

On West Fourth Street in the Village, head toward the Corner Bistro, where crowds gather for

the celebrated fist-sized cheeseburgers — but then skip the line and cross the street to **Tavern on Jane** (31 Eighth Ave.; [212] 675-2526). That's the advice of Mr. Cutlets, the author of "Meat Me in Manhattan: A Carnivore's Guide to New York," who swears the tavern's burgers are a cut above those of its celebrated neighbor.

"It's the most perfectly constructed of the city's big bar burgers," he says. "It's similar in its succulence to the place across the street, but it's bigger, and the meat is better. And no one knows about it."