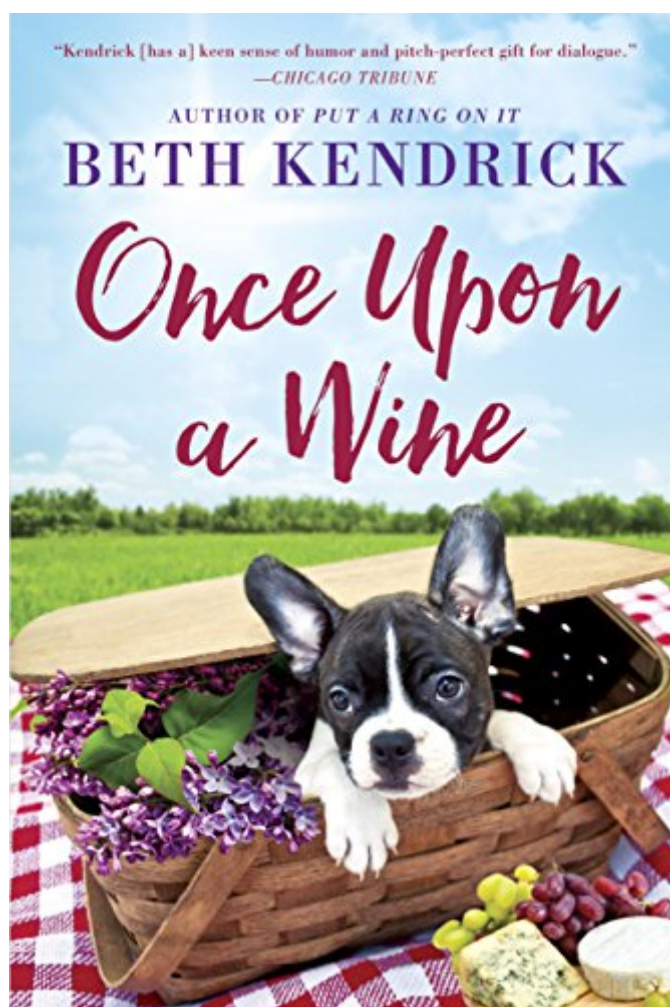


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# Once Upon A Wine



## Synopsis

From the "sharp, sassy, [and] surprisingly emotional" author of *Put a Ring on It*, *New Uses for Old Boyfriends*, and *The Week Before the Wedding*, a new novel set in the charming seaside town of Black Dog Bay, Delaware... Cammie Breyer needs a big glass of cabernet "her restaurant failed and her chef boyfriend left for a hotter kitchen. Just when she thinks she's hit rock bottom, her Aunt Ginger calls with a surprise. She's bought a vineyard in Delaware. At Ginger's command, Cammie returns to Black Dog Bay, the seaside town where she spent her childhood summers with her aunt and her cousin, Kat. The three women reunite, determined to succeed. There's only one little problem: None of them knows the first thing about wine making. And it turns out, owning a vineyard isn't all wine and roses. It's dirt, sweat, and desperation. Every day brings financial pitfalls, unruly tourists, romantic dilemmas, and second thoughts. But even as they struggle, they cultivate hidden talents and new passions. While the grapes ripen under the summer sun, Cammie discovers that love, like wine, is layered, complex, delicious, and worth waiting for. |From the Trade Paperback edition.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Once Upon a Wine by Beth Kendrick is a sweet, romance novel. Cammie October Breyer is living in Los Angeles when she receives a call from her cousin, Kat. Kat needs Cammie to return home to Black Dog Bay, Delaware to help with her Aunt Ginger (Kat's mother but she also raised Cammie after her mother passed away). Ginger has just bought a Lost Dog Vineyard in Delaware, and Kat wants help reasoning with her (she thinks it is a bad idea). Ginger has cashed out her pension plan, her retirement account and sold her house as well as most of the furniture inside it to buy the vineyard. Cammie has nothing left for her in LA. Her restaurant failed once her boyfriend (the chef) left for another restaurant (Cammie was good with the hospitality part of the business, but she is no chef). Ginger wants the three of them to spend the summer together, and then they can reevaluate the vineyard. But if they want to get a good price for the place, they need to keep the grape vines alive and fix up the property. Only problem is that they do not know anything about vineyards or wine making. The three of them work together to cultivate their hidden talents and try to make a success of the vineyard. It is natural for Cammie to run into Ian McKinlay (who owns a farm nearby). The two of them had a summer romance when Cammie was twenty-two and had just finished college. Their romance is rekindled over strawberries and wine. Kat is having some troubles and is glad to have Cammie to talk to. Kat has just retired from her career as a professional skateboarder (I think that is the right term). She does not know what to do with herself (she suffered a bad injury). Kat is married to Josh, a philosophy professor (a great guy). Kat needs to figure out what to do now that she can no longer ride a skateboard.

Review brought to you by OBS reviewer AndraAs an introduction to the writing of Beth Kendrick, Once Upon a Wine, was a great start. The witty dialogue and play on words certainly had my laughing. Even right from the get go: "Bold and bruising, but that's how I like it-almost aggressive." "Spine tingling." Cammie's way of upselling a bottle of the Araujo cabernet to her dining customers. It definitely had me chuckling. Unfortunately, fairly soon after this, Cammie loses her job (as a result of taking a personal phone call from her cousin while at work). Turns out Cammie's Aunt Ginger has gone and bought herself a vineyard in Delaware of all places! So off to Delaware at the request of her cousin Kat, to deal with Aunt Ginger's purchase of the vineyard. As we learn, the location is Black Dog Bay, Delaware-the town Cammie got her heart broken big time before she left to make it in the restaurant industry in Los Angeles. So once again back in Black Dog Bay, Cammie and Kat must figure out what their Aunt Ginger's new vineyard needs to survive (since getting her money back was not an option) | The journey is filled with fun

and laughs as well as self-discovery. I was amazed at the self-growth of not only Cammie but of Kat throughout the story, with the sly and subtle pushes from Aunt Ginger. I really enjoyed the names of various business establishments in Black Dog Bay: The Jilted Café, the Rebound Salon, the Eat Your Heart Out Bakery and the Naked Finger. This town is quaint and oozes charm. If I had a recent breakup, I would certainly like to visit this town during the healing process. Kat is a retired skateboarding champ (retired as a result of back injuries) whose marriage is going through a rough patch.

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