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CHAMPAGNE... but not the bubbly stuff... this is abnormally without bubbles

Chamery Blanc (100% pinot meunier), *Les Babagis*, Emilien Feneuil, 2020, Champagne 250.

Chamery Blanc (100% chardonnay), *Totum*, Emilien Feneuil, 2019, Champagne –MAGNUM ALERT-- 625.

Bouzy (100% pinot noir), Marguet, 2019, Montagne de Reims 195.

-from the vineyards *Les Hannepés* et *Les Loges* / bottled on March 25th, 2021, with 19 grams SO2 (this is essentially no SO2)

-if you love focus...and I mean the focus of a truffle hound searching for truffles...then this is the wine for you...there is no stuffing here, just crunchy acidity with the snap and crackle of a breakfast cereal without the milk.

Cumiéres (100% chardonnay), *Les Collinardins*, Geoffroy, 2020, Vallée de la Marne 115.

BORDEAUX BLANC: are these even more profound than the red versions...

L'Allumée Blanche, *Anne Buiatti*, Advinam, 2024, Bordeaux 95.

-a blend of semillon & petit manseng

-harvested and de-stemmed by hand. Trodden by foot and fermented—using indigenous yeasts only—aged in concrete egg.

L'Allumée Orange, *Anne Buiatti*, Advinam, 2024, Bordeaux --ORANGE WINE ALERT-- 100.

-70% semillon, 25% malbec, 5% cabernet sauvignon

-harvested and de-stemmed by hand. Trodden by foot and fermented—using indigenous yeasts only— in a combination of old 300L barrels and 750L amphora. 6 month élevage in amphora, then bottled without fining, filtering, or added SO2.

Bordeaux Blanc, *"Y"*, Château d'Yquem, 2021, Sauternes 350.

-65% sauvignon blanc, 35% semillon, washed with the first bloom of botrytis

Château Haut-Brion (50% sauvignon blanc, 50% semillon), 1998, Pessac-Léognan 1700.

-the original intention of this wine, when crafted by the Larrieu family in the 1800s, was to harness the aromatic fullness of a sweet wine but in a dry wine format...at present, on the palate, this wine is riding that wave in a manner that even Laird Hamilton would blush at

SUD-OUEST: land of cassoulet and foie gras.....

Irouleguy (60% gros manseng, 30% petit courbu, 10% petit manseng), *Ilori*, Domaine Brana, 2021 80.

Jurançon (50% petit manseng, 50% gros manseng), Clos Guirouilh, 2016 104.

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ALSACE: the blessed landscape of smelly cheese and onion tarts

-a moment of silence, please, for the farmers / producers, in Alsace, who deserve a massive kudos for all the incredible work they do, vinously expressing the most terroir-driven landscape in all of France, yet still find a way to send 70% of their production to supermarkets, very much relegating their region from the top echelon of wine areas...oi vey, why oh why?!

Schlossberg "Sous La Forêt" (75% pinot gris, 25% riesling), *Grand Cru*, Weinbach, 2020 145.

Le Même Azimut, Le Vendangeur Masqué, 2024 90.

-50% riesling, 30% gewurztraminer, 10% muscat, 10% pinot gris

-Le Vendangeur Masqué or "masked harvester" is the the label used by Alice et Olivier De Moor when working with rented vines and sourced fruit. These grapes are sourced from Alsatian growers the De Moors have worked with for 10 years.

Altenberg de Bergheim, Marcel Deiss, 2021 215.

-planted in 1990, this is the OG Alsatian complantation. The vineyard has no order. 13 Alsatian varietals planted together in perfect harmony. No varietal label, no proportions. Simply put, the old way of Alsatian wine.

Pinot Gris (100% pinot gris), *Grand Cru Rangen "Clos St. Theobold"*, Schoffit, 2022 105.

Pinot Gris (100% pinot gris), *Grand Cru Rangen "Clos St. Urban"*, Zind Humbrecht, 2019 150.

Muscat, *Grand Cru Goldert*, Zind Humbrecht, 1996 140.

-100% muscat blanc à Petits Grains (aka, muscat d'Alsace)

-vines are 33 years of age, grown on oolitic limestone (oolite is composed of ooids, which are hardened poop droppings from a t-rex)

-the vineyard faces east and southeast and baths in the morning / early afternoon sun

-the tenderloin section of the vineyard is super steep (about a 60% grade) and it is at 900'

-the name of the vineyard comes from the golden appearance that its wines possess

Gewurztraminer (100% gewurztraminer), *Altenbourg*, Weinbach, 2021 108.

Gewurztraminer (100% gewurztraminer), *Grand Cru Rangen "Clos St. Urban"*, Zind Humbrecht, 2019 225.

Gewurztraminer (100% gewurztraminer), *Seigneurs de Ribeaupierre*, Trimbach, 2016 135.

Gewurztraminer (100% gewurztraminer), *Seigneurs de Ribeaupierre*, Trimbach, 2015 140.

Gewurztraminer (100% gewurztraminer), *Clos Windsbuhl*, Zind Humbrecht, 1991 135.

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LOiRE VALLEY: France's garden and the site of my future tuffeau castle

Vouvray (100% chenin blanc), *Goutte d'or*, François et Julien Pinon, 2018 --500ml-- 115.

Vouvray (100% chenin blanc), *Goutte d'or*, François et Julien Pinon, 1989 --1500ml aka MAGNUM-- 375.

-SEATBELT ALERT!!! SWEET BUT BALANCED ALERT!!! DON'T ORDER UNLESS YOU ANSWER 3 QUESTIONS ALERT!!!

-grown in clay, black flint, limestone soils, these botrytis-affected chenin blanc grapes are harvested late in the growing season, by hand, over multiple pickings

-this was the penultimate bottling of this wine, with the final one being in 1990...aka, you will enjoy a museum wine

-total acidity 5 grams per litre + 75 grams residual sugar + 12.9° alcohol + 3.1pH = HOLY F*#KING S*#TBALLS

Cour-Cheverny (100% romorantin), *Licorne*, Domaine de Montcy, 2020 85.

Reuilly (100% sauvignon blanc), *Les Fossiles*, Domaine du Reuilly, 2023 76.

Quincy (100% sauvignon blanc), Domaine Trotereau, 2023 104.

Menetou-Salon (100% sauvignon blanc), *Vignes de Ratier*, Domaine Pelle, 2024 92.

Sancerre (100% sauvignon blanc), Hippolyte Reverdy, 2025 120.

Sancerre (100% sauvignon blanc), Clos La Néore (aka, Edmund et Anne Vatan), 2018 --1500ml aka MAGNUM-- 775.

Pouilly-Fumé (100% sauvignon blanc), *Caillotes*, Corty, 2023 96.

JURA: Jurassic treasures that have the grip of a velociraptor

Chardonnay (100% chardonnay), Domaine Rolet, 2023, Arbois 70.

Savignin (100% savagnin), *Cote de Caillot*, Domaine Désiré Petit, 2018 100.

Savagnin Ouillé (100% savagnin), *Grand Curoulet*, Domaine du Pélican, 2020, Arbois 125.

