

Designated survivor episode guide recap

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Comic Book MenAMC's new unscripted series, *Comic Book Men*, dives deep into fanboy culture by following the antics in and around master fanboy Kevin Smith's New Jersey comic shop, where both staff and customers geek out over mind-blowing pop culture artifacts and the legends behind them. Leading the crew behind the counter are moody manager Walt, uber-nerd Mike, career slacker Bryan, and Ming, the shop's go-to whipping boy. As the team buys, sells and discovers the treasures of the comic collecting world, they share all the juicy details with Kevin through their outrageous podcast, which is woven throughout the series. "Outwit. Outplay. Outlast." — US Series taglineSurvivor is... it's... Well, if The Real World is the grand-daddy of the reality show, Survivor is the daddy. It debuted in 2000, proved to be a huge hit and a big moneymaker for CBS, and launched a wave of reality shows that, even in The New Twenties, we're still recovering from. The story is as follows: a fixed number of men and women are stuck in a wilderness setting (typically, but not always, a deserted tropical island), all the better to get the contestants out of their clothes), where they're divided into at least two tribes (mostly random, but sometimes by gender, age or race). Then they must build a shelter and make fire so they can safely eat food and drink water. Oftentimes they get to take in a luxury item from home, or they'll have to win it. Each week, the tribes compete in a series of challenges, where they win rewards and immunity, which allows them to avoid Tribal Council. The losers (who attend Tribal Council) then have to decide which of them will be Voted Off the Island. When a sufficient amount of time has passed, the tribes are merged into one and nearly all the challenges, rewards, and immunities become individual, rather than tribe-based. After 39 days, 2-3 people are left for the Final Tribal Council, where the recently eliminated contestants from the merged tribe form the Jury and vote to decide who wins the \$1,000,000 prize.A guilty pleasure if ever there was one, although some actually do watch the show for sociological purposes, like with Big Brother.Several podcasts dedicated to contestant interviews, remembering past seasons nostalgically, and discussing strategy exists online, including Rob Has a Podcast, Armchair Survivor, Survivor Oz, Dom And Colin, and Survivor Historians.A list and summary of the US seasons can be found on the Recap page.Based on a format created by Charlie Parsons. The first produced show based on the format was the Swedish reality game show Expedition: Robinson. The original concept was said during All-Stars to have been inspired by William Golding's 1954 novel Lord of the Flies.Not to be confused with that one show that's actually about surviving. Or the third series from Erin Hunter. Or the band best known for "Eye of the Tiger". Or the game about trying to escape from a fire.Note: The Australian and South African versions now have their own pages.WARNING: Spoilers ahead are unmarked. You have been warned.Previously on... 'Survivor' open/close all folders General Tropes Added Alliterative Appeal: As seen on the seasonal logos, the show's usual tagline is "Outwit, Outplay, Outlast", and in Heroes vs. Villains it was replaced with another alliteration, "Return, Revenge, Redemption". China is the only season without an alliterative tagline, as the usual one was loosely translated into Chinese. Some subtitles and formats have it too, such as Fans vs. Favorites, "Brains vs. Brawn vs. Beauty", Heroes vs. Healers vs. Hustlers, Edge of Extinction, and Island of the Idols. All or Nothing: While all the contestants get something for their time (ranging from around \$2,500 for last place to \$100,000 for the runner-up.) and one can still win the Fan Favorite prize in seasons where it is offered, the prize structure is still essentially winner-take-all. And Knowing Is Half the Battle: Just before dismissing them from Tribal Council, Jeff Probst will add a brief remark about that vote or the tribe's prospects in general. Most are rather obvious, but the best may be the line from ep. 12 of Micronesia: "You guys are perfecting the art of the blindsides. That is the good news, and that is the bad news." Anti-Rage Quitting: After two players quit at the same time in Nicaragua, a rule was introduced that considers quitting a violation of the players' contract, and allows the producers to withhold their consolation prize, and if applicable, their spot on the jury.note Voted out players leaving the Edge of Extinction is considered okay. This may be waived if the producers feel the quitter had a valid reason for doing so, such as an injury serious enough to demand treatment, but not life-threatening to necessitate a medical evacuation. Also note that no player has reappeared on the show after quitting the game. Anyone Can Die: Well, not actual death, but anyone can get eliminated no matter how safe they seem: Ever since Gretchen Cordy was booted off it was made clear that even the strongest competitors could go home. Ever since Michael Skupin fell in the fire, it's been revealed that people can be medically evacuated from the game. Ever since John Carroll went, even members of majority alliances could be overthrown. Ever since Pachal was voted out, the purple rock ensured that people could be eliminated without receiving any votes. Ever since the immunity idol was introduced in Fiji, there is literally no way to call anyone completely safe.note Since people