



*Paula Kornell*



**Paula Kornell 2020  
Blanc de Noirs Méthode  
Champenoise, Napa**

**Valley (\$50)** Mingling with hints of honey and salted nut, billowy aromas of white cherry, strawberry, and buttered baguette spread to the palate of this blend of 70% Pinot Noir and 30% Chardonnay, where radiant acidity meets a pretty flower-petal texture enhanced by notes of key lime and ripe yellow peach as well as a trace of lemongrass. **94**



“Sometimes I doubt your commitment to Sparkle Motion,” moans one frenzied pageant mom to another in a scene from cult classic *Donnie Darko*. Well, don’t doubt ours. In this column, we at *The Tasting Panel* rate the most notable sparkling wines that cross our desks and lips each issue. Given the wide range of production methods, styles, and price points the category covers, we’ve devised the following system to score each on its own merits.

**1 BUBBLE** ●

Simple but satisfying.

**2 BUBBLES** ● ●

Satisfying and a little more complex.

**3 BUBBLES** ● ● ●

A strong example of its kind.

**4 BUBBLES** ● ● ● ●

A superb example of its kind.

**5 BUBBLES** ● ● ● ● ●

Stellar by any standard.