

The victimhood of Diana:

**A biographical study into the life of Diana, Princess of Wales with a special focus on the
victimhood of Diana by the British Royal Family**

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1 Introduction

This Master's Thesis is a biographical study into the life of Lady Diana Spencer, Princess of Wales, with a special focus on the victimhood of Diana at the hands of the British Royal Family. The intention is to explore the way in which Diana may be viewed as a victim of the Royal Family, while also considering whether she herself played a part in her own victimization and in that way led to her feeling like a victim of the Royal Family and even her own life. As this year marks the 20th anniversary of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, the topic is very current and Diana in general has been a topic that has received a lot of attention during this year, especially during the summer as there have been numerous new biographies on different members of the Royal Family and some that have been reissued. In addition, there have been a number of new documentaries on Diana, and various articles in the papers.

Researching the victim aspect of Diana's life, or anybody's life, is something that has not been done before, at least not in this way, and as such there is no model to follow and there are no straightforward theories or methods that can be used, but in this thesis the theoretical background of the research is based on victimology in its wider sense, and the research method is biographical study of a person's life, in this case the life of Diana. The biographical study that is done in this thesis is limited in scope and has a special focus on a certain aspect of Diana's life, namely Diana as a victim, so it is by no means a comprehensive account of Diana's life, because only the factors that are of greatest importance to this thesis are discussed, since it would be impossible to discuss every area of Diana's life in detail, as it would provide far too much information considering the focus and scope of this thesis. This biographical study was accomplished by using five biographies of Diana as its primary sources. In addition, biographies on different members of the Royal Family and the official website of the British Royal Family were used as secondary sources. Nevertheless, even though the focus of the thesis is more on a certain aspect of Diana's life rather than on giving a comprehensive and detailed account of Diana's life, the biographical study of Diana's life done in this thesis does provide a general overview of Diana's life.

To be able to discuss the way in which Diana may have been a victim it is vital to know what is meant by the word victim. According to Oxford Dictionaries a victim is “a person who has come to feel helpless and passive in the face of misfortune or ill-treatment” (Oxford University Press, n.d.). In addition, Macmillan Dictionary defined victim as “someone who has suffered as a result of the actions or negative attitudes of someone else or of people in general” and as “something that is badly affected by a situation, a decision etc” (Macmillan Publishers Limited, n.d.). Furthermore, according to Collins Dictionary “a victim is someone who has suffered as a result of someone else’s actions or beliefs, or as a result of unpleasant circumstances” (Collins, n.d.). In this master’s thesis, a victim is a person who has had to face some sort of ill-treatment, including psychological and verbal abuse, during their lifetime from the people who are a part of their life, for example, family and relations, and in the case of Diana, the media, including journalists, reports, and photographers. In addition, that person has also suffered in some way, psychologically or physically, as a result of the actions or attitudes and beliefs of someone else or because of unpleasant circumstances. However, this thesis mostly deals with Diana as a victim in relation to the Royal Family and in part the media. Nevertheless, Diana’s parents and siblings are also discussed briefly when it is of importance to the topic, mostly in connection to Diana’s childhood.

The topic of Diana was chosen because from a very early age I have been interested in the royal families of different countries, especially the British Royal Family. I have followed their lives on the pages of magazines, on television and nowadays on the Internet, and because of that already had a wide knowledge base on the British Royal Family before choosing this topic. The victim aspect of Diana’s life in connection to the Royal Family was chosen as the focus of this Master’s Thesis because it was something that I found to be interesting during my previous research into the topic when writing my Candidate’s Thesis and a seminar paper on a similar, but larger in scale and less detailed, topic. My Candidate’s Thesis dealt with three different aspects of Diana’s life in which she could be viewed as a victim, namely her upbringing and family, the Royal Family and Prince Charles, and lastly the media. The seminar paper dealt with the same aspect as this thesis, Diana as a victim of the Royal Family, but the scope of the research was much smaller and because of that many important factors were not discussed. Even though the victim aspect of Diana’s life is something that I myself have researched before, and has been at least alluded to in a large number of writings about her, it is still something that I find to be interesting and worth researching, not least because, at the time

of writing, the topic of Diana is very popular and of interest to people. Furthermore, this research project is important because even excluding the anniversary of Diana's death, there is a continued interest in royal families, especially the British Royal Family, even though royals do not have the same function as they had before, and because Diana is still a prominent cultural icon in British culture even today.

1.1 Literature review

A great deal has been written about Diana from newspaper articles and pieces of gossip to biographies and obituaries. There is also an abundance of other material on her besides the written works, for example, TV-interviews, documents, news clips and video recordings including recordings of her wedding and funeral. The range of material being so wide and the quality of them varying to a great degree, going through them and finding the material suitable for academic research has been a demanding task requiring a large amount of time and patience. The literature on Diana has been considerably affected by the views of the writer in that most of the writing is subjective, portraying her either as a saint or as a manipulative woman depending on whether the writer sympathises with her or with her husband Charles, the Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family. There are also biographies written by Andrew Morton, which are based on tape-recorded interviews that James Colthurst conducted with Diana herself in secret (Brown, 2008, p. 329), and these books are widely used as a reference in other books about her as well, so the recordings form an indirect base for any writing about her. After all, it is first-hand information from Diana herself, and not from some unknown source wishing to remain anonymous but saying that they had been very close to Diana during her life. In addition to looking at different biographies about Diana other sources will be looked at as well.

Due to the fact that a great many tabloid-style and scurrilous books have been published about Diana that focus on different aspects and parts of her life and personality, as already mentioned above, I have decided to use five different types of biographies on Diana as a primary source for the thesis. These five biographies include maybe the most notable Diana biography *Diana: Her True Story – In Her Own Words* written by English journalist and writer Andrew Morton and first published

in 1997, which quotes parts of recordings of Diana herself speaking on various topics. The book was previously published in 1992 under the title *Diana: Her True Story*, but at that time it was not yet known that it was Diana herself who had provided information for Morton. However, that previous book is a part of the biography that was published in 1997, but some chapters have been added to it to account for the later parts of Diana's life and to explain the fact that it was Diana herself who contributed in the making of the book. In addition, the 2010 edition used during this research includes over forty pages of Diana's own words selected from the tapes she provided for Morton. Even so, Morton's book is fairly one-sided and subjective in that most of what he writes about is written from Diana's side based on her own words and because of that it does not give a well-balanced picture of Diana as a person and what her life was like in reality.

The second biography used is the biography *Diana* by author Sarah Bradford, which was first published in 2006. Bradford's *Diana* is a comprehensive history on Diana, which portrays her life from her birth to her death. Bradford's book has used Andrew Morton's writings on Diana as a reference, but Bradford has managed to give a more balanced view of Diana and her life in that she does not take the side of Diana, but writes in a way that lets the reader know how things really were as opposed to how Diana said they were. In that manner, this book is a more objective portrayal of Diana than Morton's.

In addition to Morton's and Bradford's books, *The Diana Chronicles*, written by journalist Tina Brown and first published in 2007, is considered to be a major work on Diana, and is the third biography used in this thesis. While Morton had use of the tapes and Bradford relied heavily on Morton's writing, Tina Brown knew Diana personally and portrays her life in a somewhat more journalistic and gossipy way than Morton and Bradford did. This however results in the fact that Brown's portrayal of Diana brings out some sides of her and her personality that are not focused on in the other two biographies that have been previously mentioned. This might be because Brown has first-hand information and gossip on Diana that not everyone has access to. Nevertheless, Brown's book is not an objective portrayal and it does not even try to be one, which is exactly why it is a useful book to consult when doing this type of research.

The fourth biography used as a primary source during this research is *Diana: The Life of a Troubled Princess* by author Sally Bedell Smith, which was first published in 1999. It is a very balanced account of Diana's life, but focuses more on her psychological problems and her bulimia than the other four biographies, and because of that is a worthwhile addition to the biographies studied as it describes Diana's mental state at different times of her life in a way the other four biographies do not. However, the trouble with Smith's book is the fact that it is impossible to precisely know what was going on in Diana's mind at a certain time, and because of that not everything that is said about her psychological problems can be taken as the absolute truth.

Besides the four biographies mentioned above that depict Diana's life from her birth to her death, a useful addition to the collection of books about Diana is *Diana: Her Last Love* by author Kate Snell that focuses mostly on Diana's last years and her feelings during them. The fact that it has as its focus the years of Diana's life when she was no longer an official part of the Royal Family makes it an interesting read because the reader may see the part the Royal Family and her status in it played in her life even after the divorce. Snell's book may at its core depict a love story, but it does so with special emphasis on Diana's thoughts and feelings during those times without becoming too much like a romance novel. It also sheds some light on a part of Diana's life that has not been discussed in such detail in the other books.

However, the choice of major and notable works written about Diana and her life depends on the reader and how they are to be used, because there have been many books published about her by various authors ranging from writers to journalists and to people that have, at some point, worked for the Royal Family. The choice is a matter of what the reader sees as the most helpful for them and as the most trustworthy and useful sources about Diana. It also depends on whether the reader is looking for an objective or subjective view about Diana and her life. Despite this, the five books mentioned above were found to be the most helpful in this type of research because of their contents and the way in which they have been written, and because they provide a many-sided picture of Diana ranging from an objective depiction to a fairly subjective and gossipy one.

The official website of the British Royal Family and biographies of other members of the Royal Family as well as other books on the Royal Family and the monarchy were used as secondary sources in the thesis. The books used include four biographies on the Queen, *Queen Elizabeth II: Her Life in Our Times* by Sarah Bradford, *A Brief History of The Private Life of Elizabeth II* by Michael Paterson, *The Queen's Speech: An Intimate Portrait of the Queen in Her Own Words* by Ingrid Seward, and *Elizabeth The Queen: The Woman Behind the Throne* by Sally Bedell Smith. In addition, *The Queen and Di* by Ingrid Seward has as its topic the relationship between the Queen and Diana. Penny Junor's biographies on Princes William and Harry, *Prince William: Born to be King: An Intimate Portrait* and *Prince Harry: Brother, Soldier, Son*, and *Charles: The Heart of a King* by Catherine Mayer were also used as secondary sources when it came to life after Diana's death. Furthermore, *The Firm: The Troubled Life of the House of Windsor* by Penny Junor was used as a secondary source as well. Some of these secondary sources were used more than the others, but all of them added something that was otherwise missing from the research.

In addition, some other books on the monarchy and the Royal Family were read to gain a broader knowledge of the topic at hand. These books include *On Royalty* by Jeremy Paxman, *Diana, Princess of Wales: How Sexual Politics Shook the Monarchy* by Beatrix Campbell, *Not in Front of the Corgis* by Brian Hoey, *The Prince of Wales: A Biography* by Jonathan Dimbleby, *The Royals* by Kitty Kelley, *Elizabeth: A Biography of Her Majesty the Queen* by Sarah Bradford, *Prince Charles: The Passions and Paradoxes of an Improbable Life* by Sally Bedell Smith, *The Royal Encyclopedia: The Authoritative Book of the Royal Family*, edited by Ronald Allison and Sarah Riddell, and *Charles: Victim or Villain? The Explosive and Revealing Biography of the Prince of Wales* by Penny Junor. These books, however, were only used to gain more insight into the topic and were not used as a reference in this thesis.

1.2 Victimology

According to Glick (2004), the study of victims and their patterns of victimization, in other words victimology, is a distinct area of scholarly study similar to other fields in the social sciences. Victimology is closely related to criminology and criminal justice, but, as opposed to criminology, it

puts an emphasis on explaining why some people experience victimization instead of why certain people engage in criminal activity (pp. 453-454). Victimology is most often used in connection to criminology and victims of crimes, but can also be used in other settings because it is more widely understood as:

An academic scientific discipline which studies data that describes phenomena and causal relationships related to victimizations. This includes events leading to the victimization, the victim's experience, its aftermath and the actions taken by society in response to these victimizations. Therefore, victimology includes the study of the precursors, vulnerabilities, events, impacts, recoveries and responses by people, organizations and cultures related to victimizations. (Dussich, 2006, p. 118).

This explanation of victimology allows victims to be seen and understood in a variety of ways and because of that, for example, victims of verbal and emotional abuse are victims of abuse just as victims of physical or sexual abuse, even though no visible harm has been done to them and because of that they are not considered victims of crime. These kinds of victims not connected with crime are called "general victims" meaning "people that have been physically, financially or emotionally injured and/or had their property taken or damaged by someone, an event, an organization or a natural phenomenon" (Dussich, 2006, p. 118). When looking at victimology according to its wider explanation it can be used to look at certain people and specific situations or factors in their life, and, in that way, it can be used as a theoretical framework in this research into the life of Diana and the way in which she may possibly be viewed as a victim in some aspects of her life.

According to Dignan (2004), victimization is a highly complex process encompassing many possible elements. The first of these elements, which is often referred to as primary victimization, is composed of any interaction that has taken place between the victim and the offender during the victimization and the after effects of the victimization, which in the case of Diana consist of her interactions with Prince Charles and the Royal Family and what has happened afterwards. The second element includes the victim's reaction to the victimization, in this case meaning how Diana has reacted to whatever she has seen as victimizing her. The third, and last, element consists of the possible further interactions that take place between the victim and others, which in the case of Diana could be the media, her friends, and other people she is in contact with or who are aware of what has happened. However, not everyone that has been victimized sees themselves as victims because becoming a victim is a social process that starts with the offence, but in addition requires

a cognitive decision by the person having been victimized to see themselves as victims and assume the status of victim, meaning, in this case, that Diana herself always had a choice of either thinking of herself as a victim or not (pp. 23-30).

Per Glick (2004), there are two prominent theoretical traditions in victimology: lifestyle theories of victimization and victim-precipitation theories. Lifestyle theories explain personal victimization as an outgrowth of a victim's high-risk behaviour patterns and associations, while victim-precipitation theories are based on the idea that victims themselves precipitate, contribute to, provoke, or actually cause the outcome which relates to their being victimized. These theories are based on the idea that some crimes are interactions, or transactions, between victims and offenders if there is direct contact between them. When looking at victims from this perspective it is hard to decide where the fault lies and who is to blame, because the victim often influences their own victimization (pp. 463-476). In the case of Diana, the theory that victims themselves are a part or play a part in their victimization could mean that Diana herself acted in a way that contributed to or maybe even led to her victimization and from that to her feeling like a victim.

Despite looking at the way in which the victims themselves could play a part in their victimization, victimology is also concerned with the vulnerabilities of victims, meaning that the victim has a physical, psychological, social, material, or financial condition that can be considered as a weakness, which could aid in the victimization of a person if the offender would be able to recognize and take advantage of it (Dussich, 2006, p. 118). This would mean that the victim would be targeted because of a certain weakness or that the victimization could be planned so that it would target that weakness in order to successfully and most effectively victimize a particular person. When looking at Diana, some parts of her personality, feelings, or actions could maybe be viewed as a weakness depending on the point of view taken.

However, victimization affects persons in a variety of ways and causes differing degrees of injury or trauma (Dussich, 2006, p. 118). These effects may take different forms including the possibility of changes in the victim's attitude and behaviour, changes in the person's own self-perception, and

occasionally in self-identity (Dignan, 2004, p. 28). In addition, according to Glick (2004), some physical effects of victimization could be the inability to sleep, loss of appetite, and a general loss of interest in physical activities. Long-term effects may include insomnia, anxiety, lower self-esteem, isolation, alienation, helplessness, lifestyle changes and increased feelings of vulnerability and fear. If no help is available people that identify themselves as victims can slip into long bouts of depression. Nevertheless, it also must be noted that some victims find positive outlets for their pain and that can help them in overcoming their victimization (p. 479). In Diana's case, the effects the victimization had on her could be seen in the way her life, personality and actions changed during the different phases of her life.

The process of overcoming victimization is called victim recovery, which means that the victim gains the same or better level of functionality as was enjoyed prior to victimization, which fundamentally means that the person who has been victimized has gained the same or even a better level of functionality in various areas, for example, trust in others, autonomy of self, self-identity, interpersonal intimacy, control over personal situations, and restored self-esteem (Dussich, 2006, p. 118). However, the ability to overcome victimization is sometimes attributed to the victim's resilience (Kostić, 2010, pp. 74-77), which, according to Oxford English Dictionary, is "the quality or fact of being able to recover quickly or easily from, or resist being affected by, a misfortune, shock, illness, etc." (Oxford University Press, 2014). Per Kostić (2010), it is thought that every single person has the capacity for resilience, but for resilience to develop one must experience some hardship or plight. In addition, resilience includes several factors, for example, the sense of control over one's own life, empathy, and the feeling of being special when acting for the benefit of others. Nevertheless, the factors having to do with resilience are very similar to the elements that victim recovery deals with, and in that way resilience may be seen as an important part of overcoming the victimization (pp. 74-77). When looking at Diana this process of recovery may be seen in the way that her life, personality, and attitude changed after her separation and later on divorce from Prince Charles. As seen above, victimology is not only concerned with the act of victimization itself but also with its aftermath and overcoming the victimization and because of that it can be used as a theoretical background in this kind of research as well.

2 Early life

Diana (1961-1997) was born as The Honourable Diana Frances Spencer at 7.45 p.m. on 1 July 1961 at Park House, which was owned by the Queen and situated on the Sandringham Estate in Norfolk about half a mile from the main house where the Royal Family frequently spent their holidays (Bradford, 2007, pp. 1-2). She was the fourth child and the third girl born to her parents, Frances and Johnnie Althorp, an heir to the Spencer earldom (Bradford, 2007, p. 8). However, Diana was the third child still living because before Diana was born her mother had given birth to a boy, John, who had died the day he had been born (Morton, 2010, p. 71). In May 1964 Diana got a little brother as her mother gave birth to Charles Spencer, the greatly anticipated heir to the Spencer earldom as only males could inherit the title (Bradford, 2007, p. 9).

Because it had been of utmost importance to Diana's parents that they would produce an heir, Diana became convinced that she should have been a boy and that she was a disappointment to her parents and regarded as a lesser being because of her gender (Bradford, 2007, p. 9). However, her parents gave no indication of such thinking: they treated Diana the same as they treated her sisters and did not consider her to be an inferior substitute for the son they had lost before Diana had been born (Smith, *Diana: The Life of a Troubled Princess*, 2007, p. 26). In reality, Diana knew that both her parents loved her and that she was her father's favourite (Bradford, 2007, p. 20). According to Smith (2007), later in life, the fact that Diana saw herself as "the girl who was supposed to be a boy" assumed enormous significance in her mind and she viewed it as the first rejection of many, which harmed her self-esteem. The main source of Diana's insecurity was her continued belief that had John survived, she would not have been born (p. 26). In addition, Diana, in part, blamed herself for the breakdown in her parents' relationship, because, had she been the boy her parents had hoped for, things between them might have been different (Snell, 2013, p. 17). Overall, this shows that Diana has had psychological complexes since her childhood.

The marriage of Diana's parents had already begun to unravel two years before Diana's birth (Brown, 2008, p. 22) as a result of the death of their first son, which had had a profound impact on

both them and their marriage (Smith, 2007, p. 25). Even though with the birth of Charles they had been able to secure an heir to the Spencer earldom, their marriage was already beyond repair, and they began a trial separation in the summer of 1967 (Bradford, 2007, pp. 9-10). Diana's mother moved out of Park House into a rented apartment in London (Morton, 2010, p. 78). At the beginning of the trial separation, the two youngest children, Diana and Charles, stayed with their mother in London for the weekdays and spent the weekends at Park House with their father (Bradford, 2007, pp. 9-10), an arrangement which did not apply to the two eldest daughters, Sarah and Jane, who were already away at boarding school (Morton, 2010, p. 78). However, this arrangement did not last. According to Brown (2008), before the Christmas holidays, Diana's father obtained a court approval for Norfolk to be regarded as the permanent home of Diana and Charles and informed his wife of it at the end of a joint family Christmas holiday spent at Park House. There was nothing she could do to oppose this decision as the courts were closed for Christmas and, even if she could have done something, his rank and title would have prevailed. Therefore, after Christmas Diana's mother left Park House without the children (p. 41). After that, the children visited their mother on the weekends, but the visits were shadowed by the fact that their mother was aware that they would inevitably be leaving the next day, and she often cried about it even while the children were with her, which resulted in the children feeling guilty and confused (Morton, 2010, pp. 82-83).

In December 1968, Diana's mother filed for divorce on the grounds of cruelty on her husband's part, charges which he first denied and then countersued her on the grounds of her adultery (Brown, 2008, p. 42). The divorce was made final in April 1969, with Diana's father granted a divorce on the grounds of his wife's adultery with Peter Shand Kydd and given custody of the children (Bradford, 2007, p. 18). According to Smith (2007), the most powerful factor in favour of Diana's father being granted the custody of the children was the fact that he was staying in the family home and that he wanted the children to stay there with him. In addition, there were several factors that worked against Diana's mother; for example, the weight of aristocratic opinion and her own mother were against her, Norfolk was a better place to bring the children up than London, and the law itself favoured the father because of his rank and title (p. 32). Diana's maternal grandmother, Ruth Fermoy, played a major role in the custody case and in the verdict against her daughter, as she witnessed in court in favour of Diana's father and his superior parenting skills (Brown, 2008, p. 42).

Throughout these legal disputes that were taking place between Diana's parents, and even after Diana's mother had been rejected for the second time after reopening the custody question in July 1971, Diana's father freely permitted the children to visit their mother on weekends and during the holidays first in London and later on the West Sussex coast, where she and, now her husband, Peter Shand Kydd, bought a house not long after their wedding (Smith, 2007, p. 32), which had taken place only a month after the divorce (Brown, 2008, p. 42). The children had met Peter on one of their regular weekend visits to their mother shortly after their mother had remarried and they instantly liked him (Morton, 2010, p. 83). However, in 1972, Diana's mother moved to a hill farm located on the remote Isle of Seil off the west coast of Scotland, which made routine weekend visits impossible and effectively terminated regular maternal contact for the children when Diana was only eleven (Smith, 2007, p. 42).

The legal battle that had surrounded the divorce and the custody case had a profound impact on the children, no matter how much their parents and the rest of the family had tried to protect them (Morton, 2010, p. 79). The children all reacted differently to the separation (Bradford, 2007, p. 17). Because Sarah and Jane were already off at boarding school when the separation took place, the aftereffects were the hardest on Diana and Charles, who, as a result, formed a close bond with each other (Smith, 2007, p. 38). However, out of the four of them it was Diana who had been most affected, which might have been because of her impressionable age, as she was only six, and because out of the four children she was by far the most sensitive and least self-assured (Snell, 2013, p. 16). According to Bradford (2007), the divorce and the fact that her mother left her and her siblings when Diana was just six years old was an instance that greatly affected Diana's later life and her own perceptions of it, because her mother leaving led to Diana feeling like she had been abandoned, which stayed with her throughout her life. It was this feeling of abandonment that later caused Diana to often see herself as a victim. It also developed in her a strong desire for love, fear of abandonment, and an intense dread of divorce. Diana was determined that she herself would not let that happen to her nor to her children (pp. 11-12). This determination can be viewed as an important factor in her future relationships and her marriage.

The divorce severed virtually all contact between Diana's parents (Smith, 2007, p. 35). After the final separation, Diana's father was unhappy and withdrawn (Bradford, 2007, p. 11) and the first years after the divorce were generally a difficult time for him (Smith, 2007, p. 39). For Diana and her brother their mother leaving "was very wishy-washy and painful experience (Morton, 2010, p. 23)" and they could not understand why their mother was no longer there (Bradford, 2007, p. 11). According to Smith (2007), Diana's father could not bring himself to talk to the children about the divorce and the children did not ask him about it, so Diana and Charles were left mystified and uneasy as to what had really happened. The fact that Diana's father kept his silence worsened the situation, especially for Diana, who was naturally reticent. Unable to speak about either her parents' reaction or her own, Diana kept her feelings inside (p. 33). Being torn between her parents resulted in Diana sustaining long-lasting psychological damage (Bradford, 2007, pp. 11-12).

After the divorce, Diana's parents had a growing parental rivalry when it came to the children, and although it is not known whether this rivalry was conscious or not, the two of them vied with each other to win the love of the children (Morton, 2010, p. 82). According to Bradford (2007), both Diana's mother and her father were traumatized after the divorce, her mother by feelings of guilt and her father by feelings of humiliation and despair, and they both spoiled the children and exercised little to no parental control over them. As a result, the four Spencer children learned to manipulate their parents to get what they wanted. Diana especially became extremely adept at pushing and cajoling for what she wanted, because she was certain that no one would say no to her Machiavellian behaviour, which she also indulged in during the later years of her life (p. 17). Diana's parents lavished the children with expensive presents (Morton, 2010, p. 82), and because of that their childhood years were filled with all the material things they could have wanted, but lacked love and attention that the children, especially Diana, so craved (Snell, 2013, p. 18). As a result, Diana dreamed of a happy marriage and a large family with a husband who loved her (Snell, 2013, p. 13).

