

Prince Harry and Meghan to 'step back' as senior royals

Britain's Prince Harry and his wife, American actress Meghan Markle, made a surprise announcement on Wednesday evening: that they would "step back" from their roles as senior members of royal family and work to become "financially independent, " in the United Kingdom and North America.

Such a move abroad, away from the *strictures* of Buckingham Palace and its many duties, would be bold and remarkable, signaling that two of the younger, more popular royals may be *fed up* with an *anachronistic*, cosseted life of endless *ribbon-cutting* and *fusty*, scripted engagements — and the scrutiny that comes with all of that.

stricture 狭窄; 苛责

fed up 厌倦

anachronistic 过时的

ribbon-cutting 剪彩

fusty 守旧的; 老式的

tabloid 通俗小报

Harry is a grandson of 93-year-old Queen Elizabeth II and sixth in line to the throne. Meghan, before becoming a royal, was best known for her role in the television legal drama "Suits." The globally famous couple have complained bitterly of being pursued by the British *tabloids*.

In a post on their Instagram account, Harry and Meghan, known formally as the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, said they made the decision to distance themselves from palace life "after many months of reflection and internal discussions."

A statement from Buckingham Palace prompted speculation that the queen may not have been fully informed of the decision before the announcement.

The palace statement read: "Discussions with The Duke and Duchess of Sussex are at an early stage. We understand their desire to take a different approach, but these are complicated issues that will take time to work through." That sounded to many as if the queen was *miffed*.

miff 恼怒