

*David and Susan (Continued)*

David Cassidy and Susan Dey—two people you'd give anything to be close to. Right?

But you still kind of wonder in the back of your mind if there isn't some great romance between them. No matter how often they tell people they are very good friends but are not going steady or engaged or anything like that, you still wonder.

If I were Susan Dey, you tell yourself, I'd sure be right in there trying. You just can't picture any girl getting to work with David all the time and not being in love with him. After all, you are and you've never even met him.

Well, when you get right down to it there is a love between David and Susan but it's the kind of love that comes with true friendship and not the kind of love that leads to marriage.

It all began for David and Susan over a year ago when they were selected for their parts in "The Partridge Family" and met for the first time while doing the pilot.

They liked each other right off. But that was to be expected—they were both young and attractive and interesting and suddenly tossed into something new and very different and very exciting. They didn't know how long it would last. It was possible the show would never sell and this would be the only time they'd work together. But it was also possible the show would not only sell but be a huge success and they'd end up working together for years.

In the beginning they dated a few times. Nothing big—just a couple of dinners and movies and things. And they began to get to know each other and to talk about their possible futures.

They talked for many hours and got to know each other pretty well. David, who'd already had quite a bit of acting experience, calmed some of Susan's fears, for this was her first attempt at acting after a successful modeling career.



And they discussed each other's childhoods and family life and discovered they had many things in common.

But love is a funny thing. You can't control it. You can't say "I'm going to fall in love with this person," or "I'm not going to fall in love with that person."

It just happens.

And what happened with David and Susan is that they just didn't fall head over heels in love with each other. But they did form a very close and strong friendship.

And in their more level-headed moments they realize that it is better this way. They both know how up and down love can be and they know how hard it would be to go through all that in front of the entire rest of the cast and crew every day. Can you imagine being in the middle of some sort of lover's quarrel and still having to go out there in front of all those people and pretend a sisterly love for him? It's a bit much to expect of someone who's an acting veteran, but for young people whose emotions are very strong it would be near impossible.

And what would happen if it didn't work out and you broke up, or, heaven forbid, he left you for someone else? You wouldn't be able to avoid seeing him ever again because you'd have to face him and everyone else every day!

Or suppose it did work and you found yourself heading toward marriage? Could you face the numerous rumors and snickers that would be all around you?

Basically both David and Susan are very glad that they did become very good friends, but not lovers. It worries both of them that rumors are constantly going around about the two of them. They both have to always explain to the people they *do* go out with that the rumors are all false.

Both of them date often but neither is going steady and it gets to be a bit of a drag always having to deny rumors.

David and Susan feel they have something very special and they aren't going to let anyone or anything destroy it, but they do wish people would believe them.