

aiting downstairs when I down the hall. "You er if you were standing nooming voice, which ider. After a couple of nut crying."

ouse, the undercurrent d stopped by one day ing with his one-year-1 the kitchen. Chelsea une to her--only with orce," he sang, "I want

Bill had sought solace 1at he no longer had a posal, he was forced to nt, Dolly Kyle tried to 1ging exactly what he he could have a perfect

his favorite articles of : would have breakfast 'Chelsea.''

n, she would have an-1al instincts, Mrs. Clin-She idolizes him," said

"Sure, sometimes she 1g pin, and who could irl side to her that few >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, secretly 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 investigator 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 together 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

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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."

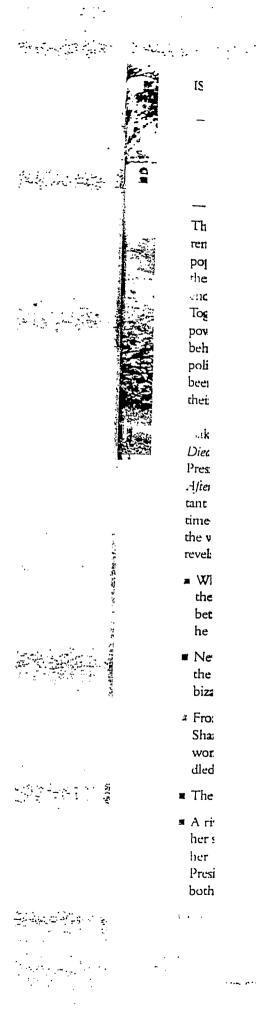
But what Wright did not know was that five years earlier Hillary had hired private investigator Ivan Duda to trail her husband. Back then, on the eve of Bill's 1982 comeback election as governor, Duda had come up with a list of eight women he had been sneaking away to meet at all hours of the day and 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

