

G
DAYTON
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Volume 25, Issue 1

January 2025

Happy New Year!
www.GayDayton.org

2025

17th Annual

BOWLING

FOR PRIDE!

Saturday
February 22nd

Poelking Lanes
1403 Wilmington Ave.
Dayton, OH 45420

Check-in @ 1 PM
Bowl @ 2 PM

\$25/person
(shoes included)
Pre-Register to guarantee your spot:
WWW.DAYTONLGBTCENTER.ORG
TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

- GAME 1: 8 to Eat**
- GAME 2: Bingo Bowl**
- GAME 3: Garbage Bowl**

ALWAYS A SELL OUT
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FAST!



An 18+ event



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Calendar of Events



Jan 2	6:00 PM	LGBTQ+ Center Board Meeting	Center
Jan 6	1:30 PM	HIV Testing with Equitas	Center
Jan 6	7:00 PM	LGBTQ AA Meeting	Center
Jan 8	7:00 PM	Pozitive Attitudes	Zoom
Jan 9	7:00 PM	Yoga with Matt	Center
Jan 12	11:00 AM	Belly Dancing with Josh	Center
Jan 13	1:30 PM	HIV Testing with Equitas	Center
Jan 13	7:00 PM	LGBTQ AA Meeting	Center
Jan 14	6:30 PM	PFLAG Monthly Meeting	Center
Jan 16	7:00 PM	Yoga with Matt	Center
Jan 19	3:00 PM	Miami Valley Primetimers Potluck	Center
Jan 20	1:30 PM	HIV Testing with Equitas	Center
Jan 20	7:00 PM	LGBTQ AA Meeting	Center
Jan 21	7:00 PM	Gatlyn Dame Group	Center
Jan 22	7:00 PM	Pozitive Attitudes	Center
Jan 23	7:00 PM	Yoga with Matt	Center
Jan 25	11:30 AM	Coffee & Conversation	Center
Jan 26	2:00 PM	Pride 2025 Planning	Center
Jan 27	1:30 PM	HIV Testing with Equitas	Center
Jan 27	7:00 PM	LGBTQ AA Meeting	Center
Jan 30	7:00 PM	Yoga with Matt	Center



"Celebrate endings—for they precede new beginnings".



Gay Dayton is published monthly by Gay Dayton, LLC

Randy Phillips, owner

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Book Reviews

by: Terri Schlichenmeyer

aka: "The Book Worm"

bookwormsez@yahoo.com

"One Day I'll Grow Up and Be a Beautiful Woman" by Abi Maxwell
c.2024, Knopf \$28.00 307 pages

One day
I'll grow up
and be a
beautiful
woman,

A Mother's Story ABI MAXWELL

"How many times have I told you that...?"
How many times have you *heard* that? Probably so often that, well, you stopped listening. From your mother, when you were very small. From your teachers in school. From your supervisor, significant other, or best friend. As in the new memoir "**One Day I'll Grow Up and Be a Beautiful Woman**" by **Abi Maxwell**, it came from a daughter.

When she was pregnant, Abi Maxwell took long walks in the New Hampshire woods near her home, rubbing her belly and talking to her unborn baby. She was sure she was going to have a girl but when the sonogram technician said otherwise, that was okay. Maxwell and her husband would have a son. But almost from birth, their child was angry, fierce, and unhappy. Just getting dressed each morning was a trial. Going outside was often impossible. Autism was a possible diagnosis but more importantly, Maxwell wasn't listening, and she admits it with some shame. Her child had been saying, in so many ways, that she was a girl. Once Maxwell realized it and acted accordingly, her daughter changed almost overnight, from an angry child to a calm one – though she still, understandably, had outbursts from the bullying behavior of her peers and some adults at school. Nearly every day, Greta (her new name) said she was teased, called by her former name, and told that she was a boy. Maxwell had fought for special education for Greta, once autism was confirmed. Now she fought for Greta's rights at school, and sometimes within her own family. The ACLU got involved. State laws were broken. Maxwell reminded anyone who'd listen that the suicide rate for trans kids was frighteningly high. Few in her town seemed to care.

Throughout her life, Maxwell had been in many other states and lived in other cities. New Hampshire used to feel as comforting as a warm blanket but suddenly, she knew they had to get away from it. Her “town that would not protect us.”

When you hold “One Day I’ll Grow Up and Be a Beautiful Woman,” you’ve got more than a memoir in your hands. You’ve also got a white-hot story that seethes with anger and rightful resentment, that wails for a hurt child, and rattles the bars of injustice. And yet, it coos over love of place, but in a confused manner, as if these things don’t belong together.

