

Chapter 65 : “2000/10 – The Party Princess”

Until her 18th birthday, Madeleine mostly attended private parties, although she occasionally appeared with friends at NK's café, Soap Bar at the Royal Dramatic Theatre, restaurant Riche and basement Diana. She often ordered dishes outside the regular menu and expected special treatment from her surroundings. Stockholm restaurateur and boutique owners thought she had potential: She smoked eagerly, had sunglasses from Gucci, pants from Filippa K, was cute enough to nibble at. Last class before graduation, she was often at Köket and newly started Laroy. The first long article about Madeleine's party and clothing habits was published in Svensk Damtidning in the autumn of 2000 (here in abbreviated form):

Madeleine has already become a regular at several of the capital's hottest nightclubs. One of the favourite clubs is the popular “Köket”, right on Stureplan. Madeleine likes to have a drink, but is moderate with the alcohol, and loves to dance just like her friends. - She's really energetic on the dance floor, tells a guy who has actually taken a spin with her.

However, despite the fact that Madeleine is a princess and a famous face, few people recognize her in the pub. Madeleine always dresses discreetly. Preferably in jeans, some nice top and a simple jacket. The only thing that might reveal the princess is the elegant Gucci bag she usually has on her shoulder. Her favourite brand!¹

Then one article after another was written about Madeleine as the Party Princess – a poster girl for nightclubs and boutiques. Madeleine and friends boogied until dawn wearing their party uniforms - endlessly fascinating reading for those who had a taste for such things:

A Friday evening in early May [2001]. Stureplan in central Stockholm is full of people. The queues outside the hot spots are growing fast. Outside Restaurant Köket stands the doorman Tobbe. At half past twelve Princess Madeleine and best friends Natalie Rosta, 18, and Louise “Lussan” Gottlieb, 19, appear. The trio wear almost identical tight tops from Kookai, shoes from Don & Donna and jeans from Gucci. They are let in at once - like her siblings, Madeleine is on the list of special guests. Inside “Köket”, the menu is alcohol only: Vodka and whiskey bottles, soft drinks and ice for the squeamish. Champagne in ice buckets for the girls. The large windows towards Stureplan fog in the heat and smoke. The Music drowns the conversations. - Madeleine does not order drinks or wine herself. If she ever stands at the bar, it is always her friends who order and pay. I don't think she has any money with her at all, says a waitress.

Princess Madeleine, or “Len” as her friends call her, knows almost everyone at “Köket”. There are cheek kisses to the right and to the left. After a while, Princess Madeleine and her friends get out on the dance floor. She stays in the middle, doesn't want to be seen too much. Unlike her older sister, Madeleine has no bodyguards with her. The place closes at 3:00 a.m., but the party is far from over. Somebody from the staff open a back door from “Köket” to Sturecompagniet nearby and the princess and her entourage continue until 5 o'clock. Madeleine stays sober or close to, says an employee. When the evening is over, the princess calls for one of the chauffeurs at the

¹ Daniel Nyhlén, Catarina Hurtig & Helena Lindstam. Madeleine är Stockholms nya partyprinsessa. Svensk Damtidning, 2000:41.

court. He drives to Stureplan and picks her up for a return trip to Drottningholm. It is a regular Saturday morning in the life of the Party Princess.²

On March 13, 2002, Aftonbladet's Dan Panas published two articles "Here is the princess's own kingdom" & "Sweden's only party princess" which were much talked about because they allegedly depicted Madeleine's burgeoning alcohol abuse. That rumour is exaggerated, but the articles had unexpected consequences.

Bars & nightclubs

The Princess's home ground. After a pre-drink at a friend's house, the evening usually continues on for example Brasserie Godot, Grev Turegatan 36. Godot is Stockholm's most talked about bar right now, widely famous for its well-composed drinks and relaxed mingle. Here, Madeleine has sipped drinks like "Sex on the beach", "Raspberry collins" and "Godot crushed". But the night is still young and a real party princess will soon move on. The choice is between Sophies, Biblioteksgatan 5 and Laroy, Birger Jarlsgatan 20. Both places are as close to member clubs as you can get, if you are not on the doorkeepers list you will not enter.

The Fridays are Sophie's feast day, inside among kitsch wallpaper and stuffed animal heads Ulf Fredrick von Roth holds court. The music is a mix of eurohouse, trancehits and arabparty. In the sofas, the chosen ones dance with burning sparklers in one hand and sloshing champagne glasses in the other.

