

David's Life Behind the Cameras



“Cut” is just a word to you and me, but to David Cassidy, it’s the line between one world and another.

It’s the word the director calls out to bring a “take” to an end. When David hears that word, the brightly lighted world of “Keith Partridge” disappears with the glare from the big color TV lights. The “living room” of the Partridge home once again becomes a *set*, with walls propped up by poles and fasteners, with no ceiling except a giant steel grid full of lighting and sound equipment.

And “Keith Partridge” becomes David Cassidy. And as David walks off the set and past the big cameras and light-stands, he enters another life—the life of a hard-working actor, singer, all-round entertainer whose daily environment is a Hollywood sound stage where a television series is filmed, day after day, week after week.

When you watch “The Partridge Family” or any TV show, you see only *one* of the worlds of a television series—the world in front of the camera. But there’s another fascinating world *behind* them as well, and that’s the world in which David spends most of his time!

What’s it like, this “home away from home” for David? What kind of life does he live, back there in the dark, away from that brilliantly lit set? How is it different from the world we see on the television screen?

To begin with, if you think of the inside of a TV studio as a “glamorous” place—forget it! It’s a big, drafty room littered with electronic equipment, full of people dressed in jeans and old khakis and practically every kind of bum-around clothing you can possibly imagine. These are the people who film and light and record the show, the people who make the set look like a home, who take care of David’s clothes, and do everything else that needs to be done in the extremely complex process of filming a half-hour of television every five days!

You wouldn’t know them if you

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