will try to vote for any of their opposition to get around the idol, even if they aren't the biggest threat unless they happen to be wearing an immunity necklace.... Most of the time, because Erik from Micronesia was voted out after giving up immunity! Even an immune person isn't 100% safe from themselves. (Brandon made this mistake as well) Cirie Fields from Game-Changers was voted out despite receiving no votes and no purple rock. Everyone else pulled out immunities and she was eliminated by default. Dan Spillo from Island of the Idols was voted out without being injured or going to tribal council, thanks to getting hand's with a producer. Gabon in particular is a season where no one is safe from elimination. Apple of Discord: Some individual rewards force the winner to choose a couple of tribemates to join him/her (or put another way, has to choose a bunch of people to get nothing). "Three strikes" challenges are also good for this, as they put the social pecking order on display. In both cases, there's a good chance for someone to get offended. Auction: This was a commonly recurring "challenge" up until Worlds Apart (Season 30). Mystery Box: Jeff typically pulls out several covered items during auctions. It's usually either something absolutely disgusting (pond water, plant roots) or the best thing at the auction (steak and fully loaded baked potato, a full breakfast plate). Screw the Rules, I Have Money!: Some seasons' auctions have sold advantages in Immunity Challenges. These bonuses may take the form of a guaranteed spot in the challenge's last stage, a second chance at its overall goal, or partial credit towards the user's progress in the challenge. In Worlds Apart, one of these turned out to be not a challenge advantage but a Tribal Council advantage, an extra vote to be cast in a future Council. (Unfortunately, this is probably what caused the end of the auctions, as the increasingly cutthroat nature of the game made it too common for contestants to hoard money for a possible advantage.) Zonk: At least one useless item shows up per auction, always hidden in one of the above-mentioned Mystery Boxes. Subverted in Worlds Apart, where Will bought himself a disqualification from the auction and was sent back to camp... where production had hidden a large stash of extra rations for him to find. Ascended Fanboy: Unsurprisingly, most people who sign up for the show are already fans of it, and thus any given cast probably has several of these. That said, it wasn't until John Cochran appeared on South Pacific and informed the audience that he had written a prize-winning essay about the show that "superfan" became one of the show's favorite casting archetypes. Beach Episode: This is more or less a Beach Series, and the reasoning behind such episodes is part of why there will never be Survivor: The Arctic. Even the ones not actually on beaches tend to be in tropical climates, encouraging players to show some skin. Beauty Is Never Tarnished: While men are given no beauty products, women are provided the means to keep their legs and pits shaved throughout the season. Bilingual Bonus: Most of the tribe names that aren't simply the names of local islands or cities are words in the native language. Our recap page lists all the tribe names and their meanings. In an interesting twist, occasionally a merged tribe is named something that a contestant claims to be meaningful, but is really just a bad pun or a shout-out to their family. Bitch Alert: If - or rather, when - there's someone (of either gender) that's going to spend the month in the wilderness acting nasty, the editors will let you know quickly.Corinne in Gabon: I'm gonna be a total bitch, and I'm gonna get rid of who I have to get rid of, and I'm gonna hurt people's feelings and I'm gonna laugh when people cry. Bittersweet Ending: For everybody who lost the Final Tribal Council. As expressed by several losing finalists, it would be sad when you realize that you lost the title of the Sole Survivor, but at least it is rewarding that you have survived till the final day in an unfamiliar location, and still won some cash. Blessed with Suck: Assuming they make the merge, players who are considered unimpressive or unpopular are likely to be brought to the end because they are considered easily beatable. This is occasionally subverted, as other players recognize that others wanting to take these "goals" to the end actually made them threatening because it increased one's own likelihood of getting voted out, examples include Courtney from Panama and Albi Maria in Second Chances. Butt-Monkey: Every season has at least one. Poor Boo of Fiji was one. He not only hurt himself numerous times on the same day (which was actually pretty funny) but later tore his ACL - then it went into the unfunny territory. The Ulong tribe in Palau lost every single Immunity Challenge and were reduced to only one member. The appropriately named Matsing (meaning "monkey") tribe in Philippines lost all four challenges it participated in and ceased to exist only eleven days into the game. Ironically, one of its two surviving members went on to win the game. Can't Catch Up: If one tribe does poorly enough in the pre-merge game, then they wind up entering with a severe minority and are (usually) easy pickings for the majority. Ulong and Ravu are the most famous and prominent examples. Ulong in Palau lost every single immunity challenge and were reduced to just one member. Ravu in Fiji was intentionally given much fewer supplies than the Moto tribe as part of a "have vs. have not" setup; and they never were able to catch up to the much