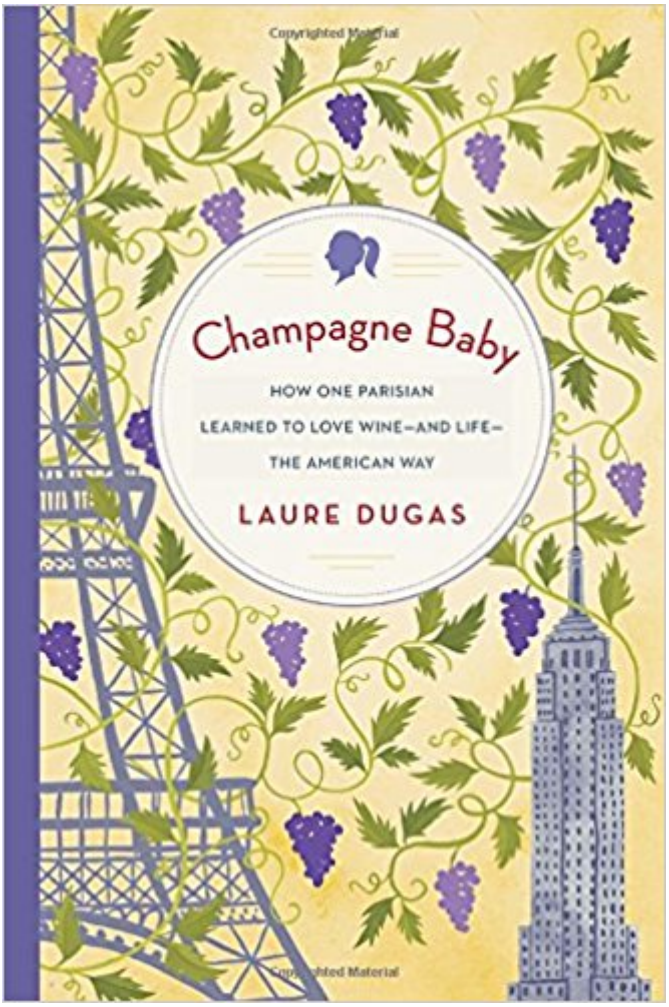
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Champagne Baby: How One Parisian Learned To Love Wine--and Life--the American Way



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Synopsis

One of the best memoirs of 2016 (Library Journal)Ã Â and winner of theÃ Â Northern California Book Festival Award!Ã Â Fresh, charming, and irresistible, Champagne Baby turns a familiar tale on its head: Instead of yet another American seeking the French secret to good living, a Frenchwoman finds her purposeÃ¢â ¬â •much to her surpriseÃ¢â ¬â •in the U.S.Laure DugasÃ Â was born into a family of winemakers from two storied regions of France: Champagne and the RhÃƒÂ´ne Valley. But she wants little to do with the family business. It is only when her uncle offers to send her to New York City to learn English and represent his wines to the American market that Laure bids adieu to her boyfriend and begins her journey of discovery.The job, it turns out, is both harder and easier than expected. Laure must speak in a new language about a subject in which she has no expertise. With the pedigree of an expert, even as she feels like a fraud, Laure dives into an industry still dominated by men, winning over restaurateurs and sommeliers, diligently developing her palate, and traveling across the vast country that is her new home.For the first time, Laure is able to distinguish among the famous wines of her native land. She learns to greet a wine by the nose and judge a bottle not by its industry rating but by the balance of its flavors. Overcoming homesickness, culture shock, and the trials of a long-distance relationship, Laure manages to settle into her new milieu, her wine-glass-half-full attitude turning an eight-month stint into a three-year adventure.Part coming-of-age memoir, part travelogue, sprinkled throughout with regional maps and wine recommendations, Champagne Baby imparts the critical lessons that pair with both wine and life: YouÃ¢â ¬â„¢re Better Than the Cheapest Bottle, ThereÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Always Occasion for Champagne, and Trust Your Palate. It encourages readers to view themselves and their surroundings with newfound appreciation, and to raise their glasses with open-mindedness and joy.Includes maps of wine regions throughoutPraise for Champagne BabyÃ¢â ¬Å“A coming-of-age story of a French girl in love with America, Champagne Baby is a compulsive read filled with keen observations and sharp descriptions of place and cultureÃ¢â ¬â •a modern, exuberant tale of two cities and discovery.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Mireille Guiliano, #1 New York Times bestselling author of French Women DonÃ¢â ¬â„¢t Get FatÃ¢â ¬Å“DugasÃ¢â ¬â„¢s story of being a recent university student and eager to jump at lifeÃ¢â ¬â„¢s chances will resonate with audiences both young and old, wine aficionados and newcomers.Ã¢â ¬Å“Ã¢â ¬â •Library Journal (starred review)Ã¢â ¬Å“Champagne BabyÃ Â is, like the best bottle of wine, fun and complex, sensual and smart, and totally satisfying.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Hannah Howard, columnist, Ã¢â ¬Å“Scoop du JourÃ¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬Å“An enticing story that evolves and ventures into unexpected directions and nourishes a result that Dugas had never imagined.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Richard Vine, PhD, author of

