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*High-res images, show footage, and interviews available upon request.

THE NEXT IRON CHEF: REDEMPTION *Episode Descriptions*

Premiering Sunday, November 4th at 9pm ET/PT

"Resourcefulness"

In the season premiere of *The Next Iron Chef: Redemption*, ten of the most respected chefs in the culinary world take a trip to the beach to find that they must cook with the ingredient that sent them packing from previous *Next Iron Chef* and *Iron Chef America* competitions. Provided with just the essentials for cooking and 60 minutes to prove their culinary mettle, the chefs must rewrite their unpleasant histories with this ingredient and get a jumpstart on the road to redemption. Waves of trepidation pulse through the chefs when they see the "redemption" ingredients that they are expected to cook over hot coals and prove that they can be resourceful under difficult cooking conditions. The two least successful chefs enter a Secret Ingredient Showdown, and only one chef will prove worthy to move on to the next round.

Premiering Sunday, November 11th at 9pm ET/PT

"Innovation"

The nine remaining chefs head to an all-American diner to test their culinary skills of innovation. Instead of just elevating diner food to Kitchen Stadium-worthy dishes, the chefs must transform the diner classics with a global spin. The chefs head to Kitchen Stadium, but in a twist, they must compete against each other in groups of three to execute the innovation challenge. Each group is assigned either a taco, falafel or banh mi as inspiration, and the chefs must create an *innovative* and Iron Chef worthy take on these classics. The least successful chef in each group ends up in the Secret Ingredient Showdown, and only two chefs survive in their quest to reign supreme in Kitchen Stadium.

Premiering Sunday, November 18th at 9pm ET/PT

"Simplicity"

In this episode, the Chairman reaches back in his playbook and reprises a challenge from *The Next Iron Chef* Season One. The eight remaining chefs gather at a Los Angeles food institution, the Original Farmers Market, to get the next challenge. Renowned photographer, Todd Selby meets the competitors and works with each chef to capture his/her unique personality in a single snapshot. The chefs then return to the kitchen and use these photos as inspiration for putting one of their opponents' personalities on a plate in just one *simple* and delightful bite. Four of the chefs are sent into the Secret Ingredient Showdown, but one ends their culinary quest to Kitchen Stadium.

Premiering Sunday, November 25th at 9pm ET/PT

"Transformation"

Seven chefs reach the halfway point in the *Redemption* competition, and now they must prove they can redeem and *transform* ingredients that are unworthy for Kitchen Stadium. The challenge of *transformation* is a *Next Iron Chef* classic: in season three, the chefs transformed county fair food, and in season four, the chefs reinvented ballpark food to Iron Chef worthy proportions. This season, the seven remaining chefs must redeem the reputation of canned food by transforming a variety of canned meats and fish into Kitchen Stadium quality fare. The two least successful chefs battle it out in the Secret Ingredient Showdown, and one chef is canned and ends the road to *Redemption*.

Premiering Sunday, December 2nd at 9pm ET/PT

“Risk”

The Chairman revisits a classic challenge from season four: *risk*. Last season, the chefs arrived at an auction in an art gallery to find the items weren't paintings, but rather ingredients they would cook. This season, the six remaining chefs arrive at an airplane hangar to discover an ingredient auction where the currency for bidding is their very precious cooking time. In this incarnation, though, the Chairman has gone big, and the chefs find massive ingredients transported in freight trucks. The chefs must figure out how they can bid to win and still have enough time left to cook these giant ingredients. They compete not only to stay in the competition but to also win an airline ticket that takes them to the next phase of the competition in Las Vegas. The two least successful chefs head to the Secret Ingredient Showdown, and only five head to Sin City for the next round.

Premiering Sunday, December 9th at 9pm ET/PT

“Fusion”

The chefs arrive in Las Vegas and gather in a wedding chapel at the MGM Grand Hotel. Nothing says Las Vegas like a quickie wedding and in the spirit of the Vegas wedding, the chefs must produce culinary bliss and prove that opposites do attract, even in the kitchen. The chefs must marry exotic ingredient combinations to produce something new and Iron Chef worthy. The two least successful chefs go head-to-head in the Secret Ingredient Showdown, and only one continues the road to *Redemption* in the next round.

Premiering Sunday, December 16th at 9pm ET/PT

“Transcendence”

The four remaining chefs have dazzled the judges with their culinary magic, so fittingly they meet up with legendary Las Vegas magician, David Copperfield, for this challenge. Copperfield magically produces an ingredient that the chefs must use as they tackle one of the Chairman's classic challenges from the past – the reinvention of the Las Vegas buffet. Copperfield conjures up the “secret” ingredient that becomes the theme for a buffet that must *transcend* all expectations of the traditional Las Vegas chow fest. The Chefs cook in teams of two to create a buffet that impresses in both flavor and presentation. The least successful team heads to the Secret Ingredient Showdown where they face off against one another, quickly becoming foes instead of friends. One chef survives to head into the finale and gets one step closer to becoming an Iron Chef.

Premiering Sunday, December 23rd at 9pm ET/PT

“Passion/Respect”

For the season finale in Las Vegas, the three remaining chefs must demonstrate their *passion* to become the *Next Iron Chef*. To kick off the challenge, each judge selects an ingredient that stirs his/her own culinary passion. The judges decide on their ingredients based on one question: If you were cashing it all in tomorrow, what one, must-have ingredient would you want to see on your last supper menu? These three ingredients shape the chefs' “last supper” in Las Vegas, where they must show a burning passion for the judges' ingredients with a single tasty dish. In an exciting twist, one of the chefs is eliminated, and only two chefs move on to the final showdown in Kitchen Stadium. The surviving chefs must create three dishes using ingredients that represent the culinary heritage of the three longest standing Iron Chefs Morimoto, Flay and Symon, who are there as guest judges. The chef who follows the theme of respect and also creates the tastiest food is crowned *The Next Iron Chef*.