

The PICKS

FEATURE WINE

Mother Tongue 2015 Shiraz

I know I mentioned this in the store news last week, but I can't help myself, I need to say it again... only 80 cases of this wine was produced, and it all came from 80-year-old Shiraz vines! "What first stands out is the umami, earthy beetroot and mushroom aromas, which weave between tangy rhubarb, currant and blueberry fruit, and the notes of the pan scrapings of roast veggies with dried herbs to match. There's a good lick of chocolaty, cola-like oak, too. The palate is tangy, if a bit oaky. Tannins are fine and talc-like, well integrated with the plush fruit. Drink now with a hearty meal or cellar until around 2028." You can save it for five more years if you'd like, but I'm telling you, it's pretty darn tasty right now. I'm going to continue to purchase this wine until it's gone because this savory beauty at \$50.99 is still cheaper than any I saw online, and it drinks so much above that price point. This wine reminds me of the good ole days of big, rich Australian Shiraz.

DAN'S PICK

Raimat 2021 Albariño

This all-purpose white is just the right price at \$12.99. Described by the winery as, "pale yellow with greenish highlights. Noticeable mineral aromas at the start, joined halfway by white flowers, mango, melon and grapefruit. Fresh, citrus sensation in mouth at first, becoming more voluminous midway and with a long and refreshing finish dominated by white flowers and melon. Ideal for Japanese and Thai dishes such as tempura and pan-fried vegetables. Also for dishes featuring white meat, fish, seafood, rice dishes, pasta and appetizers." I like keeping an Albariño in stock, and after our last one skyrocketed in price, this became our new go-to. Sure, it may seem like a summer wine, but if you enjoy the minerality and notes of flowers and tropical fruit, who cares what season it is? Life's too short...drink what you like and be happy.