

**The Past Will Eat You Alive**

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| **Episode 05 Confessionals** | |
| **Castaway** | **Count** |
| Ben | 1 |
| Chrissy | 5 |
| Ryan | 3 |
| Devon | 1 |
| Mike | 2 |
| Ashley | 3 |
| Lauren | 1 |
| Joe | 1 |
| JP | 0 |
| Cole | 0 |
| Desi | 1 |
| Jessica | 1 |
| Ali | 3 |
| Roark | 4 |

Day 11

1. **Ashley (1/3):** At Tribal Council, when Joe decided to play the idol for himself, my entire jaw just dropped. Like, I-- everything just-- in my whole world just stopped. I wouldn’t say that I was like 100% team Alan, but he was the one Hero on my tribe. Joe made himself a target on purpose, and so he tricked us all. Joe is a scary one. He’s getting crazier and crazier, but right now it’s 2 vs. 2. So, who knows what’s going to happen.
2. **Joe (1/1):** I’ve completely blindsided this entire tribe with the idol. I wanted them to throw the votes to me, so I had to play the nervous route. I didn’t want anyone thinking I was overconfident, that I had the idol. You know, I had my hands up, all this, I put my head down. That was all an act. Like, I wasn’t-- I had the idol. I’m not going home.

Day 12

1. **Ben (1/1):** There was a bamboo explosion in the fire, and I don’t like loud noises like that, like when they’re unexpected. It kind of put me in a bad spot. I was in the Marines for three and half years. When you go through combat and you come back, there is no way to adjust fully. There’s things upstairs that are there forever. Coming back with that stuff, it’s hard, and you feel lonely, and you feel that nobody understands. Other people, civilians or whatever, have no idea what it’s like to, uh, to be shot or mortar-- have-have people try to kill you. You can’t comprehend that without being there and going through it. And so those reactions are 100% real for men and women that have fought for our country. And it’s hard to be around other people that don’t understand that. Before I met my wife, that was a monkey on my back. My wife and kids have definitely saved me from my demons, my nightmares, and the past. I used to live in the past. That’s not a good thing for anyone. You have to look forward to the future, because the past will eat you alive, but the future will save you. *(tearfully)* You know, winning the million for my family is-is my goal, but there’s a bigger picture, and it’s bigger than me, my family, the game of *Survivor*. It’s about just being able to show vets who have have gone through battle and war and depression and PTSD, there’s a way to life outside of all that hell… *(nods head)* and that’s what I’m doing.

