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The Dark History of Valentine's Day

The 9 Worst Gifts to Give

DALLAS, TX - February 12, 2019 - Oregon author, Jody Seay, will be reading from her new book, *Almost a Murder*, 6 pm at the Lubbock Public Library on February 12 - two days BEFORE Valentine's Day.

"It was just too ironic to have a book reading on the day of love," says Seay, "because one of the main themes of the story is the opposite of Valentine's Day. It's about love gone wrong - maybe as wrong as love can go."

"Then again," claims Jody's wife, Stef Neyhart, "maybe *Almost a Murder* is well associated with Valentines Day. There were a few Valentines - all were killed. One helped Christians escape torture in prisons. Another St. Valentine was executed on February 14th because he performed forbidden marriages."

"There is still a lot of prejudice about 'the wrong type of marriage' occurring today," Seay is quick to point out, "so the book is timely. The marriage in this book came to a violent end, in part, because of prejudice pressures: he was a 'Son of Oklahoma' and she was a foreign bride."

Although the beginnings of Valentine's Day are dire, the day became associated with romance in the 14th century: courtly love, flowers, candy, and dewy-eyed declarations of devotion.

"Although not an official public holiday in any country," Jody Seay warns, "woe onto those who forget to celebrate the day or give a bad gift. In my life," she continues, "I've given some Texas-sized Valentine disasters."

"Here is my advice," Seay warns. "Do not give: 1) vacuums or 2) cleaning supplies or 3) girdle-type spandex as intimate attire. Do not gift: 4) workout memberships or 5) self-help books, 6) creams or pills or 7) any grooming product that is intended to improve your lover's look. The implication is that you would like them to appear younger, slimmer, or more delicious than they are currently. That message is a huge no-no on Valentine's Day. Also," Seay continues, "8) Do not give anything sharp. Giving knives are bad luck on this day. 9) And my book, 'Almost a Murder', don't give it on Valentine's Day."

"I just want help those who are as clueless as I have been in the past," Seay states. "Hopefully, I can stop a Valentine's crash-and-burn before someone is neck-deep in trouble. So, if you are going to pick up this legal thriller for your lover, deliver it before or after the day of dewy-eyed devotion - Valentine's Day."

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ABOUT AUTHOR JODY SEAY

Jody Seay is an award-winning author. "*Almost A Murder*" is her third novel. It is a real-life legal thriller co-authored with Jim Lloyd and gives readers an unparalleled you-are-there view of a headline-making, gritty murder and the legal battle that followed. The book is distributed through Ingram. Visit <http://AlmostAMurder.com> for a copy of the digital media kit. If you'd like to schedule an interview with Jody Seay, please call Scott Burr at 503/723-7392 or email burrs@kohopono.com.