THE FABLEIST

Year Founded: 2012

Region: California

Owner/Winemaker: Curt Schalchlin

Fun Fact: Each bottle has been artfully designed and inspired by one of Aesop's many fables.

-Organic, Sustainable, Vegan-



The Fableist is an owner-operated winery based in Paso Robles, California, focused on crafting high-quality, minimal-intervention wines that capture the character and complexity of the Central Coast. Guided by intention and simplicity, each wine is linked to one of Aesop's fables—a nod to the belief that every bottle tells a story. Founded with a commitment to responsible farming and natural winemaking, The Fableist uses only sustainable or organically grown grapes. Native yeasts, minimal sulfites, and vegan-friendly practices reflect their hands-off approach and deep respect for the fruit. Though their home base is in Paso Robles—named Best Wine Region of 2023 by USA Today, grapes are sourced from across the Central Coast to showcase the region's rich diversity of microclimates. With two estate vineyards and a growing reputation for expressive, well-priced Cabernet Sauvignon, The Fableist is part of Paso's dynamic rise in the wine world. But above all, they remain focused on making wine with integrity—and sharing a good story along the way.



2025 Chardonnay, Santa Barbara County

Inspired by The Bee and Jupiter

FABLE 163: A queen bee gave a pot of her honey to Jupiter, who was so delighted that he offered the bee anything she desired. The bee asked for the ability to kill her enemies. Taken aback, Jupiter fulfilled his promise but said that the bee's sting would come at the cost of her own life.

100% Chardonnay from Rancho Los Alamos. The fruit was picked with acidity in mind to preserve brightness. We made two different pick calls on this fruit to bring a bit of diversity. We allowed native yeast to dictate the ferment. We fermented 25% of this wine in French oak, with the remaining 75% in stainless steel. We utilized batonnage on the barrel ferments to balance out the bright acidity. After fermentation all wine was aged in French oak. **Sustainable, Vegan!**

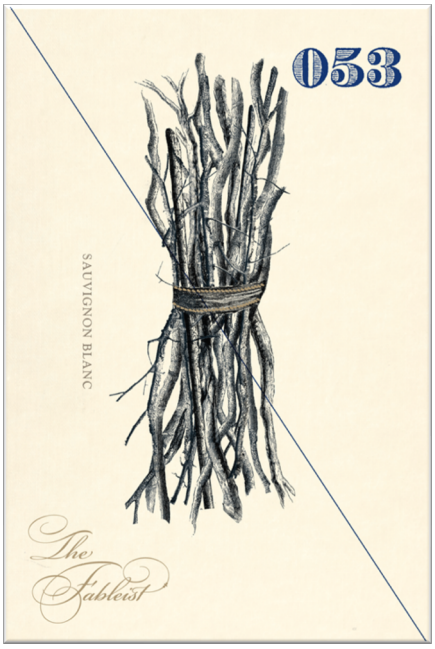


2025 Albariño, Central Coast

Inspired by The Fox and the Stork

FABLE 426: Resist the Fox's temptation to think too highly of oneself; instead, graciously put aside differences and share the bounty of these vines with open arms.

100% Albariño from Morro View, Evenson, Paso Ono, Lauchland vineyards. These grapes were sent directly to the press as whole clusters. The juice was then pressed into a tank and cold-crashed. Afterward, we racked the juice off the heavy solids to enhance its brightness. Fermented and aged in stainless steel, the Albariño was kept cold throughout its life to preserve its natural dissolved CO2, providing a perception of freshness and a delicate spritz on the palate. Bright honeysuckle with a hit of ginger will invigorate you, as green papaya and yellow peach encapsulate all your senses. Sea spray adds a round mid-palate, while the bright acidity keeps the wine light and complements the effervescence, perfect for relaxing as you float down the lazy river. **Sustainable, Vegan!**



2025 Sauvignon Blanc, Paso Robles

Inspired by The Farmer's Sons

FABLE 053: The Fableist combines grapes from different lands, chosen by brothers' hands; which, like simple sticks when bundled, is much more than the sum of its parts.

