

Body Beautiful

—Matthew Ng

It's the last few frenetic minutes of the preliminary round. The level of chaos and frenzy surprises even such a veteran viewer as yourself. However, one thing for certain is that some of the competitors have finished well before time, and are just standing around twiddling their thumbs. Turns out that competitors are capable of finishing before the final second. Television lies!

One of the chefs who have finished early is none other than the enigmatic Iron Chef. But, instead of just standing around and waiting politely like a good Japanese person, he begins to lean almost imperceptibly, with ninja-stealth, towards Nigella Lawson's table. Oh gosh — seedy as a strawberry. But wait! — you blink, checking that your eyes aren't deceiving themselves, for you can see the Iron Chef carefully sabotaging Lawson's dish with a dose of what looks remarkably like brussel sprouts. How despicable! You always had a suspicious feeling about that guy. And you swear that Matt Preston is turning a blind eye...

As the ever-exuberant George Calombaris begins his ritualistic countdown, you watch the Iron Chef smugly saunter back to his table with an air of confidence, which is soon proved to be well placed: his dish is proclaimed to be the number one dish, due to the incredible tenderness and delicacy of his chicken. Though the judges did comment that his chicken was remarkably small...

“Soon, one of you will stand, a giant among chefs, in everlasting glory from the *MasterChef* kitchen. Your name will be placed alongside our other worthy winners.” And with that surprisingly well-enunciated proclamation, George points towards the large screen, where you expect to see a montage of Julie’s and Eamon’s grinning faces. But instead it seems like 4Chan and Anonymous have exacted their vengeance on the mediocre quality of Australian television, by hacking the *MasterChef* server and inserting some pretty nasty images in its place...

