

LIVES WITH DAY BY DAY!

□ □ □ What's it like being David Cassidy? A twenty-one-year-old teen idol? It's safe to say that David is envied all over the country and most guys his age would trade places with him in a minute even if just for one day. What they don't realize is that along with the adulation, the girls swarming around begging you to call, the groovy sports car and spacious Hollywood Hills dwelling, go all the private agonies of stardom. Maybe after we tell you a little more about David's problems, you'll be content with your own quiet, private life and no longer be jealous of David.

First, there is David's health to consider. This became a major concern just this past summer when David's life was threatened by a severe gall bladder attack, an attack so severe that David's life hung in the balance as his doctors fought the deadly infection that set in after his gall bladder was removed. All through the night, his family prayed, and their prayers were answered as David's frail body threw off the infection. But the effects of such an operation and illness are not so easy to overcome.

Usually, those who have had their gall bladder removed must remain on a special diet for the *rest of their lives*. It is not a difficult diet, it merely limits one's intake of fats. You see, the gall bladder produces bile which breaks down the fats in our systems into waste products and materials that can be returned to our system. While the liver is capable of taking over the functions of the gall bladder, the extra duties must be kept to a minimum so as not to overtax the liver. Remember, the human body is a very delicate organism.

We have no reason to believe that David has received instructions contrary to the usual rules laid down for gall bladder victims. For the rest of his life, he will probably have to be extra careful of his diet.

A diet can be easily controlled, so it should cause David no real problems. His doctors were probably more worried about his being a teen idol than the normal problems of a gall bladder patient. And they were right. Unlike an ordinary working man who can depend on his fellow workers to do his job till he gets back, David's job is unique. He has commitments to meet—recording dates, concerts, a TV show—and his fans will *not* settle for a substitute.

So David can't take time off to rest properly. Within a month after his major surgery, he was back doing concerts. *Partridge Family* filming that had been held up until he could take his place again in the cast, was resumed as soon as possible. Although major surgery can upset a patient's normal routine for anywhere from six weeks to six months, and even then many must not try to do a full day's work, for David, life went on as usual. Now his family, friends and fans must wait and pray that his enthusiasm, loyalty and dedication to commitments do not seriously impair his health again.

Would you still like to be David Cassidy, knowing that you can't even have the luxury of being ill without feeling guilty about holding up production schedules and having to cancel concert dates that are sold out months in advance? We doubt it. But, again, perhaps you still think it is worth the strain on your health.

Perhaps if that were David's only (continued on page 56)