

EPISODE GUIDE

***True Blood* (2008–ongoing, HBO, USA)**

Creator and executive producer: Alan Ball

Main characters: Sookie Stackhouse (Anna Paquin), Bill Compton (Stephen Moyer), Eric Northman (Alexander Skarsgård), Jason Stackhouse (Ryan Kwanten), Sam Merlotte (Sam Trammell), Tara Thornton (Rutina Wesley), Lafayette Reynolds (Nelsan Ellis), Jessica Hamby (Deborah Ann Woll), Alcide Herveaux (Joe Manganiello), Pam Ravenscroft (Kristin Bauer), Hoyt Fortenberry (Jim Parrack)

Season 1 (2008)

Vampires have announced themselves to the world after the invention of synthetic blood that means they do not have to feed on humans and the American Vampire League is campaigning for equal rights. Telepathic waitress Sookie Stackhouse meets her first vampire, Bill Compton, and falls in love. Her hometown, Bon Temps, is plagued by a serial killer who targets fangbangers. Her brother Jason falls under suspicion and her grandmother becomes a victim, but when the killer targets her she manages to escape and kill him. Sookie uses her mind-reading skills for the Shreveport vampires Eric and Pam to find out who is stealing from their bar Fangtasia, but when Bill protects her by staking

their barman he is punished by being forced to make a new vampire, Jessica.

Main antagonist: René Lenier (Michael Raymond-James)

Episodes:

- 1.1 'Strange Love', dir. Alan Ball, wri. Alan Ball
- 1.2 'The First Taste', dir. Scott Winant, wri. Alan Ball
- 1.3 'Mine', dir. John Dahl, wri. Alan Ball
- 1.4 'Escape from Dragon House', dir. Michael Lehmann, wri. Brian Buckner
- 1.5 'Sparks Fly Out', dir. Daniel Minahan, wri. Alexander Woo
- 1.6 'Cold Ground', dir. Nick Gomez, wri. Raelle Tucker
- 1.7 'Burning House of Love', dir. Marcos Siega, wri. Chris Offutt
- 1.8 'The Fourth Man in the Fire', dir. Michael Lehmann, wri. Alexander Woo
- 1.9 'Plaisir D'Amour', dir. Anthony Hemingway, wri. Brian Buckner
- 1.10 'I Don't Wanna Know', dir. Scott Winant, wri. Chris Offutt
- 1.11 'To Love Is to Bury', dir. Nancy Oliver, wri. Nancy Oliver
- 1.12 'You'll Be the Death of Me', dir. Alan Ball, wri. Raelle Tucker

Season 2 (2009)

Sookie undertakes work for the Dallas vampires after their sheriff (and Eric's maker) Godric is kidnapped by the anti-vampire Fellowship of the Sun. Jason has fallen in with the leaders of the Fellowship, the Newlins, and is selected to become one of their elite troops in their war against the vampires, but becomes disillusioned. Sookie helps free Godric but he chooses to die anyway after a suicide bombing by the Fellowship. In Bon Temps, Tara comes under the spell of the maenad Maryann.

She lets Maryann live in Sookie's house and it becomes the base for a series of orgies designed to raise her god. Jason uses his training by the Fellowship to lead an assault on Maryann with local law enforcement officer Andy Bellefleur, but Sam and Bill have to join forces to defeat her, using Sam's shifter powers and the healing power of Bill's blood.

Main antagonists: Steve and Sarah Newlin (Michael McMillan and Anna Camp), Maryann Forrester (Michelle Forbes)

Episodes:

- 2.1 'Nothing but the Blood', dir. Daniel Minahan, wri. Alexander Woo
- 2.2 'Keep This Party Going', dir. Michael Lehmann, wri. Brian Buckner
- 2.3 'Scratches', dir. Scott Winant, wri. Raelle Tucker
- 2.4 'Shake and Fingerpop', dir. Michael Lehmann, wri. Alan Ball
- 2.5 'Never Let Me Go', dir. John Dahl, wri. Nancy Oliver
- 2.6 'Hard-Hearted Hanna', dir. Michael Lehmann, wri. Brian Buckner
- 2.7 'Release Me', dir. Michael Ruscio, wri. Raelle Tucker
- 2.8 'Timebomb', dir. John Dahl, wri. Alexander Woo
- 2.9 'I Will Rise Up', dir. Scott Winant, wri. Nancy Oliver
- 2.10 'New World in My View', dir. Adam Davidson, wri. Kate Barrow and Elisabeth R. Finch
- 2.11 'Frenzy', dir. Daniel Minahan, wri. Alan Ball
- 2.12 'Beyond Here Lies Nothin'', dir. Michael Cuesta, wri. Alexander Woo

