.
8. **Joe (1/2):** It's very hectic out here. I'm a retired FBI agent, and of course there've been times within the FBI when you've had those kind of cases where everything’s going a mile a minute. But this to me is going to be the ultimate challenge, so I'm pumped for this. This is the real deal for me.
9. **Tai (1/6):** I'm, like, running around like crazy. I'm protecting the chicken because I-I-I love all living creature.
10. **Cydney (1/3):** Paddling in and looking around at my Brawn tribe, it feels like home. The majority of my life is about being strong, whether it’s physically or mentally, it’s about being strong.
11. **Jason (2/5):** On the Brawn tribe, it’s going to be a lot of people that think they’re the greatest. I did six years in the ARMY. I don’t need to prove to you I’m badass. A lot of people find me intimidating. They judge me because of how I look. They don’t realize that I’ve got two daughters and my youngest has autism. Like, I’ll be the girlie-girl dad, and then I also teach them how to be a badass.
12. **Alecia (1/4):** People might look at me and be like, *“Oh, Malibu Barbie, you know, she’s not going to be in here long,”* but I’m a lot tougher than they would think. I’ve been bungee jumping in Bali, I’ve been face-to-face shark diving in Australia, I’ve been with three giant uncaged tigers in Thailand. I’m fearless, I’m daring, I’m opinionated. This is something that I know I can do.
13. **Scot (2/5):** I think all of us have a very similar mindset. We’re not beautiful, we’re not smart, but we are strong. And I feel lucky right now. I know that things change in this game really quickly. The same thing that makes you laugh makes you cry, but right now, I think we’ve got a great group.
14. **Liz (1/4):** The Brain tribe is definitely my tribe. That’s the attribute that I actually think is valuable because we are able to look for new approaches and slightly different ways of thinking through the problems. So we’re off to an immediate advantage.
15. **Peter (2/3):** Being called Obama is part of my daily life. It’s been like that for the last seven years. If Debbie calls me Obama, I guarantee you, everyone else is calling me Obama. That being said, if they feel better getting crushed by Obama, so be it.
16. **Debbie (2/4):** I'm a chemist but I've been a photonics manufacturing supervisor, an electronics expert, a bartender, caretaker to nuns, and between jobs, I fill in at *Red Lobster* as a server. So at forty-nine, I bring a lot of worldly experience with me.
17. **Neal (1/5):** I have my own ice cream business, and I think people think that I’m a dandy in ice cream pants. I think they don’t know quite what to make of me. I’m quirky, and incorrigible, and eccentric, but Debbie has a whole different level of craziness.
18. **Neal (2/5):** Supposedly, Debbie has started fire this way many a times. Nobody else made any warranties about their ability to be the savior of this tribe. Somebody that says she’s a fire expert and then comes onto the beach and when it’s really clutch time and they really need to make fire for their tribe can’t do it, is a big concern. (10:48 → 10:59 = 11s)
19. **Neal (3/5):** Looking back at past seasons, it seems like the really smart folks always have some form of *kryptonite*, so I’m a little concerned about being on the Brain tribe. It might be a complete and utter madness.
20. **Nick (2/3):** Life, without a doubt, is beautiful. Our tribe is beautiful, we’re feeling beautiful, the island is beautiful. I mean, we’re all excited, we’re all happy, we’re all smiles, and we work well together around camp. Right now, nothing can go wrong.
21. **Tai (2/6):** Why am I here?! You know, look at me, I’m bald, you know, big head, bald, big ears, you know, skinny little body. I don’t belong here. Uh, I’m just thinking, *“My God! When I go home, people say, Huh?! They made a mistake. Why (chuckles) they putting you on the Beauty tribe?,”* especially my boyfriend or somebody. But, yeah, I think my personality can come out. We all have beautiful inside and outside.
22. **Michele (1/2):** Being a bartender is an extremely social job. You learn that personality types want certain things from you, so I was like, *“Okay, who-who looks like I would get along with them?”* There’s Tai, he’s freaking always moving. He’s like a whirlwind. Caleb is super strong. And Nick, you know, the tall, dreamy guy. Of course, I was like, *“Oh! He’s on my tribe?”* I get to spend a lot of time with him and he gets to see me disgustingly dirty… wonderful. *(laughs)* So I decided to build the relationship with the girls. You know, you’re inclined to kind of go with the girls, weave palm fronds, braid each other’s hair, whatever. Girls kind of go with girls and so that alliance felt really natural to me.