better fed and rested Moto. The producers admit that Fiji was a failed experiment. More generically, when one is down a member, the other tribes are forced to sit someone out. Competing in back-to-back challenges without any rewards can easily cause tribemates to get tired out and be unable to perform in the immunity challenge. Inactively, the players who are ahead sit out their weaker players for the immunity challenge because that's the more important one. Some seasons subvert this when a winner comes from a tribe that was in a minority during the merge. Such as the awesomeness of the post-mutiny Aitu Four in Cook Islands that soundly whooped the eight-strong Raro tribe after realizing their weakness in numbers. Captain Obvious: Jeff whenever he announces for a challenge; usually in the form of "Player X, doing Y." After Jonathan Penner got irritated at his announcements during a Cook Islands challenge and told him to shut up, Jeff broke the fourth wall for the first time with this immortal line "Jonathan, getting frustrated by me!" Catchphrase: Jeff Probst has several, to the point where he's ritualized half his dialogue. Some of the Tribal Council lines fall under Rules Spiel. For example, "Everybody, drop your buffs" is said by Jeff every time there's a tribal switch or merge. This one was played with a bit in Heroes vs. Villains as Jeff said "drop your expectations" due to the Villains tribe incorrectly guessing that there would be a merge with 12 castaways left; the merge was later done in 10 castaways instead. Color-Coded for Your Convenience: Each tribe has a color given to its buffs, flag, challenge props, etc. Starting with Tocantins, a tribe's entire wardrobe are more-or-less color-coded in its color. The Complainer Is Always Wrong: As good as reason as any to kick someone out early, or keep them around as a goat sure to lose in the finals. For example, why Jimmy T. was booted in Nicaragua. Confession Cam: As in most reality shows, the contestants constantly give confessionals. Thanks to Manipulative Editing, it's hard to tell when they are actually filmed. Also, the contestants give confessionals while voting, usually stating why they're voting for a specific person. Cool Old Guy: Anyone who played a good game at the age of 40 and beyond. Special mention to Tina Wesson, Tom Westman, Bob Crowley and Denise Stapley for winning their respective seasons, Terry Deitz for having an awesome immunity streak and Rudy Boesch for playing twice in his seventies. Curb-Stomp Battle: Often happens (or is at least attempted) post-merge, when the larger former tribe gangs up on the smaller one. Marquessa, where Roto destroyed Maraamu in all but 1 immunity challenge. The most infamous is most likely Koror vs. Ulong in Palau. Ulong was for a long time the only tribe in Survivor history to exist for more than a week but never win a single Immunity Challenge (and they lost all but three of the Reward Challenges as well). When the tribes merged, it consisted of eight Koror members and Stephanie LaGrossa, the only Ulong left note If we're being technical, there was never even an actual merge; Stephanie simply joined Koror. Fiji had Ravu, which was 0-8 in immunity challenges (beating Ulong's streak by one loss) and 1-4 in rewards, for a total of one win and twelve losses. This was thanks to a "have vs. have not" gimmick that gave Ravu the worst campsite in the show's history while their rival Moto had one of the best. Redemption Island was played up as a grudge match between Boston Rob and Russell, but turned into one of these when Russell's tribe unceremoniously threw a challenge to get rid of him after only a week. They were promptly Fagoned right after the merge. Philippines features Matsing, which became the third tribe to never win a single Immunity Challenge and the first with no challenge victories at all to their name, losing four times in a row until only two members remained. Tandang went on to be the first tribe in Survivor history to never lose a single member before the merge, winning every one-on-one Immunity Challenge against Kalabaw. Sometimes, Final Tribal Council can be this. One notable example is J.T. vs. Stephen in Tocantins, where J.T. won 7-0. Some players who prefer Honor Before Reason will take a more deserving player to the end with them, in hopes that such a move will impress the jury. This almost always backfires, and the losing player rarely lives it down. Examples include Colby from Australia and Woo from Cayagan. Cursed with Awesome: Players considered to have strong athletic, social, or strategic prowess are likely to get voted out before making it to the final jury. This led producers to move from a Final 2 to a Final 3, so there would be more than one compelling choice in the finals. Dark Horse Victory: Vecepia, Jenna, Sandra (twice), Amber, Danni, Natalie White, Fabio, Sophie, Denise, Tony (twice), Natalie Anderson, Michele, Adam, Ben, and Chris Underwood were all unexpected winners, at least from a narrative perspective. Most of them did, however, receive a suspicious amount of focus from the editors. Questionable casting choices that went on to win all-stars seasons include Parvati, Cochran, Tyson, and Sarah. Deadly Game: While not outright life-threatening, the physical exertion required in challenges combined with the near-starvation conditions and oppressive heat present in many seasons have definitely taken their toll on the contestants. Not to mention the possibility of contracting foreign diseases. Lex from Africa was apparently sick for months after the game with a variety of illnesses and Daniel Lee, an early castoff from