

# THE CROWN

**CREATED BY**

Peter Morgan

**EPISODE 6.06**

**"Ruritania"**

Eager to improve the monarchy's public image, the Queen seeks out savvy statesman Tony Blair – but the Prime Minister's advice defies royal protocol.

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**N**

THE CROWN is a Netflix Original Series

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## EPISODE CAST

Imelda Staunton	...	Queen Elizabeth II
Bertie Carvel	...	Tony Blair
Lydia Leonard	...	Cherie Blair
Andrew Havill	...	Robert Fellowes
Jamie Parker	...	Robin Janvrin
Jonathan Pryce	...	Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh
Dominic West	...	Prince Charles
Lesley Manville	...	Princess Margaret
Claudia Harrison	...	Princess Anne
Theo Fraser Steele	...	Timothy Laurence
Marcia Warren	...	Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother
James Murray	...	Prince Andrew
Sebastian Blunt	...	Prince Edward
Ed McVey	...	Prince William
Luther Ford	...	Prince Harry
Adam Damerell	...	Alastair Campbell
Charlotte Melia	...	Anji Hunter
Emma Laird Craig	...	Sarah Ferguson
Polly Frame	...	Sally Morgan
Thomas Nelstrop	...	Jonathan Powell
Christopher Staines	...	Warden of the Swans
Barry McCarthy	...	Yeoman of the Glass and China
Patrick Bridgman	...	Queen's Guide to the Sands
Lorne MacDougall	...	Piper to the Sovereign
Richard Rycroft	...	Archbishop Carey
Hilary Burns	...	WI Chair
Lisa Armytage	...	Berkshire WI Chair
Ed Sayer	...	Equerry

1  
00:00:09,960 --> 00:00:11,960  
[footsteps echoing]

2  
00:00:14,800 --> 00:00:16,800  
[bells tolling]

3  
00:00:18,360 --> 00:00:19,400  
[woman whoops]

4  
00:00:19,480 --> 00:00:21,360  
[laughter and chattering]

5  
00:00:22,440 --> 00:00:26,040  
[newsman] And so,  
Coronation Day is upon us

6  
00:00:26,120 --> 00:00:29,440  
for the first time since 1953.

7  
00:00:29,520 --> 00:00:31,600  
[stately music playing]

8  
00:00:31,680 --> 00:00:34,800  
A three-day people's festival  
has been declared

9  
00:00:34,880 --> 00:00:38,360  
with concerts and street parties  
up and down the country.

10  
00:00:40,600 --> 00:00:42,600  
[indistinct excited chatter]

11  
00:00:43,400 --> 00:00:47,440  
The former queen is  
understood to be devastated

12

00:00:47,520 --> 00:00:49,760  
and is unlikely to attend the service.

13

00:00:50,400 --> 00:00:53,240  
O God, The Crown and the Faithful.

14

00:00:53,320 --> 00:00:57,800  
[newsman] Many had been unable  
to imagine life without Elizabeth II,

15

00:00:59,360 --> 00:01:02,000  
but after almost 50 years on the throne,

16

00:01:03,000 --> 00:01:05,000  
it's out with Queen Elizabeth

17

00:01:06,080 --> 00:01:08,960  
and in with King Tony.

18

00:01:10,240 --> 00:01:13,400  
New Britain has a new royal family.

19

00:01:14,200 --> 00:01:15,480  
The Labour Party.

20

00:01:15,560 --> 00:01:17,440  
[crowd] God save the King!

21

00:01:17,520 --> 00:01:22,040  
God save the King! God save the King!

22

00:01:22,120 --> 00:01:27,000  
[newsman] The King leaves the abbey  
to the strains of the new national anthem.

23

00:01:27,640 --&gt; 00:01:30,280

♪ You can walk my path ♪

24

00:01:31,840 --&gt; 00:01:34,600

♪ You can wear my shoes ♪

25

00:01:35,560 --&gt; 00:01:38,280

♪ Learn to talk like me ♪

26

00:01:39,400 --&gt; 00:01:42,840

♪ And be an angel too ♪

27

00:01:42,920 --&gt; 00:01:44,040

♪ I'm singing it now ♪

28

00:01:44,120 --&gt; 00:01:50,560

♪ Things can only get better ♪

29

00:01:50,640 --&gt; 00:01:54,560

♪ Can only get better ♪

30

00:01:54,640 --&gt; 00:01:58,160

♪ Now I've found you ♪

31

00:01:58,240 --&gt; 00:02:02,840

♪ Things can only get  
Things can only get better-- ♪

32

00:02:02,920 --&gt; 00:02:07,160

[newsman] ...news of the usual rows  
and controversies of political office.

33

00:02:07,240 --&gt; 00:02:10,320

The prime minister's  
personal satisfaction ratings

34

00:02:10,400 --> 00:02:14,160  
rose by one point  
to an extraordinary 66%--

35

00:02:14,240 --> 00:02:17,360  
[newswoman] In a moment, we'll join  
our colleagues at the World Service,

36

00:02:17,440 --> 00:02:20,920  
but in the meantime, on behalf  
of everybody at Broadcasting House,

37

00:02:21,000 --> 00:02:22,160  
good night.

38

00:02:22,240 --> 00:02:27,120  
[distant choir singing]  
♪ God save our gracious Queen ♪

39

00:02:27,200 --> 00:02:32,280  
♪ Long live our noble Queen ♪

40

00:02:32,360 --> 00:02:36,680  
[voices amplify] ♪ God save the Queen ♪

41

00:02:37,560 --> 00:02:42,560  
♪ Send her victorious ♪

42

00:02:42,640 --> 00:02:47,640  
♪ Happy and glorious ♪

43

00:02:47,720 --> 00:02:53,720  
♪ Long to reign over us ♪

44

00:02:53,800 --> 00:03:00,800  
♪ God save the Queen ♪

45

00:03:00,880 --> 00:03:02,120  
[singing ends]

46

00:03:02,200 --> 00:03:03,040  
Thank you.

47

00:03:04,920 --> 00:03:07,920  
I'd like to talk briefly  
about the prime minister, if I may.

48

00:03:08,000 --> 00:03:08,920  
Ma'am.

49

00:03:10,160 --> 00:03:13,880  
Historically, I've not worried too much  
about prime ministers' popularity.

50

00:03:13,960 --> 00:03:16,040  
It tends to come and go very quickly.

51

00:03:16,760 --> 00:03:19,600  
But I've a feeling  
that could be different with Mr. Blair.

52

00:03:20,320 --> 00:03:25,080  
People really do seem to love him  
and see him as a true son of England,

53

00:03:25,160 --> 00:03:28,520  
and a unifying national symbol  
in a way they used to see,

54

00:03:29,240 --> 00:03:30,240  
well, me.

55

00:03:31,040 --> 00:03:33,600  
And with Mr. Blair scoring higher than me

56

00:03:33,680 --> 00:03:35,800  
in every survey one can find,

57

00:03:35,880 --> 00:03:38,720  
perhaps... now is the time.

58

00:03:39,560 --> 00:03:40,760  
[Fellowes] Ma'am?

59

00:03:40,840 --> 00:03:43,880  
To find out what seems to have gone wrong  
and how we could..

60

00:03:44,720 --> 00:03:46,240  
I could do better.

61

00:03:47,760 --> 00:03:49,320  
I understand the impulse,

62

00:03:50,040 --> 00:03:53,280  
but I'm not sure it's a good idea.

63

00:03:54,360 --> 00:03:58,040  
The Crown doesn't ask  
existential questions of itself.

64

00:03:58,720 --> 00:04:01,840  
-Perhaps it should.  
-It suggests a loss of confidence.

65

00:04:03,000 --> 00:04:06,040  
-It's putting blood in the water.  
-It's just information, Robert.



66

00:04:06,120 --&gt; 00:04:07,360

[Janvrin clears throat]

67

00:04:07,440 --&gt; 00:04:08,440

I agree.

68

00:04:09,720 --&gt; 00:04:12,680

And I think, finally,  
I'm ready to hear it.

69

00:04:13,760 --&gt; 00:04:15,760

[indistinct chattering]

70

00:04:21,440 --&gt; 00:04:22,840

Thanks. Name?

71

00:04:23,480 --&gt; 00:04:24,560

-Name?

-Simpson.

72

00:04:24,640 --&gt; 00:04:26,000

Upstairs, third floor.

73

00:04:26,080 --&gt; 00:04:27,480

[man] Hi, folks, in you come.

74

00:04:27,560 --&gt; 00:04:29,800

If you'd like to find a seat.  
Anywhere you like.

75

00:04:29,880 --&gt; 00:04:32,400

Take a seat, quick as you can.  
Loos are on the right.

76

00:04:32,480 --&gt; 00:04:36,360

[Janvrin] The focus groups you asked for,

ma'am, have now been conducted

77

00:04:36,880 --> 00:04:39,800  
in Edinburgh, Leeds, London,

78

00:04:39,880 --> 00:04:42,240  
Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff,

79

00:04:43,160 --> 00:04:45,480  
Manchester, and Liverpool.

80

00:04:47,320 --> 00:04:48,480  
The British royal family.

81

00:04:48,560 --> 00:04:49,560  
[scoffing laugh]

82

00:04:49,640 --> 00:04:51,360  
Professional layabouts.

83

00:04:52,040 --> 00:04:55,040  
[Janvrin] More than 2,000 subjects  
over the age of 18

84

00:04:55,120 --> 00:04:58,840  
were asked a series  
of yes or no questions about the monarchy.

