

EPISODE 304: "PECKING ORDER" (PART 1)



PANOBA, DAY 7

The two tribes have just merged and everyone exchanges hellos. Christa attempts to gain Brianna's trust by revealing that she knows her secret.

Christa - Time to step it up and take out Andoa. We should contact the others to keep them onboard with Omurano.

Andrew - Agreed. Let's do it!

Christa - I sent messages to everyone.

Andrew - CONFESSIONAL - I am very surprised that the merger came this early. My approach is to work hard at keeping old Omurano focused. Without my partner, I feel this is my best move. The problem will be if my old Omurano team mates want to keep their partners around. It is a very difficult situation for me. I've completely placed my trust in Christa and Lill primarily. I am very up front in my dealings with them...I just hope it doesn't bite me in the butt.

Christa - What's happenin'?

Brianna - Hey Christa! Weird that we merged this early. Glad to finally meet you!

Christa - Listen, this is gonna sound weird, but I'm going by the assumption that you = the same Brianna from Aruba. And if that really is the case, I know I can trust you, and I want you to know that I've got your back.

Brianna - Hey Christa, Yeah I was the Brianna in Aruba. I'm not going to hide it and it's kind of pointless since I didn't even make the merge in that season. I hope you can trust me because I haven't really done anything to be untrustworthy. And, Cindy was the same from Aruba too but she's gone so that's irrelevant.

Christa - Yeah, I know what kind of person you really are, and I definitely know that I can trust you right now, even if we are from opposing tribes.

Brianna - Well it's glad that you can trust me and you know you can trust me too. I liked my old tribe but it's nice to meet some of the newer people. Hopefully you are more chatty than some of the people in our old tribe.

Christa - Chatty is my middle name. I'll be interesting so you won't vote me off, k? 😊

Brianna - Well I won't vote you off if you don't vote me off. Ha!

Brianna - CONFESSIONAL - HELL TO THE NO! We just merged and you know... I don't feel as safe. I mean a lot of people have partners to use at this time and I really don't have anyone. I had Cindy but is she here? Nope. I think it's time to just be social but strategically main under the radar. I am just going to be friendly that's all I want to do. So Christa came up to me and basically asked me if I was Brianna from Aruba... of course I am not going to lie. Any idiot who was aware of Aruba knew there was a Brianna in it. So I'm not going to hide it but she's definitely a smart one to figure that out since no one else has asked me that. But then she said she could trust me... so who is she? I'm not going to stress over it but you know if she wants to keep me here, I'll let her do that.

Christa - You're not going to make this game boring like in China and Micronesia, right? 😊

Amanda - Of course not, this Amanda is feisty. 😊

Christa - What was the deal with Dave trying to vote you out? Did he honestly think you were throwing the challenge or something?

Amanda - Yeah. He got greedy and wanted me out, when we had the easy option of voting out Peih-Gee. Unfortunate, but he dug his own grave.

Christa - He did?! But that makes no sense. Why would Dave dig his own grave when James was on your tribe? He should've conserved his energy.

Brianna and Amanda compare notes about Christa.

Amanda - Interesting that we merged so early. Has the other tribe been talking to you?

Brianna - I've been talking to Christa and she says she can trust me... so I don't know what that means but she is pretty friendly. I am afraid to message Lill.

Amanda - Christa's talking to me too, I think she's a tricky one, she's probably got deals with everyone.

Knowing that the other tribe most likely hates her after her trash talking at the last Immunity Challenge, Lill decides to do some damage control.

Lill - Sorry about all the crap we said last challenge. Just trying to have some fun. I hope there's no hard feelings. I didn't expect us to merge. Seems weird. You just know there's another twist to this "merge" that Jeff hasn't told us about yet...

Brianna - Hey Lill, None taken. We aren't suppose to be nice when we are on separate tribes but now that we are we can be friendly. I am nervous about this merge... not the fact that we merged just the fact that there is probably going to be another twist and I just hope it isn't too over the top you know? But if there is one it will probably involve partners I believe

Lill - count on it. I expect we'll have to compete as pairs for a few rounds. You still have a partner?

Chicken makes the rounds in his new, bigger coop.

Chicken - Hi there Sir Andrew. I bet you're wondering when the outcasts are returning to screw you over once again! Seriously, though, it's good to get the game going.

Andrew - Yes it is! Things will get interesting from here on out, that's for sure.

Chicken - Yeah. How do you see the game?

Andrew - I'm not sure. My heads still spinning, I wasn't expecting a merge this early. I thought they were going to bring someone back.

Chicken - That outcast thing has messed with your mind, man. It's the ones still in the game you need to worry about! You don't have to worry about me, however.

Chicken - CONFESSIONAL - I was expecting a switch more than a merge, due to the size of the numbers. Because relationships are yet to be built with the other tribe, we have no choice but to stick with the safety of the Andoa numbers and worry about ourselves later. We appear to have the numbers, given the inactives on the other tribe but Todd is a real wildcard. He'll need to be mollycoddled.

Christa - So good to finally speak with you in person.

Chicken - Hi there, although 'person' is a bit of an upgrade for a chicken. Good to speak to a prominent friendly rival. Although not so much rival any more, I guess.

Christa - Not too prominent, I hope. 😊

Chicken - It's a compliment. However, you *should* tread a little warily.

Christa - I try...but it's hard NOT to come to the forefront sometimes.

As the partners reunite, the real strategy begins as they weigh out what's more important: tribal loyalty or their partner's.

Tijuana - I think we should use our partners to find out as much information about Andoa and their dynamics. Hopefully all of Omurano will stick together and we can convince at least one person from Andoa to vote with us. That's pretty much all we need.

Andrew - You are EVIL, I love it!

Amanda - CONFESSIONAL - Right now, everyone is going crazy and I'm trying to take a back-seat and still keep my relationship with Tijuana a secret. I'm kind of glad we're merging so early to be honest, though I'm not entirely convinced we won't be in tribes again.

Former Andoan's have similar ideas.