Amazon contracted malaria. Sandra was asked to return to All Stars from Pearl Islands but said she was still recovering from parasites she had contracted in Pearl Islands. Marquessa, while not deadly, still had discomfort caused by bugs so the location will never be used again. However, some contestants have had brushes with death mid-season, including Mike Skupin in Australia who got drowsy from smoke inhalation while working on a fire and partially FELL INTO IT. Fortunately for Skupin, his glasses and hat hit the fire before his face, but he still took third-degree burns to his arms and spent three weeks in a burn unit. All of the medical evacuations fall into this - Jonathan's Knee and Joe's leg probably count as well, seeing as these were considered life-threatening. It's actually mentioned there's quite a bit of Dangerous Terrain, which is a bit of a risk and often an obstacle to finding good places to film the show. Samoa, for example, is a good place for a show, but the contestants have been apparently ordered to stay within 20-30 feet of the shore (in the ocean) because the waters are actually quite turbulent, and there's the risk of riptides and undertow. It didn't show up much in Samoa and Heroes vs. Villains, but one of the show's best swimmers (Ozzy) in the South Pacific season shows exactly how big the waves are...and how beautiful the ocean around the islands are. Some contestants actually have sustained injuries that followed them outside the game. The first person eliminated from Guatemala had torn his hip in a challenge (after the hike). Months later, he was interviewed, and his arm was still in a splint. (It should be noted that he was actually one of the oldest contestants that season, which slowed down the healing process) Ian from Palau stated that he has nerve damage in parts of his feet from the nearly-12-hour-long-endurance challenge. Heck! In the Bulgarian version of Survivor, one of the contestants died mid-season and the show still rolled along. One contestant in the French version of the show (Koh-Lanta) died on Day 1, causing the cancellation of the season. In addition to disgusting water and oppressive heat, Africa also featured the unique risk of being eaten by lions. The tribes were actually responsible for building a barrier around their camp to keep predators out and Mark Burnett actually yelled at Boran for not doing so and risking the lives of his crew. In the fourth episode of Kaoh Rong, THREE people went down after the reward challenge due to intense heat and strain on their bodies and the entire crew had to get involved to check on the contestants, with one ultimately getting evacuated after his kidney and liver failed. Deadly Scratch: An occasional cause for medical evacuation, as limited access to medicine and bandages can make an otherwise infected. Jonathan Penner (Micronesian) and Neal Gottlieb (Kaoh Rong) both had to be pulled for infections that could have costed them their leg, if not their life, while James Clemens (also Micronesian) had to be removed for an infection on a cut no wider than his finger. Decided by One Vote: As a whole, the show averages about two votes per season decided on this marginnote This number increases if you include two vote differences (one person in the majority is enough to force a tie), idol plays (which throw off the vote count entirely), or the penultimate vote in seasons with a final two (where only one vote is even cast). Typically, such a divided vote sets a precedent where the side in the majority is in power going forward, but at times, this works the other way, kicking off a string of chaotic gameplay. A few notable examples include: Cook Islands featured an unexpected turn of events, where after an offer to change tribes, Raro was up 8-4 against Aitu. However, between a winning streak and a double elimination twist, Aitu was able to make merge without losing anyone. Then, with none players left in the game, Jonathan, who was on the bottom of his side anyway, was convinced to flip when Yul revealed he had the idol. In a 5-4 vote, Nate was sent to the jury and Aitu went on to become the final four. Three seasons later, Micronesia saw an infamous example, wherein Ozzy, a physical and strategic threat with an idol, was vulnerable, and with Jason on the outs, Parvati and Cirie were able to bring in Jason, Alexis, and Natalie, blindsiding Ozzy in a 5-4, flushing the idol, and securing power for the rest of the game. Cayagan saw another infamous example, where at the merge, the players swap Aparri was up one member at the time. However, Sarah, who had connections on the other side, made too big a deal out of being the swing vote and alienated Kass. When it came time to read the votes, LJ and Tony played their idols on each other, but instead, it was Jeff who got votes. Nonetheless, all three managed to survive, as Kass flipped to vote out Sarah, firmly cementing the top and bottom for the rest of the season. Delicious Distraction: Jeff pulls out a couple of variations once or twice a season during immunity challenges. In one version, he tries to get players to abandon long, uncomfortable endurance challenges by bribing them with snacks. Other times he quickly-completed challenges, he offers the choice up front: play for immunity or get to eat as long as the challenge lasts. Deserted Island: The stereotypical setting for the show is on an island, though several seasons are instead in other sections of wilderness, such as The Australian Outback and Gabon. Designated Girl Fight: Some challenges require certain numbers of male and female players, especially those played in