85

00:04:58,920 --> 00:05:04,240  
[woman] I consider the royal family to be  
an important part of British society.

86

00:05:04,320 --> 00:05:07,000  
-I'd go along with that.  
-You're being disrespectful.

87

00:05:07,080 --> 00:05:10,040  
[Janvrin] Followed by some,  
at times, spirited debates.

88

00:05:10,120 --> 00:05:11,640  
Let's keep it civil, please.

89

00:05:12,240 --> 00:05:14,280  
[Janvrin] Having reviewed the data,

90

00:05:14,360 --> 00:05:17,000  
the pollsters have now  
presented their findings.

91

00:05:18,160 --> 00:05:22,400  
Asked if the royal family were  
out of touch with ordinary people,

92

00:05:22,480 --> 00:05:24,720  
69% said yes.

93

00:05:26,600 --> 00:05:28,080  
Badly advised,

94

00:05:28,160 --> 00:05:29,640  
62% said yes.

95

00:05:32,120 --> 00:05:36,080  
Asked if they were wasteful  
of public money, 54% said yes.

96

00:05:37,920 --> 00:05:39,880  
Asked if they lacked compassion,

97

00:05:41,040 --> 00:05:42,360  
53% said yes.

98

00:05:44,160 --&gt; 00:05:46,560

Asked if they had failed  
the Princess of Wales

99

00:05:46,640 --&gt; 00:05:48,840

as badly in death as in life,

100

00:05:50,280 --&gt; 00:05:53,360

a sobering 66% said yes.

101

00:05:55,160 --&gt; 00:05:58,120

Asked if Britain should have  
a smaller, more informal monarchy

102

00:05:58,200 --&gt; 00:06:00,440

like the Netherlands or Scandinavia,

103

00:06:00,520 --&gt; 00:06:02,400

54% said yes.

104

00:06:02,480 --&gt; 00:06:03,600

[Margaret sighs]

105

00:06:04,240 --&gt; 00:06:09,160

And when asked if the monarchy  
should continue in its present form,

106

00:06:09,240 --&gt; 00:06:12,480

the proportion that agreed was just 10%.

107

00:06:13,600 --&gt; 00:06:15,600

I'd like to propose my own survey.

108

00:06:16,440 --&gt; 00:06:20,240

How many of us think that polls  
are a daft idea in the first place?

109

00:06:20,320 --> 00:06:23,480  
[Queen Mother] I don't see why  
we should have to listen to these people.

110

00:06:23,560 --> 00:06:26,000  
[Charles] Because we might  
actually learn something.

111

00:06:26,080 --> 00:06:27,520  
The sample, as I understand it,

112

00:06:27,600 --> 00:06:30,160  
is selected to represent  
society as a whole, isn't it?

113

00:06:30,240 --> 00:06:34,320  
It's still a folly to subject something  
as enduring as the monarchy

114

00:06:34,840 --> 00:06:37,200  
to the whims of marketing men.

115

00:06:37,280 --> 00:06:41,360  
I do think it's significant  
that our low numbers come at the same time

116

00:06:41,440 --> 00:06:45,320  
that we have a prime minister  
of conspicuous popularity.

117

00:06:45,400 --> 00:06:46,240  
Yes.

118

00:06:46,960 --> 00:06:50,040  
Only Winston at his height  
had this kind of support.

119

00:06:50,120 --> 00:06:53,680  
[Queen Mother] Have you learnt nothing  
in the time you've been on the throne?

120

00:06:53,760 --> 00:06:57,560  
Prime ministers come in  
on a blaze of popularity and goodwill--

121

00:06:57,640 --> 00:07:00,920  
And leave on a stretcher  
a few years later with their reputations,

122

00:07:01,000 --> 00:07:03,080  
and usually their health, in tatters.

123

00:07:03,160 --> 00:07:04,600  
Yes, that's it, exactly.

124

00:07:04,680 --> 00:07:07,160  
Well, I think this one might be different.

125

00:07:10,440 --> 00:07:12,880  
[theme music playing]

126

00:08:26,200 --> 00:08:27,080  
Okay.

127

00:08:27,800 --> 00:08:30,480  
-[man] There he is.  
-[reporters clamoring]

128

00:08:35,960 --> 00:08:37,520  
[Blair] Good evening.

129

00:08:38,720 --> 00:08:41,560

We hoped never to see war

130  
00:08:41,640 --> 00:08:45,680  
in Central Eastern Europe again  
in our lifetimes.

131  
00:08:45,760 --> 00:08:46,880  
[distant gunfire]

132  
00:08:46,960 --> 00:08:48,440  
Sadly, it has come,

133  
00:08:49,120 --> 00:08:52,920  
and it has consequences  
for the whole world.

134  
00:08:54,560 --> 00:08:55,480  
Tonight,

135  
00:08:56,240 --> 00:09:01,640  
NATO allies launched an offensive  
against Serb military targets.

136  
00:09:01,720 --> 00:09:04,680  
[explosions rumbling]

137  
00:09:04,760 --> 00:09:08,120  
Slobodan Milosevic is  
a monstrous dictator,

138  
00:09:09,400 --> 00:09:12,800  
carrying out the systematic  
and violent persecution

139  
00:09:12,880 --> 00:09:14,160  
of innocent civilians.

140

00:09:14,240 --> 00:09:15,760  
He has to be stopped.

141

00:09:16,880 --> 00:09:21,800  
We have a moral duty  
to ensure he does not succeed.

142

00:09:25,640 --> 00:09:27,640  
To all of us in free countries

143

00:09:27,720 --> 00:09:30,200  
who think this is a remote conflict

144

00:09:31,400 --> 00:09:34,280  
and someone else's problem, I say this.

145

00:09:35,480 --> 00:09:40,240  
If you value your freedom,  
you cannot remain neutral.

146

00:09:40,320 --> 00:09:43,480  
This is your war too.

147

00:09:43,560 --> 00:09:45,560  
[uplifting music playing]

148

00:09:48,720 --> 00:09:50,720  
[music fades out]

149

00:09:52,400 --> 00:09:56,040  
It's encouraging that our NATO partners  
have come together against the Serbs

150

00:09:56,120 --> 00:09:59,120  
but, well, moral purpose is one thing.



151

00:09:59,200 --> 00:10:01,880  
Military success is... quite another.

152

00:10:02,840 --> 00:10:05,440  
Every bombing target  
has to be approved by committee,

153

00:10:05,520 --> 00:10:08,520  
which makes decisions agonizingly slow.

154

00:10:08,600 --> 00:10:12,280  
We thought this aerial campaign  
would be over in days. Instead, two weeks,

155

00:10:12,360 --> 00:10:14,880  
and little or no progress has been made.

156

00:10:14,960 --> 00:10:16,840  
The... the Serbs are laughing at us.

157

00:10:17,800 --> 00:10:20,280  
I read that the problem was cloud cover.

158

00:10:20,880 --> 00:10:24,640  
American stealth bombers need  
good conditions to see their targets.

159

00:10:24,720 --> 00:10:26,960  
The most sophisticated weaponry  
in the world,

160

00:10:27,040 --> 00:10:28,720  
and it can't handle the weather?

161

00:10:29,680 --> 00:10:32,120  
Which is why

we ultimately need ground troops.

162

00:10:32,640 --> 00:10:36,280  
I proposed to President Clinton  
a limited invasion of 80,000 troops,

163

00:10:36,360 --> 00:10:38,480  
which would drive Serb forces  
out of Kosovo

164

00:10:38,560 --> 00:10:40,840  
and create safe havens  
for refugees to return,

165

00:10:40,920 --> 00:10:44,520  
but... he said most Americans  
can't point to Yugoslavia on a map,

166

00:10:44,600 --> 00:10:46,920  
so why put US servicemen's lives at risk?

167

00:10:47,440 --> 00:10:49,600

-Yes.

-It's most frustrating.

168

00:10:50,720 --> 00:10:52,320  
But I won't give up. Morally,

169

00:10:54,080 --> 00:10:55,520  
this is the right thing.

170

00:10:58,480 --> 00:11:01,760  
[Elizabeth] Mr. Blair was  
unusually resolute today.

171

00:11:02,800 --> 00:11:04,360  
In my experience,

172

00:11:04,440 --> 00:11:09,160  
prime ministers tend to be  
either domestic or foreign policy focused.

173

00:11:09,240 --> 00:11:14,320  
At this early stage, I'd say Mr. Blair  
falls very firmly into the latter camp.

174

00:11:14,400 --> 00:11:15,440  
Yes.

175

00:11:15,520 --> 00:11:16,880  
Statesman syndrome.

176

00:11:18,720 --> 00:11:20,280  
Which am I, do you think?

177

00:11:20,360 --> 00:11:22,760  
A domestic or foreign policy queen?

178

00:11:22,840 --> 00:11:23,960  
[chuckles]

179

00:11:24,040 --> 00:11:25,280  
Good question, ma'am.

180

00:11:25,800 --> 00:11:28,320  
And it's not immediately obvious.

181

00:11:28,400 --> 00:11:31,120  
The Commonwealth of Nations is  
such an article of faith to you.

182

00:11:31,200 --> 00:11:33,360  
-One'd be inclined to say foreign.

-[man] For you, sir.

183  
00:11:33,440 --> 00:11:34,280  
Thank you.