Vin Jaune (100% savagnin), Philippe Chatillon, 2017 --620ml, *aka*, clavelin-- 350.

Vin Jaune (100% savagnin), Domaine Rolet, 2015 --620ml, *aka*, clavelin-- 125.

Château-Chalon* (100% savagnin), Domaine Berthet-Bondet, 2013 --620ml, *aka*, clavelin-- 230.

SAVOiE:

Vin des Allobroges Cevins (100% altesse), *Quartz Blanc*, Domaine des Ardoisières, 2021 260.

-altesse is an indigenous variety of the Savoie, whose name references the vine terraces surrounding Lake Bourget

RHÔNE VALLEY: where the mistral rules the land

Hermitage (100% marsanne), Marc Sorrel, 2021 425.

Hermitage (90% marsanne, 10% roussanne), *Les Rocoules*, Marc Sorrel, 2021 815.

LANGUEDOC & ROUSSiLLON:

St. Jean (roussanne, grenache gris, chardonnay), Prieuré St-Jean de Bébian, 2021 88.



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BURGUNDY: Aligoté

-a natural progeny of Pinot and Gouais Blanc (much like me), the Aligoté grape was first mentioned in 1807, residing in Burgundy

-it appears to have suffered the same ignominy as Gamay, as many folks wanted it pulled out due to its supposed lesserness to Chardonnay

-in the vineyard, the best part of the slope is generally planted with Chardonnay (it being the constant and undeserved *it* grape), while the lower and upper slopes get the Aligoté; this mindset forces the wine to lead with acidity and neutrality, which is why it became the wine component of the Kir (Aligoté + Crème de Cassis = off dry, fruity aperitif)

-however, if respected by the vintner and grown in the righteous parcels, this can be a compelling grape and not just the *other* blanc grape

Aligoté, Alice et Olivier de Moor, 2022 --MAGNUM ALERT-- 195.

Bouzeron, *La Tournelle,* Domaine Dujardin, 2021 76.

BURGUNDY: Bourgogne Blanc

La Monatine, Le Grappin, 2022 108.

Les Graviers, Ghislaine Barthod, 2022 100.

BURGUNDY: Marsannay

-well, damn, this is your gateway to the Côte de Nuits but its reputation is that of a thrice distant cousin to its southerly compatriots

-it only received its own AOC designation in 1987 (before that it was just Bourgogne Rouge de Marsannay, etc.)

-it was the planting of Pinot Noir by Joseph Clair-Daü in 1919 and the production of 8 barrels of ros é that initially established this appellation's reputation

-BUT, it is the only AOC in Burgundy with the ability to make a blanc, a rosé, a rouge...take that you bastards to the south

-its lack of recognition is primarily due to the alluvial top-soils that cover the more acceptable Bajocian and Bathonian limestone

-there is presently only Village level wine produced here though a movement is underway to gain some *1er Cru* status; that will most likely come for the majestic *Clos du Roy* climat, which is in the town of Chenôve...but who is keeping track of such things

BURGUNDY: Fixin

-we apologize for the lack of a vin blanc from Fixin...I asked my mom to bottle some more grape juice and she just refuses

BURGUNDY: Morey-Saint-Denis

-well damn, Knicks fans know how to party. It ain't all beer-shot combos.



BURGUNDY: Chablis

Terroirs de Béru, Alice Chateau de Béru, 2023	110.
1er Cru Vau de Vey, Alice et Olivier de Moor, 2023	279.
Grand Cru Vaudésir, Christian Moreau, 2022	299.
Grand Cru Les Grenouilles, Daniel-Etienne Defaix, 2012	308.
Grand Cru Les Clos, Joseph Drouhin, 2001	497.

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My Mom's Thoughts / Misgivings about CHABLIS

composed on February 23rd, 1972

HISTORY

-the name comes from two Celtic words: CAB (signifying *house*) and LEYA (meaning *near the woods*)
-vines were present in the region in the 9th Century
-through the Middle Ages, important families controlled the region and *NOT* the Catholic Church (unlike Burgundy proper)
-in the late 19th Century, the region supplied a sea of wine to Paris (*aka*, every Parisian was allocated 2 bottles of Chablis a day)
-in 1945, due to a severe frost and a few military skirmishes, not a single bottle of Chablis was produced
-prosperity only returned to the region with the 1970 vintage...Richard Nixon was a big consumer / supporter of this wine

TERROIR

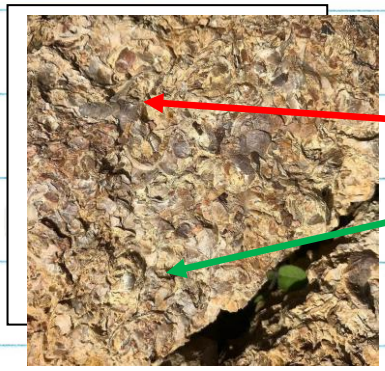
-a base of KIMMERIDGEAN (named after Kimmeridge, a village in Dorset, England):
relatively uniform, chalky marl and mealy limestone, containing many banks of seashells
-a PORTLANDIAN CAP (named after the Isle of Portland in Dorset, England): limestone from the Jurassic age
-simply put, fossilized seashells abound in this terroir, especially the *Exogyra virgule*

GRAPE

-a local rarity called Beaunois (so-named due to potential origins in Beaune, Burgundy)

