



The Diana Chronicles

By Tina Brown

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Years after her death, Princess Diana remains a mystery. Was she “the people’s princess,” who electrified the world with her beauty and humanitarian missions? Or was she a manipulative, media-savvy neurotic who nearly brought down the monarchy?

Only Tina Brown, former Editor-in-Chief of *Tatler*, England’s glossiest gossip magazine; *Vanity Fair*; and *The New Yorker* could possibly give us the truth. Tina knew Diana personally and has far-reaching insight into the royals and the Queen herself.

In *The Diana Chronicles*, you will meet a formidable female cast and understand as never before the society that shaped them: Diana's sexually charged mother, her scheming grandmother, the stepmother she hated but finally came to terms with, and bad-girl Fergie, her sister-in-law, who concealed wounds of her own. Most formidable of them all was her mother-in-law, the Queen, whose admiration Diana sought till the day she died. Add Camilla Parker-Bowles, the ultimate "other woman" into this combustible mix, and it's no wonder that Diana broke out of her royal cage into celebrity culture, where she found her own power and used it to devastating effect.

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The Diana Chronicles By Tina Brown Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Princess Diana was "the best thing to happen" to the British royals "since the restoration of Charles II," concludes Brown in this dishy biography, and the royal family's error was not realizing that. It's tough to pigeonhole a peacock, but Brown, former editor of *Vanity Fair* and the *New Yorker*, tries, calling the late Diana a diva, "a siren of subversion" who "even as a small girl... had been dangerous when hurt." Brown shows how Diana excelled at manipulating the media; her in-laws could only stand by helplessly as she captivated the cameras by batting her eyes or lowering them in her trademark "Shy Di" look. So enamored of herself was Diana, according to Brown, that she claimed not to understand why a certain cardiologist preferred his work at the hospital to seeing after her. Brown interviewed more than 250 people, from Mikhail Baryshnikov (who found the late Princess "so much more beautiful than any photographs or TV") to a friend of Diana's late mother, who says that mum disapproved of her daughter's too hasty royal marriage and tried talking her out of it. In the battle of unpleasant revelations made by both sides in the Di-Charles battles, Brown speculates that Squidgy-gate was the product of MI5 bugging the royal phones. Brown gives her book a tabloid-lingo touch and can fall into melodrama (while everyone saw Di's life as a Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, the author says, it "was becoming more like something out of Hitchcock"), but then, given the nature of the subject matter, a little melodrama is entirely fitting. However, the final portrait of Diana as a heroine who broke free of the royal bonds and changed the monarchy forever will be familiar to most readers.

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From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

There are few who could delve as successfully into Princess Di's life as the celebrated Tina Brown, who combines her journalistic savvy with the gossip only an insider could know. While she stresses Diana's role in changing the relationship between the press and the House of Windsor, Brown offers plenty of juicy details, "varying from credible to melodramatic to weirdly sitcomlike" (*New York Times*)-from Diana's sexual relationship (remember Squidgy?) with Charles to her insecurities, her bulimia, the castles, the rivalries. Diana comes off as a bundle of contradictions, which was part of her appeal. If *The Diana Chronicles* is, in the end, a book partially built on others, it is nonetheless "a trashy (if delicious) tale ... rendered vividly mordant" (*Wall Street Journal*).

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From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review Is this a total dis job? Does the former editor of *Vanity Fair* and the *New Yorker* do a number on the late Princess of Wales, whom she counted as a friend? That is hardly Brown's intention; her well-researched, well-considered biography is responsible, eloquent, and honest. And if honesty means she calls things as she sees them pertaining to the increasingly darker aspects of Diana's out-of-control side, then Brown exhibits no hesitation in doing so. Her lack of trepidation in both crediting Diana for her accomplishments in her difficult role as wife of the heir to the throne and drawing negative conclusions about Diana's difficulties in performing that role achieves an understanding of Diana no author has reached before. Brown fathoms the needy girl never loved enough; she grasps the reasons for the collision of this outsider spirit with a royal family slow on the uptake in terms of today's omnipresent media and the rising cult of celebrity, which, in Brown's words, is now the "coin of the realm." Diana knew how to manipulate the press, of course, but she had a tiger by the tail; if she let go of the media game she had created around herself, it could destroy her. Brimming with new information and insights, this book on the unfortunate Princess of Wales is not just for the season but will last for a long time to come. Hooper, Brad

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Harold Froelich:

In this 21st centuries, people become competitive in every way. By being competitive currently, people have do something to make them survives, being in the middle of the actual crowded place and notice by means of surrounding. One thing that occasionally many people have underestimated the idea for a while is reading. Yeah, by reading a e-book your ability to survive improve then having chance to stand up than other is high. For you personally who want to start reading the book, we give you this specific The Diana Chronicles book as starter and daily reading reserve. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

Michelle Favors:

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Crystal Babin:

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Dina Hirsch:

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