

True Blood 1-2

"The First Taste"

Written by Alan Ball

Based on Sookie Stackhouse books by Charlaine Harris

FADE IN:

1 EXT. MERLOTTE'S - NIGHT

SOOKIE STACKHOUSE is attacked by the MACK and DENISE RATTRAY. They batter her within an inch of her life. The local COLLIE appears but merely whines as the triumphant Rattrays are suddenly jerked up into a tree and dropped, dead, at its base. Sookie stares at whatever is out there, as cowboy boots step up to her side, and she's picked up.

TITLES

2 INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - ON TAPE -- NIGHT

SHERIFF BUD DEARBORN and DETECTIVE ANDY BELLEFLEUR wait for JASON STACKHOUSE'S CONFESSION as he watches himself have sex with MAUDETTE PERKINS. Her hands are chained up to a rafter over her head, and Jason is choking her. After making him squirm, the officers show Jason the rest of the video. He's now gone, and she "comes to" laughing her head off. The joke's on Jason. He's ecstatic. He didn't kill her. They ask if Maudette dated the same vampire Sookie's been seen with. Jason's appalled. Sookie doesn't mess around. They wonder if Jason left this tape (the only one there) as proof he didn't commit the crime. Jason says he's not that smart.

3 EXT. WOODS - NIGHT

BILL COMPTON carries Sookie through the woods to a lakeside. She can't feel her legs. He bites his arm and orders her to drink his blood if she wants to live. She first refuses, not wanting to be a vampire. Reassured, she drinks to live. Bill's fangs slide out. We wonder if this closeness to death and blood is predatory or sexual.

4 EXT./INT. TARA'S MOMMA'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Tara Thornton drives up, goes inside, finds her momma passed out on the couch in a drunken stupor. On the coffee table, a gossip rag headlines "Angelina adopts vampire baby." Tara stalks into the kitchen. INTERCUT:

5 INT. LAFAYETTE'S CAR - NIGHT

Lafayette's driving when his cell rings. Tara eats cereal while phoning LAYETTE REYNOLDS. She wants to stay with him. He bitches, but he's her cousin.

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He warns he might get laid on his way, so don't wait for him. She says his standards are so low, he'll always get some.

6 INT. DAWN GREEN'S DUPLEX - NIGHT

HEAVY POUNDING ON DOOR. DAWN, cautious, in negligee, angrily yells that she's coming, then opens the front door. It's Jason, looking down and out; he comes in and sits on couch. She reminds him it's three AM. He weeps out his distress. He thought he'd killed Maudette, and Bud and Andy put him through twelve hours of interrogation before showing him the end of the tape, where Maudette laughed at his gullibility. As Dawn comforts him, Jason turns to sex, his only real comfort. As he kisses Dawn...

MATCH CUT TO:

7 EXT. LAKESIDE - NIGHT

Bill kisses/licks the blood from Sookie's face. As he pulls away from her, she asks him if she tastes different from other people, and he again asks her, "What are you?" It has struck her. She's not dead. Then she says a telepath, she can hear people's thoughts. For a moment, he's concerned. Can she hear his, but she says no. That's why she likes him. He wonders how she can have a social life with this "gift." She relates:

FLASHBACK

Crude or Gay, her dates have obnoxious thought.

8 EXT. LAKESIDE - RESUME - NIGHT

Sookie says she trained herself to block family thoughts. She describes what its like as "stream of consciousness." As they stare at each other, she realizes she should be getting home, and as she gets up, she finds she's completely healed. Do doctors know v-juice can do this. Bill says vampires don't want that known. He says he'll escort her to her car.

9 EXT. OUTDOOR PARTY - NIGHT

Lafayette makes his way around party while Tara is visited by the "most straight" man there. She spins a tale of a black ops hubby who will kill anyone interested in her. As straight guy leaves, she looks around for Lafayette. He's gone off, and she knows what he's doing. MATCH CUT TO:

10 INT. DAWN'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Sex on the dresses, sex in the bed, sex with a little spanking. Hmrrrrrr.

