

THE DAVID CASSIDY STORY

PART 50

A week of rest, of course, was just what David needed. And if it had been a nice, relaxed period, just lazing about and enjoying a good, quiet rest, it would have been fine.

But there's something about having to lie flat on your back, with your arm full of needles connected to bottles of plasma and liquid food that can make a week stretch out, past the point of comfort, until it gets pretty uncomfortable.

And that was David's week. As he says now, "I had been looking forward to a rest for so long that it never occurred to me that, when it came, it would be anything but a welcome relief.

"Boy, did I have a surprise in store! I mean, I couldn't get out of bed for fear of ripping open the stitches, so I tried reading at first—until my eyes began to feel like they were full of sand.

"I read everything around, books, scripts, magazines and newspapers, until I felt like my head was full of words!

"After that, it was television. That was a bit easier, but it didn't help much during the day—the programmes were all so boring that I couldn't stand that after a while.

NICE MIXTURE

"I finally managed to work out a nice mixture of reading, watching telly, and finally, in the evenings, I could see a couple of friends and my family as well. But it seemed a whole lot longer than a week."

But it was only a week, and David was finally allowed out of hospital—provided he agreed to spend another two weeks in bed at home.

And as he says, "By that time I would have

agreed to anything to get out of hospital. But I can't say that I exactly relished the prospect of twice as long again in bed."

There were, of course, a number of compensations. To begin with, David is one of those people who can't stand to be fussed over. And life in Mt. Sinai is no place for someone like that! It's one of America's best hospitals, and the care that they provide for people after serious operations is second to none.

"There seemed to be so many people around, all of them wanting to make sure that I was comfortable, that it began to get on my nerves.

INACTIVITY

"It wasn't that I wasn't grateful," David hastened to add. "It's just that I began to feel a bit guilty about having so many people worried about me—doctors, nurses, porters, as well as my family and friends."

So first of all, going home meant a chance for David to more or less take care of himself. He was definitely on the mend, and that meant he could get up for brief periods—although nothing that would be too taxing.

Of course, anything heavy had to be out of the question. That wasn't any bother, because David had a housekeeper to take most of the burden, things like cooking and washing up, and the general day to day routine that keeps a house going.

But there was still the horrible fact of inactivity that led eventually to boredom.

Once again, David's friends came through for him. They were a pretty busy bunch as well, but they managed to make sure that David had someone to talk with in the evenings. And, of course, Sam was always around to see that David took it easy, and didn't overdo it—whether he wanted to or not!

It was quite a blow when David discovered



David and his mother developed a good relationship as the series drew into its second season.