Season 3 (2010)

Bill has been kidnapped by V-addicted werewolves who are working for Russell Edgington, the Vampire King of Mississippi. Sookie asks Eric for help in finding Bill and he sends Alcide, a werewolf, to help her obtain information at the were bar in

Jackson. Bill has been working for Sophie-Anne, the Vampire Queen of Louisiana, to spy on Sookie, while Eric has been dealing V for her because she is broke after having to pay back-taxes. Russell uses this information to force Sophie-Anne into a marriage of convenience. Lorena, Bill's maker, wants him back, but when she tortures him, Sookie comes to the rescue and stakes her. Eric discovers that Russell killed his family and takes revenge, first by staking Russell's consort Talbot and then by using Sookie's fairy blood to lure Russell into the sunlight.

Main antagonists: Russell Edgington (Denis O'Hare), Lorena Krasiki (Mariana Klaveno)

Episodes:

- 3.1 'Bad Blood', dir. Daniel Minahan, wri. Brian Buckner
- 3.2 'Beautifully Broken', dir. Scott Winant, wri. Raelle Tucker
- 3.3 'It Hurts Me Too', dir. Michael Lehmann, wri. Alexander Woo
- 3.4 '9 Crimes', dir. David Petrarca, wri. Elisabeth R. Finch and Kate Barnow
- 3.5 'Trouble', dir. Scott Winant, wri. Nancy Oliver
- 3.6 'I Got a Right to Sing the Blues', dir. Michael Lehmann, wri. Alan Ball
- 3.7 'Hitting the Ground', dir. John Dahl, wri. Brian Buckner
- 3.8 'Night on the Sun', dir. Lesli Linka Glatter, wri. Raelle Tucker
- 3.9 'Everything Is Broken', dir. Scott Winant, wri. Alexander Woo
- 3.10 'I Smell a Rat', dir. Michael Lehmann, wri. Elisabeth R. Finch and Kate Barnow
- 3.11 'Fresh Blood', dir. Daniel Minahan, wri. Nancy Oliver
- 3.12 'Evil Is Going On', dir. Anthony Hemingway, wri. Alan Ball

Season 4 (2011)

Sookie returns from fairyland after what seems like only a few minutes to find that a year has passed in Bon Temps. Eric has bought her house and is having it refurbished and Bill is now the King of Louisiana, while Jason, now a police officer, has been kidnapped by the werepanthers in Hotshot. Bill sends Eric to warn off a group of Shreveport witches, but the spirit of Antonia, a necromancer burnt at the stake by vampire priests in the seventeenth century, possesses their leader Marnie and wipes Eric's memory. Sookie hides him and falls in love with the softer Eric. Antonia casts a spell to force all vampires in the area to walk out into the sunlight and, when that fails, uses Eric in an assassination attempt on Bill.

Main antagonist: Marnie Stonebrook/Antonia Gavilán de Logroño (Fiona Shaw)

Episodes:

- 4.1 'She's not There', dir. Michael Lehmann, wri. Alexander Woo
- 4.2 'You Smell Like Dinner', dir. Scott Winant, wri. Brian Buckner
- 4.3 'If You Love Me, Why Am I Dyin'?', dir. David Petrarca, wri. Alan Ball
- 4.4 'I'm Alive and on Fire', dir. Michael Lehmann, wri. Nancy Oliver
- 4.5 'Me and the Devil', dir. Daniel Minahan, wri. Mark Hudis
- 4.6 'I Wish I Was the Moon', dir. Jeremy Podeswa, wri. Raelle Tucker
- 4.7 'Cold Grey Light of Dawn', dir. Michael Ruscio, wri. Alexander Woo
- 4.8 'Spellbound', dir. Daniel Minahan, wri. Alan Ball
- 4.9 'Run', dir. Romeo Tirone, wri. Brian Buckner

- 4.10 'Burning Down the House', dir. Lesli Linka Glatter, wri. Nancy Oliver
- 4.11 'Soul of Fire', dir. Michael Lehmann, wri. Mark Hudis
- 4.12 'And When I Die', dir. Scott Winant, wri. Raelle Tucker