



# YOU'RE EPIC

According to the stars of **Epic Meal Time**, being Canadian can make even heart-attack-filled plates seem cute. Aw.

"I USED to be a substitute teacher but I can't go back," says Harley "Sauce Boss" Morenstein, founder of *Epic Meal Time*, the YouTube-based overconsumption cooking show. "The kid's don't listen anymore. They just chant, 'bacon strips and bacon strips and bacon strips!'"

Harley and his gang of six Montrealers are destroying boundaries in extreme cooking, coming up with bacon-based concoctions like Fast-Food Lasagna, which featured 90 burgers in total from three different fast-food chains, or the 84-Egg Breakfast Sandwich. But not all meals are born in the fast-food fryer. Sometimes they go crazy and cook outlandish recipes like Chicken-Heart Cupcakes for V-Day or Ninja Turtle Soup (with real turtle meat). A typical meal will rack up to \$400 in supermarket bills, including an average 20 pounds of bacon, and that doesn't even include the liquor.

Harley admits that the *Epic Meal Time* dream was loosely based on fad fatty sites like ThisIsWhyYoureFat.com. He had a eureka moment one night and realized what people really

want is to watch someone cook and eat their monstrosities. When their first endeavor, the Fast Food Pizza, racked up 20,000 hits almost over night, he knew he had something.

But, it's not just a cooking show; it's an artful series with its own cast of characters. Harley with his thuggish rants, squawked-out swears, and aggro catchphrases like, "What you know about cooking, bitch?!" There's also the strong and silent Muscles Glasses with the shadowy past. Other guests have included DJ Deadmau5 and R&B singer Lights, and they've been featured on *The Tonight Show With Jay Leno*.

It kind of makes sense that they're from Montreal, the bagel capital of Canada, a mecca for high-calorie treats like poutine, back bacon and maple syrup. Being Canadian also protects them from flack that an American crew might suffer. "People are usually shocked when they find out we're Canadian. They figure we're just being cute and they let us do our thing."

JESSIE SHIP

