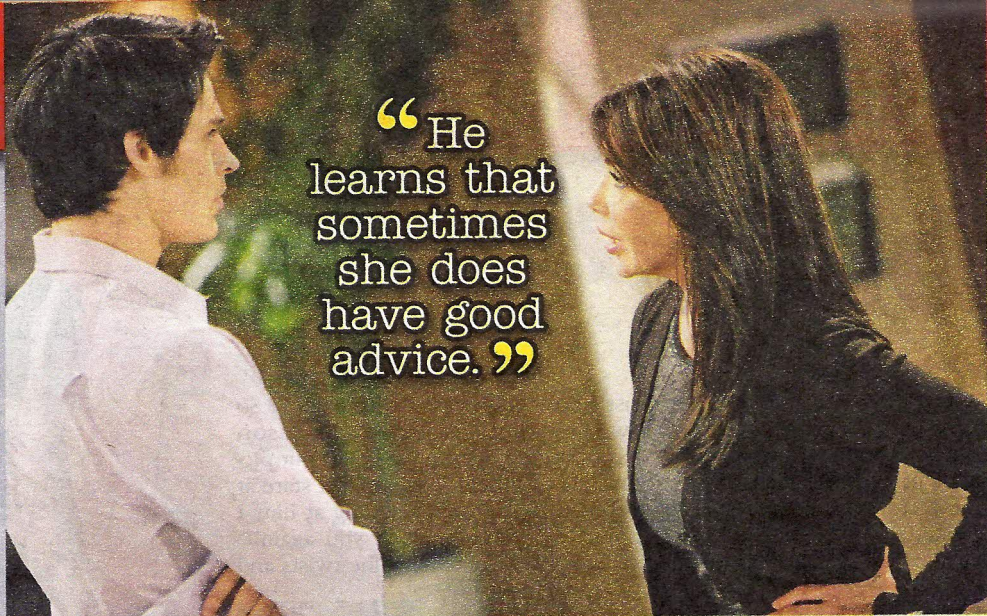


# At a Glance: **TAYLOR**

By Mala  
Bhattacharjee

■ Hunter Tylo talks the nuts and berries — er, nuts and bolts — of Taylor's fruity trip and the joys of her on-screen family ties.



“He learns that sometimes she does have good advice.”

SEAN SMITH/JPI

**WEEKLY:** You've been with *B&B* a very long time, and on other soaps as well. Do you ever look at a plot twist like *psychedelic berries* and think, "Okay, this is *way* weirder than I'm used to"?

**TYLO** (*laughs*): Yeah, and for Brad (Bell, executive producer/head writer) to be able to pull it off in such a way that he's not glorifying drugs in any way.... It wasn't a drug per se, and it did have a basis of how it came into the storyline — because Thomas and Brooke were stranded and it was life or death, they needed to survive. At least through that device, I was very happy to see that it was not an actual drug. We certainly don't want to glorify that, [in case] kids did think that it would be something cool to try. Because what you do find out as the story keeps unfolding is that it creates quite a huge problem. It's also the beginning of some

problems for Taylor. We'll have to see how merciful Whip can be!

**WEEKLY:** Many viewers wonder where Brad Bell comes up with all of these inventive ideas.

**TYLO:** Yeah. I'm not sure if he was on a vacation someplace. Where did he go during those three weeks (*laughs*)? Somewhere down near Fiji, I think!

**WEEKLY:** You've been filming with Jacqueline MacInnes Wood (Steffy) for a bit now. Adam Gregory (Thomas) is still your new onscreen son. What's it like working with him?

**TYLO:** It's been really nice to watch him grow into our show. Certainly, when everybody comes on this show, they've got a different concept, I think, than what they actually find. And if they are the kind of actor who can settle in and actually become family-like, then there's

just a camaraderie that goes with the flow of how everybody functions. And we're under a high-pressure schedule. I have had all these concerns whenever they brought in somebody new, but especially with these last two [actors] being Steffy and Thomas in their 20s — they're going to have heavier storylines. They had a great deal of pressure with all the work, and even the emotional things being required of them. Adam's just done an amazing job! He's grown by leaps and bounds and is understanding the character of Thomas better and better, and connecting to me as a mother. He's really come a long way. It's nice, because as it's developed, it's shown that Thomas was a little estranged from his mother and kind of the typical teenage boy. He had the "I want to be independent" attitude, and he was a little bit separated from his mom. Then, as he starts to mature, he learns that sometimes she does have good advice (*laughs*), and that he can trust her and he needs to listen to her a little bit more closely in the future. It's that nice place where a young man begins to get close to his mother again in his mid-20s.

**WEEKLY:** It's funny, but when you, Adam and Jacquie, and Ronn Moss (Ridge) are in a scene together, you look like a family — like you could actually be related.

**TYLO:** Oh, it feels like it, for sure! When we're working together all of us are somewhat tickled when we're saying our lines to each other, because it's very natural to even want to say each other's words. And [Ronn and I] even find ourselves.... You know how parents mix up names? "Steffy — I mean, Thomas! Thomas — I mean, Steffy." We get them all backwards. So, it's just like a family!

## Editor's Opinion

■ Whip and Taylor having any kind of marital trouble just breaks my heart. I totally get that Taylor's a fixer who can't help but be drawn to micromanaging Ridge's life, but I find her relationship with Whip to be so fun and healthy and joyous. It's like she's short-changing *herself* by constantly feeling tied to her ex-husband and his problems with Brooke. She deserves better than being Ridge's backup plan. Whip puts her first, and I guess she's so used to being codependent on Ridge, it's a strange place for Taylor to be...but I wish she'd realize she belongs there! Someone Whip this competent, intelligent woman back into shape!

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