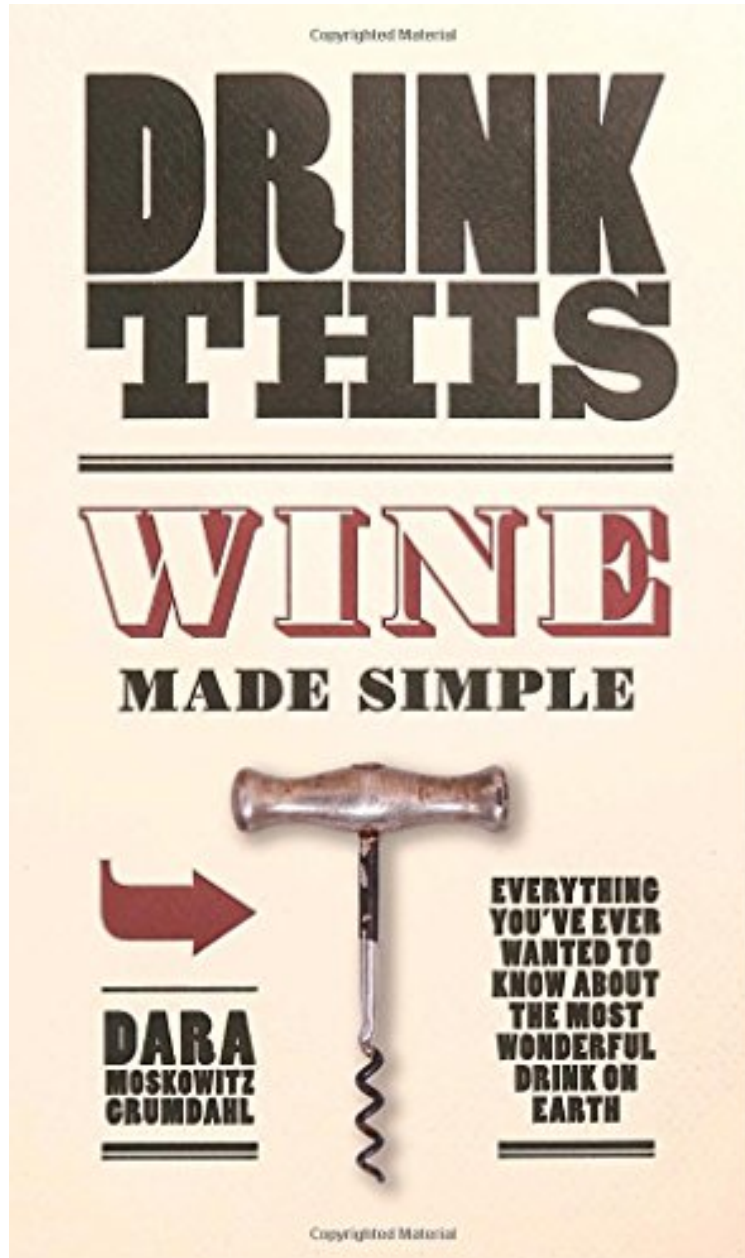


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Drink This: Wine Made Simple

Dara Moskowitz Grumdahl

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Dara Moskowitz Grumdahl : Drink This: Wine Made Simple before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Drink This: Wine Made Simple:

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Burrows Hands down, the best introductory wine book ever. Dara teaches you the process of understanding wine by stepping through guided tastings of the classic grapes in all their forms. Now I give it as a gift, I would never give up my stained, note-filled copy. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Practical and Accessible By J. M. Stegall This is a great, practical and accessible book for teaching those who don't want to read the Wine Bible about wine. I've used it to help teach friends who swear they don't like Chardonnay about the nuances of the grape and the wine and also taught myself a thing or two about Zin. Get it, use it, pass it on to your friends. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fun, relaxed and no bs. down to earth By Henrik Witt-hansen You do not get all the details and every little piece of knowledge about wine (how could you !) but you get a very firm and usefull backgrounder on a big enough subset of the world of wine to have jus a tiny bit of leavage for the future voyage.. no fancy bs. talk, just good friendly advice and information

