

Being a star demands a personal price

By Gerry Landsborough

There is a direct relationship between hard times and an increased interest in the lives of Hollywood stars, rock stars and other celebrities.

The fantasy world of movies flies us away in an instant with the flick of the projector to a land of love, action, excitement, horror, whatever tickles the fancy.

Because we "love" the movies, we also "love" the lives of their stars. There is an increase in articles today of how they made it, and how life is at the top of the heap.

For those of us who struggle to make ends meet the answer always seems to lie with "if only I could get together a few more dollars - then we would be on easy street". True? Far from it.

One look at the tragic lives of the Marilyn Monroes, the F. Jodie Prinzes, or the Janis Joplins quickly proves otherwise. They had the money; they just couldn't live with the heartache and headaches it

brought.

Of course, there is always an exception to the rule and Lib-erace is one who seems to enjoy life with a gusto. He recently acquired a \$6,700 chandelier - what so interesting about that you ask? Well that one was for his Rolls Royce.

Engelbert Humperdinck's new contract at Las Vegas has an interesting ring to it. A cool \$56 million. Absolutely unbelievable.

How much did you say your take home pay was from the mill?

Eartha Kitt also has an interesting new contract for commercials. Her fee - a mere \$222 per second.

John Travolta is house hunting and has apparently offered \$12 million on a cute little ranch near Santa Barbara. We can only sum up these little tidbits with - big money - big spending.

The qualities that make a star are not necessarily the money that they command at the box office.

There is always that undefinable little extra "star stuff" that really makes it for them.

A superstar in my book is Elizabeth Taylor. A couple of dozen different qualities combine to make the lady what she is.

Take for instance the time she was at the Lanai Restaurant in the Beverly Hills Hotel in California. Elizabeth always commands attention even among other celebrities - and such was the case at the Lanai. When she entered the dining room everyone began stretching their necks to catch a glimpse of the 69.42 carat Cartier-Burton diamond that hung around her neck.

Good old Liz aware of the interest in the gem called over the headwaiter. She took the million dollar pendant from around her neck and placed it on her salad plate in a nest of lettuce leaves and asked the waiter to take it round. He did to every table in the dining room and even though most of the patrons were also rich and famous themselves they reportedly loved every minute of it. Now in my book that's "Star" quality.

A star of a different nature is Shelly Winters. Shelly was once a Hollywood "sex symbol". According to Shelly, the life of a sex symbol is anything but glamorous - she was such for her first five years in Hollywood.

The schedule was a 12-hour-a-day, grind six-days-a-week. "You are up at six, reach the studio at seven, and come home bone tired in the evening."

"My irresistible allure was the handiwork of four highly skilled specialists - facial make-up man, body make-up woman, hairdresser and wardrobe mistress. It took this

quartet two hours each morning to create this dazzler".


The result is that after a time the star cannot separate what is created from what is the true nature of the person. Shelly was one of the fortunate ones who escaped the role and went on to become the serious dramatic actress that she aspired to be.

Not all girls who start out as created stars are that lucky. Marilyn Monroe was one of the unlucky ones who cried herself to sleep each night and eventually took her own life.

One of today's "created stars" is Farrah Fawcett Majors and it is not a hard task to

force heartache and heart-break down the road for her. The whole Hollywood bit is

on the rise again with our inflated times - motion pictures are seeing increased box



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Travel

El Salvador: exotic nature, rich history

Are you looking for a vacation spot which is relaxing and at the same time exciting, a potpourri of nature and exotic culture, a blend of the modern and the ancient?

Are you thrilled by the thought of over 200 miles of seacoast, dotted with unspoiled beaches, just waiting for you to discover them?

What about the opportunity to visit six volcanic lakes, a scattering of fascinating Pre-Columbian ruins, and extensive, lushly scenic coffee plantations?

If all of this is food for fantasy, why not turn it into a reality, and consider the very real possibility of visiting El Salvador, a tiny country on the Pacific coast of Central America, blessed with spectacular scenery, and only three hours by plane from Miami, five hours from either New York or Los Angeles.

San Salvador, the country's capital, is a sophisticated city of nearly a million inhabitants. It boasts a lively night life, which runs the gamut from traditional Mariachi bands who perform in the old sections of the city, La Praviata, to the upbeat of discos.

El Salvador is famous, not surprisingly, for its seafood: saucer-sized oysters, six-inch shrimps, lobster, red snapper, even turtle eggs. Try the "sinfonia le mar" ("sea symphony"), a chili-

flavored seafood stew, for a true taste of the best the Pacific has to offer.

The national snack, available from street vendors, is "pupusa," a crisp corn cake rolled up and stuffed with either meat or cheese.

