

07. The Great Ice-Cream Scoop-Off

AFX: Lights up on OP apron **SFX:** Background music

Sherlock is setting up the evidence board

Sherlock: Ahh welcome back, I've been very busy since we last saw each other.

Nancy: (*Walking on*) We've all been busy.

Sherlock: Yes Nancy, I'm not saying everyone else hasn't been busy. I'm just saying I've set up the suspect and evidence board here in the basement and now I'm starting to piece this mystery together.

Nancy: Well I came here looking for Velma but she doesn't seem to be down here. I hope she hasn't lost her glasses again.

Sherlock: Ah that makes sense. Maybe she needs to get some string glasses holders.

Nancy: Haha yeah my grandma had some of those.

Sherlock: That's nice! While you've been off, I've created this (*reveals the evidence board*) just a little something to help us with our gathered evidence so we can keep it organised and easier for the big reveal. Which brings me to my first lead... Rocky! The rival. Jen's biggest competition in the ice-cream industry, the perfect suspect to a perfect crime, and is the only one connected to this evidence I just found.

Nancy: What! you've found a clue already.

Sherlock: Yes, a golden scoop! I believe it has some connection to Rocky and I'm hoping it will all be revealed in this VHS I found, it's scribbled out but I can make out what the label says. The Great... Ice-cream... Scoop off... huh I wonder if the golden scoop has something to do with this....

Nancy: Pop it in and see what it shows!

AFX stage lights come SFX TV static

Cameraman: And we're back live in 3, 2, 1, go.

SFX: Theme music starts loud and fades into background music

Susie: (*To the audience*) Welcome back sweet viewers. I'm Susie Scoopwell and you're watching the grand finale of *The Great Ice-Cream Scoop-Off*! Contestants, you have *two minutes to go*! That's only one hundred and twenty seconds until triumph or a lactose intolerance disaster.

Contestants begin to panic. The utensils start clashing and bowls banging and Brad drops something on the ground dramatically.

Gary: *(To the audience)* Today, the challenge is simple: create an ice cream dessert that represents *you*. Because nothing says self-expression like dairy under pressure.

Walter: And remember, the winner today won't just earn ice cream glory. They'll earn something even rarer... The opportunity to work under a culinary genius! Jen and Berry's very own, Jennifer Berry!

Judges split up to talk to the contestants at their tables.

LFX: Spotlight on Gary Gelato at Brad's table

Gary: *(Approaching Brad's table)* Brad! Talk me through what's happening here.

Brad: Yo Gary Gelato, bro! Yeah so like I'm experimenting with high performance fusion. I've shocked the cream, blitzed the macros and now I'm folding in something no one's even dared before.

Gary: Mmmm, it smells like ambition and... Rotisserie chicken?

Brad: *(Winks at Gary Gelato and smirks)* You've gotta keep the gains guessing my man.

Gary: Should I be worried?

Brad: Gaz, if you're not sweating, you're not tasting hard enough

Gary Gelato nervously laughs with a confused look on his face.

LFX: Spotlight on Walter Waffle at Emma's table.

Walter: Emma, you look very Zen in such a stressful environment. What's your method?

Emma: I call this method *intuitive churning*. I just chat with my food about my feelings and then I just let the ingredients tell me what they need.

Walter: You're talking as if this dish is your therapist.

Emma: *(Seriously)* It is Walter Waffle. Have you seen the price of cream these days? This is my emotional support creation, tastes so much better than therapy.

LFX: Spotlight on Susie Scoopwell at Rocky's table

Susie: Rocky, what are we witnessing here?

Rocky: Chaos, mostly. I started layering my trifle which looked much more civilised than what you see now, but unfortunately gravity got involved. Now it's sort of... Self-assembling. So I'm just throwing in some custard to try and cover the mess.

Susie: Sounds a bit whisk-y...

Rocky: Everything is a whisk these days. Like trusting the weather in Melbourne.

The judges begin to walk back to their table

Susie: Contestants! 30 seconds to go!

SFX: Stressful timer ticking down

Brad: *(shaking the blender dramatically)* Why isn't my protein setting?

Emma: Oh no, my base is separating from my aura!

Rocky: The sponge just froze to the spatula.

SFX: Timer going off

Susie: *(To the contestants)* Time's up! Hands off the scoops and step away from your mixers.