Ever been baffled by a wine list, stood perplexed before endless racks of bottles at the liquor store, or ordered an overpriced bottle out of fear of the scathing judgment of a restaurant sommelier? Before she became a James Beard Awardwinning food and wine writer, Dara Moskowitz Grumdahl experienced all these things. Now she presents a handy guide that will show you how to stop being overwhelmed and intimidated, how to discover, respect, and enjoy your own personal taste, and how to be whatever kind of wine person you want to be, from budding connoisseur to someone who simply gets wine you like every time you buy a bottle. Refreshingly simple, irreverent, and witty, *Drink This* explains all the insider stuff that wine critics assume you know. It will teach you how to taste and savor wine, alone, with a friend, or with a group. And perhaps most important, this book gives you the tools to learn the only thing that really matters about wine: namely, figuring out what you like. Grumdahl draws on her own experience and savvy and interviews some of the worlds most renowned critics, winemakers, and chefs, including Robert M. Parker, Jr., Paul Draper, and Thomas Keller, who share their wisdom about everything from pairing food and wine to the inside scoop on what wine scores and reviews really mean. Readers will learn how to master tasting techniques and understand the winemaking process from soil to cellar. *Drink This* also reveals how to get your moneys worth out of wine without spending all youve got. At last theres a reason for wary wine lovers to raise a glass in celebration. Savor the insiders viewpoint and straight talk of *Drink This*, and watch your intimidation of wine transform into well-grounded, unshakeable confidence.

From Booklist *Starred * Its all about the grape, stupid! No, thats not an entirely appropriate tone to set in identifying the basic premise of this welcome and enjoyable book. Indeed, as James Beard Awardwinning wine writer and restaurant critic Grumdahl avers and asserts throughout her knowledgeable and buoyant text, wine is all about how and where grapes are grown. But never in this perfectly accessible course in wine appreciation is the authors attitude toward the reader anything but supportive, considerate, and sympathetic to the intimidations inherent in being conversant in the language of wine. She admits she found understanding wine overwhelming at the outset of her career, and this admission underscores her careful explanations of how to negotiate wine lists in restaurants, build your own wine collections, how and with what to serve various wines, and how to comprehend the layouts of wine shops. Competence is what she seeks to instill in her readers, and her own is obvious from the first page. Her teaching method is based on her belief that what you like is the only thing that matters. Its your taste. The books format is attractive and comfortable, adding to its appeal. For all active cookery collections. --Brad Hooper "If you haven't lived with reading Dara Moskowitz Grumdahl every week, you have missed the reason why we humans have opposing thumbs. They're there so you can keep turning her pages. With Dara doing a wine book, the days are over of buying bottles because the labels match your home team colors. Be bamboozled and intimidated no more. Dara is about to give you the best and easiest kind of wine smarts, and gift you a good read in the bargain." Lynne Rossetto Kasper, host of *The Splendid Table*, public radio's food show from American Public Media (NPR) "Most wine books have left me feeling like I am bringing a knife to a swordfight, completely underprepared. Not this one. *Drink This* is what I've been waiting for. Finally, a must-have book for the vino-challenged! For over a decade I have relied on Dara Grumdahl's insight and common sense wisdom regarding all matters related to food and wine, and now luckily, so can everyone else with this helpful, funny and accessible guide to determining your favorite wines." Andrew Zimmern "Dara Grumdahl is right about absolutely everything. If she calls me up at four in the morning, says 'Get dressed, get some money and a gun you'll need it where we're eating,' I don't ask any questions. I just go." Anthony Bourdain "Dara Moskowitz's writing comes across immediately; it also gets under your skin. Whether writing about restaurants, food, wine, travel, art, literature, music, architecture or all of those things in a single piece she is always writing about a milieu, the manners, expectations, fears, and desires of a particular place and time. She is alluring and instructive; as much as Pauline Kael or Lester Bangs. Her work shows what a critic can do and what she can be." Greil Marcus "Straight-forward, clearly organized and ambitiously witty, [*Drink This*] makes reading about wine fundamentals interesting again. Includes many "conversations" with bigwigs in the industry, provocative sidebars, and a clever "what's to love/hate" approach to major grapes. Epicurious.com About the Author Dara Moskowitz Grumdahl is senior editor of *Minnesota Monthly* and editor in chief of *Real Food*. She is a regular contributor to *Gourmet*, *Bon*

Appetit, Cond Nast Traveller, Metropolitan Home, USA Today, Wine Spirits, and other publications. She has won a number of awards, including four (out of seven nominations) James Beard Awards for wine writing and restaurant criticism, for her Dear Dara columns. She lives in Minneapolis with her husband and two children.