Even though the first years after the divorce were hard for Diana's father, according to Brown (2008), he did try his best at parenting the children after the separation. However, he was limited by his own formal childhood that had taught him the detached parenting style of the aristocracy

that he himself had known growing up and he did not know any other way to be a parent. Life for the children was also very limited and local because their father's social circle was not very wide. As a result, Diana felt socially inadequate (pp. 44-45). In addition, according to Smith (2007), Diana's father was a conscientious parent who treated his children with kindness, although he was a stickler for manners. Diana and her brother appreciated the example he set for them and the values he taught. Each day, when the children were home, he tried to have tea with them. He also made an effort to know his children's friends. However, as a reserved English gentleman, his inbred formality and diffident temperament limited his effectiveness as a parent (p. 40).

To a casual observer, Diana seemed happy enough: she was always a busy, tidy little girl and the warm, maternal, caring streak which characterized her adult life was becoming evident in her daily life (Morton, 2010, p. 79). According to Smith (2007), this maternal streak was most prominent in the way Diana suppressed her own needs by looking after her father and, although she may have wanted someone to care for her, she seemed to find some solace in assuming this maternal role when it came to her father (p. 38). The utmost effect of Diana's turbulent childhood was the sense that she could not depend on either of her parents, which left her feeling insecure. This resulted in Diana eventually becoming obsessively determined in her search for a provider of the continuous love and understanding that she needed but lacked in her childhood (p. 43). Despite Diana's father trying to be there for the children, he had other responsibilities during the times he had not specially reserved for them and left the real upbringing of the children to the women in the house, especially the nannies and governesses that he had hired to take care of them (p. 27). The inconsistency in his presence in the children's lives became increasingly troubling to Diana and she became noticeably worried whenever he went away. This anxiety about abandonment during her father's absences may have led to her hatred of solitude as an adult, because from her school days onward, she seemed to thrive whenever she was surrounded by other people. She would worry whenever Prince Charles and her other loved ones had to leave her in much the same way she had worried about her father as a child (p. 41). Growing up, Diana and her brother had to deal with constant unpredictability in their lives first with their mother leaving and then because of the nannies that changed quite frequently (p. 35). After the divorce, working as a nanny for the children became more difficult, because the children felt that the nannies had come to take the place of their mother

and as a result the children would treat them badly (p. 36). The prettier the nanny, the more suspicious Diana was of her (Morton, 2010, p. 80).

On 9 June 1975 Diana's grandfather, the 7th Earl Spencer, died, and Diana became Lady Diana Spencer, as her father, who had previously been Viscount Althorp, became 8th Earl Spencer (Morton, 2010, p. 89). Because of this, the family moved from Diana's childhood home Park House to the Spencer family home, Althorp, located in Northampton (Smith, 2007, p. 49). According to Bradford (2007), to Diana leaving her childhood home was like another abandonment, another stage in her life like the departure of her mother. They had rarely visited Althorp and their feared grandfather and, when they had, they had not liked him or the estate (p. 29). The Spencers were one of the most aristocratic families of England (Bradford, 2007, p. 1), and while the Spencer family home, Althorp, was never to be home to Diana in the same sense as Park House had been, it did reconnect her to her ancestors in a way which made her able to stand up to and even look down on the Royal Family because it imparted in her a sense of the historic importance of her blood lines (Bradford, 2007, p. 30). When Diana at times reminded herself that she was a Spencer, it was no idle reminder, because being a Spencer was a vital element of her character (Smith, 2007, p. 20). After all, Parliament made George I monarch under the direction of the Whig oligarchy of which Diana's family was a very important constituent founding member and, in that way, she was a descendant of one of the Whig families that had put the House of Hannover on the throne (Bradford, 2007, p. 30).

Despite of all the changes taking place, at first, life at Althorp seemed to be a continuation of the life they had had while living at Park House, although on a grand scale (Bradford, 2007, p. 32). However, the presence of their father's new girlfriend, Raine, whom the children did not like, radically changed the atmosphere (Bradford, 2007, p. 33). The two married on 14 July 1976 without informing the children about their plans (Morton, 2010, p. 92). According to Bradford (2007), when Raine truly became the mistress of Althorp after the wedding, things became even worse as the children felt excluded from their father's life and their attitude towards her did not change. Diana felt a kind of estrangement from her father: she did still love him but she saw him less often. Although he remained a loving father, in her view she now belonged to Raine and not to her (pp. 34-35).

Diana's education was undemanding, which was the norm those days for girls of her age and class (Bradford, 2007, p. 21). Diana came from the last group of privileged British girls for whom the aim of their formal education was not to expect too much of them academically, but to give them the means to find a suitable husband (Brown, 2008, p. 25). According to Brown (2008), Diana's formal education followed a template that had been established long before her time and it was routine for the rich daughters of the aristocracy to leave school at sixteen to work at some menial job with no academic qualifications at all. Diana's schooling followed the same pattern of education that her sisters and her mother had received before her. The only difference was that Diana did not seem to learn much of the little she was taught, even though her mother and her sisters had been academically bright (pp. 53-54). During their schooling, the girls were to learn the basics of English, maths, language, history, and science, but the schools primarily taught them how to cohabit with one another and developed habits of responsibility, good manners, neatness, discipline, and tolerance (Smith, 2007, p. 44). Of the four Spencer children, only Charles went to first-rate schools (Brown, 2008, p. 53). Diana took her O levels in English literature, English language, history, art, and geography first in June 1977 and then again the following autumn, but she failed all five both times, which was highly unusual (Smith, 2007, p. 54).

Diana loved being at school (Morton, 2010, p. 26), although at first she did not like being sent to a boarding school, because she interpreted her father's decision to send her away from home and away from her brother into the alien world of boarding schools as rejection and it made her feel betrayed and resentful of her father (Morton, 2010, p. 84). Diana's dislike might also have been due to her anxiety about abandonment whenever she was away from the people who were close to her. The other Spencer children were all academically bright and Diana's failure to keep up with her siblings in this area gave her an inferiority complex which she balanced by her belief in her own instinct (Bradford, 2007, p. 16). However, she was constantly worried about her average academic abilities and saw herself as a failure that was not good at anything (Morton, 2010, p. 87). Nevertheless, it has been said that she excelled in the things she liked doing, but, when it came to academic work, she simply gave up even before she started (Bradford, 2007, pp. 35-36). According to Smith (2007), with the benefit of hindsight, the magnitude of Diana's academic failure could be viewed as a warning sign because it was the one moment in her youth during which she was subjected to the kind of stressful demands she would come to encounter as Princess of Wales and

she could not cope with the pressure. Diana's intelligence was perfectly adequate, and because of that there was no logical reason for her to perform so badly: the failure could have been a wilful act, a sign of acute but hidden anxiety, or a mere distraction due to trouble at home. In addition, the problems Diana had with her schooling foreshadowed some of the problems she would have in adulthood: poor concentration, lack of intellectual discipline, and the inability to focus on anything for long (pp. 54-55).

In the summer of 1978, Diana moved to London, first to her mother's Cadogan Square flat with two other girls, Laura Greig and Sophie Kimball (Smith, 2007, p. 57) and then in July 1979 to Coleherne Court flat, given to her by her mother as a coming-of-age present, with three other girls, Carolyn Pride, Anne Bolton and Virginia Pitman (Bradford, 2007, p. 46). These three girls were to stay Diana's friends throughout her romance with Prince Charles (Morton, 2010, p. 102). Unlike her sisters, Diana had no debutante party, and she did not have to navigate the social hurdles of the London season like many a girl of aristocratic background had done before her (Smith, 2007, p. 27). According to Morton (2010), with her school days behind her, Diana felt as if a great weight had been lifted from her shoulders, because she had felt that school routine suppressed her spirit. After moving away from the family home, Diana thrived, because she no longer felt that her character was being confined as she had felt at home due to her perceived minor position in the family. After the move to London she became happier, more energetic, and even prettier. She was also now more mature and more relaxed than she had been before, and she was eager to start living her own life (p. 94).

However, life for Diana was much the same as it had been during her school days: she continued to insist that she was intellectually inadequate and her social life was built on the premise of unbroken familiarity (Brown, 2008, pp. 66-67). According to Smith (2007), Diana's life was in many ways an extension of her school days. Her friends, including her roommates, were either from the boarding schools Diana had attended or she had known them since her childhood days in Norfolk, which might have been because Diana is said to have felt unsettled when away from her comfortable group of friends as anything unusual threatened her emotional balance. Diana and her friends spent their time together as a group and shared the same tastes, for example, in books, movies and clothes. They were a part of the so-called Sloane Rangers and Hooray Henrys, young women and

men whose lives revolved around the shops and restaurants that were located at Sloane Square and whose socializing consisted of small, intimate dinner parties, evenings at the movies or at a favourite restaurant, excursions to the ballet, and of house parties in the country (pp. 58-59). According to Morton (2010), however, Diana's London life was mostly very quiet: she did not smoke or drink, and she preferred to spend her non-working hours reading, watching television, visiting friends, or going out to eat in modest bistros. Weekends were spent in the country (Morton, 2010, pp. 98-99).

Diana had neither academic qualifications nor special skills and only a vague notion that she wanted to work with children (Morton, 2010, p. 97). She also had difficulty with making long-term commitments, which became even more apparent after her move to London (Smith, 2007, p. 58), where she mostly worked menial jobs, as it was what the girls of her background did to show that they did not depend on their employment for either money or status: the only requirement was that the position must have flexible working hours (Brown, 2008, p. 65). The assumption at the time was that after finishing their formal education with some sort of skills course, the daughters of aristocrats would join others of their background on the marriage market and find a husband to support them not long after (Morton, 2010, p. 97). In the fall of 1979, Diana secured her first permanent employment as a part-time assistant at the Young England Kindergarten and also began working as a baby-sitter for an American family, positions which offered Diana reassuring routines that bolstered her confidence and made her feel needed (Smith, 2007, p. 58). These were her last real positions before her marriage to Prince Charles (Brown, 2008, p. 69).

3 Courtship with Prince Charles

The families of Diana and Prince Charles had known each other for many years and as a result Diana and Prince Charles had known each other from a very early age because they had been neighbours at Sandringham until 1975, when Diana's family moved from Park House to the Spencer family home, Althorp (The Royal Household, n.d.). Because of their proximity to the Royal Family from an early age, the Spencer children took their royal neighbours for granted and thus were not in awe of them (Bradford, 2007, p. 20). Their royal neighbours simply fitted into the social landscape of friends and acquaintances, but social relations with the Royal Family were sporadic, especially as they only spent a small part of the year at Sandringham (Morton, 2010, p. 75). The children were occasionally invited to the royal residence to play with the royal children (Brown, 2008, p. 39), but mostly royal invitations were rare and the two families did not often socialize (Bradford, 2007, pp. 19-20). A royal visit to Park House was a rare event, although, occasionally Princess Margaret's son, Viscount Linley, and the Princes Andrew and Edward came to play for an afternoon (Morton, 2010, pp. 75-76). However, because of the age difference between Diana and Prince Charles, Diana had spent more time with Prince Charles's brother, Prince Andrew, as a child than with him (Bradford, 2007, p. 20), and public opinion was that Prince Andrew was the one Diana was to marry, not Prince Charles (Brown, 2008, p. 39). At first it may have been that Diana herself entertained thoughts of marrying Prince Andrew (Bradford, 2007, p. 20), but it was not long until her thoughts turned to Prince Charles, who was, at the time, "the most eligible bachelor in the whole United Kingdom" (Brown, 2008, p. 58).

It was Diana's sister Sarah who brought Prince Charles into Diana's life again. In June 1977, the Queen had invited Sarah to join her annual Royal Ascot house party at Windsor Castle (Smith, 2007, p. 61), and it was there that Prince Charles and Sarah met for the first time since their childhood (Brown, 2008, p. 59). By mid-July 1977, they were in a relationship (Bradford, 2007, p. 40). In November 1977, Sarah invited Prince Charles to Althorp for a pheasant shoot (Smith, 2007, p. 62). Diana was given the weekend off from West Heath to attend (Bradford, 2007, p. 40). Prince Charles was older than Diana by thirteen years and because of that had rarely crossed paths during Diana's years at Sandringham, so that weekend was the first time they were properly introduced (Smith,

2007, p. 62). Diana was introduced to Prince Charles in the middle of a ploughed field near Nobottle Wood on the Althorp Estate during a day's shooting (Morton, 2010, p. 95). In their own recollections, neither professed to be overwhelmed by the other (Smith, 2007, p. 62). Prince Charles saw Diana only as the jolly and bouncy younger sister of Sarah (Brown, 2008, p. 59), but Diana admitted to trying to attract the attention of the Prince by being noisy, which he seemed to enjoy (Smith, 2007, p. 64). Diana later told Morton: "I kept out of the way. I remember being a fat, podgy, no make-up unsmart lady but I made a lot of noise and he liked that" (Morton, 2010, p. 31). At a dance that night at Althorp, Prince Charles showed that he was attracted by Diana's high spirits (Bradford, 2007, p. 40). Prince Charles asked Diana to show him Althorp's 115-foot-long picture gallery which then housed one of the finest private collections of art in Europe, and she was about to comply when Sarah intervened and Diana left them to it: as far as Sarah was concerned Prince Charles was her domain at that time and trespassers were not welcome (Morton, 2010, pp. 95-96). The next day, Diana stood next to him during the shoot (Bradford, 2007, p. 40), and he was, according to Diana, "charm himself" (Morton, 2010, p. 31). It is possible that Diana may have developed a crush on the Prince that weekend, but there were no evident sparks between them (Smith, 2007, p. 63). However, once Diana had caught sight of Prince Charles there was no other rival for her heart, and after the shooting day Diana could not forget him (Brown, 2008, p. 59). When Diana came back to school after the shooting-party-weekend she was very excited and could not talk about anything else (Bradford, 2007, p. 41). Prince Charles's interest in her left Diana with much to think about, as he was, after all, Sarah's boyfriend (Morton, 2010, p. 96), and she could not understand why someone like him would be in any way interested in her (Bradford, 2007, p. 40). However, the relationship between Sarah and Prince Charles did not last long because Sarah made the mistake of talking to the press about the relationship, which proved fatal to their relationship, as talking to the press was a cardinal sin in the eyes of the Royal Family (Bradford, 2007, pp. 43-44).

Even though after Sarah's faux pas with the press her relationship with Prince Charles ended, she was still asked to attend his 30th birthday party at Buckingham Palace on November 14, 1978 (Morton, 2010, p. 97). To Sarah's great irritation and surprise, Diana was included in the invitation (Brown, 2008, p. 60). Diana enjoyed herself enormously at the party, but she did not think that Prince Charles would be interested in a relationship with her, and in any case, Diana's life at the time was much too enjoyable to think about steady boyfriends (Morton, 2010, p. 97). Diana later

said that she had not been intimidated by the palace, although she did confess to thinking that it was an amazing place (Smith, 2007, p. 73).

At this point, Prince Charles already had many women in his life, some of which were more suitable than the others (Morton, 2010, p. 106). One of the unsuitable women, at least according to the standards of the Royal Family, was Camilla Parker Bowles, née Shand, whose great-grandmother on her mother's side, Alice Keppel, had been a mistress of Prince Charles's great-great-grandfather, King Edward VII (Bradford, 2007, p. 54). Prince Charles had met and fallen in love with Camilla Shand when he was twenty-three (Smith, 2007, p. 68). She was to become the love of his life (Brown, 2008, p. 106). Camilla was a pretty, witty, confident blonde who was warm and uncomplicated, and most importantly shared Prince Charles's love of the countryside, dogs, horses, and hunting (Bradford, 2007, p. 54), as well as his self-deprecatory humour and fondness for the absurd, and she made Prince Charles feel secure (Smith, 2007, pp. 68-69). Camilla had had a conventional, unchallenging education with the emphasis on social graces rather than intellectual achievement in much the same way as Diana had, and her aim in life was to get, please, and keep a man as was the norm for girls of her background (Bradford, 2007, p. 55). At the time of Camilla's first encounter with Prince Charles, she was dating Andrew Parker Bowles, but by mid-1972, Prince Charles and Camilla had begun a relationship (Smith, 2007, p. 69). Their romance was encouraged by Lord Mountbatten, Prince Charles's beloved great uncle, who saw Camilla as ideal mistress material (Bradford, 2007, p. 55). Prince Charles and Camilla began spending time together in London and at the Mountbatten's country estate, Broadlands (Smith, 2007, p. 69). However, Lord Mountbatten became aware that Prince Charles was becoming very attached to Camilla and warned him not to get too fond of her, because, according to him, she was not sufficiently aristocratic nor virginal to be an acceptable royal bride (Bradford, 2007, p. 55).

However, three weeks before Christmas 1972, Prince Charles was posted for duty on the frigate *HMS Minerva* that later left for Caribbean (Bradford, 2007, p. 56), and that same month Prince Charles and Camilla spent their last weekend together at Broadlands, where Prince Charles told Camilla that he loved her, but did not ask her to marry him (Brown, 2008, p. 105). Nevertheless, Prince Charles would not have been able to marry Camilla, even if he had wanted to, because her

previous affairs were known in society and at court, and even though everybody liked her, she was not, in those days, considered aristocratic enough for Prince Charles, and her reputation would have prevented the marriage (Bradford, 2007, p. 56). In addition, it is not known whether Camilla would have married Prince Charles at that point, even if he had asked, because while her relationship with Prince Charles had been fun, she herself was as much in love with Andrew as Prince Charles was with her (Brown, 2008, pp. 106-107). Prince Charles did not ask Camilla to wait for him, and while he was at sea they did not correspond even though Prince Charles did write about her in his journal from time to time (Smith, 2007, p. 69). While Prince Charles was away at sea, Camilla went back to Andrew, and they got engaged on 15 March 1973 (Bradford, 2007, p. 57) and married in a huge society wedding on July 4 in London at Guards Chapel at Wellington Barracks (Brown, 2008, p. 106).

Even after her wedding, Camilla continued to be a part of Prince Charles's life (Bradford, 2007, p. 57). However, their relationship was mostly platonic until on August 27, 1979, Prince Charles's beloved great uncle, Lord Mountbatten, died, and his death threw Prince Charles's life into chaos and revived his affair with Camilla (Brown, 2008, p. 109). Even before Mountbatten's death Camilla had been a close adviser of Prince Charles, but her influence on Prince Charles's life increased even further after Mountbatten's death, and she played a dominant role in his choices (Bradford, 2007, pp. 61-62). It was at this point that Camilla and Prince Charles both truly fell in love with each other, and when Andrew left later that year for a six-month posting in Rhodesia, Prince Charles and Camilla's relationship became intimate again (Smith, 2007, p. 72). The Queen knew about the affair, but she was determined to continue her policy of not intervening in her children's lives if possible (Bradford, 2007, p. 61).

However, according to Brown (2008), by 1980, members of the Royal Family had begun to think that Prince Charles's obsession with Camilla was no longer merely acceptable entertainment but was preventing his marriage, because by then it was clear that the reason Prince Charles had not married anyone yet was that he was in love with a married woman. He was now thirty-one, past the age of thirty when he always promised he would marry. A suitable bride for Prince Charles had to be found relatively quickly, but there were few women still single that fitted the Royal Family's criterion of the time (p. 113). However, Diana perfectly fitted all the criteria for a royal bride: she was very

young, tall, blonde, and curvy with a clear English-rose complexion, and she had no scandal attached to her name (Bradford, 2007, p. 63). In addition, the Spencers, as one of the leading aristocratic families in England, were perfectly positioned to be royal in-laws (Brown, 2008, p. 114).

After Prince Charles's 30th birthday ball, Diana started to receive invitations from the Palace to theatre parties where Prince Charles was in attendance, and those invitations increased as Prince Charles persisted in his affair with Camilla (Brown, 2008, p. 115). After several casual encounters with Diana, Prince Charles began to consider her as a potential bride for him, although his feelings towards her had not changed that much since their meeting at Althorp (Smith, 2007, p. 76). The more Prince Charles fell in love with Camilla, the more pressing it was for the Palace to find someone to replace her, and because of that Diana's role in Prince Charles's life was linked with Camilla from the start (Brown, 2008, p. 115).

However, it was not just the Royal Family who saw Diana as a good wife for Prince Charles, but also Camilla (Bradford, 2007, p. 63). It suited Camilla well that Prince Charles would marry Diana (Brown, 2008, p. 115), because Diana came across as a shy young girl, and it was in Camilla's interest that Prince Charles choose a wife that would pose no threat to her position in Prince Charles's heart and mind (Bradford, 2007, p. 63). Camilla thought that Diana would be quiet, passive, and obedient, and would not pose trouble for her (Brown, 2008, p. 116). As a result, Camilla later befriended Diana and encouraged Prince Charles towards her, because Camilla believed that Diana truly was the best choice available (Bradford, 2007, p. 63). It is unclear precisely when Prince Charles and Camilla ended their intimacy, but it has been said that their affair had ended when Prince Charles started seriously courting Diana, although Camilla remained "his best friend" (Smith, 2007, p. 88).

Diana's future as Prince Charles's bride was sealed at a house party that both she and the Prince attended in July 1980 at Petworth (Bradford, 2007, pp. 63-64) at the Sussex home of Robert de Pass (Smith, 2007, p. 76). What she did not know was that the invitation was more than a mere coincidence, as it had been planned beforehand by either the Queen Mother or Prince Philip who both knew the couple that arranged the party (Brown, 2008, p. 118). During the weekend, Diana

watched Prince Charles play polo, but the press did not yet link her with the Prince (Smith, 2007, p. 76), even though they took pictures of her just in case because she seemed to be a part of the royal party (Brown, 2008, p. 119). At the de Pass's barbeque following the polo match, Diana and Prince Charles sat together on a bale of hay (Smith, 2007, p. 76). According to Bradford (2007), Diana spoke with Prince Charles about the death and funeral of Lord Mountbatten, who he had been close to. She told him that he had looked very sad walking up the aisle and that it had been the most tragic thing she had ever seen. She also said that she had thought that he should be with somebody who would look after him. Her words touched Prince Charles very deeply and he asked Diana to come to London with him the next day, but she refused. The fact that Diana turned him down was what fascinated him in addition to the way Diana had shown concern for him at a time that he was sad and needed consolation (pp. 63-64).

After that night, Prince Charles's and Diana's relationship began to develop (Morton, 2010, p. 110), and Prince Charles himself asked Diana to be invited to different functions which he was to attend and in effect began to court Diana (Bradford, 2007, p. 64). It was during that summer that Prince Charles essentially decided that he wanted to marry Diana (Smith, 2007, p. 88). According to Bradford (2007), Prince Charles thought that because of Diana's open and easy manner, her warmth, her enthusiasm for rural life, and her background through which she knew a little of his family she would have few fears marrying into the Royal Family. However, as an insider, Prince Charles seems to have had little conception of what marrying into the Royal Family actually meant, and never properly understood the pressures Diana underwent when she entered the royal circle (pp. 64-65).

In September, the Queen invited Diana to Balmoral Castle to watch the Braemar Games (Brown, 2008, p. 121). Diana's sister Jane and her husband Robert Fellowes were also invited (Bradford, 2007, p. 65). That weekend, Prince Charles was surrounded by his closest friends, including Camilla and Andrew Parker Bowles (Smith, 2007, p. 78). To be asked to Balmoral for the Braemar Games when the Queen was in residence was a great honour (Brown, 2008, p. 122). Diana was terrified and wanted desperately to behave in the appropriate manner (Morton, 2010, p. 111). With the immediate Royal Family all in residence, Balmoral was a social minefield because there were strict social rules to which everyone had to adhere (Brown, 2008, p. 123). Those who were successful in

navigating this social minefield, were accepted by the Royal Family and those that were unsuccessful were quietly but swiftly left out of the royal circle (Morton, 2010, p. 111). According to Brown (2008), even though Balmoral might have been daunting for Diana, she did have the fortune of proximity to Prince Charles. She could join him at a moment's notice whenever he wanted and they could be alone. At Balmoral, Diana could show her appreciation of the royal way of life and the great outdoors and display her domestic skills and team spirit. The Queen found Diana charming and appropriate, and her guests were as charmed by Diana as Prince Charles. Diana was said to be an uncomplicated, jolly, and easy-going young girl (pp. 124-125). Prince Charles's friends liked Diana because she was happy and because Prince Charles seemed attracted to her (Bradford, 2007, p. 65). During this period, Diana came across as mature and level-headed, and she made no secret of her devotion to Prince Charles (Smith, 2007, p. 88). However, there were not only the friends of Prince Charles that Diana had to worry about, there was also the press.

