



**Molly
Slicker**

SWORDFISH GRILL

My family jokes that I'm a medical anomaly because I grew to be so tall while eating nothing but chicken tenders and fries during my formative years. Preferably with a Coke on the side, and if it was after basketball practice then with ice cream for dessert.

If I went out to dinner somewhere as a child, I wouldn't even look at the menu. I already had my eyes set on the chicken tender prize. It wasn't that I was a picky eater, I would happily try anything someone else ordered, and then I'd fake a smile and take a big sip of my Coke before I could taste it. I just wanted to order what I knew I'd really like - and apparently I only really liked chicken tenders. I was making an educated guess on my habits to avoid disappointment, maximize enjoyment, and minimize waste and monetary loss. What a thoughtful kid!

Luckily, my habits have matured a bit since then. Unfortunately, my tastebuds have not.

Most children go through this picky phase, but now I beg the question: Do we ever really grow out of loving a great plate of tenders and fries?

Somewhere in the midst of growing up we change our eating habits, as we should. We become more aware of nutritional information and are introduced to more dynamic flavors. We make smarter and more adventurous food decisions. We learn how to



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Do adults ever really outgrow their childhood love of chicken tenders?

pronounce words like quinoa, pho and acai. We've left our love of chicken tenders behind, probably next to our elementary school report cards and the ability to spin around without feeling sick.

There have been many times I've ordered something at a restaurant only to see the dreamiest plate of chicken tenders delivered to the kid a table over while I'm having to pretend to like Cornish game hen. I thought, part of the joy of being an adult also means you're your own boss so you can unapologetically eat chicken tenders whenever you want?

One time at a wedding with particularly bleak dinner offerings, I noticed some untouched plates of chicken tenders for the child attendees. I asked if there were any extras, did some

charming, and was nonchalantly presented with my very own plate of chicken tenders. Soon, the rest of my table followed. It was then that I knew I wasn't alone. Even in adulthood, sometimes we just want some tenders.

I'm here to tell you: Chicken tenders aren't just for kids. Swordfish Grill and Tiki proves that with their hand-breaded, golden chicken tenders. They're made to order with fresh chicken, lightly breaded with Drake's finest batter, and juicy enough to eat with a fork. They are delicious and fulfilling and a reminder of a simpler time in life. They're the chicken tenders we've been waiting our whole adult lives for... and you don't have to lie about being "12 and under" to order them.