J. H. Carriere

CUVÉE LOLA



PINOT NOIR

CUVÉE LOLA LIMITED BOTTLING WILLAMETTE VALLEY PINOT NOIR

ALCOHOL: 13.75% PH: 3.57

THESIS: Saddling an alert pony in spring.

A STORY: Lola is my daughter. She's fierce and kind and will likely drive me to drink (good things, right?). We only bottle her namesake cuvée in exceptional vintages, then cellar for complexity to release after five years. Perhaps less explanation is required: She and the wine are both seemingly finding their voice.

THE CLIFF NOTES: The color is valentine, with Kirschwasser, black licorice, cherry, and brown spice on the nose. The flavors exude warmth and dust, cherry, peach, tamarind, orange cake, and cardamom. The nicely ripe fruit meets acid, meets spice, meets lip-tingling structure all in the same driveway, so that you may rideshare to the dinner party together.

THE BUILDING OF: These are from the two best barrel lots in 2014. They were wild-yeast fermented in stainless steel, 100% barrel aged for 17 months in French oak (two once filled). Bottled unfined and unfiltered in February 2016, the bottles were cellared underground until release after 60 plus months.

AGEABILITY: Absolutely decant to get it air within its first three years. Well cellared you should anticipate additional complexity during its first 15 years with a potential 10- to 20-year drinking horizon.

VINEYARDS: Two Chehalem Mtn. AVA vineyards are represented: Our St. Dolores Estate's (6-year-old) Pommard delivered a surprisingly structured, and yet juicy, wine of substance. The the Gemini Vineyard (23-year old) Pommard clone grown on windblown loess delivered acid and red fruit reminiscent of young grand cru Burgundy.

— Jim Prosser, owner/winemaker