On Laroy, for a few years now, Kristoffer Ahlbom has been in charge of the weekend. The clientele is a mix of celebrities, beauty and money. The queue outside never grows very large, either you come in right away or there is no point in staying. The atmosphere is party and dance - thus a given princess choice. Oriental lounge music makes sure that everybody gets in the mood, and at 00.30 the party gets underway. Broker trays (one full bottle of spirits and two champagne bottles) fill the tables and Stockholm's most beautiful get ready to start sweating. In this hedonistic inferno, our princess feels at ease. She dances like few, does not say no to a drink, or a race of shots, but never sits in at any of the famous drinking tables. In reality she goes easy on the liquor, surfing through the evenings on enthusiasm alone.³

Journalist Annette Kullenberg with her own alcohol problems wrote a cautionary chronicle the week after, in which she alternately pitied Madeleine as a budding alcoholic, alternately congratulated Panas for not crawling at the feet of the court like all the other royal asslickers but dared to describe Madeleine as she was.⁴ Chief Editor Anders Gerdin edited out some of the juicier parts. Then all hell broke loose. Kullenberg considered herself censored and the whole thing ended up in court. She received severance pay. Afterwards, she was asked:

* Didn't you ever think that the paper could have been convicted of defamation if your original text had been published?

- Annette Kullenberg shakes her head. No, really not. This is not slander, she says. The princess is a public figure. In addition, she based her column on an article about the

² Elisabeth Lindham. Partyprinsessa - eller en vanlig tjej? Aftonbladet, 2001-06-01.

³ Dan Panas. Här är prinsessans eget kungarike. Aftonbladet, 2002-03-13.

⁴ Annette Kullenberg. Madeleine! Det är dags att sluta festa! Aftonbladet, 2002-03-19.

princess's pub habits that had already been published. She says that this original article was well founded.⁵

The same year, she wrote a book "Censorship" about the course of events without her motives for hurling herself at the sword on this particular issue cleared. On 23 March 2002, she opened her heart to Gert Fylking on the radio program Rix Morronzoo, but no copy exists.

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The media coverage of Madeleine's presence at restaurants, cafés, bars, nightclubs and her shopping sprees appear to have been organized in collaboration with the owners:

Madeleine is Stureplan's best poster girl by far. The owners usually tell the press when she is there. However, she is not used directly in advertising because then she would stop coming. None of the royal children are invited directly but via their network. You invite Madeleine's friends, and then she comes too. Those in charge at the nightclub usually get a few hours notice and reserve a table. "The king's children always want a corner table so that they have their back free from two sides. In addition, you always make sure they end up next to a fun party", says a nightclub manager. Säpo calls 15 minutes in advance. If Madeleine suspects photographers at the scene, she often cancels.⁶

Princess Madeleine and Prince Carl Philip are good for about SEK 20 million each. One of their main interests is fashion and the siblings regularly visit Stockholm's most exclusive clothing stores. Aftonbladet can today reveal that the royal children have on several occasions received expensive brand garments from the shops - without paying. These are shirts, shoes, jeans and sweaters, worth thousands of kronor. In several shops you rejoice when Madeleine and Carl Philip have visited. - It's no secret that the royal children are super good marketing for us. They are always photographed. Madeleine in particular has become a trend setter for young girls, says a shop employee.

Madeleine's boyfriend Jonas Bergström and Carl Philip's girlfriend Emma Pernald have also been sponsored with clothes when they have visited the stores with their partners. - The whole gang always wears the latest fashion, even the most cool belts and cell phones. Madeleine likes to pay, but then the staff insists that it is absolutely not possible, so she has received a lot free, says one of the friends of the royal children.⁷

Because of the financial interest in keeping Madeleine's reputation as a party princess and shopaholic alive, it took a long time for the writing to wane. Madeleine's awkwardness with the media contributed to this. Instead of giving proper interviews about her future plans and what she was doing, she kept a low profile and let the journalists go on a rampage. Due to the lack of facts, the press coverage this time veered into fiction. The party animal Madeleine was contrasted with her stodgy older sister Victoria. Eventually, it penetrated that she was actually doing something besides downing her shots - but that took several years. Afterwards,

⁵ Karin Thunberg. "Alkoholism vet jag mycket om." Svenska Dagbladet, 2004-04-18. [Intervju med Annette Kullenberg.]

⁶ Stefan Lundell (red). Stureplan - det vackra folket och de dolda makthavarna. 2006.

⁷ David Nyhlén. De shoppar vilt - gratis. Aftonbladet, 2004-10-13.

she joked about it. She had never been a real party princess - just went out from time to time - and now it was too late: "I'm studying now and I don't have the time. A [real] party princess devotes Thursday to Sunday to partying."⁸ - Even afterwards it has been alleged that Madeleine, in her role as Party Princess, was a leading fashion icon for the "Stureplan people" but that seems improbable and news even to herself. She was anxious to blend in with the crowd. However, she is generally credited with the Canada Goose jacket being so popular.

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In the spring of 2002, Madeleine and Gottlieb attended an introductory course in law at Folkuniversitet one evening a week. Madeleine also took a computer course at the castle three mornings a week. In addition, there was riding, training, exercise and socializing - in moderation though because the law course was 10 points (=half term). Her future plans were so vague that her parents hired her schoolmaster Baroness Anna-Lena Ramel as a mentor. Ramel is said to also have helped CP but I have not been able to verify that. Ramel & Madeleine discussed a suitable study plan. In the autumn, Madeleine interned at a number of companies: The advertising agency Lowe Brindfors, Moderna museet, Husgerådskammaren, the newspaper Sköna Hem, the fashion company Filippa K and the architectural firm Sandell & Sandberg.

