



The Inside
Scoop On
**Hunter
Tylo's**
Shocking
Return
As B&B's
Taylor

TOP
GUN

By
Tom
Stacy

■ When *BOLD AND BEAUTIFUL* fans last saw Dr. Taylor Hayes in 2014, she was dating Thorne and had nearly been axed by his mentally unstable daughter, Aly. Now that Taylor's been revealed as Bill's shooter, Hunter Tylo discusses her surprise return to the soap she first joined in 1990.

Soap Opera Digest: Tell us about getting the call to come back.

Hunter Tylo: It was just so out of the blue. Brad [Bell, executive producer/head writer] contacted me toward the end of February, and when Brad calls you, it says, "No Caller ID," so I almost didn't answer it [laughs]. I answered the phone and, "Long time, no see," and we just started chatting and he said that he really missed me and he said there was such an empty hole in the show without me and fans nonstop were asking where Taylor is. He said Steffy needs her mother, and the fans have been asking about that. He said, "Is there any way we can work you in?" I said, "Well, what am I doing? As long as I'm not going to be very bad," and he goes, "Uh, well ... You are going to be bad, but it's really not your fault. It's a temporary, emotional reason that you become a little overzealous, and it's what a mother would do to protect her daughter." And I thought, now that's pretty cool, because I would protect my children. I always loved the fact that Susan Flannery played Stephanie with so much humanity and compassion; she could be such a terror but yet you loved her for defending her family. I thought that was a good character quality and I was intrigued by it. We talked a few more times and got it worked out. Then the next hurdle came about, which was coming there in another disguise.

Digest: We heard you sneaked in under a veil of secrecy.

Tylo: Yes. I had a new name in the scripts, Janet, and that makes it fun, too, because you get to be on a *Mission Impossible* — and Tom Cruise and I have the same birthday, so what can I say?

Digest: Did you think you'd ever come back?

Tylo: It probably would not have come ... Oh, how do I say this? Let's just say that in my marriage, it wasn't going very well that I had love scenes with anybody. My ex-husband [Gersson Archila, who she wed in 2009] was in the trucking business, and anything in the entertainment business is tricky anyway. I guess he thought he could handle love scenes or whatnot, and it became a problem. Every new actor should think about that very carefully before they try to go into this business — if they have a spouse who says they can handle it — because every single time it seems to be a problem. It just goes with the business. If I hadn't been married to him, that wouldn't have happened.

Digest: How was your first day back?

Tylo: They had me hidden away in my ever-famous janitor's closet. There's a funny video on YouTube, I think called "The Janitor's Closet", that one of the other producers and I did for fun. It felt like old times immediately! I felt so welcomed — and because they were keeping me on the down low, I had a code name and everybody was so sweet and it was like I had never left ... Just so much love. I was in tears in between my scenes because I couldn't decide whether to be psychotic from the scenes or super-happy. I guess it kind of worked for the character, too.

Digest: What reactions did you get as word got out who "Janet" really was?

Tylo: I was so hidden, they didn't even know I was there. They had no idea! They kept it quiet from everybody. I had to come in a secret passageway. I had to keep my mouth shut. They actually finished shooting all of the scenes with all of the regular characters and then I came in after everybody was gone, so they didn't even know I was there shooting!

Digest: You're a blonde now! Was this part of the character or your idea?

Tylo: In my teenage years, when I was

modeling, my hair was kind of like it is now. I like the super-light tips with the mixed dark in between. I'd always had it in reverse, the dark with the little highlight. It was something I decided to do and I told Brad, "I'm kind of blonde now, but not entirely like Katherine [Kelly Lang, Brooke]. It's kind of some-



Blondes Have More Fun: Tylo — with a new 'do — was happy to reconnect with on-screen daughter Jacqueline MacInnes Wood (Steffy).

PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFF JOHNSON/PI



With A Bang: Tylo's first few scenes were with Don Diamont (Bill).

