



After the success of her debut LP, which has sold more than 1.5 million copies and produced such hits as "Borderline," "Holiday," and "Lucky Star," Madonna is quickly establishing herself as the total star. The second record, *Like A Virgin* has jumped to the top of the charts with an equally popular video. If that wasn't enough, she can be seen making a cameo appearance in the film *Vision Quest* and star in the soon-to-be released, *Desperately Seeking Susan*. *STAR* visited the set of *Desperately Seeking Susan* and had a revealing talk with the irrepressible Madonna.

WHY MADONNA

IS HER OWN LUCKY STAR!

by Lisa Arcella

Late one afternoon we find ourselves headed uptown to New York City's Harlem where we plan to visit strangely enough, a movie set. From the outside of this abandoned ballroom, you'd never guess that inside a film starring Rosanna Arquette, Aidan Quinn and rock star Madonna was in progress. We are greeted by the film's publicist, who takes us on a guided tour of the different sets and even lets us sit in while a scene is being taped. The really special portion of the day comes when we sit down at a table near the wardrobe room and wait for the arrival of Madonna.

She greets us with a smile, as she sits down with a cup of tea and makes herself comfortable. Her blond hair is swept up to reveal the crucifix earrings that

have become her trademark. I want to know if making movies is as glamorous as it seems. "It couldn't be further away from being glamorous," she laughs. "There are lots of long hours and lots of waiting around and lots of doing nothing, and lots of eating terrible food! It's not glamorous at all." While she waits, Madonna says she likes to "read, play music, dance around and exercise in my trailer."

She also manages to read her mail and she's certainly getting a lot of that these days. "It's either boys writing in letters to tell me that they want to make love to me, or young girls writing letters saying that they want to be like me and dress like me, stuff like that," she smiles. "They're all adoring." Getting fan mail pleases Madonna, mainly because she's worked hard to get to where she's at in her career.

She is someone who is undeniably and unashamedly ambitious, ever since she was growing up as Madonna Ciccone (named after her mother), outside of Detroit, Michigan. In the eighth grade, she starred in a super-8 movie directed by a friend, who fried an egg on her stomach. After a short stint in college, it was off to New York to pursue a career as a dancer and she arrived in the Big Apple with \$35 in her pocket. She studied with the famous Alvin Ailey Dance Troupe and in her

spare time sang and learned a variety of instruments.

A brief trip to Paris followed where she was promised stardom, but she soon returned to New York to establish her own style as a performer. Her career really took off though when a friend, Mark Kamin, a deejay at New York's Danceteria played her demo tape at the club and had everyone on their feet and dancing. It wasn't long before Madonna had signed with Sire Records.

Coming to New York was a definite risk for Madonna, and one that wasn't supported by her family. "I didn't go to New York with my father's good wishes," she explains. "In fact, he was very angry with me. I think he still has mixed feelings. I mean, I'm sure that he's glad for me now that I'm doing well, but I don't think that he truly understands why or what I'm doing. If I said I was going to be a doctor or a biochemist, he could understand that, but being an entertainer doesn't really make any sense to him. Now he sees me, running around stage in my garter belts, that doesn't really thrill him either!"

Although she concedes it would be nice to please her father, she realizes that it's important to first be true to yourself. "Yea, it would be nice if he was happy with what I'm doing, but I can't dwell on it, you know? I have to have time to be my own



"Susan" checks the personal ads in *Desperately Seeking Susan*.



ANDY SCHWARTZ

person and I have to please myself."

In *Desperately Seeking Susan*, Madonna plays "Susan," a girl living life in the fast lane of New York City. Rosanna Arquette plays "Roberta," a bored New Jersey housewife looking for excitement. For some time, "Roberta" has followed a flamboyant love affair being carried on through the personal ads, involving a young man who is "desperately seeking" a certain "Susan." Roberta invites herself into the lives of these strangers and before long she is part of a comedy of errors where she is mistaken for "Susan," and so the confusion begins.

One of the reasons Madonna was attracted to the role of "Susan," was because she saw a lot of herself in the character. "When you say I describe myself

as a free spirit and adventurous person, I think we have that in common," she says with a smile.

In addition to making the movie, Madonna has recently released *Like A Virgin* and made the video to that song in Venice, Italy. Musically, she says her greatest influences came through the Motown era during the 60's as well as some of today's top performers. "Prince, Michael Jackson, something like that, I

Madonna, who never met co-star Rosanna Arquette before the film, got very close to her during the film and now Rosanna is her best friend.

am affected by it, maybe not consciously, but it affects me. It's definitely my favorite kind of music because it crosses all race barriers. I prefer that."

What's next for rock's newest superstar? "When I am done with the movie, I'm going to

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