



'A TASTE OF SUMMER' **Synopsis**

Sous-chef Gabby (Roselyn Sanchez) has been working at one of Manhattan's most prestigious restaurants for six years, but lately her passion for her work has been slipping, and the head chef is disappointed. Her romantic life is also stalling. After two years, her boyfriend isn't committing, and Gabby is ready to move on. Feeling lost in both her work and love life, she goes to visit her sister Christina (Alison Araya) in New England. A realtor, Christina shows Gabby a cute restaurant space for lease, and though Gabby is worried she might be biting off more than she can chew, she decides it might be the right time to take a bite out of life.

But before she signs the lease, Gabby checks out the competition, Delaney's Coastal Grille, owned by handsome Caleb (Eric Winter). Somewhat of a hometown hero after leading his high school baseball team to victory, Caleb still has a strong competitive streak and he warns Gabby that others have tried and failed to turn the space into a successful restaurant. But instead of being daunted, Gabby's drive has been fueled. After tasting his most popular dish, the smoked brisket, Gabby declares she's going to be Caleb's new competition. Aware Gabby graduated culinary school at the top of her class, Caleb has a smug two-word reply: "Game on!"

As it turns out, Caleb isn't just competitive in business, he's also a single dad determined to coach his daughter Emily (Nyla Blackman) and her softball team to victory. Best friends with her teammate Hannah (Gracy Shinyei), Christina's daughter Emily isn't as keen on baseball as her dad. One day, while she and Hannah help Gabby at the restaurant, Emily reveals her fear of striking out. Relaying how she finally conquered making a soufflé, Gabby says she decided to fail spectacularly at the complex dish or nail it, telling Emily to do the same when she's at bat. Overhearing Gabby's gentle encouragement, Caleb warms up to his competitor.

But on opening night of her restaurant, named Grace after her mother, Gabby has a small showing and is upset to learn Caleb was running a bottomless wings promotion, drawing customers away. Knowing she needs a big splash for Grace to take off, Gabby decides to enter the Taste of Summer Festival. Judged by local food critics, the winner gets \$10,000 and nice write-ups in the Massachusetts Food Journal. Learning from her sister that Caleb has never entered the contest, Gabby is surprised when suddenly he's not only entering, but he's also preparing lobster rolls, a dish similar to her seafood empanadillas.

Certain Caleb's competitive edge has no end, Gabby is surprised when he helps her during the contest after her sous-chef burns himself. She's also taken aback when he admits her drive pushed him to go after what he really wants, coaching high school baseball. With the winner of the Taste of Summer yet to be named and the outcome of Caleb's coaching interview yet to be determined, competitiveness is still in the air, but it might be mixed with a dash of romance.