100% Sauvignon from Beato vineyard. The grapes were pressed whole-cluster and fermented exclusively in stainless steel. After a cold crash and racking off the heavy solids, the wine spent its entire life in stainless steel under temperature control to preserve its indelible freshness. Rejuvenate your senses with an enticing bouquet of zesty lemon oil, orange blossom honey, freshly cut grass, and Kumamoto oyster. As notes of lime zest, fleur de sel, ripe honeydew, and freshly grated ginger dance across your palate, a sweet escape awaits. **Sustainable, Vegan!**



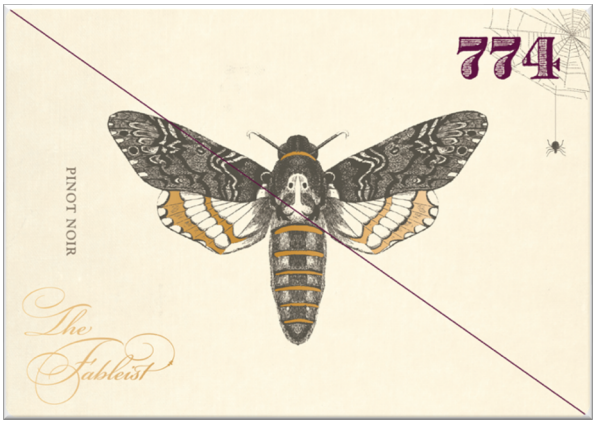
2025 Rosé, Paso Robles

Inspired by The Butterfly and the Wasp

FABLE 556: In ancient times, it was believed that butterflies came from the spirit and soul of a person, but wasps emerged from dead mules. In their second lives, the butterfly feels useless compared to the wasp and is jealous of its abilities. But the wasp says, "It matters not what we were, it matters what we are now." We never want to be stuck in the past. We're always trying to evolve, finding new and fun places and people to work with and engage with.

80% Grenache, 20% Blaufränkisch from the Templeton Preserve and Adelaida Preserve vineyards. This Rosé is produced exclusively from grapes grown on our estate, with no Saignée method involved. Our Grenache grapes were cultivated in Adelaida Preserve, situated in Paso Robles, while the Blaufränkisch variety is sourced from our Templeton Preserve estate, which was initially planted for renowned winemaker Ken Volk. The grapes were pressed whole cluster and fermented using native yeasts in stainless steel tanks. The wine was then blended and bottled in January 2024 to preserve its youthful, vibrant energy and freshness. Spring to life with the scent of ripe watermelon and lime zest, then soothed with the refreshing taste of green apple and river rock. Pairs well with diced cucumber, feta chunks, and Prosciutto e melone with uber ripe crenshaw melon.

Sustainable, Vegan!



2023 Pinot Noir, Santa Barbara County

Inspired by the Silkworm and the Spider

FABLE 774: When time spins swiftly and the temptation to rush arises, heed The Fableist's warning: quick and shoddy work begets little praise, while time spent in pursuit of quality and craftsmanship endures and delights.

100% Pinot Noir hand-selected from Cat Canyon (organic), Kick on and Evenson, Morro View and North Canyon vineyards. As a winery that really wants to embrace a Burgundian expression of Pinot Noir, we embrace vineyard sites with sandy soils. We play with a small amount of whole cluster in our ferments to bring out savory components. This wine receives one punch down or pump over daily to intentionally keep the integrity of the fruit and for a softer extraction. It's then fermented with native yeast and aged 100% in barrel. 11 months in 5% New French Oak, 95% Neutral. Bold, fresh cranberries and raspberries float on your palate, brought back to earth by gentle nutmeg, clove and just a hint of mushroom. Brings you back to days spent basking in the Central Coast sunlight. **Organic, Vegan!**



2024 Cabernet Sauvignon, Paso Robles

Inspired by the Ant and the Cicada

FABLE 373: Now accept the gift of the Fableist, which has been toiled and moiled over in an attempt to give both weary ants and shiftless cicadas peace of mind, and a belly full of warmth.

100% Cabernet Sauvignon from vineyards Templeton Preserve, Marstad, Hinterland, Old Koligian, Ing, Last Frontier, Old Potrero. 8% New American Oak, 92% Neutral Oak. **Sustainable, Vegan!**

91 Points – James Suckling – "*Aromas of dried herbs, blackberry bramble, sweet and exotic spice. Full-bodied with gentle tannins, juicy acidity and flavors of sliced black cherry and vermouth.*"

