

Season 41





Season No.:	41
Filming Location:	Mamanuca Islands, Fiji
Filming Dates:	April 15, 2021 - May 10, 2021 ^[1]
Season Run:	September 22, 2021 ^[2] - December 15, 2021
No. of Days:	26
No. of Castaways:	18
Winner:	Erika Casupanan
Runner(s)-Up:	Deshawn Radden Xander Hastings
Tribes:	<div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="background-color: #00AEEF; color: white; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 2px;">Luvu</div> <div style="background-color: #90EE90; color: white; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 2px;">Ua</div> <div style="background-color: #FFD700; color: white; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 2px;">Yase</div> <div style="background-color: #DC143C; color: white; padding: 2px;">Vlakana</div> </div>



	Contestant	Tribe Affiliation		Finish	Votes Against
		Original Tribe	Merged Tribe		
	Eric Abraham 50, San Antonio, TX Cyber Security Analyst	Yase		1st Voted Out Day 3	5
	Sara Wilson 23, Boston, MA Healthcare Consultant	Ua		2nd Voted Out Day 3	4
	David Voce 34, Chicago, IL Neurosurgeon	Yase		3rd Voted Out Day 5	3
	Brad Reese 49, Shawnee, WY Rancher	Ua		4th Voted Out Day 7	4

Contestant	Tribe Affiliation		Finish	Votes Against
	Original Tribe	Merged Tribe		
 JD Robinson 20, Oklahoma City, OK College Student	Ua		5th Voted Out Day 9	4
 Genie Chen 46, Portland, OR Grocery Clerk	Ua		6th Voted Out Day 11	3
 Sydney Segal 25, Brooklyn, NY Law Student	Luvu		7th Voted Out Day 14	5
 Tiffany Seely 47, Plainview, NY Teacher	Yase		8th Voted Out 1st Jury Member Day 16	8
 Naseer Muttalif 36, Morgan Hill, CA Sales Manager	Luvu		9th Voted Out 2nd Jury Member Day 17	8
 Evvie Jagoda 28, Arlington, MA Ph.D. Student	Yase		10th Voted Out 3rd Jury Member Day 17	7
 Shan Smith 34, Washington, DC Pastor	Ua		11th Voted Out 4th Jury Member Day 19	9
 Liana Wallace 20, Washington, DC College Student	Yase		12th Voted Out 5th Jury Member Day 21	10
 Danny McCray 33, Frisco, TX Ex-NFL Player	Luvu		13th Voted Out 6th Jury Member Day 23	7
 Ricard Foyé 31, Sedro-Woolley, WA Flight Attendant	Ua		14th Voted Out 7th Jury Member Day 24	9
 Heather Aidret 52, Charleston, SC Stay-at-home Mom	Luvu		Eliminated 8th Jury Member Day 25	5
 Xander Hastings 20, Chicago, IL App Developer	Yase		Second Runner-Up	2

Viakana

Contestant	Tribe Affiliation		Finish	Votes Against
	Original Tribe	Merged Tribe		
 <p>Deshawn Radden 25, Miami, FL Medical Student</p>	Luvu		Runner-Up	7
 <p>Erika Casupanan 31, Toronto, ON Communications Manager</p>	Luvu		Sole Survivor	2

Production: Production for the 41st and 42nd seasons were delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As has been the norm since *Survivor: Samoa*, the seasons were scheduled to be filmed back-to-back beginning in March 2020, but had to be put on hold due to the global outbreak of the coronavirus. Prior to the Fijian government allowing production to enter, domestically filming both seasons either in Georgia or Hawaii was considered.

In March 2021, it was announced that production for the two seasons had resumed in Fiji, but due to mobility issues, the production team modified their protocols to ensure the cast and crew's safety such as using a staggered arrival scheme. Each crew member and contestant had to test negative and be quarantined for 14 days. Production also collaborated with the Fijian government to establish a safe "bubble" within a chain of islands to be used as base camp, tribe camps, challenge sites and Tribal Council, allowing free movement within the bubble but prohibiting physical interaction outside of it.

This season was filmed over 26 days, 13 days shorter than the standard 39-day timeline due to the production schedule being compromised by the Fijian government's quarantine rules. To keep the shorter game just as challenging, the tribes were given fewer supplies and no food rations. Items won on Reward Challenges were also scarce.

Beginning in 41, seasons will no longer be named after twists or overarching themes and will simply be identified by their season number.

For the first time since *Survivor: Borneo*, the winner was announced on location. In place of a live reunion show, a "deep dive" episode, also filmed on location moments after the Final Tribal Council took place with the finalists and jurors in attendance.

