



## *Pushing the Limits of Heritage* Suggested Reading and Discussion Questions

Heritage...it's who and where we come from. And why it matters. Our personal past shapes our identity, grounding us in a culture and a place. But the speed of modern life dims that sense of belonging. It erodes old traditions and disrupts our ancestors' land. Each generation loses more of their origin story. And rebuilding those bonds can take years of effort.

### ***The Hills of Chianti: The Story of a Tuscan Winemaking Family, in Seven Bottles***

**Piero Antinori, Nonfiction.** The head of Italy's "first family" of winemaking reflects on the Antinoris' six-hundred-year legacy and a life of good food and drink in the hills of Tuscany. If you know wine, you know the name Antinori. Since 1385, this noble Florentine family has produced some of Italy's finest wines. *The Hills of Chianti* tells the story of the Antinoris and the Tuscany they call home, through seven iconic bottles that define their legacy. From the Tignanello that ushered in the era of Super Tuscans to limited-edition vintages, these wines embody a way of life and will excite oenophile readers and lovers of Italy alike. In this family memoir Piero Antinori reveals the passion, tradition, and love of craft that have driven twenty-seven generations of vintners: from the first ancestor who signed up to the winemakers guild in the fourteenth century to Antinori's own three daughters, poised to carry this most celebrated family of artisans into the future.

But *The Hills of Chianti* is about much more than wine. At its heart the Antinori story is about "Tuscan-ness": a connection to the land, an appreciation for good food and drink, and the quintessentially Italian love of hospitality that make this one of the world's most inspiring and memorable destinations. - *goodreads.com*

- How is wine a part of Tuscan culture? How does the history of wine connect to present day wine making?
- What is it about wine specifically that creates such a rich production history and heritage?
- Did *The Hills of Chianti* inspire you to think differently about how you eat and drink or to appreciate the agricultural culture that produces your food?
- Can you think of multi-generation food or beverage industries in other countries that inspire a sense of heritage?
- How and why do heritage foods and recipes change over time, maybe due to new technologies or strains?

