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1 Wine Dude

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for the not so serious drinker

with **Joe Roberts**
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Day For Night (Two Bright Stars From The High End Of The Sample Pool)

Vinted on September 4, 2014 *binned in* elegant wines, sexy wines, wine review



HiYa! If you're new here, you may want to [Sign Up](#) to get all the latest wine coolness delivered to your virtual doorstep. I've also got short, easily-digestible mini wine reviews and some educational, entertaining wine vids. If you're looking to up your wine tasting IQ, check out my book *How to Taste Like a Wine Geek: A practical guide to tasting, enjoying, and learning about the world's greatest beverage*. Cheers!

*"Why you want to keep trying?
You never get it right
When you could be living day for night

Live my dream
There's no dancing in between
Why not let it go?"

- "Day for Night" by Spock's Beard*

Quite often, I find myself delving into the wine sample pool and coming up empty. Not in terms of empty *hands*, but empty *fulfillment*. While I'm not shortchanging this wine thang – because I love it – the sample volume is such that I can sometimes open a dozen bottles for tasting and not find one that I personally want to drink over the course of three days, savoring its development, seeing how it reacts with different cuisine, etc., etc., etc.





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Il tuo negozio di motociclismo,



More often, I give up, pour a glass of whatever I happened to like best, and go back to things like trying to figure out how to use the word "demiurge" in a wine review (go ahead, try it...).

Anyway, sometimes the fates smile, and offer wines that are so brilliant in their presentation that I have to don metaphorical shades, and then I sort of fall in love with them a little bit. Today is about two such wines, as different as a breezy, sunny Spring day and a sultry, moon-lit Summer night, but both shining with equal wine geek-rapture-inducing brightness. Like the addict who constantly chases after the elation of the first fix, I live day-for-night (also the name of a kick-ass prog rock album, by the way) for these moments. Damn, that looks sadder in print than it is supposed to sound when someone says it.

Best to get on with these recommendations, before I mangle any more mashed up similes (or spend any more time on the virtual psychoanalyst couch). The only remaining preamble is a word of caution, as we're about to enter some serious high-price-point territory (I know you're up for it, though!)...

quick fix.



2008 Donnafugata Mille e una Notte Contessa Entellina (Sicily, \$75)

Named for "thousand and one nights," it could easily be taken as about a thousand and one reasons to love high-end Nero.

Sicily is home to some stellar

wine bargains at the moment, and this is *not* one of them. Having said that, this beauty from Sicily's southwest it is stellar, but it's hardly a bargain, though I'd argue it's absolutely fairly priced. This is Nero d'Avola is sultry Persian-princess-from-an-action-film form; lovely, powerful, sexy, disarming, able to also kick ass if needed.

Apart from the high price tag, intense acidic vibrancy, and loooooong finish, Mille e una Notte is the polar opposite of Fevre's Chablis: deep, chewy, dark berry, cherry, and fig fruits, aromatic tobacco and chocolate overtones, and energetic bouts of showiness. After Fevre's serious but refreshing day, this one is like cutting it a bit lose at night. If you visit this one, bring ostrich burgers (seriously – you'll thank me later).

Cheers!

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