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If the Royal Family is not quite at the 11th hour... it is perilously close



An impassioned warning from **RICHARD KAY** that no one who cares about the monarchy can ignore

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PLOT TO CROWN MORDAUNT AS PM

EXCLUSIVE: Tory MPs on Right have held secret talks with moderates about replacing Rishi with Penny

MPS on the Right of the Tory party have held talks with moderates about uniting behind Penny Mordaunt to replace Rishi Sunak.

Sources said discussions were

By **Jason Groves** Political Editor

held this week about the possibility of crowning Ms Mordaunt as the new leader in a 'coronation' if the Prime Minister faces a confidence vote in the coming weeks. The move would mean an astonishing

third change of PM since the last election – but would avoid the need for another divisive leadership contest.

Ms Mordaunt has been identified as a potential standard-bearer for Tory moderates in a future contest in which Right-wingers such as Kemi Badenoch and Suella Braverman would start as

favourites. Until now, MPs on the Right of the party have opposed her because of her 'woke' views on gender issues.

But a source involved with the rebels said a deal was emerging in which they could support her provided she sub-contracts the issue to them. 'The mood

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