By the time Diana came to the scene, Prince Charles was the most interesting member of the Royal Family and the media was focusing on his love life and the women he was seen with in the hopes of unveiling who he was dating at the time (Brown, 2008, pp. 88-89). Prince Charles had declared that he would settle down and marry when he turned thirty (Morton, 2010, p. 109), and once he passed his thirtieth birthday, the reporters became obsessed with the ultimate scoop of who Prince Charles would marry, although by 1978, Prince Charles had given no indication to who that might be, although over the years Prince Charles had established a set of principles for his ideal bride (Smith, 2007, p. 70). He acknowledged that as the heir to the throne finding a wife would be problematic because he had a particular responsibility to ensure that he would make the right decision, as the last thing he could possibly entertain was getting divorced: for him "marriage was about much more important business than falling in love" (Morton, 2010, p. 109). Prince Charles could not envision an equal partnership, but at the same time he wanted a soulmate and a wife who was committed to duty and willing to mould herself to him and the royal way of life (Smith, 2007, p. 79). Prince Charles wanted his decision to be ruled by his head, not his heart, and, as a result, marriage in his eyes was primarily the discharge of an obligation to his family and the nation: in his pragmatic search for a partner to fulfil a role, love and happiness were secondary considerations (Morton, 2010, p. 109). Because Prince Charles had not yet given the press any indication as to who his ideal bride could be, any girlfriend of Prince Charles was the immediate subject of press harassment (Brown, 2008, p.

99). Prince Charles's quest for a wife had developed into a national pastime (Morton, 2010, p. 109), and there were no boundaries to what the press would do to get their story (Brown, 2008, pp. 88-89).

The first time the press wrote about Diana was in September 1980 (Smith, 2007, p. 34), when Prince Charles was nearly thirty-three (Morton, 2010, p. 109). The press had been alerted to Diana being Prince Charles's new girlfriend during the Braemar Games weekend, when, according to Brown (2008), in the hopes of catching Prince Charles with a new woman, a trio of royal reporters had staked out Prince Charles's favourite fishing spot on the River Dee, and seen a glimpse of Diana in fishing gear. However, Diana had spotted them quickly and hid behind a tree without showing her face to them. She had watched them watching her via her compact mirror before she quickly made her way to the Prince's car that was nearby and promptly left. The only pictures the reporters got were of her backside. Nevertheless, the reporters consulted their sources at the Games, heard the name Diana, concluded that Diana might be the girl that was photographed at the polo match, located the old photos, and published them (p. 127). That same month, a story confirming Diana's status as Prince Charles's new girlfriend was published (Smith, 2007, p. 87). Consequently, Diana's private life was effectively over (Morton, 2010, p. 112), and the press pursued Diana relentlessly (Smith, 2007, p. 84). In London, reporters surrounded Coleherne Court, the building where Diana lived, as well as posted themselves near Mary Robertson's mews house, where Diana was babysitting her son, and outside the Young England Kindergarten where Diana worked (Bradford, 2007, p. 68). From then on, every time Prince Charles and Diana were sighted, it was front page news (Smith, 2007, p. 87).

Diana was a natural at giving the press what they wanted (Brown, 2008, p. 131). Because her father had been a passionate photographer, Diana had become used to playing to the camera from a very early age and never took a bad picture (Bradford, 2007, p. 15). However, Diana's ease with the cameras and the press did not derive solely from her father's obsession with amateur photography, as she was also herself an avid consumer of tabloid news (Brown, 2008, p. 131). Besides, unlike the Royal Family, Diana paid attention to the reporters (Smith, 2007, p. 84) and made them her friends by always being polite, tolerant, and good tempered (Bradford, 2007, p. 69). According to Brown

(2008), Diana understood the press in a unique way compared to the rest of the Royal Family, because she was their audience and knew exactly how to hold their interest. In addition, the narratives of the tabloids shaped her worldview. At last Diana had found something that she was good at and that was media relations. Diana's gift with the press first intrigued and then profoundly irritated Prince Charles's friends, but Prince Charles was impressed with the way Diana was conducting herself with the press (pp. 131-133). In earlier years, Prince Charles had been quite cordial to the press, but had turned sharply against them after they had begun stalking his various girlfriends (Smith, 2007, p. 91). Diana herself had witnessed the press destroy her sister's chances with Prince Charles and was both attracted and repelled by them (Smith, 2007, p. 84). Already, she seemed to have a cool understanding of the peril as well as the power of media attention, and she could avoid all the mistakes her sister had made by being too eager, too available, and too recklessly indiscreet, but she also knew that boring denials would not work either (Brown, 2008, p. 131). Diana read everything that was written about her (Smith, 2007, p. 90) and began to look for approval from the press (Brown, 2008, p. 85), which might have been due to her psychological complexes that had their roots in her childhood.

In the beginning, Diana found the media attention quite funny, but as it continued relentlessly it began to frighten her (Brown, 2008, p. 139). Diana understood that the reporters had a job to do, but she had a hard time dealing with the fact that they were following her every move (Morton, 2010, p. 35). However, even though Prince Charles was concerned about the effects that the press harassment might have on Diana, Diana did not complain to Prince Charles about it, because she thought it would be inappropriate (Smith, 2007, p. 91). Nevertheless, Diana learned to evade the reporters, and she and Prince Charles managed to slip away for a series of weekend meetings that would be in the tabloids only after they had already happened (Smith, 2007, p. 88). In addition, Prince Charles also took elaborate precautions so that he and Diana could meet in London without attracting press attention (Bradford, 2007, p. 69).

In the press, Diana was portrayed as the perfect companion for Prince Charles; well-born, pretty, virginal, and charming (Smith, 2007, p. 34). Reporters were so eager to make Diana the perfect fit for Prince Charles that they ignored the problems that their differences in age, culture, and

education could present in the future (Brown, 2008, pp. 130-131). In addition, according to Smith (2007), the press mostly ignored the fact that Diana's parents had been divorced and that it might have caused Diana lasting damage. If it was mentioned, it was something that Diana did not think about anymore (p. 34). Captivated by the effusive press coverage, the public fell in love with Diana as well, and as the relationship between Diana and Prince Charles developed, the reporters became Diana's fierce advocates (p. 85). By then, Diana had become a subject for the tabloid media and had no way to control how she was portrayed, even though she thought that she was the one who was in control, not the press (Brown, 2008, p. 140). The British tabloids were as much players as observers in Diana's life (Smith, 2007, p. 7).

During that autumn, Diana received even more invitations from the Royal Family. In October, the Queen Mother invited her to her own Balmoral residence, Birkhall, and she was clearly in favour of Diana as a possible bride for her beloved grandson (Bradford, 2007, p. 66). After the Birkhall visit, Prince Charles invited Diana to see his new house, Highgrove (Brown, 2008, p. 133). Diana visited Highgrove three times that autumn (Bradford, 2007, p. 68). When there she would wander around the house and gardens alone and wait for Prince Charles to return from hunting, which was very much a foretaste of her life to come (Brown, 2008, p. 133). After tea and an early dinner together, Prince Charles drove her back to London (Bradford, 2007, p. 68). Prince Charles asked Diana to help him decorate the house although they were not yet even engaged, which Diana thought was improper (Morton, 2010, p. 39). Highgrove would become the base for everything she most disliked: horses, Camilla, and boring neighbours (Brown, 2008, p. 133). On November 14, Diana was invited to celebrate Prince Charles's thirty-second birthday with the Royal Family at Wood Farm (Bradford, 2007, p. 69). However, what was planned to be a long weekend for Diana was cut short because of the masses of media that gathered at the gates (Brown, 2008, p. 135). Both the press and the royal staff were convinced that an engagement would be announced (Bradford, 2007, p. 70).

While Diana was still at Wood Farm, the "Royal Love Train" scandal broke: on 16 November the *Sunday Mirror* printed a story that on the nights of November 5 and 6 Diana had slipped into the royal train as it stood in a Wiltshire siding to spend the night with Prince Charles, but as far as Diana was concerned the story was untrue (Bradford, 2007, p. 70). Since Diana was not a member of the

Royal Family, or even a fiancée, Buckingham Palace was not officially obliged to protect her, but the Queen and Prince Charles were incensed by the report and its implication of sexual liaison, so instead of ignoring the story, as the tabloids expected and which had been the norm, the Queen countered with an unequivocal denial from her press secretary (Smith, 2007, p. 93). The Palace denied the whole incident and the official line has always been that there was no truth to the story, but many people still believe that the story was true, but the woman in question was not Diana, but Camilla, and that the Palace denied the story so that Diana would not be spooked by it (Bradford, 2007, p. 70), while some others think that it was Diana, but to protect her image as the virgin bride it was covered up (Brown, 2008, pp. 137-138). Diana later traced her mistrust of Camilla to this period, although she did not specifically mention the story (Smith, 2007, p. 93). In a sense, the Royal Love Train incident was the moment Diana first became a Royal, because the Palace supported her in concealing the truth, whatever it might have been, because they had their own agendas, and the only way in which she was not yet Royal was that she still remained outside the physical protection of Palace walls (Brown, 2008, p. 139).

After the Royal Love Train incident, Prince Philip gave Prince Charles an ultimatum, or at least advice that Prince Charles interpreted as one, that he should either propose to Diana or stop seeing her, as he would damage her reputation and expose her to persecution by the press if he continued to do so without proposing (Bradford, 2007, p. 71), especially now that the Royal Love Train story had cast Diana in a bad light by implying that she and Prince Charles had slept together (Smith, 2007, p. 95). The Queen refrained from commenting, as was her style, but the Queen Mother counselled strongly in favour of marriage (Bradford, 2007, p. 71). For Prince Charles, it was difficult to see Diana, the smitten, romantic teenager, as a future wife, let alone the future Queen of England (Brown, 2008, p. 141). Prince Charles himself was in a confused and anxious state of mind, because he was in love with Camilla, who satisfied his every need and was his “Girl Friday” as well as his lover, and he was not sure what he should do, even though he knew what was expected of him (Bradford, 2007, p. 73). However, while Prince Charles was uncertain about Diana, he might have been even more uncertain about marriage itself and how his bride would cope with all that it entailed (Brown, 2008, p. 144). Prince Charles did not appear to be in love with Diana at the outset, but he was fond of her, and he hoped his feelings could grow into love through a deepening of shared values and interests (Smith, 2007, p. 98).

Nevertheless, Diana was very much in love with Prince Charles, and she believed that marrying him would provide her with the husband and happy family she had wanted since childhood (Snell, 2013, p. 22). Diana obviously adored being with Prince Charles and made herself available to him (Bradford, 2007, pp. 72-73). She seemed naturally attuned to his needs (Smith, 2007, p. 78). For Diana, Prince Charles was the older man in whom she thought she could place her trust in and who would love her and look after her as her own father never had (Bradford, 2007, p. 73). Prince Charles was the man Diana wanted to be with for the rest of her life, and she truly believed that he was in love with her because of the devoted way he behaved in her presence (Morton, 2010, pp. 115-116). However, Diana failed to comprehend or even give much thought to the range of duties she would have to take on, and during the courtship, she seemed enchanted mainly by the idea of becoming a princess (Smith, 2007, p. 81). Since Diana and Prince Charles had had so few meetings and almost none of them had been private, Diana's infatuation with Prince Charles might very well have been based on her romantic image of him combined with his position (Brown, 2008, p. 144). In addition, since Prince Charles was the heir to throne, Diana thought that she would be safe from the possibility of divorce (Smith, 2007, p. 80). It is clear now that Diana barely knew Prince Charles: by her own account, she only saw Prince Charles a total of thirteen times from the beginning of the courtship to the day of the wedding, and her later distress stemmed from her desire to find out who he really was, but as the two were almost never on their own, she had little chance to learn (Brown, 2008, p. 157).

The Christmas of 1980 was tense with Diana staying with her family at Althorp and Prince Charles with the Royal Family in Windsor (Brown, 2008, p. 145). According to Bradford (2007), after Christmas at Althorp, where, according to her stepmother, Diana spent much of her time walking in the park crying over Prince Charles's failure to propose, she joined her flatmates for New Year's Eve before driving down to Sandringham to join the royal house party, where, once again, there was a lot of press present. Diana spent the time waiting for Prince Charles to return from shooting, but the feelings between the couple were becoming stronger and obvious to the court insiders watching them (pp. 71-72).

Everyone was getting impatient for an outcome (Bradford, 2007, p. 73). Then on February 2, 1981, Prince Charles called Diana from his annual skiing trip in Klosters, Switzerland (Brown, 2008, p. 147), and told her that he had something important to ask her when he returned (Morton, 2010, p. 116). Diana was sure that he was going to propose to her (Bradford, 2007, p. 74), and that night she talked until the small hours with her flatmates discussing what she should do (Morton, 2010, p. 116). On February 6, Diana went to Windsor Castle to see Prince Charles (Brown, 2008, p. 147), and Prince Charles formally asked her to marry him (Bradford, 2007, p. 74). She accepted instantly (Smith, 2007, p. 96).

A little after the engagement had taken place, Diana, in a state of euphoria, travelled to Australia to spend three weeks with her mother to plan the wedding (Bradford, 2007, p. 74). During the visit, Diana's mother expressed serious doubts about the match and therefore used the time Diana spent with her in Australia to make Diana think more seriously about the marriage, as she could see the parallels between Diana's relationship with Prince Charles and her own marriage to Diana's father: both of them too young, too hasty, too incompatible, and having too great an age gap and too many responsibilities (Brown, 2008, p. 148). According to Bradford (2007), Diana later claimed that Prince Charles never called her while she was in Australia and that when she tried to call him he was never there and did not call her back, which was not the case. In truth, Diana and Prince Charles spoke on the phone constantly but guardedly during her trip. Nevertheless, when Diana came back from Australia, Prince Charles was not there to welcome her home, but had had flowers brought to her instead. However, as there was no note, Diana believed that the flowers were not from Prince Charles, but that someone in his office had arranged it (pp. 74-75). In reality, Prince Charles had asked that the biggest, most fragrant bouquet of flowers were to be brought to her along with a handwritten welcome home note (Junor, 2005, p. 64).

On the evening before the official engagement announcement, Diana moved into Clarence House, the Queen Mother's London home, to protect her from the press that surrounded Coleherne Court (Bradford, 2007, p. 77). It was, as her Scotland Yard police protection officer told her "the last night of freedom ever in the rest of your life" (Morton, 2010, p. 118). Diana later said that his words were like a sword that went into her heart (Bradford, 2007, p. 76). At Clarence House, Diana was shown

to her first-floor bedroom by a servant (Morton, 2010, p. 120). On the bed was a note from Camilla, congratulating her on the engagement and suggesting lunch (Bradford, 2007, p. 76). The note showed Diana how close Camilla still was to Prince Charles, because it had been written two days previously, and at that point no one was supposed to know when the engagement announcement was to be made, let alone that she would be sleeping at Clarence House that night (Brown, 2008, p. 150). Nevertheless, Diana was in a state of euphoria (Bradford, 2007, p. 76).

4 Engagement

On 24 February 1981, the engagement of the Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer was publicly announced (The Royal Household). The television interview given by Prince Charles and Diana that day became more significant news than the engagement itself (Smith, 2007, p. 97). In the interview (1981), Diana and Prince Charles were asked if they could find the right words to sum up how they felt that day and Prince Charles answered that it is “Difficult to find the right words. Just delighted and happy. I’m amazed that she’s brave enough to take me on.” The interviewer then said, “And I suppose in love?” to which Diana replied “Of course,” while Prince Charles’s by now famous reply was “Whatever in love means,” to which Diana herself laughingly says “Yes” and Prince Charles goes on to add “Put your own interpretation on it” and at that moment they both just laugh it off and the reporter goes on to add “Obviously means two very happy people” and Prince Charles says “Yes” and Diana says “As you can see” (Wales & Spencer, 1981).

Ever since the interview, Prince Charles’s reply has served to symbolize his cold heartedness, but at the time his words were not used in any of the newspaper reports of the broadcast (Brown, 2008, p. 142). However, given the manner in which Prince Charles had publicly discussed the meaning of love and marriage, his reply was consistent with his tendency to intellectualize matters of the heart, especially when they intersected with his sense of duty, and, like any British upper-class male, he was not comfortable with the sort of public display of emotion that the interviewer demanded of him (Smith, 2007, p. 98). Regardless of whether Prince Charles answered the way he did due to his tendency to self-deprecation, not being used to showing his emotions in public, or a burst of truth, there is no doubt that he was utterly charmed and beguiled by Diana in the early days of their relationship (Brown, 2008, pp. 142-143). Years after Diana’s death, Prince Charles would still occasionally display a lingering respect and affection, and three days after the funeral, a confidante of the Queen Mother much trusted by Prince Charles was moved by the sad sincerity of his admission, “You know, whatever they say, when we got married we were very much in love.” (Brown, 2008, p. 143). Prince Charles’s admission shows that whatever people say and write about Prince Charles’s marriage to Diana nowadays, not to mention what happened later in their marriage,

when they got married, the premises of their marriage were not to fault as theirs was a marriage based on love, although there were also other considerations that had been taken into account.

Two days after the engagement announcement, Diana moved into Buckingham Palace, symbolically cutting herself off from normal life for the rest of her life (Bradford, 2007, p. 77). She was to stay there until the royal wedding on July 29 (Smith, 2007, p. 100). To an outsider, Buckingham Palace was not a welcoming place (Bradford, 2007, p. 77). It more resembled a large apartment and office building than an embracing household, and because each member of the Royal Family had a separate apartment and spent a great deal of time alone when they were in residence, a sense of isolation was almost inevitable (Smith, 2007, p. 100). The innate coldness and distance of the members of the Royal Family when they were at the palace did not help make Diana feel at home (Bradford, 2007, p. 80). The palace did provide a place where Diana could hide from the invasive press, but her sense of security ended there (Smith, 2007, p. 100). Diana felt swallowed up by the palace, its walls isolating her from her friends and even her own family (Bradford, 2007, p. 78). Diana had been allotted a suite consisting of a sitting room, bedroom, bathroom, and small kitchen, and assigned a maid and footman (Smith, 2007, p. 100). Diana spent her days sewing, reading, and watching television, while waiting for Prince Charles to come home to his apartment down the corridor (Bradford, 2007, p. 78).

After her move to Buckingham Palace, Diana started to lose weight (Brown, 2008, p. 153). Her waist shrank from 29 inches when the engagement was announced down to 23½ inches on her wedding day (Morton, 2010, p. 119). Diana went into a dieting binge that lost her fourteen pounds between March and July, which was to be the onset of a chronic bout of bulimia (Brown, 2008, p. 151). Diana later said that her bulimia was first prompted by a chance remark by Prince Charles at the time of the engagement, when he put his arm round her waist and joked, “Oh, a bit chubby here, aren’t we?” and Diana could not live with the image of herself as chubby: she felt she could control her life by forcing her body to lose weight (Bradford, 2007, p. 85). A crucial catalyst for Diana’s bulimia was her preoccupation with her portrayal in the press (Smith, 2007, p. 110). Prince Charles was desperately worried about how thin she was getting, but it was assumed that it had nothing to do with the pressures of her new life (Brown, 2008, p. 156). No one, not even Prince Charles, knew that

Diana suffered from severe bulimia nervosa from practically the moment they were engaged (Smith, 2007, p. 109).

The conventional wisdom is that Diana received “less training in her new job than the average supermarket checkout operator,” but in reality she received a lot of help from the moment she entered Buckingham Palace, and the most experienced courtiers were assigned to Diana, which was a signal that the Queen wanted her to be thoroughly tutored (Smith, 2007, p. 102). However, despite the stated willingness of people to help Diana, no one knew what to do with the first Princess of Wales since before the First World War, as no one had thought of a real role for her beyond the fact that she was to be the wife of the Prince of Wales (Bradford, 2007, p. 79). Members of the Royal Family also taught Diana about the royal life, but those were mostly simple tips on royal behaviour, and their approach was hardly systematic (Smith, 2007, p. 104). It was assumed that, since Diana came from an aristocratic background and therefore was no stranger to large households, she would cope well with the transition (Brown, 2008, p. 155). In much the same way as the rest of his family, Prince Charles saw no particular need to coddle Diana, but he did make a sincere effort to give her some pointers (Smith, 2007, p. 105). However, while Prince Charles was fond of Diana, he was always busy and had little time to devote to her (Bradford, 2007, p. 81). Before her move to the palace, Diana had thought that she could turn the determinedly dysfunctional Royal Family into a warm and fuzzy replacement of her own broken family (Brown, 2008, p. 160).

Diana was frequently alone, as Prince Charles’s official duties took most of his time and just a month after the engagement announcement he left for a five-week tour of Australia and New Zealand (Bradford, 2007, p. 79). According to Smith (2007), Diana had enormous difficulty in dealing with Prince Charles’s inflexible devotion to duty and she disliked his frequent absences and worried about him whenever he was away. Diana could not understand why he could not stay with her and just do what he wanted. Prince Charles thought that her objections were unreasonable, and he and his close advisers tried to explain his obligations to her. Prince Charles’s constant absences deepened Diana’s fears of abandonment and gave her far too much time alone to worry (p. 106). Her new life was proving to be unexpectedly dreary, lonely, and intimidating (Bradford, 2007, p. 79). Diana occupied her time with wedding preparations but much of the time she was by herself (Smith, 2007,

p. 101). Diana desperately missed her old life (Bradford, 2007, p. 81) and her friends from Coleherne court (Brown, 2008, p. 154), even though she did entertain them from time to time at small lunches in her sitting room usually accompanied by her mother and her sister, Jane (Bradford, 2007, p. 81). However, when Diana's friends came to see her, they could sense that she was pulling away from them and were hurt because of it, although it was just because Diana was ashamed to tell them that she missed her old life (Brown, 2008, pp. 154-155).

During the engagement, Diana's fears over Camilla increased (Bradford, 2007, p. 85). According to Smith (2007), when Diana asked Prince Charles about Camilla, he told Diana the truth that Camilla had been one of his most intimate friends, but he also assured her that with his engagement and marriage there would be no other woman in his life besides Diana. However, he did not go into more detail with respect to his past relationship with Camilla. Prince Charles assumed that Diana would take him at his word: he lacked the insight to realize that in the future Diana would become even more paranoid about Camilla because now she knew the truth of the relationship. Because of her constant inner turmoil, Diana became obsessive, and the severity of her distress and the violence of her emotions shocked Prince Charles and he visibly worried about her (pp. 107-108). Because Prince Charles saw Camilla only once to say farewell from the moment of his engagement to Diana until 1986, the Prince Charles lobby has always maintained that Diana's growing paranoia about Camilla was neurotic fantasy and according to them Diana's obsessive jealousy of Camilla became a self-fulfilling prophecy (Brown, 2008, p. 157).

Diana's anxieties over Camilla worsened in mid-July when she found a gift meant for Camilla, a gold bracelet with blue enamel disk stamped GF, which stood for "Girl Friday", Prince Charles's nickname for her (Smith, 2007, p. 113). The bracelet was meant as a farewell present (Bradford, 2007, p. 88), and was one of the many gifts Prince Charles had organized to various friends as tokens of gratitude (Smith, 2007, p. 113). When Diana confronted Prince Charles about it, he told her bluntly that it really was for Camilla (Bradford, 2007, p. 88). Despite Diana's angry and tearful protests Prince Charles insisted on giving the bracelet to Camilla in person (Morton, 2010, p. 123). He was going to give it to her at a farewell lunch on Monday 27 July, just two days before the wedding (Smith, 2007, p. 114). Diana doubted that it would really mean farewell (Bradford, 2007, p. 88).

Two days before the wedding day, the same day Prince Charles was giving the bracelet to Camilla, Diana considered cancelling the wedding, because she was confused, upset, and bewildered by the train of events (Morton, 2010, p. 124). Despite her adoration for Prince Charles, Diana had doubts over her ability to cope with the consequences of the marriage (Bradford, 2007, p. 88). While Prince Charles met with Camilla, Diana lunched with her sisters, Jane and Sarah, at Buckingham Palace and discussed her doubts with them, but they made light of her fears and premonitions of the disaster which lay ahead (Morton, 2010, p. 124).

Later that day, Diana and Prince Charles went to St Paul's for their final wedding rehearsal (Smith, 2007, p. 114). To the casual observer, Diana did not appear stressed in any way, and she and Prince Charles seemed like they were really in love as they cuddled on the sofa, had their hands linked during the rehearsals, and skipped down the aisles (Bradford, 2007, p. 89). However, in reality, Diana was distressed and after the rehearsal she collapsed in tears and seriously considered calling the wedding off (Morton, 2010, p. 123). According to Brown (2008), the sheer momentum with which the events were unfolding meant that Diana had no time to process them, and the effort of trying to understand it all was crushing Diana. In addition, the intensity of the media participation was exhausting her (Brown, 2008, p. 162). Diana's distress that had started at the rehearsal at St Paul's earlier that day continued during a small reception in the early evening for family and friends, but at a grand ball held by the Queen at Buckingham Palace that evening, Diana was in good spirits once more as she and Prince Charles greeted well-wishers at the top of a staircase (Smith, 2007, p. 115). Diana seemed good humoured and relaxed in her grand surroundings, and there were no signs of her earlier distress (Morton, 2010, p. 123). Diana was at her most ravishing (Brown, 2008, p. 167). It was a memorable night and the guests enjoyed themselves immensely (Morton, 2010, p. 124).

