

through that process. Adam has just gotten better and better and better. He is a really good actor. I love working with him and I feel as if he is one of my kids now."

Do you feel any trepidation when the writers constantly put Taylor back with Ridge? Brad Bell has commented that there will always be this pull between Brooke, Ridge and Taylor.

"It's not trepidation in so much as this is not going to work, but how can I make it different this time. And that is my task as an actor, and it is the through line of the story that Taylor is never going to stop loving Ridge and neither is Brooke. These two women have their history and that is their obstacle, and Ridge is their goal, of course. So that is the challenge. But this time, I found some new levels to go with Ronn Moss, even when we were doing our scenes and saying our dialogue. I think now Taylor and Ridge are even deeper and richer than they have ever been with each other, and we have really enjoyed working together. But at the same time, I feel I hit another level of awesome work with Susan Flannery (Stephanie). I love working with her, but I like it when our characters are at odds."

What about you and Katherine Kelly Lang (Brooke)? The two of you have played these fierce rivals all of these years. Do you still find a way to make it fresh with each other?

"It's the same situation and I do see it as a challenge that I welcome, and that is what makes my work fun. It's not going to get boring. There is nothing worse than coming to the studio and going, 'Oh, gosh. Here we go again.' So my job is finding a way to make it different this time, or coming at it maybe more aggressively. And that is where I see Taylor right now, trying to really fight back to get where she wants to be in life. That is when she has been the most aggressive she has been with Brooke, and the most aggressive she has been in a while."



What would you love to see happen in the story, if you had the opportunity to write for Taylor?

"I would love to see Taylor and her kids take over Forrester. I think that would really shake up Brooke, Ridge, and everybody. And so, I think that would be a really awesome vindication for Taylor and her children. And so, Brooke and her children can go find their own new fashion company

and then we can be rivals there, too!"

You have a unique way of working with your scripts, in that you really deconstruct the script even as you are about to tape on set. Do you still work that way, given the increasingly fast pace of daytime television?

"Yes, absolutely! I take the script apart line by line. I am constantly truly studying

psychology all the time. I often will take my script to a psychologist that I work with and I will say, 'Is this a real scenario? Or, what does this sound like to you?' And then he will walk me through it and I will pay for the hour... and it ain't cheap! But it's cool because I study his behaviour and how he is analysing it. And let me tell you, it is very interesting to see a psychiatrist and what he does when he is in the hot seat as it pertains to Taylor. So I love doing it this way and I learn a lot. I have learned more about disorders than I would like to. I probably could leave B&B and go be a doctor and just take an exam. I mean, you learn so much."

Do you think that all the adversity and tragedy in your personal life has somehow made you a better actress now?

"Any kind of adversity makes anything you do better, and anything in general better. Once you have suffered and have lost and now appreciate what you have, there is a whole new depth to you... everything from life; from the choices that you make, or what you can do with that as an actor. Unless you have really lived some of those things, you would not even have that concept of what it's like to come out the other side. It just gives you many more choices to make, which as an actor you always need, and of course, you need to find the strongest one. So, I feel that these days I am able to make the strongest choices that could be made, sort of speak."

You have been married to Gersson Archila for a while now! How is that going? Your fans want to see you happy.

"I have been married now for a-year-and-a-half to a wonderful man who is not in the business! He is a little younger than me, but that is just the way it is, because I am actually young-hearted. I am constantly active and going biking and hiking and doing my kickboxing. So he is into that, too, and that is what is really important; that you have somebody who has the same interests as you, but not acting! There are too many egos here in show business." **TVS**