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## **WORST COOKS IN AMERICA**

### **Recruit Bios**

**Copan Combs (Stillwater, Oklahoma):** Known as a “sunshine pumper” because of his positive attitude, Copan is outgoing and passionate about life. He grew up on microwaveable meals, so never really mastered the kitchen. Now that he’s about to turn 30, he’s determined to learn to cook at boot camp so he can find a lady and settle down.

**Robbie Deraffe (Hackensack, New Jersey):** Robbie, a Times Square Superman, wants to learn to cook so the kitchen is no longer his kryptonite. His food skills are not exactly heroic – he has set fires in the kitchen and even gave himself salmonella poisoning from eating his own undercooked eggs. He believes culinary boot camp will help him become the best version of himself.

**Marcus Ellis (Queens, New York):** Fun-loving, spontaneous Marcus wants to become a better cook so he can make wholesome food and improve his health. He’d also love to cook for his family and dates, but the one time he tried to make a Valentine’s seafood dinner for his girlfriend he sent her to the emergency room. Marcus hopes cooking skills will make him irresistible to the ladies.

**Bradley Garcia (Miami, Florida):** Bradley, a model who just moved to Miami to pursue his career, has been lucky enough to always be spoiled with food by his family. His grandma had a Korean restaurant and always cooked amazing food - but now that he’s moved, Bradley is living on microwaved meals. He’s ready to turn the tables and learn to make his family and friends a good meal.

**Sarah Harris (Porum, Oklahoma):** Sarah is a rural cowgirl who believes a great meal is the way to a man’s heart, but her cooking skills are so bad that her scorched scrambled eggs dish won’t get the job done. She has hopes of marrying a cowboy, so she is determined to learn how to cook and bring those skills back to Oklahoma.

**Janese Henry (Spring Lake, North Carolina):** A hilarious mom of three girls, Janese thinks the meals she cooks are just fine and doesn’t understand why her husband and girls won’t eat her concoctions. She gets points for creativity, but her combinations and flavors just don’t work. She’s at boot camp to improve her kitchen skills and learn to make delicious recipes she can bring home to her family.

**Linda Martin (Manchester, New Hampshire):** Linda is a picky eater and clueless in the kitchen. She hasn’t been exposed to different types of food, so she has no idea how to combine flavors and ingredients. A retiree, she mostly eats tv dinners or takeout and even had her stove turned off to save money. She knows she needs to eat healthier food and wants to stop relying on others for meals – and boot camp is the key to making those changes.

**Jessica Paulson (Oakley, California):** Jessica is an EMT and aspiring firefighter – and she knows how important kitchen skills are in the firehouse. She was always an athlete who ate whatever she wanted, but now she wants to make better choices to stay healthy. She is all about saving lives, and wants to be sure her family, friends and co-workers will survive eating her meals.

**Mary Ann Rapisarda (Valdosta, Georgia):** Mary Ann is an eccentric grandma who worked her entire life, but never really cooked a decent meal. Originally from Brooklyn, New York and now retired, she lives in Georgia and wants to recreate the amazing Italian food she grew up with. Garlic powder is her go-to ingredient, but she knows there’s a whole world of spices out there to learn about in boot camp.

**Rudy Rehberg (Chicago, Illinois):** Rudy’s a big guy who loves to eat, but he tends to burn things and is too impatient to cook himself. He is from a Korean background, but was adopted into a large Italian-American family and grew up eating, but not cooking, traditional family meals like big pasta dinners. He’s ready for culinary boot camp and wants to learn how to make impressive meals on his own.



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**Frank Scuderi (Maple Shade, New Jersey):** Frank is an Italian dad who wants to be able to host Sunday family dinners for his kids. He grew up in South Philadelphia with a big appetite and his mom's Sunday gravy, but he was never able to recreate recipes like that on his own. He wants to carry on his family's food traditions – but right now all he can handle are hot dogs and hamburgers.

**Timmy Thok (New York, New York):** Timmy is a bartender/underwear model who loves to be the center of attention. He wants to finally learn how to cook to impress his boyfriend in the best way possible - through his stomach. This energetic New Yorker has had a few very serious run-ins in the kitchen--from food poisoning his roommate to getting the fire department called on him multiple times.

**Carla Waddell (Alexandria, Virginia):** Carla is tired of her family joking about how she can't cook, they even introduce her as "the daughter who can't cook." This single lady hopes what she learns in culinary boot camp will impress her dates – because the last time she tried cooking for a boyfriend, she forgot to turn the oven on.

**Kimberly D. Worthy (Atlanta, Georgia):** Kimberly was a recruit on *Worst Bakers in America*, but was sent home first - and now she is ready to give savory food a try. She has a short attention span and a fear of eggs, and is used to people politely saying, "bless her heart" when she tries to cook. Kimberly is ready for that to change when she brings home brand-new kitchen skills from boot camp.

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