There were rumours that Prince Charles spent the night of the ball and the eve of the wedding with Camilla, but according to Bradford (2007), the story that Prince Charles spent those nights with Camilla were untrue. Prince Charles and Camilla may have spent some time together earlier the evening of the ball, but they did not spend the night together, nor was Prince Charles with Camilla on the eve of the wedding: he and Diana hosted a party at Mark's Club for Prince Charles's staff who had not been invited to the wedding ball the night before. After the party, Diana went back to

Clarence House to sleep, while Prince Charles returned to Buckingham Palace, where, after the fireworks display in Hyde Park celebrating the wedding eve, he spent some time at a window watching the crowds gathered in the Mall and chatting to Lady Susan Hussey (pp. 89-90).

Meanwhile, in Clarence House with her sister Jane as company, Diana had a fit of pre-wedding nerves and had a severe bulimic attack (Smith, 2007, p. 116). However, her mood was much improved when she received a gift from Prince Charles, a signet ring engraved with the Prince of Wales feathers along with a loving note that said: "I'm so proud of you and when you come up I'll be there at the altar for you tomorrow. Just look 'em in the eye and knock 'em dead." (Morton, 2010, p. 125). Diana could hear the explosions of the fireworks in Hyde Park from her room: it was certainly too late to back out now (Bradford, 2007, p. 90).

5 Wedding and Honeymoon

Diana and Prince Charles were married on 29 July 1981 at St Paul's Cathedral in London when Diana was just twenty years old (The Royal Household, n.d.). The wedding was televised and watched by 750 million people in more than 70 countries (Morton, 2010, p. 126). Later Diana said that when she had woken up the morning of the wedding, she had felt like a "lamb to the slaughter", but when she had put on her wedding dress, she had burst into a song and her dressers and bridesmaids had joined in (Brown, 2008, p. 169). Diana also said that on the wedding day she remembered being so in love with Prince Charles that she could not take her eyes off him in the church, and she thought that she was the luckiest girl in the world (Morton, 2010, p. 41). To family and friends, as well as to the press and the public, Diana projected an impressive serenity during the wedding (Smith, 2007, p. 116). The only time Diana showed her nervousness was when she said her vows to Prince Charles and made the mistake of addressing him as Philip Charles Arthur George instead of Charles Philip Arthur George (Brown, 2008, p. 170). The feelings of jealousy of Camilla which had haunted her throughout her engagement melted away, as now Prince Charles was her husband and Camilla just a face in the crowd (Bradford, 2007, p. 92). The only time Diana saw Camilla that day was at the church, because at Diana's request she had been excluded from the guest list for the wedding breakfast (Smith, 2007, p. 116). Diana convinced herself that the bulimia, which she had suffered from during the engagement, was simply an attack of pre-wedding nerves and that Camilla was consigned to the past (Morton, 2010, p. 126). After the wedding ceremony, there was a happy family atmosphere about the whole occasion at the Palace (Bradford, 2007, p. 93), where the Royal Family and their guests enjoyed the traditional royal wedding breakfast (Morton, 2010, p. 126). When the newly-wed couple left for their honeymoon, as the open carriage trailing tin cans and balloons attached by Princes Edward and Andrew pulled away from the portico, the Queen started running behind it waving as everyone threw confetti (Bradford, 2007, p. 93).

Diana and Prince Charles spent the first two days of their honeymoon at Broadlands, and then flew to Gibraltar to join the royal yacht *Britannia* (Bradford, 2007, p. 93). By all outward appearances, the cruise was a great success: Prince Charles and Diana often had intimate meals together in their sitting room and watched videos after dinner, including tapes of their wedding, and during many

days they went off to deserted beaches for picnics, swimming, and sunbathing (Smith, 2007, p. 117). However, honeymooning on a yacht with a crew of two hundred was not a romantic experience as they were never truly alone (Bradford, 2007, pp. 93-94). For Diana, *Britannia* only reinforced the well-populated loneliness that defines royal life (Brown, 2008, p. 174). Prince Charles spent his days on the yacht reading, while Diana was left to entertain herself (Bradford, 2007, p. 94). Moreover, the shadow of Camilla, whom Diana thought she had left behind on the wedding day, hung over the *Britannia* honeymoon, as two pictures of Camilla fell out of Prince Charles's diary and one night he wore cufflinks engraved with entwined C's which had been a gift from Camilla (Morton, 2010, p. 129). During the cruise, Diana's sporadic depression turned chronic, and, unbeknownst even to Prince Charles, Diana's bulimia became even worse than it had been before the wedding (Smith, 2007, p. 118). However, in public, Diana appeared cheerful and happy, and the couple returned to Britain looking fit, tanned, and very much in love and flew to join the Queen and the rest of the Royal Family at Balmoral (Morton, 2010, p. 129).

At Balmoral, the honeymoon continued through September and into October (Bradford, 2007, p. 95). Prince Charles, like the Queen and the rest of the Royal Family, had spent the six weeks from the middle of August to early October at Balmoral every year, and this is where they had to be: it was unthinkable for him to have taken his wife anywhere else (Brown, 2008, p. 177). When they arrived at Balmoral, the rest of the Royal Family was there to welcome them (Morton, 2010, p. 43). However, the Scottish retreat later became a toxic place for Diana (Brown, 2008, p. 177). According to Bradford (2007), what Diana hated was the regimented life of Balmoral, the emphasis on outdoor activities whatever the weather, and the focus on shooting, stalking, and fishing. Despite being on holiday, the Royal Family adhered rigidly to the form of previous years. Courtiers would be in attendance and, to a young girl like Diana, Balmoral was oppressive and very dull (pp. 98-99). There, Diana had to confront the everyday reality of a married royal (Smith, 2007, p. 119), and she began to understand the full impact of life as Princess of Wales (Morton, 2010, p. 129). Diana was finding it difficult to adapt to life in the Royal Family, and she felt confined and isolated, incapable of reaching beyond the invisible barrier which now separated her from the rest of the world (Bradford, Diana, 2007, p. 96). As Diana mingled with the guests at Balmoral, she realized that she was no longer treated as a person but as a position and no matter how much she tried she could not prevent

the shift in perceptions towards her, which further distanced her from the people around her and made her disconcerted (Morton, 2010, p. 130).

The formality of Balmoral's intractable routine made Diana desperate (Brown, 2008, p. 177). The Royal Family operated by their own rules and traditions, and Diana's refusal to follow or even to try to understand them mystified her in-laws, who were utterly unused to being confronted by such behaviour (Bradford, 2007, pp. 96-97). Since Diana was so clearly bored with the Balmoral way of life, the Royal Family began to come to the alarming realization that for a girl of her background she was somehow a social novice (Brown, 2008, p. 178). The Royal Family had mistakenly expected that a girl of Diana's background would be used to the social situations that she was now facing, but the reality was that Diana had had little exposure and no practice at the formal art of conversation (Brown, 2008, p. 179). Diana's upbringing had not taught her to behave in a way those situations demanded (Bradford, 2007, p. 97). Faced with the relentless need to be dignified and social, Diana's intellectual inferiority complex began to show, and while Prince Charles behaved himself with his usual polished charm, Diana was silent, which the Queen did not appreciate, even though with her own friends Diana could be very lively (Brown, 2008, p. 179). According to Smith (2007), royal house parties intimidated Diana in much the same way as gatherings of people outside her own circle had unnerved her when she was growing up, and fearful of being judged inadequate, Diana would sometimes leave meals abruptly or not appear at all. When Diana began behaving erratically, members of the Royal Family chose to ignore it in the hope that the problem would disappear on its own in time. However, their failure to acknowledge Diana's pain, much less sympathize with and comfort her, made Diana feel more isolated and wounded than ever. Diana felt that the Royal Family had cast her adrift emotionally, as she had been during her childhood by her parents' divorce (pp. 123-124). As a result, Diana's relations with the royal-in-laws were not easy (Bradford, 2007, p. 97). It did not help that Diana considered herself an outsider, and made little effort to ingratiate herself with the Royal Family (Smith, 2007, p. 123).

It was becoming obvious that Diana and Prince Charles were basically incompatible (Bradford, 2007, p. 99). However, both wanted the marriage to succeed: Diana to avoid going through a traumatic divorce, and Prince Charles to fulfil his duty (Smith, 2007, pp. 118-119). According to Brown (2008),

in order to cheer Diana up, Prince Charles moved them out of the castle into Craigowan Lodge, one of the guest houses located on the Balmoral estate, which at least allowed Diana to run her own house. In doing this, Prince Charles was trying to be solicitous of his wife, even though he refused to take her back to London where she wanted to go. Prince Charles saw Balmoral as basic royal rigor and because Diana was now a member of the Royal Family it was essential that she learned to handle it. In addition, Balmoral was Prince Charles's favourite place, and he could not believe that she would not come to love it too, especially since she had seemed to like Balmoral before the engagement. However, despite all this, Prince Charles did not modify his routines at all for Diana. He spent the mornings shooting and the afternoons fishing, and Diana refused to join the shooting parties for lunch (p. 180).

Diana wanted Prince Charles's undivided attention and misread his preoccupation as rejection (Smith, 2007, p. 119). Diana's marriage to Prince Charles had acted as a catalyst for all the painful feelings from her childhood to re-emerge, namely her insecurity and her feelings of betrayal and isolation, and his apparent disregard for her emotions appeared to make such feelings more intense and at times overwhelming to her (Snell, 2013, p. 25). Diana was still suffering from bulimia and her weight continued to fall drastically (Morton, 2010, p. 131). The shadow of Camilla continued to linger on the couple even at Balmoral (Bradford, 2007, p. 95) as Diana dreamed of her at night (Brown, 2008, p. 184) and constantly suspected Prince Charles of ringing her up to ask her advice about his marriage (Bradford, 2007, p. 96). Despite Prince Charles's repeated assurances that Camilla was no longer a part of his life, Diana refused to accept his word (Smith, 2007, p. 120). Camilla was an obsession for Diana (Bradford, 2007, p. 96). Prince Charles remained mystified by Diana's mercurial moods, but he blamed post-wedding nerves and assumed her misery would recede over time (Smith, 2007, p. 119). Perplexed and worried, Prince Charles did what he could to placate Diana, and even invited her former flatmates up to stay (Bradford, 2007, p. 99).

In October 1981, Prince Charles finally persuaded Diana to go to London for professional help, which was a significant step, given his family's discomfort with mental illness (Smith, 2007, p. 124). It was a clear indication of how desperately worried he had become (Brown, 2008, p. 184). At Buckingham Palace, Diana saw several doctors and psychologists, and they prescribed her various tranquilizers

to calm her down and recover her equilibrium (Morton, 2010, p. 131). However, these consultations had little chance to be effective because Diana withheld crucial medical information by never revealing the bulimia that was so pivotal to her mood swings (Brown, 2008, p. 185). Diana fought vigorously against the doctor's advice, because she knew that she did not need drugs, as she just needed rest, patience and understanding from those around her (Morton, 2010, p. 131). Diana returned to Balmoral unimproved, and afterwards learned that she was pregnant (Smith, 2007, p. 124). The pregnancy meant that she had a good reason not to take the drugs prescribed to her as she did not want to risk any harm to the baby (Morton, 2010, p. 131).

6 Early years of marriage

In September, Prince Charles and Diana were sighted for the first time on an official engagement at the annual Braemar Gathering and Highland Games, but it was not until mid-October that they ended their honeymoon (Brown, 2008, pp. 182, 185). Their first public engagement as a married couple was a three-day tour of Wales at the end of October (Smith, 2007, p. 125), and the press turned up in force (Bradford, 2007, p. 100). Despite Diana's pregnancy and her delicate mental state, the trip proceeded according to plan (Smith, 2007, p. 125), although most of the time Diana felt sick and was apprehensive of people's expectations of her (Bradford, 2007, p. 100). According to Smith (2007), at the time Diana was suffering from morning sickness as well as bulimia, and she was convinced that she was doing everything wrong. As a result, Diana wept in the car between engagements, terrified of facing the crowds again, but Prince Charles encouraged her to get out of the car and just do it, so she did, drawing on her ability to put on a happy face despite how awful she felt (p. 125).

According to Smith (2007), neither Prince Charles nor Diana had seen anything like the turnout of people and press in Wales during their first official tour, and it unnerved them both. In addition, although Prince Charles smiled proudly as Diana went through her paces, their new unsettling dynamic became clear (p. 125): The people wanted Diana and not Prince Charles (Bradford, 2007, p. 101). Diana was clearly feeling uneasy about the excessive attention directed at her, and she urged her handlers to boost the response Prince Charles was receiving from the crowd, because, like any woman who finds that the balance of power has suddenly shifted in her marriage, Diana clearly saw how this would have a negative effect on their relationship (Brown, 2008, p. 193). Later, Diana said that she did not receive any praise from Prince Charles, although Prince Charles had commended her publicly by saying: "The response of the people in Wales during our visit there was entirely due to the effect my dear wife has on everybody." (Smith, 2007, p. 125). Diana had also expected to receive praise from the Palace for her efforts, but she received none and it upset her (Brown, 2008, p. 193). In her vulnerable, lonely position a little support would have helped her a lot (Morton, 2010, p. 134).

When Diana and Prince Charles returned to London at the end of October, they had no home of their own as neither Highgrove nor their apartment at Kensington Palace was ready for them (Brown, 2008, p. 185). According to Bradford (2007), for the next seven months, Prince Charles and Diana lived in a relatively cramped apartment on an upper floor of Buckingham Palace, where they had a bedroom, a sitting room, a study, a bathroom and two dressing rooms. Because of their close proximity to one another, the imbalance between Diana's empty life and Prince Charles's busy one became more marked as he had a programme of official duties while she had none, and Diana still failed to comprehend why Prince Charles was not able to spend more time with her. Worse still, no one seemed to take Diana seriously. Senior members of the Royal Family seldom considered other people, and many of the courtiers shared the same view. An indication of the strange lack of foresight and consideration where Diana was concerned was that it was not until three months after the wedding, in September, that ladies-in-waiting were appointed to her (pp. 101-103). Smith (2007) states that no one had thought out in detail what Diana would do, and she offered the courtiers little guidance on her interests. In addition, during the early years, Diana refused to get too involved in anything, and when she was presented with lists of charities and descriptions of what they might mean to her personally, she did not show any interest to learn more about them (pp. 146-147).

Diana's pregnancy was officially announced on 5 November 1981 (Morton, 2010, p. 134). However, the pregnancy had made Diana even more volatile, and her bulimia had continued, further complicated by the severe morning sickness that had plagued Diana from the early days of the pregnancy (Smith, 2007, p. 126). She was violently sick every day (Brown, 2008, p. 195). In addition, according to Smith (2007), Diana lost her appetite and had difficulties sleeping. As a result, during the first two weeks of November, she had to withdraw from four official engagements, once because Prince Charles insisted she stay in bed (p. 126). Diana's behaviour caused disapproval among the other royal women, because for them pregnancy was nothing out of the usual and should be treated as such (Brown, 2008, p. 195). In fact, the highest value was placed on one's ability to leave a sickbed to attend an official engagement (Smith, 2007, p. 126).

It can only be speculated why Diana had elected to get pregnant for the first time so quickly after the wedding even though she had so many other new responsibilities to get used to even without

the pregnancy. According to Brown (2008), Prince Charles had not wanted to start a family until later on in the marriage so that Diana could get used to being a new member of the Royal Family and her official duties, including royal tours. However, Diana was more than aware of the importance of an heir. She knew that the way to regain instant approval within the Royal Family was to first produce an heir and then a spare. Nevertheless, getting pregnant fast gave Diana something real to do, and she needed the tenderness of a baby in her life because it gave her the warmth that was lacking in the Royal Family (p. 196). Even so, a quick pregnancy robbed the couple of more time to settle down together, and imposed yet another role on Diana who was already struggling to come to terms with herself and her new roles (Smith, 2007, p. 125).

Meanwhile, the media interest in Diana remained intense to a degree which no one had foreseen (Bradford, 2007, p. 100), and its fascination with her increased daily (Brown, 2008, p. 204). According to Morton (2010), Diana and other members of the Royal Family had believed that her fame would be temporary and the interest in her would fade following the wedding. Everyone, even the press themselves, were caught unawares by the Princess Diana phenomenon: the readers could not get enough of her. Diana was profoundly confused because she did not understand why the press was so interested in her now as she had not altered overmuch since her single days (pp. 129-130). Diana felt unworthy and inadequate of the attention aimed at her, but she somehow managed to cope with it (Bradford, 2007, p. 100). According to Smith (2007), during the honeymoon, the press had picked up that everything was not right in their marriage: they had noticed that she had continued to lose weight, found it difficult to adapt to the royal routine, and felt the pressure to live up to all that was expected of her. However, after their successful trip to Wales and the pregnancy announcement, any concerns raised during their stay at Balmoral were forgotten, which was a press pattern that was to persist throughout the marriage (p. 127). It was then that Diana began to increasingly look to the media for the reassurance she was not getting at home (Brown, 2008, p. 204), and her celebrity simultaneously bolstered and bothered her, even though she was aware of the difference between her public and private selves and felt disconnected from the superstar she saw in the press each day (Smith, 2007, p. 128). In December, the pressure of the press became so overwhelming that the Queen asked the editors of all twenty-one national daily and Sunday newspapers and the key figures at the BBC and ITN to Buckingham Palace, and let them know that she was worried about invasions of the privacy of the Princess of Wales, and asked for some

restraint (Brown, 2008, pp. 205-206). Nevertheless, the newspapers continued to cover the royal couple nonstop, even though the photographers backed off for a while (Smith, 2007, p. 128).

Christmas at Windsor was a rare period of peace and happiness for Prince Charles and Diana, but Sandringham in January was a different matter (Bradford, 2007, p. 103). According to Morton (2010), during that time, Diana was three months pregnant with William and felt terrible. The relationship between her and Prince Charles was rapidly unravelling, and Prince Charles seemed incapable of understanding or even wishing to comprehend the turmoil in Diana's life. Diana was suffering from morning sickness, haunted by Camilla, and desperately trying to accommodate herself to her new position and new family (p. 132). During their time at Sandringham, Diana accidentally fell down the stairs, and landed at the feet of the Queen Mother (Bradford, 2007, p. 104). Prince Charles had been desperately concerned when Diana took her tumble, and it was he who called the doctor to make sure both Diana and the baby were all right (Brown, 2008, p. 202). He sat with Diana until the doctor arrived (Bradford, 2007, p. 104), and after the examination had proved that neither she nor the baby had been hurt during the fall, Prince Charles stayed with Diana the rest of the day and took her out for a royal barbeque later (Brown, 2008, p. 202). Later, Diana said she had thrown herself down the stairs on purpose and landed in front of a horrified Queen, and Prince Charles had just ignored her antics and went riding (Bradford, 2007, p. 104). In truth, the last thing Diana would ever have done was hurt her unborn child in any way (Brown, 2008, p. 202).

According to Brown (2008), in February 1982, Prince Charles and Diana flew to the Bahamas for what amounted to a second honeymoon. They stayed at Windermere on Eleuthera, the home of Lord and Lady Brabourne. There they could focus on their relationship for the first time. The press sighted them standing in the sea with their arms around each other, kissing, which was proof that, removed from the pressures of Palace life and the shadow of Camilla, their relationship might have had a chance of succeeding (p. 206). The vacation was good for Diana (Smith, 2007, p. 131). However, during this holiday, the tabloids got pictures of a pregnant Diana in bikini (Bradford, 2007, p. 105), and the Queen took the invasion of the privacy of Diana personally and issued a statement calling the invasion of her daughter-in-law's privacy "tasteless behaviour" and said that it "is in breach of normally accepted British Press standards" (Brown, 2008, p. 207). As a result, the press

apologized half-heartedly (Smith, 2007, p. 130). Diana seldom appeared in public as her pregnancy progressed (Smith, 2007, p. 131), and when she did, she was constantly watched by photographers and reporters, while newspapers commented on her every action (Morton, 2010, p. 137).

At 9.03pm on 21 June 1982, Diana gave birth to Prince William in St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, London (The Royal Household, n.d.). The media interest in the forthcoming birth had been too much to bear for Diana and she had decided to have the labour induced (Morton, 2010, p. 137). As per Diana's wish, Prince Charles was present throughout all sixteen hours of labour, becoming the first-ever Prince of Wales to be in the room when his wife gave birth (Brown, 2008, pp. 209-210). William's birth came just over a month before their first wedding anniversary: Diana had had little time to accustom herself to being Princess of Wales and now she was the mother of the future King (Brown, 2008, p. 208). Joy was unconfined, and when Diana arrived back at Kensington Palace, Princess Margaret had organized a welcome reception outside where everyone waved and cheered: it was perhaps the high point of Diana's life as Princess of Wales as she had fulfilled her duty to the Crown by producing the next heir to the throne (Bradford, 2007, p. 106).

According to Smith (2007), after leaving the hospital, Diana went into seclusion for a month, and did not appear until late July, when she attended a service at St Paul's. However, the press coverage drove her back into hiding, as the tabloids wrote that she looked plump and behaved inappropriately. As a result, Diana stayed out of the public eye for the rest of the summer and into the autumn, and sank into a deep malaise (pp. 132-133). At first, the joy of motherhood overcame Diana's bulimia and the mood was infectious: for a time Prince Charles surprised his friends by his enthusiasm for the nursery routine (Morton, 2010, p. 139). However, it was not long until Diana's postnatal depression started (Brown, 2008, p. 210). By the time Prince William was barely a month old, Diana was hit with a depression even worse than what she had experienced during her honeymoon and pregnancy, and at the same time, Diana's abandonment fears grew more acute and she panicked whenever Prince Charles did not arrive home on time, but Diana concealed her worry from Prince Charles (Smith, 2007, p. 132). Prince Charles cleared his diary and stayed home with Diana and the baby (Brown, 2008, p. 210). On August 4, 1982, Prince William was christened

Prince William Arthur Philip Louis in the Music Room at Buckingham Palace (The Royal Household, n.d.).

On August 14, Prince Charles, Diana and Prince William left for the Royal Family's annual holiday at Balmoral (Smith, 2007, p. 133). Prince Charles still did not understand Diana's aversion to the annual summer holiday at Balmoral (Brown, 2008, p. 211). At Balmoral, Diana was plagued by insomnia and continued to binge and purge, and, once again, her weight dropped alarmingly (Smith, 2007, p. 133). Prince Charles worried about her, but he did not understand post-natal depression, and no one in the Royal Family recognized either that or her bulimia (Bradford, 2007, p. 111). In addition, according to Smith (2007), Diana's obsession with Camilla continued, and despite Prince Charles's denials, Diana persisted in accusing him of maintaining the affair. While Prince Charles had ended his relationship with Camilla, it is likely that they continued communicating in some form, even though it has also been said that once engaged Prince Charles made virtually no contact with Camilla for over five years and that he had seen her only fleetingly at social gatherings. Regardless of the real state of the affair, Diana's imaginings had a profound impact on the relationship, and on her own behaviour, which took an alarming new turn in during her time at Balmoral as she began to injure herself with sharp objects. She did not characterize her actions as suicide attempts but as cries for help, although she later said that she had tried to commit suicide a number of times without naming the specific incidents. Diana enacted some of her self-harm in Prince Charles's presence. Diana's distressing behaviour greatly worried Prince Charles, and after Prince Charles consulted with his confidants and talked to Diana, they agreed that she should again undergo psychiatric counselling. Neither the Queen nor any other member of the Royal Family were privy to these discussions. Prince Charles was still unaware of Diana's bulimia, so the incentive for treatment was her self-harm. On October 17, Prince Charles took Diana, along with Prince William and the nanny, to London so Diana could begin treatment. She did not return to Balmoral that fall. As Prince Charles had done a year earlier when he urged Diana to find professional help for her depression and mood swings, he showed that he considered her symptoms serious enough for special care (pp. 133-136). Nevertheless, Diana again withheld the crucial facts about her bulimia (Brown, 2008, p. 214). The analysts blamed everything on her broken home, although later the doctor who treated Diana attributed her bulimia directly to her problems with Prince Charles and it became noticeably worse

in surroundings with unhappy memories or in difficult situations, such as family gatherings at Sandringham and Balmoral (Bradford, 2007, pp. 111-112).

