

don't."

Obviously David isn't the kind of person who would take up any of his fans on these offers—that's just not the way he does things. And it is almost impossible for David to tell the difference between sincere letters from a girl he might really dig and the ones who are just looking for a thrill from meeting some big names. Anyway, most of the offers sent by mail from fans are written because they know they will never really have to meet the star face to face.

David recognizes this fact, but he also recognizes the fact that many of his fans really feel very close to the people they see on television. "There are a lot of people out there who care," says David. "They see me as something. For me to destroy that image would hurt them. But it's a strange feeling to walk into a hotel lobby and see 20 or 30 of them waiting. For some reason they all scream, but when I go up to talk to them, they can't think of anything to say."

This seems to confirm the fact that David is not going to find that special girl out of the ranks of his thousands of fans—although many of them write every day describing their undying love for David. David is just going to have to take his time, meet various people and someday hope for that girl to come into his life. Actually David realizes that he may not be ready to marry until he's through his 20's. Since he's only 20 now, David may still be free and looking for ten more years.

For another thing, before David marries, he is going to be very sure of himself and the girl he wants to marry—and that they are both ready for marriage. After all, David has seen his real parents, Evelyn Ward and Jack Cassidy, divorce and he remembers probably more clearly than anyone what a terrible thing it was for the family to dissolve like that. Of course, David has also seen his father's marriage to Shirley Jones flourish and produce three terrific little boys, but he feels that the pain he suffered when his own parents broke up can never really be erased—even by this second happy marriage.

That's why David has sworn that when he marries it will be forever. He doesn't want the pain of divorce to ever rear its head in his life. When he marries, he wants it to be forever.

Another part of David's personality that sometimes keeps him from meeting people in private is his extremely inward pull. He withdraws into himself sometimes and even those close to him find it hard to reach him during those moments. Shirley Jones, his step-mother and co-worker on *The Partridge Family* probably knows David as well as anyone and the way she describes him is this: "He's a private person."

Even David himself recognizes this tendency in himself. He puts it this way: "I guess, basically, I am a loner. I always have been. I live in a house in Laurel Canyon with a dog named Sam." As for what else he likes to do, a friend of his put it this way: "He's not the kind of guy who likes to make lots of plans—when he's having fun, he wants to do things on the spur of the moment."

As for what he likes to do on dates, David himself spoke right up on that one. As in other aspects of his life, on a date, David likes a quiet and private time. "When I go on a

date," states David, "I like to do different things—play pool, go to a quiet dinner someplace . . . not worry about being 'seen' by people and wondering if it will make the columns." According to David there are still lots of people in Hollywood who run their lives the way the old "stars" did. But that's definitely not David's scene; he isn't interested in what everyone thinks. He's just interested in getting to know the person he is with and having a good time.

Talking about the California-Hollywood scene, David said this: "Los Angeles has always been like that, far beyond any place I had ever been as far as the kids and the sophistication went. I can remember when I was like thirteen, the kids were dating and going steady and I did too. I just got a call from a girl I used to go with when we were fourteen. It was really fun talking to her. She is married and has a baby now. I haven't seen her for five years."

Perhaps the reason David is so mature about girls now is because he has already gone through the going steady routine when he was so young and is now beyond that. Now David is looking for a different kind of relationship than the one he had when he was fourteen. At that time, no doubt, being seen places with a certain group of kids was important. Now David has grown away from that. The very fact that David had such a nice time just talking to this person out of his past shows how mature and sensitive a person he is. He cares about people and wants to know about lots of people. He is looking for a special girl, but on his way to finding that special relationship, David is going to meet people, talk to them and just enjoy life.

"I'm really happy now," says David. "Lucky, too—because there's really no amount of money that would keep me doing something if I didn't like it. I love show business . . . I am grateful for my life . . . I'm devoted to my mother, my father, my grandfather, Shirley, my little brothers . . . in fact, for me life is really beautiful."

David's quest for a girl—a mystery girl—to love and cherish is probably going to go on for some time. And lucky for David he can still be happy while looking for this relationship. He has a job he adores, great people to work with, a family that he adores and the strength of character to never give up his search until he is really sure he has found who he wants. David will not settle for any girl—he will keep looking for the perfect girl. And then, he will show her the letters and songs he has been writing to her for all these years. He will show her that she is the one who fulfills all his wishes and desires. The mystery girl of his dreams will no doubt receive much pleasure from the man—David Cassidy—who has fallen in love with her. Because, when David finally meets up with the one he is searching for, he will pour out all the love and consideration he is capable of giving. Knowing what a really remarkable person he is, that ought to be quite a lot! ■

PATTY DUKE

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When people speak of the father of Patty Duke's child, they are usually referring to

Desi Arnaz, Jr. Desi's reaction to this has really been quite mixed. On occasion he has denied it and once he even went so far as to joke about the whole matter as if it were all completely absurd. While attending a party with his sister at a big hotel, Desi stepped into a crowded elevator. He commented to his sister, "Don't stand too close to me, because if you turn up pregnant, people will blame me." This may well have been merely a joke on Desi's part but on the other hand it could well have stemmed from guilt feelings of actually having been the father of the child.

Life has been pretty tough around the Arnaz household and this whole fatherhood question has made things even rougher. Desi Senior and Lucy played husband and wife on television for years until the competition just became too much for either of them to stand. At first it seemed like the best thing that could possibly happen to a show business family. After all, they were married in real life so not only would they get a chance to be with each other constantly, but they would be playing roles that they would naturally be accustomed to and have lots of experience in. At first it worked out fine but then Desi and his wife began to subconsciously compete for the spotlight on the show, eventually the competition was no longer subconscious and their entire marriage split open at the seams. Desi, Jr. stuck by his mother but now that there is talk of his becoming the father of an illegitimate child, Lucy has broken off relations with her son.

This action was apparently instigated when Patty Duke asked if she could move in with Lucy and Desi, Jr. after the birth of her child. This trouble began, apparently, while Desi was out of Hollywood on a skiing vacation and was unable to referee the bout between Patty Duke and his mother. The child is a healthy boy whom Patty named, perhaps to be on the safe side, after her father. The child's name is Sean Patrick Duke.

Naturally, ever since the first reports of Patty's pregnancy, she has constantly been questioned by reporters on the subject. It is generally known that Patty has previously, on occasion, reported that she was feeling pregnant so when she said, about eleven months ago, that she was pregnant, no one really paid too much attention. Her words were, "Yes, I am having a baby in January. I don't think I should be ashamed. I'm proud that I am going to be a mother. Some people say it's my imagination, but I can only say that they don't feel it kicking and moving the way I do. It's a very active baby." But even this time she made no allusion to any medical confirmation of her state of pregnancy. It was primarily for this reason that hardly anyone really even believed she was pregnant—but as the months wore on it became more and more obvious that she had indeed been telling the truth this time.

Patty Duke's marital career has been even more complicated than her motherhood. In 1970 Miss. Duke was divorced not once but twice. Before Michael Tell there was the well known director Harry Falk. Harry Falk, though, seems to be pretty much out of the question as far as the fatherhood of Sean is concerned, so we will concern ourselves only with Michael and Desi, whom she never even married say nothing of divorced.