184  
00:11:35,000 --> 00:11:36,800  
Who else off the top of their heads

185  
00:11:36,880 --> 00:11:40,600  
would be able to reel off  
the name of the president of... Malawi?

186  
00:11:40,680 --> 00:11:42,000  
[Elizabeth] Bakili Muluzi.

187  
00:11:42,880 --> 00:11:45,280  
And the next member state  
to have general elections?

188  
00:11:45,360 --> 00:11:47,680  
Fiji. Their first since readmission.

189  
00:11:48,440 --> 00:11:51,640  
Despite all that, it's your interest  
in every part of the British Isles

190  
00:11:51,720 --> 00:11:54,200  
that, I think, ultimately makes you  
a domestic queen.

191  
00:11:54,280 --> 00:11:57,000  
Take today's engagement  
at the Women's Institute.

192  
00:11:57,080 --> 00:12:02,120  
Composing the speech yourself with,  
if I may say, evident enthusiasm.

193

00:12:02,200 --> 00:12:03,320  
Of course.

194

00:12:03,840 --> 00:12:07,680  
The uncomplaining, hardworking  
countrywomen of Middle England,

195

00:12:07,760 --> 00:12:10,600  
you underestimate them at your peril.

196

00:12:10,680 --> 00:12:17,360  
♪ And did those feet in ancient time ♪

197

00:12:17,880 --> 00:12:23,840  
♪ Walk upon England's mountains green? ♪

198

00:12:23,920 --> 00:12:29,400  
♪ And was the holy Lamb of God ♪

199

00:12:29,480 --> 00:12:35,720  
♪ On England's pleasant pastures seen? ♪

200

00:12:35,800 --> 00:12:41,640  
♪ And did the countenance divine ♪

201

00:12:41,720 --> 00:12:47,720  
♪ Shine forth upon our clouded hills? ♪

202

00:12:47,800 --> 00:12:51,240  
♪ And was Jerusalem... ♪

203

00:12:51,320 --> 00:12:55,880  
The Women's Institute movement  
came to Britain in 1915.

204

00:12:57,120 --&gt; 00:13:00,320

Since its humble beginnings  
in a Welsh garden shed..

205

00:13:00,400 --&gt; 00:13:01,280

[women chuckle]

206

00:13:01,360 --&gt; 00:13:06,440

...our membership and our goals  
have reached new and remarkable heights.

207

00:13:06,520 --&gt; 00:13:07,600

[women murmuring]

208

00:13:07,680 --&gt; 00:13:11,320

I've been a member of the WI  
for longer than I've been queen.

209

00:13:11,400 --&gt; 00:13:12,480

[women exclaiming]

210

00:13:13,360 --&gt; 00:13:17,600

Many of you will remember  
how vital we were to the war effort,

211

00:13:18,560 --&gt; 00:13:22,000

from growing produce to hosting evacuees.

212

00:13:23,000 --&gt; 00:13:25,200

I have fond memories  
of collecting rose hips

213

00:13:25,280 --&gt; 00:13:26,720

for rose hip syrup.

214

00:13:27,680 --&gt; 00:13:30,000

-Do you remember the rose hips?  
-[women] Yes.

215

00:13:30,080 --&gt; 00:13:33,000

-For vitamin C deficiency.  
-[exclaiming quietly]

216

00:13:35,760 --&gt; 00:13:40,720

There are approximately  
250,000 members of the Women's Institute

217

00:13:40,800 --> 00:13:42,160  
in the United Kingdom.

218

00:13:43,280 --> 00:13:45,720  
Roughly the population of Hull.

219

00:13:45,800 --> 00:13:47,800  
[women laughing]

220

00:13:47,880 --&gt; 00:13:52,440

Can you imagine a city  
run and populated entirely by the WI?

221

00:13:52,520 --> 00:13:53,560  
[women] Yes.

222

00:13:54,040 --&gt; 00:13:56,120

It would have  
the tidiest streets in Britain.

223

00:13:56,200 --> 00:13:57,160  
[women] Yes.

224

00:13:57,240 --&gt; 00:13:59,760

-Everything would run on time.  
-[women] Yes.

225

00:13:59,840 --> 00:14:01,640  
And we would take all the men's jobs.

226

00:14:01,720 --> 00:14:04,440  
[laughter and applause]

227

00:14:09,800 --> 00:14:12,280  
[indistinct voice on phone]

228

00:14:12,360 --> 00:14:16,120  
No, I'm not trying to patronize you.  
I'm not trying to make you look-- Yeah.

229

00:14:16,200 --> 00:14:17,480  
[man speaks indistinctly]

230

00:14:17,560 --> 00:14:20,760  
Yeah, yeah. No, I understand.  
All right. Okay, bye-bye.

231

00:14:23,400 --> 00:14:24,720  
[exhales deeply]

232

00:14:24,800 --> 00:14:27,280  
[Blair] And then he said,  
"Answer me this, Tony..."

233

00:14:27,360 --> 00:14:29,320  
Oh, no, please don't do the accent.

234

00:14:29,920 --> 00:14:32,640  
"How many ground troops  
are y'all prepared to commit?"

235

00:14:33,520 --> 00:14:37,840



So I say, "Look, Bill, um,  
we can talk about numbers all day."

236

00:14:37,920 --> 00:14:41,000  
"This is about the bigger picture.  
What if Milosevic wins?"

237

00:14:41,080 --> 00:14:42,920  
"NATO's credibility is at stake."

238

00:14:43,600 --> 00:14:44,480  
To which he said..

239

00:14:44,560 --> 00:14:47,400  
"NATO's credibility is  
already a busted flush."

240

00:14:47,480 --> 00:14:50,080  
-So you're allowed to do the accent.  
-I do it better.

241

00:14:50,880 --> 00:14:53,240  
He knows the fact  
you're coming to him like this

242

00:14:53,320 --> 00:14:55,480  
means that NATO's air campaign has failed.

243

00:14:56,160 --> 00:14:59,480  
But he still won't do what it takes.  
Commit American ground troops.

244

00:15:00,000 --> 00:15:02,760  
It's... he's worried about it  
looking like another Vietnam

245

00:15:02,840 --> 00:15:05,120

with no political upside  
for him domestically.

246

00:15:05,200 --> 00:15:07,640  
Well, you're never going to persuade  
the White House

247

00:15:07,720 --> 00:15:09,640  
by appealing to their interests.

248

00:15:10,920 --> 00:15:12,920  
So do what you do best.

249

00:15:14,240 --> 00:15:16,160  
Appeal to their consciences.

250

00:15:26,480 --> 00:15:29,520  
[Blair] While we meet here  
in Chicago this evening,

251

00:15:30,480 --> 00:15:32,760  
terrible things are happening in Europe.

252

00:15:37,040 --> 00:15:41,080  
No one who has seen what has happened  
in Kosovo to those refugees

253

00:15:42,040 --> 00:15:47,960  
can be in any doubt  
that NATO's military action is justified.

254

00:15:51,640 --> 00:15:55,040  
But we must do more  
than simply make our case.

255

00:15:57,200 --> 00:15:58,800  
We must also succeed.

256

00:16:00,080 --&gt; 00:16:01,080

For that,

257

00:16:01,840 --&gt; 00:16:03,240

we depend on you,

258

00:16:04,200 --&gt; 00:16:05,640

the United States.

259

00:16:07,360 --&gt; 00:16:12,000

You are the most powerful country  
in the world,

260

00:16:12,880 --&gt; 00:16:13,880

and the richest.

261

00:16:14,680 --&gt; 00:16:16,440

You are a great nation.

262

00:16:19,240 --&gt; 00:16:20,240

And it must be

263

00:16:21,960 --&gt; 00:16:24,360

difficult, and sometimes irritating,

264

00:16:24,440 --&gt; 00:16:27,320

to find yourself  
the recipient of every demand.

265

00:16:28,120 --&gt; 00:16:30,320

To be called upon in every crisis.

266

00:16:31,040 --&gt; 00:16:33,760

To be expected always and everywhere

267

00:16:33,840 --> 00:16:35,760  
to do what needs to be done.

268

00:16:36,520 --> 00:16:41,760  
The cry, "What's it got to do with us?"  
must be heard fairly regularly.

269

00:16:44,600 --> 00:16:47,080  
Yet those nations which have the power

270

00:16:47,640 --> 00:16:50,880  
have the responsibility to use it wisely.

271

00:16:52,120 --> 00:16:53,840  
We need you.

272

00:16:55,320 --> 00:16:58,600  
We need America engaged.

273

00:17:00,880 --> 00:17:02,120  
And so I say to you,

274

00:17:02,640 --> 00:17:06,600  
never fall again  
for the doctrine of isolationism,

275

00:17:06,680 --> 00:17:09,760  
because the world truly cannot afford it.

276

00:17:10,880 --> 00:17:14,440  
Stay, please, a country outward looking.

277

00:17:15,240 --> 00:17:19,560  
With the vision and the imagination  
which is the very best of your nature.

278

00:17:20,800 --> 00:17:22,920  
And realize, too, that in doing so,

279

00:17:23,000 --> 00:17:24,440  
you will find in Britain

280

00:17:24,960 --> 00:17:27,320  
a friend and an ally

281

00:17:28,560 --> 00:17:30,040  
that will stand with you.

282

00:17:31,120 --> 00:17:32,200  
Work with you.

