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It's a House-Warming Week!
David's found a lovely new pad, so
come along on a Guided Tour...

Hello luvs,

You're invited to a tour of my brand new house beginning right now, so get on board.

Well, it isn't exactly new, but it's new to me, and after several months of driving around all over the place, I can say it's exactly what I was looking for.

It's located in the San Fernando Valley which is called a suburb of Hollywood. It's further away from Screen Gems than my other house, that means a longer drive—about twenty minutes from this one on the freeway. But I have to be at the studio at around 6 am and I usually stay until after six in the evening so I miss the really hysterical traffic both times.

The only other drawback is that the Valley is 10 to 15 degrees hotter in the summer than it is in Hollywood. But the house has central air-conditioning and heating as well for the monsoon season, so I can't

complain.

Now to get to its good point. It's a one storey rambling California ranch-style house with three bedrooms, a big kitchen with built-in stove, fridge, dishwasher and all that plus lots of other things. I think they call the 'living room' the salon or lounge in England. Or did I just make that up? Well, whatever, it has a big one of those.

The outside of the house looks really fantastic. It's set on two and a half acres and after living in the city, that seems to me like the Ponderosa. There's grass and shrubs and

several banana plants which grow way over my head about twenty feet. In the summer they actually grow bananas and a friend of mine thinks they're delicious. They have to be fried. No, honestly, I'm not lying—fried bananas is an old Spanish dish, because they're not actually bananas you can eat raw and I've promised him I'll try his concoction, in about ten years or so I think.

Sorry I went bananas there! To get back to the yard, it has quite a few fruit trees and a whole bunch of other kinds I don't know the names of. Actually it's rather like a forest and I really dig walking around in it. Another great thing is that it's sort of out of the smog. Not quite because there's really no getting totally out of it and staying anywhere near the city. But it comes closer and the air smells so fresh at night and in the morning. That's the best time of day really, you know, just me and the birds (preferably of the winged variety I should say).

It also has a swimming pool which I still think of as a double luxury. Growing up in the East I really flip over pools and mine has a heater for winter plunges, if and when I can work up the courage. When I lived back East, I thought people changed the water in their swimming pools practically every time they used them. Wow was I crazy! Most people keep the same water all year, and sometimes for more than a year. Yes, you have to keep the pool clean, but

that only costs a few dollars a month.

All in all the new place is just great and it's so private I can't believe it. I really need privacy, at least a certain amount of it, and I think everyone does. I didn't move because Partridge Family fans had found my house (which they had), but I guess in the back of my mind that was a little bit of the reason.

Anyone who thinks a lot of me is thought a lot of in return but like I said, everyone has to get away from everything and everyone once in a while, and that's hard to do when you're constantly having business.

The real problem with that is having such long hours. When I finally do get home I just want to light the fire and collapse in a heap and relax; and I don't have much time to do it because it's early to bed if I want to look okay for that camera in the morning.

Hope you enjoyed the tour. I may have moved, but you can still write to me at the same address, and please do.

Love

