



I've dated a lot of different girls . . . but what I really want is to get involved with someone so special that I wouldn't be able to go through life without her."

But David feels it is virtually impossible for this dream woman to be one of his many fans. For one thing, most of them are too young. Not that a sixteen-year-old girl is *always* too young for a twenty-one-year-old man, but David is not your average twenty-one-year-old. It's been said of him that he's "eighteen going on thirty!" And this is true, for David is very mature for his age. In fact, everyone who knows him intimately has no doubt that his wife will be an older woman.

According to one newspaper columnist, David finds older women "more mature than the crowd he attracts from the TV show." He has been seen dating several older women, and, rumor has it, *all* of them have already gotten serious about him!

This doesn't mean that David no longer appreciates his fans. On the contrary, he knows he'd be lost without them. If you've ever been to one of his block-busting concerts, you would see David relating to all of his fans on a very personal level. But when it comes to relating to just one fan, in his personal life, it doesn't work. It's not meant to. His need in his private life is not to be adored by a *public*, but *truly* loved by an individual. That's a different sort of need and requires a different sort of woman.

David has always had the "Star-and-his-Public" bug. "I was only three," he related recently, "and I can remember it. I had seen a lot of plays, and I knew that's where I wanted to be . . . on stage. I know some people wanted to be something else before being an actor, but all I've ever wanted was that. I love performing—it's the nucleus of my self. When I perform, David Cassidy is alive. It's a great challenge to me. If I'm not acting, then I'm singing. I love a live audience, I think it enhances me. The first time I was on stage I was scared, but the minute I realized 'there's an audience . . . they like me,' I was hooked. I'm not afraid at all. The only thing I fear, I think, is being a failure. Other than that, it's exciting. I really love it."

And don't think that David hasn't tried to relate personally to individual fans. (Continued on page 79)