However, as Diana endeavoured to come to terms with the realities of her marriage and royal life, there were moments in those early years when Diana sensed that she actually could cope and could make a positive contribution to the Royal Family and the wider nation (Morton, 2010, p. 142). In September 1982 Diana went on her first solo engagement as she attended the funeral of Princess Grace of Monaco (Bradford, 2007, p. 115). Diana was so insistent on attending the funeral that she appealed to the Queen that she be allowed to go, who decided in the end, since no one else wanted to go, to let Diana go to the funeral (Brown, 2008, p. 217). She did brilliantly (Bradford, Diana, 2007, p. 115), although she previously had feared making any public appearances on her own (Smith, 2007, p. 125). According to Brown (2008), Diana's youthful dignity and poise won her rave reviews in the press. However, Diana did not receive any recognition from the Palace and she felt crushed, even though it is rare to receive any praise from them. To the Royal Family, public appearances are not personal performances: they are acts of state, symbolic assertions of national identity, ex officio rituals having nothing to do with individual characteristics and everything to do with impersonal roles assigned by tradition and birth. They did not offer any feedback on Diana's participation, because, as they saw it, those obligations could not be affected by compliments or criticism or by good or bad reviews. To Diana this may have felt like indifference to her work and progress, because she had always longed for recognition (pp. 217-218).

On March 20, 1983, Prince Charles, Diana, Prince William, and their entourage left for their first major royal tour, which included forty-five days in Australia and New Zealand (Smith, 2007, p. 141). They left Prince William at a sheep station with his nanny during their official appearances, but every three or four days they would break off and visit him, which gave them a taste of authentic family life (Brown, 2008, p. 210). During those breaks, they were extremely happy (Bradford, 2007, p. 117). While on tour, Diana was comforted by having Prince William nearby, and when she and Prince Charles periodically visited him, it provided a welcome escape (Smith, 2007, p. 143). The excitement of the tour lifted Diana's depression and gave the couple's relationship a renewed chance, and although the dynamic between them was complicated, their relationship was still alive (Brown,

2008, p. 220). During the tour, Diana and Prince Charles openly showed affection for each other (Smith, 2007, p. 143), and Diana relied on Prince Charles to help her get through the tour and he provided the necessary support (Brown, 2008, p. 220). Prince Charles rarely left Diana on her own (Smith, 2007, pp. 141-142).

The extraordinary adulation for Diana that the royal couple first experienced in Wales became even greater at Australia (Smith, 2007, p. 142), and the tour marked the beginning of worldwide “Diana mania” (Bradford, 2007, p. 116). All eyes were on Diana and she had to watch every word, smile incessantly, and show excitement for everyone and everything she encountered (Smith, 2007, p. 141). Prince Charles was jealous of Diana’s huge appeal to the crowds, which was to become an increasingly divisive factor in their relationship, and although he concealed it nobly and even joked about it, getting upstaged by his wife, a novice on royal occasions, was nonetheless humiliating for a man who since childhood had been the centre of attention wherever he went (Bradford, 2007, p. 116). However, Prince Charles was smart enough to see what a political asset Diana had become (Brown, 2008, p. 220), and he took pride in Diana’s performance, although he was mildly disturbed by her reaction to the crowds (Smith, 2007, p. 143). Nevertheless, Prince Charles was also deeply disturbed by all the adoration coming his young wife’s way, and its excess frightened and worried him (Brown, 2008, p. 220). The adulation of the crowds at first terrified and then empowered Diana and she realized that this was something she could do well (Bradford, 2007, p. 116). Sometimes the crowds frightened her, but she also found pleasure in the sense of power they gave her (Smith, 2007, p. 143). Diana was excited by the scale of the public’s approval of her and there was no doubt about her media status (Bradford, 2007, p. 117). Gradually Diana began to relax and concentrate on her job as a royal representative (Smith, 2007, p. 143).

At the end of the Australian tour, Diana and Prince Charles escaped for a nine-day rest on Windermere Island (Smith, 2007, p. 144). The photographs taken by reporters during this holiday show Prince Charles and Diana on a beach happy and playful with each other, walking hand in hand (Bradford, 2007, p. 119). Afterwards, they went on a seventeen-day visit to Canada, but this time without Prince William (Smith, 2007, p. 144). Their tour of Canada was also a huge media success, particularly for Diana (Bradford, 2007, p. 117). Diana again conducted herself well under

considerable pressure, and broadsheets and tabloids alike hailed Diana's mastery of her royal role (Smith, 2007, p. 144). According to Brown (2008), the frostiness from members of the household towards Diana when she returned was obvious. As per usual, no one at the Palace said a word about how well she had coped and how superbly she had represented the country. This time, though, Diana did not care that the Palace were not appreciative. During the tours, Diana had become fascinated by the development of her own image in the pages of the British tabloids that were sent to her and she reviewed them daily (pp. 222-224). The consciousness that she was a real success boosted Diana's still fragile confidence as worldwide adulation for Diana continued to grow (Bradford, 2007, p. 118). The immensity of Diana's star quality was something the Royal Family could never fully comprehend as it kept increasing every year, rather than winding down as they had expected, and her impact was confusing even to herself (Brown, 2008, pp. 186-188). However, excessive press attention was now inevitable as pictures of Diana sold newspapers and magazines (Bradford, 2007, p. 118).

Back in England for their second wedding anniversary, the couple publicly demonstrated their affection, but there was a downside to this public success and apparent happiness, which was the private difficulties (Bradford, 2007, p. 119). In some ways, Diana did seem better that fall, largely because she was performing her royal duties so reliably, but she still suffered from attacks of weeping, during which Prince Charles spent hours comforting and reassuring her (Smith, 2007, p. 145). Prince Charles's friends lined up to denigrate Diana, and leaked stories began to appear in the press: Diana, according to the stories, was responsible for an exodus of staff, friends, and a dog, however those stories were greatly exaggerated and partly untrue (Bradford, 2007, p. 119). It is true that Diana's erratic behaviour was hard for the royal staff, and in the first four years of marriage, some forty officials left the employment of Prince Charles and Diana, but some staff members retired or left for a better job, although quite a few were pushed out by Diana's displeasure (Smith, 2007, p. 147). In addition, Diana's unattainable desire to have her husband all to herself, and his early willingness to do anything to please her and to avoid the constant rows, did result in the distancing of some of Prince Charles's closest friends (Bradford, 2007, p. 122).

On Valentine's Day 1984, Prince Charles and Diana announced that she was expecting their second child in September (Smith, 2007, p. 149). As while pregnant with Prince William, she again suffered from morning sickness, although it was not as bad as the first time (Morton, 2010, p. 147). According to Smith (2007), however, this pregnancy seemed to progress more smoothly, and Prince William's presence was an important stabilizing factor, because even with a nanny in residence, Diana took an active role in caring for him. Diana also seemed more focused on maintaining her emotional balance through exercise. Also vital to her mental stability was her full schedule of official engagements. In April, even the Queen praised Diana publicly through an official statement. By then, Diana and her mother-in-law had developed an easier relationship. As during her first pregnancy, Diana withdrew from public activities in July, and the royal couple left for their annual Balmoral visit in late August. Diana later said that the summer months before Prince Harry's birth were a time when she and Prince Charles were closer and happier than they had ever been, although thoughts of Camilla still preoccupied Diana (pp. 149-152). Prince Harry was born at 4.20pm on 15 September 1984 at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, London (The Royal Household, n.d.).

7 Married life until separation

After the birth of Prince Harry, Diana asked Prince Charles to cut down on his official engagements so that he could spend more time at home with the children, and although he felt guilty about neglecting what he considered to be his public duties, he did as Diana asked, which resulted in him becoming closer to both boys (Smith, 2007, p. 154). Prince Charles and Diana both enjoyed parenthood, and Prince Charles took his fatherly duties seriously (Bradford, 2007, p. 126). According to Smith (2007), Diana later said that Prince Charles had enjoyed taking care of their sons, and that he had done it well. Unlike after the birth of Prince William, Diana did not suffer from postnatal depression after Prince Harry's birth, which may have been in part because she resumed a busy schedule of public engagements in November, just two months after the birth: this time, Diana seemed determined to hold herself together (pp. 153-154). On 21 December 1984, Prince Harry was christened Prince Henry Charles Albert David in St George's Chapel at Windsor (The Royal Household, n.d.).

Diana's life revolved around her children: she was a modern mother, who was absolutely devoted to her children, dedicated to putting them first, and arranged her life around them (Bradford, 2007, p. 127). Diana wanted her children to grow up in the outside world and not confined in the life of the royal palaces, and, as a result, Diana attempted to bring up the children as normally as possible (Morton, 2010, p. 138). She insisted that they attend normal schools with other children (Bradford, 2007, p. 128). When a nanny was employed it was made clear that Diana would be intimately involved in the children's upbringing, and she was determined that her children would never be deprived of physical demonstrations of love that she and her brother had craved growing up, and as a result she lavished them with love, cuddles, and affection (Morton, 2010, pp. 138-139, 184). Nevertheless, most of the childcare fell on the nanny, who was a constant and consistent figure in the life of the two boys and as a result formed a very close bond with them (Junor, 2012, p. 49). Diana was obsessed with protecting the boys from the press and she arranged deals with the press so that the boys were not overwhelmed by the press attention, but still became used to the occasional photo opportunities, as she was determined that they should never have to endure the press persecution she experienced (Bradford, 2007, p. 129). In addition, Diana was aware of the

added burdens of bringing up two children that were popularly known as the heir and the spare, and she made sure that the boys were aware of their future destinies (Morton, 2010, p. 206).

Shortly after Prince Harry's birth, Diana began to actively involve herself in charity work, and, despite her young age, she was a professional in her duties and dealing with public life (Bradford, 2007, pp. 130-131). As far as the public was concerned, Diana had by now adjusted to royal life and settled into her fairly new roles as wife and mother, but in private Diana still suffered from her mental problems and her insecurity about Prince Charles appeared to intensify (Smith, 2007, p. 153). Camilla also remained present in Diana's mind (Bradford, 2007, p. 132), although Prince Charles did not go back to Camilla until five years into his marriage with Diana, when he felt that their marriage was beyond repair (Smith, 2007, p. 162). In addition, according to Bradford (2007), the fact that Diana outshone her husband in their public lives was driving the couple apart, and the two important tours the couple undertook in 1985, first to Italy and then to Australia and the United States, for all their success, made the problem of Diana outshining Prince Charles plainly evident, and Diana's success on these tours, instead of gratifying her husband, only resulted in him being increasingly jealous of her popularity with the public (pp. 134-135, 140). Furthermore, Prince Charles also resented Diana because she really enjoyed her duties, whereas for him his duties were something he had to do (Brown, 2008, p. 284). However, through 1985, Diana and Prince Charles still presented a united public front, even though they seldom socialized together in private (Smith, 2007, p. 160).

At some point in 1985, Diana decided to look beyond Prince Charles for the affection and support that were lacking in their marriage (Smith, 2007, p. 161) and became close to her personal protection officer Barry Mannakee (Bradford, 2007, p. 145), who had taken over the post in April 1985 (Brown, 2008, p. 254). There later was much talk of Diana's relationship with Mannakee, and Diana admitted to having had a crush on him, but any sexual relationship between them was denied by the house staff who would have known of it had it happened, but nevertheless, the relationship, whatever the nature, led to his removal from his post (Bradford, 2007, p. 146). Immediately after his removal, Mannakee was drafted out of royal service into the Diplomatic Protection Squad (Brown, 2008, p. 258). Prince Charles knew enough of Diana's relationship with Mannakee to inform Diana when he died in a motorcycle accident two years later (Bradford, 2007, p. 147). There is little

chance that Prince Charles was unaware of the reasons for Mannakee's abrupt removal from his post, and he may have even requested the move himself (Brown, 2008, p. 258). However, if Prince Charles had really known of Diana's relationship with Mannakee, there is little reason to think that he would have cared, because in court circles it would have been regarded as yet another instance where Diana did not know how to behave (Bradford, 2007, p. 147).

Furthermore, in 1986, Prince Charles revived his relationship with Camilla, and Diana, who had suspected that Prince Charles had gone back to Camilla even earlier, now had definite knowledge of their relationship (Bradford, 2007, p. 154). Had Camilla simply disappeared from Prince Charles's life, she might have faded from his imagination, but due to Diana's obsession with her she was a constant presence in their life, and Diana had kept Camilla in Prince Charles's thoughts with her constant complaints and questions (Smith, 2007, pp. 163-164). While the public was unaware of Camilla's reappearance in Prince Charles's life, Diana knew without a doubt that Camilla was spending much time with Prince Charles (Morton, 2010, p. 156). Although at the time, Diana did not mention Camilla by name, she began voicing her unhappiness about the situation (Smith, 2007, p. 164). Consequently, the crisis in the marriage became a matter of comment for the press (Morton, 2010, p. 157).

However, in November 1986, Diana began taking riding lessons with James Hewitt, and as a reaction to Prince Charles's behaviour and as a means of attracting attention, she soon began an affair with him (Snell, 2013, p. 27). Nevertheless, by the time Prince Charles became aware of the affair, it was a source of relief rather than anger as Diana might have hoped (Bradford, 2007, pp. 154-155), and during the five or more years of the affair, the Palace never tried to stop Hewitt from seeing Diana: it seems that Hewitt had Prince Charles's blessing to be Diana's lover (Brown, 2008, p. 270). Diana acknowledged the affair in her 1995 *Panorama* interview (Smith, 2007, p. 175), during which she admitted that they had been in love (Bradford, 2007, p. 156). Six months into their affair, in the spring of 1987, Diana told Hewitt about her bulimia (Smith, 2007, p. 176), and during the affair, Diana's health and overall happiness improved and her bulimic episodes became less frequent (Bradford, 2007, pp. 158-159). Furthermore, the affair helped Diana maintain periods of civilized relations with her husband and as a result there were no more public scenes with Prince Charles for

a time (Brown, 2008, p. 276). It took nearly five years before anyone in the press knew anything about Diana's relationship with Hewitt, but in February 1991, the press named Hewitt as Diana's friend and other news on the topic followed, even though no one went as far as to actually claim that they were lovers, but for Diana the hints were enough and she ended their relationship (Bradford, 2007, pp. 204-205). The affair, though rumoured in the press, was not confirmed until Hewitt himself told of the affair to Anna Pasternak (Brown, 2008, p. 291), who in October 1994, published a book titled *Princess in Love*, which detailed Hewitt's affair with Diana (Bradford, 2007, p. 265) and profoundly embarrassed Diana, Prince Charles and the entire Royal Family (Smith, 2007, p. 268).

By 1987, the marriage between Prince Charles and Diana was dying, and the main concern of their staff was to conceal it from the public, both for the sake of the monarchy and the children (Bradford, 2007, p. 160). However, Prince Charles and Diana did not fight as frequently at this point in the marriage as they had before, because they rarely communicated with one another in private and when they did, their communication was stripped of basic civility except when the boys were present (Smith, 2007, p. 178). By then Prince Charles had already mentally and physically withdrawn himself from Diana, and it had become increasingly difficult for him to bear her presence (Bradford, 2007, p. 165). As a result, the public illusion of a happy marriage became harder to maintain, and it was at this point that the press assigned Diana her role as a heroine and began to make harmful statements about Prince Charles (Smith, 2007, p. 178). Prince Charles and Diana began to spend increasingly more time apart, and press speculation on the state of the marriage increased, as the press realized how much time the couple had in reality spent apart, including their sixth wedding anniversary (Bradford, 2007, p. 166). During that time, the press was so preoccupied by the state of the marriage that it took little notice of what the couple did in their official roles, which in particular annoyed Prince Charles, who, as a result, became even less tolerant of Diana's obsession with her press coverage, and his irritation at the distress she experienced over negative articles about herself became a major conflict between them (Smith, 2007, p. 182). Meanwhile, the general public hoped that the apparent troubles in the royal marriage were just a phase and not the beginning of the end and they did not believe the rumours circulating in the press, while the Palace refused to comment on the state of the marriage, wishing to conceal the truth for as long as possible (Bradford, 2007, p. 167).

According to Smith (2007), by the autumn of 1987, both Diana and Prince Charles were profoundly unhappy, and a sort of truce between the couple was agreed on: Prince Charles and Diana were to continue with separate but discreet social lives, while working harder to present a united front by taking on more joint engagements. However, because Prince Charles and Diana irritated each other if they were together for any extended period, they structured their schedules to minimize the time they would both be at Highgrove or Kensington Palace. In addition, they showed little interest in each other's activities, their phone conversations focused primarily on the children, and sometimes they would not talk to each other for weeks (pp. 182, 196). Furthermore, Diana still outshined Prince Charles on every public occasion they shared, and the resulting jealousy that Prince Charles felt about Diana's success with the public, and the lack of recognition he extended to her as a result was to be one of the main causes of the failure of the marriage (Bradford, 2007, p. 179).

During this time, Diana's moods continued to fluctuate (Smith, 2007, p. 196) and her bulimia grew steadily worse, as the strains in her marriage intensified (Bradford, 2007, p. 182), and, as a result, during the spring of 1988, Diana began treatment for her bulimia with Dr Maurice Lipsedge, a specialist in eating disorders (Morton, 2010, p. 161), who helped Diana enormously (Bradford, 2007, p. 185). Before Diana had begun treatment, she had been regularly sick four times a day, which had reduced to once every three weeks, worsening only whenever she was staying with the Royal Family at Balmoral, Sandringham, or Windsor or with Prince Charles at Highgrove, when the tensions and pressures triggered a more serious recurrence (Morton, 2010, p. 162). Even so, Diana's symptoms continued to the end of her life (Smith, 2007, p. 189).

The 1989 Christmas at Sandringham was apparently unusually unfriendly: Diana's unhappiness over the family Christmas was once again apparent, and she increasingly saw herself as a victim of the Royal Family and a rebel to the royal way of life (Bradford, 2007, pp. 193-194). It was during this time that, under circumstances that to this day remain unclear, telephone conversations between Diana and James Gilbey, a man Diana was seeing at the time, and Prince Charles and Camilla, were secretly recorded and later sent to several London newspapers (Smith, 2007, p. 200). The conversation between Diana and Gilbey, later dubbed "Squidgygate", was recorded on New Year's Eve (Bradford, 2007, p. 193). When Diana learned that the conversation between her and Gilbey

had been recorded, Diana panicked because any evidence that might be construed as her being unfaithful to Prince Charles could be used against her, and Diana's leverage with the Royal Family depended on the adoration of the public and the sentiment that she was the one that had been wronged (Brown, 2008, pp. 314-315). However, the tape remained unpublished because the press was fearful of the damage it could do (Smith, 2007, p. 204). However, gossip about the content of the tape circulated among the press (Brown, 2008, p. 315). Diana knew that the tape could not stay hidden forever, but she wanted the relationship between Prince Charles and Camilla to be revealed to the public beforehand (Smith, 2007, p. 204). The tape was finally published in August 1992 (Brown, 2008, p. 319), and during her 1995 *Panorama* interview, Diana confirmed the authenticity of the recording, but denied having been in an adulterous relationship with Gilbey (Smith, 2007, pp. 201-202). The conversation between Prince Charles and Camilla, later dubbed "Camillagate", was recorded on December 18, 1989, only weeks before the taping of the conversation between Diana and Gilbey (Smith, 2007, p. 202). The conversation between Prince Charles and Camilla revealed a couple that was completely in love that longed for each other, and Camilla's role as Prince Charles's principal comforter and soul mate was clearly revealed (Bradford, 2007, pp. 197-198). In much the same way than the Squidgygate tapes, the Camillagate tape remained unpublished until it was first teased in the press on November 11 and 13, 1992 and then published in its entirety on January 17, 1993 (Brown, 2008, pp. 348, 351).

Per Bradford (2007), the marital troubles of Prince Charles and Diana were very evident when Prince Charles broke his right arm falling from a horse during a polo match in June 1990. Prince Charles made it clear that Diana's attention was unwanted, and instead he wanted Camilla to oversee his convalescence. While Diana did visit him during the two hospital stays his injury required, it was Camilla who was by his side in private (p. 197). Diana was hurt that Prince Charles showed such a lack of interest in her desire to look after him (Brown, 2008, p. 289). However, Bradford (2007) adds, that near the end of the summer of 1990, Prince Charles and Diana continued to hide their discord from the public, but the state of their marriage created tensions within the family. Nevertheless, the courtiers hoped that their marriage would survive in some form, and the two tours that the couple undertook that year, to Asia and Hungary, falsely showed the press and the public that all was well in the marriage (pp. 198, 202). Even so, according to Smith (2007), in private Diana's misery continued, and she vacillated in her thinking about the marriage from hating Prince Charles to

wanting to start over with him, no longer willing to comply with the truce that she and Prince Charles had made three years earlier, although publicly she kept playing the royal game. Nevertheless, behind her public compliance, Diana increasingly competed with Prince Charles by trying to be better than him in their official roles, and she frequently employed the publicity she had to draw attention away from her husband and manipulated publicity to create the impression that she was an affectionate, devoted mother and he a cold, distant father, to which Prince Charles played into with his obliviousness to appearances and determined devotion to duty (pp. 203-207).

According to Morton (2010), in June 1991, Diana found the mere presence of Prince Charles upsetting and disturbing, while Prince Charles viewed Diana with indifference that was tinged with dislike, and the divide between them became too wide to hide for the sake of their public image. As a result, they led separate lives as much as was possible and only joined their forces to maintain a façade of unity (pp. 179-182). It was during that summer that Diana decided to cooperate with Andrew Morton, because she was disappointed that the media accepted what she believed to be a false rapprochement between herself and Prince Charles and because they were unwilling to identify Camilla as the Prince's lover (Smith, 2007, p. 211). Diana herself explained her decision to cooperate with Andrew Morton as being a psychological necessity to her: she thought that the only way she could survive was by letting people know what she had been going through (Bradford, 2007, p. 206).

Per Bradford (2007), Diana knew Morton as a prominent member of the royal media pack and they had met and talked together on occasion, and he had kept her happy by writing sympathetic pieces about her in the papers. In addition, Morton was also in contact with Dr James Colthurst, who was an old friend of Diana and was to act as an intermediary between Morton and Diana (p. 207). All of the interviewing was done by Colthurst, who relayed Morton's questions and queries to Diana and then gave Morton her taped responses (Brown, 2008, p. 329). Morton later admitted that Diana was in charge (Smith, 2007, p. 215) and had complete approval of the text (Brown, 2008, p. 329). However, Morton tried to cross-check Diana's story whenever it was possible by talking to her friends, but nevertheless he had to rely on people who had only heard Diana's side of the story and whom Diana had approached to ask them to cooperate (Smith, 2007, p. 216). Diana's friends

cooperated with Morton because they believed that Diana faced a choice of either letting it all out or self-destructing (Brown, 2008, p. 333). It was Diana's recklessness that impelled her to go ahead with the project regardless of the consequences: she wanted to expose the sham of her marriage and her role in the Royal Family (Bradford, 2007, p. 208). Nonetheless, Diana's role in the making of the book was covered up (Smith, 2007, p. 218), and it was only revealed three months after her death (Brown, 2008, p. 330).

While waiting for the publication of Morton's book, Diana continued to carry on her own public relations campaign, and in February 1992, when she travelled with Prince Charles to India she was photographed sitting alone in front of Taj Mahal, where Prince Charles himself had been photographed twelve years earlier and said that he would one day like to bring his wife there (Bradford, 2007, p. 218). It was the most vivid example up to then of her use of photographs to make a point, and the first in a series of potent photos executed by Diana during that spring (Smith, 2007, pp. 220-221), because the press, aware of Prince Charles's words twelve years earlier, interpreted the photo as a proof of a marriage in trouble, which is exactly what Diana had intended (Bradford, 2007, p. 218), as she was also well aware of what Prince Charles had said before (Brown, 2008, p. 325). Diana followed this Taj Mahal photo with a missed kiss photo at a polo match where she turned away from Prince Charles as he was leaning in to kiss her, and these two images that so clearly displayed a marriage in trouble caused consternation at the Palace, where rumours of the Morton book had already been picked up (Bradford, 2007, pp. 218-219).

Not long afterwards, on March 29, 1992, Diana's father, Johnnie Spencer, died suddenly of a heart attack (Smith, 2007, p. 221), when Diana was on a family skiing vacation with Prince Charles and the boys at Lech in Austria (Brown, 2008, p. 335). As a result, Diana prepared to fly home without Prince Charles (Bradford, 2007, p. 219), because she did not want to travel home with her husband and pretend that everything was right between them for the sake of their public image (Brown, 2008, p. 335). Many people, including Prince Charles, tried to persuade Diana to go with her husband for the sake of the public image of the Prince and of their marriage (Bradford, 2007, p. 219), but it took a telephone call from the Queen to persuade her to make a joint journey back to England (Morton, 2010, p. 180). However, on arrival at Kensington Palace, Prince Charles departed immediately for

Highgrove, leaving Diana alone to grieve for her father, and when, on April 1, she drove down to Althorp for the funeral at the family church of St Mary the Virgin, Great Brington, Prince Charles flew over by helicopter to join her in the car for church, maintaining the image of a supportive husband although immediately after lunch he flew back to London (Bradford, 2007, p. 219).