rounds of only 1 or 2 players per tribe. Unsurprisingly, the rounds are mostly man vs. man and woman vs. woman. Divide and Conquer: Allowing an Individual Reward winner to bring at least one other player along for the ride isn't about generosity. It "spreads out" the resulting envy from the remaining losers (and defensive efforts of the winners) onto multiple targets, which usually makes upcoming Tribal Councils less predictable. The Dog Bites Back: Players that are on the outs of the dominant alliances or are picked on by the resident Smug Snake sometimes find themselves in the position of turning the table on their abusers. See South Pacific, where tribal alliances were even and both were so solid that everyone on both tribes resigned themselves to random-chance elimination by purple rock. During the revote, team Butt-Monkey Cochran turned on his own tribe to avoid that situation. Jim immediately called him a coward, but Brandon said that he might not have flipped if they had treated him better than that. Do Unto Others Before They Do Unto Us: Standard operating procedure every season. Note: nearly word-for-word in episode 7 of Blood vs. Water: Tina reveals to Monica that Kat wants Monica to be voted out, which would clearly break the Galag women's alliance. Brandon has a grim realization: Drunk with Power: For future contestants, beware of becoming this. For example, Sarah Lacina from Cayagan and Christy Smith from Amazon fell into the trap of openly declaring their status as the swing vote and alienating it, resulting in their elimination. Final Production Upgrade: A given for each season from Australian Outback (Season 2) onwards. The contestants/jury are brought back and cleaned up, the votes are taken back to the United States to be read at CBS Television Studios, the families of all the contestants are brought in, and in at least one occasion, the final vote reading took place in a giant theater with a giant audience. The Flame of Life: The show symbolically has the players light torches the first time they visit Tribal Council, and whenever someone is Voted Off the Island their torch is snuffed out.Jeff Probst: This is part of the ritual of Tribal Council. In this game, fire represents your life, and when it is gone, so are you. Friend or Idol Decision: The source of the most contentious drama on the show, where contestants typically choose to cut loose from their alliance for, what they believe to be, a better shot at winning. Gambit Pleup: The number of plots, schemes and other forms of backstabbing can become absurd, especially as the number of contestants dwindles. Game Show Host: Jeff Probst is second only to Bob Barker and Alex Trebek in fame for this one. ...and was hosting "Rock and Roll Jeopardy" when his more famous gig began. Genre Launch: For Reality TV, Guile Hero: The "under the radar" winner archetype is the passive example, with Natalie White from Samoa being a rare subversion. They frequently are called "bad" or "undeserving winners" by the fans, ignoring that it seems they've been doing something right if they were in the finals and outlasting their rivals. Tina Wesson from Australian Outback and Yul Kwon from Cook Islands both played absurdly good strategic games that won them the million dollars over burnier challenge threats. Sandra from Pearl Islands and Heroes Vs Villains is one of the prime examples. She didn't stand out in any way, neither in challenges nor in strategy. She just flew under the radar, voted whichever way the wind blew... and won the million dollars after her rival(s) were skewered by the final juries. Ham-to-Ham Combat: Mark Burnett, the executive producer of Survivor and the one who brought the show to the United States, has said more than once that when casting the show the producers always try to pick "sixteen A-Type personalities", or in other words, sixteen Indian chiefs and no Indian followers. And of course, the entire point of all-star seasons is to pick the biggest Large Ham characters from previous seasons and try to see who can out-ham the others the best. Hazy Feel Turn: When a "hero"/"villain" switches on their supposed "perspective". However, these are typically not true "turns" but strategies to gain an advantage. Hidden in Plain Sight: The hidden immunity

secret number was 9). As some time went by and people began to call Richard an overrated taker through luck and all the machinations and intrigue of his season, this pointless, an old interview with Greg then surfaced claiming he had planned to vote for Richard the entire time and only did the "pick a number" thoudght to mock the overly serious nature of Tribal Council. Stealth Pun: Ace was evicted from Gabon because Sugar betrayed him at Tribal Council. Pixellation makes the vote card appear a bit blurry, the parchment in question reads "Ace-Hole". A Nicaragua challenge had the players make their way through barriers: first a haystack, then wooden rods and then a brick wall. The Strategist: Richard Hatch from Borneo, Tina Wesson from Australian Outback, Brian Heidik from Thailand, Yul Kwon from Cook Islands and Todd Herzog from China won the game for being this. Straw Feminist: While some seasons encourage mild sexism by dividing tribes by gender, Vanuatu's Ami Cusack took the idea and ran with it. Obsessed with creating an all-female alliance, she went so far as to hoard a food reward from the remaining men, and then mock them with the bones...after they had just returned from working! Appropriately, she got the Survivor equivalent of a Karmic Death when she was voted out by the four people she despised most and the lone remaining guy