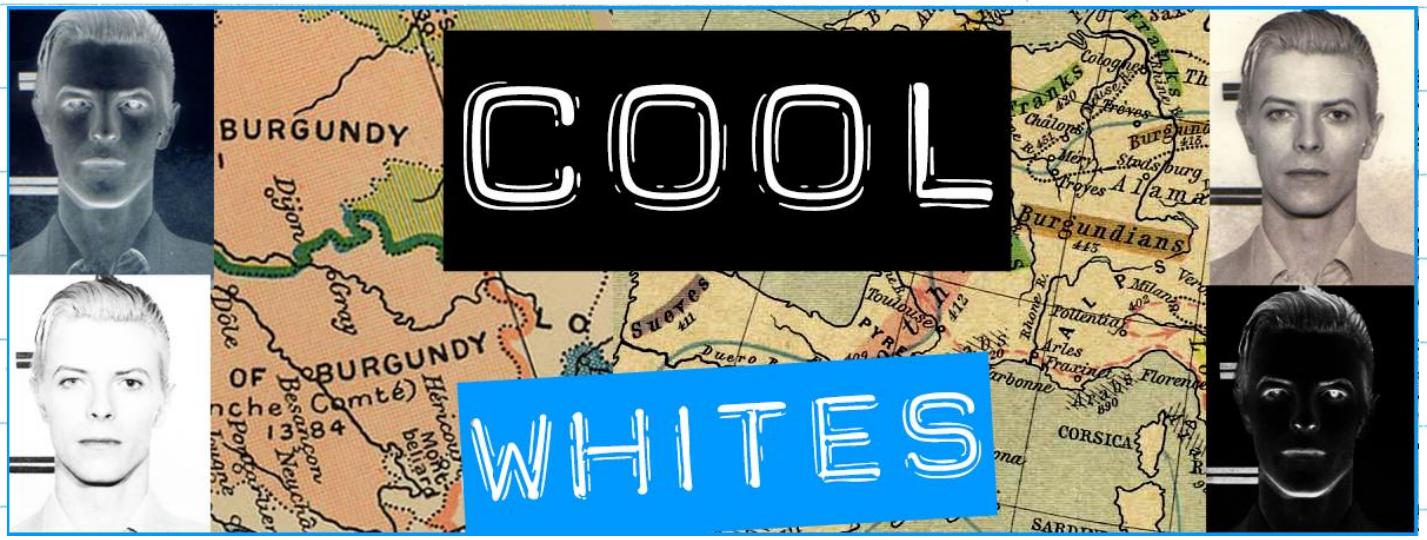
A.O.C. STUFF

-the appellation of Chablis was created in 1938 (it now includes Village / 18 Premier Crus / 7 Grand Crus)
-to be a true Chablis, Kimmeridgean marl MUST exist beneath the Portlandian cap
-the appellation of Petit Chablis was created in 1944 (essentially flatlands existing above the hallowed slopes of Chablis).
Mom differentiated the two, in the Spring of 1978, this way:
Chablis is the Tony Manero of the region while Petit Chablis was the Joey / Double J / Gus / Bobby C. of the region



Alcide d'Orbigny (1802-1857) was the proverbial s*#t when it came to all things geology / paleontology / archaeology / anthropology / zoology in the early 19th century. In 1840, he published the *La Paléontologie Française*, the masterwork of French fossils. Wine-wise, we owe the naming of the Portlandian cap to him, as well as the reference to Kimmeridge for the underlying limestone.
Unfortunately, he also believed that God created 27 catastrophes to craft the present world as we know it. Suffice it to say, though, fans of chardonnay adore him. and atheists burn his effigy every September 6th.

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BURGUNDY: Pernand-Vergelesses

Dubreuil-Fontaine, 2022		93.
Petit-Roy, 2019		111.
1er Cru Île des Vergelesses, Chandon de Briailles, 2019		188.

BURGUNDY: Beaune

1er Cru Clos des Mouches, Joseph Drouhin, 2023	--MAGNUM ALERT--	1100.
1er Cru Clos des Mouches, Billard-Gonnet, 2018		227.

BURGUNDY: Saint-Romain

Christophe Buisson, 2022	103.

BURGUNDY: Auxey-Duresses

-en route from the city of Albany...I guess I thought the Erie Canal would be a great way to ship stuff

BURGUNDY: Meursault

-originally a Roman town called Muris Saltus *(the jump of the mouse)*; the residents today are called *Murisaltiens*
-produces BLANC (a lot) and ROUGE (very little...and some of its Pinot Noir grapes can be bottled as Volnay)
-produces *Village* and *Premier Cru* wines; there are no *Grand Crus* (though *Genevrières* and *Perrières* might one day be)

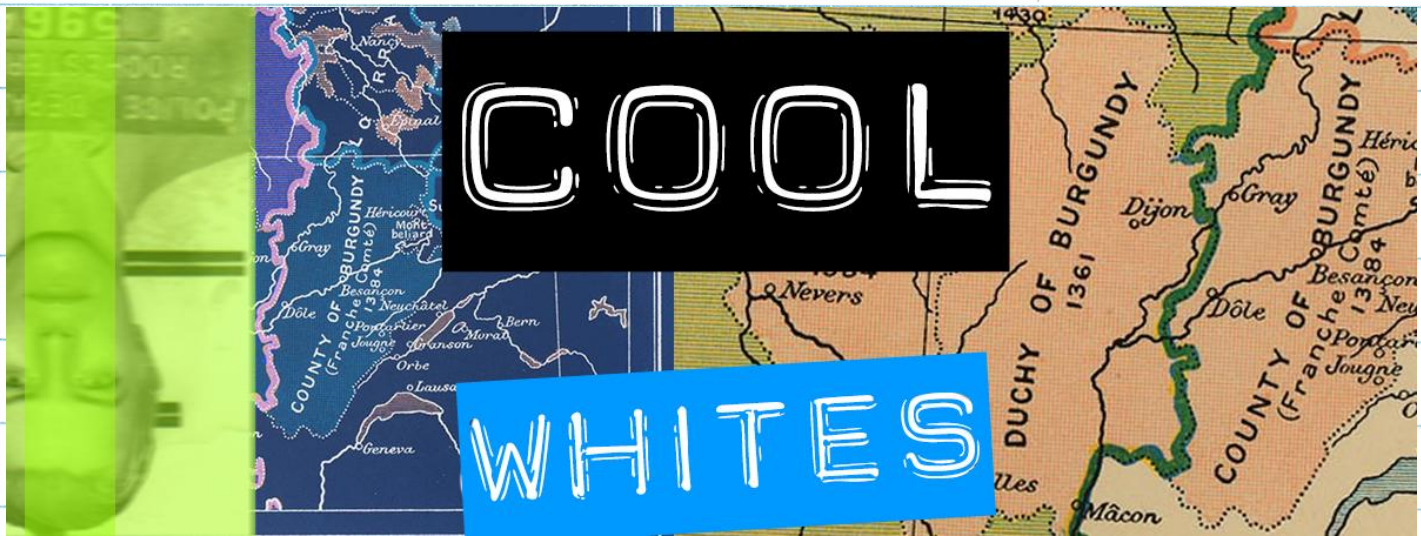
1er Cru Genevrières, Darviot-Perrin, 2006	505.
1er Cru Perrieres, Robert Ampeau, 2004	398.

BURGUNDY: Puligny-Montrachet

-the finest place on the planet to grow Chardonnay (well, okay, Champagne, Oregon, and Victoria also make some cool examples)
-produces BLANC (a proverbial shit-ton) and ROUGE (bottled as Blagny)
-produces Village, Premier Cru and Grand Cru wines; these wines are the perfect illustration of minor differences in distance are always trumped by major differences in soil types...and that is what is called **terroir**

La Trézin, *Superposition,* Vin Noé, 2023	399.
1er Cru Clavoillon, Domaine Leflaive, 2020	397.
1er Cru Les Pucelles, Domaine Leflaive, 2020	1498.

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BURGUNDY: Saint-Aubin

WINE IS DELAYED DUE TO LOGISTICS ISSUES...the captain of our boat is presently praying to a god named Zlatan

BURGUNDY: Chassagne-Montrachet

-originally known as Chassagne, it became Chassagne-Montrachet in 1879 with the appropriation of its most famous vineyard's name

-produces BLANC (quite a bit) and ROUGE (quite a bit); up through WWII, 80% of the wines produced were ROUGE

-produces *Village*, *Premier Cru* and *Grand Cru* wines (shares *Bâtard* with Puligny but solely possesses *Criots-Bâtard*)

1er Cru Les Vergers, Simon Colin, 2023 328.

1er Cru Les Vergers, Caroline Morey, 2020 367.

BURGUNDY: Santenay

-apologies for the oversight.....we got distracted by Cardi B's comedic genius.

BURGUNDY: Maranges

En Buliet, Elodie Roy, 2022 102.

