



The 7 **MasterChef** Viewers We All Know

AKASH AHMED SAGOR

If you're unlucky enough to switch on the television to Star World at 9:30pm (or any time for that matter, since it seems to be the only thing that's ever on) you'll see three horizontally-gifted guys eating food. MasterChef.

Every episode of this show is basically some guys cooking food hoping to please the aforementioned three guys eating all the food, and then, if they don't like your food, they eat you. Or, some nail-biting Pressure Test. Either way, you're never seen again.

Now, if you watch MasterChef, willingly or forcibly, whichever it is, you may find that one of these MasterChef viewer characteristics resonates with you.

1. THE DEVOUT

For the devout, MasterChef = life. He is utterly obsessed with the show and follows it like a religion, watching every episode, and then three more times during each repeat. He knows every contestant that has appeared, every challenge that has taken place and every dish ever made by heart. The devout watches MasterChef with stronger gusto and gump-tion than that of our aunties watching Hindi serials. So, whatever you do, do not change the channel.

2. THE SPOILER

The devout's worst enemy, the spoiler not only checks who the winner of each season/challenge is online, beforehand, he blatantly spits it out during the show to the devout's immense dismay. Unable to tolerate suspense himself, he kills it for others with his spoilers, taking great pleasure in his antics. If you are a spoiler, please attach yourself to the back of a fast-moving car, where you belong.

3. THE FOODIE

The foodie watches MasterChef more for

its food value, than any of the television drama. He is curious about the different cuisines and dishes seen on the show, and often wishes to eat the delicacies he sees, thus naively allowing the show to dictate his

diet and restaurant choices. He means well though, and can be forgiven for saying, "I've always wanted to eat clafoutis after I saw Dani bake one in season 3."

4. THE CHEF

The chef is normally a fun, adventurous and spontaneous personality, but MasterChef can make him a health hazard. It takes the chef approximately 17 minutes of

let him at it; you will at least be well-fed.

5. THE CRITIC

This person believes watching MasterChef has given him unlimited license to become a food critic. Whenever he sits down to eat, the critic will scrutinise every aspect of his dish, hoping to find at least one fault with it, happy to make one up if none exists. He will unleash all his critique in a snobbish, know-it-all manner, citing his reasons as "I've seen people make it on MasterChef, so I know how it tastes, okay?" often accompanied with vigorous eye-rolling.

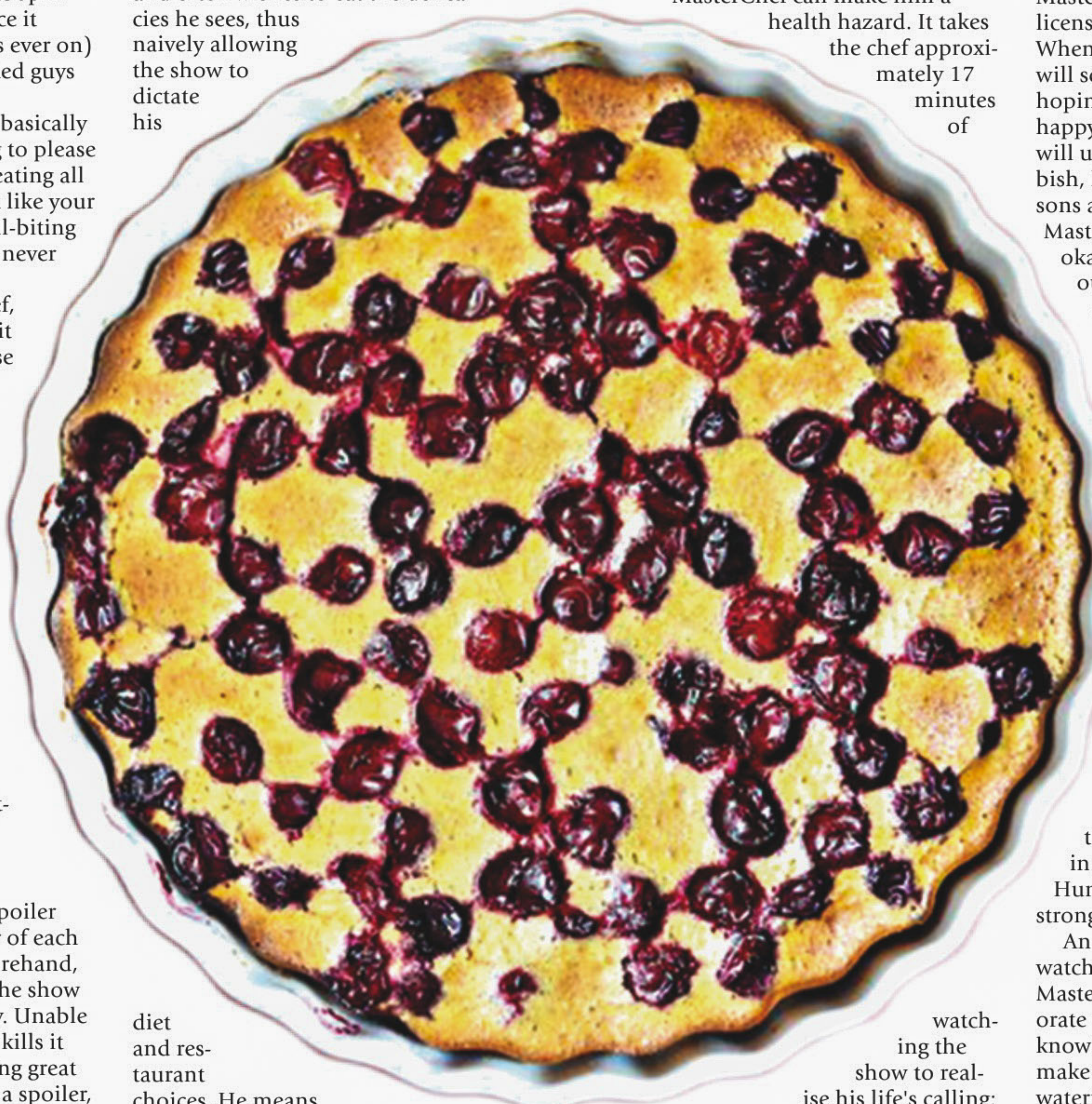
6. THE AESTHETE

The aesthete is a plating freak - lover of all things good-looking. The appeal of a plate of food, for the aesthete, is fully in the plating, to the point where looks trump taste. His food motto remains the classic MasterChef quotes, "Beautiful food tastes good" and "You eat with your eyes".

7. THE HUNGRY

The hungry sits down to watch MasterChef, and soon enough, has his stomach growling. He watches on, hoping the food on screen will somehow satiate his desires. Slowly but surely, his hunger grows, until it gets the better of him. He heads off to raid the refrigerator, and if need be, order in. Lore has it that the FoodNaki and HungryPanda businesses are still going strong thanks to the hungry.

And then, there are those like me, who watch the show ironically. I watch MasterChef, where they make these elaborate dishes with so many techniques, knowing full well that I struggle to even make ice. I see them eat the most mouth-watering and exotic foods, whilst being content with my packet of chanachur and a Dan Cake. They live to eat and I eat to live, but that's okay because etai cool. Plus, Dan Cake is yum.



watching the show to realise his life's calling: to be a chef. Be warned though, that you'd be safer handing a knife to a serial killer. Nevertheless, as long as he doesn't burn the house down,