survived the sisterhood and won. Suicide by Cop: Some people actually asked to be voted out, be it they're sick, injured, or just can't take it anymore. It's normally a bit better rather than risk a Non-Gameplay Elimination; since a Non-Gameplay Elimination means your tribe can wind up losing two people if the Tribal Council isn't cancelled. The earliest known example is B.B. from Borneo. Lisi in Fiji said she was done with the game and asked to be voted out. Tina in Exile Island asked to be voted out since she was still mourning her son who died in a car crash. Jim from Guatemala asked to be voted out because he tore his bicep (and was shown as still having it in a splint months later!). Jonny Fairplay also asked everyone to vote him out first in Micronesia, saying he wanted to be with his pregnant fiancee and daughter, which everyone thought was a ploy. Jeff from Palau asked to be voted out after spraining his foot on a coconut, as well as to save his love interest, Kim (who ended up going home next). There are also unconfirmed rumours of people asking to be voted out. Supposedly, Chet Welch asked to be voted out because he probably would have been evacuated had they not (he had stepped on a piece of coral). Stephanie Lagrossa supposedly was still hurting when she dislocated her shoulder and asked to be voted out if anything. GC in Gabon. Surrounded by idiots: Sandra, in Heroes vs. Villains, after the merge. Before the merge, Tyson's boneheaded move destroyed her original alliance, and post-merge the Heroes completely botched every attempt to carry out her plans. In spite of it all, she managed to win. James almost invoked this trope word for word on Fans vs. Favorites, saying something to the effect of "I feel like I am back in China with a bunch of idiots!". Of course, his own actions weren't exactly brilliant. Boston Rob remarked that he appeared to have once again been placed on the 'buffoon' tribe as soon as Chapera hit the beaches and began building a shelter. Russell in Samoa and Rob in Redemption Island probably have been lucky enough to play with the most hollow-headed players ever cast in the game. Joel in Borneo was the only player on "Pagong" that realized that forming an alliance would be an excellent strategy, as there were rumors of an alliance on the other tribe and they would surely be picked off one-by-one after the impending merge. His idea was shot down in the name of sportsmanship and he was subsequently voted off over a completely trivial non-issue. His tribe went on to fall apart exactly as he predicted (with the MPV of his tribe being voted off immediately) and "Pagong" has entered the Survivor lexicon as the name for systematic post-merge annihilation. Taking You with Me: In Micronesia, Eliza correctly and immediately realizes that Jason's "hidden Immunity Idol" is just a poorly carved stick. (It had been planted on Exile Island by Ozzy.) She plays it at Tribal Council anyway, hoping that something "miraculous" would happen. Once Jeff confirms that Jason's been suckered, Eliza promptly blabs that Ozzy must have the real Idol. In an online interview, Ted Rogers Jr from Thailand said that Helen approached him in Ponderosa, telling him that finalist Clay Jordan was a racist. This caused Ted to negate any intentions whatsoever of voting for Clay. However, no one else could verify that Clay ever did anything racist or made any racial slurs during the show. Since Helen was vocal about her dislike of Clay during and after the show, earlier on even accusing him of being sexist (again, with no evidence), this might have been her way of taking Clay down with her. Tall, Dark, and Sharky: Lex van den Berghe, Shane Powers, James Clement, Coach and Boston Rob. Team Title: Overlaps with most of Versus Title below except Blood vs. Water, though the original B vs. W was originally planned to be this. Thanatos Gambit: Janu's reason for quitting during Palau, to screw up the original Korov's plans and allow Stephanie another chance to survive. Shi-Ann's elimination in All-Stars, highlighting who she thought was the biggest threat on her way out. Randy in Heroes vs. Villains used his vote to say "Get rid of this guy". Ozzy voluntarily got voted out in South Pacific so he could go to Redemption Island, beat Christine and eliminate her for good, and come back. Penner in Philippines casts his vote to let the tribe know who is going to win, he even yells her name back at them when he writes it down to make sure they know. She still wins. The Tease: Parvati deliberately plays the role. Kimmi on Australian Outback told her teammates that if she was still on the show by her birthday, she would spend the day naked (her birthday suit) to celebrate. She ended up being voted out before her birthday. This Is a Game" got used so many times during All-Stars it practically became the season's Arc Words. Too Dumb to Live: Various contestants have pulled unbelievably boneheaded strategies. Drew Christy from San Juan del Sur: After spending the entire first week of the game sleeping and generally drawing ire from his tribemates, he then tried to sell the tribe flint to Jeff Probst (needless to say, this failed), exiled himself from his tribemates for a whole day, spontaneously decided to throw a challenge, did so in an incredibly obvious way, openly announced his plans to target the (non-existent) all-female alliance, and acted like a complete jackass the whole time. The result? He angers everyone so much that all of the girls (and Jeremy) band together to vote him out while the rest of the guys scatter their votes towards Keith and Julie. That's right, Drew's