Day 13

1. **Ali (1/3):** Ryan didn’t do well in the Reward Challenge, but challenges are only part of the game. I’ve been with Ryan the whole time, so my trust with Ryan is there. And I need to do everything I can to have his back.
2. **Desi (1/1):** We won the sweetest reward so far, literally and figuratively. Uh, not only did we have this, like, huge tray full of pastries, but a coffee-brewing, tea-brewing kind of setup. After Tribal Council last night, we were clearly divided, but with this reward, it’s time for us to come together as a team, and so I think we can-- we can do it.
3. **Devon (1/1):** Winning that reward, it was just so nice-- spiritually, physically, mentally, all of it-- but it makes me realize more and more how important it is to keep my mind in the game. (14:29 → 14:38 = 9s) I think the best thing for my game in the end would be to get rid of Joe. He’s the strongest player I’ve met here as far as knowledge of the game, strategy. He’s a good player and he scares me.
4. **Ashley (2/3):** After a night like last night, I’m feeling incredibly nervous. The only good thing is that I have Devon. We are in this together. (15:19 → 15:29 = 10s)
5. **Ashley (3/3):** Right now, Joe thinks that he’s finally in control, but me and Devon are still in this. It’s still 50-50. There’s just no middle man. Devon and I are really gonna work on Desi, because faced with a tie vote, in order to keep herself safe, I think she’d flip on Joe, because if not, the next vote is going to rocks.
6. **Ryan (1/3):** The Reward Challenge was an absolute disaster. I lost the challenge for my tribe. But at the same time, I just have to continue to cater to my specific skillset, which is my social game, and my social game is everything. It is built upon making people laugh. And if I can help people get through the day and laugh, then it’s easier for them to crack open that coconut for me, and pick me up after I lose a challenge. Everybody has failure in the game. Everybody. You just don’t want that failure to be getting voted out.
7. **Roark (1/4):** I’m objectively on the outside, as I am the lone Healer at Soko beach. I love a 2-2-1 split, and I want to start developing friendships with these people where they feel safe with me to talk game with me. (17:24 → 17:37 = 13s)
8. **Roark (2/4):** It’s definitely good to receive some support from Ali, some interest in working together, and when we merge, if she is looking for numbers, I can bring some numbers.
9. **Ali (2/3):** The Hustlers were just a group of losers, but being here I can finally actually build these personal relationships that I know will further my game. So if I can build this rapport with Roark, hopefully when the merge does come, she will take me in as a part of their six, seven, because at the beginning you’re gonna need a lot of numbers. It’s very difficult to know to make the right decision, but I think that going with Roark is best for our game right now. I think that the next two Tribals, if we have to go, we can vote out Chrissy and then JP. If this works out, we can go far in this game.
10. **Ryan (2/3):** The good news is, I continue to be in positions where people want to work with me. But unfortunately, my two closest alliance members, Chrissy and Ali, would never work with each other. So I’m in the middle and I need to tread very lightly not to mess this up.
11. **Lauren (1/1):** Cole’s eating habits are really bad. He’s very inconsiderate. He’s like a pig. He licks everything. He’s licking the spoon. Then he scratches between his legs. I mean, it’s just so gross. And Ben notices it. I mean, Ben’s rolling his eyes. He’s getting a little ticked about it. So I’m hoping Cole keeps digging his hole deeper and deeper and deeper, and maybe he’ll eat enough that he’ll stick his lips together.
12. **Jessica (1/1):** When we first got here after the split, I felt like Cole, Mike, and I were in control, but after seeing Cole tell secrets, I do believe that Mike is paranoid about Cole as a number. On the flip side of that, Mike can keep a secret, so right now it would be to the benefit of my game to form more of a bond with Mike.
13. **Mike (1/2):** On our last island, Joe and Cole found an idol near the well. And so this morning, I go to the well with Jessica, she says, *“Mike, why don’t you dig some more?,”* and so I start digging again. And I’m just digging and digging. Just digging around and hoping I find something. If there’s an idol on this island, I’m going to find that idol.
14. **Mike (2/2):** I have been looking for this idol non-stop. Like, my kids are going to be so proud of me, but there’s always a danger in somebody else knowing about the idol. I’m ok with Jessica knowing that I have the idol. And so at this point, I’m trusting her. In reality, the idol is mine. *Survivor* is only one third over, but things have changed from going from the bottom to the top. This has been the story of my life, but you can never underestimate Dr. Mike.

Day 14

1. **Roark (3/4):** Tonight is my first Tribal Council. I am nervous, but Chrissy definitely struggled in this challenge. She needs to go.
2. **Chrissy (1/5):** I do not feel safe going into tonight’s Tribal, and I am having a hard time trusting anyone, but I think that I’m going to have to go there in order to move forward in this game. You always are nervous in this game, and I feel like if I’m going to play, I want to play big. (31:14 → 31:25 = 11s)
3. **Chrissy (2/5):** I believe that Roark is the next most dangerous player behind me, but I haven’t been able to put my finger on her.
4. **Roark (4/4):** We’re headed to Tribal and today is the first day Chrissy ever feels the need to talk game with me. In my head, I’m like, *“Are you kidding me?”* I want Chrissy to go home.
5. **Chrissy (3/5):** I was really hoping that Roark wanted to work with me going forward, but I don’t believe anything she says and I wish I could stop and say to her, *“You are not the smartest person here,”* but I don’t want to ruin my game. So my plan is to create this imaginary girls alliance. If there is a girls alliance, then clearly I would not be the one voted out, and JP might think that he were the next to go. (32:34 → 32:49 = 15s)
6. **Chrissy (4/5):** So JP and I are two, so now I need Ryan. I want to believe that Ryan has my back.
7. **Chrissy (5/5):** The plan right now is that JP, Ryan, and myself will blindside Roark and send her home.
8. **Ali (3/3):** The main reason for taking out Chrissy tonight is that she just could not balance on that beam, and with her, we’re not going to be as strong in challenges. And so I want Chrissy to go home tonight.
9. **Ryan (3/3):** I am in the swing vote position. I seemingly have the choice tonight on who to send home. Me and Chrissy are so tight because that first day I went to her with the advantage. On the other hand, Ali has only played the game with one person, and that person is me. Whoever I go with, there’s going to be one person who is going to hate me. This is a huge decision, but I’m here to try and win this game, to build the best social game I can, and unfortunately I’m breaking that social bond with somebody tonight, but I still think it best advances my game.