



After Diana: William, Harry, Charles, and the Royal House of Windsor

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"This family did not have a drop of humanity in it before. I think I've changed that." --Diana

For all that's been written about the People's Princess, no one has yet penetrated palace walls to reveal what has really happened to the Royal Family she left behind ten years ago--until now. In the manner of his No. 1 *New York Times* bestsellers *The Day Diana Died*, *The Day John Died*, and his bestsellers *Jack and Jackie*, *Jackie After Jack* and *Diana's Boys*, Christopher Andersen draws on important new sources to paint the first full portrait of a Royal Family still haunted by the ghost of Diana.

All the compelling elements of a true dynastic saga are here: power, sex, wealth, intrigue, betrayal, tragedy and scandal. But so too is the Princess's legacy of love and compassion--alive in the sons who have grown and are now forging legacies of their own.

Among *After Diana's* stunning revelations:

The many times Diana predicted with uncanny accuracy how she would die; why she feared for Camilla's life as well; the surprising, never-before-revealed identity of the woman Diana really felt might one day be Queen.

New details about the days after Diana's death--Charles's reaction the moment he saw Diana's body, how Camilla dealt with suddenly becoming the most hated woman in the world, her secret eight-year campaign to replace Diana.

How William and Harry have dealt with the public and private pressures--from drugs to Nazi uniforms to lap dances and barroom brawls, fresh details about the Princes' wild behavior and the demons that still haunt them.

How Charles cheated on Camilla as well as Diana; the intriguing other women in the Prince of Wales's life.

Inside Operation Paget, Scotland Yard's ongoing probe into Diana's death--why, ten years after, investigators were still shocked by what they found.

The day Charles was asked point-blank by Scotland Yard if he killed his wife--and what he said.

The many beautiful young women in the lives of William and Harry over the past ten years--including Will's longtime love Kate Middleton, her chances of one day becoming Queen and why he fears she may meet the same fate as his mother.

William's obsession with speed; Harry's hunger for risk-taking; a thirst for battle that could lead both Princes to combat in Iraq.

New information on whether the Queen plans to step aside and who she wants to see succeed her on the throne.

Sometimes heartbreaking, often inspiring, always riveting, *After Diana* is more than just the first

comprehensive, compelling biography of the House of Windsor as it is today. It is a bittersweet tale of love, loss, duty, and destiny. It is the story of a family.

After Diana: William, Harry, Charles, and the Royal House of Windsor Details

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From Reader Review After Diana: William, Harry, Charles, and the Royal House of Windsor for online ebook

Tina says

In the wake of the royal wedding, i was in the mood for a quick, gossipy read and this one did not disappoint. I could relate to Diana's pain of dealing with an affair breaking up a marriage. I do think she left her mark in the royal family and her legacy is felt through her sons. She would be proud of her sons. I am no fan of Camilla, but credit her perseverance in challenging times. She and Charles seem suited towards one another. The queen is one cool cat. I hope she reigns a long time and William takes over. I hope he is a nicer guy than his dad. Harry, party on.

Jacque says

I have read several books on Princess Diana and the Royal family. While one can never be too sure of the accuracy of ALL of the details, I enjoyed reading about her sons and what they have accomplished since her passing. The book focused heavily on the fact that the royals have tried to protect the children from the media coverage that tormented their mother. They often complain about their lack of privacy, but also use the media to promote their own agendas. The book highlights their privileged lifestyle, but also shows how the boys are allowed to act their age and have had to learn from their mistakes.

Linda says

Reading this for my book club. Interesting so far.

I enjoyed reading this book. It was interesting and a little sad and disturbing to see into some of the private lives of the monarchy.

It is amazing that the two princes have turned out as well as they have considering that after the death of their mother, their father was pretty much uninvolved. Good schools and military training play a large part in that as well as the foundation that Diana gave them.

It is fun to have the royal wedding approaching so soon after reading the book, which ends in 2007 with the cliffhanger that William and Kate have broken up.