BURGUNDY: Côte de Beaune *Grand Cru*

Corton, *Grand Cru*, Comte Senard, 2020 473.

Corton-Charlemagne, *Grand Cru*, Bonneau du Martray, 2007 1289.

Bienvenue Bâtard-Montrachet, *Grand Cru*, Paul Pernot, 2007 605.

BURGUNDY: Côte Chalonnaise

Givry, *Cuveé Excellence*, Domaine Laurent Mouton, 2024 95.

BURGUNDY: Mâconnais

Pattaya, Vin Noé, 2024 130.

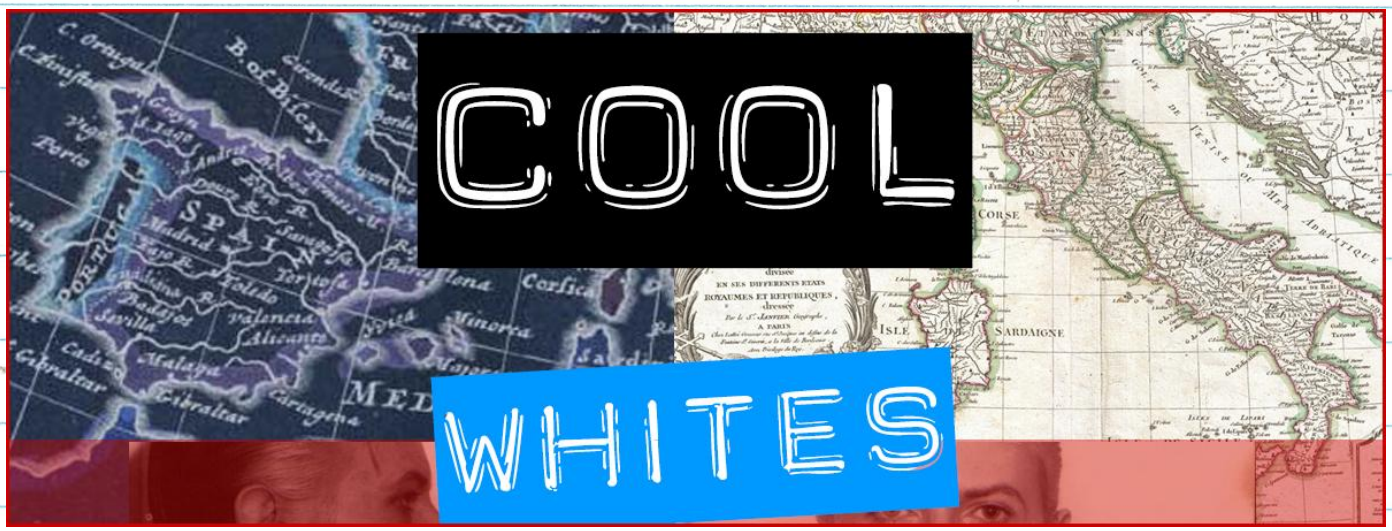
Viré Clessé, *Cuvée E.J. Thevenet*, de la Bongran, 2021 120.

Pouilly-Fuissé, *1er Cru Les Brules*, Chateau Fuisse, 2022 188.

Pouilly-Fuissé, *1er Cru Le Clos*, Chateau Fuisse, 2022 199.

Mâcon Cruzille, *Les Baume*, Clos des Vignes du Maynes (aka, Julien Guillot), 2023 101.

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iTALiA: where there was once Soave Bolla, now resides glory

Pinot Bianco (100% pinot blanc), *"R"*, Cantina Terlano, 2009, Alto Adige 399.

Venissa (100% dorona), 2012, Veneto --500ml-- 275.

-the grapes are grown on the island of Mazzorbo, in the Venetian lagoon; they are then shipped to Montalcino (yes, Tuscany), where they are macerated for 30 days on the skins, followed by fermentation and ageing in bottle

Grechetto di Todi (100% grechetto di todi), *Fiorfiore*, Cantina Roccafiore, 2023, Umbria 85.

Irpinia Bianco, *Mamam*, Luigi Tecce, 2024, Campagnia 128.

-45% greco, 25% fiano, 25% coda di volpe, 5% moscato

Fiano (100% fiano), *Antece*, De Conciliis, 2022, Campagnia --ORANGE WINE ALERT-- 105.

Etna Bianco Superiore (100% carricante), *Pietra Marina*, Benanti, 2020, Sicily --ALERT: MONUMENTAL-- 330.

XI Perpetuum – pre-British (30% grillo, 70% catarratto), Badaluccio de la Iglesia Garcia, NV, Sicily --500ml-- 85.

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SPAiN & PORTUGAL... some folks cannot tell them apart... WTF!

Vinho Verde, Vinhos Imperfeitos (Carlos Raposo), 2018, Dão 215.

-esgana cão, rabo de ovelha, encruzado, malvasia fina, douradinha, barcelo, branda, amongs others.

Vinho Verde (50% loueiro, 50% arinto), *Azahar*, Gota, 2024, Minho 60.

Partage (100% sercial), Herdade do Portocarro, 2017, Peninsula de Setúbal 121.

Vinho do P. Santo, António Maçanita + Nuno Faria, *Fazendas da Areia*, 2023, Madeira 195.

-100% caracol, with the vines ranging from 40-80 years of age...NOTE TO SELF: apparently this grape is unique to the island of porto santo.

-the grapes are grown on the island of Porto Santo (which is roughly 28 miles from Madeira and Madeira is roughly 600 miles from mainland Portugal). The island is the result of a volcanic eruption 14 million years ago vs. the 5 million-year-old island of Madeira. Porto Santo differs dramatically from the very mountainous Madeira as erosion has essentially flattened the island. Most importantly, the grapes love the terra firma of clay, sand and limestone (the result of marine deposits). Due to the winds whipping across the island, the grapes are cultivated low to the ground and protected by reed walls

-the team making the wine is António Maçanita (famous for reviving obscure Portuguese varietals, in unique terroirs, AND crafting glorious wines in the Azores) + Nuno Faria (a restaurateur in Madeira). Friends for many years, Nuno challenged his wine-making mate in 2021 to craft something not just good but profound from the forgotten Porto Santo. They created a company called "Companhia de Vinhos des Profetas e Villões." The "prophets" ("profetas") are the folks from Porto Santo and the "villains" ("villões") are the residents of Madeira...it is a playful rivalry. And do remember that Porto Santo was discovered one year before Zarco and crew ventured to the foreboding island of Madeira in 1419

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SPAiN...and specifically, Jerez...and very much a focus on súper terroir

Vino de Pueblo (100% pedro ximenez), *Tres Miradas "Cerro Macho,"* Alvear, 2021, Montilla-Moriles 91.

El Caserón de Mahina, Cepas Viejas, Pepe Blanco, 2024, Andalucia 96.

-100% palomino, crafted by the winemakers Pepe Blanco and Mart Blanco
-sourced from the *Pago Mahina*, within Sanlúcar de Barrameda...it is composed of 3 types of albariza soil...a vinous Big Mac, so to speak
-because the vineyard is only 2 km from the sea, there is a strong influence of King Neptune here...
-the vines average 60 years of age
-only 65% of the press wine is utilized during fermentation, followed by 10 months ageing in old manzanilla barrels, under a veil of flor

Lumière (100% palomino), Muchada-Léclapart, 2023, Andalucia 125.

