

# P.S. I Love You

my love affair with a sultry brunette bombshell

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Advocacy Organization [www.psiloveyou.org](http://www.psiloveyou.org)

# Petite Sirah

Dark and Mysterious

It certainly isn't petite  
and it's not quite Syrah



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- In 1884 the Durif grape was imported from France and it was named as petite sirah.
- Most of the 'true' syrah was destroyed by phylloxera in the 1890's
- After 1897 something called petite sirah was replanted all over CA and was probably durif.

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- Long used as a blending grape for 'Burgundy'
- Interest in sorting out PS from other grapes began in 1960's and 1970's when varietals started appearing on labels

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- Dr. Carole Meredith conducted DNA testing in the 1990's
- By 1996 for 7 vines in the UC Davis collection she found:
  - 4 durif, 1 true syrah, 1 peloursin, 1 pinot noir

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- Dr. Meredith discovered Durif is actually a combination of Peloursin that was crossed with Syrah.
- Durif was selected by a breeder in Montpellier in the 1880's as a powdery mildew resistant variety.



# PS Qualities

- Small compact berries with high skin/juice ratio
- Dark inky color
- Highly tannic
- Relatively acidic with herbal and black pepper components and dark fruits