11 EXT. ROAD BACK TO MERLOTTE'S - NIGHT

Sookie learns Bill is "32" but made vampire in 1865. She says he looks older, and he says life was harder then. He was in the Civil War, and he's bitter about it, but he'll talk to Sookie's Grandmother because Sookie wishes it. They make a date for the next night. She turns after realizing Sam's still up, and finds Bill gone.

12 INT. DAWN'S BEDROOM - DAY

Jason awakens before Dawn and finds she has fang marks on her neck. His expression is inscrutable as he lies back on the pillow.

13 INT. STACKHOUSE KITCHEN - DAY

REVEREND NEWLAND (ELDER) debates with vampire spokeswoman, NAN FLANNAGAN. He's adamant. Vampires should have no rights. They are being moderated by SHARON. He accuses vampires of being demons. Newland won't speak to Flannagan directly. The host suggests his attitude will make negotiations difficult.

14 INT. STACKHOUSE KITCHEN - MORNING

Watching the program, Sookie can't believe Jesus would disclaim vampires. Gran can't believe it either. She serves up breakfast, and Sookie seems to have heightened awareness of what goes into the food, especially the sausage. Gran worries its gone bad, but Sookie says its rich, complex. Tara enters. She's come for a shower and to borrow clothes from Sookie. She has a fit when she learns Sookie did see Bill. Sookie shushes her up and the subject turns to Jason, who should never have been arrested in the first place. Tara sparkles when Jason arrives for Breakfast. Gran comes back from a phone call. The Rattrays are dead. Tornado touched down and wrecked their trailer.

15 EXT. RATTRAY'S TRAILER - DAY

Sookie drives up, parks and goes past the yellow tape to look at the wreckage. The Sheriff and Coroner, MIKE SPENCER, arrive. Dearborn questions Sookie about her encounter with the Rattrays. He heard Sookie busted up Mack pretty bad. She said they were hurting a friend. Bud reveals Bill is living the old Compton house. Sookie's surprised. It's right near her. Bud is suspicious. Tornadoes don't just land in one place. They HOP. Nobody else saw it or heard it. Sookie defends Bill. They don't like seeing her with him. She leaves, disgusted.

16 INT. STACKHOUSE LIVING ROOM - DAY

Gran vacuums. Sookie enters, says Bill won't mind. Gran says its for her own pride.

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16 CONTINUED:

Sookie smells a bit of rotten food that normal people wouldn't smell. She's embarrassed, and Gran's curious. As Sookie says she'll toss the tidbit, Gran says Tara and Jason are also coming tonight. Sookie accuses them of interfering. Gran sees past it... knows Sookie wants to be alone with him. She trusts Sookie will always be careful.

17 EXT. STACKHOUSE HOME - NIGHT

Jason's truck pulls up.

18 INT. STACKHOUSE KITCHEN - NIGHT

Jason say vampires suck blood. Sookie avers she's only trying to get to know him. Jason gets a beer out, ends up giving it over to Tara.

19 EXT. PORCH - NIGHT

Sookie sweeping when Bill appears behind her. He's apologetic. She opens the door, but he can't go inside without her invitation. She invites him in, but then asks what would happen if she withdrew the invitation. It's clear, he'd have to leave.

20 INT. STACKHOUSE LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Gran passes a platter of sandwiches around. Jason and Tara take a couple, but Bill demurs. Gran's embarrassed. Jason says vampires are different... should have no rights. Gran admonishes Jason, then asks about Bill's past. He knew her ancestors. Gran's delighted. Tara's rude, only demanding to know if he owned slaves. Bill looks forward to her club meeting. He then invites Sookie for a walk, and Gran says it's okay. Jason objects. Gran pulls age and rank, but Bill says actually he's the oldest there. He and Sookie go out. Gran rebukes Jason. He makes a fool of himself.