Brianna - is there anyone at the moment that you think we can swing over to our tribe, you know from the other tribe? Maybe we should keep our 4 person alliance quiet and make deals separate on Omurano so we don't end up like the Rotu 4.

Amanda - Yeah, that sounds like a good idea to me. We can't let Chicken and Todd find out they are on the outs either. I'm not sure about who we could swing at the moment, but maybe James, Courtney or I could implement our partners.

Old enemies turned partners, Christa and Lill are now forced to work with one another in order to advance in the game.

Courtney - Man, I was feeling terrible today... just woke up from a long nap. Always late to the party. So, what's the plan?

Lill - Dunno. I'm trying to smooth over with everybody who hates me... Brianna was Cindy's partner. I'm thinking we'll be competing in pairs... Whether or not he'll make us choose pairs is another issue. if we can, choose some one else to keep us a secret... lol!

Courtney - I'll be straight with you, Reality Chopper... I trusted Amanda the most on my old tribe. We came to an understanding that we'd try to help each other out above all else. Her and I were on the verge of the next level of 'game trust'... so if I were to tell anyone we were partners, it'd be her. You really think Bri and Cindy were partners? Hmmm

For the first time in the game, partners Amanda and Tijuana can discuss strategy via private message.

Amanda - I think Courtney is going to want to know who my partner is, but I'm a bit too afraid to put it out there. Christa seems pretty nice, but she's approaching everyone really quickly

Tijuana - I think it's best to keep partners secret. Of course, Courtney can always tell you who her partner is. :p Hopefully, it's someone cool. If Courtney gets along with her partner and trusts him/her I'd be willing for the four of us to work together. I wonder how long we'll be merged for?

Amanda - What exactly is Christa doing/saying? I think she's one of those people that just wants to build some sort of relationship with everyone.

Tijuana - Hmm interesting. do you have proof of this?

Amanda - That's what Brianna told me. 😊

Tijuana - Has Christa contacted you? Lill is funny and approachable, all bark no bite :p

Amanda - I messaged Lill, nothing. I kind of see a lot of drama going down eventually between her and someone on my tribe, probably. Christa has contacted me, she just asked if she was going to be voted out and I didn't hear of anything. She came off a bit paranoid and desperate, but I think she's trying to make bonds with people.

After learning of Christa's newfound popularity with former-Andoa, Tijuana discusses the threat she poses with Andrew.

Tijuana - so apparently Christa has already started approaching people on Andoa. Do you know about this? I thought she was just being nice and friendly with them but the person who I was speaking with said that she apparently tried to make a deal with someone. I'm not sure if I believe it and I've asked for proof. I'm just going to choose to not believe it for now 😊

Andrew - I wouldn't believe it without proof. I've received a number of e-mails from former Andoa people, including a more extended exchange with Chicken. Of course, anything is possible. We should

keep in touch with each other on this, but I don't think Christa would turn on us. I don't think there is an advantage to it. She is probably just hedging her bets.

Meanwhile, Christa's over-friendly personality is not going unnoticed by Andoa.

Amanda - How is the other tribe treating you

James - So far, only Lill and Christa have talked to me. Christa is asking a lot of questions, and Lill is being her usual talkative self. What's your take on em?

Amanda - Lill hasn't said anything to me after I messaged her. Christa is being very inquisitive, she seems to be making ins with everyone.

James - Yeah Christa seems like a very smart cookie. Someone to watch out for. I don't know how the first vote is gonna work, what with all the inactive people and all. 😞

Amanda - I know. I'll definitely let you know if your name ever comes up.

James - Thanks. 😊 And I'll do the same.

James - **CONFESSIONAL** - Jeez where do I even begin. I was not expecting this *at all*. A switch maybe. But a merge this early? I wanted a chance to pwn them a few more times in the challenges! But honestly it was probably a good thing for Ryan. Was real worried for him. If he didn't go this time, he would have probably gone the next. This twist definitely saved his bacon. I hope we can work together. But I understand if he has other plans. No one wants to be seen as the "rat."

Tijuana tips Christa off to the fact that she is slowly becoming a target.

Tijuana - hey be careful. some of the andoans I think are trying to use your friendliness against you.

Christa - Thanks for the heads up. I was just trying to feel them out.

Tijuana - That's what I figured. I think they just want to try to weaken us but it's going to take a helluva lot more than them making mountains out of molehills. Anyway, like I told Andrew, if at all possible we should see if we can convince/trick one (or all) of our partners to agree to vote for someone from Andoa so that we (Omurano) get a majority.

Christa - Yeah. Our partners would be the best bet.

Tijuana - **CONFESSIONAL** - I thought I'd want to stick with my tribe but I find that I like Andoa a lot and that communicating with them seems easier and more fun than communicating with my tribe. I don't want to make the first move though to try to start something since that could just mean my early exit from the game. You've got to try to gain information. Figure out what your original tribe members are thinking and find out how things are on the other tribe. Are there any weak spots on either side? If it's going to be tribe v tribe there would need to be something or someone for each tribe to try to take advantage of.

Upon hearing that she is rubbing the other tribe the wrong way, Christa becomes paranoid and begins asking people if she is overplaying it.

Christa - Am I talking too much? I don't want to be a bother.

Amanda - No, you're not a bother, darling. I like to talk.

Christa - I'm just nervous because I'm hearing things, you know?

Amanda - What have you heard?

Christa - That you guys think I'm too friendly.

Amanda - I like you. 😊 Friendly people are good, aren't they? 😊

Christa - I guess. I'm sorry, I can't help but be paranoid sometimes, you know?

Christa - All I'm trying to do is talk and I'm hearing that people are trying to use that against me.

Lill - what do you mean? What are you hearing? I haven't heard anything about you yet, but mostly I've only been getting meets and greets.

Christa - Someone told me that the other tribe thinks I'm too friendly.

Lill - it's ok. They think I'm too bitchy... 😊

Chicken contacts his former tribemates about their possible targets.

Chicken - Are you getting any vibes over there? Lill and Christa certainly seem to be running things.