Amigo Imaginario, Forlong, 2022, Andalucia 88.

-100% palomino, crafted by the winemakers Rocío Áspera and Alejando Narváez
-sourced from the *Pago Balbaina*, within El Puerto de Santa Maria...it is composed of "tosca y lustrillo" chalk (which is pure albariza and, because the parcel is only 7 km from the sea, the sea salt breezes waft deliciously over this landscape...that is your salty tang!)
-the vines are 40-50 years of age and are presently farmed organically
-fermented in stainless steel and macerated for 30 days / transferred to old oloroso barrels for 24 months ageing... and yes, these barrels are topped up

Étoile (100% palomino), Muchada-Léclapart, 2022, Andalucia 115.

UBE Maina (100% palomino), *La Charanga*, Cota 45*, 2019, Andalucia 145.

*COTA 45 is the fever dream of Ramiro Ibáñez. He is a native son of Jerez, with the sole goal of re-torquing our mindset about the potential of the almighty albariza soil (essentially 100% chalk + small amounts of clay) of his native region. "COTA 45" references 45 meters above sea level, the altitude above which Ramiro believes the best albariza is to be found...below that, you are still swimming with the fishes. Historically, while mucho sweet Sherry was being exported, the locals in Jerez were enjoying unfortified wines, fashioned from over 100 different varietals. That is also a goal of Ramiro and six mates who have created Manifesto 119, a crew dedicated to revitalizing the 119 named grapes in the region from the early 1800s.

Macharnudo (100% palomino), de la Riva, 2018, Andalucia 140.

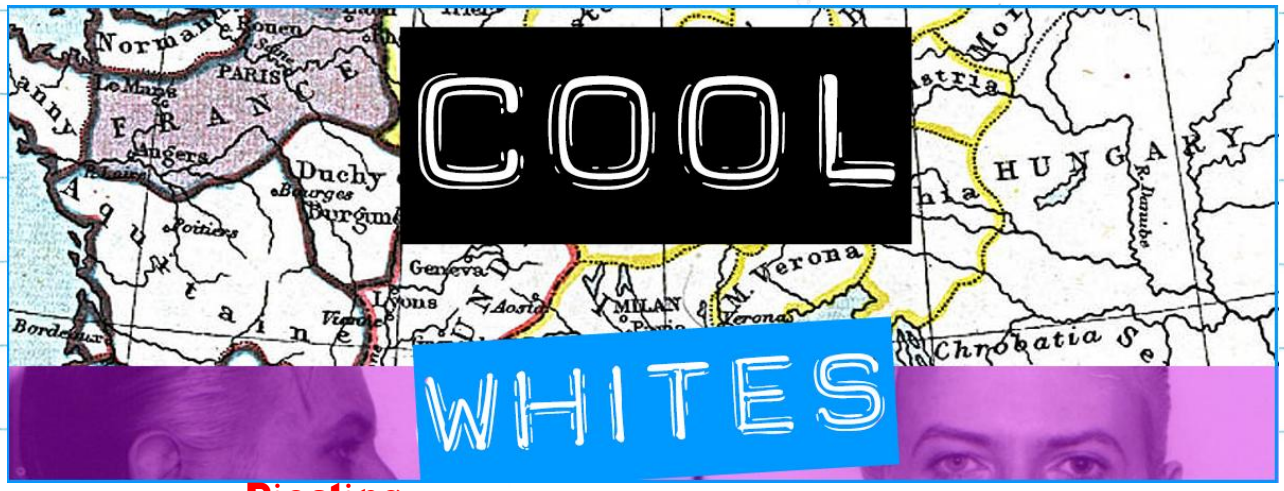
Agostado, Cota 45*, 2017, Andalucia 135.

-45% perruno, 45% uva rey, 10% palomino
-whole-cluster pressed, spontaneously fermented in two old sherry botas, then aged for 26 months in botas (aka, barrels), with the last 4 months under flor...so, this wine underwent both oxidative AND biological ageing
-during the ageing process, the alcohol increased from 13° to 14°

Bina (100% palomino), Luis Pērez, 2024, Jerez 99.

-Bina comes from a steep, 1.21 hectare plot from San Cayetano in Macharnudo.
-it spends 18 months in sherry casks that are always topped up.

San Cayetano (100% palomino), Luis Pērez, 2023, Jerez 210.



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Are you looking for Riesling... if so, we salute you...

the Germans salute you... the Austrians salute you... the Alsatians salute you... the F.L.X.ers salute you... the Australians salute you... the 12 Apostles salute you... Neil Armstrong salutes you from 238,900 miles above us...

please turn to page 1775 in the terroir Codices iv-vi

GERMANY

Scheurebe Auslese, Diel, 2009, Nahe 100.

SWITZERLAND

Dézaley (100% chasselas), *Grand Cru "L'Arbalète,"* Jean et Pierre Testuz, 2018, Vaud 100.

Amigne de Vetroz (100% amigne – one bee), *Grand Cru*, Cave de Vieux – Moulin, 2015, Valais 90.

GREECE... because i pray to the old gods every morning

Blanc de Coteaux, Thymiopoulos, 2022, Naoussa 135.

-45% assyrtiko, 40% malagouzia, 10% vidiano, 5% aidani

Retsina (savatiano & roditis + Aleppo Pine), Malamatina, NV, Attica 30.

Assyrtiko (100% assyrtiko), *Nykteri*, Hatzidakis, 2022, Santorini 150.

Assyrtiko (100% assyrtiko), Mikra Thira, 2022, Santorini 115.

Assyrtiko (100% assyrtiko), Domaine Oikonomoy, 2016, Crete 160.

Vidiano (100% vidiano), *Young Vines*, Iliana Malihin, 2024, Crete 95.

Vidiano (100% vidiano), *Old Vines Amygdalos*, Iliana Malihin, 2021, Crete 105.

Thrapsathiri (100% thrapsathiri), *Odyssey*, Domaine Oikonomoy, 2018, Crete 159.

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AUSTRIA...from a Viennese perspective

Gemischter Satz, *Kosmopolitan,* Jutta Ambrositsch, 2024, Vienna 70.

-a field blend of grüner veltliner, neuburger, riesling, traminer, gutedel, grüner silvaner + other known and unknown grapes coming from both sides of the Danube river.

Gemischter Satz, *Fürchtegott,* Jutta Ambrositsch, 2022, Vienna 92.