Casting: Following criticism over lack of racial diversity in its reality programming, CBS announced in November 2020 that *Survivor* and its other reality shows must cast at least 50% persons of color beginning with the 2021-2022 television season. Crew members will also have the same composition for a fairer representation of diverse racial and cultural backgrounds in the edited show. Jeff Probst also stated that contestants from the show's first 20 years will not be asked to return in the foreseeable future.

Game Within the Game: A *Survivor* first, viewers were given the opportunity to solve rebus puzzles hidden throughout the course of the episode, whether at challenges, Tribal Council, or in underwater shots, after which fans could answer online. The answers to the puzzles are iconic lines from the series' history. Jeff Probst explained the minigame was aimed for the younger audience and aspiring contestants.

Tribe Division: The 18 castaways were divided into 3 tribes of 6. No unifying theme was used in dividing the tribes.

Challenges: As part of keeping the shorter season just as difficult, tribes that lost an Immunity Challenge had their flint taken away and could only earn it back the next time they won.

Summit and Prisoner's Dilemma: Castaways from different tribes were taken to another island where they were given a choice between protecting or risking their vote on their next visit to Tribal Council. If all of them chose "protect", they kept their votes. If all of them chose "risk", none of them were able to vote at their next Tribal Council. If there is a split decision, those who chose "protect" got to keep their vote, but those who chose "risk" got an advantage. The advantages available through this method were as follows:

- **Extra Vote:** A castaway got the right to vote twice at the same Tribal Council until there were six players left.
- **Knowledge is Power:** The player could ask another castaway if they possessed a Hidden Immunity Idol or an advantage at Tribal Council in which the castaway could not lie. If they had what was asked for, the player could steal it from them. If they did not have what was asked for, the "Knowledge is Power" advantage was rendered powerless. The advantage could be played until there were six players left.

Beware Advantage: On Day 6, game advantages were hidden at camp in packages labeled "Beware Advantage," the contents of which could only be obtained if its finder opened it and fulfilled its demands. A steep consequence would be given to the castaway if the demand was not met. The advantages that were available were as follows:

- **Hidden Immunity Idols:** Each camp had one idol, that if found, its finder would have to utter a certain code before an Immunity Challenge, and if members of the other tribes responded with their own code sentences, all three idols would have power. Until then, the idols remained powerless and their finders would not be able to vote at Tribal Council. If the conditions were not met before the merge, all three idols would be rendered powerless, and their owners would be able to vote again.
- **Vote Steal**

Shot in the Dark Die: By sacrificing one's vote at Tribal Council, a player in trouble could invoke this advantage for a chance to be immune from the vote if they successfully achieved the one in six chance.

Double Tribal Council: On Day 3, only the first place tribe won immunity, sending the two other tribes to Tribal Council to vote out one person each.

Team-Based Merge Challenge and Exile Island: The merged tribe was divided into two groups of five, leaving two players to sit out. Each member of the winning team won individual immunity, the right to eat in the merge feast, and to take one of the two sit-outs to join them. The unchosen sit-out was sent to Exile Island until the next Immunity Challenge. This player, along with the members of the losing team, would have to compete in the first individual Immunity Challenge. However, Jeff Probst visited the castaway who was sent to Exile Island, and presented her an hourglass. If the player wished to "reverse" the events of the challenge, she could destroy the hourglass, which stripped the winning team's immunity. She chose to destroy the hourglass, and the exiled player and the members of the losing team were given individual immunity, while the members of the winning team were forced to compete in the individual Immunity Challenge.

Double Elimination: On Day 17, the Viakana tribe was subjected to a Double Elimination, where the tribe was divided into two groups of five and two castaways were eliminated through two separate Tribal Councils on a single night.

Do or Die: On Day 21, the first player to be eliminated from the Immunity Challenge was subjected to a game called "Do or Die", the mechanics of which were identical to the Monty Hall problem. At Tribal Council, the player had to select the box with the fire symbol from three closed boxes to win individual immunity. If the chosen box contained a skull symbol instead, the player would be eliminated from the game with no official vote taking place, and any advantage or Hidden Immunity Idols owned by the player could save them. The castaways were given the option to sit out of the Immunity Challenge if they did not want to take the risk.

Simplified Final Four Tribal Council: Instead of a traditional vote, the person who won the final four Immunity Challenge got to choose one person to take with them to the Final Three. The remaining two castaways competed in a fire-making challenge to determine who would be eliminated.

Expanded Jury and Final Three: Instead of the conventional Final Two facing the jury of seven, the Final Tribal Council was held with a Final Three facing an eight-person jury.