James - Christa is definitely very smart. Lill talks a lot. And T likes gossip. 😊

Chicken - Yeah. Andrew doesn't appear to be on the frontline.

James - He was nice. Barely met him though. Still no word on Osten or Ryan.

Chicken - I think the women have a definite strategy of targeting the men. Are you getting a similar vibe?

James - Possibly. 😊 They're definitely more active than the men in general.

Chicken - I got some correspondence which more or less admitted it. It raised my eyebrows, I can tell you.

James - Really? 😊 So...what are we gonna do about it? 😊

Chicken - I think we should target one of the two prominent ones, in a unified way, and try to get their tribe to split their vote somehow. The early votes will be crucial for numbers. logically, they won't be voting for any inactives.

Courtney and Tijuana attempt to break down Tribal walls as the first cross-tribal alliance is proposed.

Courtney - I'm always late to the party! I had a horrible day, sick with a fever! I'm here now, though!

Tijuana - I came late too! I wonder what we missed? I wonder how much scheming people can do in under an hour 😊

Courtney - Hopefully, no one has cut my throat... and I'm sure from your perspective... no one cut your's....

Tijuana - anyone tries to cut my throat will get a fat knife in their back.

Courtney - Well... maybe I'm doing something stupid here... but you and I both know we're not partners. You and I could make a little side deal that no one knows about... to help each other out no matter how the vote goes. No one would suspect it at all. Its tough to know who to trust with this partner twist, so having a secret ally from the other tribe, that goes beyond the partner twist, might be the way to go. I'm putting myself out here in a big way, it might be my undoing, but only getting courtesy pms from the other tribe gets old real fast. Let me know what you think.

Tijuana does not respond. Instead, she talks it over with her partner, Amanda, first.

Tijuana - hmm so Courtney just sent me an interesting pm...

Amanda - What did she send you?

Tijuana - she asked me if I wanted to make a side deal 😊 I haven't responded yet.

Amanda - Hmmm, maybe you should agree to it. It's killing me that I can't tell her about you, because it's keeping her from trusting me completely right now.

Tijuana - Why doesn't she tell you who her partner is? btw, I've been talking more with people from Andoa tonight than anyone else lol.

Amanda - She will probably tell me if I tell her mine, she mentioned that her partner may not help us out all that much. And that's funny. Courtney and James are great, aren't they?

Tijuana gets back to Courtney after making her wait.

Tijuana - Well...I have one question. Is your partner still in the game? I agree about the courtesy pm thing getting old but at the same time I'm hesitant to try to make any strong moves since just like it could be your undoing it could be mine.

Courtney - I could easily say my partner was Fairplay or Christy. You could easily say your partner was PG or Dave. I don't want to insult your intelligence. In my mind, I just assume everyone remaining currently has a partner left in the game. The deal could be as simple as trying to keep the target off of each others backs. People are going to lose partners as this game goes on. But if not, no worries. I just thought it'd be something pretty unexpected to pull. I understand there's a lack of 'game trust' between us, but that's how it is for everyone at the beginning. I guess I'll talk to you later, then.

Tijuana - My issue is that this could all be a ploy to either get information about Omurano or to try to put a target on my back. If not, well 😏 I was asking if you still had a partner mainly because if a side deal was made why not try to include our partners if they exist

Courtney - See, this is an issue of 'game trust' as I call it. I understand where your coming from. The problem with including partners is it gets messy. We would never openly reveal them... that's why I thought it'd be just us. 😊

With the proposed alliance not coming to fruition, Courtney and Amanda decide to make a pact and be the first in the game to reveal their partners to one another.

Amanda - I want everyone's partners to be out in the open. I seriously want to tell you mine but I don't want to put it out there because I feel if it becomes public knowledge we could be in danger.

Courtney - I tell you what... and we're back on that issue of 'game trust'... I'll tell you mine, you tell me your's. One condition. We don't give this knowledge to our partners. It will just be between us. If we can do this, on good faith, we could narrow down the dynamics of the merge tribe a whole lot. I don't want to be cannon fodder because people are trying to slit up partners.

Amanda - So we reveal our partners to each other but keep it JUST between us, not letting anyone else know at all, not even our partners?

Courtney - Yes. That would be the deal. I'm willing to do it if you are. We'd have a huge leg up. I'd promise not to go after your partner, you wouldn't go after mine. I understand its a huge risk, but sometimes, risks need to be taken. If you agree to it, I will reveal my partner.

Amanda - Give me a minute to think. It's a good idea, I just don't want my partner to be mad if she finds out.

Amanda - CONFESSIONAL - Me and Courtney are getting awfully close to revealing our partners to each other, of course, I'm informing Tijuana of everything. 😊

Stuck in the middle between two friends who don't trust each other, Amanda has the task of bringing them both together.

Tijuana - Courtney wouldn't even acknowledge to me if she still had a partner (I asked if hers was still in the game). I then wrote her back and basically hinted that if a side deal was to be made it would make more sense to include our partners if they exist.

Amanda - Did she respond to you yet? She's really cautious when you first talk to her, trust takes time with her.

Tijuana - Oh if only she knew that she gets along so well with my partner.

Amanda - She thinks me and her should reveal our partners to each other and keep it a complete secret from everyone, including our partners, of course, there's a likely chance that if we'd get the four of us to work together or whatnot, that eventually the four of us would know. I assume she'd actually tell her partner, as I already have. Should I go along with it?

Tijuana - Doesn't she get that if her partner is still in the game and that if they have the kind of relationship that we do that then we could form a 4 person alliance that could take the game by storm? Ideally though, we'd need to try to get 2 more people in the group and maybe not let those 2 people know that any of us are partners. If there are two complete pairs at final four then I guess there'll be no hidden immunity idols given out lol

Amanda - James has insinuated that his partner could be a help as well. 😊

Former tribemates and close allies, James and Amanda also speak candidly about their partners.

Amanda - Is your partner still in the game?

James - Yes. 😊 Yours?