283

00:17:33,000 --> 00:17:34,640  
Fashion, with you,

284

00:17:34,720 --> 00:17:39,560  
the design of a future  
built on peace and prosperity for all,

285

00:17:40,880 --> 00:17:46,120  
which is the only dream  
that makes humanity worth preserving.

286

00:17:47,720 --> 00:17:48,840  
Thank you.

287

00:17:50,920 --> 00:17:52,360  
[man shouts] Bravo!

288

00:17:55,160 --> 00:17:56,160  
[Blair] Thank you.

289

00:17:56,840 --> 00:17:58,840  
[indistinct shouts]

290

00:18:01,640 --> 00:18:02,960  
[man] What a speech!

291

00:18:04,680 --> 00:18:07,760  
[Fellowes] A resounding success  
for the prime minister in America.

292

00:18:08,960 --> 00:18:12,480  
The New York Times says  
the prime minister has a new nickname.

293

00:18:13,240 --> 00:18:14,600  
King Tony.

294

00:18:15,320 --> 00:18:18,120  
The Wall Street Journal  
has come out in emphatic support

295

00:18:18,200 --> 00:18:21,000  
of his attempts to persuade  
a reluctant White House,

296

00:18:21,080 --> 00:18:24,320  
but I think the best summary  
is from the Chicago Sun Times.

297

00:18:24,400 --> 00:18:28,400  
It claims Mr. Blair has beguiled the city  
with his charms,

298

00:18:28,480 --> 00:18:33,000  
leaving Americans pining  
to have him as their president instead.

299

00:18:33,080 --> 00:18:34,080  
Goodness.

300

00:18:34,160 --> 00:18:37,320  
[Fellowes] I gather President Clinton  
is now considering ground war,

301

00:18:37,400 --> 00:18:40,240  
which would leave Milosevic  
and his Serb forces

302

00:18:40,320 --> 00:18:44,200  
with the option to either fight  
and face total annihilation

303

00:18:45,080 --> 00:18:46,560  
or else withdraw.

304

00:18:46,640 --> 00:18:50,000  
And I suspect even they are  
sensible enough to choose the latter.

305

00:18:50,520 --> 00:18:51,400  
So,

306

00:18:52,480 --> 00:18:54,360  
the prime minister pulled it off.

307

00:18:55,000 --> 00:18:56,120  
So it seems.

308

00:18:56,880 --> 00:18:59,240  
This is an extraordinary political feat.

309

00:19:11,800 --> 00:19:13,280  
[exhales deeply]

310

00:19:18,000 --> 00:19:19,720  
[bell ringing]

311

00:19:22,240 --> 00:19:25,080  
-The prime minister, Your Majesty.  
-Your Majesty.

312

00:19:27,000 --> 00:19:28,440  
[door creaks shut]

313

00:19:28,520 --> 00:19:30,880  
I hope you didn't slip on the way here.

314

00:19:31,440 --> 00:19:32,280  
[Blair] Ma'am?

315

00:19:33,040 --> 00:19:35,880  
It can't be easy  
walking on water. [chuckles]

316

00:19:35,960 --> 00:19:37,360  
[Blair chuckles] Hmm.

317

00:19:37,440 --> 00:19:39,200  
[Elizabeth] Please, do sit down.

318

00:19:39,880 --> 00:19:40,840  
So,

319

00:19:41,360 --> 00:19:42,880  
you insisted the West

320

00:19:43,840 --> 00:19:47,440  
no longer stand by  
while genocide and slaughter take place.



321

00:19:48,520 --&gt; 00:19:51,840

And pulled it off  
without a single NATO casualty in combat.

322

00:19:52,360 --&gt; 00:19:54,480

Great credit must go to the Americans.

323

00:19:54,560 --&gt; 00:19:57,040

When they signaled  
their openness to a ground invasion,

324

00:19:57,120 --&gt; 00:19:59,160

Milosevic realized the game was up.

325

00:19:59,240 --&gt; 00:20:02,280

But Clinton's change of heart  
is in great part thanks to you.

326

00:20:03,560 --&gt; 00:20:05,560

It's one thing to have popularity.

327

00:20:06,440 --&gt; 00:20:08,400

It's quite another to have influence.

328

00:20:09,440 --&gt; 00:20:11,440

So I offer you my congratulations.

329

00:20:12,920 --&gt; 00:20:15,160

You are, at this moment, by some margin,

330

00:20:15,240 --&gt; 00:20:17,720

the most celebrated leader  
on the world stage,

331

00:20:17,800 --&gt; 00:20:19,720

with remarkable instincts.

332

00:20:20,800 --&gt; 00:20:21,800

And so,

333

00:20:23,360 --&gt; 00:20:24,600

in the light of that..

334

00:20:26,920 --&gt; 00:20:31,400

it's no secret that the Crown has not had  
the best time of it in recent years.

335

00:20:31,960 --&gt; 00:20:36,120

Often, our values and those of the country  
have not been perfectly aligned.

336

00:20:36,200 --&gt; 00:20:38,040

You, on the other hand,

337

00:20:38,960 --&gt; 00:20:42,000

since you entered Number 10,  
you've shown an uncanny ability

338

00:20:42,080 --&gt; 00:20:44,760

to read the mood of the country  
better than anyone.

339

00:20:47,720 --&gt; 00:20:50,880

And so I can't help but ask...

340

00:20:55,000 --&gt; 00:20:56,080

what would you do

341

00:20:57,800 --&gt; 00:20:59,600

to turn things around for us?

342

00:21:00,760 --&gt; 00:21:02,200

If you were in charge.

343  
00:21:05,000 --> 00:21:07,520  
If I were in charge of the monarchy?

344  
00:21:08,320 --> 00:21:10,080  
If you were in my shoes.

345  
00:21:12,360 --> 00:21:13,520  
If I were king?

346  
00:21:15,880 --> 00:21:16,760  
Yes.

347  
00:21:20,320 --> 00:21:21,160  
Goodness.

348  
00:21:23,280 --> 00:21:25,480  
For someone who so rarely  
puts a foot wrong,

349  
00:21:25,560 --> 00:21:28,200  
this seems to be  
a dangerous loss of judgment.

350  
00:21:28,280 --> 00:21:30,800  
She's asking for advice.  
She doesn't need to take it.

351  
00:21:30,880 --> 00:21:32,040  
But who is she asking?

352  
00:21:32,120 --> 00:21:34,920  
-The prime minister.  
-An avowed reformer and modernizer.

353

00:21:35,000 --> 00:21:36,320  
Her chief advisor.

354

00:21:37,440 --> 00:21:38,640  
I'm her chief advisor.

355

00:21:39,760 --> 00:21:44,360  
Actually.. constitutionally, Robert,  
I think you'll find he is.

356

00:21:47,920 --> 00:21:51,720  
Can we walk through the five big changes  
that we wanna make?

357

00:21:51,800 --> 00:21:52,800  
[man] Modernization.

358

00:21:52,880 --> 00:21:55,400  
We reduce expenditure.  
Everyone's doing it.

359

00:21:55,480 --> 00:21:58,120  
It's only fair that the Queen  
is doing it as well. Right?

360

00:21:58,200 --> 00:21:59,760  
-Some examples.  
-Listen to this.

361

00:21:59,840 --> 00:22:03,720  
Royal train, fifteen hundred pounds  
for catering per journey.

362

00:22:03,800 --> 00:22:05,920  
[woman] Time to get them  
in line with New Labour.

363

00:22:06,000 --> 00:22:10,440  
Honestly, it's an anachronistic,  
unrepresentative feudal system

364

00:22:10,520 --> 00:22:13,160  
based on a thousand years  
of hereditary privilege.

365

00:22:13,240 --> 00:22:16,200  
You'd be better off  
trying to modernize Stonehenge.

366

00:22:16,280 --> 00:22:20,280  
Let's do the monarchy first, and then  
we can get round to prehistoric monuments.

367

00:22:20,360 --> 00:22:22,280  
Aren't those two things the same?

368

00:22:22,360 --> 00:22:23,480  
[Blair chuckles softly]

369

00:22:23,560 --> 00:22:26,560  
Okay, I know it's unexciting,  
but administrative reform.

370

00:22:26,640 --> 00:22:28,800  
We run the royals  
like we run the civil service.

371

00:22:28,880 --> 00:22:31,400  
-[woman 2] Yes!  
-[man] Accountability.

372

00:22:31,480 --> 00:22:34,280  
There's nothing else that matters.  
It's just that.

373

00:22:34,360 --> 00:22:36,920  
[Cherie Blair] I mean, not being allowed  
to marry a Catholic.

374

00:22:37,000 --> 00:22:41,240  
The Human Rights Act states people have  
the right to marry whoever they want.

375

00:22:41,320 --> 00:22:42,600  
Says the Queen's counsel.

376

00:22:42,680 --> 00:22:45,360  
Well, that's wrong too.  
I should be called senior counsel.

377

00:22:45,440 --> 00:22:47,160  
[man] I think we can spin it like this.

378

00:22:47,240 --> 00:22:49,000  
It would look really good

379

00:22:49,080 --> 00:22:52,480  
if it came from the Palace that they're  
prepared to tighten the purses.

380

00:22:52,560 --> 00:22:54,680  
She knows that there has to be a change.

381

00:22:54,760 --> 00:22:57,760  
Yes, yes! The voters  
don't wanna take down the monarchy.

382

00:22:57,840 --> 00:23:00,160  
Can you put a version of that  
in the dossier?

