



“ David Cassidy lays it on the line:
**There aren't that many
girls that interest me** ”

by Brenda Marshall

“I don't date much, because there aren't many girls that interest me. I wish there were,” sighed David Cassidy. “I'd like to meet that special somebody. I guess everybody wants that. Maybe I'm not really ready for love yet, but I'd like it anyway,” he smiled.

Then, the handsome young actor-singer—idol of millions of teenagers throughout the country—made a startling confession. “I don't think I've ever been in love,” he admitted.

“When I was younger, I remember a couple of times I thought I was in love. I got a ‘Dear John’ letter once when I went away to camp. I was about 14 and my girlfriend of six months sent me this letter the first week I was away, saying she'd found someone new. To say I was upset would be putting it mildly. I just went crackers for one or two days.

“At the time, I thought I was in love, but now, when I look back on it, I think I could have been in love with anyone. I'd no responsibilities and just liked having fun. A great way to live,” he commented, “but it seems very unreal now.”

We were talking one sunny afternoon in the living room of David's beautiful home above the famous Sunset Strip, which the 21-year-old star of ABC-TV's *The Partridge Family* shares with a roommate, film editor Sam Hyman.

With its stone floors, dramatic wooden ceilings, fine furniture and swimming pool, the house is in sharp contrast to his former rustic Laurel Canyon home on Mulholland Drive. David had to move out of there because too many teenage girls had discovered his address and used to congregate outside.

So he and Sam, who's been his friend since 7th grade, and their two dogs—Sam, a wirehaired terrier, and Sheesh, a German Shepherd—moved into their present home.

A housekeeper comes in three times a week, but they share the cooking chores. “Sam cooks one night, I cook one night and we take turns feeding the dogs,” he smiled. “These are the kind of responsibilities that are really a drag if you're on your own.

“Actually, my cooking's getting much better now. I'm not just making macaroni out of a packet. You know—pour it in, mix it up and it's instant death. Now I make salads and throw everything in: all kinds of cheese and vegetables, wild rice, and so on. I think we eat very well. We cook with health foods and eat yogurt and wheat germ.”

David needs to stay healthy, because he's one of the busiest young men in Hollywood. He has to be at Screen Gems studios by eight o'clock each morning for his role in *The Partridge Family*, and evenings and weekends are devoted to recording sessions and public appearances.

But David couldn't be happier, because he's wanted a show business career as long as he can remember.

He was raised in a show business atmosphere. Born April, 1950, only child of actor Jack Cassidy and actress Evelyn Ward, David grew up in New York. When he was five years old, his parents separated, and a year later his father married Shirley Jones, who plays David's real mother in the TV series.

When David was 10, he and his mother moved from New York to the West Coast, making their home in Los Angeles, where David finished grammar school, attended Emerson Junior High and graduated from Rexford, a private school in Beverly Hills.

Then, three weeks after graduation, he left home and headed back to New York. “My father had a place in Irvington-on-the-Hudson in New York State, so I stayed with him for about two months,” he recalled.

But, instead of finding David a/*continued on page 54*