



Survivor

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Adam Klein is crowned the winner of Survivor: Millennials vs. Gen X . Photo by Monty Brinton/CBS.

John Powell – GlobalTV.com

So close but yet so far. Over the last 39 seasons of *Survivor* there have been so many players who should've but couldn't pull off that big win to become the Sole Survivor. Whether it was just dumb luck, a twist in the game or that the odds were just stacked so heavily against them, the *Survivor* battleground is littered with the memories of those who missed the mark. Here are our picks for those who perhaps deserve a kinder *Survivor* fate.

Survivor: Winners at War debuts with a special two-hour episode on Wednesday, Feb. 12th at 8 p.m. on Global.

Rudy Boesch (*Survivor: Borneo* and *Survivor: All-Stars*)



Although Richard Hatch clearly played a better game, Rudy was not that far off when it came to strategic and social gaming the first time around. That one slip in the final Immunity Challenge cost him any chance of challenging Hatch for the win, which might have been a closer vote than some think. RIP, Rudy.

Rob Cesternino (*Survivor: The Amazon* and *Survivor: All-Stars*)





He may have had the brains but he couldn't win when he needed to the most. Rob was a clever player, expertly wheeling and dealing his way to the final phase of the game but he couldn't outplay Jenna in the finals of *Survivor: The Amazon*.

Twila Tanner (*Survivor: Vanuatu*)



Twila was a cut-throat, devious player that was far more dangerous than eventual winner Chris Daugherty. The problem was that Twila betrayed her allies to move herself ahead in the game and used her son's name to gain trust. In the modern *Survivor* game, the 5-2 vote for Chris to win might have been a little closer than it turned out to be.

Stephenie LaGrossa (*Survivor: Palau, Survivor: Guatemala and Survivor: Heroes vs. Villains*)



She is still one of the greatest *Survivor* players of all time. Dislocating your shoulder and popping it back in during a challenge? Now that's damn impressive. Stephanie proved she could be as ruthless as anyone when she returned to the game in *Guatemala* after being forced to be a tribe of just one on *Survivor: Palau*. Still, she couldn't pull in the votes needed to win.

Russell Hantz (*Survivor: Samoa*, *Survivor: Heroes vs. Villains* and *Survivor: Redemption Island*)



A controversial entry to be sure as there are two schools of thought on Russell's *Survivor: Samoa* game. Despite angering many of the jurors with his underhanded and oftentimes contentious gameplay, some fans believe he still should have won the jury vote over Natalie White as he was the better player in every regard. Others think due to his poor jury management skills Russell got what he deserved and he reaped what he sowed during the game.

Janet Carbin (*Survivor: Island of the Idols*)



Even with legions of *Survivor* fans pulling for her the veteran lifeguard finished fifth. The 59-year-old won five challenges but more to the point she won the hearts of the fans by putting her morals and ethics first to stand up for what she thought was right when it came to the treatment of some of the women on her tribe. Even though she didn't win the million dollars she won an appreciative fan base for life.

Rupert Boneham (*Survivor: Pearl Islands*, *Survivor: All-Stars*, *Survivor: Heroes vs. Villains* and *Survivor: Blood vs. Water*)



He may not be the greatest Survivor player to ever step foot on the island but he is one of the most popular since his first appearance on *Pearl Islands* making him many people's sentimental favourite. In *Blood versus Water* he made the ultimate sacrifice giving up his chance to play so that his wife could.

Cirie Fields (*Survivor: Panama, Survivor: Micronesia, Survivor: Heroes vs. Villains and Survivor: Game Changers*)



Smiling assassin, thy name is Cirie. She got off of the couch and came to play *Survivor* four times with an impressive record of finishing fourth, third, sixth and well, 17th. A brilliant schemer, Cirie can and did go toe-to-toe with many of the very best *Survivor* has to offer.