During the spring of 1992, Diana was already worrying about the consequences of the Morton book, which was due to be published on June 16, as some Palace officials were aware of the project, but not of the extent of Diana's involvement, and they were trying to figure out what line to take (Smith, 2007, p. 221). According to Bradford (2007), with less than a month to go until the serialization, Diana had begun to be apprehensive and terrified of the consequences of what she had done. However, even Diana had underestimated the bombshell effect that the public revelations of the reality of the marriage of the heir to the throne had when serialized in the *Sunday Times* beginning on 7 June 1992. At the time, Diana denied any responsibility for the book (pp. 220-223). Nevertheless, the book created widespread sympathy for Diana, even though it nearly destroyed Prince Charles (Smith, 2007, p. 224). The nation was shocked and angry, and there was disillusionment with the Royal Family, and hence the monarchy, which had already been building over time (Bradford, 2007, p. 222). Even though Diana may have succeeded in explaining herself to the public with the book, she had alienated her husband, his family, and their retainers, as well as members of her own family and the establishment, whose support she needed, in addition to exposing a group of her friends to press harassment (Smith, 2007, p. 224). Furthermore, after the book was published, the press became relentless and declared open season on the Royal Family (Brown, 2008, p. 346).

On June 8, the day after the serialization of the Morton book began, Diana and Prince Charles met at Kensington Palace to have the first real conversation about the state of their marriage (Brown, 2008, p. 340). Until then, Prince Charles had believed that their marriage could survive (Smith, 2007, p. 227). Before reading the extracts from the book, Prince Charles had hoped that it was Diana's friends and not Diana herself that had provided the inside information for it, but the extent of Morton's knowledge forced him to acknowledge that it was in fact his wife that had provided the information, and in Prince Charles's world talking to the press was unforgivable and because of that,

as far as he was concerned, their marriage was effectively over (Brown, 2008, p. 340). According to Bradford (2007), both the Queen and Prince Philip then rallied to Prince Charles, and it was in this atmosphere that the Queen and Prince Charles discussed for the first time whether he should seek a separation from Diana. However, even though the Queen and Prince Philip took Prince Charles's side, they were not totally unsympathetic to Diana, because they disapproved of Prince Charles's adultery with Camilla because it had brought scandal on the monarchy. Even so, they wanted to salvage the marriage for the sake of the boys and the monarchy. Nevertheless, the royal show went on and the traditional celebration of the Queen's official birthday, Trooping the Colour, went ahead with Diana as a part of the family standing on the Buckingham Palace balcony for the RAF fly-past as if nothing had happened (pp. 224-226).

The second instalment of the serialization was published a week later, on 14 June, while the Royal Family was at Windsor for the racing at Ascot (Bradford, 2007, p. 226). Two days earlier, Prince Charles had first discussed with his mother the pros and cons of seeking a separation from Diana (Smith, 2007, p. 228). The next day, 15 June, the Queen and Prince Philip had a meeting with Prince Charles and Diana, during which divorce was mentioned but rejected, and the Queen was led to believe that Diana would stand by Prince Charles and she suggested a six-month cooling-off period (Bradford, 2007, p. 226), during which the façade of normality was to be maintained (Morton, 2010, p. 216). A separation at that stage was not acceptable (Brown, 2008, p. 342). In addition, Diana never wanted a divorce: she still loved Prince Charles and saw him as her husband (Bradford, 2007, p. 224). Diana and Prince Charles agreed to have a second marital counselling session with the Queen and Prince Philip the next day, but Diana did not attend (Brown, 2008, pp. 342-344). At the end of July, both Prince Charles and Diana attended a dinner to celebrate the Queen's 40th anniversary on the throne and in August, after a brief, unsatisfactory family holiday, they flew up to Balmoral for the annual family holiday (Bradford, 2007, p. 227). However, by the autumn of 1992, Prince Charles and Diana were each consulting lawyers, but Prince Charles was unwilling to initiate formal proceedings for formal separation, and while Diana vacillated and Prince Charles hesitated, events forced decisive action (Smith, 2007, p. 231). According to Morton (2010), meetings between Prince Charles and Diana to discuss the issues that are involved in a formal separation were invariably emotional and highly strung, and a venerable lawyer was brought in to arbitrate on the constitutional questions which were raised by the prospect of formal separation. In addition, the

Prime Minister, John Major, was also consulted at various stages and asked what effect, if any, their separation would have on the governance of the country, but he indicated there would be none. Most of the discussion centred on the children and their homes and offices (pp. 222-223).

It was during these talks that Diana nearly refused to take part in a previously planned joint tour of South Korea in October (Brown, 2008, p. 348). However, Diana relented and agreed to go with her husband, but the resulting tour was a public relations disaster (Bradford, 2007, p. 228). As soon as they arrived in Seoul, Diana made it clear that she was there under duress, and although Prince Charles did his best to deflect attention from her obvious anguish, he was also at times visibly uncomfortable (Smith, 2007, p. 232). The glum faces of the couple only served to indicate the profound troubles in the marriage and there could no longer be any pretence that the situation between them could be salvaged (Bradford, 2007, p. 228). The Palace billed the tour as a reconciliation between Prince Charles and Diana, but, in reality, it became a prolonged exercise in animosity (Brown, 2008, p. 348).

According to Bradford (2007), the final confrontation before the separation came in the form of a quarrel over one of Prince Charles's annual November shooting weekends held at Sandringham, which was planned for the 20th and timed to coincide with an exeat from Ludgrove so that the boys could join the party. However, Diana decided that she would not go and, moreover, she informed Prince Charles that she would be taking the children to see their grandmother, the Queen. Prince Charles was not pleased by Diana's actions and tried to get her to change her mind, but Diana was adamant. The fact that Diana did not want to be present during the shoot was understandable, but the fact that she did not let the boys be present, was another matter entirely. Unfortunately, the boys were her principal weapon and she sometimes used them as pawns in the war with her husband. As a result, Prince Charles did not have more patience for his wife (pp. 229-230), and decided that he had no choice but to ask Diana for a legal separation (Smith, 2007, p. 233).

On 25 November, Prince Charles sat down with Diana at Kensington Palace to tell her of his decision to legally separate from her, and Diana readily agreed (Smith, 2007, p. 233). They told William and

Harry about the separation before it was officially announced (Junor, 2012, p. 77). According to Bradford (2007), Diana and Prince Charles agreed to put the matter in the hands of their lawyers, and discussions continued over the matters to be agreed on, including arrangements over the children, a financial settlement for Diana's upkeep, and Diana's future role as a working member of the Royal Family. The Queen remained neutral, but the advisers of Prince Charles tried to thwart Diana's desire to become an independent royal operator. Because the Queen did not take sides, in the final negotiations with Prince Charles Diana got almost everything she wanted except the financial settlement which was not agreed on until the divorce was finalized in 1996. The only condition the Queen had was that Diana should not represent her abroad (p. 230).

On December 9, 1992, Prime Minister John Major announced the formal separation of the Prince Charles and Diana in the House of Commons (Brown, 2008, p. 350). Major read out the prepared statement that had been issued by Buckingham Palace:

It is announced from Buckingham Palace that, with regret, the Prince and Princess of Wales have decided to separate. Their Royal Highnesses have no plans to divorce and their constitutional positions are unaffected. This decision has been reached amicably and they will both continue to participate fully in the upbringing of their children. Their Royal Highnesses will continue to carry out full and separate programmes of public engagements and will, from time to time, attend family occasions and national events together (Bradford, 2007, p. 231).

8 After the separation

According to Bradford (2007), after the separation, Diana continued to live at Kensington Palace while Prince Charles lived at Highgrove, but the personal possessions of the person not living there were removed from the residences and the shared staff was divided between the two households. Diana had gotten all that she had wanted from the separation, namely access to her children and a subsidized life of her own, independent from her husband, but she did not know how to live her life without Prince Charles and the regimental life she had gotten used to as a part of the Royal Family (pp. 233-235). Diana no longer appeared on the Court Circular listing the day's royal engagements and was no longer invited to Royal Ascot (Brown, 2008, p. 359). As a result, she turned to her friends for solace and advice (Smith, 2007, p. 234).

During the first year of her separation from Prince Charles, Diana came to realize that rather than having the freedom she had hoped to gain from the separation, she was more constrained than she had ever been, even though the Palace was always willing to help her if possible and the Prime Minister John Major and the members of his government were sympathetic (Bradford, 2007, p. 242). Nevertheless, Diana kept a frenetic schedule (Smith, 2007, p. 248) and was determined to be seen as a professional and employed a voice coach to improve her public speaking (Bradford, 2007, p. 246). In addition, travel overseas was critical to Diana's strategy of creating an identity independent from the Royal Family (Brown, 2008, p. 357), and she wanted a role as ambassador-at-large (Bradford, 2007, p. 244).

According to Brown (2008), in private, Diana was lonely. Princes Harry and William were both off at Ludgrove, and Diana missed the solace of her children's daily news and unconditional love. Before, her schedule had been built around theirs and without them being a daily part of her life she had little to do, and because she now had to share weekend access with Prince Charles when the boys were home from boarding school she saw even less of them than before (pp. 362-364). According to Bradford (2007), however, the boys remained the focus of Diana's life and when they were home her life revolved around them, and despite her own difficulties with Prince Charles and the rest of

the Royal Family, she did not deflect those problems on to her children. Diana was determined that the boys should be brought up in as normal a way as possible both at home and in the world outside, and she was anxious that they should not become isolated as the previous royal generations had been. While some of the Royal Family, including Prince Charles, disapproved of the way Diana was raising the boys, she believed that it was essential for them to see what life was like outside their own social circle, in a way which it had not been thought important for Prince Charles to experience when he was growing up. In addition, Diana was concerned for Prince William who was sensitive and to some extent, much like his father, a worrier. She was less concerned about Prince Harry, who was a cheeky, cheerful boy and had inherited her optimistic temperament but none of her problems. Sensitive to the fact that the boys' future positions would be so very unequal, as the heir and the spare, Diana was intent on involving them both in their future roles: Prince William would be King one day but it was important that Prince Harry should be there to support him (pp. 257-260, 348).

Even after the separation, the media interest in Diana continued, and Diana was a great source of income to the photographers, who competed to get the best photo (Bradford, 2007, p. 249). In addition, even though they were separated, the media war between Diana and Prince Charles continued, and both tried to win the public to their side (Morton, 2010, p. 236). However, since her separation the press had begun to treat her the same way they would any celebrity rather than a member of the Royal Family (Brown, 2008, p. 367). Nevertheless, Diana was becoming increasingly resentful over her lack of a private life and the demands made on her by her public role (Bradford, 2007, p. 252). As a result, during the autumn of 1993, Diana had begun to plan her withdrawal from public life (Morton, 2010, p. 238), and had proposed she make a grand speech announcing her decision (Brown, 2008, p. 375). The Queen, Prince Philip, and Prince Charles urged Diana to lessen her public appearances quietly and gradually instead, but Diana did not change her mind (Smith, 2007, p. 253).

According to Bradford (2007), on December 3, 1993, Diana held a speech in which she announced her intention to withdraw from public life to a considerable extent and emphasized that the Queen and Prince Philip backed her decision. However, she did not mention Prince Charles, but instead implied that his publicity campaign against was one of the reasons behind her decision (pp. 252-

253). Nevertheless, the press made Prince Charles the scapegoat and used Diana's failure to mention him as proof that he was at fault (Smith, 2007, p. 254). In reality, there were many motives why Diana had decided to announce her withdrawal from public life, but mostly she felt that she needed time and space for herself (Bradford, 2007, p. 254). In addition, at the beginning of 1994, Diana dispensed with her personal protection (Smith, 2007, p. 276), as she felt that she could no longer bear the restrictions that having a protection officer always with her brought to her life (Bradford, 2007, p. 252). Nonetheless, The Metropolitan Police, who guard the Royal Family, were horrified at the idea of leaving Diana, one of the world's most famous faces, on her own, and while they agreed to withdraw her personal protection, they continued to monitor her movements from a discreet distance (Morton, 2010, pp. 241-242).

Prince Charles's camp had been planning a riposte to Morton's book since the summer of 1992, which was to be an interview and an authorized biography of Prince Charles by Jonathan Dimbleby based on interviews with not only Prince Charles's friends and staff but also himself, and with the use of Prince Charles's correspondence and diaries, officially to mark the 25th anniversary of Prince Charles's investiture as Prince of Wales (Bradford, 2007, p. 260). Diana awaited the release of both the interview and the book in trepidation, because she knew they would be Prince Charles's statements as much as Morton's book had been hers (Brown, 2008, p. 380). The interview was broadcast on 29 June 1994 (Bradford, 2007, p. 261). Per Smith (2007), however, two days before the broadcast, the fact that Prince Charles would admit his adultery in the interview had been revealed: by then, Prince Charles had already briefed Diana and other members of the Royal Family on the points the programme would cover. Dimbleby's interview with Prince Charles touched on the Prince's view of public service, child-rearing, the monarchy, the Church of England, architecture, the armed services, and the press, to mention a few (pp. 264-265). Nevertheless, according to Bradford (2007), the most memorable part of the interview was Prince Charles's answer to Dimbleby's direct question as to whether he had been faithful in his marriage, to which Prince Charles replied that he had until his marriage had irretrievably broken down. The general public applauded Prince Charles for his honesty, but people close to the Royal Family, Prince Charles, Diana and Camilla were unanimous in their condemnation. Because of the programme, Andrew Parker Bowles decided to divorce Camilla: he had been perfectly willing to countenance his wife's relationship with Prince Charles as long as it remained discreet, or at the very least out of the public

knowledge, but Prince Charles's admission was too much for him, especially since the day after the interview had been broadcast, the Prince's private secretary admitted in a press conference that the woman Prince Charles had had an affair with was in fact Camilla. They divorced in January 1995. Diana feigned indifference to the interview, and while she was angry under the surface, she also had a certain admiration for Prince Charles's courage and honesty in revealing what he did (pp. 262-264).

During the autumn of 1994, Dimbleby's book was first serialized in *the Sunday Times* and then published (Bradford, 2007, p. 273). However, Prince Charles had already told Diana what to expect in the book (Smith, 2007, p. 269). It was well known that Prince Charles had confirmed all the facts for accuracy (Brown, 2008, p. 391), and although the book was well written and authoritative, it was also one-sided: its main point was that everything that had gone wrong in Prince Charles's life was somebody else's fault, and only Camilla emerged with any credit (Bradford, 2007, p. 273). Dimbleby described Diana's troubles as a reason why the marriage did not succeed, but Prince Charles himself did not offer any negative judgements of his wife, either directly or indirectly, and one rigid ground rule for the project had been Dimbleby's pledge to exclude anything that was critical of Diana (Smith, 2007, p. 269). Nevertheless, the general opinion among the royal circles was that Prince Charles should not have taken part in the making of the book (Bradford, 2007, pp. 273-274).

According to Bradford (2007), in October, Diana made a five-day visit to the United States, which was an unqualified success. However, Diana was still searching for the right way to focus her energy, but after the visit and a year of less public appearances, Diana continued her charity work again with enthusiasm (pp. 270-272). During 1994, Diana had sharply reduced her official duties and made an appearance at only ten royal events compared with 198 in 1993, but in 1995, she was back on the royal calendar, and appeared at 127 official engagements (Smith, 2007, p. 275). In addition, she made ten overseas trips (Bradford, 2007, p. 281).

During the beginning of 1995, Diana had already started to seriously think about doing her own television interview in response to Prince Charles's interview with Dimbleby (Smith, 2007, p. 279).

In the end, it was Martin Bashir who persuaded Diana to let him interview her on the BBC's *Panorama* (Bradford, 2007, p. 291). Toward the end of October, Diana and Martin Bashir had agreed on an interview plan and they agreed to tape the interview on November 5, Guy Fawkes Day, when her staff would be away from Kensington Palace (Smith, 2007, p. 283). This time, Diana was determined to tell her story without any interpretation but hers (Brown, 2008, p. 400). On Diana's specific instruction the BBC released their press announcement on 14 November, Prince Charles's 47th birthday: that same morning Diana called the Palace to inform them of the interview, and the Royal Family was appalled at what they regarded as Diana's second betrayal, first being the Morton book (Bradford, 2007, p. 293). The Royal Family was stunned that Diana would conduct a television interview without telling the Queen first and since they still did not know the full extent of Diana's cooperation with Andrew Morton, this was her first overt breach of trust, and they viewed her actions as unforgivable (Smith, 2007, p. 284). However, Diana refused to reveal the content of what she intended to say to anyone (Bradford, 2007, p. 295). Although, on November 19, a day before the interview was to be broadcast, Diana visited Prince William at Eton College to warn him of the interview (Brown, 2008, pp. 393-394). On November 20, the thirty-five-minute interview was broadcast on BBC's *Panorama* (Bradford, 2007, p. 293).

The interview was more devastating than anyone had imagined: Diana discussed the misery of her marriage and Prince Charles's infidelity with Camilla, details of her bulimia, her doubts about Prince Charles's fitness to be king, and her adultery with James Hewitt (Smith, 2007, p. 285). In addition, she admitted to helping with the Morton book, because she had wanted the true story of her unhappy marriage to be made public (Bradford, 2007, p. 294). She also specified that she did not want a divorce and emphasized her wish to be "a queen of people's hearts" and an ambassador for Britain who would "give affection" and "help other people in distress" (Smith, 2007, p. 285). Diana's friends were horrified and the Palace and her advisors were in a state of shock (Bradford, 2007, pp. 294-295). However, the public loved the interview (Brown, 2008, p. 402), and Diana remained resolutely convinced she had done the right thing (Bradford, 2007, p. 295), even though her comments about Prince Charles did him significant damage (Smith, 2007, p. 286). In addition, the interview was devastating for her sons and it was rumoured that Prince William did not speak to her for several days (Bradford, 2007, p. 296).

Retrospectively, the most important single factor that had shaped the latter years of the marriage of Prince Charles and Diana was their decision to involve the media in their lives: had it not been for Morton's book, Prince Charles would not have spoken to Dimbleby, and had it not been for Dimbleby, Diana would not have agreed to her *Panorama* interview, and together all of these factors drove the couple to a point which they could not return from (Brown, 2008, p. 378). However, by that time, the media warfare between Diana and Prince Charles was immensely damaging to the monarchy and it could not be allowed to continue (Morton, 2010, p. 251).

Consequently, four weeks after Diana's *Panorama* interview, the Queen, having already consulted the Prime Minister, John Major, and Archbishop of Canterbury, wrote personal letters to both Diana and Prince Charles requesting that they divorce (Morton, 2010, p. 251). Diana received the Queen's letter on December 18 (Smith, 2007, p. 292). According to Bradford (2007), the letter was addressed to "Dearest Diana" and ended "With love from Mama" and informed Diana that having consulted both the Prime Minister and the Archbishop of Canterbury, she had come to the conclusion that it would be in the best interests of the country to end the uncertainty and for Prince Charles and Diana to take steps to divorce. The same day Diana also received a letter from Prince Charles, in which he wrote to Diana that he thought that their marriage was beyond repair and, since by now divorce was inevitable, they should do it quickly to resolve the situation (pp. 299-300). However, the Queen's intervention showed that it was in fact the Queen's, and not Prince Charles's decision to end the marriage (Brown, 2008, p. 407). Diana replied to both of them by simply writing that she would consider her options (Smith, 2007, p. 292). However, as a gesture of goodwill, the Queen invited Diana to spend Christmas at Sandringham with the Royal Family, but she refused (Bradford, 2007, pp. 299-300).

In the beginning of 1996, Diana turned her attention to achieving the best possible divorce settlement (Smith, 2007, p. 292), even though she had not yet agreed to the divorce (Brown, 2008, p. 409). On 15 February 1996, Diana and the Queen had a meeting at Buckingham Palace to discuss the divorce and Diana's future (Bradford, 2007, p. 303). During the meeting, Diana and the Queen discussed the issues that had to be decided upon before any money settlement: whether Diana could continue to live at Kensington Palace, the arrangement for the boys, and if she would still be

entitled to be called “Her Royal Highness” (Brown, 2008, p. 410). Furthermore, on 28 February, Prince Charles and Diana had a private meeting at St James’s Palace (Bradford, 2007, p. 305). It was an emotional forty-five-minute meeting during which Diana agreed to a divorce, but only if her conditions were met (Brown, 2008, p. 411). After the meeting, Diana released a press statement regarding the meeting (Bradford, 2007, p. 305). The press statement said that Diana had agreed to her husband’s request for divorce, but that she would continue to be involved in all decisions relating to the children, would remain at Kensington Palace with offices in St James’s Palace, and would continue to be known as Diana, Princess of Wales, indicating that she had agreed to surrender the HRH title (Brown, 2008, pp. 411-412). However, the Queen’s officials were outraged by this breach of confidentiality and issued a statement of their own, pointing out that the things Diana had told were decisions, were in fact merely requests, and that details about the divorce remained undecided as of then (Bradford, 2007, p. 305). In addition, Diana used a trusted source to leak the accusation that the Queen and Prince Charles had pressured her into giving up the title HRH (Smith, 2007, p. 301), which the Palace later insisted was Diana’s idea (Bradford, 2007, p. 304).

Despite all that, negotiations between Prince Charles’s and Diana’s lawyers proceeded slowly: there was a general agreement about joint custody of William and Harry, as well as Diana’s continued residence at Kensington Palace, but they had not yet agreed on the money settlement, location of Diana’s office, her future role, or her title (Smith, 2007, p. 302). In April, Prince Charles’s lawyers were presented with Diana’s final terms, and in May Diana met with the Queen to tell her that unless her terms were met, she would withdraw her consent to divorce, but instead of agreeing to Diana’s ultimatum, the Queen told Prince Charles’s lawyers and advised them to take all the time they needed (Brown, 2008, p. 414). According to Smith (2007), on July 4, Prince Charles presented Diana with his settlement offer: Diana would receive a lump sum of £15 million plus more than £400,000 a year to underwrite her office. Her title would be “Diana, Princess of Wales”, and a statement issued by the Palace emphasized that she would be regarded as a member of the Royal Family, and as a semi-royal, she would be invited to state and national occasions, and, in those circumstances, she would be treated as if she still had the title HRH. Diana would continue to live in Kensington Palace, where her office would also be located. Diana could decide her public role herself, although any working trips overseas would require consultation with the Foreign Office and the Queen’s permission, which was a standard practice for members of the Royal Family. Diana would also keep

several important royal benefits: she would have access to royal flights and to the state apartments in St James's Palace for entertaining, and she would also have the use of all the royal jewellery, that were to be eventually passed on to her sons' wives. In addition, as a part of the settlement, both Diana and Prince Charles would sign a confidentiality agreement prohibiting them from discussing the terms of the divorce or any details of their life together. Diana formally agreed to the terms just four days later (p. 304). Diana wanted to do a joint TV announcement on their formal agreement to divorce, but Prince Charles refused (Brown, 2008, p. 415). On 15 July, Diana and Prince Charles filed the decree nisi, a document declaring that their marriage would be dissolved six weeks later, on 28 August, when the decree nisi became decree absolute (Bradford, 2007, p. 306). Now that the marriage was formally over, both Prince Charles and Diana were profoundly sad (Brown, 2008, p. 415). On 30 August 1996, an entry appeared in the *London Gazette*, a traditional place for royal pronouncements, stating: "The Queen has been pleased by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the Realm dated 21 August 1996 to declare that a former wife... of a son of a Sovereign of these Realms, of a son of a son of a Sovereign and of the eldest living son of the eldest son of the Prince of Wales shall not be entitled to hold and enjoy the style, title or attribute of Royal Highness (Bradford, 2007, pp. 306-307)."

9 After the divorce

Since September 1995, Diana had been in a relationship with Hasnat Khan who was a Pakistani heart surgeon (Smith, 2007, p. 298). Diana had met Khan while on a visit to his workplace, the Royal Brompton Hospital in west London, on 1 September 1995, and their relationship continued on and off, until on 30 July 1997, Diana and Khan met at Kensington Palace and ended the relationship (Snell, 2013, pp. 91, 184). However, Khan tried to call Diana on the night she died but could not get through to her (Brown, 2008, p. 498), and he was invited to her funeral (Bradford, 2007, p. 385). Nevertheless, despite her relationship with Khan, Diana was still lonely, and the weekends when the boys were with their father were the hardest for her (Bradford, 2007, p. 353). She tried to keep the boys close and called them nearly every day while they were away at boarding school and took them on vacations whenever she could, but the boys had become to prefer their father's country pursuits to their mother's urban life (Smith, 2007, pp. 313-314). In addition, Prince William had become close to both the Queen and Prince Philip, which pleased Diana, but also made her jealous (Brown, 2008, p. 435).