Samantha says

Written by the same author as *The Day Diana Died* and picks up where that book had to leave off, it follows the boys through their proper schooling and military training as well as their alleged cold, absentee father and formal 'uncaring' extended family. As with everything with royals and people in the spotlight, you have to take what you read with a grain of salt and the boys certainly seem to have a good relationship with their father, but what a cameraman and reporter sees and what is real can be what's real or different. Still in love with William...though he and Princess Catherine (YES, she's a Princess and a Duchess) seem very much in love and happy together and that's lovely to see in the royals.

Lynn Rueff says

The book is an account of the family Princess Diana left behind ten years ago. Her sons are hedonistic yet good solid young men. Her former husband, Prince Charles married his long-time mistress, Camilla. The boys have accepted Camilla as their stepmother. Camilla is an outdoors woman which they enjoy. She fox hunts, shoots and rides horses with them. Queen Elizabeth intends to be queen for life. There is little speculation on who will succeed her. The book was enjoyable. I can't imagine the style of life the royals live. It was interesting to read about their parties and vacations.

Laurel-Rain says

In the opening pages, Christopher Andersen's "After Diana: William, Harry, Charles, and the Royal House of Windsor" describes the moments after the fatal crash on August 31, 1997. He then moves on to detail the events in the ensuing years, providing a portrait of a woman, her sons, and the monarchy as it moved into the twenty-first century.

Occasionally moving backward into the years when Shy Di first burst upon the scene, we come to see a "fleshed out" picture of the woman who would forever change the royals in subtle ways.

Their mother's tragic and much-publicized death came at a time when her two sons were very vulnerable to her loss. Approaching adolescence, the heightened visibility of their lives "after" resulted in much tabloid footage that showed them each, but especially Harry, as "spoiled party animals."

Without their mother's influence, and with the kind of detached parenting provided by Prince Charles, the Heir and the Spare did go through a lot during those years. But as time passed, and as they gained some maturity, there was evidence of her imprint, in that "both William and Harry were taking on many of the causes she had championed, and finding some of their own."

I enjoyed this chronicle of life in the royal family, and how Diana's influence still lingers. I also liked discovering a bit more about Camilla than I had previously known. She worked hard to overcome being the "most hated woman in England" after Diana's death.

Since this book was published in 2007, much in recent history was obviously uncovered. However, there were already hints of the William and Kate coupling...which was fun to see in its beginning stages.

In the end, I liked this summing up, when describing Diana in her final conscious moments: "...What would she (Diana) have thought if, by some miracle, she could have opened her eyes ten years later? True, it would have been hard to see Camilla replace her as a Princess of Wales destined to become Queen—harder still to see Camilla step into the role of stepmother to her two boys.

"There is much about the changed world of the royals, however, that almost certainly would have pleased Diana. The Princess had fought to humanize the monarchy, to replace frosty hauteur with self-deprecating laughter, aloofness with compassion, and soul-deadening inertia with change. As history's renegade Princess, she paid a heavy price for trying to drag the Royal Family, kicking and screaming, into the twenty-first century. Diana was betrayed by her husband, ostracized by the Royal Family, spied upon by powers both foreign and domestic, and hounded by the same voracious media that had made her the world's most idolized

human being."

Between the beginning and the end of this book, there were also wonderfully entertaining details about the daily lives and rituals of the royals. Totally captivating, and worth four stars.

Melissa Hauer says

An interesting read for those like myself, fascinated by British monarchy from a distance and by the fact that by an extremely long and thin thread, we Americans have a tie-back to all of it.

There were interesting facts disclosed that I had never heard or read before. I do feel like the author indulged a bit heavily in 'filling in the blanks', as many of the 'conversations' recorded here the author clearly would not have been present for or privy to, and likely would never have been disclosed to anyone to eventually find their way to the pages of this book.

That said, if you enjoy learning more about the House of Windsor and don't mind a bit of obvious embellishment, this should prove an enjoyable read for you.

Hope says

Feels like a rehash of better books and spends a surprising amount of time on Diana's death (the subject of the author's previous book) rather than her sons' adulthood.

Some of the quotes seem a little too mean and gossipy to be real and would've had to come from palace staff, if they're not invented. Did the Queen really cattily say, "Poor Mrs. Parker Bowles, Charles will never be able to marry her now" with some glee to her mother in the hours after Diana's funeral? Only the fact that the Queen skipped their 2005 wedding service and merely attended the reception gives the quote any weight.

