

Banana's Jury Bonanza

Dang, Waleed *actually* got me.

Congrats on making the final 3, you really deserve this and I look forward to chatting with you all after the game is over. I really enjoyed playing this season with you all even though I was not as active as I should have been and ghosted all of you a good amount of the time.

First off I want to say that my vote **was** leaning a certain way and I thought the speeches would solidify my vote in that direction but in reality it's created an even playing ground so I want to see everyone go buck wild in these responses because I'm ready to hear you out and cast this vote.

Alright, let's get into it!

Cammy:

My fellow hometown hero! Glad to see you made it here. I still remember that on my 2nd day in the vivor lobby I played/won a game of clue hosted by you so I was exhilarated at the chance to get to know you better and I'm glad we did. Yet I'm really disappointed that the Jbomber vote really fractured our ability to trust each other for the rest of the game because from my point of view that vote was only necessary because I was informed you were pushing on me, and I know we spoke about this already. It just makes me sad that it had to end that way.

Anyways You hit the nail on the head that you played the game amazingly socially. I loved each and every of our conversations and being from the same hometown definitely helped let this grow, yet this is not a scenario particular to me. I'm sure those sitting next to you and many of us sitting in Ponderosa can say the same about you. We just felt some sort of connection that was greater with you than the rest of the cast which is truly a majestic skill.

With this skill you were able to influence things to go your way without having to make too much of a splash until later in the merge. Yet I believe the game was slipping from your grip come F7. If it were not for Waleed's sudden loyalty I think the game might have went away from you here.

After the Jbomber vote, did you feel like the game was in your control or do you think you were still losing influence at this point? When would you say you felt very confident that you were going to go far?

Waleed:

Waleed my friend! I'm sorry our relationship failed to flourish once we hit merge, but I'm really ecstatic that you were able to see that I was falling behind socially so you stepped up to take the reins yourself and I respect that gameplay. One fault I originally had you pinned for is that I often felt like you were going with the flow and not pushing for moves but you've definitely changed my mind on that so I'm struggling to really come up with a decent question.

I know Jacob said in his speech that no one actually was able to say "*Dang, Waleed got me,*" but I think I at least have the ability to. That flip set the pace for end game and essentially locked you in to go far so I respect it. One thing I want to explore within your speech is that, for that vote you spoke about all the scenarios of the vote which I think is a lovely method of displaying your thoughts at the time.

Yet you don't really answer the question with why you flipped. You mention your worry of idols but sticking with us (Toby/Scott/Me) and voting out Shado would still lead to one less idol in the game and would leave you with an alliance to take you (probably) as far as you are now. So I want you to elaborate more on **Why** you felt the need to flip. Did you just not trust us, or was it all idols. I understand with your speech that it left you in a favorable spot with all parties going forward but my question is more of a mentality one.

Shadox:

Hey Shadox! Congrats on making it here bud! I know this must have been a rough ORG to play spending all day with kids at camp is killer but you still found time to play and play well enough to make it here so congrats!

I was originally going to ask about your game verses Cammy's game but Jacob(*Dang, Jacob got me*) stole that from me so I want you to answer that as best as you can because I look forward to that answer. Yet, my question comes from your social aspect of this game. I thought we had decent relations, but from what I understand at Ponderosa, many of the jurors felt that they did not have much of a connection to you.

Do you think this hurt your game later in the merge, and if you think it did. How did you manage to get to final three with what some would say was a “less than stellar social game”.

I want to thank everyone associated with this game so much because I had an amazing time and I'm just glad I was able to somewhat redeem myself after my EMBB8 flop. I love you all so DM me some time, I promise I won't ghost (as much) :)

4Random2's Response:

Jake!!!!

Firstly, don't you dare apologise to me! I'm the one that destroyed the #WeLoveTaraAlliance and now I can never look at Tara again!!! I'm the one that should be sorry to you, because I should have been a better friend/ally member to you and actually WORKED HARDER to salvage things... even though you were afk (like a lot haha).

I'm honestly glad that you can see now (and I hope that the rest of the jury can also see) that I wasn't just going with the flow and I was being as strategic as possible. I specifically mentioned the 3-2-2 vote in A LOT of detail and with all the possible outcomes, because to me that IS MY GAME WINNING MOVE. I'm sorry if that is cocky, but I honestly feel that that was the move of the season... and like lots of you mentioned, that was the turning point of the season (sorry, I'm re-reading it and I sound like a cocky dick, but I was just soooo proud of myself for pulling that off, that I went to my confessional straight away, and I was like? DID I ACTUALLY JUST DO THIS!?!??... I was like as happy as Augustus Gloop was in Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory.

Ok now to the question... and I KNOW people don't like it when finalists talk about prior games, but I need to do so... at least briefly to answer your question truthfully, as my final ORG ended roughly as soon as the merge hit this game and it 100% influenced how I played this game.