Amanda - Yes. 😊 Do you think your partner could work to our advantage?

James - I would think so. We haven't really gotten a chance to talk about it yet. 😊 How's your partner feeling about it all?

Amanda - My partner is sort of waiting for something to happen before making a decision about what exactly to do. It's hard, this twist is pretty crazy.

Former enemies and members of opposing tribes, Lill and Courtney are working together for the first time. Courtney is debating whether she should reveal her partner to her closest ally, Amanda.

Courtney - My 'side' has kind of pegged you and Christa as the 'leaders' based on post count. I worry I'll be targeted as well. I don't want to be cannon fodder to split up partners.

Lill - it could be that Christa and I just have no lives...pretty close to the truth! Christa is paranoid that your side think's she's "Too Friendly" whatever that means... She's funny.

Courtney - So, what do we do? Vote together? Remain loyal to our respective tribes? It'd be so much easier if we could put our trust in another pair.

Lill - It would. I'm tight with Christa and Andrew. I'm hoping one of them actually has a partner that we can bring in to work with us. Andrew said his partner was PG, but you know what that's worth. I guess we keep the dialog going with everybody, maybe something will turn up...

Tijuana is still having doubts about Courtney.

Tijuana - Honestly, I like everyone on your tribe that I have spoken too. They seem more active than my tribe and more fun.

Amanda - Ideally, James and his partner, me and you and Courtney and her partner could kick ass, but I don't want to be so forward with it. Should I tell Courtney or no? I'm so itching to tell her, but I don't want to ruin this.

Tijuana - Don't tell her. I think she could easily then try to target one of us (probably me) in an effort to break up a partnership. I say tomorrow talk to her and hint that your partner is open to a cross tribal deal. I agree that we shouldn't be too forward, at least not this early.

Amanda - She wouldn't go after me, trust me, I know I can trust her almost as much as I can trust you. I'm going to mention the cross-tribal thing, might say it to her in a few minutes without being

obvious. Honestly, at this point telling them is the best way to get them to trust me completely, but at the same time, I wouldn't think they'd target you right away...

Tijuana - I don't think you should be the first to say and I don't think you should mention anything while I'm still online. If they're smart they'll be able to figure out that I'm your partner since I'm one of the two omurano on right now.

Just when it seemed as though they had hit a dead end, Courtney finally decides to let her guard down, and trust in her friend Amanda.

Amanda - Has James said much about his partner?

Courtney - The only thing he ever said to me is he thought his partner was getting the boot last night. It could have been a ploy. As for the deal I put out there Amanda, one more thing, you and I have final two agreement. If I took that info of your partner or you leaked mine, it wouldn't make sense from a 'game logic' move. We'd be poisoning our relationship and we'd become enemies. I'm even willing to reveal my partner first to you to prove I am with you above all.

Amanda - I totally am right there with you, babe. 😊 Do you think your partner would be open to teaming up? I think my partner would be willing to make some sort of cross-tribal deal.

Courtney - Ok... my partner is Lill. Please don't tell your partner. I'm taking a big risk doing this. I feel like we're going around in cycles, so I'm going to make the first move to prove my loyalty to you. 😊

Amanda - Seriously babe, I have absolutely no reason to doubt you. I trust you completely and I'm going to hold up my side of the deal... My partner is Tijuana. 😊

Courtney - If we had those two... it wouldn't even matter if the other tribe won the first vote... those two could flip to our side the next vote.

Amanda - Yeah. I know Tijuana would be open to dealing with us.

Courtney - Well, Lill is gone.. but she's scared shitless we'll target her first. My thoughts are... we got to keep our tribe from targetting Lill or T. They got to keep their tribe from targetting you and me.

Amanda - James basically told me that his partner is still in the game. Anyways, what would be the repercussions if you told Lill about this? Would she be up for a four-way cross-tribal type thing?

Courtney - I think she'd be down. I'd have to tell her a little white lie that you revealed your partner first. I think she'd be more comfortable believing that. Its funny, I was filling out T earlier about a side-deal earlier to keep the target off of each others backs. She shot me down. 😊

Amanda - She told me about that. 😊 I told her I was close with you and I could get something worked out, and she said she liked you but she was nervous. She told me she really likes you, James and Chicken, she even said she liked you guys more than her old tribemates.

Courtney - if we got you, me, T, Lill voting the same way... we can afford to lose one member of our tribe flipping.

Amanda - Which in my mind, would be Todd, he hasn't answered anyone on our tribe's PMs tonight. I'm almost sure he's going to flip, his partner is probably Andrew or Christa since they were online.

Courtney - Basically, we'd let T/Lill choose the target between Ryan/Christa/Andrew. We could get rid of Christa this round, Todd next round.

Amanda - That'd be fine with me. I think they're the two scariest players at this point. Then the dead-weight could go.

Courtney - If your spec is right and Christa/Todd are partners, our 'side' should have no problem targetting Christa, save for Todd. If we can make it to the final eight with our two pairs in tack... we'd have a good shot at going to the final four.

Amanda - We would, and you and me could make the final two. 😊 I think Tijuana would be okay targetting Christa, I'll have to ask her.

Courtney - Lill is on! I'll talk to her!!!!

Courtney - CONFESSIONAL - I took a risk and revealed to Amanda that my partner is Lill. She said her partner is T. If she's telling the truth, we got a huge leg up on the other pairs. If she's lying, I'm a sucker. 😊

The partner alliance is in full effect, but it all hinges on one very wild wild-card, Lill.

Courtney - Amanda sort of guessed I was paired with you... her partner is T. So, the way I look at it, if we all stayed together... we could be the final four. Fuck the Hll. We could also stop other pairs from slitting our throats.

Lill - That's fine. Me and TJ get along fine (I hope she doesn't know I was trying to get everybody to vote for her the first TC, before Christa decided to target Cindy instead...)

Courtney - Amanda is now convinced Christa/Todd are partners. Todd is likely to be the least loyal of my tribe's 'side'. You, me, Amanda, and T all need to collectively agree with who we plan to target first. Chicken wants to go after an active and mentioned you or Christa. Once Amanda fills in T, I need to start talking to her, you need to start talking game with Amanda... that way, we can all build 'game trust' and such.

