

30th Anniversary Special Interview

Deidre Fan

1. When did you become a B&B fan?

I became a BATB fan the moment I heard about the series. I'd always loved the classic story. I'm a big fairytale person, and the romance of the show, with its present day concept, really appealed. The premiere episode was brilliant, I was hooked right from the get go.

2. What attracted you to the series?

The mix of romance, fantasy and present day set up around a classic tale appealed to me the most when I first heard of the show, and the fact that Linda Hamilton was attached to it. When I actually watched it, it was the character of Vincent, and his relationship with Catherine, that clinched it for me, and the whole feel of the show, the look of it.

3. What changes have occurred in B&B fandom over the years?

With BATB fandom, I think the biggest change over the years that I've seen is the connectedness through online resources that enable people to really interact with other fans. There's also been a great resurgence of people rediscovering the show, and, like myself, being totally delighted to find the online fandom community.

4. What do you enjoy most about the series?

I think what I enjoy most with the series is that it's not one to pander to audience wants. It keeps us wanting things, expecting things, and the world itself is so rich that we can feel it growing as we watch it. BATB isn't a fixed concept to me, it's a fluid, developing world that keeps showing us new aspects to characters, taking us on unexpected detours and discoveries.

5. What do you wish B&B fans would do?

I would love to see BATB fans just keep on enjoying the show, and keep recording the fandom and our creative works. Oh, being able to fund a book about BATB fandom would be awesome, with examples of the fans' creativity, but that's such a dream...if only!

6. How much time do you devote to B&B in an average month (including social media time)?

I spend enormous amounts of time each month on BATB! From watching the show, to googling the show, keeping up to date on the actors, getting in touch with fellow fans, writing, thinking about it...it's pretty much an ongoing experience for me.

7. How many B&B fans have you met?

In person, I've met a few BATB fans, but mostly prior to going online. Since then, I've found lots of friends through the fandom community and Facebook, and found lots who have always loved the show, but never knew the fan community was out there.

8. What is your favourite memory as a fan?

My favourite BATB fan memory would be watching Ron collect his award for Best Actor. Incredibly well deserved, and a high point for me. With regards to the series itself, every time Vincent and Catherine reunite, after time apart, is what I love.

9. How has B&B changed your life?

BATB has changed my life in so many ways. It has changed how I see men, actually! I look for the kind of character and sense of honour Vincent has. The show also got me thinking a lot about how we treat the "others" in society, being kind of on the margins myself, and it contributed greatly to my college thesis, which was about the mirror in art, and a lot of psychological stuff about identity. The show has also affected how I create art, the aesthetic of the show has influenced the atmosphere of the worlds I write about and draw/paint. And it has encouraged me to explore the idea of re-telling fairy tales, exploring looking at them from a different perspective...which is where I feel my writing niche is.

10. If you could have one B&B wish granted, what would it be?

If I could have one BATB wish granted, it would have been that there'd been a huge, splendid, big budget film made to go with the show. There's enough material in the show for several sequels, too! Oh, lovely...