

# A Letter From DAVID

EXCLUSIVE IN FaVE!

David reads each and every letter you send to this column, and he promises to answer as many of your questions as he can! If you want some info, write him c/o FaVE Magazine, 7060 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood, Calif. 90028.

## “WHAT LETTERS REALLY MEAN”

I've just taken an entire afternoon to read your letters, and now I want to write this column and tell you right now, very quickly before I forget all I want to say, how much your letters mean to me.

Letters from you can change my whole mood. If I'm exhausted, they can make me feel happy and energetic, instead of all dragged out. They're also a way of communicating with you, even though that communication may sometimes seem one-sided if you don't hear from me right back.

I've been thinking so much about letters, that I'm going to start writing them more often than I have been. You know, I'm really a telephone person, or at least, I have been all these years.

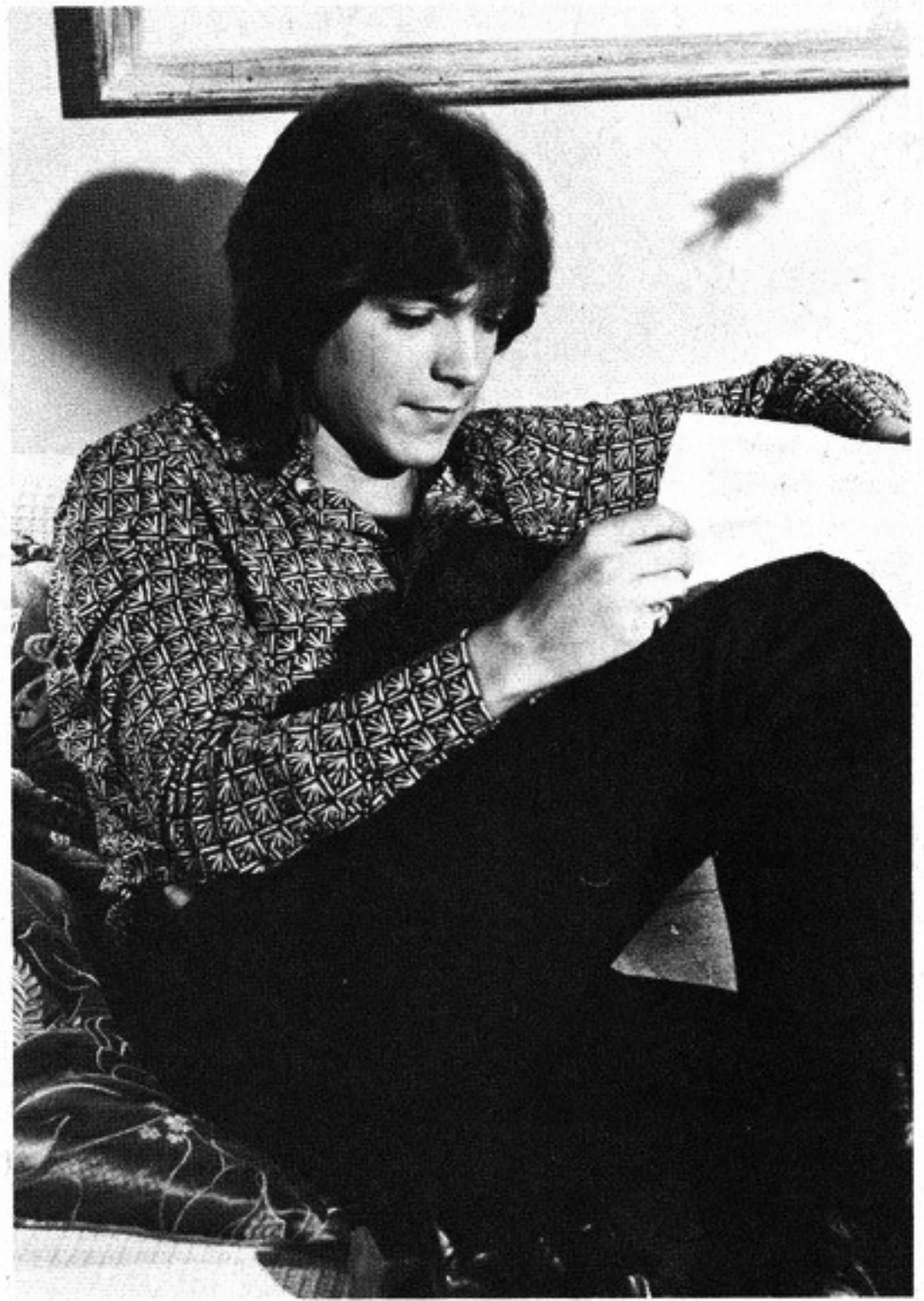
### TIME FOR THOUGHT

Like almost everyone else now, I always thought that the best way to communicate with people was to pick up the receiver and dial. But nice as it is to talk to someone, I think it's even more important to write. Why? Because writing gives a person time for thought.

It's very easy to make silly statements and say lots of things without really thinking about them when you talk on the telephone. But when you write a letter, the thoughts that go down on the paper are really thoughts you've taken time to think about, to turn over in your mind until they make sense.

People in generations before ours use to write letters a lot—they didn't use the telephone, even when they could. My mother is still in the letter-writing thing. She's very much part of the “Now” world, but she still knows that a stamp costs eight cents and a telephone call costs ten times more, and she likes to think out her thoughts too.

Letter-writing, sadly enough, is a dying art. People just don't write letters like they used to, and I think that's sad. I hope you're different. I hope you tell jokes in your letters, discuss politics, people, music, things that are really important in life, instead of gossiping away three hours on the telephone. People really should think more, I've decided, and letter-writing gives us a good chance.



### I FLIP OUT!

Besides, letters are so important. When I hear from someone I thought had been lost in time and distance—maybe someone I knew in eighth grade—I really flip out. I feel fantastic all day. I read the letter over and over again, until I know almost every word. And believe it or not, I write back!

But you know, we're young and we've got lots to do and places to see. Think about our grandparents, however, or older people we've known. How much a letter means to them is almost unreal. I know people who keep their grandchildren's letters posted on their wall, so they can be reminded that someone cares about them. When I found out how much letters to them meant, I started writing a lot more. And I know they appreciate it.

Through history, people have usually saved the letters they've been sent—that's why there are actually letters sold that were written by George Washington or Abraham Lincoln. I don't expect the letters I'm saving to be worth money when I'm old, but I do expect them to be rich in memories for me. Then I'm going to sit in a rocking chair and read my letters again and again. I hope one of your letters is there!

In the meantime, I hope I can help you see how important letters really are. You can do lots of things with letters, and if you've ever thought about being a writer, writing letters is the best place to start!

So, I hope I hear from you soon. And I hope your grandparents, great-grandparents, parents, brothers, sisters, and friends, hear from you, too!

Lots of love,