

A Letter From DAVID

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And that's what you should do, too. If you want to be an actress, be prepared to work.

I'd get every single part I could land in high school productions, community groups, anything to get experience. I never had an acting coach but then, I was born in a family that recognized good acting and bad. You might want to investigate the possibilities of getting a good acting instructor.

Whatever you do, don't sign up with one of those acting agencies that promise you 10 quick lessons and instant stardom! You'll wind up paying for pictures, prints, screen tests and all sorts of stuff that you don't need.

I wouldn't worry about moving to New York or Los Angeles (where you'll eventually have to come if you want to work in movies, television or on Broadway) until you're over 18 since you couldn't work before that anyway because of various labor laws and stuff. Otherwise, you'd have to be accompanied by a parent or guardian and that's pretty hard to arrange. Susan Dey had that problem when she moved out here for our show.

There's nothing wrong with smaller towns for laying down your basic groundwork. I think that sometimes, working in a bigger city like L.A. or N.Y. makes you a little too inflexible. What you have to maintain, after all, is a basically different and unique personality.

START SMALL

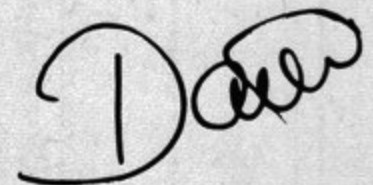
I wish I could help you more but I can't. After you lay in years of groundwork, all you can do is try to be in the right place at the right time for your big chance.

If you're tall, slim and distinctive looking (that doesn't mean pretty), try modeling. That will give you money to live on and some exposure to important people in a related industry.

If you're not the model type, try little theatre work, first in your city, then in a slightly bigger city, then in New York or Los Angeles. I know one guy who's a regular tiny-theatre player who's just beginning to land parts in movies. He intends to continue at the small theatre until he gets something really major. I think that's a good idea both money-wise and from an artistic point of view.

Acting is a business where you have to make your own way. Listen to all the advice you can hear (there's plenty around), be very careful about spending your money (actors are supposed to be poor anyway) and . . . well . . . Good Luck!

Love,



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