Dead David,

I've had this problem for some time now, and I'm turning to you since you're a guy—maybe you'll have a solution for me! There's this boy in school who I really like, and my friends say he likes me too. The only problem is, we're both too shy to do anything about it! How could I strike up conversations with him? Anything you could suggest would make me very happy.

Luv, Polli Maine

Dear Polli,

It sounds like you do have a little problem! After all, what's the fun in liking someone if you don't let each other know about it? What I'd suggest is asking him on a Monday perhaps, in school if he had a nice weekend. Ask if he did anything special and see what he has to say. That should start the conversation rolling! And then maybe in the middle of the week if you have classes together, talk to him about a homework assignment, or something the teacher discussed. Conversation shouldn't be too difficult after awhile, and I'm sure he'll be asking for your telephone number soon!

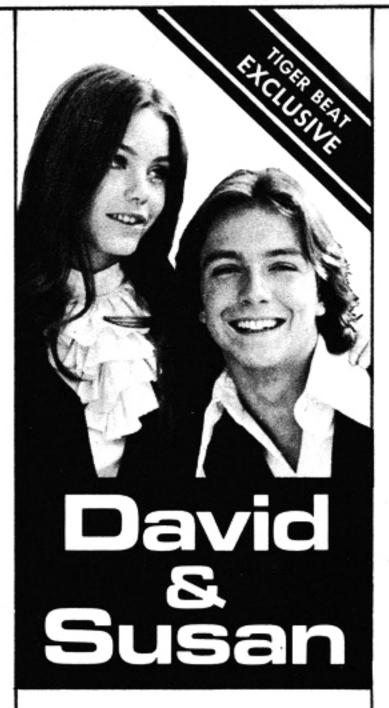


EVERY MONTH DAVID and Susan reserve several hours to pour over all the letters sent to "Tell It Like It Is" and put their answers down on tape. Their answers are then set in type.

Dear Susan,

My boyfriend's birthday is coming up next month, and I'd like to get him something special. Everybody gives after shave lotion, subscriptions to sports car magazines, etc., but I want my gift to be different! Do you have any suggestions?

> Barbara DeCordova Milwaukee, Wi.





The whole truth and nothing but the truth on all the questions you've been asking! Do you have a question for David or Susan? If so, you can write to them personally by writing to Tell It Like It Is, c/o Tiger Beat, 7060 Hollywood Blvd., Suite 800, Hollywood, Calif. 90028.

Dear Barbara,

Originality is the key word here, so let's see what we can come up with! If you're creative, maybe you'd like to design a poster or collage that includes some of his favorite interests . . . or better yet, how about making "twin" tiedyed shirts for the two of you? The more far-out the pattern, the better the surprise! If something like that doesn't appeal to you, maybe inquire as to what he may need and get him a little gift and invite him over for a homecooked dinner. Be sure to top it off with a fancy cake! You can make it yourself and put on all kinds of designs with little candies or frosting! Have fun, and let me know what you decide to do!

Dear David,

I need your help! I'm trying out for a part in a movie, and I'm scared to death! How did you feel when you had your first acting job? Were you scared? I'm 13 years old and I really need your advice.

> Thank you, Brenda Knight

Dear Brenda,

Congratulations for "almost" getting a part in the movie! I wish you luck! To tell you the truth, when I had my first acting assignment, I was terrified! I kept worrying that I'd forget my lines, or trip over something . . . it really took me a long time to get up some courage! But over the years I've discovered what the secret is, and I'd like to pass it onto you. If you can be confident in yourself, that's all that really matters. When you're scared, it reflects on your face like a mirror-and others know how you feel! But if you hide your feelings and show that you're self-assured and know what you're doing, others will sense it and you'll be in! After all, it's hard to turn down someone who's determined!

Dear Susan,

I guess you can call me one of the gang now because I've really begun noticing boys! The only problem is, I don't think too many boys are noticing me! What can I do to have a real eyecatching wardrobe? I don't have an abundance of bread.

Joyce Derringer Tulsa, Ok.

Dear Joyce,

Who says you need a million-dollar wardrobe to catch a boy's eye? Certainly not the thousands of girls with lots and lots of boyfriends! There's so much you can do these days, even Cinderella could've done wonders with her handme-downs and rags! The secret is often in accessories, so shop around for some pendants or ropes to liven up sweaters and dresses. When you shop for clothes, look for the brighter shades and refrain from dull, drab colors that have a tendency to blend in with the scenery. And