Amanda Kimmel (*Survivor: China, Survivor: Micronesia and Survivor: Heroes vs. Villains*)





You don't finish second, third and play three times and only get voted out once in *Survivor* without being a star, power player. Is it no wonder she was the first woman to find and use a Hidden Immunity Idol. Amanda's downfall both times was her inability to successfully plead her case at the Final Tribal Council otherwise her gameplay is almost second to none. Heck, she even got to appear in a [Nintendo commercial with Community's Joel McHale](#).

Terry Deitz (Survivor: *Panama* and Survivor: *Cambodia*)



Comparisons to Tom Westman aside Terry carved out his own place in *Survivor* history. His most impressive record has to be the most post-merge wins in a single season with nine. Like Westman though, he was an absolutely well-rounded *Survivor* player.

Ozzy Lusth (Survivor: *Cook Islands*, Survivor: *Micronesia*, Survivor: *South Pacific* and Survivor: *Game Changers*)





His stunning record of challenge wins is just as impressive as his popularity after appearing for the first time 14 years ago. He has spent the most days of anyone playing *Survivor* at 128 and has returned four times trying to nab that ever elusive victory.

Malcolm Freberg (*Survivor: Philippines, Survivor: Caramoan, and Survivor: Game Changers*)



His *Survivor* journey mirrors Ozzy's in so many ways. Even though his game has improved greatly since his first appearance, he cannot shake that designation of being a challenge and social threat.

Andrea Boehlke (*Survivor: Redemption Island, Survivor: Caramoan and Survivor: Game Changers*)





Don't let the charming personality fool you. As many have learned when it was far too late, Andrea was a versatile and all-around tenacious, tough *Survivor* player. Perhaps that is why she holds the record for the *Survivor* with the most cast against them at 36 in total.

Chrissy Hofbeck (*Survivor: Heroes vs. Healers vs. Hustlers*)



She looked well on her way to a *Survivor* win until her social game let her down with the jury as well as Ben's warehouse of Hidden Immunity Idols. Still, Chrissy won four Immunity Challenges to keep herself in the game and had a resume that any player would be proud of.

Teresa Cooper (*Survivor: Africa*)





T-Bird, the Silas Slayer, paved the road of success for older players who are often seen as liabilities or voted out early on. She fought hard to the very end using every trick in the book and came close to making Lex turn against Tom.

Andrew Savage (*Survivor: Pearl Islands* and *Survivor: Cambodia*)



If anyone could be declared the heart of *Survivor*, it would be Andrew Savage. Each time he has played he has given his all carrying the Morgan Tribe on his shoulders during *Pearl Islands* and along with Tasha Fox, battling from underneath on *Cambodia*. Strangely, Andrew lasted eight episodes and was voted out on Day 21 on both *Pearl Islands* and *Cambodia*.

Yau-Man Chan (*Survivor: Fiji* and *Survivor: Micronesia*)



Darn you, Dreamz Herd. The brainy Yau-Man is sadly remembered for how he was stabbed in the back by Dreamz despite playing such an inspirational game at 67-years-old which included creating the very first fake Hidden Immunity Idol. If you weren't pulling for Yau-Man to win, you just don't have a heart.

Kassandra "Kass" McQuillen (*Survivor: Cagayan* and *Survivor: Cambodia*)





She was called “Chaos Kass” for a reason. She is as polarizing a player as they come. She never backed down from a challenge, playing a game that defied all reason in *Cagayan* before settling down for a more focused and controlled approach during *Cambodia*. She had all the tools; it was just a matter of evolving her gameplay.

Spencer Bledsoe (*Survivor: Cagayan and Survivor: Cambodia*)



The mortal enemy of “Chaos Kass”, he remains as a great example of how you must be flexible and adaptive. If he had just instituted a better social game, he might have beaten Jeremy for the title in *Cambodia*.

Christian Hubicki (*Survivor: David vs. Goliath*)



Many fans bet it all on Christian winning *David vs. Goliath*. What they didn't count on was that his closest ally would betray him and that Christian would allow his status as a threat in the game to rise until it just couldn't be ignored any longer.

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