

CALL FOR BOOK CHAPTERS

LICKA STOW

ALCOHOL IN BLACK LIFE, HISTORY, AND CULTURE

DEADLINE: SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 2022

In his 1986 movie, *Under the Cherry Moon*, Prince directed and starred in a black and white film about two Miami playboys (Prince as Christopher Tracy and Jerome Benton as Tricky) kicking it in the French Rivera. The duo attempts to scam their target, heiress Mary Sharon, and in the process of falling in love with her, spend time knocking her off of her privileged pedestal. In a toast “to knowledge” Tracy derides Mary as ignorant despite her wealth (“what you know from knowledge?”). He challenges her to define a term: “wrecka stow.” Wrecka stow is where you get a Sam Cooke album. In a similar quest for knowledge about high and low culture around the globe—particularly in the African diaspora—authors who contribute to *Licka Stow* create much-needed dialogue about beer, wine, and spirits—where global markets, capitalism, class privilege, culinary legacy, politics, and locales of culture intersect.

This collection of essays seeks to unpack the long and complicated history of race, class, gender, and nation in alcohol production and consumption in a way that centers Black knowledge and experiences. Africans throughout the diaspora have deep and very disparate roots in drinking: ancient African palm, grape, and honey wine; rum and port that bolstered Atlantic enslavement; plantation vineyards from South Africa to the Caribbean to North Carolina; and proliferation of celebrity brands. Black people have cultivated some of the most delicious drinks as historically renowned mixologists, have pushed alcohol profits ever-upward, have normalized stress drinking, and have also suffered disproportionately from placement of liquor stores in areas devoid of fresh food. Researchers can unravel the knotty roots of alcohol from beer to wine, from muscadine to moonshine, from Mogen David to Dom Perignon, from Tennessee brown to the Martha’s Vineyard Inkwell, and everything in between.

Far from a simplistic celebration or universal condemnation of alcohol, this volume gathers at the still to discuss where pleasure, pain, and power meet. An interdisciplinary exploration, topics may range from creative genius of distillery or cooking legends, spiritual connection (from communion to libation), temperance and prohibition laws, generational addiction and abuse, alcohol-related health problems, conscious nondrinking, quest for social class status, global development of cultural tastes, gendered violence, or celebration traditions and community building. Blending history, public health, sociology, anthropology, nutrition, policy, law, economics and beyond, this volume can offer perspective that will impact the drinking experiences of the next generation of Black people around the globe. This investigation of behaviors, social norms, and systems is an opportunity for alcohol specialists and generalists to convene in a diasporic bar to exchange knowledge and reflect on the meaning of identity and experience in a way that fundamentally redefines what it means to “drink responsibly.”

- Submit complete and edited chapters, 3000-4500 words (10-15 pages, incl. bibliography). Chicago citation.
- Email PDF documents to: contact@professorevans.net with subject line: **Licka Stow**
- Include 200-word bio per author. Co-authored chapters are encouraged. No simultaneous submissions.

Co-Editors

[Stephanie Y. Evans](#), PhD is Professor of Black Women’s Studies at Georgia State University. Dr. Evans researches Africana memoir as Black women’s intellectual history, studying empowerment education, mental health, wellness, and stress management in elder narratives. She is author and co-editor of numerous books including *Black Women’s Yoga History: Memoirs of Inner Peace* (SUNY, 2021).

[LaShawn Harris](#), PhD is Associate Professor of History at Michigan State University. She is Associate Editor for the *Journal of African American History*. Dr. Harris is author of the prize-winning book *Sex Workers, Psychics, and Numbers Runners: Black Women in New York City’s Underground Economy* (University of Illinois, 2016).