

HORSE-CHARLY AND LADY DI

5 “A horse, *m y kingdom needs a horse!*” exclaimed the good Queen Bessie the second and her husband-daddy Long-Tall-Phil from Germany succeeded in making her pregnant with young Charly and later on came Little-Annie. Now this story is already history. “*A y, every inch a king!*” said the British, when they watched young Horse-Charly roaming around the courts and polo-fields of Europe. “*England expects every man t o d o his duty!*” his father had told him, and the girls, when they saw him, smiled and thought by themselves: “*God made him, and therefore let*
10 *him pass for a man.*” Broken hearts on his tracks - the eyes o f the world were upon him - he always asked himself: “*T o marry, o r not t o marry, that i s the question.*” *With a n auspicious and a dropping eye* he followed the daughters of the high and mighty, filled with the milk o f human kindness.

At the same time, his sister Princess Anne spent her days on horseback. “*Come, what come may*”,
15 she thought, and when she fell of her horse she only said: “*Here I lay, and this I bore m y point.*” A good-looking Squire, the Mark of Philips, saw her once with her favorite horse. Being no fool o f fortune he didn’t bother with the problem, that i t was *the lark and not the nightingale* and proposed to her. “*Every man has his price*”, remembered Annie, bought him a new horse and together they bred from thereon fillies for the noble Royal Family.

20 In the meantime, Horse-Charly, never *paled b y the cast o f thought*, got orders from his mother to care for the United Kingdom. “*More matter with less art!*” was the advice, Queen Bessie was giving him. Deep in his heart, Horse-Charly had already made up his mind, but, as *the better part o f valour i s discretion*, he didn’t tell anyone about it. But *you can fool all the people only some o f the time!* *Coming events cast their shadow before* and after a winter of general discontent he
25 announced his engagement with a certain Lady Di.

“Who’s she?” the public kept on asking. So Horse-Charly took her out one night, and only men stricken with blindness could avoid to notice what a really great heart she called her own. “*O h, that this too solid flesh would melt!*” was Charly’s problem, whenever he was with her, and: “*I would i t were bedtime!*” A Royal wedding was announced and the British people cheered: “*T i s a consummation devoutly t o b e wished!*” Only a few stubborn republicans stood frustrated in the corner and cursed bitterly this *vanity fair*: “*Woe t o the land that ‘ s gouverned by a noble horsy!*” But as *reasons* are by far *not a s plenty a s blackberries* and *knowledge* has nothing to do with *power*, everybody in Britain and people all over the world watched the celebration on tv. Thus, in
30 June 1981, for one day *all the world‘ s a stage* and *though this b e madness, yet there i s method i n‘ t.*
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(MSZ-Textbook. Contributions by William Shakespeare, Francis Bacon, William Thackeray and Thomas Campbell are printed in italics.)