Reformatted Final Tribal Council: Instead of having each jury member speak individually, an open forum was held to ensure a more insightful rapport between the jury and finalists. Unlike the previous format introduced in *Survivor: Game Changers* however, the discussion was no longer divided into three portions ("outwit", "outplay", and "outlast"), making for a more free-flowing exchange between the jurors and the finalists. There were no opening statements from the finalists.

Season 41 Summary:

With the game shortened to just 26 days, the 18 castaways were subjected to a more brutal and relentless *Survivor* experience, having to live with fewer supplies, subsist on no food rations, and negotiate a barrage of game advantages. The Yase tribe struggled out of the gate, but found reprieve after a powerful women's alliance took control. The Ua tribe lost four of the five Immunity Challenges and was quickly whittled down to just the alliance of Shan and Ricard, both of whom resorted to tricking their tribemates into passing down their advantages to them as they sent them on their way out. The Luvu tribe proved to be the most dominant of the three tribes, having never lost an Immunity Challenge, but the tribe was plagued by constant paranoia due to untested alliances.

At several points throughout the pre-merge, advantages were made available through either "Beware Advantages", which dared its finders in a special task in exchange for a Hidden Immunity Idol, or through summits which allowed players from different tribes to learn about each other. Successful on performing the task required by the Beware Advantage, Naseer from Luvu, Shan from Ua, and Xander from Yase each received Hidden Immunity Idols. The summits resulted in Deshawn and Xander each earning an Extra Vote, and Liana receiving the Knowledge is Power advantage.

An unconventional merge brought all three tribes together on Day 11 with a twist: A group Immunity Challenge had the yet-unnamed tribe divided into two teams of five. The first of the two unchosen players, Naseer, was brought along for the reward by the Luvu-dominated winning team of Danny, Deshawn, Evvie, Ricard, and Sydney, while Erika was sent to Exile Island where she was given a choice to "reverse" the results of the challenge. Erika chose to do so by breaking an hourglass, transferring immunity to herself and the Yase-led losing team of Heather, Liana, Shan, Tiffany, and Xander.

Liana quickly defected from the Yase Alliance, having forged an unbreakable bond with Shan during their Summit. They recruited Danny and Deshawn to form an all-black alliance. Though this alliance was initially successful in removing Liana's former Yase allies Tiffany and Evvie, it suffered from poor communication and infighting, particularly between Shan and Deshawn. Using this as an opportunity to strike, Ricard rallied Erika, Heather, and Xander and brought in Danny and Deshawn to eliminate Shan. In the wake of Shan's departure, the new majority alliance of Erika, Heather, Ricard, and Xander systematically eliminated Shan's remaining allies Liana and Danny, leaving Deshawn on the outs.

Though it seemed Deshawn would be the next target, Erika turned on Ricard, the castaway perceived most popular to the jury. Xander won the Final Immunity Challenge and chose Erika to join him in the Final Three, leaving Deshawn and Heather to compete in the fire-making challenge, which Deshawn narrowly won.

At the Final Tribal Council, Xander was praised for his displays of selflessness, but was criticized for his lack of social awareness and his questionable decision to bring Erika, the second most popular to the jury, to the end. Deshawn was lauded for his strong social relationships, but was chided for his sloppy and frequently temperamental gameplay. Erika was highlighted for her role in orchestrating major power shifts, all without being seen as a large threat, but was questioned for not making enough close bonds with everyone. In the end, Erika's strategic acumen won the jury over, and was awarded the title of Sole Survivor with 7 votes, against Deshawn's 1 and Xander's none.





