

The PICKS

FEATURE WINE

Newton 2019 The Puzzle Red Blend

I'm excited about this one: Newton 2019 The Puzzle Red Blend out of Napa Valley. What makes this one special is partly the price because we got a deal on it, but mostly because this wine is the last of a legacy. The historic winery -- founded in the 1960s by Peter Newton of Sterling Vineyards -- burned down in 2001, and all but 5 acres of the vineyards were destroyed in the 2020 fires that swept through Napa Valley. While devastating, the fires made the winery affordable to two Napa locals who purchased it and are on the road to revival. This bottle, however, is the last that exists from before the fires (at least in Ohio). From Spring Mountain, which is an underrated part of Napa if you ask me, this bottle is primarily Cabernet Sauvignon with Merlot, Petit Verdot, Cabernet Franc, and a touch of Malbec. "Firmly structured and powerfully flavorful, this wine dominated by Cabernet Sauvignon needs time to shine fully. Handsome oak aromas lead to focused black currant and black cherry flavors topped with a creamy, nuanced mint and cinnamon flourish on the finish. Best from 2027-2040." It raked in a hefty 96 points and while normally priced over \$100, we have it for you at \$59.99.

WINE PICK

Langtry 2023 Lillie's Sauvignon Blanc

Langtry 2023 Lillie's Sauvignon Blanc from Guenoc Valley, California. If you've never been to Guenoc Valley, it's a tiny wine region at the very south of Lake County. So tiny in fact that Langtry is the only winery there. If you wind through the hills at the very north of Napa, you end up in Guenoc. Its volcanic soil and high elevation give it a unique microclimate known for producing fruit-forward, food-friendly wines. Langtry Farms is situated there and has been since 1888, so a long history behind it. The vines are sustainably and organically farmed, and the winery itself is uber eco-friendly, running on 100% solar power, recycling water, utilizing cover crops, etc. They're doing everything right. As for this 100% Sauvignon Blanc, "This wine is zesty, with aromas of green guava, kiwi, citrus blossom and notes of white florals on the nose. The flavors on the palate are kaffir lime, white grapefruit, white nectarine and sedimentary rock, interwoven with good acidity and a long, juicy finish." It's cool and crisp and would be excellent with food, so it's true to its appellation. Another big rating for this one, 94 points, which is extraordinary for a \$24.99 white wine.