

DANNY BONADUCE

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being so bright attached my picture—yep, an 8 by 10 glossy and the result was fantastic. They loved dad's script, I got the part, and loved dad twice as much as before, if that was possible". Remembering as though it all happened that moment, Danny continued, "right after that I went with a new agency and it wasn't more than three weeks after that when I tested for "the Partridge Family" and got the series." Bedlam broke out in my house, Danny confided, and the excitement was still evident, because as he was talking the ice cubes from his coke were now spilling all over the table and the water was dripping on my feet.

The devilish look that was obvious on Danny's face throughout the entire lunch, became evident again, as he broke into laughter. "If not for the Partridge series I never would have gotten my motorcycle". Puzzled by the statement, Danny said, "well, it's like this". "I wanted a motorcycle for such a long time and my mother kept putting me off. Finally after I tested for the show she made a deal with me—never expecting to have to pay off... boy she's a sly one", he giggled. "Mom gave me a choice, either I get all "A's" on my report card or get the series. I know Mom thought she was perfectly safe saying this to me, as my chances of bringing home all A's on my report card was a laugh, and my chances of getting the series—well we were hopeful, but so were a million other kids. "But the day Mom came down to my friend's house, driving a brand new cadillac, my eyes widened, gasping. I yelled out, "hey mom, did Dad strike it rich"?, laughing with a gleam in her eye she said, "no, it's our neighbor's car, but you did get the series". Still looking as though he was in shock he said, "I couldn't believe what I heard, I was so happy I didn't know what to do with myself. I couldn't cry, as only little boys cry", and when he said that I had to laugh, as this eleven year old man was talking. He continued, "I said, "goodie", now I get my motorcycle. Mom couldn't go back on her word, as she never has with any of

us, and we went out immediately and I got a Honda 70. Soon I will be getting a Honda 100 he confided, but his mother, winking a sly wink, shook her head "no" but let Danny continue to talk. "Guess what, he jumped in with such vitality, "we bought my mother a Vespa motorcycle for her birthday, as since Mom is always with me at the studio I wanted her to drive around with me. It's a joke though, cause she doesn't know how to ride it, but everyone is so nice they are all willing to give her lessons". Then getting a little somber, Danny went on softly, "boy oh boy, my mom gave us all quite a scare. When she first got her motorcycle she took it out and rolled down the driveway and couldn't stop. Luckily she just bruised herself, and wasn't hurt, but it isn't funny when you watch your own Mom helpless and you can't help". At that point, he sounded like such a wise young man, I started to think about who would be directing the show in a few months. I was ready to put my money on Danny—he had everything else going for him.

Mrs. Bonaduce, a soft spoken woman, with so much charm, started to tell me about the publicity party that was at the Bistro Restaurant, one of the most exclusive spots in Beverly Hills. She continued, "the party was for the ABC executives and Danny had been aware of Shirley Jones and David Cassidy being asked for their autograph, but to this point, Danny wasn't approached. He mentioned it to me thinking it would be fun if he was asked, when a darling teenage girl stopped him and said, "Danny, may I please have your autograph?" Danny stopped, amazed, and couldn't stop repeating, "she wants my autograph, she wants my autograph." As he took the paper to write "To Sharon", he just froze. He was so nervous he couldn't even spell "to". He was in such a daze and the cameras started to click, as the scene watching him at that point was even funnier than if it was in one of the scripts.

When Danny went back to Pennsylvania, he was made Honorary member of the "Poor Richard" club, which is the oldest advertising club in America. Danny told me, "President Eisenhower was also an Honorary Member, but I have one

up on Ike, "I'm the youngest member of the oldest club". His girlfriends were waiting anxiously to escort him home, and the girls in question were comparing notes, as to who spent more time with Danny, what did Danny say to each, etc. "It's funny, Danny said, I play an old 10 year old boy in the show, but I have always been older for my years. My friends were always in their teens, in fact when I went to my best friend's home in Pennsylvania, his mom told me he had left six months ago to get married. I couldn't believe it, and was a little hurt that I wasn't invited to his wedding, or why I wasn't asked to be best man at his wedding—since that is what best friends are for. But I guess the guests at the wedding would have thought I was the ring bearer, or something like that... I guess if I would have been the best man, I would have been the only one who wouldn't have been invited to my best friend's stag. I wouldn't understand what was happening, so why invite me. I guess that's why I wasn't notified about the wedding". Laughing on the square, I knew he had all the answers and this was one young man I wasn't going to tangle with. In fact, he made sure to that also. While he acted so concerned and bewildered with my tape recorder, he had it turned off the last fifteen minutes of our interview. When I spotted it, I couldn't get angry. You take one look at the adorable face in front of you and you can only love him...

In fact, if possible, I was ready to take him home with me, but judging from the closeness of his family and the love in his mother's eyes—there wasn't any possible way I would have gotten away with it... ■

DAVID CASSIDY

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and coping really coping—really trying.

Then suddenly, while he was just a young boy on the threshold of becoming a man, and experiencing all the problems that growing up has in store for you, he turned to what we hear so very often, the familiar word "acid", "drugs", "pills", and all the other terms that destroy a human being's mind. Perhaps Kevin thought he would take the easy way out for a