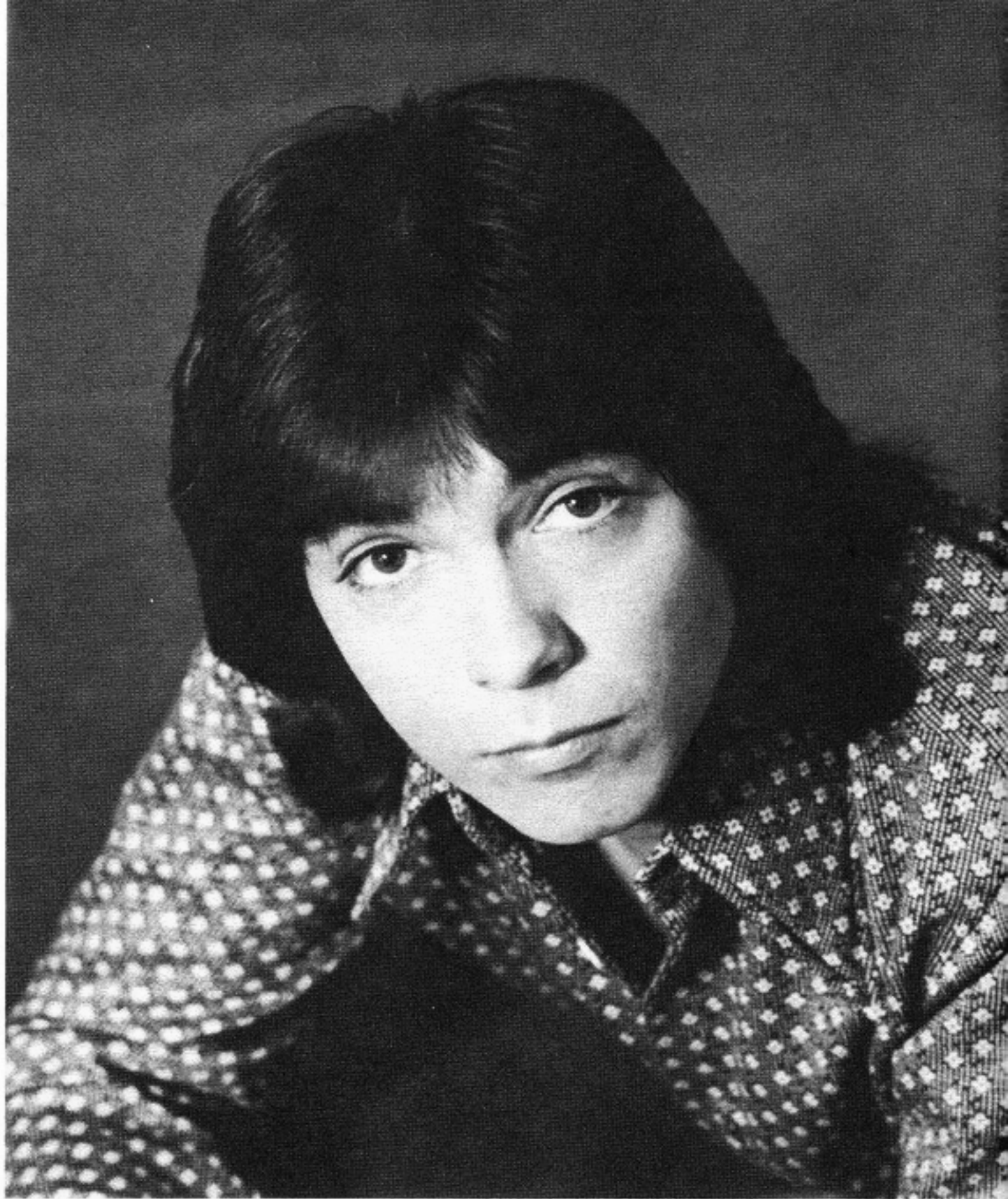


# DAVID - The Terrible SECRETS HE Tries To Hide



YOU SEE HIM as "Keith Partridge" on ABC-TV every Friday night. You listen to his records every chance you get. You read stories about him and look at his pictures in *16* and *SPEC* and, if you are especially lucky, you make *sure* to catch at least *one* of his live in-person concerts. What you see, love and adore is a handsome, talented, outgoing and super-cool young man named David Bruce Cassidy.

## THE "DARK" SIDE OF DAVID

But you haven't really seen *all* of the guy you love, for behind the brightness, the beauty and the sunshine of David there is another side—the dark, quiet and sometimes very much afraid boy-man. Of course, David tries to keep this side of himself hidden from public view—not because he's ashamed of it, but because he doesn't like to intrude his personal doubts, fears and emotions on anyone else.

And just what is *it* that bothers and upsets David? What is it that can turn this lively, outgoing young man into an insecure, brooding boy? Well, "it" is really nothing very big. In fact, "it" is a lot of little things—but they are those constant, nagging little things that haunt everyone's day-to-day life. For instance, behind all that *bravado* David is basically a somewhat shy and insecure fellow. Like all of us, sometimes when he's alone he has a tendency to brood on what he calls his "faults."

The feature about himself David likes least of all is—surprise!—his height. When David was quite young, he was the smallest kid in his class. For a few years he secretly hoped that he would suddenly sort of "shoot up," like so many youngsters do. But by the time David was eleven or so, this hadn't happened—so he began to hound his mom to "do something." All this time, of course, David himself was doing *plenty*. He was trying to eat

healthy, nutritious food. He was involved in a lot of physical exercise and sports, and he used to go to the gym and do "hanging exercises" in hopes of "stretching" himself. Every few weeks David would go to his "marking spot" on the bathroom wall and have his mom put a ruler across his head and mark the spot where it landed with a pencil. And the pencil mark was always *exactly* where it had been before!

Eventually, time rescued David from his terrible fear of being a "shorty" all his life, but it was a painful experience for him. Even to this day, he remembers the ordeal he went through. And he still secretly wishes he were two or three inches taller than his very beautifully proportioned five feet and eight inches!

Another thing that constantly caused David anxiety and fear was his eyesight. Because his eye muscles were weak, his vision was slightly distorted. Worse than that—David had a horror that his eye muscles would grow *weaker* instead of stronger, and that one day he would wake up cross-eyed! But as all you *16* and *SPEC* regulars know, David's eye problems were overcome through corrective lenses, surgery and exercises. And though today there is no greater thrill than looking into David's gorgeous, sparkling hazel-colored eyes, he *still* harbors his secret fear that his eyes never look quite straight in photographs!

There are other secret fears and doubts that haunt David's personal and private life, but he is finally beginning to learn (like all of us) that no matter how tormenting a problem—either real or imagined—he has, time and effort will overcome it. So now, when these doubts and fears arise, David remembers the lessons of the past and how he *was* able to *overcome* his two greatest secret fears.

**FOR MORE DAVID CASSIDY NEWS—TURN TO PAGE 54!**