Lill - I'm starting the ball rolling with amanda...

Lill does just that.

Lill - ok. what do you think about Courtney? She seems like a real pain in the ass...

Amanda - 😊😊

Lill - ok, now that that's out of the way. how do we take over the merged tribe?

Amanda - Well, I assume we both have past allies from our original tribes that we can work to take out mutual threats...

Lill - Chicken scares me... 😊

Amanda - Christa and Todd scare me. 😊

Lill - If we take todd out, Christa will do whatever we say. I'm very tight with Christa, and she is extremely paranoid. We'd have to make it a blindside, but I have sway with Andrew, osten and ryan (who owes me big time for keeping him in the game so far).

Tijuana enters the picture and the four-way cross-tribal partners alliance is officially underway.

Lill - Apparently, my partner and Amanda are buddy buddy. According to my partner, Amanda named you as her partner so we can be one happy alliance. Sound like a good plan to me. You hear the same thing? Dunno who to believe and who is blowing smoke.

Tijuana - yeah I heard the same thing. I'm still a bit nervous about it all though. I don't want to do something that'll just blow up in my face. Part of me wants to stay loyal to Omurano but the more I talk to people, including on our tribe the more it seems Andrew and Christa are playing each of us and making each of us think that we've got a tight bond with the two of them. Plus it makes me nervous that we have 2 people, Ryan and Osten, that don't seem to come around as often which makes it harder to try to strategize and form bonds while Andoa all seem to be active.

Lill - agree completely. I'm pretty sure I can trust Courtney (my partner) for now. We need to find out who the other partners are... I think todd and Christa are partners, but I don't know for sure. Andrew told me PG was his partner, but I don't know for sure, either. I don't think he was lying to me, but he could be a good liar.

Tijuana - one thing - if the four of us agree to work together we should agree that we'll stick together to have us be the final 4. This way the hidden immunity idol bonus will not come into play since the last TC it can be used is at final 5 and it'll never be handed out since there will be two full pairs left still.

Tijuana - I trust my partner (for now) as well. She's shared stuff with me that she didn't need to share. I do think that someone needs to make a move because this tribe vs tribe thing is probably not going to work. If we don't try to work our partnerships sooner or later someone else will do it.

Lill - exactly. We need to get together and make a move. We need to find out christa's partner and take them out. Then she'll be our monkey. Courtney thinks it may be todd, but I dunno.

Tijuana- CONFESSIONAL - It looks like me, Amanda, Courtney and Lill will be working together. I'm trying to get us all to agree to final 4 so that we have two complete pairs left in the game...if I understand the rules that should mean no one is ever given the hidden immunity idol since it has to be played by final 5 but since no one will be given it before then it won't have a chance to even exist.

PANOBA, DAY 8

Osten arrives to the tribe a day late and a dollar short.

Osten - Hi Chicken! Im shocked that we merged this soon. DAMN! 😞

Chicken - Yeah, the numbers don't look for you but, hey you made it to the merge ithout quitting and without wiping out any pelicans this time!

Osten - I slaight them all dude! Cut theyre damn heads off!

Chicken - Good for you, man! (I think!) Do pelicans behave like chickens when their heads are off?

Osten - damn those little fuckers...

Osten - CONFESSIONAL - I cant believe weve mergeg this soon. Damn! 😞 Next vote is the key. We need someone to come to our side. Just one. Thats all it takes. According to Lill, her partner wants to vote out Todd, so theres one option there. Sucks that Daves not here man. Who do those fuckers think they are, voting Dave the GOD out? But mark my words, Dave will be avenged! Having Dave not here cuts my options greatly and makes it much harder for me to make a powerplay later. So right now I have to see how the cards play out, and if potential alliances rise later in the game, Im gonna jump at the change.

Courtney - I suggested going after Todd first, then Ryan. We also need to be ready for a double boot at some point in this game. Poody usually does it.

Tijuana - I agree with going after Todd. Is that who you think Christa's partner is? I almost want to PM Christa to see how she'd react to Todd being targeted

Courtney - I'll get my 'side' to target Christa... so if they are partners, she'll have no choice but to go along with the Todd boot. Then, me and Amanda will vote with your side. Next round, I'll rally my side to vote out Ryan, you and Lill vote our way. That way we can keep each 'side' somewhat even and off balance.

Tijuana - Good idea. It's kind of funny cause I was actually thinking the same way you are in regards to booting and working to make sure that no one realizes that there's an actual cross tribe alliance made of partners.

Feeling the need to scramble, Christa approaches her partner, Todd.

Christa - You sleep well last night? Also, don't read too much into this next question. I'm just asking because I think at this point EVERYONE with a partner is asking, and it couldn't hurt: Would you consider voting with me at tribal council tomorrow?

Todd - Probably not if it's someone on my old tribe. I can't give up my ties just yet.

Christa - I figured as much.

Todd - This doesn't mean our bridges are burnt does it? I'm just not read to completely release myself into this yet.

Christa - I'm just worried that they might be burned, but not because of this. I think I'm probably going to be the target tonight, that's all, so I'm kinda nervous about that.

As Christa scrambles to find out what is going on, the partners alliance begins to put the pieces to the puzzle together.

Courtney - My mind has been racing. I think we need to find a 5th and 6th, be it another pair or two orphaned pairs. Amanda suggested this and it seems like a good idea. If we had 6, we'd have the majority at the 11 mark. A overly complex flip flopping plan becomes a simple pagonging. Bang bang bang, everyone else falls like a house of cards.

Tijuana - stop reading my mind! seriously I was answering my host questions and talking about how we need a 5th and 6th person and that it would be best if those people were partnerless.

Courtney - If James and Christa were partners, that would work great for us.

Tijuana - eh, I hope James' partner is someone like Andrew or even Ryan/Osten. Christa is a slight control freak and may not always agree to our plans/ideas on who to vote out.