383

00:23:01,520 --> 00:23:03,320  
[Cherie Blair] It's all wrong, Tony.

384

00:23:04,600 --> 00:23:06,080  
Seriously. Wrong.

385

00:23:08,880 --> 00:23:10,000  
Needs changing.

386

00:23:19,400 --> 00:23:23,760  
[Blair] I'd like to start by thanking you  
for giving me the opportunity to do this.

387

00:23:24,320 --> 00:23:27,880  
Most of the time, we don't think seriously  
about the monarchy in this country.

388

00:23:27,960 --> 00:23:32,200  
We just subject you all  
to a lot of hurtful and frivolous gossip.

389

00:23:33,120 --> 00:23:35,040  
Really? I hadn't noticed.

390

00:23:35,120 --> 00:23:36,120  
[chuckles softly]

391

00:23:36,640 --> 00:23:40,520  
But, uh, having consulted with  
my closest advisors,

392

00:23:40,600 --> 00:23:41,440  
uh,

393

00:23:42,080 --> 00:23:46,120  
we do all agree that the institution  
is in need of some reform.

394

00:23:47,000 --> 00:23:50,400  
That much was clear after the death  
of Diana, Princess of Wales

395

00:23:50,480 --> 00:23:52,960  
when we saw an outpouring of grief

396

00:23:53,040 --> 00:23:55,360  
turn into a mass movement for change.

397

00:23:56,760 --> 00:24:02,160  
So I thought we might start with something  
I know you're already considering.

398

00:24:02,240 --> 00:24:03,440  
Primogeniture.

399

00:24:04,520 --> 00:24:05,360  
Yes.

400

00:24:06,040 --> 00:24:08,800  
Demoting eldest daughters  
in the line of succession,

401

00:24:08,880 --> 00:24:12,600  
I think we can all agree,  
makes little sense in a modern society.

402

00:24:12,680 --> 00:24:16,200  
As an eldest daughter myself,  
I don't object to that in principle.

403

00:24:16,720 --> 00:24:20,960  
But to turn over centuries  
of royal legislation is no small task.



404

00:24:21,720 --&gt; 00:24:24,080

You'd have to consult with  
the 15 other countries

405

00:24:24,160 --&gt; 00:24:25,280

where I'm head of state.

406

00:24:27,160 --&gt; 00:24:31,000

Where the will is there, these things  
can usually change quickly. Um...

407

00:24:31,600 --&gt; 00:24:33,560

Another area is transparency.

408

00:24:34,160 --&gt; 00:24:37,280

My government will soon be introducing  
a Freedom of Information Act.

409

00:24:37,360 --&gt; 00:24:40,160

I believe the monarchy  
might benefit from something similar.

410

00:24:40,240 --&gt; 00:24:45,120

An annual report setting out performance,  
assets, salaries. Total accountability.

411

00:24:46,040 --&gt; 00:24:48,680

Think of the Crown  
as a public limited company

412

00:24:48,760 --&gt; 00:24:51,920

and the people of Britain  
as shareholders, not subjects.

413

00:24:53,000 --&gt; 00:24:53,880

I see.

414

00:24:54,520 --&gt; 00:24:55,360

[Blair] The, um...

415

00:24:56,440 --&gt; 00:25:00,120

It's now nearly 300 years since  
William III signed the Act of Settlement

416

00:25:00,200 --&gt; 00:25:02,120

to a secure a Protestant monarchy, and

417

00:25:03,400 --&gt; 00:25:06,680

there have been growing calls  
for a... a review

418

00:25:06,760 --&gt; 00:25:09,720

of some of  
the more anti-Catholic provisions,

419

00:25:09,800 --&gt; 00:25:13,320

which surely have no place  
in a plural society like ours.

420

00:25:15,120 --&gt; 00:25:20,440

I can understand permitting members  
of the royal family to marry Catholics,

421

00:25:20,960 --&gt; 00:25:23,560

but for Catholics to be  
in the direct line of succession

422

00:25:23,640 --&gt; 00:25:25,600

would open the way to a Catholic monarch.

423

00:25:26,200 --&gt; 00:25:28,360

Well, of course  
there'll be technical issues.

424

00:25:28,440 --> 00:25:30,840  
Slightly more than technical issues.

425

00:25:30,920 --> 00:25:33,680  
It would be the disestablishment  
of the Church of England.

426

00:25:35,400 --> 00:25:37,720  
We have to be willing  
to look at the big questions.

427

00:25:37,800 --> 00:25:39,920  
It's no use nibbling around the periphery.

428

00:25:40,600 --> 00:25:43,000  
Should it be the monarch's role  
to appoint the prime minister?

429

00:25:43,080 --> 00:25:46,760  
Of course. It's a government  
in the sovereign's name.

430

00:25:46,840 --> 00:25:50,920  
But to be able to dissolve Parliament,  
to give laws royal assent...

431

00:25:51,000 --> 00:25:52,320  
They don't in Sweden.

432

00:25:52,400 --> 00:25:55,840  
These functions can be carried out  
by the speaker of the House of Commons.

433

00:25:55,920 --> 00:25:58,720  
Should the monarch be  
commander-in-chief of the armed forces?

434

00:25:58,800 --> 00:26:01,000  
They aren't in Sweden, in the Netherlands,

435

00:26:01,080 --> 00:26:04,200  
which brings me to the...  
to the matter of pomp and splendor.

436

00:26:05,480 --> 00:26:08,640  
I've been looking at  
some of the ceremonial offices

437

00:26:08,720 --> 00:26:11,080  
in the royal household, and they include

438

00:26:12,280 --> 00:26:14,280  
a hereditary Grand Falconer.

439

00:26:14,360 --> 00:26:15,880  
Dear Murray. What about him?

440

00:26:17,760 --> 00:26:21,160  
Does the job  
really need to depend on birth, not merit?

441

00:26:23,920 --> 00:26:28,360  
Um, the Queen's Herb Strewer  
and the Washer of the Sovereign's Hands.

442

00:26:28,440 --> 00:26:30,720  
That is only once per reign,

443

00:26:30,800 --> 00:26:32,960  
and only when I'm in residence  
at Holyroodhouse.

444

00:26:33,800 --> 00:26:37,360

Still, a Royal Bargemaster  
and 24 watermen,

445

00:26:37,440 --> 00:26:40,760  
even though there hasn't been  
a royal barge since 1849.

446

00:26:41,400 --> 00:26:42,640  
A Warden of the Swans?

447

00:26:42,720 --> 00:26:46,760  
Someone has to oversee the swans  
in England's inland waterways,

448

00:26:46,840 --> 00:26:49,680  
over which the Crown has  
an ancient prerogative right.

449

00:26:49,760 --> 00:26:51,560  
But is that prerogative right?

450

00:26:53,040 --> 00:26:55,440  
I understand that the role  
dates from the 12th century

451

00:26:55,520 --> 00:26:58,440  
as a way to claim swans  
as delicacies for royal banquets.

452

00:26:58,520 --> 00:27:02,040  
Now that the swan has, one imagines,  
fallen out of the culinary repertoire,

453

00:27:02,120 --> 00:27:04,360  
how does one justify the role today?

454

00:27:04,440 --> 00:27:06,960

Kings and queens  
might not be eating them anymore.

455

00:27:07,040 --> 00:27:08,840  
Someone has to care for them.

456

00:27:09,440 --> 00:27:11,880  
We check them for injuries.

457

00:27:12,600 --> 00:27:14,120  
Maintain their habitat.

458

00:27:14,880 --> 00:27:18,240  
Ring them with tags  
from the British Trust for Ornithology.

459

00:27:18,320 --> 00:27:19,320  
Conservation.

460

00:27:20,520 --> 00:27:23,360  
And that's before  
we get to the most anachronistic of all.

461

00:27:23,440 --> 00:27:25,480  
Ceremonies.  
The State Opening of Parliament.

462

00:27:25,560 --> 00:27:27,000  
Do we really need ten heralds?

463

00:27:27,080 --> 00:27:32,720  
Including the Rouge Dragon Pursuivant  
and the Maltravers Herald Extraordinary?

464

00:27:33,360 --> 00:27:36,560  
The Gold Stick in Waiting.  
The Silver Stick in Waiting.

465

00:27:36,640 --> 00:27:39,120  
The Gentleman Usher of the Sword of State?

466

00:27:41,200 --> 00:27:42,880  
I think what we're suggesting is

467

00:27:44,360 --> 00:27:46,000  
a purge of honorifics,

468

00:27:46,080 --> 00:27:50,440  
a... a bonfire of sinecures  
might be a useful concession...

469

00:27:52,600 --> 00:27:53,880  
and PR victory.

470

00:27:59,200 --> 00:28:00,600  
[bell rings]

471

00:28:00,680 --> 00:28:01,680  
[door opens]

472

00:28:01,760 --> 00:28:04,320  
I obviously need to give  
all this careful thought.

473

00:28:05,120 --> 00:28:06,000  
Your Majesty.

474

00:28:10,880 --> 00:28:12,800  
[door creaks shut]

475

00:28:14,040 --> 00:28:16,400  
[Cherie Blair] So, how was it?

476

00:28:16,480 --> 00:28:18,480  
[indistinct news report on TV]

477

00:28:19,000 --> 00:28:21,200  
-A little frosty.  
-[Cherie Blair] I'll bet.

478

00:28:22,240 --> 00:28:25,200  
But she promised to give our proposals  
some further thought.

