American Still Life: The Jim Beam Story and the Making of the Worlds #1 Bourbon by F. Paul Pacult

An American Product By An American Family

Barrel proof and unfiltered! As usual Pacult has delved deep, and revealed many hitherto unknown facts about the Beams. Best of all, though, this is a fascinating, page-turning look into America’s royal family of whiskey. – Gary and Mardee Haidin Regan

authors of The Book of Bourbon

Publishers of ardentspirits.com With his ‘Old Jake Beam Sour Mash,’ Jacob Beam launched a whiskey dynasty. It’s a superb story, and no one spins a great story better than F. Paul Pacult, America’s most respected authority on distilled spirits.

–Robert Whitley

Wine & Spirits Columnist

Copley News Service This is a stellar piece of documented history written in a most accessible style. With legions of disciples, F. Paul Pacult is a legend in the making.

–Robert Plotkin

Spirits Author

BarMedia Highly regarded as America’s preeminent authority on spirits, Paul Pacult relates a fascinating story of authentic pioneer and entrepreneurial endeavor, intertwined in a family saga spanning generations, all in the background of creating one of the most enduring and recognizable global brands, Jim Beam Bourbon Whiskey. Pacult portrays figures larger than life up against the major events of our country’s history, with a cast of characters and style that reads like a novel.

–David Talbot

Associate Publisher
Wine Enthusiast Magazine
An epic American story told with passion and insight.

–Anthony Dias Blue
Wine & Spirits Editor
Bon Appétit

My Personal Review:
This book kept me enthralled for an entire weekend. A great look at a family that created an entire industry with a distinctly American product, Bourbon. As the story of a fascinating family, the author gently takes you through the many generations of the Beams without getting you lost in a morass of detail. You remain excited waiting for the next turn in their fortunes, and you get a wonderful look at the many personalities involved in building the Bourbon industry over time in the process. When I think about the book from a business standpoint, Paul Pacult succeeded in conveying the patience and the passion these people have for their product, and how they manage to maintain that passion, literally over generations. In a world of managing quarter to quarter, the Beams are a refreshing change. A very-well written, fascinating look at a piece of Americana. I heartily recommend it.

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