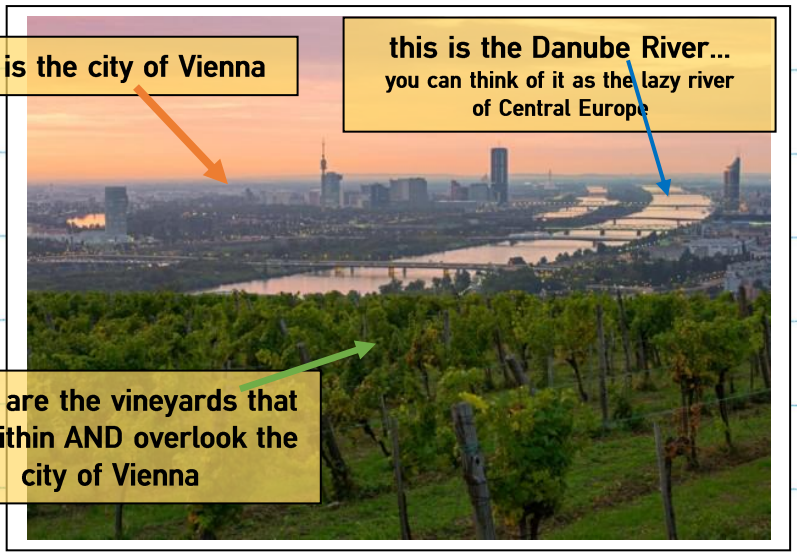
- a field blend of grüner veltliner, neuburger, riesling, traminer, gutedel, grüner silvaner + other known and unknown grapes coming from the renowned Nussberg site.

Gemischter Satz, *Ringelspiel,* Jutta Ambrositsch, 2021, Vienna 95.

-a field blend of grüner veltliner, neuburger, riesling, traminer, gutedel, grüner silvaner + other known and unknown grapes, planted by the Children of the Forest, nurtured by unicorns (with drip irrigation of their tears, of course), trained-up the weirwoods, guarded by the White Walkers. Drink of this wine and you will be welcomed at the Great Sept of Baelor.

Wiener Gemischter Satz, *Nussberg "Ried Rosengartel,"* Wieninger, 2020, Vienna 105.

-50% grüner veltliner + 50% weissburgunder, traminer, riesling, Neuburger



Wiener Gemischter Satz
(Viennese Mixed Planting)
your *Cliff Notes*:

-it is a reference to a multi-variety blended wine from vines within the city of Vienna
-at least 3 varieties must be planted in the vineyard and they must be harvested and pressed together (and therefore made into wine together)
-no one grape can account for more than 50% of the blend and the 3rd grape must be at least 10% of the blend
-the new world and its consumers are used to single varietal wines...this ain't that at all
-the rational for this type of wine growing was risk management...Mother Nature is a b*#^h and, since different grapes ripen at different times, these mixed plantings at least guaranteed some type if harvest in the worst case scenario

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AUSTRIA...from a Governator perspective

Sauvignon Blanc, *Ried Grassnitzberg Riff*, Tement, 2022, Styria 99.

Sauvignon Blanc, *Ried Grassnitzberg*, Tement, 2017, Styria 105.

AUSTRIA...from a Schrödinger's cat perspective

Ois Erleben, Markus Altenburger, NV, Burgenland 66.

-muscat ottonel, traminer, welschriesling, grüner veltliner, sauvignon / fashioned in a solera system, and withdrawn from said solera system...this wine is a combo of vintages '24, '23, '22

Weissburgunder Smaragd (100% weissburgunder), Hirtzberger, 2022, Wachau 120.

Gelber Muskateller (100% muscat), *Dürnsteiner*, F.X. Pichler, 2023, Wachau 115.

Gelber Muskateller Federspiel (100% muscat), *Loibner*, Knoll, 2022, Wachau 95.

Gelber Muskateller Smaragd (100% muscat), *Loibner*, Knoll, 2021, Wachau 108.

Neuburger (100% neuburger), Sighardt Donabaum, 2017, Wachau 72.

Rotgipfler (100% rotgipfler), *Pfaffstättner Tagelsteiner*, Stadlmann, 2021, Thermenregion 95.

-this indigenous variety is a natural crossing of savagnin and roter veltliner

-it is a partner to zierfandler in the creation of *Gumpoldskirchen*, a wine from the village of Gumpoldskirchen, located in the Thermenregion (so-called because of the many spas or thermen found in this commune, which is about 20 miles south of Vienna); during the height of the Austro-Hungarian empire, this wine was revered by the royal court and officially called Gumpoldskirchen Königswein...as in *King's Wine*

-there are only 290 acres in production...roughly equivalent to 120 X Barry Diller's *Little Island, aka* Pier 54

Zierfandler (100% zierfandler), *Traiskirchner Mandel-Höh*, Stadlmann, 2020, Thermenregion 106.

-this indigenous variety is a natural crossing of roter veltliner and a relative of the savagnin grape...my mom is still trying to figure out which

-while rotgipfler brings the fat to the wine party, zierfandler brings the acid...and illuminates the disco ball at said party

-the variety is also called spätrot (*"late red"*) as it turns red just before harvest...and is easily embarrassed when it meets other grapes

-there are only 252 acres in production...roughly equivalent to 38 X the High Line...just not planted on so narrow a parcel

Roter Veltliner (100% roter veltliner), *Ried Reisenthal*, Mantlerhof, 2023, Kremstal 99.

-maybe the most important thing to note is that roter veltliner has NOTHING to do with Grüner Veltliner

-in addition, we do not know which grapes parented roter veltliner...maybe it is the 8th child of the von Trapp family?!...but we do know that roter veltliner parented the neuberger / rotgipfler / zierfandler varietals

-while Grüner swings in a green bean-aromatic direction, Roter ambles in a marzipan-aromatic direction...this is yumminess personified



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AUSTRIA... *from a hills are alive* perspective...

Grüner Veltliner, *Dürnsteiner*, F.X. Pichler, 2023, Wachau	–MAGNUM ALERT–	192.
Grüner Veltliner, *Ried Lamm*, Schloss Gobelsburg, 2022, Kamptal		190.
Grüner Veltliner, *Ried Spiegel*, Bernard Ott, 2021, Wagram		140.
Grüner Veltliner, *Ried Rosenberg*, Bernard Ott, 2021, Wagram		160.
Grüner Veltliner Smaragd, *Ried Steinertal*, Alzinger, 2022, Wachau		140.
Grüner Veltliner Smaragd*, *Weissenkirchen "Wachstum Bodenstein,"* Prager, 2021, Wachau		180.
Grüner Veltliner, *Unendlich*, F.X. Pichler, 2018, Wachau		434.

*GRÜNER VELTLINER is *the* grape of Austria, accounting for 32.5% of the vineyard plantings, but it's name was only officially recognized in the 1930s (until then, it was called weissgipfler, amongst other monikers) / its parent grapes are savagnin (lordy, what grape does *not* have savagnin as a parent!!!) and an obscure vine presently called St. Georgener-rebe (apparently, one can visit the town of St. Georgen am Leithagebirge and observe this single vine, discovered only in 2000, and apparently over 500 years old...it brings to mind the Grail Knight in "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade")

*we should tip our hats to Lenz Moser who developed the *hochkultur* trellising method in the 1930s; this system essentially modernized vine training, moving from a single stake system to high trellises, ushering in greater efficiency and eventual mechanization

*funnily enough...or strangely enough...GRÜNER VELTLINER is NOT part of the Veltliner family of vines (which includes roter / frühroter / neuberger+)

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AUSTRIA... maybe the greatest wine you have never consumed

Tradition, 3 Years, Schloss Gobelsburg, NV, Kamptal 110.

