

## FAMOUS CHEFS REVEAL THE LIFE-CHANGING MOMENTS THAT GOT THEM COOKING

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Not everyone is fortunate enough to have a life-changing moment of clarity that defines their career. And even fewer people have one that involves cutting the head off a chicken.

But when you talk to people in the culinary world, nearly everyone's had that "aha" moment when they realized that they were okay with their fingers smelling like garlic for the rest of their lives. We asked 16 chefs to share the experience that forever changed the course of their lives, making free weekends a thing of their past. Here are their tales.

### **Daniel Holzman, [The Meatball Shop](#) (*New York, NY*)**

"My 'aha' moment came when I moved to LA when I was 22 years old. I had been working in fancy restaurants for about eight years already, but I always took it for granted that I'd find a 'real' job and stop working in restaurants. That summer, I got my first office job working as a secretary for a film company. Trying to work a 9-to-5 job made it extremely clear to me that the kitchen was my only home."