



2014 CHAPTER 24 LAST CHAPTER PINOT NOIR

WINEMAKERS: Louis-Michel Liger-Belair and Max Marriott
REGION: Willamette Valley, Oregon
VARIETALS: Pinot Noir (Clones: 114, 667, Pommard, Swan)
MATURATION: 12 months in 100% French oak (60% new)
ANALYSIS: 13.4% alc/vol | TA: 5.6 g/L | pH: 3.53

BACKGROUND:

The rose and arrow evoke the two main themes of Homer's epic poems, The Iliad and the Odyssey: Women and war. Contrasts drive the story to its conclusion and its new beginning in the Odyssey's Last Chapter (Chapter 24). Anticipation, tension, release. Last Chapter Pinot Noir is Chapter 24's top, limited production cuvee from grapes grown in both volcanic (Fire) and sedimentary soils (Flood). The combination carries both bright and tart "red" notes from the fire set against deeper more soulful "blue" notes from the flood.

WINEMAKING:

The grapes were picked in September and October, then 100% de-stemmed, and were fermented with indigenous yeasts in 3-ton stainless steel tanks. The grapes were allowed to "infuse" as whole berries at a moderate temperature in an oxygen rich environment until being pressed in small lots in a manually controlled basket press. The Last Chapter has been aged for 12 months in approximately 60% new French oak coming from Sequin Moreau and Francois Frères.

TASTING NOTES:

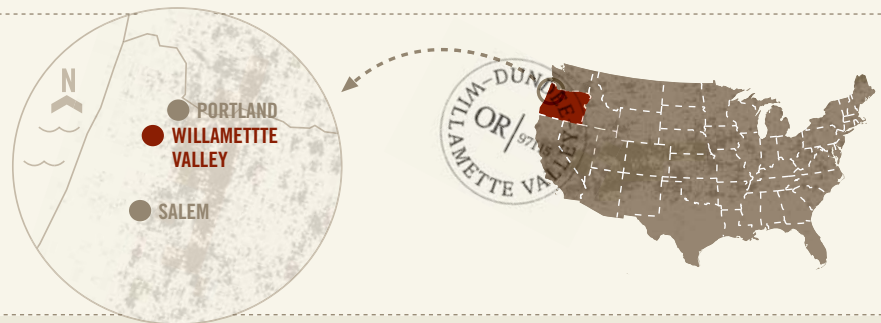
This blend was created as a study in harmony. This wine's initial scents of ripe red berries and plums hint at the palate's potential richness. And yet the wine isn't so much rich as mouthfilling. A saturating and juicy presence that mimics richness, this bursts with exuberant fruit on the finish, then quietly recedes. This wine feels in every sense complete - calm and placid, with a succulence gently occupying every corner of the mouth.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

94 pts Vinous, 91 pts The Wine Advocate, 91 pts Wine & Spirits

ABOUT CHAPTER 24:

Chapter 24 Vineyards was named after the last chapter of Homer's epic poem, The Odyssey. This particular chapter was added long after Homer died. The Greeks continued the tale to satisfy themselves despite the author thinking he was finished after Chapter 23. The mark of a great ending is not what it says about the past, but rather what it promises for the future, and Chapter 23 clearly raised more questions than it answered. In this same spirit, the story of Chapter 24's wines continues well past the cellar door. Winemaking is just the beginning of the story. The wine may be finished but it is not the end.



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