

• Dear Susan,

When I have time, I love to catch a movie or a play. I love serious drama and comedy. The most recent movie I saw was Love Story, and the most recent theatrical production I saw was a Los Angeles production of the musical Company.

Dear David,

This is a blunt question but I am a blunt person—do you really like all the fame and fortune that being a star has brought your way?

Irving Chase

Manhattan, N.Y.

• Dear Irving,

To be blunt—yes, I do dig the fame and fortune that comes with being a star. But I think I'd better straighten you out on a couple of things. At the stage that I'm at now in my show business career (I still consider myself somewhat of a beginner, even though I have been working professionally since I was 17), there is much more fame than fortune. I really do work very hard and my friends and fans out in 16-land show their appreciation by helping me to become more and more famous—and I am deeply appreciative for that. However, the fortune part comes a little harder. It takes a while for the various big-wigs in the studios, etc., to acknowledge a young star's success by paying them more money. Meanwhile, being a "star" is very expensive. For instance, when I go on the road I have to pay for all the publicity, for all the costumes we wear, for the rental of the auditoriums, etc., etc., etc.! In other words, it costs a lot of money to become a star and it is hard work—but it is also worth all the effort involved. Yes, I dig it.

Dear David,

Aside from records, TV and concerts, what else would you like to do in show business?

Patty Ann Marks

Kansas City, Missouri

• Dear Patty Ann,

Wow—how much can one man do? My work schedule is so heavy right now that I don't think I could take on anything else, but if I could—I would really dig doing a movie, I would flip out to do a Broadway show and I would go simply wild if I could one day write and direct for movies, TV and Broadway.

Dear David,

My girl friend told me that you are half blind and wear glasses. I read in 16 and SPEC that you had eye trouble when you were younger, but I thought this was cured. Would you please straighten me out?

Patricia McInerney

Westbury, N.Y.

• Dear Patricia,

Don't know where your girl friend got her crazy, mixed-up information, but I can assure you that my vision is almost perfect—and I only wear glasses once in a while for close-up reading. My eye troubles are in the past, thank heavens!

Dear David,

How old are you? When is your birthday? Do you have

a sister? Do you like animals? Do you go to school or have a tutor? Please write back and send me pix also.

Laurie Fritz

Baltimore, Md.

• Dear Laurie,

Every single one of the questions you asked has been answered numerous times, not only in 16 but in SPEC. However—just for you—here is the info again. I was born on April 12, 1950, which means that this past April I turned 21 years old. I do not have a sister. I have three half-brothers—Patrick, Shaun and Ryan. (All three of them send a fond "hello" to you.) As for animals—I love 'em all, especially dogs. My very favorite dog is my "sometimes" terrier Sam. I was graduated from high school when I was 17 and attended classes at UCLA, but I have since discontinued them because of my heavy work schedule. As for writing letters and sending pix—I can't sit down and personally write a handwritten letter to every one of you wonderful 16-ers who are good enough to write to me, I use this column each month as my personal letter to you. Here you will find all your questions answered—and in 16 and SPEC—you will always find hundreds of pix of me. If you really and truly want to know even more about me (plus getting a lot of additional big exclusive pix of me), turn to Page 23 for a pleasant surprise.

PERSONAL MESSAGES AND THANK YOU'S

• **To Denise Yannessa of Cinnaminson, N.J.:** Thank you for the two beautiful candles that form 21 for my birthday—and the Love Is book.

• **To Clare Ann Guzz of Shenandoah, Pa.:** Thank so much for the thick black cowhide belt you sent—it sure helps to keep my pants up!

• **To Lynn Bond of Montgomery, Ala.:** Thank you for the sweet-smelling Aries incense. I guess you know that Aries is my birth sign.

• **To Abbey Trowell of London, Canada:** The red-and-white checked, pig-shaped pillow you sent was really original! Thanks ever so much!

• **To Linda Osedach of Fairfield, Conn.:** Thank you for your thoughtful gifts. The two silver candles, the ring, the book, and the blue scarf for Shirley Jones are very much appreciated.

• **To Janet Witek of Indianapolis, Ind.:** I really dig the mushroom candle and all the other goodies you sent. Thanks.

• **To Dawn Jardine of the Bronx, N.Y.:** What I dig most about the long yellow scarf you sent is that you knitted it yourself. Thanks for your thoughtfulness.

• **To Patty Gates of Bay Shore, N.Y.:** Thank you so much for the green headband you crocheted with the word peace on it. It expresses my sentiments very well.

• **To Valerie Smith of Garland, Texas:** Your lovely oil painting of Susan and myself will be forever cherished. My heartfelt thanks to you.

If you haven't seen your letter, or a "thank you" to you, in this department this month, please don't be discouraged. All of your letters, cards and gifts are received and deeply appreciated—and, as I've said before, I will try to answer each letter and send a personal "thank you" to all of you. Meanwhile, please keep writing. Here's my address: David Cassidy's Private Mailbox, c/o 16 Magazine, 745 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022.
