



It's Desi Arnaz, age 6

LUCILLE BALL

Continued

should ask the studio for something a cut above a horse opera.

They answered my request by giving me a bigger role in a new picture—and a boost in the salary department. So you see, it doesn't hurt to ask, even if they do call you temperamental. Frankly, I felt a trifle abashed about the whole thing, considering how they reacted.

But it worked.

My next role was in "The Girl From Paris." It also brought me an eastern offer to do a play. It was called "Hey Diddle Diddle." It went nowhere, but it satisfied my yen to do a Broadway play.

When I came back to Hollywood, RKO put me in "Stage Door," with Ginger Rogers and Katharine Hepburn. That was the beginning of a series of good pictures for me. I got my biggest role in "Too Many Girls," in which I also got a chance to sing some of the top tunes of the year. However, another thing happened during the making of that film which was more important than anything else.

A handsome young guy by the name of Desi Arnaz was co-starred with me. We fell in love and were married.

When I came back from my honeymoon, I got what I considered my best Hollywood break—a role in "The Big Street," a film based on a Damon Runyon story. I think it was that film that made me a star. In case you don't remember, I played the part of the paralyzed show girl.

(Tomorrow: Lucille and Desi combine their careers, go on vaudeville tour, invade television, emerge as year's top husband-wife comedy team.)

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