






# Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Stanford, Columbia and the University of Pennsylvania and 20 more!

*by Jaime B*

The Surgeon

The apron drooped to my knees. I was emblazoned with the 'Hi, My Name is Jamie' sticker, coupled with a scarlet employee æ 0.349 2xfa



Suddenly the barricades were overrun and an influx of sandal-wearing, sun-glass toting beach-goers charged into the store. The orders came flying faster than budget cuts at a Tea Party convention. I heard the petrifying three words 'chicken tenderloin combo'. This was it, the Everest of my culinary career. It involved delving into the boss's prized stock of 'succulent tenderloins' as he had described, 'the highest quality meat we sell, expensive to buy and delicate to cook, we can't afford any mistakes.' I was handling meaty gold. As the first tenderloin slapped onto the grill with a satisfying sizzle, I could imagine the boss's scorching eyes scrutinizing my every action from behind the prying lens of the staff security camera. Sun-glass toter number two, the tenderloin culprit, then muttered 'Excuse me! Sorry mate, my fault, I meant the chicken nuggets.'

Silently, I screamed. I grimaced, pirouetted and pleaded with the security camera. Anuj saw my face, contorted it in anguish, and took to the rescue with business-like efficiency. He rolled his eyeballs. In one graceful movement he scooped the tenderloins and flicked them into the cooler with one hand, and in perfect synchrony, removed the emergency chicken nuggets with the other. His eyes glistened with intensity. With combative wrath in less than ninety seconds, the order was complete. The boss's eyeballs returned to their sockets. The


# USC, NYU, UC Berkeley & more

*by Shreya T.*

From Disciple to Guru

"Lift that foot higher off the ground or you will keep falling out of your <sup>nd</sup> chakar!" <sup>It's smsern nd</sup>

Namita's stern reminder rings sharply in my ear. It's around 5pm and <sup>nd oa41 10.23 Tw 1[(i)- C</sup>



want them to succeed at tournaments. Yet, I know to be understanding when my expectations aren't fully met because of excessive schoolwork, poor mental health, or other outside factors. Being only a couple years past my own middle school years, I

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