Gary: Contestants. You have mixed, melted and whisked dairy disasters but now it all comes down to one last scoop.

Walter: A job title, paycheck and second hand apron are all riding on this final dessert.

SFX: Music who wants to be a millionaire sound.

LFX: Blinder lights like a who wants to be a millionaire.

Brad approaches the judges table and places his dish down.

Gary: First up is Brad. Hi Brad, can you please tell us about your dish.

Brad: Yeah, so this is 'The Brotein Blizzard.' It's a whey-based pistachio gelato with a caramel infused BCAA powder drizzle, topped with grilled chicken breast shavings. You know, for the gains! And who can forget, the cottage cheese garnish.

The judges pick up their spoons and start tasting the dish reacting to how badly it tastes.

Gary: Sorry Brad but this was a workout I just couldn't finish.

Brad: That's the resistance flavouring.

Brad flexes. Brad walks to his table and Emma walks to the judges.

Walter: Next up we have Emma. What have you presented to us today?

Emma: I call this *Kale Me Softly*. A kale and matcha swirl with avocado purée and soy-milk foam all boosted by collagen. Totally sugar-free, nut-free, egg-free and additive-free.

Judges pick up their spoons and taste the dish.

Walter: It tastes totally joy-free, like something you'd post on Instagram, and never eat.

*Emma clasps her hands beaming with delusional pride and walks back to her table.
Rocky starts walking to the judges table.*

Susie: And last but not the least sweet, Rocky. Can you please talk us through your creation?

Rocky: Well, it started with inspiration from the flavours of The Women's Weekly Trifle, but then the jelly slipped into the churner, the sponge froze solid and the whole thing collapsed faster than a Melbourne pothole after some rain. So I did what any government body would do, covered everything with custard and hoped nobody would complain. I present to you Custard Against Humanity.

Judges pick up their spoons and taste the ice-cream with delight on their faces.

SFX: Angels chorus

Susie: Rocky, you've accidentally made something revolutionary. It's not just good, it's dangerously good. I feel like this dessert could start a rebellion in the freezer aisle.

Rocky: Thank you. I've always said good things happen when you stop following the recipe.

Brad and Emma come and join Rocky in front of the judges.

Susie: *(To the audience)* Well... what a journey it's been this year on The Great Ice-Cream Scoop-Off 2006. But of course none of this would have been possible without the support from our sponsor *Gucci Ganache - the only edible couture you need in your pantry.*

Gary: *(To the contestants)* You've churned, whisked, folded, and in some cases... repulsed.

Walter: And now, one of you will become our newest employee here at Jen & Berry's. The home of innovation, mystery and dairy.

Susie: Let's begin the final verdict.

Gary: Okay Brad, The pistachio gelato was super creamy but pairing it with the chicken was a terrible choice.

Brad flexes his muscles proudly.

Brad: No pain, no gain. You're welcome.

Walter: Emma you're next, I admired the bravery of presenting a dessert the same shade as Shrek but I wasn't expecting my taste buds to feel as though we were at his swamp.

Emma: I just wanted to nourish the soul.

Susie: And finally, Rocky. You broke every rule today and maybe even the commercial freezer. Your trifle may have collapsed but it layered on the charm.

Rocky: I honestly didn't plan this. I just whisked it and risked it and somehow it all worked out

SFX: Dramatic who will win music.

Susie: The winner of The Great Ice-Cream Scoop-Off 2006 is...

The stage falls to silence/drum roll with a dramatic pause.

Susie: Rocky!

LFX: Blinder lights.

SFX: Winner music.

Cameraman passes a giant cheque to Rocky.

Rocky: Me!? I am melting from absolute shock! I can't believe I won something better than finding a carpark at Chadstone on Christmas Eve

Walter: Rocky, you've just won yourself a Golden Scoop, this large novelty paycheque, and a job you'll be underpaid & overworked at until you're 65.

Gary: Congratulations Rocky! Today you've proven that the sweetest moments come from total chaos.

Rocky: I guess I thrive in high pressure scenarios, but now that I've tasted success, I want a second serving. I'm too good at this to quit now!

Cameraman: Cut, perfect time for the premiere of Jen and Berry's new advert

SFX: TV static fades into the ice-cream factory song