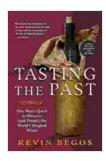
## The Grapes of Wrath: One Man's Quest to Discover and Drink the World's Original Wines

In a world awash in mass-produced, homogenized wines, one man embarked on an extraordinary quest to rediscover the original, untamed wines of the world. For over a decade, Kevin Behan traveled the globe, seeking out ancient grape varieties and traditional winemaking techniques that had been lost to time. His journey took him to remote villages, mountaintop vineyards, and forgotten archives, where he tasted wines that defied categorization and expanded the boundaries of his palate.

#### The Call of the Wild

Behan's passion for wine began in his youth, when he tasted a bottle of Châteauneuf-du-Pape that transported him to another dimension. From that moment on, he was captivated by the transformative power of wine, its ability to evoke memories, ignite imaginations, and connect people.



# Tasting the Past: One Man's Quest to Discover (and Drink!) the World's Original Wines by Kevin Begos

$\Rightarrow$ $\Rightarrow$ $\Rightarrow$ $\Rightarrow$ $\Rightarrow$ 4	.5 out of 5
Language	: English
File size	: 1229 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced typesett	ing : Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Lending	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Print length	: 230 pages

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As he delved deeper into the world of wine, Behan became increasingly disillusioned by the dominance of a handful of grape varieties and commercial winemaking practices. He longed to experience the true diversity of wine, the wines that had been crafted for centuries by local communities using traditional methods.

#### The Lost Grapes of Antiquity

Guided by his curiosity and an unyielding determination, Behan set out to rediscover the lost grapes of antiquity. He traveled to Georgia, the cradle of winemaking, where he tasted wines made from grape varieties that had been cultivated for thousands of years. In Armenia, he discovered an ancient grape called Areni, which produced wines with an intense, smoky flavor.

But Behan's quest went beyond mere tasting. He sought to understand the history, culture, and traditions that shaped these wines. He learned about the farmers who tended the vines, the winemakers who crafted the wines, and the rituals that surrounded their consumption.

#### The Winemaker's Art

In his travels, Behan encountered a diverse cast of winemakers who were dedicated to preserving their ancestral winemaking practices. In Italy, he met a group of monks who had been making wine in the same monastery for over a millennium. In Austria, he visited a family-run winery that had been producing natural wines for generations.

Behan was inspired by the passion and commitment of these winemakers. He witnessed their meticulous attention to detail, their reverence for the grapes, and their unwavering belief in the power of tradition.

#### The Taste of History

The wines that Behan tasted on his quest were a revelation. They possessed a complexity and authenticity that was unlike anything he had ever experienced before. Some wines were tart and tannic, with wild aromas of berries and herbs. Others were sweet and luscious, with notes of honey, dried fruit, and spice.

Beyond their taste, these wines offered a glimpse into the past. They were the living legacy of ancient civilizations, the embodiment of cultures that had been shaped by the vine.

#### The Importance of Originality

As Behan continued his journey, he realized that the quest for original wines was not merely about collecting rare bottles or exotic flavors. It was about preserving a vital part of human heritage.

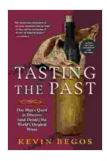
In a world that is increasingly homogenized, original wines represent a celebration of diversity. They are a testament to the creativity and resilience of the human spirit, and they remind us of our connection to the land and to our ancestors.

#### **The Quest Continues**

Today, Kevin Behan continues his quest to discover and drink the world's original wines. He has shared his experiences in his acclaimed book, "The Grapes of Wrath: One Man's Quest to Discover and Drink the World's Original Wines."

Behan's book is more than just a travelogue. It is a passionate plea for the preservation of winemaking traditions and a call to embrace the diversity of

the wine world. It is an invitation to embark on your own journey of discovery, to seek out the wines that will inspire you, challenge your palate, and expand your understanding of what wine can be.



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