Things seem to be moving smoothly until Tijuana informs her partner, Amanda, of Christa's willingness to vote off Amanda. This leaves the emotional Amanda fuming.

Tijuana - I just got this PM from Christa: "I think Amanda probably IS Lill's partner. That's what makes this so hard, because I think Amanda is a player we need to take out due to her influence over the rest of her tribe, while Todd has no control, but at the same time, I don't want to piss Lill off."

Amanda - Yeah... Todd and Christa, they're fucking partners. Can we take out Christa? 😊

Tijuana - i'm open for it especially because chances are that christa is probably going to tell todd that you're thinking of voting him. I wish lill hadn't named names.

Amanda - CONFESSIONAL - I'm a tad worried about Todd and Christa. Todd because he hasn't spoken to any of us and I'm almost sure his partner is still in the game. He's going to flip, and he's making it obvious. Christa because she's getting in with everyone and trying to mastermind this game.

Just as predicted by Tijuana, Christa tells Todd to watch out for Amanda.

Christa - CONFESSIONAL - I've been in contact with Todd and telling him about how Amanda has not only set him up as a potential boot target, but how people are going along with it. If she's willing to throw him under the bus, I'm not just going to sit back and let that happen. Even if it gets me eliminated, it'll Todd me out in the long run. You see, at this point, I'm almost certain that Lill's partner is Amanda, and that combination is probably the most dangerous partnership left in the game, because Amanda is very convincing and manipulative, and Lill is probably the biggest strategist in the game, even moreso than me. That makes keeping Amanda in the game and continuing to give Lill a chance at the hidden immunity idol VERY dangerous.

Christa - I don't know why exactly, but Lill has been saying that Amanda would be willing to vote you out because she doesn't like you, and Amanda is going to try to get others on her side. Even if it doesn't come to pass, just remember that for down the road, okay? I think Amanda is a force to be

reckoned with, as evidenced by the fact that all it took for Dave to be booted was for him to try to take her out. Just remember that down the line and snake her before she has the chance to do it to you.

Todd - Hmmm well if Lill is telling the truth than that's kinda surprising. Amanda has no reason to hate me, I didn't even vote against her. meh. I'll keep it in mind. Right now I'm not sure who is our tribes target.

Christa - Right now, Lill's getting everyone to target you tonight, and even though I want to keep you, it's hard to do so without compromising myself. Do you REALLY want to risk going out in, at best, a six-six tie because of this?

Todd - Why would Lill target me?

Christa - Well at this point, I believe Lill is Amanda's partner for one, and for another, I think anyone is just jumping at the chance to swing that one voter to their side.

Todd - I appreciate what you've told me immensely Christa.

Christa - CONFESSIONAL - Amanda is the person I want to target the most. She strikes me as being just like the real Amanda, very fake and untrustworthy. I also think she holds considerable power on her tribe, as evidenced by the fact that Dave was taken out just for targetting her. Amanda is who I'd want gone first.

Blissfully unaware at the cross-tribal partners alliance going on behind the scenes, Chicken checks in with his old Andoa tribe mates to make sure plans are in motion. Amanda spots her chance to target her new enemy, Christa.

Chicken - Hi! I was up early, having first go at the worms. Re. our strategy, I was thinking that we should be targeting a prominent player. It's best that we cut off their head early. We should have the numbers to win a vote, if we all vote the same way, even if each tribe targets the same player. What do you think?

Amanda - I don't see a problem with that. What about Christa? She seems to be ruling the roost over there.

Chicken - That's a good idea. However, Todd has brought up Lill. We need to keep him happy! What do you think about her?

Amanda - I really think Todd and Christa are partners, which is why he probably brought that up. Lill is okay, I think she's less in the loop than she appears to be. I wouldn't mind booting her but I think it wouldn't be as advantageous of a move.

Under the impression that the game is still Andoa vs. Omurano, Chicken tries to get one of the former Omurano tribe members to vote with his tribe.

Chicken - Hi Ryan. How are things falling for you? How are you placed?

Ryan - That has got to be the strangest... I'm doing darn well Chicken, I am placed... I am placed... I have no idea how to answer that question

Chicken - I'll see what we can promise to you to cement our relationship.

Ryan - Sounds good, I'll be hearing from you soon I hope

Ryan - CONFESSIONAL - I'd love to work with James and keep him around, but only if it's in a way that'll keep me safe. It might work out, but probably not, so I'm mostly going to stick with my tribe. Todd's in trouble, Amanda is planning of flipping against him. Chicken is paranoid, I had four PMs from him on the first day of being here and he wants to flip me, I've been leading him on that I will, and I might if he gives me the right deal.

Confused by this sudden burst of friendliness, Ryan reports to Tijuana, who then reports back to Courtney.

Ryan - Chicken's been trying to get me to flip the crazy bastard, I've been leading him on.

Tijuana - is he telling you who they're trying to target?

Ryan - Not yet, I'll try to extract that though

Courtney - We made a huge mistake not bringing in another pair last night. Chicken got a pm from someone on your 'side' who is willing to flip... no idea who it is... This is getting messy.

Tijuana - Chicken is mistaken. He's been trying to get Ryan to flip apparently and Ryan is leading him on (so says Ryan).

Courtney - Ah, ok... that's a load off my mind... I don't want Chicken dictating the boot choice. 😊

Tijuana - well, hopefully after tonight we'll have a better idea of where everyone stands and how others plan on voting. you know depending on how this goes we could end up having a vote result that's all over the place.

Courtney - Once we get James/XXX on board, it might be best to vote as a block this TC. We can't afford to split our votes with so much scheming going on.

When James signs on, Courtney finally makes her move.

Courtney - I missed you. I want to get on the same page. This is my offer. You, me, Amanda. I trust you and Amanda the most. I know you have a partner in the game. I know Amanda has one. I still have one. I'd be willing to reveal mine to you, Amanda... if you were willing to do the same. We then form a 6 person alliance... make it through the first vote, 6 is the majority... we pagong everyone else. It is the easiest way to ensure a majority and to forget about blind trust in partners who want to flip flop. You, me Amanda could get to the final four this way... we'd have to be willing to forget about Chicken/Bri/Todd though. Our partners would have to forget about the other three from there tribe.