The Curious World of WineÃ¢â ¬Å“[A] delightful memoir . . . [Dugas] entertainingly reflects on what she learned about herself, her familyÃ¢â ¬â„¢s wine business, and wines in general while living in the U.S.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Kirkus ReviewsÃ¢â ¬Å“This insightful memoir has the capacity to inspire and charm the novice wine drinker while also reinforcing and reminding the well-seasoned palate of the romance, the seduction of wine.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã¢â ¬â •Booklist

Book Information

Hardcover: 336 pages

Publisher: Ballantine Books (May 3, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1101884630

ISBN-13: 978-1101884638

Product Dimensions: 6.9 x 3.5 x 9.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 16 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #539,708 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #98 inÃ Â Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Beverages & Wine > Wine & Spirits > Wine Tasting #178 inÃ Â Books > Travel > Specialty Travel > Literary & Religious #489 inÃ Â Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Beverages & Wine > Wine & Spirits > Wine

Customer Reviews

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Laure Dugas was born in Paris to a family of winemakers and has worked for some of the biggest names in champagne. After three years in New York City, she moved back across the Atlantic to open a wine bar and store in the Batignolles neighborhood of Paris. LÃ¢â ¬â„¢Ãƒâ bÃƒÂ©niste du Vin was such a success that a year later Laure and her husband opened an oyster bar next door to it, then opened another restaurant in early 2016. Laure Dugas lives with her husband and daughter in Paris.

I loved this book. I found it in the cookbook section of the library but it read like a light novel although it is a true story. It inspired me to have a wine tasting from all that I learned from the book and so I ended up buying the book. Before the tasting, everyone that came was expected to read the book and so we talked about the book and what we learned about wine.A fun read and nicely done.

I am currently reading it and enjoying the insights from a French point of view, appreciating the observations country-wise and culture-wise. I find her personal story more entertaining than the wine education. But it is an indication on how far her education and love of the wine business evolved from her early beginnings to now. The job she had was one to envy for sure - travel, good food, education, meeting new people. My younger self would have jumped at the opportunity!I agree with many others in that I'd love to read more from her. Perhaps her current experiences as a wine bar proprietor.

Great book , especially for Francophiles and lovers of wine. My book group loved it, and combined

our discussion with a champagne tasting. One of our favorite meetings!

Enjoyable story and a fun way to learn a little bit more about French wines!

A fun read, and I learned a lot about wine without being bored once! If you are looking for a charming memoir with lots of good advice about choosing and enjoying wine, this book is for you.

While this was somewhat interesting, well enough written, and on a topic I thought I was interested in, it simply didn't hold my attention.

Fun and learned a lot more about French wine. I am going to take my notes to purchase future bottles of wine.

Easy reading. Change of pace for me. This is not the genre I typically read.

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