*Tradition, Cuvée 50 Years**, Schloss Gobelsburg**, NV, Kamptal 350.

-uhmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm...ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh...not sure where to begin here so we will begin here:

-the wine is a combination of grüner veltliner, riesling, grüner sylvaner, muskat sylvaner, riesling sylvaner, welschriesling, muskat ottonel, traminer, muskateller wines, not grapes. Bottles of these individual wines were taken from the estate's vinotheque, uncorked, tasted to ensure soundness, and then decanted into individual vessels. These vessels, of these individual, different wines, were then blended into the cuvée that you are now relishing

-these individual wines were taken from vintages of the last 50 years:

-the 1970s – 11% of total – 1970, 1971, 1973, 1974, 1977, 1979

-the 1980s – 12% of total – 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1986, 1987, 1989

-the 1990s – 7% of total – 1991, 1993, 1994, 1996, 1998, 1999

-the 2000s – 37% of total – 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2009

-the 2010s – 33% of total – 2011, 2013, 2014, 2017

*if we are trying to find a model for this type of wine construction, the only place one can go is a NV Champagne. And please do not think of this (the blending of wine AND vintages) as a modern creation; this type of wine crafting was done centuries ago. It is also not better or worse, just different...and in the case of this wine, exponentially different (sort of like the Beach Boys *Pet Sounds*).

**your SCHLOSS GOBELSBURG History: the winery was established in 1171, by Cistercian monks, who were spreading their wings and influence from Burgundy. PLEASE NOTE THIS YEAR, 2022, IS THE 851st ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTATE'S FOUNDING. Their first donated vineyards in Austria were near the town of Langenlois, in the Kamptal. These monks tended their many vineyards until 1995, when oversight of the operation was given to Michael Moosbrugger (until this time, the operation was overseen by powerhouse Abbot Bertrand and administrator Maximilian Krausgruber; they recognized that a worthy successor could not be found in the order and therefore expanded their horizons...and a new preacher man was sent from heaven). The Moosbruggers, while of this age, are very much giving renewed voice to the multitude of traditions of the estate and finding inspiration from the generations of monks who came before.

PAUSE...

AND PAUSE AGAIN...

AND MAYBE JUST ANOTHER LITTLE PAUSE...

We need a pause after reading everything above...please tell me you read everything above...

Now a deep breath.

Put your hands above your head and reach for the heavens (tell me if you touch anything).

And please now return to the regularly scheduled episode of the *Warrior Nun*.

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COOL WHITES

HUNGARY...we hate Orbán but we love the people of Hungary

Tokaji (100% furmint), *Szent Tamás 45*, Szepsy, 2017, Tokaj – Hegyalja 250.

-the Szent Tamás vineyard is located in the eastern part of Mád (apparently, all the really crazy people live here) / it is at an elevation of 550′ and faces east to southeast to south / planted in 1954 / the soil is layered zeolite & rhyolite, rich in tuffs and red clay

-the vineyard was harvested between September 28th and October 2nd / the grapes were fermented & aged in new 300 L barrels for 7 months

Total Acidity: 6.4 grams/l - Residual Sugar: .8 grams/l

-the wine speaks of Mike Teavee...bad-tempered / self-absorbed / intelligent / begins small...3″...then stretches out to 10′

SLOVENiA: as portrayed by ivan Grohar

Ribolla (100% ribolla), *Opoka*, Marjan Simčič, 2020, Brda 140.

ENGLAND: the land of footy, fish, chips and kick arse wine

Artefact, Artefact...a moment in wine, 2023, East Devon 108.

-100% bacchus GF 1, harvested in October, then crushed and destemmed into four 300-litre Tuscan amphorae, spending 21 days on the skins, followed by 18 months ageing on the lees (this is a recipe for England winning the World Cup 2034!)

-well, there is a lot to say and write here. And it will be coming soon, once the World Cup is finished AND I get to see *The Odyssey* on an actual IMAX screen. Until then, do enjoy this wholly unique grape juice, crafted in Mother England, by three mates: Rob Corbett, Luke Harbor & Tommy Gillard, who produced the wine at Castlewood Vineyard.

GEORGiA...we should really call this country საქართველო

Chinuri-Rkatsiteli, *3 Qveri Terraces*, Papari Valley, 2024, Kakheti 72.

LEBANON...well, one cannot feel more alive than when one parties in Beirut

Grand Vin (66% obaideh, 34% merwah), Chateau Musar, 2003, Bekaa Valley --CALL MY MOTHER ALERT-- 275.

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TUNiSiA... the other side of the mediterranean makes yummy wine too...

Muscat de Kelibia (100% muscat of alexandria), *Banibano*, Jean Touitou, 2024, Tunisia 100.

SOUTH AFRiCA... yes, it is definitely *NOT* a s*#thole country

Pinot Gris, Craven, 2024, Stellenbosch 72.

Chardonnay, Restless River, 2022, Hemel-en-Aarde 115.

Chenin Blanc, *Grensloos*, A.A. Badenhorst, 2023, Swartland 125.

Chenin Blanc, Damascene, 2023, Stellenbosch – Coastal Region 115.

Chenin Blanc, *Mev. Kirsten*, The Sadie Family, 2022, Stellenbosch – Jonkershoek Valley 398.

-the Mev. Kirsten vineyard is located at the foot of the Bothmaskap / it is composed of decomposed granite atop alluvial soil

-the Mev. is Afrikaans for Mrs. and Mrs. Kirsten's one hectare vineyard contains the oldest plantings of Chenin Blanc in South Africa (Eben Sadie began to work with this parcel in 2006)

-the grapes are fermented and aged in an old foudre, remaining on the lees for 12 months

Palladius, The Sadie Family, 2021, Swartland --THE *NE PLUS ULTRA* OF SOUTH AFRICA ALERT-- 335.

-composed of grapes (chenin blanc, grenache blanc, clairette, viognier, verdelho, roussanne, marsanne, semillon gris, semillon blanc, palomino, colombard) harvested from 17 different vineyards / the vineyards are located in Paardeberg, Piketberg, and St. Helena Bay / the vineyards are composed of decomposed granite, decomposed Table Mountain sandstone and chalk

