



Diana – The People’s Princess

It was raining and Diana was standing behind a huge window in the living room of her new home in the city. He was right, she thought. Three days ago Charles said:

“This is not a fairy tale and it’s not going to be. You have to get ready.”

The number of paparazzi photographers on the other side of the window was growing by the minute. It has been only a couple of hours since the whole country found out. Charles told everybody that they had been dating and were about to get married. Now everybody wanted a picture or an interview.

Photographers were calling her name, asking her to go outside. She felt happy and scared. Was she ready for everything that would soon be? Could she take the pressure?

The phone rang...

“Lady Diana?” the voice was calm.

“Yes. This is her,” she replied.

“This is a secretary of Her Majesty the Queen. Her Majesty is expecting you this afternoon for tea.”

“Thank you. Please inform her that I am on my way.”

“Of course you are.”

The afternoon tea went well. Queen Elizabeth was kind and friendly but Diana realized that her life was really about to change.

After long weeks of lessons in royal protocol, British history and etiquette, she was ready to make the first public meeting with Charles and the media. They immediately fell in love with her. She was young, beautiful and natural. The whole world was interested in her. Their wedding was televised and watched by 750 million people worldwide.

However, as her popularity grew, her self-confidence decreased and she began to lose herself under the strict rules of the royal court. There was no place for mistakes. Everything had to be perfect.

After having two beautiful boys, she fulfilled her duty as the wife of the prince who was next in line to the throne.

Charles was less and less supportive and was also very busy travelling around the world as an ambassador of the Queen.

Diana – Princezná ľudských srdc

Pršalo a Diana postávala za veľkým oknom obývacej izby svojho nového domu v meste. Mal pravdu, pomyslela si. Pred tromi dňami jej Charles povedal:

„Toto nie je rozprávka a ani nebude. Musíš sa na to pripraviť.“

Zástupy paparazzov na druhej strane okna každou minútou rástli. Od verejného oznámenia ubehlo len pár hodín. Charles všetkým povedal, že sa stretávajú a budú sa brať. Teraz si chcel princeznú každý vyfotografovať alebo s ňou spraviť rozhovor.

Fotografi vykrikovali jej meno a žiadali, aby vyšla von. Cítila sa šťastná, ale aj vystrašená. Bola pripravená na to, čo sa onedlho stane? Zvládne ten tlak?

Zazvonil telefón...

„Lady Diana?“ hlas bol pokojný.

„Áno, to som ja,“ odpovedala.

„Tu sekretár jej veličenstva kráľovnej. Jej veličenstvo vás dnes očakáva na popoludňajšom čaji.“

„Ďakujem. Odkážte, prosím, že vyrážam na cestu.“

„Samozrejme.“

Na popoludňajšom čaji šlo všetko hladko. Kráľovná Alžbeta bola milá a priateľská, ale Diana si uvedomila, ako veľmi sa jej život zmení.

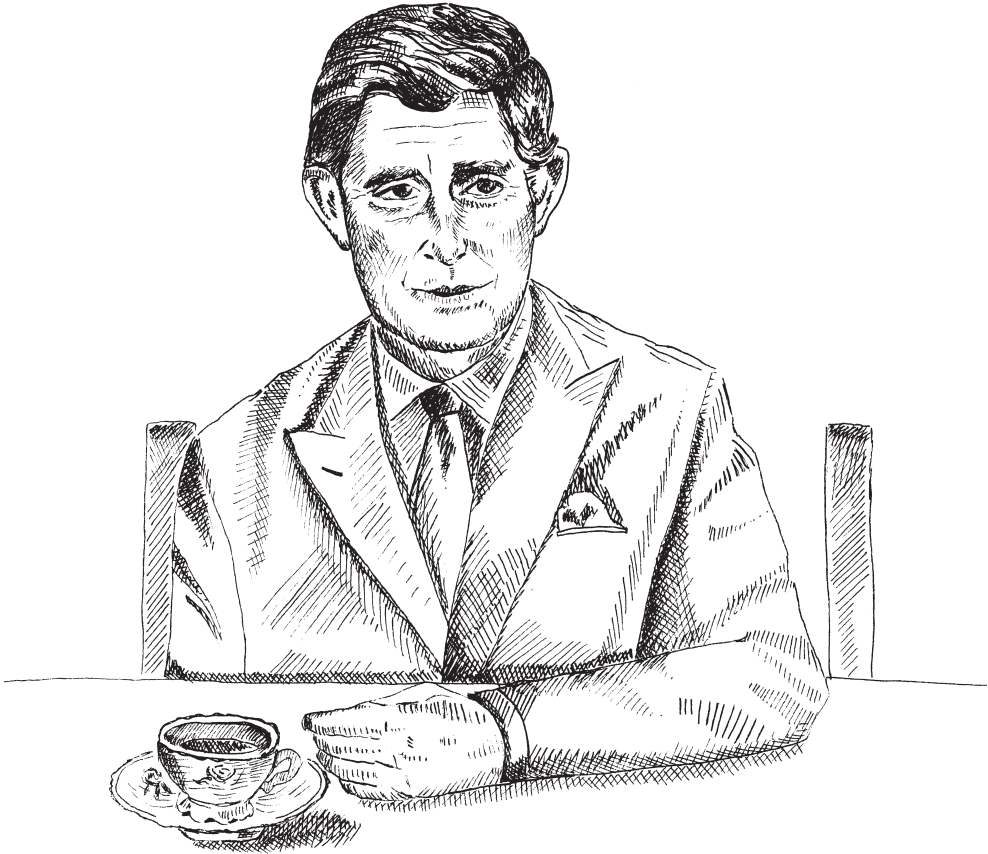
Po dlhých týždňoch plných lekcí kráľovského protokolu, britskej histórie a etikety bola pripravená na svoje prvé verejné stretnutie s Charlesom a zástupcami médií. Tí si ju okamžite zamilovali. Bola mladá, krásna a prirodzená. Celý svet sa o ňu zrazu zaujímal. Ich svadobný obrad sledovalo 750 miliónov ľudí po celom svete.

