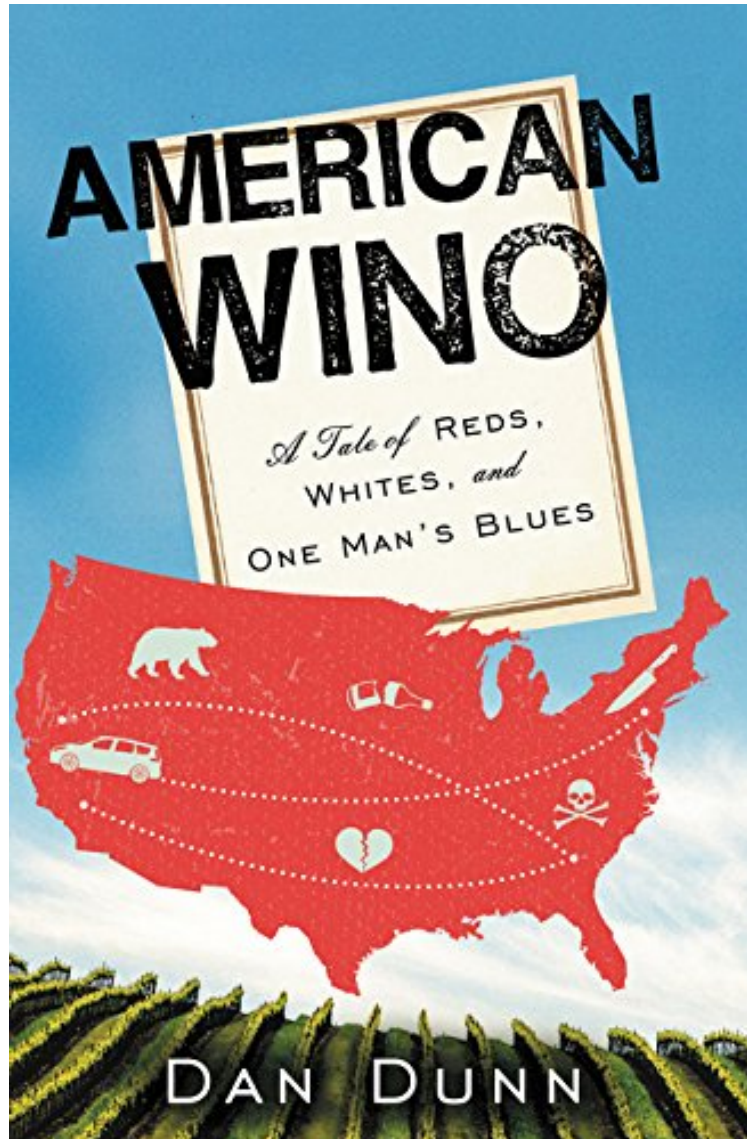


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## American Wino: A Tale of Reds, Whites, and One Man's Blues

Dan Dunn

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#730417 in Books Dan Dunn 2016-04-05 2016-04-05Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.00 x .79 x 5.311, .0 #File Name: 0062394649352 pagesAmerican Wino A Tale of Reds Whites and One Man s Blues | File size: 26.Mb

**Dan Dunn : American Wino: A Tale of Reds, Whites, and One Man's Blues** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised American Wino: A Tale of Reds, Whites, and One Man's Blues:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Hanging out with a wino at a beer tastingBy Veronika RooHe sat behind a stack of books at Brooklyn's Barclays Center looking sheepish. He was, after all, signing a memoir about

guzzling wine while at a beer event. Something about those eyes...the hopeful sadness. Whatever this man wrote, I needed to read it. And, yeah, getting cute Dan Dunn's autograph gave me a rush. This is a tale I savored slowly, contemplatively. The sad parts made my heart ache. The funny spots? Well, I learned to put a pillow fort up between me and my husband when I read late into the night, so my hand-over-my-mouth laughter wouldn't wake him. Relentlessly relatable, reading Dan's story feels like hanging out with a friend. I arranged a wine tasting in Albania, of all places. Dan's descriptions of optimistic, passionate people making world-class vino in unexpected locations matched my experience at Nurellari Winery Cellar. The travel adventure feels like a badass version of a "A Year in Provence," the eating and drinking memoir by Peter Mayle. Whereas those stories were refined like champagne bubbles, Dan's prose crackles like pop rocks. Cheers!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Not my usual fare but quite enjoyable if you approach it with an open mind. By MI found myself really enjoying this book despite the distraction of the juvenile bathroom humor which the author is way too old to be using. I'm the same age as the author and I found most of the book quite funny so Dunn would probably point out that I don't have any moral high ground here. His take on wine is down to earth and refreshing, his ability to laugh in the face of things that most people wouldn't be able to live through is admirable, and his honesty about the incredibly stupid mistakes he has made with women was hysterically funny. He can also do a wicked one liner. The book started to drag a bit towards the end but overall it was a surprisingly good read and I thoroughly enjoyed it!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I met Dan at the Aspen Food Wine Classic ... By Julie Muljat I met Dan at the Aspen Food Wine Classic and both bought a signed copy and downloaded the Kindle version. Read about a third on the flight home and laughed out loud so much I'm surprised my seatmate didn't ask to be moved! Dan writes in a voice that is both authentic and entertaining, and takes the often rarefied world of the wine connoisseur down several notches! It's a wine soaked "Travels with Charley," complete with a Carl Vehicle, dog tales, and cameos from the famous to the obscure.