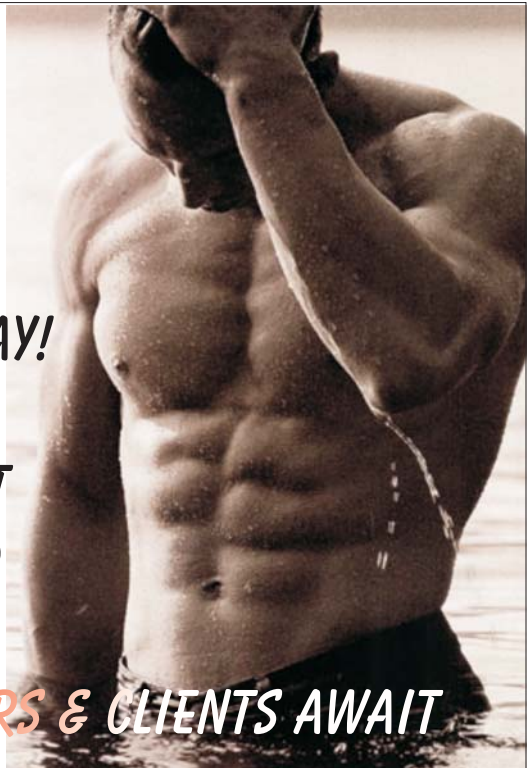
Author Abi Maxwell is honest with readers, taking full responsibility for not listening to what her preschooler was saying-not-saying, and she lets you see her emotions and her worst points. In the midst of her community-wide fight, she reveals how the discrimination Greta endured affected Maxwell’s marriage and her health – all of which give a reader the sense that they’re not being sold a tall tale.

Read this book, and outrage becomes familiar enough that it’s yours, too. Read “One Day I’ll Grow Up and Be a Beautiful Woman,” and share it. This is a book you’ll tell others about.

***GET YOURSELF
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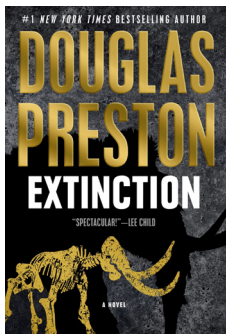
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NEW CUSTOMERS & CLIENTS AWAIT



Once the holidays are over, you may look around you at a floor full of spent wrapping paper and sad ribbons and wonder, “What’s next?” A whole new year, that’s what, and a dozen great books worthy of reaching back to find. Here they are, in no certain order, the Bookworm’s Best of 2024...

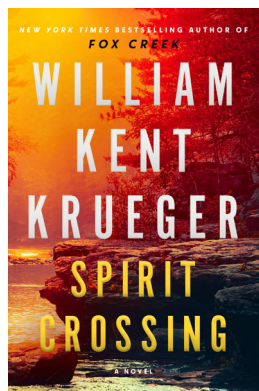
FICTION



If you’re a fan of best-selling novels, you won’t be surprised to see “**Extinction**” by **Douglas Preston** (\$29.99, Forge) on this list. It’s the tale of a high-level vacation spot run by a big-money corporation and scientists determined to bring back certain kinds of long-extinct animals. Problem is, someone – or *something* – is hunting the lodge’s guests...

For the mystery lover who likes a bit of mysticism and some true-life in their novels, “**Spirit Crossing**” by **William Kent Krueger** (\$28.99, Atria) is a great pick. When the body of a Native American teen girl is discovered, Cork O’Connor’s son-in-law hopes the body solves a missing-persons case. Or *cases*, plural. This book is part of a series but it can be read alone; just know that you’ll want them all, once you’ve finished this.

Terror, tech, and trouble. What could go wrong, right?



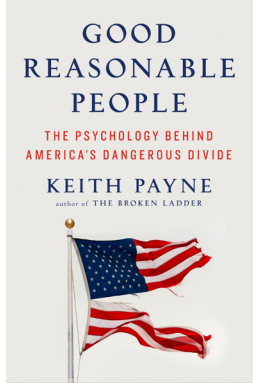
In “**William**” by **Mason Coile** (\$27.00, Putnam), a geeky scientist builds a robot who goes out of control and takes over. The scientist’s pregnant wife seems distant and cold, especially when she’s near his laboratory. Could the robot be at fault? Mix horror, robotics, and a twisty ending and you’ll be happy. Inheritances always come with certain feelings, don’t they? In “**Fallen Fruit**” by **Shawntelle Madison** (\$28.00, Amistad), one woman receives property that the locals tell her is a place of no good. Along with it, she inherits a no-good trait that befalls the offspring

of one of her ancestors, an inheritance that she can prepare for, but that she cannot escape. And that makes a *very good* tale.

