



DAVID: "I Make Mistakes, TOO!"

The telephone was ringing as David unlocked his front door, balancing the packages he was carrying and dropping several of them in the process. By the time he had deposited them on the couch and rushed to the phone there was nobody on the line.

"Oh well," he said to himself, "I'll check with my answering service later." Then he began stacking the brightly wrapped gifts with all the others under his Christmas tree.

He couldn't help smiling as he looked at them, anticipating the moment when his family and friends would be there to open

them. This year was the first time he had actually managed to do some advance shopping, instead of rushing around madly at the last minute. There were only a few more to buy, and several days to go before Christmas!

His thoughts were interrupted by the chime of the front doorbell, and he opened it to be greeted by his roommate, Sam Hyman's smiling face.

"Hey, I just got a call from your dad," said Sam. "He said he tried to get you, too, but you didn't answer."

"Oh I was just coming in from shopping," answered David as they walked back into the living room.

Sam stopped in front of the tree and whistled his appreciation. "Wow! When did this go up? I was only here yesterday morning!"

"My brothers and I did the whole thing last night," said David proudly. "I just decided on the

spur of the moment that I had to have a tree this year!"

They were in the kitchen opening some Cokes when Sam remembered his reason for stopping by. "Hey, your dad called to invite us to a party! He's giving a big bash on New Year's Eve and just about everybody we know will be there!"

"New Year's Eve . . ." David said



slowly. "Well, I guess I'll be in town . . ."

"It'll be a gas!" Sam finished his soda quickly and put the bottle down. "I've got to run—I'll talk to you later. Don't forget to call your dad and tell him you're coming!"

After Sam left David went back into the living room and stretched out on the couch, looking at his tree. It was strange that while Christmas filled him with so much happiness and excitement, the thought of celebrating New Year's didn't do a thing.

## SAD MEMORIES

Maybe he didn't look at it the way other people did. Instead of it being the beginning of a new year, he always felt kind of sad because it was the end of 12 months. This was when he was reminded of all the things he'd meant to do but didn't—the plans that had fallen through—and most of all, the mistakes he'd made!

"Ah, the mistakes!" David said softly. He thought of interviews and photo sessions he'd done that hadn't turned out the way he had meant. All the misunderstandings and hurt feelings that had resulted from his just not thinking before

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