

# THE NEW THRILL IN DAVID'S LIFE



The sky was the exact blue of turquoise, and the landscape was covered with white, sparkling snow. From the mountaintop, the shadows of the deep valleys far below looked blue, and here and there the dark shape of a pine tree rose out of the dazzling whiteness toward the sky. The air was clear and frosty, and the slope dropped away from the top of the mountain so sharply that it was almost a cliff.

David Cassidy adjusted his dark glasses and took a deep breath, looking out over the magnificent view. His heart was pounding with excitement as he studied the slope. He was nervous, but confident. He took another deep breath, watched it float away from him, and then he dug his ski poles into the snow, lifted himself up, and took off down the steep hill.

## CRISP MOUNTAIN AIR

He gained speed rapidly, and soon the landscape was a blur. He shifted his body slightly to turn, avoiding a gray rock which poked up through the snow, and then all he could hear was the rush of the wind past him and the soft hiss of his skis over the powdery snow. Everything—the sky, the snow, the mountains—blended together in a sharp rush of speed, and David could feel the cold air biting at his face. He had never experienced anything like it!

Turning, twisting, fighting once or twice for balance as he hit small mounds hidden by the snow, he finally reached the bottom of the mountain.

He stooped suddenly, looked back up to the top almost a mile above him, and laughed. He had never felt so good in his whole life!

Tomorrow at six he knew he would be back on the sound stage, but today all he had to think about was his skiing! That night there would be the warmth of the ski lodge, and then the short flight back to Los Angeles and his work.

Skiing is the new thrill in David's life. He has surfed, skin-dived, and water-skied, but snow-skiing is something new, and for David it's the greatest feeling of all!

## LEARNED ON VACATION

He learned in Switzerland during his European vacation. He'd given it a little thought, but he wasn't sure he was actually going to do it. It's very dangerous, for one thing, and David knew how many fans he would disappoint if he broke a leg or something, and had to cancel a month's worth of concert appearances. But when he arrived in Switzerland and saw those glistening peaks stretching high into the clouds, he knew he had to try it!

And so he did. He found a good teacher, and they went up together. First David had to learn the basics—even little things like how to walk wearing skis—and he became very impatient to fly down the mountainsides, but he knew that if he was going to learn without seriously hurting himself, he had to find out how to do the little

things first. Finally he got to try a gentle slope, and he made it down with only one fall! His natural athletic ability made it much easier for him than it is for most people, and soon he was tackling the real slopes—and doing well enough so that people there thought he'd been skiing for years!

## SAD TO LEAVE

When it came time for him to leave, he felt terrible! All he really wanted to do was keep skiing, so his instructor made him a list of the best and safest equipment he could buy, and David put in an order for it to be shipped home. The day it finally arrived, he was so excited that he scattered the wrappings all over the house—and that very weekend he took off to ski in the United States for the first time!

Now it's a part of his life. He's on the yearly break from "Partridge Family," but his weeks are still full and busy. He has interviews, photographic sessions, and recording dates during the week, and concerts on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. With a schedule like that, you can tell how much David loves his new sport by the fact that he's managed to ski two days a week every week since he got back!

"Partridge Family" begins shooting in May, but David spent March and April getting better and better. His room has filled up with skiing equip-

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