

What Susan Dey particularly remembers when she thinks about David Cassidy's first concert:

I sat in the front row and cried....

Whenever Susan Dey talks about her Partridge partner David Cassidy, her eyes light up. David is fantastic," she begins to enthuse, "he's the greatest boyfriend I can imagine. Of course, it's no different on this warm Sunday afternoon: I've invited Susan to my house to talk to her about David and her relationship with him. We sit chatting under a parasol in my garden in Los Angeles and drink cool lemonade. So, what was it like when Susan first saw David? Oh, that was over three years ago at the rehearsal for 'The Partridge Family'. I knew that David was going to play Keith. And the first thing that popped into my head was: Damn, if only he was a bit taller! After all, I was supposed to play the younger sister, so I was terrified that they wouldn't take me because of my height of 1.70 meters. I was lucky. David is three centimeters taller." What Susan also noticed was that David made a very withdrawn impression on me. It took a few weeks for him to come out of his shell and slowly develop a really warm relationship with me. That's how David is with strangers - he's always very self-contained. I'm quite the opposite, I'm very open and trust everyone straight away. Maybe I'm a bit naive. David is certainly smarter than me."

David's reticence has often been the cause of misunderstandings: What drives me up the wall is when people claim that David is arrogant or snobbish. That's an outright lie! Sometimes he just wants to be left alone and not talk to anyone. I accept that immediately. You have to understand that: David is busier than any of the Partridge family. For example, he doesn't go home after filming like the rest of us, but goes to a record studio to produce new songs. And at the weekend he usually has to give a concert somewhere. He hardly has any free time. With such a busy schedule, is it any wonder he can't take care of everyone who wants something from him?"

Susan takes a sip of soda. You know, that's why I always get so angry when someone says something untrue about David, because he's like my big brother to me. I get on even better with him. After all, we see each other every day. And between all

members of the Partridge family, a real family feeling has developed over the last three years." This family substitute also made Susan's start in Hollywood much easier. After all, I had to leave my real family behind on the East Coast and often had terrible longing for them." Susan thinks for a while. The four weeks David spent driving around Europe were a terrible time for me. He was so far away. I couldn't call him as usual and discuss all my problems and experiences with him. We know everything about each other." When I ask whether David sometimes confides in her about grief with girlfriends, Susan gets serious: "I don't really want to talk about it, it's almost like a breach of trust. But I can tell you a secret: About a year ago, David was completely down - because of a girl, she broke up with him from one day to the next. You never have time for me," she had said. David was very distraught when he called me: I'd really like to stop singing. What do I get out of it? Just personal bad luck and no time, he moaned. It took me a long time to talk him out of it. David was later very grateful to me for saving him from this stupidity." Does she love David? Susan laughs: No. I've been in love for a year. Very deeply. I'm in love with one of the Partridge family scriptwriters. His name is Dale McRaven, and that's all I'm going to say."

Who does she prefer, the actor or the singer David Cassidy? David is a great actor. But I think music is his greater talent. I remember his first concert; he did it here in Hollywood about two years ago, I was sitting in the front row crying. I cried because he was so good. And because I remembered when he started with the Partridge family with me. Back then he could only play the drums quite well and strum a bit on the guitar. And now this great show!" Susan takes a deep breath: "You know, there's so much in David. And his music gets better every year. He really deserves his huge success!" Frances Schoenberger

Photo Caption:-

They met three years ago while filming "The Partridge Family" - now they are one heart and one soul: Susan and David