

and neat as his hair, he prefers casual comfort. Jeans and a heavy sweater lurked beneath the coat he had to wear in Italy's winter weather. He had one dressier outfit for evenings.

His one concession to luxury was the room—not a suite—he'd reserved at the swanky Cavalieri Hilton. An American-style hotel was reassuring as his base on Rome. He listened to recommendations for what he should see, as he did before departing from Hollywood. Then he functioned spontaneously, a reward for faithfully sticking to the duties behind him for a while.

On his first morning in Rome, he barged out blissfully in his camper, armed with a map, wondering if he'd get lost because he didn't understand or speak more than a couple of words of Italian. He felt like he was driving a chariot when he aimed his car through the frantic traffic. Vespas roared by when he parked at the ancient Forum.

Locking his car carefully, he no longer claimed history was dull when he stood in the midst of it there. He laughed as he said to himself, "All roads lead to Rome—even for me." David's never been fooled by a star's popularity. He was brought up to foresee that it's temporary.

The Forum convinced him only the rarest fame isn't fleeting. What remains of the classical columns that graced the temples when the Casars ruled the world, the broken triumphal arches that mutely recall the mightiest of emperors, testified to that in the pitiless light of that noon. He resolved never to be too impatient again.

He snapped out of his reverie then abruptly. Someone had pried a door of his car open. His camera case, in which he'd stuffed his passport, his driver's license, and \$960 in Traveler's checks, had been stolen!

That was his disaster the first day in the most cosmopolitan of cities. It taught him there could be a thief when he least anticipated one. But, since he'd parked properly on a busy main street and certainly couldn't identify a robber he hadn't seen, he didn't carry on about his plight. David drove back to his hotel and put in a long-distance call to his business manager in California for the assistance he needed in that predicament. Then he put it out of his mind, determined not to let it spoil his vacation.

Happily, he climbed the Spanish Steps. He found the Fountain of Trevi on another expedition. Whenever David spotted another spectacular fountain in another splendid piazza, he grinned. He whispered, "Bella Roma!"

St. Peter's, the Sistine Chapel, and what he saw of the Vatican Museums were so magnificent he won't attempt to describe them.

He decided to walk to observe modern Italy in action. David discovered the young women there have superb teeth and gorgeous complexions, as well as flashing eyes and great hair. He was thrilled at feeling more adult when seductive eyes informed him he didn't seem just a boy.

He hasn't confided what he did on his four nights in Rome. That'll be his mys-

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