479

00:28:25,280 --> 00:28:28,880  
Oh... Well, If she doesn't,  
and the people get fed up with them,

480

00:28:28,960 --> 00:28:30,720  
she'll only have herself to blame.

481

00:28:32,480 --> 00:28:35,000  
Britain is mature enough  
as a country and a democracy

482

00:28:35,080 --> 00:28:36,880  
to live without this nonsense.

483

00:28:39,640 --> 00:28:42,120  
The preservation of the monarchy's  
her life's work.

484

00:28:42,920 --> 00:28:47,000  
She must know that they have to change  
in order to survive.

485

00:28:48,000 --> 00:28:50,520  
No, they don't want to change, Tony.

486



00:28:51,120 --> 00:28:54,400  
I mean, she probably thinks  
the only way to survive

487

00:28:54,480 --> 00:28:57,120  
is to double down on the madness.

488

00:28:58,160 --> 00:28:59,800  
Like the Catholic Church.

489

00:28:59,880 --> 00:29:03,680  
-Let's not bring the church into this.  
-Well, they modernized.

490

00:29:04,160 --> 00:29:06,600  
And the old guard  
has never forgiven them for it.

491

00:29:07,280 --> 00:29:11,680  
Why? Because they got rid of the Latin  
and the incense and the miracles

492

00:29:11,760 --> 00:29:14,360  
and the mystery,  
and people stopped coming.

493

00:29:17,200 --> 00:29:18,280  
This is different.

494

00:29:19,000 --> 00:29:19,840  
Is it?

495

00:29:24,520 --> 00:29:26,680  
-[bells tolling in distance]  
-[man huffing]

496

00:29:28,160 --> 00:29:30,160

[panting]

497

00:29:34,200 --> 00:29:35,800  
Mr. Hawkins next, please.

498

00:29:35,880 --> 00:29:36,840  
Yes.

499

00:29:38,440 --> 00:29:39,600  
[Hawkins clears throat]

500

00:29:40,680 --> 00:29:42,760  
[Elizabeth] Please,  
make yourself comfortable.

501

00:29:44,960 --> 00:29:45,800  
Swans?

502

00:29:45,880 --> 00:29:48,160  
That's it. I'm the Warden of the Swans.

503

00:29:49,400 --> 00:29:52,800  
It says here your role is  
one of the oldest in the household.

504

00:29:52,880 --> 00:29:54,120  
That's right, sir.

505

00:29:54,200 --> 00:29:56,880  
We've gone through several incarnations  
over the years.

506

00:29:57,400 --> 00:29:59,080  
The Keeper of the King's Swans,

507

00:29:59,160 --> 00:30:02,480

the King's Swan Master,  
and now the Warden of the Swans.

508

00:30:03,920 --> 00:30:05,920  
[somber music playing]

509

00:30:07,880 --> 00:30:10,160  
[Fellowes] And what is your precise title?

510

00:30:10,240 --> 00:30:12,520  
I am the Queen's Herb Strewer.

511

00:30:12,600 --> 00:30:14,760  
The Queen's Guide to the Sands.

512

00:30:14,840 --> 00:30:17,200  
Yeoman of the Glass and China Pantry.

513

00:30:18,480 --> 00:30:21,760  
Could you tell us what your role involves  
day by day?

514

00:30:22,400 --> 00:30:26,960  
[yeoman] It's my job to supervise  
the glassware and earthenware

515

00:30:27,040 --> 00:30:29,280  
across all the royal palaces.

516

00:30:29,360 --> 00:30:31,480  
I oversee stocks.

517

00:30:31,560 --> 00:30:35,360  
I guard against any damage and breakages.

518

00:30:35,440 --> 00:30:37,160

[Elizabeth] What have you got there?

519

00:30:37,840 --> 00:30:40,640  
Laws, Orders and Customs for Swans.

520

00:30:41,640 --> 00:30:45,320  
The authoritative text  
for the Keeper of the King's Swans.

521

00:30:46,480 --> 00:30:50,320  
It's been guiding us for centuries.  
Since 1482, by my reckoning,

522

00:30:50,400 --> 00:30:51,840  
and the reign of Edward IV.

523

00:30:51,920 --> 00:30:54,440  
[guide] Seen the bay change  
in all manner of ways.

524

00:30:54,520 --> 00:30:59,080  
Years of high tides and heavy rainfall  
will change sands beyond recognition.

525

00:30:59,600 --> 00:31:03,480  
Believe me, I've seen shallow gullies  
turn into deep ravines.

526

00:31:04,120 --> 00:31:05,720  
[Elizabeth] What is your official title?

527

00:31:05,800 --> 00:31:06,920  
Astronomer Royal.

528

00:31:07,000 --> 00:31:08,400  
Piper to the Sovereign.

529

00:31:08,480 --> 00:31:10,320  
Lord High Admiral of the Wash, ma'am.

530

00:31:10,400 --> 00:31:13,400  
[yeoman] And my responsibilities  
also include

531

00:31:13,480 --> 00:31:19,480  
folding all 170  
of the embroidered white linen napkins.

532

00:31:19,560 --> 00:31:21,120  
-[Elizabeth] Oh, that's you!  
-Yes, ma'am.

533

00:31:21,200 --> 00:31:24,200  
[Elizabeth] You are clever.  
How on earth do you do that?

534

00:31:24,280 --> 00:31:28,640  
Few have truly mastered  
the Dutch bonnet napkin fold.

535

00:31:29,920 --> 00:31:31,040  
[Elizabeth] "The swan

536

00:31:31,720 --> 00:31:35,840  
is a pure and graceful beast."

537

00:31:37,280 --> 00:31:39,960  
How is your 15th century calligraphy,  
Robert?

538

00:31:40,640 --> 00:31:42,440  
A little rusty. Let's see..

539

00:31:45,760 --> 00:31:48,600  
"Her feathers are white as snow

540

00:31:49,800 --> 00:31:51,880  
and as brief in duration."

541

00:31:53,720 --> 00:31:59,240  
"For she signifieth  
the passing nature of fair things."

542

00:32:00,800 --> 00:32:05,320  
"For though we wish our splendor  
to be everlasting,

543

00:32:06,120 --> 00:32:10,920  
no thing must remain of what is passed."

544

00:32:15,520 --> 00:32:17,320  
[somber music fades out]

545

00:32:17,400 --> 00:32:20,320  
The longer it went on,  
the heavier my heart became.

546

00:32:20,840 --> 00:32:21,840  
I agree.

547

00:32:22,760 --> 00:32:25,320  
A sense of pride in the tradition.

548

00:32:28,320 --> 00:32:29,600  
I think my favorite

549

00:32:31,000 --> 00:32:32,760  
was the Yeoman Bed Hanger.

550

00:32:32,840 --> 00:32:34,040  
[Fellowes chuckles] Yes.

551

00:32:34,600 --> 00:32:36,800  
Or the Lord High Admiral of the Wash.

552

00:32:45,160 --> 00:32:48,360  
[Queen Mother] So they don't want  
Black Rod knocking on the door

553

00:32:48,440 --> 00:32:51,200  
or the Lord Great Chamberlain  
walking backwards?

554

00:32:51,280 --> 00:32:55,080  
They've also suggested  
getting rid of the cap of maintenance,

555

00:32:55,160 --> 00:32:58,840  
presumably on the grounds that it can  
only be worn by a peer of the realm.

556

00:32:58,920 --> 00:33:02,000  
[Queen Mother] But it's so full  
of color and character

557

00:33:02,080 --> 00:33:05,240  
and a glorious sea of vermilion.

558

00:33:05,320 --> 00:33:07,800  
[Charles] Well, I think,  
from a PR standpoint,

559

00:33:07,880 --> 00:33:10,280  
it might be sensible  
to make one or two concessions.

560

00:33:10,360 --> 00:33:11,200  
Really?

561

00:33:11,280 --> 00:33:14,480  
Leave us less open  
to charges of elitism and grandiosity.

562

00:33:14,560 --> 00:33:16,200  
But that's missing the point.

563

00:33:17,000 --> 00:33:20,800  
The whole purpose of the State Opening  
is to humble the monarch.

564

00:33:22,240 --> 00:33:24,280  
The Crown's representative, Black Rod,

565

00:33:24,360 --> 00:33:28,440  
knocks on the door of the House of Commons  
and is rebuffed three times.

566

00:33:28,520 --> 00:33:29,520  
Why?

567

00:33:30,400 --> 00:33:32,440  
Because the last time a king

568

00:33:33,520 --> 00:33:36,280  
overstepped the mark  
and entered the Commons,

569

00:33:36,840 --> 00:33:37,800  
Charles I,

570

00:33:38,440 --> 00:33:41,400  
it led to civil war and his execution.



571

00:33:43,080 --> 00:33:45,440  
Parliament is warning the monarch.

572

00:33:46,280 --> 00:33:47,360  
"Never forget,

573

00:33:48,360 --> 00:33:49,520  
we are in charge."

574

00:33:50,080 --> 00:33:54,000  
She still arrives in the Irish state coach  
with an escort of household cavalry

575

00:33:54,080 --> 00:33:56,720  
and hundreds of guardsmen  
lining the route.

576

00:33:56,800 --> 00:34:00,080  
It doesn't immediately feel like  
a lesson in humility.

577

00:34:00,160 --> 00:34:03,320  
Are we really being lectured on humility  
by the Prince of Wales?

