

# EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

WITH

# DAVID CASSIDY

David talks  
most horrible ! about his  
hurt



When David Cassidy first appeared big on the scene on his weekly show, many of the more cynical types out there in show business land said, "Well, what do you expect? He's Shirley Jones' stepson and Jack Cassidy's son. It's only natural they would give him the part."

This was totally unfair because what these people forgot was that the days of getting by just on one's name isn't enough. Today you must have talent.

And that, folks, is what David has plenty of. That's how he got his job!

There are many sides to David—some that are rarely shown to the public. And, in order to clear up the mystery about this fine young man, we've gone directly to the source.

So here in his own words is a conversation with David Cassidy.

When you first see him in person, you can't help being struck by his handsome good looks. Especially when he flashes his fabulous grin at you and his hazel eyes sparkle. The five-foot eight-inch David appears taller because he is so slim—which in turn makes him look so good in his groovy clothes.

David was born, he told us, April 12, 1950 at 10 A.M. in New York. But, he says he didn't remember a thing until 17 months later "when I was in a baby carriage, rolling downhill.

"For the first time I felt fear. I also remember feeling that I was just alive. This all happened in West Orange, New Jersey. The girl next door used to take me out for a ride. Fortu-

nately—the day the carriage ran downhill—she was able to run even faster. She caught me just in time."

Yes, it sure is a good thing, isn't it, girls?

What about David's mother?

"She's a wonderful woman," David says today. "She has always been just my mother. Not a show business mother. My father was always the same. With them I always came first. When I was real little, it was a great life. We lived on the outskirts of town, in a suburban atmosphere.

"As a kid, I was also very close to my grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ward. (*Editor's note: David's real mother is Evelyn Ward*). I lived with them until I was three, then again from the time I was six until ten. They were really marvelous people. My grandmother was a piano teacher. My grandad was a business man for various public services.

"She passed away just three years ago, but he's still going strong today at 81," David says warmly.

At 81, Grandpa Ward is David's biggest fan.

"If there's anyone in the world who is pleased with my success it's my grandfather. We have a very special relationship. You see, my grandparents had a rough time when they were married. Their first five children all died before the age of three. Then my mother came along. She, too, almost died as a baby, from a strep throat.

"So, when my mother grew up and got married and had a child, (Continued on page 66)