

He could not forget me.

This story was told to Lucinda Stevens by Diana de Bosmelet:

Before Pierre Soyer de Bosmelet and Diana got engaged Diana agreed to go with Pierre to Paris to see if they were compatible. When she returned to England her mother, Ena Mathias, noticed a Lily-of-the-Valley sprig that Pierre had pinned to Diana's dress. Ena then knew her daughter had been in Paris with Pierre. Ena was very angry with her daughter for having an affair with Pierre, a married man with children. Ena never did approve of Diana marrying Pierre.

The Lily-of-the-Valley was Diana's life long favorite: As was the scent. She had a small triangular bottle of Lily-of-the-Valley scented oil which she would ask to be added, "three drops only" to her bath. I still love that scent as it reminds me of her.



Another story of this time was told by Joan Conway told Lucinda Stevens, it is about Geneviève Bérard, Pierre's first wife: Geneviève's Aunt, told Joan to get her niece Diana to stop pursuing Pierre. Joan did have a stern talk with Diana, as we know, to no avail.

Lucinda wrote as a comment to this story

"Yes she obviously was very determined as a young woman but that is pretty normal I think. Most of us have been a bit careless of other people's feelings (when young)."

The last story was told to Kate Macintyre by Diana, late in my grandmother's life:

The second time Pierre proposed to her was after Pierre's first marriage came apart. Diana and Pierre had gone horseback riding across the Sussex Downs. Diana, who despite being an excellent equestrian, was as she said "showing off" and so fell off her horse and was knocked unconscious. When she came to Pierre was holding her and she had thrown up all over him. Diana was deeply impressed that this incident did not seem to effect Pierre's feelings towards her. She thought "If he can bare this, then I should think he would be very committed."



