



One day, about a year ago, my little niece came up to me and said, "You know, you look like David Cassidy." I thought about it, laughed, and went on with what I was doing. The comment never again entered my mind until one year later, when I reported for work on the set of "The Partridge Family."

I was going to be an extra on the show. After one day on the set, everyone started remarking about how I resembled David. So they asked me if I'd like to stand in and double for him. That's how my life as David's double began. It's a great job. After all, I can't think of a groovier person to double for—can you?

CALL ME DAVID

Since I started working here, it's not unusual for someone who's looking for David to come up to me by mistake. "Hey, David—oh, sorry," are words I've become accustomed to.

When I'm not being called "David Cassidy," I'm known as Jan Freeman. I'm twenty-four years old, and a native Californian. I worked as an extra on "The Monkees" and various other TV programs, and as a stewardess, before I came to work on the Partridge set.



JAN AND DAVID HAVE FOUND they have more in common than their looks. They love talking together on all kinds of topics. Above, Jan wears the same cowboy costume as David when she doubles for him in an action scene!

Perhaps you're wondering what a stand-in and double does. I remain on the set to have the lights set up on me and the camera angles prepared, while David can relax, do interviews, or study his lines. That's the job of a stand-in: to take the place of an actor while the set is being prepared. Since David and I are the same size and coloring, we require the same lighting and camera angles.

A double takes the place of an actor during an actual scene—usually an action scene. Often it involves a stunt of some sort. In one episode David, as Keith Partridge, gets thrown out of a saloon—only it's ME that really gets thrown out!

TAKES ACTOR'S PLACE

The audience is supposed to think that the double is REALLY the actor. Naturally, the double and star are dressed exactly alike, and they must be similar in size, hair color, hair length, and sometimes facial features. For that scene I had to have my hair cut and styled exactly like David's, so that the audience would be sure to believe I was Keith. When people saw David and I standing together, dressed exactly alike, they said it seemed like they were "SEEING DOUBLE!!"

I couldn't be more delighted to have such a wonderful "twin," and I'm happy to say that David feels the same way too. David doesn't mind having a girl for a double at all. He has too much self-confidence and assurance to let that hurt his image of himself.

Many people have asked me if David thinks we look alike. The answer is yes! When I told him that I was going to be interviewed by TiGER BEAT he said, "Well, it's probably because we resemble each other." We joke about it a lot, and sometimes tease each other. We like to argue and tease each other about whether HE looks like ME or I look like HIM! We tease each other about other things too. David LOVES to tease—in a fun way.

I remember when I had a small part in one of the episodes. I played a teen-age girl, and I yelled out in a high-pitched voice, "It's Keith!! It's Keith!!" David was laughing and giggling all day long, and he kept coming up to me and shouting, "It's Keith!! It's Keith!!" exactly the way I did—using a really high and funny voice. Every time I turned around—there was David, yelling "It's Keith! It's Keith!!" I guess you might say David was doubling me, instead of me doubling him!

KNOW DAVID WELL

I've really gotten to know my double these past few months. Sometimes when we both have a break we sit and talk about music, his dog, his house and most of all—traveling—because I was a stewardess and David loves traveling. I love to rap with David. He's so warm, interesting and open.



Besides being great company, David is also great to work with. Everyone really likes him. The Partridge set is a warm, friendly set. It's the friendliest set I've seen—and David helps make it that way. He's friendly to everyone. He'll take time off to talk to people on the set, and he really digs talking to the fans who come to see him. They'll stand there kind of shy—and he'll start a conversation. It's beautiful to watch.

I think one of the luckiest things that ever happened to me was turning out to look like David Cassidy—or—should I say, David Cassidy turning out to look like me?? Well, no matter which way you look at it, it's still made me one very happy girl!



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