Of all the royal family, Prince Harry, with his wild drinking binges and cluelessness about Nazi uniforms (to be fair, it was a colonial-themed party where other guests came in blackface, aptly illustrating aristocratic cluelessness in general), comes off sympathetically--eager to apologize, embarrassed after mistakes, trying to balance insecurity about himself as 'the Spare' and nagged by those James Hewitt rumors (even though he's a dead ringer for Diana's redhead Spencer siblings) with doing good like his mother. Outside interview quotes of Harry's used within the book echo the author's themes. Like Diana, the implication is that he has been poorly educated, but has good natural instincts.

Anderson's portrait of William is more mixed, implying that he is sometimes stubborn and moody. Intriguingly, there's less evidence of a do-gooder tendency in William (no trips to Lesotho like Harry are mentioned--there are more jaunts to Mustique) and some odd bits about the chilliness of his brief 2007 breakup with Kate Middleton (ignoring her at events to flirt with other women) seem like a scary echo of the War of the Wales, if true.

Traci says

This is like the 3rd book I have read about Princess Diana. Guess I have a thing for her or something. It's been interesting to read and learn more about her. I remember when she died my hubby and I were on a trek from PA to UT in a Corvette we had picked-up for my boss and were bringing it back. There is just something about her, she is intriguing to me...

Tamara says

This is the last of the - unofficial - Christopher Andersen *Diana* trilogy. And if you've been reading them sequentially (as I have), this book brings the story to a nice, neat end, even as it immortalises it; it allows for closure, as it were. But even if you just pick up this one, it works well as a stand-alone, providing just enough information for background without seeming too preachy.

Of all of the books on Diana the author has written, this one is the most clear and linear. Yes, it does employ the usual flash-forward-and-then-flash-back tactic from time to time, but it does it well (better, I would argue, than in the previous *Diana's Boys*). It starts with the hours following the fatal car crash which killed Diana, and then follows with a chapter detailing the 2005 wedding of Charles and Camilla. The latter concludes with these rather apropos remarks from HM the Queen: "It's been how long? Eight years since Diana's death? Eight years. Remarkable, really. Back then I never could have imagined..."

Indeed. No one could have.

So it's a testament to Mr. Andersen's writing ability that, even as he has his readers falling for Diana and her sons (again), he also guides them through an intricate and reluctant maze of emotions into ~~grudging~~ appreciation for Camilla. He obviously has a special portion of his heart dedicated to the late Princess (as evidenced by his three books, cooperation with the inquest into her death eight years later, and the uniquely delicate touch he employs when writing about her), but he also does not discriminate. With all of the other Windsors as well, it seems to be that just as one thinks Mr. Andersen is passing judgment, his writing takes a different tone and one ends up pleasantly surprised at the end of the paragraph. The same applies for paragraphs about Camilla: one is accustomed to hating and distrusting her, as a rule from a historical point of view, but that is all but impossible after reading this book. And even if your heart is still indignant about their whole relationship, you can also say to yourself all of the things the Queen said after the wedding. Remarkable, really.

And of course, the most obvious markers of the years that passed since 1997 are Diana's two sons - their physical growth (if not always their emotional and mental growth) is an overt symbol of time going by. But there is more to them than what one sees in pictures or reads in magazines. For every dumb move of Harry's (um, can anyone say his Nazi uniform at a costume party and his subsequent ignorance about the significance of a swastika?) and William's (his constant drinking to excess and embarrassing conduct as a result), there are several redeemingly sweet moments for both - moments which were, for some reason, left out of the previous book.

My favourite was this, when Diana's butler and confidant Paul Burrell was leading the boys through her Kensington Palace apartments after her death, allowing them to take with them mementos of her before the rooms were to be sealed:

Among other things, Harry picked out the sapphire-and-diamond engagement ring given by Charles to the bashful "shy Di" when she was just nineteen. William selected the Cartier Tank watch the Princess always wore - a gift from her late father, the eighth Earl Spencer - and the giant stuffed hippo mother and sons leaned against while watching television.

Mostly because, um...

