

Privileged to learn from a daytime master.

{mosimage}{mosimage}Laura DeBrizzi began her love affair with daytime drama in 1997 when she interned at One Life to Live in the Writers Office under the tutelage of Emmy-winning head writer Claire Labine (creator, Ryan's Hope; head writer, General Hospital).

"To just be around Claire and watch her brainstorm was a dream for me," DeBrizzi says. "And to be able to have the opportunity to have this amazingly talented woman look at my work was a once in a lifetime event."

After close to a year working over on West 66th street in Manhattan, DeBrizzi accepted a position with Bauer Publishing as News Editor for the now defunct Soap Opera Update, where, during her four year stay at the publication, she officially covered As The World Turns, One Life To Live, and General Hospital.

It was during this time, too, that she helped to launch various Bauer publications, which, to this

day, remain on the market, including the teen pleaser J-14 as well as the celebrity-focusedr> Life Story. Entertainment Today, The Miami Herald, The Daily Record and Source magazine also saw contributions from Ms. DeBrizzi.

DeBrizzi is a graduate of Drew University earning a BA in Sociology (with an emphasis in Criminology) and Writing. When not enjoying the life of a newlywed with spouse David Umstead, and writing for Soapdom, she also pens articles for the New York Daily News and occasionally, TVGuide.com, as well as In Touch and Panache magazine.

And whom does she name as her favorite soap distraction? Hands down, Maurice Benard (Sonny, General Hospital).

"It's the dimples," she laughs.

And the only other person who can turn her attention from those said dimples?

Her 6-year-old nephew, Andrew Joseph.

“He’s my heart.”

DeBrizzi has been covering east-coast events for Soapdom since 2005.