The capital is dotted with markets and shopping centers, labyrinths of shops and stalls which offer everything imaginable from the mundane to the exotic. One, Feria, is a permanent handicraft exhibition, where one can buy artifacts from all over the country.

No one should miss a visit to at least one of the country's volcanic lakes. The largest, Ilopango, towers 2,000 feet above sea level, and is quite close to the city of San Salvador. The lake has excellent facilities for swimming, boating and fishing.

The largest coffee beneficiary (processing station) in Central America, El Molino, is not far away, either. During harvest time, visitors may tour the facility and learn first-hand about the various stages the coffee bean must go through, before it reaches their pot back home.

For further information about the tourist attractions of El Salvador, contact: El Salvador Tourist Commission, Dept. MTS, P.O. Box 729, Radio City Station, New York, N.Y., 10019.



THE LUSHNESS AND BOUNTY OF NATURE is nowhere more evident than in the Central American nation of El Salvador. Here, in Los Chorrros National Park, one can swim in a natural pool surrounded by tropical greenery. Photo courtesy of the El Salvador Tourist Commission.

Captain Bligh's breadfruit tree

The charming West Indian island of Barbados, washed by the warm waters of the Caribbean, is divided into parishes, and sprinkled across it are relics of the British land-owners who settled there: their sugar mills and plantation houses.

Historic remains British fortifications, which date from the long wars for European supremacy in the area, may be seen at various points on the island. At one time, as many as 26 forts defended 21 miles of shoreline.

The notorious Captain

Bligh, of *Mattyn* on the *Bounty* fame, stopped on the island during his navigation of the Caribbean, and left behind him the breadfruit tree.

Popular cruise port The tradition of hospitality has continued right up to the present day, and the inhabitants of this lush and fruitful island, a favorite port of cruise ships, open welcoming arms to travelers from all over the world.

New vacation plans offer flexible travel

MEMPHIS, TENN. — Travel packages generally offer vacationers both a bargain on prices and the convenience of having all arrangements—for transportation, lodging, attractions and transfers—made with a simple phone call or visit to a travel agency.

The primary drawbacks reported by travelers on package vacations are the restrictions placed on departures, arrivals and time spent in each location.

Now, however, a new series of economy-priced travel packages called Holiday Inn Adventures has been introduced at more than 1,200 Holiday Inn locations around the world, offering travelers a degree of freedom most package tours don't.

Your own pace There's no pre-planned itinerary, so vacationers can travel at their own pace by car, air or train, staying in one spot indefinitely or at a different Holiday Inn hotel every night.

Twenty-four Adventure packages, featuring food and lodging at Holiday Inn hotels and car rental facilities in more than 800 destinations throughout the world, are available until December 31, 1978.

These include fly/drive, resort and city packages along with a new self-drive

package for automobile travelers. The packages have been prepared in cooperation with major tour operators, airlines, and car rental companies and are available for Europe, Mexico, Asia, Canada, South Africa, the Caribbean, Bermuda and the United States.

One of the new packages, Holiday Inn U.S.A. Highway Adventures, is geared for the large number of U.S. travelers who arrive at their destination by car. The package, which requires a minimum purchase of two nights, offers a common rate for all inns in the program. Costs start at \$58 for two nights for two to four people.

In addition, the package features one free lodging night for every six nights purchased, a \$5 bonus coupon for food and beverage credit at specified inns, a Holiday Inn Road Atlas, no charge for children under 12, and a Teens Stay Free program at many participating properties.

Surcharges are added to the basic package rate, where applicable, due to location, property type, or season.

In Florida a mix-and-match program features packages to the Florida Keys, Fort Lauderdale, Fort Myers-Orlando, Miami Beach, Sarasota, and Tampa.

with a Hertz car or bus transfers to local attractions for three to six nights.

These seven packages can be mixed with typical fly/drive vacations to Florida at more than 100 participating Holiday Inn hotels.

The Holiday Inn Orlando Adventures tour package offers an air tour with five Orlando Holiday Inns to choose from, for a minimum two nights stay. The package also includes round-trip transfers to and from the Orlando airport, admissions to Disneyworld and other attractions, transfers to and from attractions, and special children's rates.

A special alternative package features a stay in Orlando and unlimited mileage with National Car Rental.

A wide choice

Other Holiday Inn packages are Coast to Coast Adventures, a nationwide fly/drive plan featuring almost 1,000 participating Holiday Inn hotels and a Hertz car; United States Adventures, a fly/drive program with 1,000 participating inns and an Avis car; Eastern U.S. Adventures offering a fly/drive package to Colonial America, with 225 participating Holiday Inn hotels and Hertz-Rent-a-Car; and Western U.S.A. Adventures

which offers a fly/drive vacation to California, Arizona, and Nevada using National Car Rental.

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