Behind the scenes (Lady D hidden life)

**Diana: In Her Own Words**

is a television documentary that was broadcast on Channel 4 in the United Kingdom on 6 August 2017. The film includes footage of the late Diana, Princess of Wales discussing aspects of her personal life, including her marriage to Prince Charles which was recorded during conversations she had with a voice coach in 1992 and 1993.

In July 2017, it emerged that Channel 4 planned to broadcast the documentary in the run up to the 20th anniversary of the death of Diana. On 30 July, *The Mail on Sunday* reported that the Princess's brother, Earl Spencer had urged Channel 4 not to broadcast the tapes of his sister amid concerns it would cause distress to her children. His concerns were subsequently echoed by Royal commentators and friends of the late princess, including Rosa Monckton, who intended to write to the broadcaster urging them not to show the footage, which she said "doesn't belong in the public domain".

The documentary drew a mixed reaction from critics, as well as giving Channel 4 their largest overnight ratings for over a year. Figures indicated the film was watched by an average audience of 3.5 million, peaking at 4.1 million.

**Video Link:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UfaTLTo3250>

**"Well, there were three of us in this marriage, so it was a bit crowded."**

Journalist Martin Bashir interviewed Diana for the BBC current affairs show *Panorama*. The interview was broadcast on 20 November 1995. The Princess discussed her and her husband's extramarital affairs. Referring to Charles's relationship with Camilla, she said: "Well, there were three of us in this marriage, so it was a bit crowded." She also expressed doubt about her husband's suitability for kingship. Authors Tina Brown, Sally Bedell Smith and Sarah Bradford support Diana's admission in the interview that she had suffered from depression, "rampant bulimia" and had engaged numerous times in the act of self mutilation; the show's transcript records Diana confirming many of her mental health problems, including that she had "hurt (her) arms and legs". The combination of illnesses from which Diana herself said that she suffered resulted in some of her biographers opining that she had borderline personality disorder.

The interview proved to be the tipping point. On 20 December, Buckingham Palace announced that the Queen had sent letters to the Prince and Princess of Wales, advising them to divorce. The Queen's move was backed by the Prime Minister and by senior Privy Counsellors, and, according to the BBC, was decided after two weeks of talks. Charles formally agreed to the divorce in a written statement soon after. In February 1996, the Princess announced her agreement after negotiations with the Prince and representatives of the Queen, irritating Buckingham Palace by issuing her own announcement of the divorce agreement and its terms. In July 1996, the couple agreed on the terms of their divorce. This followed shortly after the Princess's accusation that the Prince's personal assistant Tiggy Legge-Bourke had aborted the Prince's child, after which Legge-Bourke instructed her attorney Peter Carter-Ruck to demand an apology. Diana's secretary Patrick Jephson resigned shortly before the story broke, later writing that the Princess had "exulted in accusing Legge-Bourke of having had an abortion".