23. **Caleb (2/3):** I’m looking around at my Beauty tribe and I’m sitting here kind of wondering to myself, *“Why in the world is Tai on this tribe?”* Fifty, sixty year-old Asian guy that’s got eyebrows, like, three or four inches long. Dude’s got *Mr. Miyagi* glasses. Like, I don’t understand. Like, maybe there’s a lot more to him than what people really see.
24. **Tai (3/6):** I love all living creature, especially the plant. As a gardener, it hurts me when I see people cut off branches and thinks, like, you know, it’s just like an arm. You cut it off, it cannot grow back the same way. And sometimes I could be really, uh, strong about it. But this is *Survivor*. I’ve got to be smart about how I say it. (14:49 → 15:03 = 14s)
25. **Tai (4/6):** I’m from Vietnam. I lived through the war and I survived. And we left Vietnam by boat in 1979, two hundred sixty-two people were on a twenty-- twenty-six meter boat. We’re just sitting there like *(gestures fetal position)* this for, like, uh, for eleven days without no food, no food, just a little bit of water, and we just float and float and float. And we get-- we end up on this refugee camp really close to here, a whole year, and then we come to America. So throughout my life, that’s a lot of things I survived through and I think I have an advantage because adventure just excites me. You know, I can’t sit still! This is *Survivor*. It’s a once in a lifetime. I’m loving it.
26. **Jason (3/5):** It’s a harsh sun. My shoulders are fried. My shins are fried. Sunburn hurts, you know? But I give it my all, work physically hard first and start thinking about it as you’re going along. It’s just the type of person I am. (16:34 → 16:44 = 10s)
27. **Jason (4/5):** Blondie -- I haven’t even learned her name -- call her Blondie… I have zero faith in that girl. She doesn’t do anything. To me, she’s at the bottom. I have no sympathy for her. I got my own wife and kids to worry about.
28. **Jason (5/5):** The truth is I want as many alliances as possible. In my eyes, these alliances are only truthful when I need ‘em. Potentially, they could all be truthful in a way. Every single one of them could be bull. I’ll make that decision as I need to make it.
29. **Darnell (1/4):** Growing up in Chicago, it was pretty tough. There’s a lot of stuff that I’ve learned, and I’m going to bring those instincts into this game. I use my gut. (18:11 → 18:26 = 15s)
30. **Darnell (2/4):** I most definitely trust Cydney. This gut don’t lie to me. And right now, my gut tells me, *“Go use the-the-the bathroom.”* (18:38 → 18:53 = 15s)
31. **Darnell (3/4):** And then I just hear, *“Darnell, are-are you taking a dump?”* You know, just putting me on blast. I mean, seriously. I can’t be at peace for just two seconds?
32. **Nick (3/3):** It wasn’t the best of starts for the Beauty tribe, whatsoever. While we’re building the shelter, the chickens get out. And it’s just like, *“Really? This, right now?”* (19:43 → 19:52 = 9s) We are running around like chickens with our heads cut off, and we’re wasting calories but you desperately want those chickens. We got two of ‘em back. And 66%? I’ll take it. But it wasn’t the best start.
33. **Anna (2/6):** I love Tai’s approach to life. He takes his time with all of us, and when there’s something new, he tries to teach all of us, and I absolutely love that about him. He taught us how to tie a little rope on the chickens and how to run around. I love that! He respects all the little creatures and insects that live here.
34. **Anna (3/6):** Tai is someone that I can definitely work with. The three girls, we’re pretty tight, but in order to have the numbers and to propel ourselves in the game, we need a guy, and Tai is perfect to take along with us. We can use him, for sure.
35. **Julia (1/1):** There’s a little bit of a connotation that comes with being in a sorority. People underestimate you. They think that’s all you do and they think that’s how you get through life, you know, like, the way that you look. But I’m really not like that at all. I can pull my own weight and I’ll be able to make connections instantly with these people. I definitely want to stick with Anna and pull in Michele. I think that the three of us could do very well.
