



PLANTS VERSUS ANIMALS IN THE DINING HALL

**CHEM-643 Intermediary Metabolism
Case Study in Amino Acid Metabolism
Written by Harold B. White**

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Finals were over. Maura's father would pick her up in the morning to take her home for the holidays. She and her friends celebrated the end of the semester with a pasta pig-out. Janis, curious as ever, raised the subject, "So, do you think you'll have another fight with your mom?" Maura smiled and replied, "I don't think it will be a problem. Thanks to you, I'm better prepared for her than I was for any of my finals." "Yeah," interrupted Doby with a mouth full of spaghetti and meatballs, "Too bad you weren't taking a nutrition or biochemistry course this semester for all the time you put in. It might have made you more objective." Maura ignored the baiting and continued, "I'm not apprehensive like I was at Thanksgiving. I've got a pile of stuff I can give her to read if she needs evidence. But the best evidence is that after three meatless months I feel healthier than ever. I haven't even had a cold or gained the traditional freshman 15! How can she argue with that? In fact, I have a lot of questions and articles for her about the dangers of eating meat." Doby chimed in again, "Have you read about cats? They're [obligate carnivores](#). They would die on a vegan diet. Also, you may feel good but what about the nutrition of a human fetus during pregnancy?" The questions never seemed to end.