LIFE CASSIDY'S DAVID STORY!

Some guys are super shy, others are brash and arrogant. Some guys are kind of slow and casual, others race through life.

Somewhere right in the middle of all the extremes is David Cassidy, an outstanding new actor. He's neither super outgoing nor terribly introverted.

Some people are described as diamonds in the rough—you know there's something interesting there if you could just smooth down the rough edges. David Cassidy has no rough edges, no extremes. He's smooth and comfortable.

The best hint at what David's all about comes from asking him what he hates more than anything else. "I don't like super-liberals or super-conservatives," he states. And somewhere in the middle between the two extremes is David.

HIS LIFE STORY

It's common when introducing someone new to have the person tell his life story to a reporter, who then tells the story in his words, but we thought you might like to hear David's story in David's own words. This is the way David looks back over his life.

"I was born in New York on April 12, 1950. I grew up—most of the time in New Jersey—like for my first ten years I lived in a town named West Orange.

"I moved to California when I was about 10. I went to public schools until I was about 16 or 17. Then I went to a private school here in California called Rexford.

"My parents (Jack Cassidy and his first wife Evelyn, now divorced) were in show business and I always wanted to be in it too. I've always wanted to be an actor, since I was real young, like around three. I really dug what my father was doing and I wanted to do it, too.

"I first started on my own when I was about 16 or 17. I had done some summer stock with my mother when I was about 10—she put me in a couple of the shows she was in. This was my real mother. (David's father is now married to actress Shirley Jones.) But until I was 16 I didn't do anything on my own.

"Then I got a part in a new musical they were doing at the L.A. Theater Company. It was a pretty good role. I sang and danced and did two numbers. I worked with them for a while and then I finished high school—I graduated in 1968 from Rexford. A lot of other people you know graduated with me, including Jon Provost and Dino Martin, Jr.

STUDYING & WORKING

"I went back to New York right after I graduated, to study. I was studying and I had a part time job in a textile industry, working in the mail room. That was really strange. I really felt lost, 'cause I was like alone and living in a town called Irvington, which I don't even want to discuss. It was the first time I was really on my own and I really felt lonely. But I think I grew a lot emotionally then.

"During this whole thing I was auditioning during my lunch hours. Finally I got a part in a Broadway show called "The Fig Leaves Are Falling," and they fell. The show was a bomb. I worked on the show, including rehearsals, for about four months all together. It was a good experience for me, I think. The show closed, but while I was in it a man came to see me from CBS films and asked me to test for a film called 'Hail Hero.' So I came back out to California to do the test. I was real young looking and didn't think I'd get the part but it was a chance for me to come back out here and see my friends. I kind of missed Hollywood.