

## Alan Ball out as "TRUE BLOOD" showrunner

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TRUE BLOOD's creator is stepping down as its guiding force.

First reported by [Forbes](#) yesterday, it seems Ball (SIX FEET UNDER) will no longer lead the series day-to-day, with exhaustion (both professionally and in relation to the series, which tired long ago) cited as the main reason.

[The Hollywood Reporter](#) confirmed as such, with Ball explaining, "TRUE BLOOD has been, and will continue to be, a highlight of not only my career but my life. Because of the fantastic cast, writers, producers and crew, with whom I have been lucky enough to work these past five years, I know I could step back and the show will continue to thrive as I look forward to new and exciting ventures."

HBO had this to say on the departure, "When we extended our multiyear deal with Alan Ball in July 2011, we always intended that if we proceeded to TRUE BLOOD's sixth season that Alan would take a supervisory role on the series and not be the day-to-day showrunner. If we proceed to season six, the show will remain in the very capable hands of the talented team of writers and producers who have been with the show for a number of years. This is the best possible world for both HBO and Alan Ball. Alan will remain available as executive producer to consult and advise on TRUE BLOOD and he will be free to develop new shows for both HBO and Cinemax. BANSHEE, on which Alan serves as executive producer, is the first in house series for Cinemax and is expected to begin production this spring."

Having lost interest in TRUE BLOOD barely two seasons in, a creative overhaul may be what's needed. Are you worried?