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# INTO *the* VINES

CHEF GABRIELLE HAMILTON MEETS THE INDEPENDENT WINEMAKERS WHO BOTTLE THE FLAVOR OF SICILY. *photographs by* FRANCESCO LASTRUCCI

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*At each vineyard, the story repeats itself: soil, climate, fruit. But each voice brings it to life in a new way. At Di Giovanna, a little-known winery in the village of Sambuca di Sicilia, the Di Giovanna brothers are awash in juice when I arrive. I find them hand-raking the fruit out of the back gate of a truck, its hydraulic bed tilting back farther and farther as the guys hoe and rake the streaming, juicy grapes into steel receiving vats. This simple juice will eventually become cheerful, friendly nerello mascalese—a light red that I have enjoyed at Prune [the author's Manhattan restaurant] the past couple of summers.*

