



SD: Xena has been given the power to kill gods by the archangel Michael?

RJ: We're going to deal directly with the way the angels use Xena this season and her power to kill gods will be a major element of the story.

SD: Speaking of upcoming episodes – will Ares be coming back?

RJ: He will be making at least two appearances – "Coming Home" and "Old Ares Had A Farm."

SD: How about Claire Stansfield ("Alti")?

RJ: She is in at least one – "Send In The Clones."

SD: Is she playing Alti?

RJ: Yes and no – it's tricky.

SD: You kept Aphrodite alive so I would assume we will see her again?

RJ: She will be back for at least one – "The God You Know."

SD: I know he's dead, but what about Joxer?

RJ: It's a definite maybe for Joxer?

SD: When Xena and Gabrielle first see Eve in the desert, Gabrielle tells Xena she doesn't know if she wants to help save Eve.

RJ: At the beginning of the episode, Gabrielle didn't know whether she wanted Eve to be forgiven because she had killed Joxer. The Furies sent by Athena to drive Gabrielle insane had a fertile field for what they

wanted to accomplish. She was already filled with resentment because of his death. Obviously, the sane Gabrielle would never do anything

to hurt Xena's daughter, but a Gabrielle possessed by the Furies is another matter.

SD: Does Ares really love Xena?

RJ: He absolutely loves Xena. I don't want to suggest in any way that Ares' love is something we should get dewy-eyed about. He is cruel and manipulative. I know some people would like Xena and Ares to get together. Well, that ain't never gonna happen. However, Xena has been with bad boys her entire life, so she's not unmoved by the attractions of this earthy, beautiful man.

SD: I keep wondering with all the terrible things Ares has done to Xena versus how tempted she is by his charisma, could she ever really give in to him?

RJ: You mean in the sense of having an amorous relationship with him?

SD: Yeah.

RJ: No. If they're put in certain situations, she will continue to be a little turned on by him, but she knows it's wrong for her. Being grateful to him because he saved Gabrielle and Eve and gave up his immortality – all these are things we'll deal with in the next season. In my opinion, the actual consummation of a sane Xena with Ares would not happen. And we're not planning to drive her crazy to do it either! (laughs)



"YOU SHOT ME! I'M THE GOD OF WAR!
NOBODY SHOOTS THE GOD OF WAR!"
- ARES TO XENA ("MOTHERHOOD")