

Voodoo Vintners

Oregon's Astonishing Biodynamic Winegrowers

Katherine Cole

Could cow horns, vortexes, and the words of a prophet named Rudolf Steiner hold the key to producing the most alluring wines in the world—and to saving the planet?

In *Voodoo Vintners*, wine writer Katherine Cole reveals the mysteries of biodynamic winegrowing and explores its practice in Oregon vineyards. Cole's story of biodynamic winegrowing starts on the back of a motorcycle in Persia and ends on a farm where the work is done by draft horses, chickens, and goats.

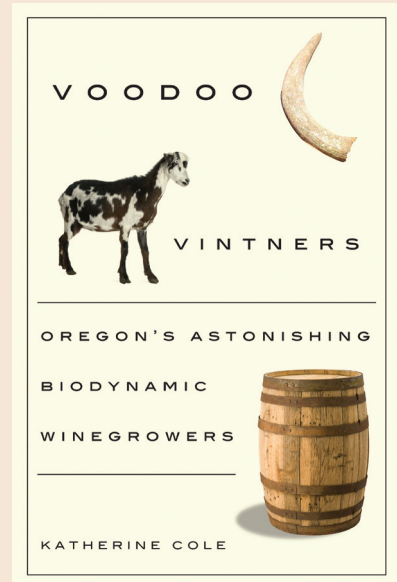
Biodynamic winegrowing can be traced from Paleolithic times to the finest *domaines* in Burgundy today. At the epicenter of the American biodynamic revolution are the Oregon vintners who believe that this spiritual style of farming results in the truest translations of *terroir* and the purest pinot noirs possible. Cole introduces these “voodoo vintners,” examining their motivations and rationalizations and explaining why the need to farm biodynamically courses through their blood.

Voodoo Vintners answers the call of oenophiles everywhere for more information about this “beyond organic” style of farming. Cole's engaging narrative is a must-read for anyone interested in wine, sustainable agriculture, or the local food movement.

“The fundamentals of biodynamic agriculture are these: Time farming decisions according to the movements of the moon and stars in the sky. Use the raw materials on your property to nourish your crops. Protect nature, which in return will protect your harvest. And, in doing all these things, harness the spiritual forces of the heavens.

“Some of these maxims might sound unusual to us, but the fact is that humans have been raising crops this way since the dawn of civilization.” —from *Voodoo Vintners*

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KATHERINE COLE has been a wine columnist for *The Oregonian* since 2002 and she is the wine columnist and blind tasting coordinator for *MIX*, *Portland's Magazine of Food + Drink*. She lives in Portland, Oregon.
www.katherinecole.com

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