36. **Anna (4/6):** Julia came up to me and was like, *“Listen, Caleb was on Big Brother,”* so I trusted her. And it actually gives us a lot of information that he was on *Big Brother*. He had an alliance of nine in *Big Brother* and he kept it all the way, which shows me that he’s very loyal. So that’s really important for us.
37. **Caleb (3/3):** I’m “Beast Mode Cowboy” from *Big Brother*, but I’m more than that and I want to show everybody what I’m made of. I was in the military right out of high school. I was a prison guard in Baghdad, Iraq. So, you know, I have been through a lot of things that a lot of people have not had to go through. If I’m in a competition where I’m standing on my tippy toes for three hours, I’m going to stand on my tippy toes for three hours until the last person gives up. Living my daily life on a farm and being an outdoorsman, this is home to me. I know what it takes to make a fire. I’ll do whatever I have to do to get what I want. I believe I’m probably mentally stronger than anyone in this game.

Day 2

1. **Joe (2/2):** I’m seventy-one years old, and I-I was a hostage negotiator in the FBI. We were on some dangerous assignments at times, but I have street sense. I tend to see things before they actually happen, kind of, and have intuitiveness about things, so I think I can be able to make it through that gauntlet to be the *Sole Survivor*.
2. **Debbie (3/4):** Joe and I are work horses. We’ve got the wisdom to know before we go strategizing about winning the game, we have to stay alive! This is *Survivor*. You actually have to survive here. So I’m going to make this camp as comfortable as I can, mostly for me and Joe, because Joe and I plan on sticking around a very long time.
3. **Liz (2/4):** Debbie talks, talks, talks, and talks so highly of herself that I start to think that she might just annoy everybody to death!
4. **Neal (4/5):** When you have six people on a tribe, and you know that four of us are gonna be quicker, both physically as well as mentally, it makes a hell of a lot of sense to try to keep the four younger ones together.
5. **Peter (3/3):** In our group, we’ve got four young people and two old people. The fact that I say they’re old people means that they already stick out. Joe and Debbie are low-hanging fruit so they’re going to be eaten first.
6. **Tai (5/6):** I’m gonna look around, try to see if I can find… some signs for the idol. This morning, we were walking and everybody turned around to take the bamboo back, so I say, *“I have to look for the idol.”* I have no clue but this is *Survivor*-- gotta be an idol somewhere near here.
7. **Anna (5/6):** I’m looking around, and then I saw Tai, and as soon as I walk up, he kneels down. I’m like, *“That’s really weird.”* And I see him patting the floor, and I’m like, *“Okay, well, this guy’s looking for the idol,”* and I’m just right away sketched.
8. **Anna (6/6):** Yesterday, I felt comfortable with him, but now, I don’t trust you for a freakin’ second.
9. **Tai (6/6):** I screw everything up. It’s not good for me at all. The fact that I went away for half an hour to look for the idol, and I got caught.
10. **Michele (2/2):** I just don’t trust Tai. I think that he’s bringing a lot of anxious energy. He made his bed, and right now, Tai is number one for me.
11. **Aubry (1/3):** It’s so hot out here that I don’t think you even realize in the moment how hot it is. You realize when you start moving slower. It kind of scrambles your brain. It slows you down. And you can’t escape it. I think this heat might be one of the biggest factors in this game. (30:23 → 30:32 = 9s) I mean, look at me. I went to a prep school, and I work in social media. So coming from Boston, in the middle of winter, to being marooned here, it’s like going from black to white. It’s intense. I started feeling a little wobbly and discombobulated, and your thoughts stop moving in a linear pattern.
12. **Debbie (4/4):** Aubry comes to me and immediately I knew she was dehydrated, heat exhaustion, and anxiety-ridden. She was also absolutely overwhelmed with being thrown into a jungle with five strangers.
13. **Aubry (2/3):** I care about this game. I love everything about it, and maybe I worked it up too much in my own head. This situation I’m in isn’t even about the environment, this is all about my own head. I’m a thinker. I get stuck in my own head. I know that I brought this upon myself.
14. **Liz (3/4):** Aubry wasn’t, like, ill dehydrated. She hadn’t even gotten to the point of, like, chapped lips. So for her it was really more of an anxiety attack. She was just freaking out about freaking out. (32:33 → 32:45 = 12s)
15. **Liz (4/4):** Whatever impression she’s giving off on Day 2, I do think there’s a significant risk that she cracks again next time something doesn’t go well.
