

David Cassidy's Five Years of Torment . . .

Who am I? What do I want to do? Where do I want to go?

Those are the questions pop superstar David Cassidy asked himself for fourteen months after he broke away from his old ties of stardom to re-evaluate his life.

Actually, he became a recluse for two years. He even cut his hair — as a symbol of rebirth.

Finally with the help of two friends, Cassidy is now emerging from the wilderness and is a new person. From now on he intends to be himself and not let other people rule his life.

The pain of those five years when he had every young American female eating out of the palms of his hands is still with him.

Those were terribly



DAVID CASSIDY

unhappy years for the teeny-bopper idol despite the fame, success and money his frenzied career handed him.

"I went through five years

of hell," he said in a recent interview.

"I was packaged, merchandised and sold as someone I really wasn't — not the real me at all.

"I was on the move all the time, touring, recording, going to the studios all day," added the 25-year-old singer, running his hand through his healthy crop of hair, already flecked with gray.

David admits that he did too much during that period. He says it retorted his relationships with people and he became paranoid and skeptical of others.

"I didn't have the freedom to reveal the real Cassidy. I was anchored to that old image to cash in on the teenies' market."