James - Wow. That's some pretty quick thinking. I love the idea. I think it could work. I'll have to talk it over with my partner first. But if it were solely up to me, hell yeah I'm on board. I won't be at the challenge tonight but I'll talk to you agian tonight.

Courtney - Talk it over with your partner then get back to me... why this alliance work work is each pair would know two other pairs... no one could snake one another without risking being exposed. It wouldn't matter the order... one from our side could go, then one from the other, on and on.... make it through this first vote, tribe of 11, we'd have the majority no matter what.

James - CONFESSIONAL - Anyway, Courtney has come up with a pretty elaborate plan of making an alliance of six with her and her partner, Amanda plus partner and me and Ryan (who they probably suspect as my partner...even though I haven't told them yet). I haven't had a chance to tell Ryan in detail yet...which I should do soon. Me and him need to do a lot more communication before now and the vote. He probably has something else going already. 🤔

After hearing of Amanda targeting him, Todd decides that he will confront Amanda.

Todd - Do you think Andoa should stick together? I personally think so. I was just getting your feel for things.

Amanda - I agree. If you've heard anything otherwise it's not true, I've said a few things that may tmake the other tribe think otherwise, but I'm 100% Andoa all the way.

Todd - I've heard several things today and It's really complicated to pick out what's true and what is not. 😞

Amanda - Seriously, don't worry. Lil asked me if I'd be willing to boot you and I said yeah, but it was complete bullshit, I'm 100% with Andoa.

Todd - I hope so. I just don't understand why I've become a target....

Todd - CONFSSIONAL - It's sickening that I'm a target when I've done absolutly nothing to be diserving of that 'title'. I don't know what I can do honestly, I have to hope that Christa my secret partner and the andoa's have my back. Honestly I've talk to everyon openly and honestly. I have not wronged anyone or created any targets from myself that are clearly visable. I am neither strong nor a powerful player, at this time. All I can do at this momment is kick ass in this challenge.

The alliance of 4 already begins to crack as Amanda is furious with Lill for supposedly outing her to Todd and Christa.

Amanda - I don't want to be rude but PLEASE don't use my name when you say stuff because everyone has been coming to me all day saying that you told them that I said I'd be willing to boot Todd and now I've got Todd and Christa targeting me.

Lill - Sorry. Christa suggested you first today, and I just told her that it might be easier to get Todd off, since some people didn't seem to like him. I did mention you. When I spoke to her last she seemed likely to go against Todd. I'm trying to get in and find out for sure who her partner is. If it is todd, dropping him will bring her closer to us. If her partner is James, that would work better

Amanda - Right. I think we should be fine, but we still have to be cautious.

Amanda vents to her partner.

Amanda - Todd was told about what I apparently said. Ugh. Lil fucked up big time.

Tijuana - is he confronting you? that sucks. the only one that could have told him is his partner.

Amanda - Aka Christa the c%#t. Seriously, I just bitched out Lil. She fucked this up.

Tijuana - you need to tell Todd you didn't mean it that you were trying to get info out of lill. A lot of people are doing that - leading others on in an attempt to gain info.

Amanda - I already did, but I'm not sure if he's buying it, but now he's going to want to target Lil.

Tijuana - ...well that might not be so bad 😞...j/k. Is James closer to you and Courtney then anyone else on your tribe?

Amanda - Yeah, Courtney talked to James, he is on board, he just wants to talk to his partner.

Tijuana - *crosses fingers that it's someone cool*

While Lill and Amanda are at each other's throats, Courtney and Tijuana are hitting it off.

Courtney - I honestly wish I was your partner and not Lill.... I click with you better. 😊

Tijuana - Thanks 😊. I sometimes have to reign Amanda in cause she can be a bit eager at times.

That's the one downfall of this partner twist - if you work with them they can ruin your game just as much as help it. Amanda needs to learn how to do damage control. I told her to tell Todd that she was just leading Lill on in an attempt to gain information.

Courtney - Lill fucked up, but this is not a game ender. Amanda needs to get control of herself and understand the larger picture. Lill needs to forget about Christa. I want her gone first or second so we don't have to put up with her nonsense anymore.

CHALLENGE BEACH, DAY 8

Jeff Probst - If there is lag, no one freak out, no one panic, I'll remedy the situation and we'll pick up where we left off. Here's how the challenge works: It's an endurance. Every minute you must post a new number. We'll start with 001 and then count upwards every consecutive minute. so if we started at 3:30, you would post 001 at 3:30, 002 at 3:31, 003 at 3:32 and so on. If you post the wrong number or if you do not post in the minute, you are out of the competition. Along the way there will be several temptations. Only one person can take each temptation. First one to post for it gets it and they are out of the game. If you post that you want it, but aren't the first you do not get the temptation and **you are still in the game**. Pretty basic competition, last one standing wins.

The challenge begins and after 4 minutes, Andrew is the first person eliminated for not getting his post in on time.

Andrew - Damn! Yeah, I looked back and you are right. I jumped it one tick to freakin' late. A distraction killed me...damn!

Judd - Just an update, Christa, Osten, Chicken, Tijuana, Brianna, Amanda, Todd, Lill, and Courtney are all still alive in this challenge.

After rechecking the time stamp, Jeff notices that Osten is out out of the challenge after 15 minutes.

Jeff Probst - Osten, you posted 007 too early, you are out of the competition.

Osten - NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Judd - Todd, Christa, Lill, Amanda, Tijuana, Brianna, Chicken, and Courtney remain.

Another 15 minutes pass and Jeff Probst approaches the remaining contestants.

Jeff Probst - Okay everyone, now's a good time to stop that we're experiencing lag. Todd, Christa, Lill, Amanda, Tijuana, Brianna, Chicken, and Courtney You are all still in. Start posting numbers again at 3:33. But if you'd like to opt for the temptation here it is: An advantage in the next Immunity Challenge. First to post TEMPTED gets the temptation, everyone else continue playing.