21 EXT. ROAD BETWEEN STACKHOUSE AND COMPTON HOUSES - NIGHT

Bill admits he destroyed the Rattray's trailer. Sookie never realized just how strong a vampire is. He says vampires get stronger as they age, but Sookie took a lot of his blood, so he had to feed. She suspects he's murdered a lot of people. He admits to it, especially when he was young, but now he can drink True Blood, get blood at the local blood bank or he can glamour a person so they think they are in love with him. He looks to the woods and sees the COLLIE watching them. He's not surprised. Sookie asks what drinking his blood will do to her. He says she'll have keener senses, her libido will increase, and Bill will always know where she is, or if she's in trouble.

22 INT. STACKHOUSE LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Tara and Jason discuss their weak points. She says she and Jason just want to be accepted. They get close, making Tara happy, but suddenly Jason remembers a date with Dawn. He leaves.

Sookie challenges him to glamour her, and he refuses, but she insists. He tries and fails. He can't understand why. Sookie relates her similarity to him.

23 EXT. FLASHBACK - SOOKIE'S CHILDHOOD - DAY

The family's on the lawn when Sookie reads her MOTHER's mind, and it terrifies the mother and FATHER. They send her to:

24 INT. PSYCHOLOGIST'S ROOM - DAY

The PSYCHOLOGIST realizes Sookie can read her mind.

25 EXT. STACKHOUSE LAWN - PICNIC - DAY

The mother says that the psychologist found nothing wrong with Sookie, but Sookie's dad thinks that's bullshit. They're all scared of Sookie.

26 EXT. COMPTON HOME AND CEMETARY - NIGHT

She asks if he can levitate, change into a bat or do other supernatural things. He cannot. She kids that he's not much of a vampire. He says he can make he come back to life, and this time his look says it all. They come to his home, and he says he needs an electrician to renovate, but nobody will return his call. Sookie says she'll find someone and come by tomorrow night to tell him who. He thanks her, then asks her to take down her hair, then touches it, and she finally pulls him into a kiss which causes his fangs to erupt. Ashamed and knowing he'll frighten her, he offers to take her home. She agrees.

27 EXT. DAWN'S BEDROOM - DAY

Jason's arms are spread-eagle-tied to the headboard. Dawn leaves him this way as she goes to work. Frustrated he yanks on his bonds as she drives away.

28 INT. MERLOTTE'S - NIGHT

Tara is tending while JANE BOATHOUSE she's had enough. Her son's embarrassed when he has to come get her. Jane "doesn't hear," and Tara pours her a round of cheap cognac. Sam tells her to wear a uniform, and she says TERRY BELLEFLEUR doesn't wear one, nor does Sam. Terry had his time in uniform. Still, Tara wins the argument.

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28 CONTINUED:

On the other side of the restaurant, Sookie can hear a young punk talking T&A to her in his head. When he slaps her butt, Rene nearly breaks the man's arm and runs them out. Sookie says she could take care of it, but Rene says he she reminds him of his baby sister. He'd want somebody to stick up for her if he wasn't there.

She crosses to the waitress area and accidentally reads Arlene's mind. It pisses Arlene off, and Sam orders Sookie into his office. She apologizes but says she can't always turn off her mind. Sam asks if she really can't hear the vampire's mind. It must be relaxing. She agrees. He asks if she can hear him, but she refuses to do it. He says her jobs safe, no matter what. She still refuses and leaves. Sam looks up at a portrait on the wall of a collie protecting a little girl with blond hair.

In the kitchen, Lafayette tells Sookie not to let it get he down, but she plays dumb.

At the bar, Tara asks Dawn how Jason is. Tara digs at her for going back. Does Dawn think it's gonna last? Dawn digs back. Is there some reason Tara wants to know? Dawn leaves

Sookie realizes there's news on the TV. She asks Tara to turn it up. It reports Reverend Newland, his wife and 18 month old baby were killed in an automobile crash.

29 EXT. BILL COMPTON'S HOME - NIGHT

Sookie drives up, sees two cars there, one with "fang 1" as its licence, then walks to the door which is opened before she can knock. She's greeted by three horrific vampires, fangs extended, ready to bite. He vampire who was screwing Maudette Perkins is one of them. CUT TO END CREDITS.

THE END