Diana's relationship with Hasnat Khan as well as her divorce, helped Diana distance herself from her previous thoughts of Prince Charles and Camilla, and as a result she no longer felt resentful of Camilla, even sympathizing with the bad publicity her relationship with Prince Charles generated (Bradford, 2007, p. 324). In addition, the relations between Diana and Prince Charles became less strained during the months that followed their divorce, and Prince Charles visited Diana from time to time at Kensington Palace, while Diana occasionally called him to solicit his advice (Smith, 2007, p. 326). Diana had learned how to love Prince Charles as a friend and as an adult, and there was an undoubted softening between them and a new warmth: they had discovered a mutual friendship, which if she had lived, would doubtless have matured further (Snell, 2013, pp. 4, 211-212).

A little after her divorce from Prince Charles became official, Diana decided to auction her old wardrobe for charity per Prince William's suggestion (Bradford, 2007, p. 339) and cleaned her closets of her old clothes which she no longer had any need for (Brown, 2008, p. 421). As a result,

in January 1997, Diana announced that she would be holding a sale of her dresses that June (Snell, 2013, p. 148) for the benefit of the National AIDS Trust (Bradford, 2007, p. 339). Diana attended preview parties for the sale of her clothes in both London and New York (Snell, 2013, p. 170), but to avoid the media circus she did not attend the auction itself, which was held on 25 June (Bradford, 2007, p. 353). Nevertheless, the auction of seventy-nine of Diana's dresses proved to be a huge success, raising over two million pounds for charity (Snell, 2013, p. 175). In addition, the auction was a creative way to make money for a charity, as well as a powerful statement that Diana was putting her royal life behind her (Smith, 2007, p. 324).

According to Snell (2013), in late May 1997, Mohamed Fayed, father of Dodi Fayed, had invited Diana and the boys on holiday, and Diana had accepted his offer in early June. Because that summer was the first summer since Diana's divorce from Prince Charles, she wanted to give her children a good holiday. She thought that the boys would enjoy themselves in the company of the Fayed children, and their need for privacy would be assured by the tight security arrangements around the villa (pp. 177-178). On 11 July, Diana and the boys travelled to the Fayed's villa, the Castel Sainte Hélène, located at St Tropez (Bradford, 2007, pp. 360-361). However, the paparazzi arrived there less than a day after they did (Smith, 2007, p. 336). Nevertheless, as long as Diana and the boys stayed inside the estate they would be guaranteed their privacy, but as soon as they went down to the private beach they became targets for the paparazzi, and, as a result, three days after her arrival, on 14 July, Diana who was tired of the intrusion, took matters into her own hands and gave an impromptu press conference at sea for the British press (Snell, 2013, p. 178). It was there that Diana was reacquainted with Mohamed Fayed's son, Dodi Fayed, whom she had first met ten years before when he had played alongside Prince Charles in a polo match (Morton, 2010, p. 264). Diana and the boys returned to London on 20 July (Bradford, 2007, p. 363). That same evening William and Harry went to Balmoral, and Diana knew it would be a month before she would see them again (Snell, 2013, p. 181). The boys had not enjoyed their holiday with the Fayed's and they had hated the publicity they had received during it (Junor, 2012, p. 105).

It was during the boys' absence that Diana began to see Dodi Fayed. On July 26, Diana flew to Paris for a day to see him (Bradford, 2007, p. 364), and later he invited Diana on a six-day cruise to Corsica

and Sardinia aboard the Fayed yacht *Jonikal* (Snell, 2013, p. 182). The cruise began on 31 July (Bradford, 2007, p. 364). On 2 August, Mario Brenna, a noted photographer, arrived in Sardinia following a tip from Diana (Snell, 2013, pp. 186-188), and just two days later, on 4 August, Brenna took the famous “Kiss” photos, which were published on 10 August (Bradford, 2007, p. 364). However, the press had already broken the story of their romance on August 7 (Smith, 2007, p. 346). On August 21, Diana joined Dodi Fayed for a second holiday on the *Jonikal* (Bradford, 2007, p. 367). However, this time, the press photographed their every move (Smith, 2007, p. 354). On 29 August, news filtered through that they would be leaving for Paris the following day (Bradford, 2007, p. 367), and on Friday, August 30, the couple left for Paris midday (Smith, 2007, p. 355).

10 Death and funeral

Diana died at the age of 36 on Sunday 31 August 1997 in Paris. Her death resulted from a high-speed car accident. The accident in question took place just before midnight on Saturday 30 August and afterwards Diana was taken to hospital, where she was later declared dead. Of the passengers in the vehicle, only the bodyguard, Trevor Rees-Jones, survived (Bradford, 2007, p. 372).

The chain of events that led to the fatal accident that took the life of both Diana and Dodi Fayed can be traced to much earlier in the day, maybe as early as the moment they arrived to Paris. Brown (2008) describes the earlier events of the day in detail. According to her, Diana and Dodi Fayed arrived at 3.20 p.m. by plane to Le Bourget Airport located near Paris and found the paparazzi were already waiting for them. The paparazzi followed them from the airport and because Fayed wanted to lose the paparazzi he ordered the driver not to take them to the Ritz as was the first plan, but to take them to the former home of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor in the Bois de Boulogne instead, after which they went to their original destination, the Ritz. From there they made their way to Fayed's apartment on Rue Arsène-Houssaye. They did not stay there, as they easily could have, but instead started to make their way to dinner at Chez Benoit, chased by the paparazzi who had not left them alone the whole night. However, they did not go to dine at Chez Benoit, but changed their plans at the last minute and went back to dine at the Ritz. After dining at the hotel, they once again decided to leave the hotel and made their way back to the apartment they had vacated earlier, even though they knew that the paparazzi were waiting for them outside the hotel, ready to follow them wherever they decided to go (pp. 12-18).

Dodi Fayed's decision to try and avoid the paparazzi as much as possible by leaving the Ritz and going to his own apartment at the end of the night can be seen as the decision that came to cost him and Diana, as well as the driver, Henri Paul, their lives as there was no real need for them to go back to the apartment as they had a suite at the hotel. According to Bradford (2007), as soon as their car left the Ritz the paparazzi started to chase it, trying to snap photographs of the pair. Because of the paparazzi chasing the car, Paul made the decision to forgo the direct route that would

have quite possibly forced him to stop the car at several traffic lights and instead took the back route that lead to the Pont de l'Alma tunnel, which allowed him to outdistance the paparazzi. Paul was driving at a speed that was well over the speed limit and, as a result of reckless driving, lost control of the car which then slammed into a concrete pillar that divided the roadway in the tunnel, just three minutes after leaving the Ritz. Henri Paul and Dodi Fayed died from their injuries instantly. However, Diana and Trevor Rees-Jones were still alive at the scene. The paparazzi were the first to arrive at the scene of the accident (pp. 367-374).

According to Brown (2008) the first photographer to reach the scene was Romuald Rat, who took some photos of the setting before he went to the car to try and help the best way he could. He even tried to prevent other paparazzi from taking pictures of the inside of the car and the people in it (pp. 442-443). Bradford (2007) elaborates that there were in total ten or fifteen photographers gathered at the scene just moments after the accident, and it has been said that only two of the photographers called for assistance before they joined the others that were already photographing the scene before them. When the police appeared on the scene, it was thought that the paparazzi were the ones to have caused the accident as a result of their pursuit of the car in order to get photos of Diana (pp. 374-375). Some of the photographers left the scene when the emergency crew and the police arrived, but most of them stayed behind and continued photographing what was happening in the hope of snapping a picture of Diana (Brown, 2008, p. 445). Bradford (2007) adds that some of the photographers were even arrested and their cameras were confiscated and the film developed, but the photos showed that there were no photos taken before or during the accident, only after it had already happened. Nevertheless, the paparazzi were already trying to profit from the accident by selling the photographs taken at the scene, but no news agency wanted to buy the photos because they already knew that the media would be blamed for the accident (pp. 374-375).

The first medical expert to arrive on the scene was a doctor, Frédéric Mailliez, who had been driving through the same tunnel (Brown, 2008, p. 443). According to Bradford (2007), to Mailliez Diana seemed to be the least injured of the four, but he had no way of knowing about the severe internal injuries that she had suffered in the crash. Bradford adds that shortly afterwards the ambulance

arrived on the scene and the doctor that arrived in the ambulance took over Diana's care. Even before she was moved to the ambulance, she suffered a heart attack and was given cardiac massage and a respiratory tube was inserted into her mouth to help her breath (pp. 373-374). It took an hour of medical attention at the scene to stabilize her and to remove her from the wreckage after which she was moved to the ambulance and taken to La Pitié-Salpêtrière Hospital for emergency surgery (Morton, 2010, p. 275). According to Bradford (2007) the ambulance had to stop on the way as Diana's blood pressure dropped to a dangerous level and she was put on a ventilator. At the hospital, her severe internal injuries were revealed and she also suffered a second heart attack. The doctors did everything they could, but Diana's injuries were too severe, and at 3 a.m. (British time) on Sunday 31 August, she was pronounced dead. Her death was officially announced at 4.45 a.m. (British time) (pp. 373-376).

According to Seward (2000) the first to know of the accident was the Queen, who had been woken up at 2 a.m. and told the news. Prince Charles was informed at almost the same time (pp. 12-13). At the time, the news was that Diana had been involved in a car crash in which Dodi Fayed had died and Diana was injured, but still alive: the extent of her injuries was not known (Junor, 2014, p. 88). Seward (2000) writes that it was not long until nearly all of the people at Balmoral, where the Royal Family was staying at the time, were awake and those that were needed were already at their assigned posts. Sir Robin Janvrin, the Queen's deputy private secretary, was the one who was in contact with the Paris embassy as the events unfolded. The Queen and Prince Charles were joined by Prince Philip and together they contemplated how to proceed. The most important thing, however, was to discover how badly Diana had been injured in the accident. Their second concern were the boys, Princes William and Harry, who were still asleep in their beds and whether or not they should be woken up and informed of the situation (pp. 12-13). The Queen and Prince Charles decided against it, deciding that the boys should not be told of the news until the situation was absolutely clear (Bradford, 2007, pp. 375-376).

Prince Charles consulted Mark Bolland, his deputy private secretary, in London to acquire more information about the crash and why Diana was in Paris in the first place, after which he decided to travel to France to be with her (Seward, 2000, p. 13). According to Bradford (2007) it was unclear

whether arrangements would be made for a Queen's Flight to take him there. Stephen Lamport, one of Prince Charles's aides, and Bolland were convinced that the right thing to do at that moment was for Prince Charles to go to Paris and bring Diana back himself, and they urged Prince Charles to follow his instincts and go, going as far as threatening to book him a place on a scheduled flight leaving from Aberdeen if the Queen's Flight would not be made available for his use (pp. 376-377). It was in the midst of this argument that Janvrin got the call informing him that Diana had in fact died (Seward, 2000, pp. 13, 16). The caller had been the British Ambassador in Paris, Sir Michael Jay, who had been waiting outside the operating theatre at the hospital with the French Interior Minister, Jean-Pierre Chevènement, for news concerning Diana (Bradford, 2007, pp. 375-376). After this there was no question that a plane from the Queen's Flight would be made available for Prince Charles's use (Seward, 2000, p. 16).

According to Bradford (2007) this was the first time the Royal Family had to decide how to act in the case of the sudden death of a divorced Princess of Wales, and there was some confusion as to how Diana should be treated: should she be treated as a member of the Royal Family and the mother of the future King or should she be returned to her own family? The Queen's first instinct was to hold a private family funeral for her at Windsor followed by interment at Frogmore, and the Spencers wanted to hold a quiet family funeral for her at Althorp, but neither of these plans came to pass (pp. 376-377). However, the Queen and Prince Charles, as well as their advisers, were in full agreement that she must be accorded full royal status (Morton, 2010, p. 276). Bradford (2007) adds that, as it became apparent that only a state funeral would satisfy the public, plans for the funeral had to be made in a hurry as there were no plans for the funeral made in advance. This was settled by using the original plans that had been designed for the state funeral of the Queen Mother, but the route along which the coffin was to be taken to Westminster Abbey was lengthened. Also, loudspeakers from which the funeral could be followed were set up in Hyde Park so that the public could witness the funeral from the beginning to the end (p. 383).

According to Brown (2008) the Royal Family, however, had more than just public and state matters to worry about, they also had to deal with the private side of events, and the first task was to tell the boys, Princes William and Harry, that their mother had died. In the morning, after he had had a

couple of hours to talk things over with the Queen and after he had come to terms with it himself, Prince Charles went to tell the news to his sons. First, he woke Prince William and told him the news after which they together woke Prince Harry and told him that Diana was dead. It was then that Prince Charles also told them that he would go to Paris to escort Diana's body home (p. 463). Paterson (2011) states that the Queen saw the death of Diana first and foremost as a family tragedy and because of that she thought that it should be dealt with in private. Her main concern were her grandsons, Princes William and Harry, whom she wanted to protect. In her opinion, it was of the utmost importance that life should continue on as normal as much as possible, taking into consideration the difficult situation at hand (p. 181). In light of this it is no wonder that after the boys had been told the news the morning went on in as normal a way as possible, and the Royal Family, the boys included, attended the customary Sunday service in Crathie Church, where there was no mention of Diana during the whole service (Bradford, 2007, p. 377). Both the fact that the whole Royal Family had attended the service and that Diana had not been referred to during the service were soon reported by the press, which criticized the Royal Family for not caring about Diana's death, even though the boys themselves had wanted to attend church and the choice to leave any mention of Diana out of the service was made by the reverend in charge of the service and had nothing to do with the Royal Family (Junor, 2014, pp. 90-91).

There is no certain way for anyone outside the Royal Family and their employees to really know what the reaction to the news of Diana's death was among the Royal Family, but according to Seward (2000), the first reaction of the Royal Family to the news of Diana's death was one of dazed bewilderment. Prince Charles was overcome with grief despite the fact that Diana's actions had caused him distress. The Queen was stunned because even though she had grown increasingly exasperated by Diana's behaviour she had recognized the potential in her and saw her death as a terrible waste. The boys, Princes William and Harry, were deeply affected by their mother's death, but showed remarkable resilience nonetheless. Harry appeared to easily cope with the loss of his mother while William made every effort to keep his emotions to himself (pp. 11-14, 17-18).

On Sunday afternoon Prince Charles and Diana's two sisters, Sarah and Jane, flew from Aberdeen to Paris in a Bae 146 of the Queen's Flight (Bradford, 2007, p. 377). Prince Charles had decided that

it would be better if the boys did not accompany them on this journey and because of this they remained at Balmoral with the rest of the Royal Family (Seward, 2000, p. 18). According to Bradford (2007), upon arrival in Paris, Prince Charles and Diana's sisters were taken to see Diana's body that had been cleaned up and dressed in a black cocktail dress. After Prince Charles and Diana's sisters had spent some time alone with Diana, she was placed in a coffin for the home journey. Prince Charles and Diana's sisters accompanied the hearse on its journey through Paris, where people had gathered on the side of the street and applauded as the hearse went by on its way to the airport. From there a plane took them to Northolt, from which Prince Charles continued by plane back to Balmoral while the rest of the group stayed behind and accompanied the coffin to Fulham mortuary. Once again, as in Paris, the road was lined with people. From Fulham Diana's body was taken to the Chapel Royal at St James's Palace, where her body stayed until the night before her funeral when her body was taken home to Kensington Palace (pp. 377-379).

Bradford (2007) states that people were trying to find someone to blame for what had happened. The first ones to blame were the paparazzi who had been relentless in trying to snap new photos to sell to the press, and because of this the press were the next to be blamed. Even Diana's brother Charles in his statement about his sister's death blamed the press for her death, saying that he always believed that in the end the press would kill Diana. He went as far as to declare that any media outlet that had ever paid for intrusive or exploitative photographs of Diana had blood on their hands. These accusations were the ones that set the scene for the mood of public anger not just against the paparazzi, but against the press as well. The third one to receive the blame for the death was the driver of the car, Henri Paul (pp. 378, 380-381). Henri Paul was an easy target for blame, because it had been revealed that at the time of the accident his blood alcohol level had been three times the French legal limit and that he had also been taking pharmaceuticals that combined with alcohol could affect one's driving (Brown, 2008, pp. 454-455). The last ones to be blamed were the Royal Family, because the people saw them as the ones who had cast Diana out and left her alone, a fact that, according to them, had been the reason why she had been in Paris with Dodi Fayed that night, a notion that was further supported by the Royal Family's actions after the accident (Bradford, 2007, pp. 378, 380-381).

Brown (2008) writes that after Prince Charles's return from Paris the Royal Family continued to spend their time in seclusion at Balmoral, trying to help the boys come to terms with the loss of their mother. The Queen went as far as to order the removal of all the TV sets and radios, so that the boys would not be able to see or hear any broadcasts that had to do with the death of their mother. The Queen, Prince Philip and Prince Charles followed the developments themselves through a TV set that had been left in the private sitting room of the Queen for just that reason. Their staff also followed the news from hidden TVs and radios (pp. 470-471). The Royal Family decided to stay at Balmoral, because they needed to grieve the loss of a family member in peace as, opposed to the public at large, they were dealing with the loss of a real person, not just an icon (Seward, 2000, pp. 20-21).

However, according to Bradford (2007), the Royal Family stayed mostly unaware of the public hysteria that was growing in London. There were people queueing for hours to sign one of the books of condolences at St James's Palace and massive amounts of flowers and notes were placed outside the Palaces. These were all from ordinary people that were mourning the passing of Diana. The press began to question the Queen's decision not to come to London and to stay silent during this time of national mourning, which mirrored the mood of the people who thought that the Royal Family did not care about the passing of Diana (pp. 379-381). This was further highlighted by the fact that the Prime Minister of the time, Tony Blair, had spoken of the tragedy the morning after it had happened and tapped into the nation's emotions by calling Diana "the People's Princess" (Brown, 2008, pp. 468-469). In addition, Bradford (2007) states that the other issue besides the Royal Family remaining at Balmoral and staying silent, leading people to think that the Royal Family and the Queen herself did not care about their grief and the passing of Diana, was that the flagpole over Buckingham Palace was empty instead of a flag at half-mast in a traditional expression of mourning. This, however, was not because the Royal Family did not care about Diana's death, but because the tradition with the flagpole at the palace is that there is no flag if the Queen is not present. Nevertheless, the Queen had to yield to the pressure of the people and order the Union Jack to be flown at half-mast until she was in residence. When she came to London the Union Jack was replaced with her standard, as per tradition, and then again put at half-mast on Saturday, the day of the funeral, where it stayed until midnight on Sunday (pp. 379-381). Even so, what the people did not realize was that it was the tradition of the Royal Family to grieve in private: a tradition that

had been respected in the past, but somehow was not satisfactory now, and the people had no trouble criticising the Royal Family for their actions, even though they did everything the same way they had done before in the case of a death in the Royal Family (Seward, 2000, pp. 20-22).

According to Junor (2014), it was on Thursday 4 September, two days before the funeral, that the Royal Family decided to end their seclusion by leaving Balmoral for the first time since Prince Charles had come back from Paris. This decision was brought on when the boys, Princes William and Harry, said that they would like to go to church again. The press was already waiting for them beyond the gates as their cars ventured out. Inside the cars were the Queen, Prince Philip, Peter Phillips, Prince Charles, and the boys. Outside the gates the whole group got out of the cars to take a closer look at all the flowers and other memorabilia that had been left there to honour the passing of Diana. The press was quiet as they took photos of the group that was visibly touched by the scene (pp. 94-96).

Bradford (2007) writes that on the next day, Friday 5 September, the eve of the funeral, the Royal Family flew to London. It was only then that the Royal Family were able to fully experience first-hand what Diana's death had meant not only to the people close to her, but also to the people at large. On the same evening, the Queen delivered a heartfelt speech addressing Diana's death, which was televised. In her speech she talked about Diana and the meaning of her life. She opened the speech by, in her own way, apologizing for their absence saying that they have all been trying in their own ways to cope and that it is not easy to express a sense of loss because a mixture of other feelings often follows the initial shock. She also made it clear that she was not only speaking as the Queen, but that she was also speaking as a grandmother and what she was saying, she was saying from her heart. While delivering the speech she was dressed in black and sitting at a window through which the crowds of grieving people gathered outside Buckingham Palace could be seen. The speech, despite being delivered firmly and solemnly, was also delivered movingly and was perhaps the most personal statement she had ever given to the public. The speech itself had been written by Sir Robert Fellowes, Diana's brother in law (pp. 382-383). In addition to the Queen's speech, the Royal Family showed that they too shared in the grief of the people by walking out of the palace gates to socialise with the people gathered outside and to look at all the flowers, candles and messages that people had left outside the palaces in remembrance of Diana: The Queen and Prince

Philip did this in front of Buckingham Palace, while Prince Charles and the boys, Princes William and Harry, did it at Kensington Palace (Morton, 2010, p. 280).

The funeral was held on Saturday 6 September in Westminster Abbey and televised internationally. According to Bradford (2007) it has been estimated that one million people or more travelled to London to be present at the funeral. On the day of the funeral the bells of Westminster Abbey began to toll at 9.08 a.m. and Diana's coffin started its journey from Kensington Palace on a horse-drawn gun carriage. The coffin was draped in the royal standard and there were three bouquets on top of it: one from Prince William, one from Diana's brother and one from Prince Harry with a letter addressed to "Mummy". At Buckingham Palace, the Queen stood with other members of the Royal Family to honour Diana as she passed. The Queen was seen to bow at the coffin, a gesture usually seen only at the Cenotaph (pp. 381, 383-384). At St James's Palace, the procession was joined by Prince Charles, Prince Philip, Diana's brother and the boys, Princes William and Harry (Brown, 2008, p. 477).

Bradford (2007) writes that there were two thousand guests invited to the funeral at Westminster Abbey from all areas of Diana's life. During the funeral Diana's favourite music was played, most notably including the hymn "I Vow to Thee, My Country", which had also been played at her wedding, and Elton John's rendition of "Candle in the Wind", which had been rewritten for Diana. But the most famous moment of the whole funeral was Diana's brother's speech, which was addressed to Diana, and in part could be seen as being directed to the press and criticising the Royal Family and its traditions (pp. 384-387). After the speech, the people sitting in the church went quiet, but the crowds gathered outside began to clap and as the guests realised that it was clapping that they heard outside the church all of them, except for the Royal Family, joined in (Brown, 2008, p. 478).

Bradford (2007) states that after the funeral Diana's coffin was taken to Althorp by hearse. The journey of the hearse was accompanied by the continued sound of clapping and by people gathered on the side of the road throwing flowers. At Althorp a family lunch was held, which was attended

by the Spencers and Prince Charles and the boys. A private burial was held as well, where the royal standard was replaced by the Spencer flag. According to Bradford this gesture can be seen as the Spencers reclaiming Diana as their own because in their minds the Royal Family had rejected her, even though neither of them had given her the support she had needed when she had been alive (pp. 387-388). Diana was buried on a little island, Oval, in the centre of an ornamental lake on the grounds of her family estate, Althorp (Brown, 2008, p. 479).

11 After death

At the time of writing, it has been twenty years since Diana's death and a lot has happened in the Royal Family since then, but this section highlights what has happened to Princes William and Harry and Prince Charles since Diana's death.

According to Junor (2014), shortly before Diana's death, Prince Charles had talked to Princes William and Harry about Camilla, but neither of the boys had seemed interested in hearing about her and their situation, so Prince Charles had tabled it for the time being, although he had already begun the slow process of gradually introducing Camilla to the public. However, after Diana's death that process had to be put on hold, and while the nation and the family mourned for Diana, Camilla remained very firmly out of sight. It was then that Prince Charles also decided that he would not introduce Camilla to the boys until they themselves would show an interest in meeting her. As a result, William first met Camilla on 12 June 1998 (pp. 111-113, 172). Shortly afterwards it was Prince Harry's turn to meet her (Junor, 2012, p. 146).

After Camilla had met the boys in private, Prince Charles and Camilla were seen together in public in January 1999, and after that they were able to behave like a couple in public as well as in private (Junor, 2012, p. 241). However, their marriage was not formally announced until on 10 February 2005 (Seward, 2015, p. 197). Prince Charles and Camilla had waited so long to announce their engagement out of sensitivity towards the boys: accepting Camilla as a part of their father's life had been difficult for them even though they genuinely liked her, because they had loved their mother and were fiercely loyal to her memory (Junor, 2005, p. 417). Nevertheless, by the time of the wedding, both boys had put their own feelings to one side and were simply delighted for their father (Junor, 2012, p. 244).