That's *my* giant stuffed hippo. The yellow on his ear is a butterfly clip I lent him once that he appropriated for his own use as an earring - because, you know, he's cool like that. And I'm sure that if I had a sapphire ring or a Cartier watch, I would identify with the passage for that reason, too. But you know what they say: some people have diamonds, others have hippos, and only two people in the world have both.

Another moment I loved was this:

As small children Diana had taught them to refer to money in a way that only they could. Since the Queen's face appeared on British currency, they referred to each bill as a "granny": a five-pound note was a "blue granny," a ten-pound note was a "brown granny," and a fifty-pound note a "pink granny." Whenever Diana had asked them how much spending money they needed, William would always reply, "Oh, a pink granny, please!" It was not uncommon for William to lean over to his brother after a night of drinking, reach into his pocket, and ask conspiratorially, "How many grannys do you need? I've got a brown and three blues..."

Just because.

And I don't have a picture to accompany that particular story (I don't have particularly colourful grandparents), but because in the book it is featured on the page directly preceding the picture pages, I will include my favourite picture from the book (reproduced here in colour).

Again, just because. (I think I looked at that picture, grinning like a fool, for a total time longer than it took me to read the book. Seriously.)

As a parting note - you might be wondering why, if Harry took the engagement ring, Duchess Catherine is wearing it today. Well, according to Wikipedia and the Daily Mail, the brothers exchanged mementos at some point. So, there was no duplicity involved there.

Christina says

Little did I know or realize the scandal that has and continues to plague the Royal Family! If you want more lurid details than should be in one book this is the read for you. The fact that Diana's sons have any semblance of normalcy and decency after reading this is shocking. It is a true testament to their mother's impact on their lives!

Angela says

From reading this book, After Diana, after her death, it was put into place to have her erased & forgotten. They took their time because it couldn't be rushed, then no one would accept all that would be done. Whether or not she was killed, I don't know, but there is a big chance that she was I believe. But if she was not, it was a great opportunity for whomever wanted her out of the way. I believe her sons were manipulated into believing acceptance of a lot of things maybe they would not have accepted otherwise. But they are trying to

sweep her under the rug, but w/ her sons, maybe she will not be forgotten. I didn't agree w/ her on everything she believed, but I believe she was a beautiful person & just wanted to be loved as much as she loved and it's sad, because I believe she never really found that love.

Graceann says

Please see my detailed review at Amazon.co.uk [Graceann's "After Diana" Review](#)"

Please click that the review was helpful to you at Amazon so that my rating continues to climb!

I found some errors in this book, which suggests that there are others that I don't know about, but I found it to be a compelling read. Diana's shadow is a long one, whether her ex-husband and his new wife would like to think of it in that way or not, and her legacy with regard to her sons makes for fascinating study.

Debi Emerson says

Another exceptional biography by Christopher Andersen! Written 10 years after Diana's death, it is an interesting look at how things were then viewed from the perspective of 10 more years later.

Marsha says

This was a quick read and brings some things about the Royal family up-to-date. The Royal family complains about the constant media attention. They each get upset about the little privacy they have. However, I found it hard to have sympathy. They are privileged. They are rich. The boys were able to go to the best schools. They do not have to hold jobs. They can travel, play expensive sports, wear the best clothes, and volunteer all over the world if they want. So, if the media feels it is their right to pry on them, I figure it is a fair price they have to pay.

The book gets into Lady Di's death and why it was thought to be a conspiracy and the investigations that followed that could not find any evidence of this. It mentions Prince Charles' affairs and long-term relationship with Camilla, and his attempt to have her accepted into the Royal family.

The book talks about Prince Charles' sons William and Harry and the boy's girlfriends. About the boy's partying. There was a conspiracy that red haired Harry might actually be the son of his mother's long-term lover, James Hewitt. DNA testing was suggested to put an end to the rumors. However, Prince Charles decided that might not be a good idea after all. If, in fact, Harry was discovered to be James Hewitt's son, instead of his, that would eliminate Harry from the possible throne. After all, Harry was considered "the spare" incase something happened to his older brother William.

The Royal family will always fascinate people. Because of their imperfections, their affairs, their riches, these public figures will always continue to make news, whether they like it or not.