horrible gameplay against a non-existent girls alliance created one to get rid of him. Took a Level in Badass: Some players who started weak become stronger as the game progress, such as Fabio in Nicaragua, who started as a himbo and went on an immunity run to win it all. In the case of Reunion Seasons, a weak or terrible player from his/her original or previous season becomes much more impressive, such as Parvati. Lil from Pearl Islands is considered one of the most memorable examples of this trope. Overall quite mopey and sensitive. she had been Jonny Fairplay's punching bag for most of the season and then proceeds to dominate the final immunity challenge, taunting Fairplay as she pretty much handed him his ass on a silver platter while refusing his repeated and desperate attempts at trying to convince her to cut a deal, and then proceeded to vote him out right before the final tribal council. Cochran. In South Pacific he was basically a nerdy whipping boy for both tribes. In Caramoon he won four individual challenges, including the final immunity challenge, and basically ran the game for the last few episodes. Took a Level in Jerkass: Many survivors who return to the competition do so on a sour note for various reasons, such as Jenna Lewis, Boston Rob and Lex van den Berghe in All Stars, Stephanie LaGrossa in Guatemala, and James Clement in Heroes vs Villains. Hell, even Jeff Probst has become more aggressive in his questioning and role in the show in later seasons. Took a Level in Kindness: But just as many survivors will return even kinder than before, such as Jerri who was hated in Australian Outback and All-Stars for her Jerkass attitude, but became the beloved "sweetheart" in Heroes Vs. Villains. Or Boston Rob who, as mentioned above, was awful in All-Stars, but in Heroes vs. Villains and Redemption Island became the Team Dad Jerk with a Heart of Gold. Truth in Television: The infamous "Peeing scene" in Marquesas actually is a common remedy. Urine doesn't actually heal the sea urchin wound, it cleans it so it allows it to heal. Underdogs Never Lose: The main story of Gabon is how awful of the unlikeliest people could make the final four despite being in the minority and opposing possibly the tightest core alliance in the season: Bob, an elderly physics teacher who survived Kota's Pagonging by continually winning immunities; Susie, a middle-aged mother and hairstylist who was always the lowest woman on the totem pole and eventually survived long enough to put her alliance, joined out of desperation, on the chopping block; Sugar, a waitress/pin-up model who many tried to break the spirit of by sending her to Exile Island a record number of times, and eventually ended up controlling the game, and Matty, the personal trainer and supposed physical threat who stayed on one of the worst tribes in the show's history despite the various number of tribal swaps, and came out of the whole mess anyway. The Unintelligible: Big Tom of Africa and All-Stars. To quote Jeff Probst: "When you try real hard, you can almost understand what he's saying." Rupert Boneham could go this way too, as well as Chicken in China, although Chicken only lasted one episode and Rupert was only that way sometimes. Unkempt Beauty: Some Survivors can look good in the wild, where they live without shaving or having any cosmetics to cover up, in dirty clothes and rough living conditions. Sometimes they look even better than when they're dressed up for the reunion. The term "island hot" is frequently used by fans to describe players they consider to be becoming more attractive the longer they stay on the island. Depends on the viewer's opinion, though. Unknown Rival: Russell to Boston Rob, at least in the early stages of Heroes Vs Villains (but certainly no longer unknown as of Redemption Island). Early in Nicaragua ep. 1, two of the La Flor "alpha males" agree to avoid this, after noting that Russell and Boston Rob could have done even better if they had been partners in Heroes vs. Villains. Unusual Euphemism: Frank of Africa claimed that Linda was "So solid, she's buried at the bottom the Hoover Dam." Huh? Variable Player Goals: Specific to Palau: an individual immunity challenge where each contestant had a different sequence of pictures to figure out. Villain Protagonist: Thailand winner Brian Heidik is perhaps the Trope Codifier of the show. Russell was arguably positioned as one of these in Samoa, although he came off as more as an Anti-Hero. He was firmly in this position in Heroes vs. Villains, however. Vitriolic Best Buds: Ethan and Big Tom on Africa.Ethan: "Me and Tom, we have kind of like a brotherly relationship right now. He makes fun of me because I'm Jewish, and I make fun of him because he's fat and he's got a boil on his neck..." Rob Cesternino and Matthew Von Erffelda in Amazon sort of had this. Rob and most of the others made fun of Matthew for sharpening the machete all the time and for being socially awkward. Even though most of the cast would have decided to boot Matthew for being an outcast, Rob decides to make fun of Matt even more by turning him and Butch into unwitting pawns of his during the merge (see Funny Survivor). However, Rob and Matthew later develop a working relationship with one another when Rob decides to blindside Deena and Alex, two fair-weather allies of his, and overtime as they bond. both of them begin to realize that Rob accidentally gave Matthew too much voting power by the time there were six people left. Wacky Marriage Proposal: Six seasons before Rob famously proposed to Amber at the live All-Stars reunion, Australian Outback's Keith proposed