

# A DAY WITH ★ DAVID CASSIDY

It's one o'clock in the afternoon and everyone is nervously pacing around the photographer's studio. Every once in a while, we glance over toward the door out of the corner of our eye. We're all trying to keep calm, but it's difficult. We look at each other and smile knowingly, realizing what everybody is thinking. The reason for our uneasiness? At 1:30 p.m. we're expecting a very special visitor—David Cassidy. Now you can understand what we're going through! The clock ticks loudly on the wall as if it knew we're all extremely aware of its presence. The door opens; we look in that direction as casually as we can. Alas!—it's just the food boy delivering the fried chicken we ordered for lunch. The tension builds up as the clock strikes 1:30. Our photographer tries to break the silence by declaring a lunch break as he hungrily attacks a piece of chicken while offering the basket to everybody. But except for the wing the photographer has demolished, the chicken remains untouched. Who can eat?

The door opens—this time it's David! He strolls into the studio, accompanied by his publicist, and stops just inside the door. Everybody gapes at him.

"Hi, everybody," David says, trying to break the ice. It does the trick! As if that were the signal we were all waiting for, we surround him, rapping a mile a minute.

"You're much better looking in person than you are on television," says model Jean Scott.

"Do you like being in the 'Partridge Family'?" asks another TEEN model. After a few more minutes of firing questions at David, our beloved photographer leads him to a stool to pose for TEEN'S cover.

"Hey, come on over here and talk to me while I have my picture taken," David yells to us. No further encouragement is necessary. We charge over to the stool and continue barraging him with questions.

"Do you prefer acting to singing?" asks Dan, one of our male models.

"I like them both about the same," replies David as he poses for the camera. He takes all the attention in his stride. Photo sessions are now par for the course for David. He is perfectly relaxed while simultaneously handling the questions thrown at him and having his picture taken. His calmness is infectious, and pretty soon we are all feeling completely at ease.

While the photographer clicks away, David raps to us about his career. "The Partridge Family' has opened up so many doors for me! I guess you could say I have the best of both worlds—acting and singing.

I've been working hard these past few months rehearsing for the personal appearance bookings scheduled for this summer," he tells us. "I really enjoy performing live. It's such a great thrill to watch the audience digging the music. I've written a couple of songs which I'm going to include in my act. I can't wait to see the reaction they'll get."

We listen eagerly to every word. His time is our time, and a chance like this only happens once in a lifetime! Even though we're all rapping and laughing together like old friends, his charisma has us floating in a dream world.

"Do you practice guitar every day?" asks model Bruce Kirkendoll.

"Yes, whenever it is humanly possible. I try to get in at least two hours a day, no matter how tight my schedule is," David says on a more serious note.

All too soon our photographer thanks David for his patience and he is free to go.

"Oh, no," we groan loudly, "please don't go yet, David."

"Can we interest you in a piece of chicken?" asks someone, pushing the chicken basket under his nose.

Not deterred by David's "No, thank you—I've already eaten," Cathy reminds David that it's an extremely hot day and that a cool glass of Coke would make it a lot easier to face the heat of the day when he leaves.

David accepts Cathy's persuasion and sits down with us, Coke in hand, to join in the fun for a little while longer. His publicist, fidgeting with his watch, reminds David that it's getting late and he has an appointment across town in 30 minutes. Much as we want David to stay, we don't want him to be late for his other commitment. We remember how we felt when we were waiting for David to arrive! We escort him to the door, wishing that we could turn the clock on the wall back to 1:30 and start our chat all over again. He kisses all the girls on the cheek, thanks us for an enjoyable day and says, "I hope you all had as much fun as I did." Is he kidding??

Bedlam breaks out in the studio as David's car drives away. "Isn't he gorgeous?" "Isn't he fun?" the girls scream in unison. "I got goose bumps when he kissed me good-bye," laughs Debra. "Me too!" "Me too!" the others screech.

The male models, somewhat calmer than the girls, sit in a corner discussing the day's events.

"It was great fun. Seeing David on television and seeing him in person was a whole different thing. I feel like I know him," Scott comments.

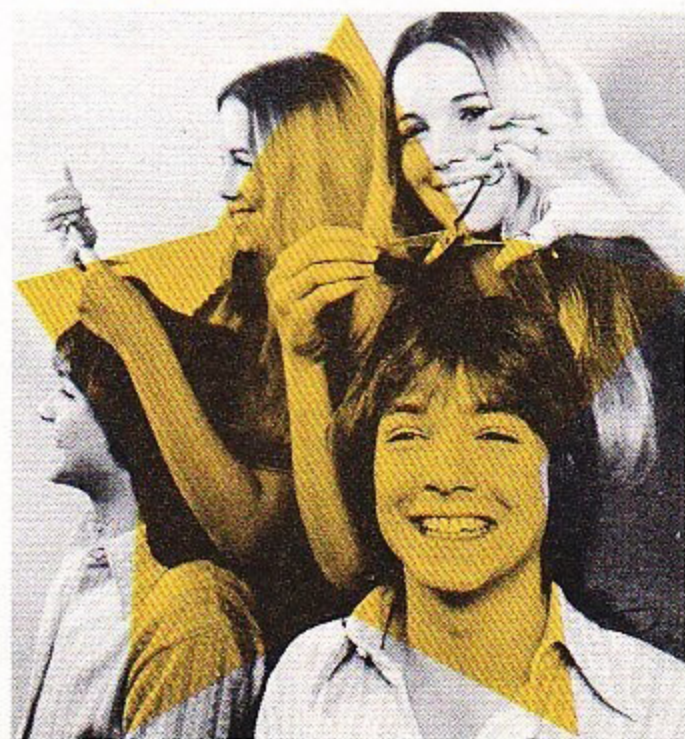
"Yeah, I know what you mean," says Chris. "I was surprised to see him fitting in with us so easily. He was like one of the gang."

"He seems pretty sure of himself, like he knows what he's doing," breaks in Dan.

"At first I thought he was going to be the typical movie star, but he was really down to earth," summarizes Bruce.

Terry, overhearing the last comment, interrupts. "Down to earth? Are you kidding!? He's out of this world," she jokes.

Time to go! We grab our belongings and drive home, happy and content in our separate dream world, knowing that the day we spent with David will always remain one of the most precious memories of our teenage years. **T**



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