578

00:34:03,400 --> 00:34:04,240  
[Anne] We are.

579

00:34:04,320 --> 00:34:08,160  
I just don't feel there's anything wrong  
with running the monarchy on more

580

00:34:08,240 --> 00:34:10,440  
rational and democratic lines.

581

00:34:12,000 --> 00:34:13,920

But monarchy isn't rational.

582

00:34:14,000 --> 00:34:16,720  
Or democratic or logical or fair.

583

00:34:18,280 --> 00:34:20,360  
Haven't we all learned that by now?

584

00:34:22,560 --> 00:34:26,280  
People don't want to come to a palace  
and get what they could have at home.

585

00:34:27,600 --> 00:34:31,320  
When they come for an investiture  
or a state visit,

586

00:34:31,400 --> 00:34:35,040  
when they brush up against us,  
they want the magic and the mystery.

587

00:34:35,560 --> 00:34:38,320  
And the arcane and the eccentric  
and the symbolic.

588

00:34:38,400 --> 00:34:39,360  
And

589

00:34:40,560 --> 00:34:41,840  
the transcendent.

590

00:34:43,800 --> 00:34:46,440  
They want to feel like  
they've entered another world.

591

00:34:46,520 --> 00:34:48,080  
That is our duty.

592

00:34:49,520 --> 00:34:52,560  
To lift people up  
and transport them into another realm,

593

00:34:52,640 --> 00:34:56,240  
not bring them down to earth  
and remind them of what they already have.

594

00:34:58,600 --> 00:34:59,440  
Hear, hear.

595

00:34:59,960 --> 00:35:02,680  
[newswoman] The world has been gripped  
as the race for the White House

596

00:35:02,760 --> 00:35:07,080  
has boiled down to a recount  
in the battleground state of Florida.

597

00:35:07,160 --> 00:35:09,520  
Many in the Labour Party  
had hoped for a victory

598

00:35:09,600 --> 00:35:11,840  
for Vice President Al Gore.

599

00:35:11,920 --> 00:35:15,280  
But, in a dramatic late-night ruling,

600

00:35:15,360 --> 00:35:19,320  
the US Supreme Court voted 5-4  
to stop the recount,

601

00:35:19,400 --> 00:35:24,240  
effectively handing the presidency  
to Texas governor George W. Bush.

602

00:35:24,320 --> 00:35:28,680  
Blair's closest international ally will be  
a man he has never spoken to or met.

603

00:35:28,760 --> 00:35:30,800  
[Blair] It couldn't have been  
more awkward.

604

00:35:30,880 --> 00:35:33,480  
The Clintons were making  
their farewell visit to the UK

605

00:35:33,560 --> 00:35:37,400  
and staying with us at Chequers  
while the... the ruling was being made.

606

00:35:37,480 --> 00:35:42,000  
So... there we all were,  
watching CNN in the middle of the night

607

00:35:42,080 --> 00:35:43,840  
as the election is being decided...

608

00:35:43,920 --> 00:35:44,880  
Oh dear.

609

00:35:44,960 --> 00:35:47,320  
The following day,  
President Clinton had to deliver a speech

610

00:35:47,400 --> 00:35:50,480  
at the University of Warwick  
with me giving the opening remarks.

611

00:35:50,560 --> 00:35:52,120  
Well, I had no choice

612

00:35:52,200 --> 00:35:55,440  
but to offer warm congratulations  
to President-Elect Bush

613

00:35:55,520 --> 00:35:57,560  
in front of my good friend.

614

00:35:58,640 --> 00:36:02,520  
Will it be challenging for you?  
To have a Republican White House?

615

00:36:03,240 --> 00:36:05,440  
I see no reason not to be optimistic.

616

00:36:07,560 --> 00:36:09,960  
Let's not forget,  
I'll be the senior partner now,

617

00:36:10,040 --> 00:36:12,920  
so I hope to be able  
to influence President Bush.

618

00:36:15,160 --> 00:36:16,120  
[Elizabeth] Mm.

619

00:36:20,640 --> 00:36:21,760  
Your Majesty.

620

00:36:21,840 --> 00:36:22,840  
Prime Minister.

621

00:36:27,600 --> 00:36:29,080  
[Blair clicks tongue] Uh...

622

00:36:30,040 --> 00:36:33,000  
My office sent suggestions

ahead of the State Opening of Parliament.

623

00:36:33,080 --> 00:36:34,960  
I wondered if you had a chance  
to look at them?

624

00:36:35,720 --> 00:36:39,000  
Rather more than that.  
I discussed them with my family.

625

00:36:40,440 --> 00:36:43,040  
Believe it or not, for my first child,

626

00:36:43,120 --> 00:36:45,640  
it was still custom  
to summon the home secretary

627

00:36:45,720 --> 00:36:47,640  
to witness a royal birth.

628

00:36:49,400 --> 00:36:52,920  
My father put a stop to it,  
with my consent,

629

00:36:53,000 --> 00:36:55,040  
so I'm not against reform.

630

00:36:55,120 --> 00:36:58,280  
The question is, what is worth preserving  
and where to draw the line.

631

00:36:58,360 --> 00:36:59,480  
Thank you.

632

00:36:59,560 --> 00:37:03,280  
We have now conducted a thorough review  
of all the offices in my household,

633

00:37:03,360 --> 00:37:06,600  
and what we discovered  
was not indefensible extravagance

634

00:37:06,680 --> 00:37:10,600  
or luxury or a collection  
of empty Ruritanian titles,

635

00:37:10,680 --> 00:37:14,360  
but an extraordinary array  
of precious expertise,

636

00:37:14,440 --> 00:37:17,640  
skills that had been passed down  
for generations,

637

00:37:17,720 --> 00:37:19,680  
all from within the same families.

638

00:37:19,760 --> 00:37:23,600  
And the vehicle for that continuity  
is the Crown.

639

00:37:24,680 --> 00:37:26,240  
The spell that we cast,

640

00:37:26,320 --> 00:37:29,360  
and have cast for centuries,  
is our immutability.

641

00:37:30,280 --> 00:37:32,480  
Tradition is our strength.

642

00:37:33,200 --> 00:37:35,280  
Respect for our forebears

643

00:37:35,920 --> 00:37:40,840  
and the preservation of generations  
of their wisdom and learned experience.

644

00:37:42,480 --> 00:37:44,920  
Modernity is not always the answer.

645

00:37:46,080 --> 00:37:48,360  
Sometimes antiquity is too.

646

00:37:55,120 --> 00:37:57,640  
Very good. Very good.  
Are you ready? Are you ready?

647

00:37:57,720 --> 00:37:59,480  
-[toy squeaking]  
-All right, there.

648

00:37:59,560 --> 00:38:01,080  
-[knock at door]  
-[door opens]

649

00:38:02,760 --> 00:38:03,920  
Am I disturbing, ma'am?

650

00:38:04,000 --> 00:38:06,880  
Oh, Robert. No, not at all.

651

00:38:08,920 --> 00:38:11,080  
I just wanted to express my relief, ma'am.

652

00:38:12,240 --> 00:38:14,160  
That I came to my senses?

653

00:38:15,000 --> 00:38:18,560  
For a moment, we risked compromising



the very things that make us distinctive.

654

00:38:20,240 --> 00:38:21,120

Please.

655

00:38:23,680 --> 00:38:25,920

Which leads me to think...

656

00:38:28,640 --> 00:38:31,760

that it might be best  
if I personally were to move on.

657

00:38:32,920 --> 00:38:33,920

Robert.

658

00:38:34,000 --> 00:38:35,360

It's true, ma'am.

659

00:38:36,000 --> 00:38:39,840

At crucial moments, the Palace  
has failed to read the public mood.

660

00:38:40,360 --> 00:38:43,200

And much of the blame rests with me.

661

00:38:43,280 --> 00:38:45,600

-Surely not.

-It's a question of temperament.

662

00:38:46,200 --> 00:38:47,600

Knowing when to be flexible.

663

00:38:48,760 --> 00:38:52,800

My problem is, I'm an old stick.  
I'd rather not change anything at all.

664

00:38:53,800 --> 00:38:55,680  
I tend to see things as binary.

665

00:38:56,640 --> 00:38:59,080  
Either you keep things as they are

666

00:39:00,160 --> 00:39:02,320  
or it's closing time  
in the gardens of the West.

667

00:39:03,840 --> 00:39:08,120  
But you can make alterations  
without tearing down the building.

668

00:39:08,680 --> 00:39:12,760  
My deputy, Robin Janvrin,  
is far better placed to do that.

669

00:39:12,840 --> 00:39:14,760  
He's much more attuned.

670

00:39:15,360 --> 00:39:17,360  
And deserving of a step up.

671

00:39:17,440 --> 00:39:20,280  
Of course Robin will make  
an excellent private secretary,

672

00:39:20,360 --> 00:39:22,000  
but he's still a young man.

673

00:39:23,200 --> 00:39:25,800  
Is there nothing I can do  
to persuade you to stay?

674

00:39:27,280 --> 00:39:29,440  
Sometimes it's helpful to offer a scalp.

675

00:39:31,200 --> 00:39:34,800  
This way... everyone benefits.

676

00:39:34,880 --> 00:39:36,720  
The public gets sent a signal.

677

00:39:37,560 --> 00:39:40,360  
You get better advice  
than I could ever possibly give.

