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**Isaac James Baker**, who is currently chipping away at a master's in fiction writing, has worked as a freelance writer, editor, and reporter. He's worked the wine bar, the harvest, the crush, and is attempting to make Chardonnay in Virginia. Follow him [@IsaacJamesBaker](#).

15/03/2014

[Review: 2011 Calmel + J Joseph Faugères](#) - *France, Languedoc, Faugères*

SRP: \$15

A smoky nose, like charcoal, hot asphalt over top of the red and black plum fruit, currant skins, dried flowers, leather. On the palate, the freshness is very nice, firm but manageable tannins, some crispness from the acid. Dark plum, currant and pomegranate fruit is snappy but smoky. I like the charcoal, chestnut and black pepper notes. A blend of 50% Syrah, 30% Grenache and 20% Carignan. (87 points IJB)