

TELEVISION PRODUCER.

Your Highness, Duchess.
Yes, ma'am you will be standing there, and sir,
Just to the right hand of His Majesty.

CHARLES.

As always James you've foreseen everything.
The picture here, like this, is now complete.
The family will be my backdrop and the news
Will say, the country's safe, and clear united.

TELEVISION PRODUCER.

So are we ready now?

CHARLES.

We are, proceed.

TELEVISION PRODUCER.

Okay then, hurry up!

CHARLES stands. The TELEVISION PRODUCER opens
the door and in floods the PRESS, to find CHARLES waiting
for them.

CHARLES.

Good afternoon, I'll give you all some time
To get arranged I know you like to barge
And jostle for position. Hi Nick! And... John.

TELEVISION PRODUCER.

We'll make a start in sixty seconds' time
Is everyone arranged where they can see?
That's good, so thirty, twenty, ten...

CHARLES goes to move forward, when suddenly –
WILLIAM walks quickly in front of him, to the podium.

CHARLES, confused, stands to the side. JAMES tries to
guide him to a chair, but he refuses.

Live in five, four...

Bright light – on WILLIAM. CHARLES to the side, behind
him, in full view.

WILLIAM.

Good afternoon. And gosh, there's quite a few
Of you.

A laugh.

So thank you all for coming here today,
And for the people listening in at home,
Across the country and the Commonwealth.
My wife and I have been so shocked
By scenes unfolding, here and overseas.
My father has, through noble conscience said,
As is his right, he will withhold assent,
And furthermore, as is legal too,
He has dismissed elected Government.
Of course this has resulted in disquiet
Not just in homes and streets, or in the House,
But in our family too. My wife and I
Respect my father's choices, but, do wish,
It could have been avoided. And so.
Today I do announce that I, as Prince
Of Wales, from now will try to mediate
Between the King and House of Commons.
I'm convinced there is a way to move on this.
Without the need for further violence, and
Respecting both democracy and the
Ancient British power of anointed King.

I have my father's blessing in this role.
He is as keen as I to see an end
To this destructive and divisive time.
I'm also lucky to have Catherine too.
For all of this was actually her idea.
Turns out she's cleverer than all of us!

Some laughter.

She'll sort us out!

More laughter.

CHARLES turns to face WILLIAM.
Looks at him for a moment. Furious.