Lill - tempted

Jeff Probst - Lillian you're out and get an advantage at the next IC. Okay everyone stop stop stop, The lag is so frustrating I've decided to change the challenge. We're going to go through all the temptations now, if you take it you're out if you decide not to take it you will have to participate in an even more difficult challenge so chose wisely. Next Temptation coming at 8:39, if you take it you're out. Still in: Tijuana, Chicken, Courtney, Christa, Amanda, Todd

Jeff Probst - Temptation #2: You get to sit someone out of the next Immunity Challenge.

Courtney - I take the Temptation

In a private conversation, Lill explains her decision to Courtney.

Lill - I hate waiting for things. I figured one of us should have an advantage next challenge. Better to grab it and avoid the frustration of a laggy timed challenge.

Courtney - I just took the Temptation #2... fuck this challenge. I can barely get on the site at times.

Lill - now we rule. We have an advantage in the challenge and we can exclude whoever we want from immunity.

Courtney - T and Amanda are still in... if one wins immunity... we got this. As long as Todd doesn't win immunity

Lill - Notice what is going on... Christa/Todd vs. Amanda/T

The temptations continue.

Jeff Probst - Courtney gets to sit someone out of the next IC. Lill gets an advantage in the next IC. Next Temptation coming at 8:43, if you take it you're out. Still in: Tijuana, Chicken, Christa, Amanda, Todd. First person to post TEMPTED gets to cancel someone's vote at the next tribal council. GO.

Christa - Tempted

Jeff Probst - Christa, you get to cancel someone's vote at tomorrow's TC congratulations. Remaining in this challenge: Amanda, Chicken, Tijuana, Todd. Next temptation at 8:49.

Jeff Probst - This is a bit of a doosey. If you take this temptation you will reveal who your partner is. However, both you and your partner will get Immunity at the next Tribal Council. Another hiccup: You cannot vote at the council. Post tempted to receive Immunity, not vote, and reveal the identity for you and your partner.

Andrew - Definitely some righteous temptations.

Jeff Probst - If you don't have a partner in the game, you cannot take this temptation.

Todd and Christa talk about their odds if they reveal their partnership in order to get Immunity.

Christa - TAKE THE IMMUNITY!

Todd - reveal us?

Christa - Yes. We're both in danger. We both need it.

Todd - alright.

Todd posts tempted in the challenge thread and accepts Jeff's offer.

Todd - tempted

Tijuana - very daring todd

Brianna - GASP!

Chicken - Todd likes the way it was phrased the second time. Well done, Todd!

Todd - Trust me I feel sick.

Jeff Probst - Okay Todd, you have chosen to take Immunity for you and your partner, while giving up your votes and your identities. So Todd, why don't you reveal your partner and then we'll have your partner post to receive their Immunity.

Osten - Damn 😞

Todd - My partner is Christa.

Chicken - Don't worry, mate. It's fine. You made a good play.

Christa - *waves*

Brianna - My partner was Cindy! Do I get immunity too? 😊😊

Osten - Well son of a bitch!

Tijuana - knew it...

Jeff Probst - Christa and Todd, you have been outed as a couple, but the good news is neither of you will be going home tomorrow, congratulations. Okay now back to business... We still have three of you competing. Amanda, Chicken, Tijuana. I'm going to give you a choice, we can continue with the

original challenge and weather the lag, OR, we can do a question and answer challenge about Peru. It's up to you guys, why don't you have a public vote.

Amanda - I think I'd prefer questions... just because of the lag. How will it work? First to get a certain number of questions correct?

Chicken - I vote questions

Tijuana - this lag is a fucking bitch

Jeff Probst - Lag's really bad now, it's to be expected though with a 12 person challenge. Alright, First to 3 wins. First to answer correctly gets the point. Are we ready?

Tijuana - ready steady go!

Jeff Probst - 1. True or False: The Incas had no written language and their history was entirely orally passed down.

Tijuana - false

Jeff Probst - The correct answer was True. No one gets the point. 2. What is the name of Viracocha Inca's eldest son?

Amanda - Manco Ccapac

Chicken - pachacuti

Amanda - Urcon

Jeff Probst - Urcon is correct. Amanda, you get the point. Amanda - 1 Chicken - 0 Tijuana - 0.

3. What type of extinct language is Andoa?

Amanda - Zaparoan

Chicken - extinct

Tijuana - 1 million points to Chicken!

Jeff Probst - Amanda, that is correct, 1 more point and you win Individual Immunity. oh... and CHICKEN OWNAGE.

Chicken - Umm.. first to 3?????

Jeff Probst - What is the name of a desert peninsula located in the Pisco Province in the Ica Region, on the south coast of Peru?

Amanda - Paracas

Tijuana - Ti demands a do over!

Amanda - I had the lag too, but I got my answer quickly. 😊

Tijuana - I'm sorry, I can't understand you with the host's dick in your mouth.

Jeff Probst - And with that Amanda, you have won the first Individual Immunity challenge on Panoba, congratulations. Now, Some things to address. First of all thanks for giving me the single craziest challenge in Stranded's history. Now,

Lillian you will get your advantage in Tuesday's Immunity Challenge (if you're still here, you cannot give it away).

Courtney, you will get to sit someone out of that challenge on Tuesday (if you are still here, you cannot give it away).

Christa, you will get to cancel someone's vote at tomorrow's TC. You must wait until that TC to reveal who's vote you would like to cancel at the very beginning of TC.

Todd and Christa, you are both Immune, neither of you can vote, and now everyone knows you are a pair.

Chicken and Tijuana, you decided to gamble with playing for Immunity, didn't work out for you sorry.

Amanda, congratulations, you can choose to give away Immunity at the beginning of tomorrow's TC.

Wow, that's a lot. Good luck with this, should keep you guys busy until tomorrow, good luck! TC at 9c.