So, in that game I got to the end and got destroyed by the jury for essentially playing soooo under the radar that no one could even acknowledge my game. I was called a “coward” amongst other things... ANYWAY... what I did that game was stay loyal to the EASY OPTION with the people that had the idols and were pulling off the fancy moves and had impressive strategy, so I was the perfect goat for them, as I was just staying quietly and doing what I was told – not rocking the boat. My alliance with you three, would have been the COPY PASTE OF THAT ALLIANCE! Had I stayed loyal to you guys, I'm sure I would have made it to the end (not again to sound cocky) but because you all would have wanted to get eachother out over me,

because you were all more impressive than myself. So what I learnt from my other game, was I need to be more visible (i.e. by actually winning challenges) and I need to be the one making the moves/calling the shots (but not just making moves for the sake of making moves cause that's just stupid). All the moves I made were calculated - the way I broke down the 3-2-2 vote in my speech, I had done that on my whiteboard in my study for every single vote from that point out; I went into details of whom would be pissed with whom after what vote and whom would vote with whom and get blindsided and how I could mend those fences and it all went exactly to plan! Well... apart from Emily winning final 5... had she not won... I would have not voted out Scott and would have voted out Emily instead of him!

So, my first reason was I wanted to change the perception of how juries see me, because I didn't want a repeat of my other ORG. As I like to think, I learn from my mistakes. I seriously just didn't want to be seen as the goat... yet, I'm still being seen as Cammy's goat ><

Second reason, was how I explained with all the idols and wanting to flush them out or get at least one of the people with the idols out.

Third, again like how I explained it was because I knew it would put me in a favourable position moving forward. Not just by how I explained it in my original speech... but because it caused chaos within the MAT alliance, which was excellent for me to further weasel my way in! The funny thing is, I pulled off that move and both Toby and Scott didn't even know that I voted for you...till I owned up to it... mended some fences... and still continued to execute my remaining plans, such as the 3-2-1 and the 3-2.

Thanks buddddddddddddd 😊

Cammy's Response:

After the Jbomber vote, did you feel like the game was in your control or do you think you were still losing influence at this point? When would you say you felt very confident that you were going to go far?

After the jbomber vote I felt like I had a strong grasp of the game and what people wanted. People wanted me, Toby, and Emile gone. I didn't feel like I was losing influence, I just had to kind of figure out where my place was again, and find out how I could influence differently. I felt like I lost the foundation of my game, which was with you and jbomber. I just had to re-shift everything, which wasn't too hard because I did have other strong connections and I just had to make them link up with what my vision was-- getting me to the end.

I felt very confident after F7 and after linking up with Waleed. He was very loyal to me, cut allies and people he's known... since the start, and looped me in on a lot of information and things that I wouldn't have been privy of (like, alliances, and fights within the alliances.) I think aligning

with him was my best decision, and instead of hating him or targeting him for voting me, I worked really hard to use it to further me. He did a lot of the dirty work that I didn't have to, and made things go the way that made sense for me even if it didn't make the most sense for him. Granted, he didn't vote the people he didn't want to vote for because they were "friends" etc., but he made sure that they were out because if they were in, it was bad for me. When he won immunity, I felt like I won immunity, too. So I was pretty confident that I would get to the end.

Aside from, *that* and if I remove it from the equation, I was confident in the "MAT" alliance with Emily and Shadox and that the three of us had each others best interest in mind. Now, I know that Shadox says he wanted me and Emily out, which is like, cool. But like, he literally had until F8 on to do so and didn't make any move to do it until F4. Like, he had an idol, you had an idol, if he really wanted it to happen and get done, he could've done it. But he didn't. And he didn't because I don't think he really wanted to do it and didn't want to do it. Because if he did want to do it, he would've done it. So I don't believe that jazz for a second. Emily and Shadox were solid votes, I never felt like they were going to turn on me, and I know that a lot of the Gozo people were super aware of that and wanted them gone for a minute. A lot of you would bring up to me that we were in a final 3, and of course I would deny it, and they were numbers, and they still ended up deep into the game anyways. So with Shadox and Emily, and me, that's 3 votes I have, and including Waleed, that's 4. So like, having 4 votes with you from F8/F7 on... yeah, I felt pretty confident I was going to be ok and was going to go far.

Shadox's Response:

Putting everything into retrospective, and from what other jurors have said, it seems I have been mistaken about my social ties. And honestly, I feel like a part of me got overconfident and focused more on long term plans of breaking up my alliance, instead of building up social relations like I was before. This definitely hurt my game. I knew nearing the finals that I was definitely going to be treated as a goat compared to Emily and Cammy(who wholeheartedly trusted me and wouldn't vote me out), so I had to take action to try and mend my actions. I knew they had a lot of influence on the game, and if I acted too early I would most likely be taken out by both of them. So I started to talk more with people on the other side (Scott, Waleed), people who I previously built relations with, and start gaining their trust. I tried to drop hints that I wouldn't mind a M-À-T member vote without trying to let it leak to either of them. F5 was definitely my biggest mistake in retrospect, and where I started worrying that my social game wasn't going to be enough. If I had made it more clear to Scott that I was willing to vote with them, I might have been able to flip the votes onto Cammy or Emily using the idol. Unfortunately I wasn't able to do so, and the final 4 was set in stone. This is where I knew that Waleed would have to win immunity in order to guarantee me even the SLIMMEST chance of possibly winning this game. And it happened. I had been assuming that the game was going to go to an F2, and it almost did. But Waleed didn't let that happen, even though I made it clear to him that I wanted to take out Cammy in F3 because of her big jury threat.

So I guess in a way, Waleed narrowed down my chances even more. And Cammy got lucky that Waleed trusted her so much that he gave her a chance in an F3.

But I made it this far, fluke or not. And I'm determined to state my case in the best way possible, completely honest, no jazz, admitting mistakes, owning up to failures, and ~~embellishing~~ emphasizing my successes.