

HE'S INVINCIBLE!

Adult animated series tells a story of what imperfect superheroes look like

The adult animated series *Invincible* follows Mark Grayson, a seemingly ordinary teenager who discovers he has inherited incredible abilities from his father, Omni-Man, one of the most powerful superheroes on Earth. As Grayson embraces his identity as “Invincible,” the series delves into his struggles with balancing his newfound powers, personal relationships, college and moral complexities of being a hero.

One of the standout aspects of *Invincible* is its fearless approach to tell a realistic superhero story, one that doesn't shy away from the brutal accidents that superheroes would probably have to deal with all the time. In the show, no one superhero is perfect. The stakes are always high and the show has been able to maintain a consistent intensity each episode through its unflinching depiction of violence and gore.



A particularly intriguing storyline involves the Viltrumites, an alien race that pose as heroes but who are actually seeking planetary conquest with a sinister agenda. As the series progresses, viewers are drawn into the ominous threat they pose to Earth and the entire universe. Without giving too much away, let's just say that the clash between the Viltrumites and Grayson is both epic and emotional, pushing Invincible to his limits as he grapples with an unexpected dark legacy.

You can catch seasons 1 and 2 of *Invincible* on Amazon Prime. — *Faheem Khan*



BRIDGERTON OBSESSION

Season three of Bridgerton sure has me anxiously waiting to find out what happens in part two

Steamy, sensual and sensational — my exact description of season three of the Netflix series *Bridgerton*. Set in England during the Regency era in the early 1800s, each season focuses on a Bridgerton family member falling in forbidden love. As the seasons go on, the outlandish acts of love grow more intense.

Spoiler alert: Season three focuses on Colin Bridgerton and Penelope Featherington, longtime friends turned lovers before marriage. Isn't that a crime against humanity? Well, society back then sure thought so, because scandalous acts always come out whether it's from the anonymous Lady Whistledown writing it in her gossip letters or whispers on the streets. Anyway, Netflix left the *Bridgerton* fan base on the edge of our seats by releasing only half of the season last month and ending it on a cliffhanger — a swift engagement, if you will.

June 13 was the day we were all waiting for, when the second half of season three came out. Will Colin find true love despite the secrets and scandals that are sure to follow? BRB (be right back), so I can run to my couch and click on the next episode with my Diet Coke in one hand and a bowl of buttery popcorn in the other. — *Brianna Murschel*

MURDER MYSTERIES

Who doesn't love a good story about unsolved crimes?



As a longtime *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit* watcher and a fan of Mary Higgins Clark's fictional books, I have found crime stories captivating. Recently, I have found different crime podcasts to be a news source through storytelling. The latest podcast episode I listened to was from *Wild Crime: Murder in the Rocky Mountains* by 20/20. As a

Colorado native, the title stood out to me.

I also just listened to the *48 Hours* podcast episode “**Shattered Dreams**” about a woman falling down the stairs in March 2011, but her death was ruled as murder with evidence that she was beaten and strangled. *Dateline* also has podcasts of secrets, lies and murder, such as the episode “The Killer on Camera 4” about a firefighter murdered and found to be caught in a love triangle.

Each show tells a story about the reality of what is going on in our world, where heinous crimes are committed. True crime can be a guilty pleasure, and consuming it while pondering why it's being told and who is telling the story of those directly impacted is key.

Episodes are released frequently. I listen to them on the Podcast app on my iPhone. You can also listen to the 20/20 podcast at ABCAudio.com, *48 Hours* at CBSNews.com and *Dateline* at NBCNews.com. — *Brianna Murschel*



THE MOST ECLECTIC PLAYLIST

What the Eugene Weekly Staff is Listening to in 2024

2024 is already shaping up to be a wild year for new music. Beyoncé released the second installment in her genre-bending trilogy with the country-inspired *Cowboy Carter*; Taylor Swift put out her 31-track album *The Tortured Poet's Department*; Kendrick Lamar dropped the best diss track of 2024 with “Not Like Us”; and Charli XCX has reached global stardom with her latest release, *Brat*.

And it's only June.

While here at *Eugene Weekly* we love a good pop song, we also are a staff of *very* diverse music tastes. Calendar editor Brianna Murschel loves a sweet country song while reporter Bentley Freeman is more likely to listen to rap like Gunna and Metro Boomin. Photographer Todd Cooper is a “music nerd” by his definition and reporter Emerson Brady really just likes it all.

Here is our roundup of this year's best indie, rock, rap, electronic, country and everything in between. This playlist is meant to be random so shuffle it and let our grab bag of tunes be the soundtrack of your summer. — *Emerson Brady*