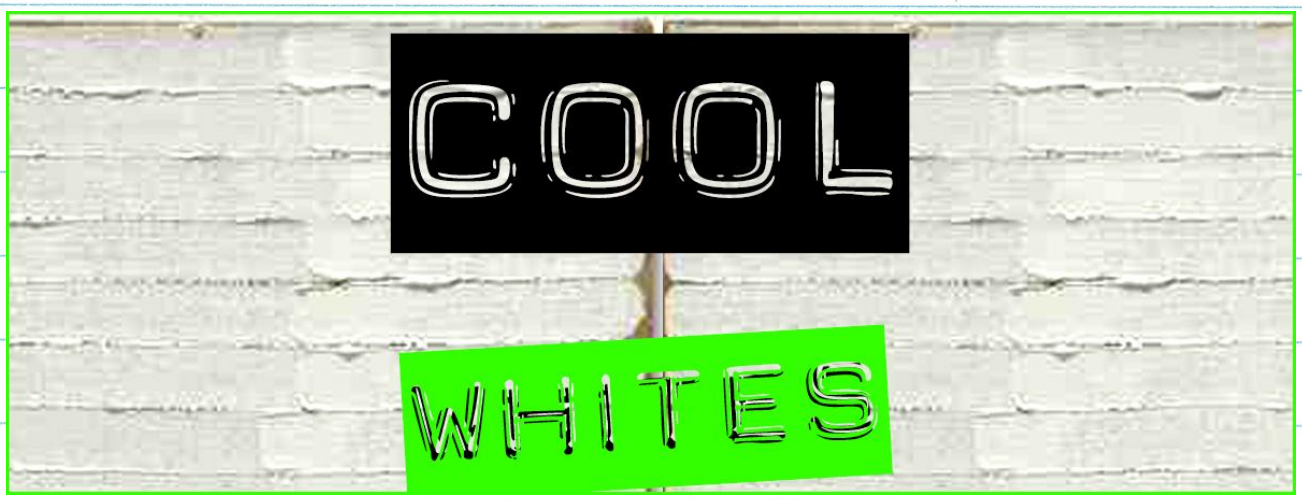
-the grapes are whole bunch-pressed into concrete eggs and amphora, with each vineyard fermenting separately AND in the same vessel as the previous vintage / after 12 months, the wines are combined and aged in old foudres for an additional 12 months

AUSTRALiA... because we have no clue how good the wines are

Chardonnay, *Lenswood Vineyard*, Shaw + Smith, 2020, Adelaide Hills 155.

Chardonnay, *McIntyre Vineyard*, Moorooduc Estate, 2012, Victoria 120.

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CHILE... because this landscape is perfect for grape growing & winemaking

Moscatel de Alejandria, *Tínaja*, Estaciám Yumbel, 2025, Secano Interior 66.

-100% muscatel de Alejandria

Moscatel (100% moscatel), *Super Estrella*, Roberto Henriquez, 2024, Bio Bio --MAGNUM ALERT-- 120.

Torontel (100% torontel), *Super Estrella*, Roberto Henriquez, 2024, Bio Bio 72.

-torontel is an uva criolla (a variety of European origin crossed with AND born in the Americas) / apparently, muscat of Alexandria X país is the happy couple that gave birth to this aromatic varietal (P.S. if you love Argentinian Torrontes, then this will be your jam)

Torontel (100% torontel), *Super Estrella*, Roberto Henriquez, 2023, Bio Bio 72.

Semillon (100% semillon), *Molino del Ciego*, Roberto Henriquez, 2024, Itata Valley 70.

Semillon (100% semillon), *Fundo La Union*, Roberto Henriquez, 2024, Itata Valley 65.

Semillon (100% semillon), *1850 Ancestor Vine*, Cirillo, 2020, Itata Valley 80.

Chardonnay, *Amelia*, Concha y Toro, 2021, Quebrada Seca – Limari Valley 145.

Chardonnay, *Quebrada Seca*, Marcelo Retamal, 2019, Limari Valley 125.

ARGENTINA... because their economy needs help!

-the delivery was confirmed to be added to a friars satchel, on his route through the Andes.

USA... please tell Mom terroir does have some AMERICAN CHARDONNAY

Chardonnay, *Tsai Vineyard*, Perry-Colin, 2024, Willamette Valley 165.

Chardonnay, *Bassi Vineyard*, Scar of the Sea, 2024, SLO Coast 95.

Chardonnay, *Trout Gulch Vineyard*, Arnot-Roberts, 2023, Santa Cruz Mountains. 130.

Chardonnay, *Estate*, Mount Eden Vineyards, 2021, Santa Cruz Mountains 120.

Chardonnay, *The Root of the Wind*, Trippers & Askers, 2021, Santa Rita Hills 127.

Chardonnay, *Estate*, Mount Eden Vineyards, 2015, Santa Cruz Mountains 199.

Chardonnay, *Estate Grown*, Chalone Vineyards, 2004, Monterey County 140.

Chardonnay, *Cuvée W*, Kalin Cellars, 2001, Livermore Valley 95.

Chardonnay, *Cuvée W*, Kalin Cellars, 1999, Livermore Valley 112.

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USA...it ain't all chardonnay...

Flora, La Garagista, NV, Vermont –ALPINE SOLERA / JEREZ MEETS VERMONT ALERT-- 80. 375ml

-100% frontenac gris
-a partnership between La Garagista and Camila Carrilo of La Montanuela, this is a part of the lost causes & desperate cases collection where the main focus is oxidative wines. MMMMMMM yummy.
-Inspired by the unfortified sherry wine of Jerez, the Solera was started in 2015 in a 100-year-old Amontillado barrel.

Sylvanus, Channing Daughters, 2023, The Hamptons --SKIN CONTACT-- 74.

-48% muscat ottonel, 27% gewurztraminer, 20% pinot grigio, 5% pinot bianco

Roussanne (100% roussanne), Tablas Creek, 2023, Paso Robles 100.

Malvasia Bianca, *Cecchini Family Vineyard,* Erggelet Brothers, 2022, Contra Costa --SKIN CONTACT-- 80.

-100% malvasia bianca

Sundrop, Âmevive, 2024, Los Olivos 85.

-38% roussanne, 27% marsanne, 36% viognier

Aesalon, Hiyu, 2021, Columbia Gorge 210.

-this is a field blend (grown together and harvested together), composed of xarel-lo, arinto, verdehlo, albarino, trousseau gris, godello, albillo real and macabeo
-the vineyard, planted in the 1960s at the same time as the first pinot noir vines were hitting the landscape of the Willamette Valley BUT at 3 times the elevation, is located on a ridge above the town of White Salmon, WA (the proximity to Mt. Hood dramatically affects the climate)
-the site has been utilized since 2013 (the second vintage overall for the winery) and this origin story nature is alluded to by *Atavus* (Latin for ancestor)
-the grapes are fermented together, with some skin contact, and the finished wine is placed in a solera (a fractional blending system)
-from this solera, the 7th edition was taken and is combination of vintages 2013 - 2020

*the Hiyu Estate / Winery / Commune is most likely the craziest wine place in North America...well, it is crazy to me primarily because I am old and traditional and generally gravitate to things that I can understand (aka, fit into a nice, little velvet box). This place ain't that. The creators of this wine utopia are Nate Ready (a former somm at some pretty regal joints...hello French Laundry!) and China Tresemer (an illustrator). The farm is 38 acres in total (22 owned + 16 leased); they, of course, practice organic / biodynamic / regenerative farming; in the winery, everything is by hand (and foot...some grape stomping action late at night, to the tunes of Iron Butterfly) and NO sulphur is added to the wines at bottling. Back to the vineyards: animals are employed (helps labor cost!) to control vegetation / there are over 80 grape varieties + many clones of those varieties

Côtes de Tablas Blanc, Tablas Creek, 2020, Paso Robles 100.

-38% viognier, 32% grenache blanc, 22% marsanne, 8% Roussanne