to his girlfriend via instant message during an internet reward challenge. She said yes. Matty also proposed to his girlfriend during the loved ones visit in Gabon. We ARE Struggling Together: The Samburu tribe from Africa, being split right down the middle, spent more time in-fighting than working against Boran. In fact, in several instances where the Samburus could have tried to vote out a Boran member, they just voted each other out instead. Wham Episode: A sort of consensus among the older fans of the show is that episode 7 of Borneo is the single most important episode of the show's history. In a game that had up until then been an outdoor adventure and voting had been based on merit, the Tagis banded together and forced out Gretchen, the most qualified survivalist. This act of putting politics before ability almost completely changed the course of how the game (not to mention all the future seasons) would play out. Another contender for the title of Wham Episode would be "Trial By Fire" of Australia, where Michael became the first castaway to be medically evacuated after he suffered serious burns to his hands. The episode left everyone (including producer Mark Burnett) in shock and it hammered home the point that Survivor wasn't a glorified vacation; castaways could be removed from the game because their life was in danger, and if it could happen to Michael (who was arguably the most qualified in terms of survival skills), then it could happen to anyone. Episode 9 of Marquesas, "Jury's Out." The dominant Rotu Four alliance has just taken out Boston Rob, Sean is all set to go next, followed by Vecepia and Kathy, and the Rotu Four are set to dominate the game, just as every majority alliance has done for the past three seasons. Until this season. After the "coconut chop" challenge revealed the pecking order of the tribe, Neleh and Paschal turned on the Rotu Four and aligned with the outsiders, taking down Rotu Four leader John Carroll. Episode of Island of the Idols, "We made it to the Merge!" Kellee shares concerns about Dan's inappropriate behavior and is tricked into thinking others are having the same issues, resulting in the majority of the tribe keeping the sexually harassing creep to blindside her. Wham Line: Has its own page. What Kind of Lame Power Is Heart, Anyway?: Ma-Ti and his Power of Heart is referenced repeatedly by Jaison in Samoa. He ultimately concludes that Heart is an Awesome Power, and wished he had it to help cope in the wilderness. Whole Plot Reference: Given that Survivor is a minimally violent version of war, frequently highlighting The Art of War in the China season was a stroke of genius. Each tribe receives a list of its main points and is encouraged by Jeff to review all that wisdom. Hidden Immunity Idol notes and some of the tree-mail occasionally cite the book. Certain major events are apparently inspired by passages from the text, such as the tribal swap in episode 5:"The enemies who have come to spy on us must be sought out, tempted with bribes, led away and comfortably housed. They will become converted and available for our service." Wins by Doing Absolutely Nothing: Chris Underwood in Edge of Extinction - the "Edge of Extinction" twist clustered more or less the entire cast into the jury. Chris, voted out third, entered the game at the final moment after spending about 30 days sitting on Exile Island not actually playing the game.... except for schmoozing with the jurors. (Though to be fair, he did do everything possible to make an impression once he finally did come back, eventually giving himself a more impressive resume than the other players.) Wolverine Publicity: Until Russell came along, Rupert was easily the Survivor poster boy for this trope. He was so overexposed during his original two seasons, in fact, that at one point he was handing out the checks to the winners. Russell vs Rob in Redemption Island. Subverted in Russell's case when most of his tribe decided to go Off the Rails and eject him ASAP. Within the larger "CBS Reality Show" family, Rob and Amber got to go on The Amazing Race while they were at the height of their popularity. South Pacific continued to sponge off of Russell's infamy. He didn't come back again, but the cast included his nephew, Brandon Hantz. And Russell got namedropped some more when Brandon came back again in Caramoon. Big Brother also had Russell's brother, Willie Hantz. Woman Scorned: As the women of Micronesia are plotting to blindside Jason (who they concede might find a real Immunity Idol in exile, for once), Alexis can be heard saying "Hell hath no fury". Worthy Opponent: Now and again, one of the Jury members will say that one or more of the finalists is this. An example would be David from Redemption Island, who was impressed by Rob's game and regretted being placed on the opposite tribe as him. Would Hit a Girl: Well, they wouldn't hit one, but many male contestants have no problem with tackling them to the ground or forcefully hauling them fifty feet to the goal line. Some would argue that the only reason they wouldn't hit her is that it would get them kicked out. Colby tossed Jerri into the water in one of the early challenges in Heroes Vs Villains. Then again, Colby and Jerri. Bowdawg in Panama against the much smaller Ruth-Marie. Instead of taking the bag from her, he just picked her up and carried her to his tribes mat to win the point. Played straight when Erik Reichenbach hits Eliza over the head with a heavy sack in the Beach Bash Challenge. He then got Amanda in the same challenge with a judo-esque throw.The tribe has spoken. It's time for you to go.

