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Author/s:

Szer, J

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Wine & Blood. <i>An Unlikely Pairing</i>

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INTERNAL MEDICINE JOURNAL
BOOK REVIEW FORM

Manager, Editorial Office
Internal Medicine Journal
Ph: (02) 9256 5431
Fax: (02) 9252 3310
Email: Virginia.Savickis@racp.edu.au

TITLE: **Wine & Blood. An Unlikely Pairing**
AUTHORS: **Shaun R McCann**
ASSOCIATE EDITORS:
PUBLISHER: **Eliva Press**
PLACE: Moldova

YEAR: 2020
PAGES: 104 pages
PAPERBACK

ISBN: 978-9975-3417—7-6

REVIEW:

When asked to review of book by a colleague in one's own discipline, one hopes it is novel, good, entertaining, illuminating and a little different to everything else out there. This slim volume by a recently retired doyen of Irish and global haematology meets all of these criteria. When I read the introductory comments, foreword and preface by my colleagues around the world, I knew I was on the right track. Professor McCann is an expert in bone marrow transplantation as well as an expert in wine. His haematology expertise was honed in Dublin, that in wine in Tuscany where he spends much of his time in retirement (and presumably, wine). He has managed to blend his two expertises into a continuum, informing the world of one with that of the other in a readable, informative but light-hearted style. At the end of every page or chapter, one is sure that one knows something that was previously mysterious or unknown. That is how a writer is supposed to write.

This intersection of oenology (a word remarkably close in appearance to "oncology") and medicine is ancient and seemingly timeless. The exposition of this intersection in this book makes it clear that the subtitle of the volume, "an unlikely pairing" may be somewhat inaccurate but nevertheless intriguing. The book is littered with illustrations relating to both disciplines and both regions of the world and there are two photographs of the author, one with him sniffing a glass of red, another posing with James Watson, co-discoverer of the structure of DNA.

I heartily recommend this book to anyone who wants a light but informative read on a topic adjacent to their usual reading but different enough to open a path to something very different yet somehow familiar. Read it with a fine glass of wine in hand. There is a single typographical error in the volume. I challenge you to find it.

REVIEWER: Jeff Szer
(Please insert full name)

INSTITUTION: Royal Melbourne Hospital, Melbourne , Australia

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