16. **Neal (5/5):** With Aubry being weird and freaking out, I think it might be a repeat of the first *Brains, Beauty, and Brawn* where Brains was a mess and just got shellacked.
17. **Jennifer (1/3):** *(painfully and tearfully)* I’m actually worried. I’m not sure, but I think I got a bug in my ear, and I thought, *“It’s fine. It’ll crawl out. It’s not a big deal.”* But instead of crawling out, it is getting deeper in my ear. I can’t sleep. I can’t get comfortable. *(sniffles)* It’s just disgusting hearing these little legs crawl around in your head. Like, it’s digging deeper into my ear canal. I don’t know what that does to a person. Emotionally, it does a lot, but, I mean, physically, what kind of damage is it doing? I feel like there’s blood coming out of my ear. I don’t know what it’s doing to me. It’s so painful. I prepared to face a lot out here, but I didn’t prepare for some bug to munch me from the inside.

Day 3

1. **Jennifer (2/3):** *(painfully and tearfully)* All night, I haven’t slept, like, not even a minute! I want to know what is inside me that is causing my ear to bleed. And it’s so painful, like, it hurts so bad. Like, it’ll go for thirty seconds and he’ll stop for a minute and he starts again. I can hear him. He’s literally digging. Like… *(screams)* Ah! That’s what it sounds like. And he’s getting further in. I thought he would crawl out, but he’s going further inside my ear, and it… God, it just hurts so bad!
2. **Alecia (2/4):** It is a concern going into a challenge, thinking that we might lose one of our tribemates ‘cause she has a bug in her ear. I do very likely think today that if we lose I could be on the chopping block because they want a stronger team, so hopefully Jen is gonna be okay for the challenge ‘cause I don’t want us going into the challenge with five people.
3. **Scot (3/5):** Poor Jenny. She’s bleeding and she’s in some pain. But selfishly, I’m a little worried about the challenge today. If we don’t win this, it’s gonna hurt all of us. So, quite literally, failure is not an option.
4. **Cydney (2/3):** Eww! It was just amazing. At first, I wasn’t sure how long it was and ended being about *(shows short distance between thumb and index finger)* yay big coming out of her ear which was-- it’s pretty long for an ear canal, so I can see how she was in pain.
5. **Jennifer (3/3):** I feel amazing. I… back to what I was before, ready to take on all these challenges. I got this. 39 days, no problem.
6. **Aubry (3/3):** This hasn’t been easy for me. I’ve been having a bit of a hard time. I might be going home tonight but I’m not going to go home without giving this one everything I have.
7. **Alecia (3/4):** It is risky at Tribal because I’m not a puzzle wizard! You know, but Darnell dropped the glasses and totally screwed up the challenge. So the only way for me to stay in this game right now, is to try and get them to vote off Darnell.
8. **Darnell (4/4):** Growing up in Chicago, I was a lifeguard, but I never knew that seawater was that dark-- that murky. Like, you couldn’t see nothing. When people in this game are not talking to you, they’re talking about you. We have Tribal tonight, I’m a good candidate to going home, so I’m going to do what I gotta do.
9. **Scot (4/5):** We’ve got Tribal Council tonight, and the two people that are on the chopping block, it’s Darnell and Alecia. But really there’s just one in my opinion. Darnell loses the mask. He apologized, but the dead weight in the challenge, it was just unacceptable.
10. **Alecia (4/4):** I don’t think I can trust Scot, but if I can just try and be a master manipulator and then vote Darnell, then that's’ the only option that right now I really have.
11. **Scot (5/5):** That just blew my mind. I threw her a freakin’ bone. You’re pushing yourself out of this game. We’re trying to give her blatant hints to just, *“Calm down, because the only thing you’re doing right now is killing yourself.”*
12. **Cydney (3/3):** They want to vote Darnell out, but I do prefer Alecia to go just based on the simple fact that she doesn’t do anything. I’d prefer for Darnell to stick around because of our initial alliance. The more numbers I have, the better it is for me. So when I get to Tribal, I’m going to make sure people know who needs to go home.