Hoci jej popularita rástla, jej sebavedomie klesalo a navyše ju striktné pravidlá kráľovského dvora ničili. Chyby sa netolerovali. Všetko muselo byť perfektné.

Tým, že porodila dvoch krásnych chlapcov, splnila svoju najdôležitejšiu úlohu, ktorá prináleží manželke následníka trónu.

Charles ju podporoval čoraz menej a bol tiež veľmi zanepriaznený cestovaním po svete, pretože pôsobil ako kráľovnin vyslanec.





One afternoon she was complaining to a friend over the phone.

"I am a princess but in my own eyes I am a nobody. People expect me to smile all the time, but I have lost the will. Everything is forbidden or against the rules and I feel like a puppet with no real purpose."

Lucia de Lima was a great listener.

"Stop complaining, Di. You have the power to change the world. If you really need to find a purpose, use the media that are following you around and direct their attention to something that is important. You are the Princess of Wales, you can do whatever you want!"

Diana realized her friend was right. She started to work with many charity organizations; she visited hundreds of hospitals and hospices and informed the world about cancer, HIV, and leprosy treatment. She even walked through an active mine field in Angola to demonstrate the difficulty of life there and to help the Red Cross with their humanitarian work. She was always kind and nice and people loved her very much. She was their princess.

Charles's popularity decreased and he was called the husband of Princess Diana. Although he made lots of jokes about it in public, he was unhappy in the marriage. Diana felt the same, so after 14 years together they decided to divorce. She continued to do humanitarian work until her untimely death in Paris. Her funeral was watched by half of the people in the world...

Afternoon tea

Queen Elizabeth drinks her tea everyday between 3 and 5pm (it depends on her schedule). Her afternoon tea consists of Darjeeling or Earl Grey tea, biscuits, small sandwiches and mini cakes. But in Scotland or Britain – What's for tea? – can also mean – What is for dinner? It originated from "HIGH TEA", which was almost a full meal served between 6 and 7pm for hard working class, because the break between main meals was very long. Lunch was usually served at 2pm and dinner at 9pm.

Raz popoludní sa do telefónu sťažovala svojej priateľke:

„Som síce princezná, ale vo svojich vlastných očiach som nikto. Ľudia odo mňa očakávajú, že sa budem neustále usmievať, ale ja už nemám chuť. Všetko je buď zakázané, alebo proti pravidlám, a ja si pripadáam ako bábka bez skutočného zmyslu.“

Lucia de Lima bola skvelá poslucháčka.

„Prestaň sa sťažovať, Di. Veď máš moc zmeniť svet. Ak skutočne hľadáš zmysel života, využi médiá, ktoré ťa neustále prenasledujú, a nasmeruj ich pozornosť na niečo naozaj dôležité. Si predsa princezná z Walesu, môžeš si robiť, čo sa ti zachce!“

Diana si uvedomila, že jej priateľka mala pravdu. Začala spolupracovať s mnohými charitatívnymi organizáciami, navštívila tisíce nemocníc a hospicov a informovala svet o liečbe rakoviny, HIV alebo lepry. Dokonca prešla aj cez aktívne mínové pole v Angole, aby ukázala, aký je v tejto krajine zložitý život, a pomohla Červenému krížu s humanitárnymi aktivitami. Vždy bola láskavá a milá a ľudia ju za to milovali. Bola to ich princezná.

Charlesova popularita klesala a dokonca mu začali hovoriť manžel princeznej Diany. Aj keď o tom na verejnosti vtipkoval, v manželstve bol nešťastný. Diana to cítila rovnako, a tak sa po 14 spoločných rokoch rozviedli. V humanitárnej činnosti pokračovala až do svojej predčasnej smrti v Paríži. Jej pohreb sledovala polovica celého sveta...

TRUE OR FALSE?

- ▶ Diana was born a princess.
- ▶ Diana was a very confident person.
- ▶ Queen Elizabeth personally called Diana to invite her for tea.
- ▶ Charles took some time off to support Diana.
- ▶ Charles enjoyed being called “the husband of Princess Diana”.



