2020 PINOT NOIR

Varietal: Pinot Noir

AVA: Santa Maria Valley

Vineyard: Bien Nacido

Production: 158 cases made

Oak: 80% New French Oak

Time in Barrel: 18 Months

Alcohol: 15.9%

Cellar potential: It'll last, but what's the point?

Release date: March 19, 2021

TASTING NOTES

This is a cage match royal rumble full of puffy-costumed mascots. Charles the Chocolate-Covered Cherry throws the first punch, a right hook full of tart concentration. Vinny the Violet Bouquet comes back with a flying floral knee, and there's Thyme and Sweet Basil—the Spice Rack Bruisers—laying out Cappy Chamomile with a clothesline. But wait, it's Ronny Raspberry Turnover on the top rope, prepping an elbow drop for the ages. And when he lands on the dogpile with everything he's got, it's a multi-mascot takedown that would have Jim Ross hoarse for weeks.

NOTES

What 6 foot tires, 1,200 horsepower and a gallon a second are to a Prius, Smash City is to Pinot Noir. There is no talk of micro-climates, battonage or rootstock when this beast hits the glass. It's just pure, unadulterated pleasure. Smash City will get you smiling faster than a county fair corn dog when you're on a diet. And don't worry, it can't become a habit because there'll never be too much to go around.

SERVING

Temperature: 65°F DRINK NOW: Splash decant into thermos

ABOUT

Proprietor and winemaker Russell P. From began Herman Story Wines in 2001 with 7 barrels stashed in his employer's cellar. What started as a modest homage to his rancher grandfather has become a beacon to those seeking opulent, structured Syrah and Grenache. To maintain balance while giving flavor full stage, Russell works with 30 top-tier vineyards in over 7 distinct growing regions between Santa Barbara and Paso Robles. These are no nonsense, balls to the walls wines that are not for the faint of heart or the pinky raising set.