Based on a true-ish story, “**The Bullet Swallower**” by **Elizabeth Gonzalez James** (\$26.99, Simon & Schuster) is a tale of a book, a heritage, and a curse.

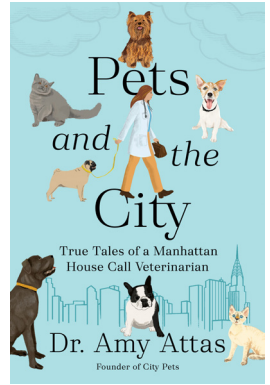
It's a western, so you can expect horses, gunslingers, bad guys, dusty trails, and to sit in one spot for an entire afternoon until you've finished it.

NONFICTION

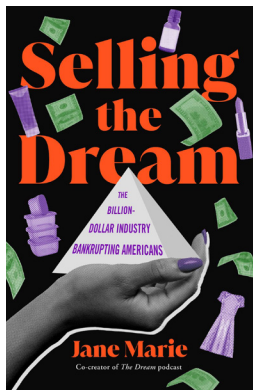


Over the holidays, you learned a thing or two about your relatives and their politics. **“Good Reasonable People”** by **Keith Payne** (\$29, Viking) is a book to reach for now. Here, Payne makes sense of the divide that plagues America, in a way that helps you understand both sides. Read it soon, before Family Barbecue season hits.

lovers will devour. Attas is a veterinarian in New York City, tending to the beloved pets of the Rich and Famous, but she also writes about the other half: dogs, cats, and critters that she knew, loved, were owned by everyday New Yorkers, and that Attas cared for. If you have a pet, this is your book.

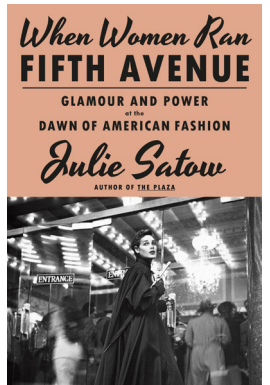


“Pets in the City” by **Dr. Amy Attas** (\$25, Putnam) is a memoir, but one that animal



Now that the holidays are over, if you need a way to pay for all those gifts, you'll be happy to read **“Selling the Dream: The Billion-Dollar Industry Bankrupting Americans”** by **Jane Marie** (\$29, Atria). It's a deep, thorough, but personal look at mid-level marketing (MLM) schemes, the people who fall for them, the chances of success (slim!), and how to avoid getting involved in them in the first place. The price of this book may save you thousands...

“When Women Ran Fifth Avenue” by **Julie Satow** (\$32.50, Doubleday) is one of those books that'll satisfy a range of readers: history lovers will enjoy the narrative about the department stores of years past. Business-minded readers will like the stories of retail gone by. Women's history fans will like the individual tales of women executives in the last century. All in all, this book's a winner.



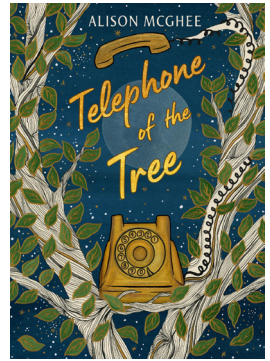
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If you're a collector, you know how much you like talking about your accumulations and meeting like-minded people. In **“The Witch’s Door”** by **Ryan Matthew Cohn and Regina M. Rossi** (\$30, Chronicle Prism), you’ll read about one couple’s odd collections: skulls, shrunken heads, stuff that might creep you out just a little bit. But wait: this book is also part memoir, part romance, and fun. Anyone with a curious mind, a collection of oddities, or membership to a museum will love this.

KIDS

Readers ages 8 to 12 will enjoy **“Telephone of the Tree”** by **Alison McGhee** (\$17.99, Rocky Pond / Penguin), a story of loss and hope that affects an entire neighborhood – but especially one young girl who misses her best friend. This is a beautiful book, somewhat of a tear-jerker, but for the right reader, it glows.



