



BILL and HILLARY
THE MARRIAGE

CHRISTOPHER ANDERSEN

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AUTHOR OF THE #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

THE DAY DIANA DIED

MORROW

aiting downstairs when
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ider. After a couple of
ut crying."

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1 the kitchen. Chelsea
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Bill had sought solace
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nt, Dolly Kyle tried to
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: would have breakfast
'Chelsea."

n, she would have an-
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She idolizes him," said

"Sure, sometimes she
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re Hillary, adores Bill.
t their husbands. With

d her desire to be "part
lot with a charismatic
illing to overlook even
part of history. Hillary
elf, and like Jackie, se-

cretely hoped she could fill the emotional void that propelled him
from one adulterous affair to another.

Neither woman, of course, succeeded. At a time when the press
conspired to keep the secret of JFK's rampant womanizing, Jackie
Kennedy was allowed to suffer in dignified silence. Not so Hillary,
who knew that Bill's fevered bed-hopping could trigger a scandal
that would cost them everything.

If they were going to get Bill's career back on track, Hillary had
to know what weapons—if any—Bill had handed the opposition.
Bill's affairs wounded her personally, but they would also have practical
political consequences.

In early 1982, Hillary hired a former FBI agent and private in-
vestigator named Ivan Duda to investigate her husband. "She
wanted me to get the dirt on Bill," Duda said, "to find out who
he was fooling around with. But her purpose in having me find out
about those women was not so she could confront Bill with the
hurt attitude of 'How could you do this to me?' Instead, it was
damage control, pure and simple."

Duda's dossier on Bill focused on those women the governor was
seeing with some degree of frequency. "I came up with eight
women," the investigator said. Gennifer Flowers was at the top of
the list, but that was not the name that Hillary found most upsetting.
"What really ticked her off," Duda said, "was that one of them was
an employee at the Rose Law Firm . . ."

Duda claimed his report "enabled Hillary to go to Bill and work
out arrangements for keeping those women quiet—by offering
them jobs, promotions, contracts to better positions, or whatever it
took to keep everything hush-hush.

"Hillary's main job as a wife," Duda added, "is to protect Bill
from himself—to pretend, playact, deny, lie, and cover his rear
end."

Whatever the tensions between them, Bill and Hillary pulled to-
gether for the 1982 gubernatorial campaign. This time, they heeded
Morris's advice and kicked off the campaign with a thirty-second
televised apology for hiking car license fees during his first term.

"When I was a boy growing up," Clinton said into the camera,
"my daddy never had to whip me twice for the same thing." The

sey Wright had talked her husband out of running that year, she accused the governor's chief of staff of overstepping her bounds. The two women quarreled bitterly over whether Bill should enter the race; on one occasion, passersby watched in amazement as Hillary stood screaming at Wright in a parking lot. Another time, Wright stormed out of the Governor's Mansion with an enraged Hillary in hot pursuit.

Out of loyalty to Bill—and a genuine desire not to hurt Hillary—Wright did not reveal all she knew. But when it became evident that Hillary was on the verge of convincing him to go ahead with his plans to run, Wright told her that “the same thing that happened to Hart will happen to Bill if he runs.”

Hillary continued to press her for details, but Wright would only say that Bill had in fact been “seeing” other women—lots of other women. “Hillary,” she said, “he *admitted* it.”

But what Wright did not know was that five years earlier Hillary had hired private investigator Ivan Duda to trail her husband. Back then, on the eve of Bill's 1982 comeback election as governor, Duda had come up with a list of eight women he had been sneaking away to meet at all hours of the day and night. Hillary ignored most of the names; she did not believe Duda had come up with enough hard evidence to prove that Bill had had affairs with six of the women. Of the eight, she accepted the fact that Bill was probably sleeping with Dolly Kyle Browning and Gennifer Flowers.

“You'd hardly describe either Hillary or Betsey as naive,” another Clinton staffer observed. “Of course Betsey took for granted that Hillary knew about Bill's cheating. But she wasn't sure how much she knew, or how she would react.”

Wright could not, in fact, have anticipated Hillary's response. Rather than expressing anger at her husband, she looked at Wright and asked, “Who is going to find out? These women are all trash. Nobody is going to believe them.”

But Wright stood her ground, insisting that the risk was too great in the wake of the Gary Hart *Monkey Business* scandal. By his own conduct, Bill had simply made himself too vulnerable. “Now is not the time,” Wright said. “The climate is all wrong. Bush is too strong. Bill has got to wait until next time . . .”

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“What’s important to us is that
we’ve always dealt with each other.
We haven’t run away or walked away.”

—HILLARY

ISBN 0-688-16755-1



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