Prince Charles and Camilla were married on 9 April 2005 in the Guildhall at Windsor (Junor, 2012, p. 240). After the wedding, a service of prayer and dedication was held at St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle (Mayer, 2015, p. 335). Afterwards, the Queen gave a reception for the couple at the

castle (Bradford, 2012, p. 250). Nevertheless, the Queen had taken a long time to give the marriage her consent (Junor, 2012, p. 240), without which the marriage could not have taken place, as under the Royal Marriages Act the Queen must approve all spouses in the Royal Family (Paterson, 2011, p. 80). Even though at first the Queen may not have liked Prince Charles's choice of bride, in the end she accepted Camilla warmly (Seward, 2015, p. 198).

According to Junor (2012), Prince William started university at St Andrews in September 2001, and it was there that he met his future wife, Catherine Middleton. When they met, Prince William and Catherine had an immediate bond, but for more than a year they were just friends before their friendship developed into a relationship while they were sharing a flat with two other friends during their second year of their studies. For their last two years at St Andrews, Prince William and Catherine, who were by then in a relationship, moved out of town into a rented house together with their flatmates. Their relationship became public when the *Sun* published a photograph of the two of them kissing on the ski slopes at Klosters during the Easter holidays in 2004, when they were in their third year of their studies. However, in April 2007, the *Sun* broke the news that the relationship was over. Nevertheless, their break-up was brief, only lasting a few weeks (pp. 181, 187, 209, 213, 220, 231, 267-268).

Junor (2012) writes that in the same way as Diana, Catherine also had to deal with the paparazzi, and for the first six months after leaving university, photographers followed her all the time. As a result, in October 2005, Prince Charles's solicitors complained to newspapers about harassment and appealed for the press to leave Catherine and her family alone: matters improved, but the odd paparazzo still followed her. In January 2007, Prince William himself issued a plea for the paparazzi to stop harassing Catherine, and News International agreed to stop using their photographs of her after Catherine had come out of her London flat on the morning of her birthday and found more than twenty photographers and five TV crews waiting for her (pp. 360, 365-366).

Per Junor (2012), in 2010 during a holiday in Kenya, Prince William finally proposed to Catherine with his mother's diamond and sapphire ring. They had been discussing marriage for at least a year

before Prince William proposed. The engagement was publicly announced on 16 November, and within days of the engagement, Prince William asked his office to inform the media that there would be zero-tolerance if someone were to invade their privacy now or in the future. He was not going to make the same mistakes that his parents did when it comes to his relationship and marriage with Catherine (pp. 180, 360-362, 365, 368). Prince William's choice of bride delighted the Queen and Prince Philip (Smith, 2012, p. 527): the Queen thoroughly approves of Catherine and does not care that she does not come from an aristocratic background so long as it is a stable one, which it is (Seward, 2015, p. 8).

The wedding of Prince William and Catherine was held on 29 April 2011 at Westminster Abbey (Junor, 2012, p. 373). After the wedding, Catherine was able to gradually adopt royal duties with having a limited number of charity patronages and official engagements (Smith, 2012, p. 533), and her initiation to royal life a tour of Canada together with Prince William the summer after the wedding, where she showed that she was a natural (Junor, 2012, pp. 392, 394). In addition, Prince William is proud of Catherine in a way Prince Charles never was of Diana and they work as a team in a way his parents never managed (Mayer, 2015, p. 65). At the time of writing, Catherine and Prince William have two children: a son, Prince George Alexander Louis, born on 22 July 2013 and a daughter, Princess Charlotte Elizabeth Diana, born on 2 May 2015 (The Royal Household, n.d.).

Nowadays, Prince Harry is much like his mother: tactile, relaxed, fun, not afraid to show his humanity and his feelings, and he hates special treatment and the press that follow him and wants to protect his privacy, but at the same time he accepts the responsibility that goes with his role as a member of the Royal Family (Junor, 2014, p. 3). At the time of writing, Prince Harry is in a relationship with actress Meghan Markle, a fact which leaked to the press on 31 October 2016 (Tominey, 2016). Prince Harry himself confirmed the relationship on 8 November by releasing a statement which included a plea to the press and people in general to stop the harassment and abuse of her girlfriend, Meghan Markle, something that had been rarely done before (The Royal Household, 2016). All in all, it seems that both Prince William and Prince Harry have learnt from their mother's experience and are determined not to let history repeat itself (Brown, 2008, p. 482).

12 Conclusion

This Master's Thesis is a biographical study into the life of Lady Diana Spencer, Princess of Wales, with a special focus on the victimhood of Diana at the hands of the British Royal Family. The intention was to explore the way in which Diana may be viewed as a victim of the Royal Family, while also considering whether she herself played a part in her own victimization and in that way led to her feeling like a victim of the Royal Family and even her own life. This research into her life was done by doing a limited biographical study on Diana's life that has a special focus on a certain aspect of Diana's life, in this case Diana as a victim. In other words, the research method was a biographical study of a person's life, in this instance the life of Diana. However, the biographical study of Diana's life in this thesis is by no means a comprehensive account of Diana's life, because only the factors that were of greatest importance to this thesis were written about, since it would have been impossible to discuss every area of Diana's life in detail, as it would provide far too much information considering the scope and focus of this thesis. In addition, victimology in its wider sense served as the theoretical background of the research. This thesis shows how Diana may have been a victim in some aspects of her life in relation to the Royal Family, but it also considers the way she herself played a part in her own victimization and that way led to her feeling like a victim of the Royal Family. Overall, it was found that Diana may have been a victim of the Royal Family, but also that she was in no way a passive victim as she herself played an active part in her victimization.

Ever since her childhood, Diana had been affected by a fear of rejection and abandonment, and the instances that greatly affected her later life and her own perceptions of it were the fact that she thought that as her parents had been desperate to have an heir to the title and that she should have been a boy instead of a girl, and her parent's divorce and her mother leaving her and her siblings when she was just six years old. Because it had been of utmost importance to Diana's parents that they would produce an heir, Diana became convinced that she should have been a boy and that she was a disappointment to her parents and regarded as a lesser being because of her gender. Later in life, the fact that Diana saw herself as the girl who was supposed to be a boy assumed enormous significance in her mind and she viewed it as the first rejection of many, which harmed her self-esteem. In addition, Diana, in part, blamed herself for the breakdown in her parents' relationship,

because, had she been the boy her parents had hoped for, things between them might have been different. Furthermore, the legal battle that had surrounded the divorce and the custody case had a profound impact on Diana. The divorce and the fact that her mother left her and her siblings when Diana was just six years old was an instance that greatly affected Diana's later life and her own perceptions of it, because her mother leaving led to Diana feeling like she had been abandoned, which stayed with her throughout her life. It was this feeling of abandonment that later caused Diana to often see herself as a victim. It also developed in her a strong desire for love, fear of abandonment, and an intense dread of divorce. Diana was determined that she herself would not let that happen to her nor to her children under any circumstances. This determination can be viewed as an important factor in her future relationships and her marriage. Moreover, her mother leaving them meant that there was little to no maternal contact between the children and the mother, which furthered Diana's feelings of rejection, and when Diana did see her mother, she was torn between her parents, which resulted in Diana sustaining long-lasting psychological damage. In addition, her childhood also left her feeling like she had everything that she could possibly want except the love and attention that she desperately wanted and searched for during the following years. The utmost effect of Diana's turbulent childhood was the sense that she could not depend on either of her parents, which left her feeling insecure, which resulted in Diana eventually becoming obsessively determined in her search for a provider of the continuous love and understanding that she needed but lacked in her childhood. The fact that Diana's father sent her away from home to boarding schools further added to her feelings of rejection and added to her anxiety about abandonment whenever she was away from the people who were close to her.

In addition, during her schooling, Diana developed an inferiority complex because of her academical failures, and she also felt socially inadequate as the social life at home did not provide her with adequate social skills that were thought to be important to girls that came from aristocratic backgrounds. Diana was constantly worried about her average academic abilities and saw herself as a failure that was not good at anything. Moreover, Diana was uncomfortable with anything that was unknown to her and she felt unsettled when away from her comfortable group of friends as anything unusual threatened her emotional balance. As a result, her life was always very limited, both socially and in terms of what she did, up until her courtship and later on engagement and marriage to Prince Charles.

From the beginning, Diana's courtship with Prince Charles, at least as far as Prince Charles was concerned, was more out of necessity than genuine feelings. By then, Prince Charles was thirty-one, and a suitable bride for him had to be found relatively quickly, but there were few women still single that fitted the Royal Family's criterion of the time. Nonetheless, Diana perfectly fitted all the criteria for a royal bride, and after several casual encounters with Diana, Prince Charles began to consider her as a potential bride for him. Prince Charles thought that because of Diana's open and easy manner, her warmth, her enthusiasm for rural life, and her background through which she knew a little of his family she would have few fears marrying into the Royal Family. However, as an insider, Prince Charles seems to have had little conception of what marrying into the Royal Family actually meant, and never properly understood the pressures Diana underwent when she entered the royal circle.

In addition, being in a relationship with Prince Charles meant that the media would, at some point, inevitably become interested in not just the relationship but the woman who Prince Charles was seeing. When a story confirming Diana's status as Prince Charles's new girlfriend was published, Diana's private life was effectively over, and from then on, the press pursued Diana relentlessly until her death. Nevertheless, Diana read everything that was written about her and began to look for approval from the press, and because of that the British tabloids were as much players as observers in Diana's life. Overall, the media also played a large part in Diana later feeling like a victim even though she herself needed the publicity and often manipulated the press.

Shortly before Prince Charles proposed to Diana, he was still unsure if he should do it even though he knew what was expected of him. For Prince Charles, it was difficult to see Diana as a future wife, let alone the future Queen of England. In addition, he was still in love with Camilla, who had been a part of Prince Charles's life since the early 1970s, when Prince Charles had fallen in love with her. She was the love of his life. However, Camilla was not sufficiently aristocratic nor virginal to be an acceptable royal bride. However, while Prince Charles was uncertain about Diana, he might have been even more uncertain about marriage itself and how his bride would cope with all that it entailed. Prince Charles did not appear to be in love with Diana, but he was fond of her, and he hoped his feelings could grow into love. Nevertheless, Diana was in love with Prince Charles, and

she believed that marrying him would provide her with the husband and happy family she had wanted since childhood. However, Diana failed to comprehend or even give much thought to the range of duties she would have to take on, and she seemed enchanted mainly by the idea of becoming a princess. It is clear now that Diana barely knew Prince Charles. The fact that Diana and Prince Charles did not really know each other well personally before they married later played a large part in the dissolution of their marriage. In addition, since Prince Charles was the heir to throne, Diana thought that she would be safe from the possibility of divorce.

Two days after the engagement announcement, Diana moved into Buckingham Palace, symbolically cutting herself off from normal life for the rest of her life. Diana was frequently alone, and she had enormous difficulty in dealing with Prince Charles's inflexible devotion to duty and she disliked his frequent absences and worried about him whenever he was away. In addition, Prince Charles's constant absences deepened Diana's fears of abandonment and gave her too much time alone to worry. Her new life was proving to be unexpectedly dreary, lonely, and intimidating. During the engagement, Diana's fears over Camilla increased. After the move, Diana went into a dieting binge, which was to be the onset of a chronic bout of bulimia. Nevertheless, Diana received a lot of help from the moment she entered Buckingham Palace, and the most experienced courtiers were assigned to Diana. However, no one knew what to do with the first Princess of Wales since before the First World War, as no one had thought of a real role for her beyond the fact that she was to be the wife of the Prince of Wales. It was assumed that, since Diana came from an aristocratic background and therefore was no stranger to large households, she would cope well with the transition. In addition, Diana showed little interest in learning what was expected of her and how the Royal Family and the Household function. Before her move to the palace, Diana had thought that the Royal Family could become the family that she had not had while growing up, which might have been the main reason she later felt like a victim of Prince Charles and the Royal Family, because they rarely showed their feelings, and they did not understand what it was like for someone outside of the royal circle to marry into the family.

Two days before the wedding day, Diana considered cancelling the wedding. Despite her adoration for Prince Charles, Diana had doubts over her ability to cope with the consequences of the marriage.

The sheer momentum with which the events were unfolding meant that Diana had no time to process them, and the effort of trying to understand it all was crushing Diana. In addition, the intensity of the media participation was exhausting her. Nevertheless, Diana projected an impressive serenity during the wedding.

During the honeymoon, Diana's sporadic depression turned chronic and her bulimia became even worse than it had been before the wedding. It was during the honeymoon that Diana had to confront the everyday reality of a married royal, and she began to understand the full impact of life as Princess of Wales. She was finding it difficult to adapt to life in the Royal Family. In addition, she felt confined and isolated, incapable of reaching beyond the invisible barrier which now separated her from the rest of the world. Furthermore, the Royal Family operated by their own rules and traditions, and Diana's refusal to follow or even to try to understand them mystified her in-laws, who were utterly unused to being confronted by such behaviour. The Royal Family had mistakenly expected that a girl of Diana's background would be used to the social situations that she was now facing, but the reality was that Diana had had little exposure and no practice at the formal art of conversation. Diana's upbringing had not taught her to behave in a way those situations demanded. Faced with the relentless need to be dignified and social, Diana's intellectual inferiority complex began to show. Royal house parties intimidated Diana in much the same way as gatherings of people outside her own circle had unnerved her when she was growing up. When Diana began behaving erratically, members of the Royal Family chose to ignore it in the hope that the problem would disappear on its own in time. However, their failure to acknowledge Diana's pain, much less sympathize with and comfort her, made Diana feel more isolated and wounded than ever. Diana felt that the Royal family had cast her adrift emotionally, as she had been during her childhood by her parents' divorce. As a result, Diana's relations with the royal-in-laws were not easy. It did not help that Diana considered herself an outsider, and made little effort to ingratiate herself with the Royal Family.

It was becoming obvious that Diana and Prince Charles were basically incompatible, even though both wanted the marriage to succeed. However, despite all this, Prince Charles did not modify his routines at all for Diana, and because Diana wanted Prince Charles's undivided attention, she

misread his preoccupation as rejection. Diana's marriage to Prince Charles had acted as a catalyst for all the painful feelings from her childhood to re-emerge, namely her insecurity and her feelings of betrayal and isolation. In addition, Diana was still suffering from bulimia and her weight continued to fall drastically. Moreover, Diana's obsession with Camilla continued, and despite Prince Charles's repeated assurances that Camilla was no longer a part of his life, Diana refused to believe him.

As Prince Charles and Diana began their joint official duties, it became apparent that the public now wanted Diana and not Prince Charles, and as a result she overshadowed Prince Charles, who later became jealous of the attention given to Diana. Moreover, Diana received little praise from Prince Charles and the rest of the Royal Family and it upset her. In addition, the imbalance between Diana's empty life and Prince Charles's busy one became more marked as he had a programme of official duties while she had none. Furthermore, Diana still failed to comprehend why Prince Charles was not able to spend more time with her. Worse still, no one seemed to take Diana seriously, and no one had thought out in detail what Diana would do. Meanwhile, the media interest in Diana remained intense to a degree which no one had foreseen, and its fascination with her increased daily. Diana was profoundly confused because she did not understand why the press was so interested in her, and she felt unworthy and inadequate of the attention aimed at her. Nevertheless, Diana began to increasingly look to the media for the reassurance she was not getting at home.

Prince William's birth came just over a month before their first wedding anniversary: Diana had had little time to accustom herself to being Princess of Wales and now she was the mother of the future King. It was perhaps the high point of Diana's life as Princess of Wales as she had fulfilled her duty to the Crown by producing the next heir to the throne. However, it was not long until Diana's postnatal depression started. By the time Prince William was barely a month old, Diana was hit with a depression even worse than what she had experienced during her honeymoon and pregnancy, and at the same time, Diana's abandonment fears grew more acute and she panicked whenever Prince Charles did not arrive home on time. Prince Charles worried about her, but he did not understand post-natal depression, and no one in the Royal Family recognized either that or her bulimia. In addition, Diana's obsession with Camilla continued, and despite Prince Charles's denials, Diana persisted in accusing him of maintaining the affair. Regardless of the real state of the affair,

Diana's imaginings had a profound impact on the relationship, and on her own behaviour, and she began to injure herself. However, as Diana endeavoured to come to terms with the realities of her marriage and royal life, there were moments when Diana sensed that she actually could cope and could make a positive contribution to the Royal Family and the wider nation. Nevertheless, despite her efforts, Diana did not receive any recognition from the Palace and she felt crushed. Furthermore, Prince Charles's jealousy of Diana's huge appeal to the crowds grew, and it was to become an increasingly divisive factor in their relationship. Moreover, Diana had become fascinated by the development of her own image in the pages of the British tabloids and she reviewed them daily. The consciousness that she was a real success boosted Diana's fragile confidence.

The fact that Diana outshone her husband in their public lives was driving the couple apart. Furthermore, Prince Charles also resented Diana because she really enjoyed her duties, whereas for him his duties were something he had to do. By 1986, Diana had started having affairs and Prince Charles had revived his relationship with Camilla. Moreover, by 1987, the marriage between Prince Charles and Diana was dying, and the main concern of their staff was to conceal it from the public. By then Prince Charles had already mentally and physically withdrawn himself from Diana, and it had become increasingly difficult for him to bear her presence. However, a sort of truce between the couple was agreed on: Prince Charles and Diana were to continue with separate but discreet social lives, while working harder to present a united front by taking on more joint engagements. Nevertheless, they showed little interest in each other's activities. Furthermore, Diana still outshined Prince Charles on every public occasion they shared, and the resulting jealousy that Prince Charles felt about Diana's success with the public, and the lack of recognition he extended to her as a result was to be one of the main causes of the failure of the marriage.

By June 1991, Diana found the mere presence of Prince Charles upsetting and disturbing, while Prince Charles viewed Diana with indifference that was tinged with dislike, and the divide between them became too wide to hide for the sake of their public image. As a result, they led separate lives as much as was possible and only joined their forces to maintain a façade of unity. It was during that summer that Diana decided to cooperate with Andrew Morton, because she was disappointed that the media accepted what she believed to be a false rapprochement between herself and Prince

Charles and because they were unwilling to identify Camilla as the Prince's lover. Furthermore, Diana wanted to expose the sham of her marriage and her role in the Royal Family. However, even Diana had underestimated the effects of the Morton book. Nevertheless, it created widespread sympathy for Diana. By the autumn of 1992, Prince Charles and Diana were each consulting lawyers, and on 25 November, Prince Charles told Diana of his decision to legally separate from her to which Diana readily agreed. In the final negotiations with Prince Charles Diana got almost everything she wanted. On December 9, 1992, Prime Minister John Major announced the formal separation of the Prince Charles and Diana in the House of Commons.

During the first year of her separation from Prince Charles, Diana came to realize that rather than having the freedom she had hoped to gain from the separation, she was more constrained than she had ever been. In addition, she was lonely. Furthermore, the media interest in Diana continued, and even though they were separated, the media war between Diana and Prince Charles continued. Moreover, Diana was becoming increasingly resentful over her lack of a private life and the demands made on her by her public role, and, as a result, she withdrew from public life. In addition, Diana dispensed with her personal protection.

Since Morton's book, Prince Charles's camp had been planning a riposte, which was to be an interview and an authorized biography of Prince Charles by Jonathan Dimbleby. However, the most memorable part of that interview was Prince Charles's admission that he had not been faithful to Diana. As a result, Diana started to seriously think about doing her own television interview in response, and agreed to be interviewed by Martin Bashir on the BBC's *Panorama*. Retrospectively, the most important single factor that had shaped the latter years of the marriage of Prince Charles and Diana was their decision to involve the media in their lives: had it not been for Morton's book, Prince Charles would not have spoken to Dimbleby, and had it not been for Dimbleby, Diana would not have agreed to her *Panorama* interview, and together these factors drove the couple to a point which they could not return from.

Consequently, not long after Diana's *Panorama* interview, the Queen requested that Diana and Prince Charles divorce. Nevertheless, negotiations between Prince Charles's and Diana's lawyers proceeded slowly, and on July 4, Prince Charles presented Diana with his settlement offer. Diana formally agreed to the terms just four days later. Six weeks later, on 28 August 1996, their marriage was dissolved. Both Prince Charles and Diana were profoundly sad, although the divorce was the right thing to do for the monarchy as well as the couple themselves and the boys. After the divorce, Diana was still lonely, but she no longer felt resentful of Camilla. In addition, the relations between Diana and Prince Charles became less strained during the months that followed their divorce, as Diana learned how to love Prince Charles as a friend and as an adult.

Diana died at the age of 36 on Sunday 31 August 1997 in Paris. Her death resulted from a high-speed car accident. The accident in question took place just before midnight on Saturday 30 August and afterwards Diana was taken to hospital, where she was later declared dead. In the same way as no one had known what to do with her when she was alive, no one knew what to do with her when she died. Since this was the first time the Royal Family had to decide how to act in the case of the sudden death of a divorced Princess of Wales, and there was some confusion as to how Diana should be treated. However, there was full agreement that she must be accorded full royal status, and as it became apparent that only a state funeral would satisfy the public, plans for the funeral had to be made in a hurry as there were no plans for the funeral made in advance. Nevertheless, the Queen saw the death of Diana primarily as a family tragedy and because of that she thought that it should be dealt with in private, and, as a result, the Royal Family spent their time in seclusion at Balmoral. Because of their decision to stay at Balmoral, the Royal Family stayed mostly unaware of the public hysteria that was growing in London. Nonetheless, the Queen had to yield to the pressure of the people and order the Union Jack to be flown at half-mast until she was in residence, and then again put at half-mast on Saturday, the day of the funeral, where it stayed until midnight on Sunday. In addition, on Friday 5 September, the eve of the funeral, the Royal Family flew to London, and on the same evening, the Queen delivered a heartfelt speech addressing Diana's death. Furthermore, the Royal Family showed that they too shared in the grief of the people by walking out of the palace gates to socialise with the people gathered outside and to look at all the flowers, candles, and messages that people had left outside the palaces in remembrance of Diana: The Queen and Prince Philip did this in front of Buckingham Palace, while Prince Charles and the boys, Princes William and

Harry, did it at Kensington Palace. The funeral was held on Saturday 6 September in Westminster Abbey and televised internationally. The most famous moment of the whole funeral was Diana's brother's speech, which was addressed to Diana, and in part could be seen as being directed to the press and criticising the Royal Family and its traditions. After the funeral Diana's coffin was taken to Althorp, where she was buried.

A lot has happened in the twenty years since Diana's death. Prince Charles has continued his relationship with Camilla and married her with the Queen's blessing. Prince William is also now married, but as opposed to his parents, he had a long, serious relationship with Catherine before they even got engaged. They also lived together before they were married. In addition, steps were taken to protect Catherine from the press even before her engagement to Prince William, and within days of the engagement, Prince William asked his office to inform the media that there would be zero-tolerance if someone were to invade their privacy now or in the future. Furthermore, Catherine was gradually introduced to the royal way of life. All of this was done because Prince William does not want to make the same mistakes his parents did. He and Catherine also work better as a team than Prince Charles and Diana ever did, and Prince Charles is proud of Catherine in a way Prince Charles rarely was of Diana. Moreover, at the time of writing, Prince Harry is in a relationship with Meghan Markle, a fact that he confirmed in a press statement that he issued after it had been leaked to the that they were in a relationship, which was something that had rarely been done before. The statement also asked that the press would leave Meghan Markle and her family and friends be in peace. Overall, it seems like the boys have learned from their mother's experience and that they are determined not to let history repeat itself.

As stated in the beginning of this thesis, there is an abundance of material on Diana available. However, the quality of them varies to a great degree and is considerably affected by the views of the person who is behind the data, which made the choice of the biographies used the most important factor in the process, because depending on what biographies are chosen it might be possible to argue whichever side chosen: it is just as possible to say that Diana might have been the passive victim when it comes to the Royal Family as it is to argue that she herself played an active role in her own victimization depending on the choice of material. Nevertheless, this does not mean

that whatever is argued is true, and because of this the biographies used in this thesis range from the objective to the subjective so that all sides of the argument are taken into consideration and a comprehensive discussion on the way Diana may have been a victim can be constructed. In addition, the fact that several other biographies besides ones on Diana were consulted and in some cases also used as a reference, further adds to the comprehensiveness of the research. However, this thesis does not discuss everything that relates to its topic, but it does offer an overall portrayal of the instances that are of greatest importance. Even though the victim aspect of Diana's life in connection to the Royal Family is widely discussed in this thesis, there still remains a lot to research on Diana and the way she may have been a victim of the Royal Family and Prince Charles.

The fact that this year marks the 20th anniversary of Diana's death and that there still is persistent interest in royal families even today makes this thesis relevant in that the royals are a topic that is written about weekly, if not daily. In addition, as this year is the 20th anniversary of Diana's death, Diana herself is mentioned in the papers quite often, and not just in connection to her boys, Princes William and Harry, as was the case for a long time. The life of Diana has been and still is of interest even twenty years after her death, because she was and still is a prominent cultural icon in British culture, especially now.

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