Maria Theresa – Coffee and Chocolate

It was a beautiful sunny day in Hofburg palace in Vienna and Maria Theresa was walking slowly in the garden. She was pregnant again, but she refused to sit down all day.

Her husband Francis went to look for her.

“Darling, you shouldn’t be walking here. Let me take you back to the palace.” Maria smiled.

“Do you remember what we wished for?” she asked him. He kissed her and remembered their visit to Mariazell church, where they asked for the blessing of a big family.

“Of course I do,” he replied and looked at her big stomach.



Mária Terézia – Káva a čokoláda

V hofburskom paláci vo Viedni bol krásny slnečný deň a Mária Terézia sa pomaly prechádzala v záhrade. Bola opäť tehotná, ale odmietala celý deň sedieť.

Jej manžel František ju išiel hľadať.

„Drahá, nemala by si sa tu prechádzať. Dovoľ mi odprevadiť ťa naspäť do paláca.“
Mária sa usmiala.

„Pamätáš sa, čo sme si priali?“ spýtala sa ho. Pobožkal ju a začal spomínať na ich návštevu mariazellského kostola, kde prosili o požehnanie pre počatie veľkej rodiny.

„Samozrejme,“ odpovedal a pozrel sa na jej veľké bruško.



"Next time we should be careful what we wish for." She smiled. This baby was the thirteenth.

All together Maria had 16 children. As a mother she was loving but strict. She took care of their education, their eating habits, and decided to limit the amount of sugar in their food. (But she did not limit herself, she loved food too much). She was also very religious and she liked to punish her children with hours of praying.

"Anna, dear child, what have I told you about being late to your classes?" Maria Theresa looked at her eldest daughter and frowned. Anna was so scared, she could only whisper: "I won't do it again, dear Mother."

"I know you won't. But today I want you to go to your room and pray on your knees. I want to know that you mean it, so tonight you'll go without dinner."

Although she was busy ruling, she always made time for her kids, which was very unusual. Sometimes she and her husband spent the afternoon playing with the children, reading with them, or walking in the garden and playing hide and seek.

In portraits we see her as a serious woman, but she loved to laugh. And not only that! She loved to dance, enjoyed masked balls, and played cards. She also loved riding horses. Even when she was pregnant, she continued her hobby.

From written records, we know that she was crazy about blue silk dresses and that she had hundreds of them. She also never missed the opportunity to wear pearls.

On the other hand she was a hard worker, who read every paper she signed. Before she had to make a difficult decision, she asked for a cup of coffee or hot chocolate, which was very popular at the time.

Maria Theresa believed that children with knowledge from school could make better lives for themselves and also for the crown. They would be intelligent enough to have good jobs; they would make money for their families and also would be able to pay taxes. This is why she introduced mandatory education for all children.

„Nabudúce by sme mali byť opatrnejší s tým, čo si prajeme.“ Usmiala sa. Toto dieťa bolo už trinásť.

Mária mala dohromady 16 detí. Bola milujúcou, ale prísnu matkou. Starala sa o ich vzdelanie, stravovacie návyky a tiež sa rozhodla obmedziť množstvo cukru v ich jedle. (Samu seba však neobmedzovala, jedlo mala totiž príliš rada). Bola tiež veľmi nábožensky založená a rada trestala svoje deti hodinami modlitieb.

„Anna, drahé dieťa, čo som ti hovorila o neskorých príchodoch na hodiny?“ Mária Terézia pozrela na svoju najstaršiu dcéru a zamračila sa. Anna mala taký strach, že len zašepkala: „Už to nikdy neurobím, drahá matka.“

„Viem, že nie. Ale dnes chcem, aby si šla do svojej komnaty a modlila sa na kolenách. Chcem vedieť, že to myslíš naozaj vážne, takže dnes budeš bez večere.“

Aj keď bola zaneprázdnená vládnutím, vždy si na svoje deti urobila čas, čo bolo veľmi nezvyčajné. Niekedy spolu s manželom strávili celé popoludnie pri hrách s deťmi, čítali si s nimi alebo sa prechádzali v záhradách a hrali sa na schovávačku.

Z portrétov ju poznáme ako ženu s vážnou tvárou, ale veľmi rada sa smiala. A nielen to! Rada tancovala, zbožňovala maškarné plesy a kartové hry. Tiež milovala jazdu na koni. Tú nevynechala, ani keď bola tehotná.

Zo starých zápiskov vieme, že si veľmi obľúbila šaty z modrého hodvábu, ktorých mala stovky. Tiež nikdy nevynechala príležitosť skrášliť sa perlamami.

Na druhej strane však dokázala tvrdo pracovať a každý dokument, ktorý podpísala, si starostlivo prečítala. Predtým, ako mala spraviť dôležité rozhodnutie, požiadala o šálku kávy alebo horúcej čokolády, ktorá bola v tej dobe veľmi populárna.

Mária Terézia verila, že vzdelané deti môžu viesť lepšie životy a byť prospešné pre krajinu. Ich inteligencia im umožní nájsť si lepšiu prácu, uživiť rodinu a platiť dane. Preto sa rozhodla zaviesť povinnú školskú dochádzku pre všetky deti.