PHOTOGRAPH BY PAUL SKIPPER/PI

times how Jacqui [MacInnes Wood, Steffy] does hers," and he was like, "That's cool." I thought especially if my character has been living in Paris and if she had been declining, of course she would do certain things to make herself feel better. It was cool. The one thing I did that wasn't normal for me to do is I got acrylic nails, because I've been doing a lot of construction around my home. I've been remodeling and I do a lot of mosaic tile work and that destroys your hands. So, I did something a little different for the character to help her look a little more pulled together, like she's trying to get her life together, but we will soon see she's quite unstable.

Digest: What do you think led to Taylor's decline?

Tylo: No. 1, losing Ridge, who was the love of her life. I think with all she's been through, she would probably have no choice *but* to deteriorate. When you have that much knowledge in human behavior, she probably would be trying to manipulate that knowledge and end up exactly where she is. I think Brad has done an excellent job with keeping these characters human and true to form. She's been through so much trauma. She lost her

daughter, Phoebe, and the fact that she mowed Darla down. My goodness! This woman has been through a lot, and so I think the dynamic makes sense. It makes her very human and it also makes people compassionate for her.

Digest: How would you describe Taylor's mindset at the time of the shooting? She obviously had motive because of the havoc Bill wreaked upon her loved ones.

Tylo: I just love the idea of a crazy psychiatrist. I have to give kudos to one lady who graduated from Stanford who helped me a great deal. I don't know how I would've gotten through things when my son [Mickey] passed away [in 2007 at the age of 19]. Nonetheless,

we've all met some of the ones who are doing it for the wrong reasons, and I've always said that Taylor is the good doc who can't take her medicine; that's how I've always described her, and this story just gives her so many things to do. It's an actor's dream come true to have a character like this.

Digest: How was it re-establishing the mother/daughter bond? Jacqueline [MacInnes Wood] talks about you all the time.

"I just love the idea of a crazy psychiatrist."



New Beginnings: Tylo met the show's "new" Ridge, Thorsten Kaye (l.) when they did a promo event in Amsterdam in 2014. Also pictured: Heather Tom (Katie) and John McCook (Eric).

Tylo: I adore her! I was bummed my first few shows were not with her. They were with Mr. Don Diamont [Bill], who is a powerhouse. I had not acted at all in four-and-a-half, almost five years. I've kind of been isolated and I was like, "Oh, goody! I get to keep up with Don!" That's always a challenge and it kick-started my skills and my emotions. He knows how to push buttons, and he and I are friends. I had such a blast working with him. We laughed in between takes. We would be so dead serious, and I use the word "dead" very wittingly here, but we would laugh and then have to pull it back together. He made it so fun. It's such an honor to work with him; he's an icon of icons.

Digest: There's a new Ridge, Thorsten Kaye, and a new Thorne, Ingo Rademacher, which makes for lots of possibilities with Taylor, no?

Tylo: I went to Amsterdam for a promo after I had left the show [in 2014] and I never worked with "new Ridge", as everyone called him, but he's not new anymore. He's now *the* Ridge. I got to know him on a personal level, where we were doing a Q&A onstage, and he was quite witty. We had some fun banter, not even really knowing each other that well or having ever worked with each other. So, I think that could

be extremely interesting. It's been enough time, I think, for the fans to have dissolved whatever chemistry was between me and Ronn [Moss, ex-Ridge] and of course, there was a lot. But it gives everybody that breath of fresh air, so they see it from a new light, without being attached to the prior chemistry that they were used to. The new Thorne, I haven't met at all, so I have no idea.

Digest: How is everything else in your life these days?

Tylo: I'm good. I'm enjoying a quiet, peaceful life. I wanted to live out of L.A. so I have a little commute. I don't really like the traffic of L.A. day in and day out, so I'm really enjoying having a little peace and quiet in a quiet area.

Digest: You're back on social media, I see.

Tylo: Well, I did open Facebook and Twitter again, but there's been some mischievous people who've disabled it twice and been hacking it. I'm in the process of getting it fixed — or I'll just have to get a new one. It won't stop until I get all of my friends back, and I do plan on talking to them and getting back into that. I've missed it! I've missed talking to all of my friends.

Digest: What do you want to say to the fans now that you're back?

Tylo: If I put it in a Twitter hashtag, it would be #MissedYouMoreThanYouKnow.