678

00:39:42,200 --> 00:39:44,160  
I get to play more cricket. [exhales]

679

00:39:44,240 --> 00:39:46,560  
[somber music playing]

680

00:39:46,640 --> 00:39:49,120  
I don't know how I'll manage.  
I shall be utterly lost.

681

00:39:49,720 --> 00:39:52,120  
No, ma'am, you won't. You'll be just fine.

682

00:39:52,920 --> 00:39:55,960  
You've navigated this latest matter  
perfectly without my help.

683

00:40:07,320 --> 00:40:09,320  
Every minute has been an honor, ma'am.

684

00:40:27,880 --> 00:40:28,880  
[door shuts]

685

00:40:30,200 --> 00:40:32,600  
And finally, ma'am,

your visit to Brighton and Hove

686

00:40:32,680 --> 00:40:35,360  
as one of the government's  
designated Millennium Cities.

687

00:40:35,440 --> 00:40:36,320  
Yes.

688

00:40:36,840 --> 00:40:38,720  
I have drafted a program of engagements

689

00:40:38,800 --> 00:40:43,760  
that I hope preserves the traditional  
but adds a somewhat modern sensibility.

690

00:40:45,240 --> 00:40:47,760  
On the one hand, lunch at the Pavilion,

691

00:40:47,840 --> 00:40:51,400  
in tribute to your  
great-great-great-great uncle George IV.

692

00:40:52,000 --> 00:40:54,680  
On the other,  
a visit to the Sussex Innovation Center

693

00:40:54,760 --> 00:40:58,920  
to see a demonstration  
of an insectoid robot called Maggie.

694

00:40:59,000 --> 00:41:00,000  
Right.

695

00:41:04,920 --> 00:41:07,720  
One last thing  
you might be interested to know.

696

00:41:08,720 --> 00:41:09,840  
The prime minister..

697

00:41:10,920 --> 00:41:11,760  
Yes?

698

00:41:12,280 --> 00:41:15,680  
..uh, has chosen to address  
the Women's Institute,

699

00:41:17,280 --> 00:41:21,560  
as part of his mission  
to consolidate support in Middle England.

700

00:41:21,640 --> 00:41:22,640  
Really?

701

00:41:23,320 --> 00:41:25,640  
I wouldn't have said  
they were his sort of crowd.

702

00:41:26,520 --> 00:41:30,760  
But his unerring judgment is what one  
has always had to admire him for.

703

00:41:31,720 --> 00:41:35,400  
And his ability  
to win over seemingly.. anyone.

704

00:41:36,240 --> 00:41:39,160  
I'm sure this will be no exception.

705

00:41:39,800 --> 00:41:41,800  
[gentle piano tune playing]

706

00:41:43,160 --> 00:41:44,400  
[exhales slowly]

707

00:41:45,480 --> 00:41:48,680  
[women singing] ♪ And did those feet ♪

708

00:41:48,760 --> 00:41:51,880  
♪ In ancient times ♪

709

00:41:52,720 --> 00:41:58,040  
♪ Walk upon England's mountains green? ♪

710

00:41:58,120 --> 00:42:03,640  
♪ And was the holy Lamb of God ♪

711

00:42:04,200 --> 00:42:09,640  
♪ On England's pleasant pastures seen? ♪

712

00:42:10,160 --> 00:42:13,440  
-♪ And did the countenance... ♪  
-[Blair] A modern voice for women.

713

00:42:13,520 --> 00:42:16,360  
It is a clear and admirable  
statement of ideals.

714

00:42:17,880 --> 00:42:22,360  
But what does it mean  
to be modern in a new Britain,

715

00:42:22,960 --> 00:42:25,440  
driven by change and innovation?

716

00:42:26,200 --> 00:42:29,080  
Make no mistake, there are  
many traditions we can be proud of,

717

00:42:29,160 --> 00:42:32,840  
but we must never cling to tradition  
for its own sake.

718

00:42:34,120 --> 00:42:36,040  
In the 21st century,

719

00:42:36,120 --> 00:42:38,280  
we must ask ourselves

720

00:42:38,360 --> 00:42:40,800  
what kind of values we want to promote.

721

00:42:41,920 --> 00:42:46,120  
We must take what's best from the past  
but never be in thrall to it.

722

00:42:47,040 --> 00:42:52,080  
Old-fashioned practices  
can sometimes hold progress back.

723

00:42:53,200 --> 00:42:55,320  
I believe, and the Labour Party believes,

724

00:42:55,840 --> 00:43:00,640  
that a new, updated concept  
of community is needed

725

00:43:01,160 --> 00:43:04,680  
to keep up with the fast pace of change  
in the modern world.

726

00:43:05,200 --> 00:43:07,560  
I was elected leader of the Labour Party

727

00:43:07,640 --> 00:43:10,720

because I understood  
that we had a radical mission

728

00:43:10,800 --> 00:43:13,760  
to change not just  
the politics of this country

729

00:43:14,280 --> 00:43:16,480  
but the constitution of this country.

730

00:43:17,000 --> 00:43:18,640  
The soul of this country.

731

00:43:18,720 --> 00:43:19,760  
[light murmuring]

732

00:43:19,840 --> 00:43:23,080  
"Radical" is not a word  
to be frightened of.

733

00:43:23,680 --> 00:43:25,560  
It is a word to embrace.

734

00:43:25,640 --> 00:43:26,600  
[light murmuring]

735

00:43:26,680 --> 00:43:31,920  
Because I fear that if we are not radical,  
we will not succeed in our mission.

736

00:43:32,840 --> 00:43:35,360  
Look at what we've done  
in the House of Lords, taking...

737

00:43:35,440 --> 00:43:36,360  
[loud clap]



738

00:43:37,680 --> 00:43:40,760  
...taking drastic action  
against hereditary privilege.

739

00:43:42,320 --> 00:43:44,440  
-Thank you very much.  
-[clapping in unison]

740

00:43:45,360 --> 00:43:47,360  
Look, the world is changing fast.

741

00:43:47,440 --> 00:43:50,760  
-[clapping in unison]  
-Oh, okay, right. [chuckles softly]

742

00:43:51,480 --> 00:43:53,240  
And change is tough. We know that.

743

00:43:53,320 --> 00:43:55,320  
[clapping continues]

744

00:43:58,240 --> 00:44:02,560  
It's no wonder people feel worried  
and wish to hold tight to the old ways,

745

00:44:02,640 --> 00:44:04,400  
[newsman] A run-in  
with the Women's Institute

746

00:44:04,480 --> 00:44:06,600  
was surely not what  
the prime minister had in mind

747

00:44:06,680 --> 00:44:08,800  
as he made his return  
to the political fray.

748

00:44:08,880 --&gt; 00:44:12,360

The chairwoman of the WI says  
that she had urged Mr. Blair

749

00:44:12,440 --&gt; 00:44:14,240

not to make his speech party political.

750

00:44:14,320 --&gt; 00:44:18,320

...take on the forces  
that prevent vital change, the very--

751

00:44:18,400 --&gt; 00:44:21,040

[woman] Let the prime minister speak!

752

00:44:21,120 --&gt; 00:44:22,200

[women] No!

753

00:44:22,280 --&gt; 00:44:25,480

-[clapping intensifies]  
-I'm glad we're having a good debate.

754

00:44:25,560 --&gt; 00:44:27,240

[scattered jeering]

755

00:44:35,080 --&gt; 00:44:38,000

[Elizabeth] He can charm America,  
indeed, the whole world,

756

00:44:38,600 --&gt; 00:44:40,880

but comes up short  
with the Women's Institute.

757

00:44:41,400 --&gt; 00:44:44,960

I'm getting stick for it from my aides,  
who all advised against doing it.

758

00:44:45,920 --> 00:44:47,800  
You were political with the WI,

759

00:44:47,880 --> 00:44:50,040  
the one thing  
we pride ourselves on never being.

760

00:44:50,120 --> 00:44:52,200  
Well, as far as criticisms go,

761

00:44:52,280 --> 00:44:55,080  
being too political is  
one I think I can live with.

762

00:44:55,160 --> 00:44:57,800  
It would be like someone  
describing you as being too royal.

763

00:44:59,280 --> 00:45:02,600  
I think I've come to realize  
there's no such thing as too royal.

764

00:45:04,560 --> 00:45:06,640  
If you're doing it, do it properly.

765

00:45:07,960 --> 00:45:09,440  
And unapologetically.

766

00:45:13,520 --> 00:45:14,520  
I understand.

767

00:45:17,680 --> 00:45:18,520  
So...

768

00:45:20,320 --> 00:45:21,160  
So...

769

00:45:21,240 --> 00:45:23,480  
[somber music rises slowly]

770

00:45:23,560 --> 00:45:24,800  
I'm sure you're aware,

771

00:45:24,880 --> 00:45:30,480  
the EU has just published a draft  
of its new Charter for Fundamental Rights

772

00:45:30,560 --> 00:45:33,120  
ahead of the forthcoming summit  
in Portugal.

773

00:45:33,760 --> 00:45:37,760  
[voice fading] Our hope is that it will  
reflect the original remit of the EU,

774

00:45:37,840 --> 00:45:41,760  
merely to summarize existing rights.  
However, if it...

775

00:45:41,840 --> 00:45:43,840  
[somber music fades]

776

00:45:45,480 --> 00:45:48,480  
[choral version  
of "Things Can Only Get Better" playing]

777

00:46:51,200 --> 00:46:53,000  
[music fades out]

# THE CROWN



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