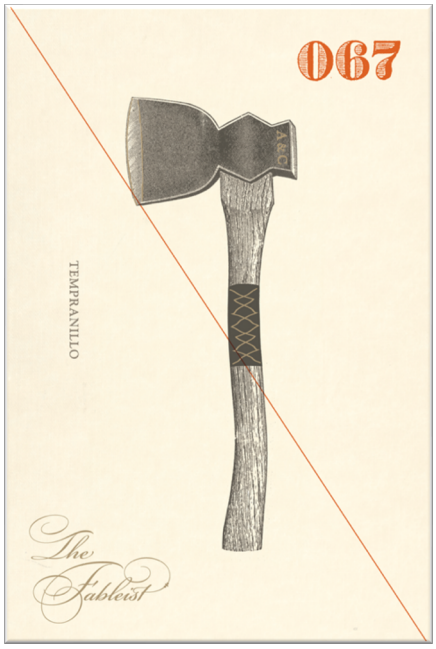


2023 Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, Paso Robles

Inspired by the Ant and the Cicada

FABLE 373: Now accept the gift of the Fableist, which has been toiled and moiled over in an attempt to give both weary ants and shiftless cicadas peace of mind, and a belly full of warmth.

100% Cabernet Sauvignon. Last Frontier, Old Potrero, Old Koligian, Hinterland, Dorcich vineyards. 20 months in 20% new American oak, 15% new French oak, 20% third-fill French oak, 45% neutral oak. Everything you love about Cabernet, brought seamlessly together. The Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon will always be the high-water mark of our vintage. With 2023 proving to be spectacular across the board, our expectations were incredibly high, and it did not let us down. **Sustainable!**

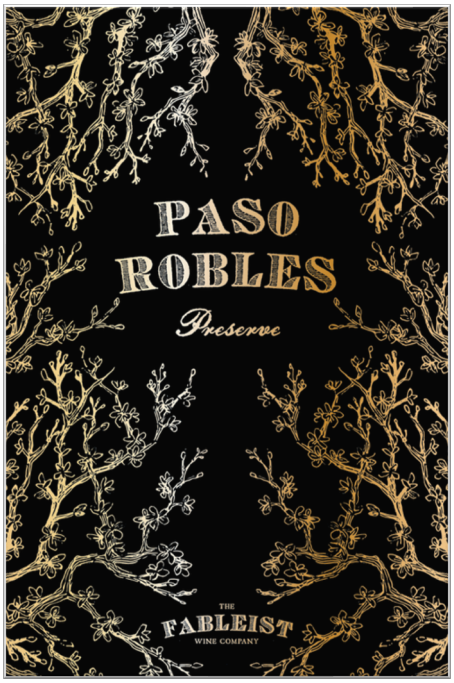


2023 Tempranillo, Arroyo Grande Valley

Inspired by the Two Travelers and the Axe

FABLE 067: Two travelers are walking along a path and come across an axe. One of the travelers says, “I found an axe!” But his partner says, “No, we found an axe.” Soon, the owner of the axe starts pursuing them, and the one who picked up the axe said, “Oh no, we are doomed!” But his companion replied, “No, you are doomed.” This fable is all about us as business partners. Share in the risk, share in the reward — that’s the moral of partnership. You have to take the trying times with the good times; you’re in it together.

100% Tempranillo. We included four Tempranillo vineyard sites in this vintage: Templeton Preserve (Estate), Ing, Evenson and Dead End. We made the pick calls for each site separately based on the taste of the fruit. We look for a balance between ripeness, tannin, and acidity. Once at the winery, we de-stemmed the fruit 100%. The grapes were fermented in stainless steel tanks with native yeast and given one pump-over daily during fermentation. We pressed the grapes and sent the wine to barrels after 3 weeks on the skins, allowing malolactic fermentation to occur naturally. Aged in 15% new American oak, 85% neutral oak. Loaded with blueberries, black currant and dark chocolate. The wine has a velvety mouth feel with a lingering finish that is warm and fulfilling. **Sustainable, Vegan!**



2023 Preserve Red Blend, Paso Robles

Introducing the Paso Robles Preserve Red Blend: a wine that encapsulates the essence of The Fableist's estate vineyards. This meticulous blend intertwines our core varieties, capturing purity and freshness. Aged solely in neutral oak for 8 months, each authentic flavor truly shines—a harmonious symphony of bold dark fruits with delicate spice undertones. Embark on a humble journey through our terroir with the Paso Robles Preserve Red Blend.

47% Zinfandel, 28% Petite Sirah, 13% Mourvèdre, 3% Cabernet Franc, 3% Grenache, 2% Aglianico, 2% Counoise, 2% Tempranillo. Adelaida Preserve, Templeton Preserve, Old Potrero, Seashell vineyards. **Sustainable, Vegan!**

90 Points - ’22 James Suckling - *“Concentrated, showing ripe aromas of stewed plums, balsamic and sweet spices. Full-bodied and lush, with firm tannins, integrated acidity and notes of bramble berries, roasted meat and earth.”*