



This wine tastes as the morning mist on a rose's leaves in mouth, an as a sigh of oak in nose...



Haha, no... I have no idea about wines. I was messing with you!



You'll wonder what I'm doing, with no idea about wines, in a comic about wines and tasting a Garnacha, Cariñena, or whatever that means



Well, I came to tell you the story about the people who made possible that we can enjoy today such good and varied wines



Hi there, fly!

Ana Belén, WINE, focus on WINE



What was I saying? Oh, yes... MONKS....

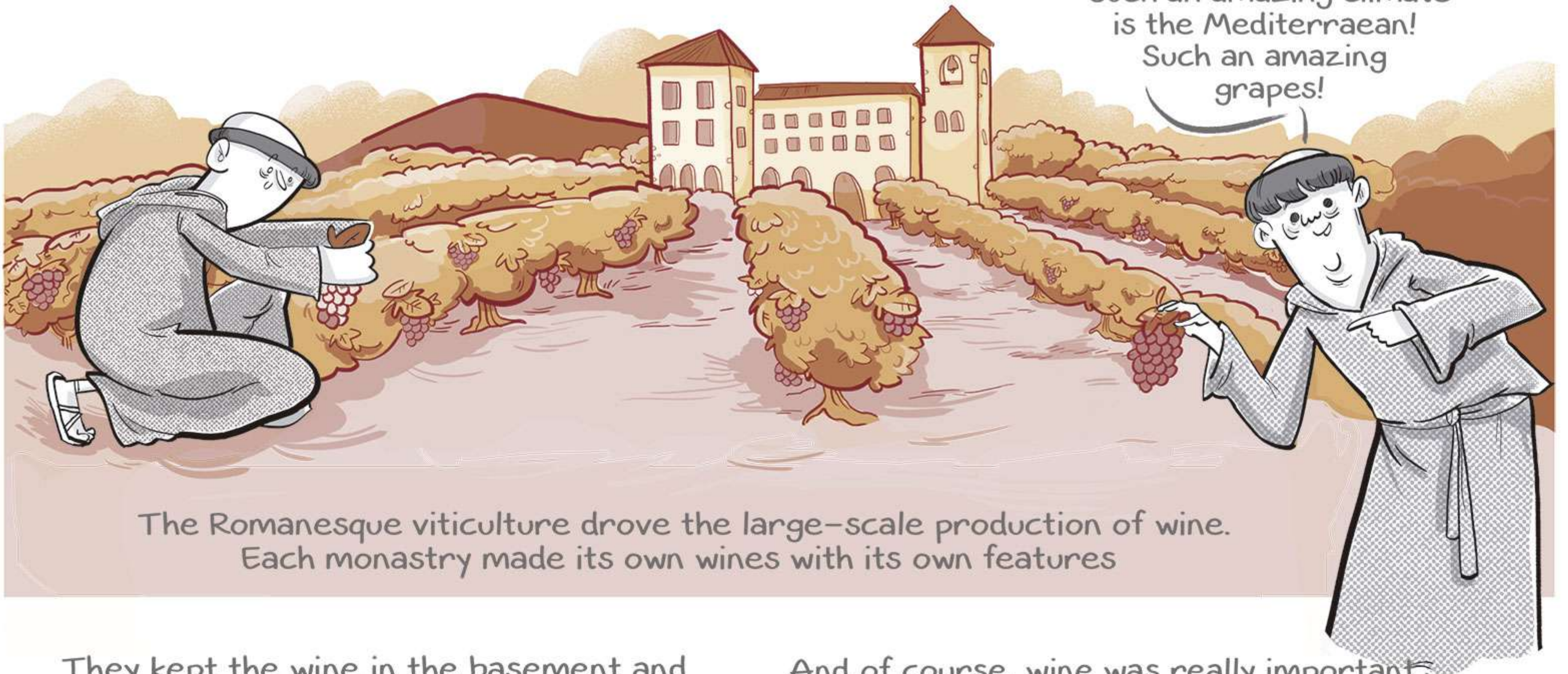
DO CATALUNYA PRESENTS

Monastic Lives

ANA BELEN RIVERO

2nd Century, after kicking the Muslims of the peninsula, the monks, smart as they were, have cleared fields that were before considered wastelands to plant vineyards. Kilometers and kilometers of vineyards spread across the abbey's surroundings.

Such an amazing climate is the Mediterranean! Such an amazing grapes!



The Romanesque viticulture drove the large-scale production of wine. Each monastery made its own wines with its own features

They kept the wine in the basement and that's how the first wine cellars were born...