TEENS

For the teen who wants something absorbing, a little flippant, and funny,



“How to Win Friends and Influence Fungi” by **Dr. Chris Balakrishnan & Matt Wasowski**, illustrations by **Kristen Orr** (\$30.00, St. Martin’s Press) is a great way to spend that bookstore gift certificate. It’s a little bit trivia, a whole lot of fun science, and a good dose of smart-aleck. Perfect. If you’re looking for these books or something like them, or if you’re starting your own Best Of list, check with your librarian or bookseller for help. They’ll help you decide what’s next

“You’ve gotta dance like there’s nobody watching, Love like you’ll never be hurt, Sing like there’s nobody listening, And live like it’s heaven on earth.”
William W. Purkey

Ohio Once Again Attacks the Most Venerable Among Us

by *Randy Phillips*

It seems this statement certainly applies to Ohio Senate Bill 104: It is not about bathrooms, just like it was never about water fountains. This bill, now law, is an attempt to legislate a whole group of people out of existence. After all, only 1.14% of all US citizens identify as transgender or nonbinary according to the US census bureau and with such a small percentage it is easy to demonize this group to excite fear, and fear, as we just witnessed, wins elections. The result is now Governor DeWine has signed into law SB 104 & HB 183 which requires all individuals in primary and secondary schools as well as institutions of higher learning to use the restrooms and other facilities that align with their sex assigned at birth.

For those of you who are not very familiar with individuals who are transgender, please trust me when I say that there are individuals who have transitioned some years ago, who look very opposite of what they were pronounced at birth. This is just an attempt to legislate a whole group of people out of existence. Just like the whole, “don’t say gay” bill that was introduced in Florida. For a point of reference, a like; don’t say gay bill has been reintroduced in Ohio. [*We will keep you informed on that one.*]

Jocelyn Rosnick, Policy Director for the American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio said: “We are increasingly disheartened as the Ohio General Assembly’s continue to attacks against transgender and gender non-conforming individuals across Ohio. Senate Bill 104 is a cruel invasion of student’s rights to privacy, which could result in unwarranted governmental disclosures of private, personal information. If allowed to go into effect, SB 104 will create unsafe environments for trans and gender non-conforming individuals of all ages. This bill ignores the material reality that transgender people endure higher rates of sexual violence and assaults, particularly while using public restrooms, than people who are not transgender. All Ohioans deserve to access the facilities they need in alignment with their gender identity, without fear of harassment or bullying.”



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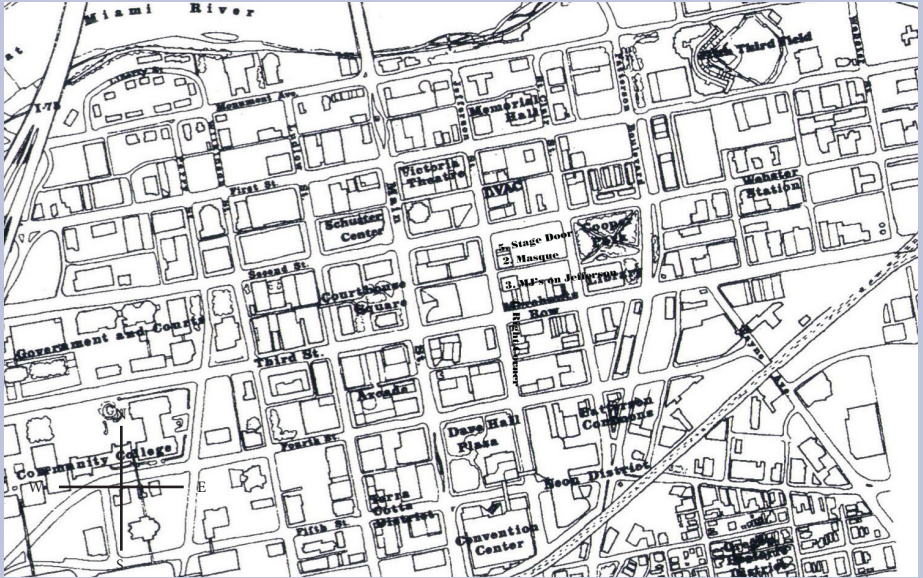
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GAGE GATLYN PHOTOGRAPHY

Gay Dayton Map



18 +	18 and Up	E	Other Entertainment	N/H	Neighborhood
A	Alternative	F	Food	S	Strippers
AH	After Hours	G/S	Gay/Straight	T	Mature
C	Country	K	Karaoke	V	Video
D	Dance	L	Leather	W	Women
DG	Drag	M	Men	Y	Young

1. Argo's, 301 Mabel Street 252-2976 (M,L,E,S)
2. MJ's on Jefferson, 20 N. Jefferson 223-7340 (F,M,D,S,E,DG,V,K)
3. Right Corner, 105 E. Third St 228-2033 (NH,M,T,E)
4. Stage Door, 44 N. Jefferson St 223-7418 (M,L,C,K,T,NH,E)
5. Natalie Clifford Barney Historical Marker
6. The Greater Dayton LGBT Center, 136 N. St Clair 274-1776

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a little less stress.
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you the very best**

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