FEATURED WINES

2011 Herman Story California 'Damn Good Wedding Wine'

This is the story of Herman Story Wines.

The man behind the label is Russell From. The label's namesake is From's grandfather, who From describes as having been "a rancher, logger, swapper, banker, philanthropist and teller of tales." Obviously, From's grandfather was not shy, and neither are From's wines, which he crafts in California's Central Coast region.

One can sense From's winemaking hand in each and every sip of his Rhone-style red blend known as "Damn Good Wedding Wine." It's an intense cuvee, brimming with fruit and spice flavors — the perfect vinous foil for a well-spiced slice of meat, either smoked or grilled to one's liking.

Its name implies that the wine would make a good wedding gift, and that it would. In fact, there's even a place on the label where one can inscribe a personal message. On the other hand, with a wine this good, there's nothing wrong with giving yourself a gift.

TASTING NOTES

Grape Composition:

Mostly Syrah, With Grenache and Mourvedre

Grape Source:

Select California Vineyards, Mostly Central Coast When to Drink:

Aging Vessels:

Select Oak Barrels

Now Through 2015

Aromas and Flavors: Our Tasting

Plum, Black Raspberry, Pepper, Meat and Spices Our Tasting Panel Score:

91 Points

This Rhone-style California blend offers notes of plum, black raspberry, pepper, meat and cooking spices.

FOOD PAIRING SUGGESTIONS: smoked or grilled meats with a multi-spice rub.

WINE RE-ORDER #: 25763