And of course, wine was really important for the monastic diet

«Those who drink a glass of wine, have a good sleep.

Who have a good sleep don't sin, and who don't sin goes up to Heaven» (popular saying)



It was to avoid sacking, but the fermentation here is just amazing!

And THE END

No way!*

Those unruly and lazy black monks have nothing to do with the wine you're drinking right now

That has a bouquet from the Cistercians, not common Benedictine dirty water

So tell our story. We'll tell you this by telepathy because we're taking a vow of silence



what?



* never better said

The Story of Cistercian Order

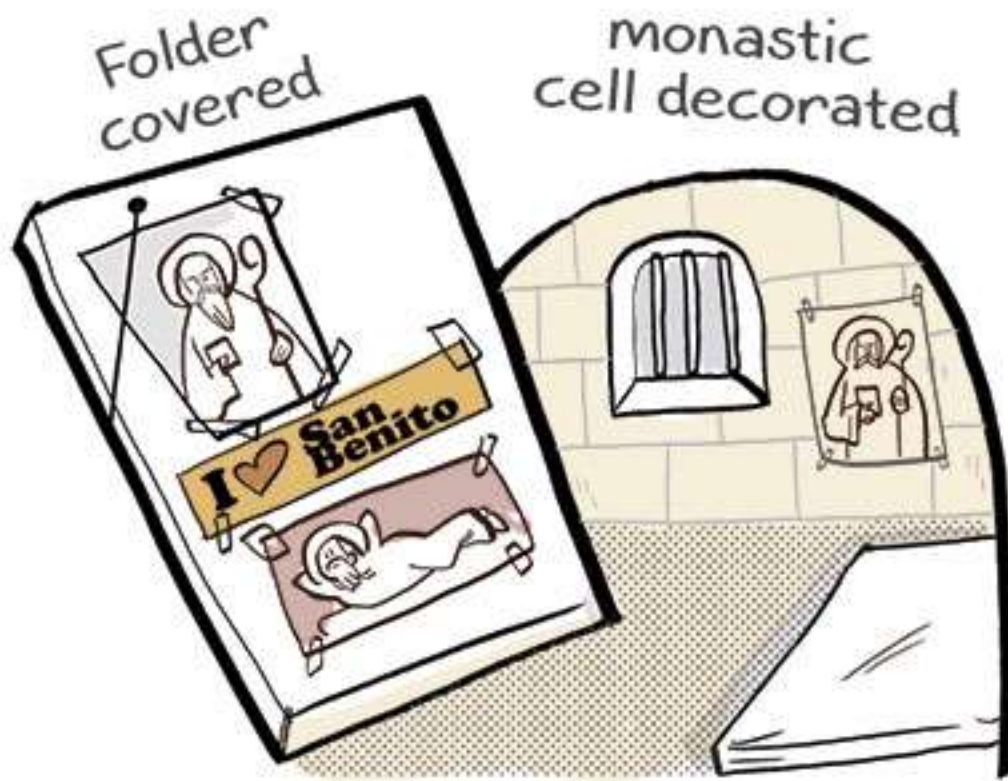


The Cluniac Reforms had loosened up the monastic life a bit...

MOLESMES, FRANCE
YEAR 1075 AD



Because Brother Robert was a big fan of Saint Benedict of Nursia...



and he wanted the Rule to be followed to the letter

Abbot, why don't we break our backs as the Rule says?



So, when he got tired of the lack of rigour, he left Molesmes taking his colleagues Steven and Bernard with him

We'll assemble an order in a bit, you'll see!



MARCH 21ST
YEAR 1085 AD

I'll build Cîteaux in this lot with just four stones!



The rumor was spread that those monks were established there and... Magic!



And just like that, year after year, gangs of Cistercians were formed and spread across all Europe, passing their wine knowledge to the abbeys affiliated to the order

And THE END

But aren't you gonna tell you our wines are the best ones?

God lord, you're so annoying Why are they the best?

Such a good wine!
MOREBUCLA

FITERO

LA OLIVA

Come here too!

POBLET

SANTES CREUS

Me too!

VALLBONA

You rock!

GRAND SELVA I'm staying here!

LA FERTE

CITEAUX

Because we worked our arses off!

Ora et Labora

The frugality was the main attribute of the Cistercians, along with their strict compliance of the Rule and their silence, especially their silence. The feverish wine activity was combined with seven hours, spread out over the day, dedicated to pray...