A professional booze writer whose life spins out of control tries to piece it back together by embarking upon an epic wine-fueled adventure that takes him to every corner of the U.S. Part vision quest, part guidebook, part journey into the bizarre tapestry of American life, it will make you laugh, make you cry and teach you a whole lot about wine. Former Playboy magazine nightlife columnist Dan Dunn has made a career out of drinking. Yet this man's a connoisseur of beer and whiskey. Knew next to nothing about one of the major drinks enjoyed the world over: wine. When a fateful tasting experience coincided with a serious existential crisis, Dunn decided to hit the road on a journey of discovery. To quench his thirst for knowledge (and be able to throw down with the experts), he would educate himself about the industry glass by glass, from winery to winery, in nearly every region in the United States. His bold 15,000-mile road trip took Dunn from Sonoma, California, to Pawleys Island, South Carolina, where he twirled, sniffed, and sipped glass after glass of a vast array of wines with vintners, savants, and celebrities, including Kurt Russell and The Most Interesting Man in the World, Jonathan Goldsmith. Dunn's mission was to transform himself from a heartbroken schlub who barely knew the difference between Merlot and Meritage, into a confident connoisseur capable of wowing others simply by swirling some fermented grape juice around in his mouth and pronouncing it troubling, yet brilliant. In *American Wino*, Dunn shares it all: the good, the bad, the sublime. As his wine knowledge grows and becomes more complex, he shares it with the reader in the form of digestible, actionable nuggets in each chapter. It's like a wine-tasting course at your local community college extension program, only with more sex and less crushing despair. An intoxicating blend of travel writing, memoir, and booze journalism that pairs earthy humor with fine wine for hilarious and enlightening results, it is the story of one man's journey to find himself and every man's journey to better understand the true spirit of this divine elixir.

"Dunn's raw, rich comedic style in *American Wino* is lost in today's memoirs. Everybody else is so serious! Dunn keeps you laughing from page to page, with the occasional saucy tale and self-deprecation woven into wine terroir and grape knowledge." (Fred Minnick, *Parade*) "But this is only partly a book about wine: it is a wine soaked road trip memoir painting Dunn's battle with personal demons on an educational wine canvas. These include the death of his brother, death of his dog, the unwanted end of the most serious relationship of his lifetime and the loss of true love, and the culmination of decades of family dysfunction and insecurity. This is a very personal book about life, loss, and personal transformation, juxtaposed with a very significant wine plot." (Larry Olmsted, *Forbes*) "Dan Dunn has found a way of one-upping your wildest dreams. While many of us squares only daydream about ditching work to take a carefree roadtrip across America, Dunn did just that." (Javier Cabral, *Vice.com*) "Dunn's cynical and sarcastic Philly bro voice stays in tact amid the soul-searching and creates some hard-earned pathos. In the end, Dunn is good company, and his *American Wino* is a winning memoir of a man humbled by catastrophe." (Andrew Travers, *The Aspen Times*) "American Wino more or less proves that John Steinbeck was right in *Travels With Charlie*: You think you're taking the trip, but the trip takes you." (Curtis Robinson, *The Portland Phoenix*)

From the Back Cover I understood now that I was just like America--loud, without pedigree, misinformed and often drunk. But I had grit. Gumption. A willful ignorance of my limitations. And if my email inbox was to be believed (and it is, just ask my good friend the Crown Prince of Nigeria), wine was being made in every state of the union, including Vermont,

Georgia, Nebraska and Missouri. I even got a come-on from a winery in Arkansas that featured an on-site RV park. That was the final straw. I had to go drink the wine made in places you would never think made wine. I needed to know if Yankee obstinacy, Midwestern stick-to-itiveness or Deep South Zen had produced juice that could compete with the big mean mothers out in Napa and Sonoma. I would drink my way across America. For science. Or something. It was time to stop living in the shadow of lost limbs, ex-girlfriends and dead brothers and hurtle, screaming into the sunlight. I would combine my ignorance and sadness into a massive Big Gulp of despair, then pour it out my car's window across America's highways as I plundered its precious purple bounty. This would not be a tale of a man drinking himself to death. This would be a tale of a man drinking himself to life. Hopefully.

About the Author Dan Dunn has been, at varying times, a hardscrabble Philly kid, a member of Hunter S. Thompson's entourage, a newspaper and magazine columnist, a television comedy writer, a nightlife correspondent for *Playboy*, and the author of several cleverly titled books. Widely recognized as one of the world's leading experts in adult beverages, he hosted Dan Dunn's Happy Hour, a weekly national radio show on SiriusXM that featured luminaries from the world of wine, beer and spirits along with pop culture icons such as Ray Romano, Hall Oates, Kurt Russell, Olivia Wilde, and the Most Interesting Man in the World. He's appeared on Conan, The Adam Carolla Show, The Henry Rollins Show and numerous other fancy media-type programs. For years, Dan penned the popular "Imbiber" column for *Playboy*, and is still a contributor to the magazine. He co-wrote (along with Rob McElhenney of *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia*) the half-hour comedy pilot *Living Loaded*, which is based on Dan's book *Living Loaded: Tales of Sex, Salvation and the Pursuit of the Never-Ending Happy Hour* (Random House, 2011). The pilot, produced by FX for Fox, starred Donald Sutherland, Mike Vogel and Larry Wilmore. Dan also authored the books *Nobody Likes a Quitter... and other reasons to avoid rehab* (Running Press, 2007) and *The Gang Writes a Self-Help Book: The Seven Secrets of Awakening the Highly Effective Four Hour Giant, TODAY* (HarperCollins, January 2015). His forthcoming book, *American Wino: A Tale of Reds, Whites and One Man's Blues* (HarperCollins) will be released in April 2016. He is a former staff writer for the Emmy-nominated TV series *Talk Soup*. His work has appeared in *GQ*, *Vanity Fair*, *Esquire*, *USA Today*, *Maxim*, *LA Weekly*, *Newsday*, *Los Angeles Magazine* and the *LA Times*. He lives in Venice, CA.