Season 42



Survivor Greatest Challenges: The Maze



The Australian Outback
Tribal Immunity Challenge



The Amazon
Final Four Immunity Challenge



All-Stars
Final Four Immunity Challenge



Vanuatu – Islands of Fire
Final Four Immunity Challenge



Guatemala – The Maya Empire
Final Four Immunity Challenge



Fiji
Final Five Immunity Challenge



Gabon – Earth’s Last Eden
Final Five Immunity Challenge



Heroes vs. Villians
Final Four Immunity Challenge



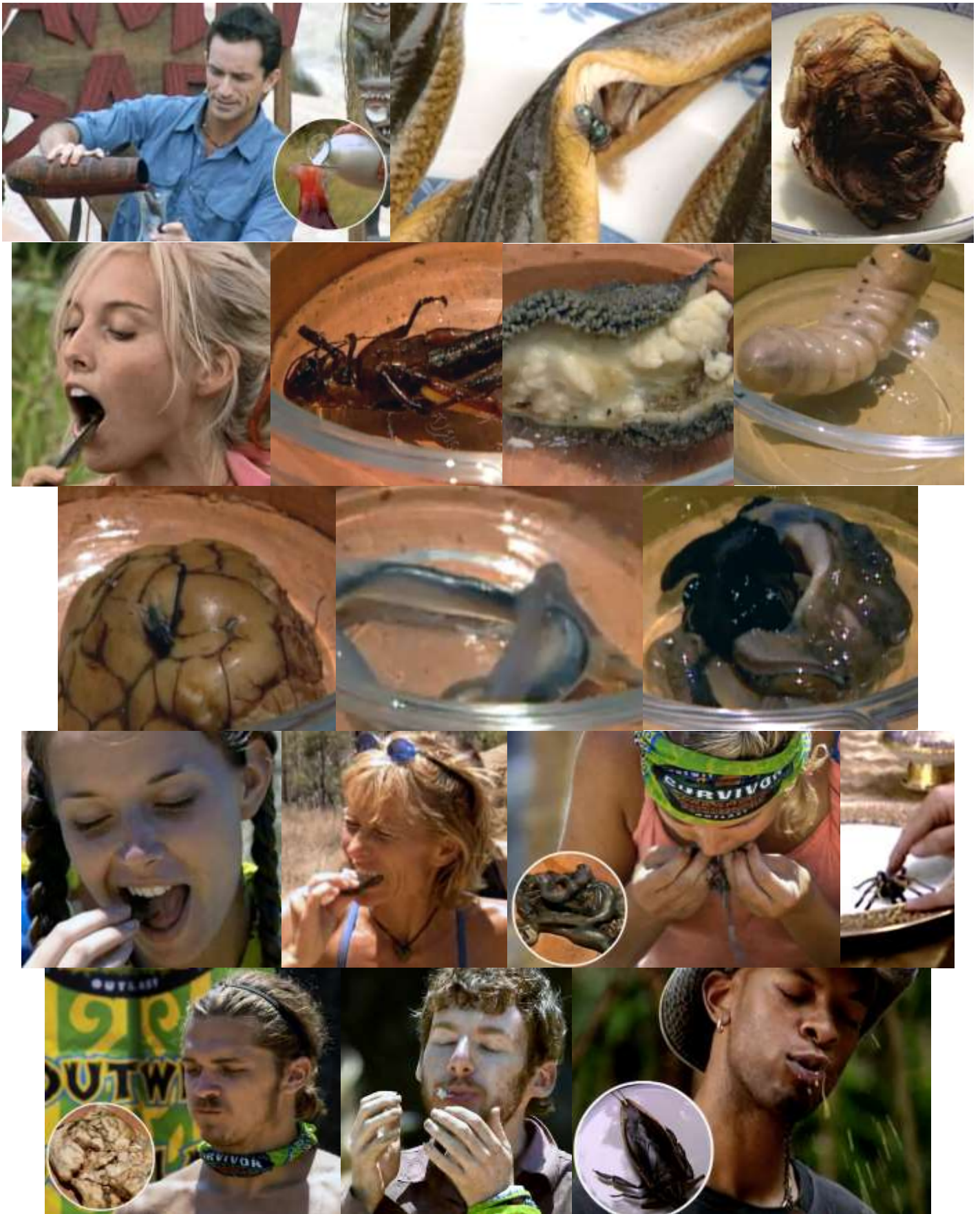
Redemption Island
Final Four Immunity Challenge



Cagayan – Brawn vs. Brains vs. Beauty
Final Three Immunity Challenge

Survivor Greatest Challenges: Gross Food Eating







Survivors Who Didn't



Jen Lyon (Survivor: Palau)
Feb. 27, 1972 – Jan. 19, 2010
Stage three breast cancer.



B.B. Anderson (Survivor: Borneo)
Jan. 18, 1936 – Oct. 29, 2013
Brain cancer.



Dan Kay (Survivor: Gabon)
Jun. 30, 1976 – Dec. 31, 2016
Died unexpectedly.



Caleb Bankston (Survivor: Blood vs. Water)
Mar. 26, 1987 – Jun. 24, 2014
Crushed by derailed train.



Ashley Massaro (Survivor: China)
May 26, 1979 – May 16, 2019
Suicide.



Rudy Boesch (Survivor: Borneo; All-Stars)
Jan. 20, 1928 – Nov. 01, 2019
Complications from Alzheimer's disease.



Cliff Robinson (Survivor: Cagayan)
May 16, 1966 – August 29, 2020
Lymphoma.



Angie Jakusz (Survivor: Palau)
March 27, 1980 – January 08, 2021
Cancer.



Sunday Burquest
(Survivor: Millennials vs. Gen X)
Feb. 06, 1971 – Apr. 18, 2021
Esophageal and ovarian cancer.