Before, Madeleine had participated in the representation as part of the family. From 2002 she received her own assignments. She became the patron of Europa Nostra in Sweden, an organization for the European cultural heritage, and of the My Big Day Foundation, a help for seriously ill children to realize their pipe dreams. This went well. But not the interviews. These required a gradual approach. During an interview with SVT in Gävle 2002 - her first own royal assignment, she was there as Duchess of Hälsingland and Gästrikland - she started crying and the interview had to be interrupted.⁹, Madeleine blamed her shyness and was envious of Victoria. She also conducted newspaper interviews. The information department contacted the local newspaper Ljusnan in the home county. Madeleine demanded that all questions be asked in advance, that the text be approved by her and that no questions be asked about her private life. The interview was published in the summer appendix of 2003. It turned out she admired her mother. A later interview in connection with her 25th anniversary was just as meaningless.

In January 2003, she enrolled at Stockholm University where on January 23, 2006, she was awarded a BA in Arts (60 points), Ethnology (40 points), Modern History (10 points) and the introductory course in Law (10 points). The B-essay in art history was about Princess Eugenie's summer home Fridhem. The C-essay in art history was about Crown Princess Victoria's summer home Solliden. The B-essay in ethnology was about Jenny Nyström and the Swedish Santa Claus. The grades were good and the essays were competent if somewhat uninteresting. All three essays contained a reasoning that people were products of their time and environment - their social position - and that their efforts must be assessed accordingly: Being a woman and a royal was like dragging shackles.

Although Madeleine spent several years at Stockholm University, there is only one eyewitness account from there. One person had seen her attend a lecture in art history: Madeleine arrived

⁸ Peter Jihde. Ung & kunglig. SVT1, 2005-02-03.

⁹ Johan T Lindwall. Madeleine – Prinsessan privat. 2012 & Hovstaterna almanacka 2002-09-07.

late, settled in the back, was barely recognizable behind her guccis and retreated during the break for a solitary smoke.

After graduation, Madeleine switched tracks from design to social work. Asked why, she replied that her mother spoke so often and passionately about the children's problems at the dinner table that it fell natural. (It seems to have mostly been about Silvia's experiences of her state visits to the Baltic countries, Russia & Ukraine during the 1990s. In the Spring of 2006, she interned at UNICEF's headquarters in New York. In the autumn of 2006, throughout 2007 and spring of 2009, she studied at Stockholm University and at the School of Social Work: Organization and leadership, "Children's rights in society", Child psychology, "Meeting children in difficult life situations". The rest of the time she represented and interned in various functions at World Childhood Foundation. The scope is difficult to comment on. According to her schedule, the maximum number of working days was 20 per year in 1997-2006, approximately 50 in 2007-2009, 192 in 2010 and 46 in 2011. The high figure for 2010 was due to her work for World Childhood Foundation being registered as an external activity. Madeleine has been criticized quite severely for dragging her heels. Based on her schedule, that is a quite relevant criticism, but where I have been able to check the figures, they are an underestimate. Madeleine doesn't report her schedule.

The course in child psychology in 2007 was a special course for Madeleine and four "hand-picked" fellow students. "According to the prefect Åke Wahlén, anyone can request that such a course be started. However, the court notified its wish too late, which meant that the institution did not have time to advertise the positions openly. Instead, the first four who signed on after seeing the notice at the institution were enrolled."¹⁰ Prefect Secretary Karin Pålsson was interviewed about changes (=supposed censorship) in the original minutes: "It was about tightening up the schedule, that's what it was all about. If you publish this in Aftonbladet I will haunt you when I'm dead."¹¹ The tone seems a little strange but there had apparently been an internal somewhat heated discussion.

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Although tongue-tied, Madeleine appeared very much in pictures. "Royal photographer" was as usual Charles Hammarsten. After looking through a thousand of his images, a certain sense of saturation enters. Madeleine is a woman with an everyday look who dresses and moves in style. Her weight during the period varies by about 10 kilos, which is noticeable by the fact that she is sometimes more round cheeked and has a larger bust than otherwise. This was counteracted by hard training and a diet on lettuce & turkey rolls. She was tanned - an even light brown shade. During the summer, she fried herself on the Riviera. The remainder of the year she used a "bitch burner". Probably she has an uneven complexion - difficult to know however because she is always very well made up and photographed in soft light. She takes care of her hair that is long, thick and tinted in several shades of blonde - her greatest asset. The face is heart shaped. If you look closely, you can see that the facial halves are not exactly the same and that she squints. She is always very well manicured in colourless nail polish. Occasionally she wears glasses. In 2003, she was nominated by Slitz as the royal house's most beautiful asset.

In the beginning Madeleine and sibling's wardrobes were bought in the manner of a court employee making the rounds purchasing everything on condition of approval. The children

¹⁰ Prinsessan Madeleine får specialkurs. Student.se, 2007-10-04.

¹¹ Richard Aschberg. Madeleine i studiebluff. Aftonbladet, 2007-10-03.

then modelled for Silvia who had final choice. Later they handled it themselves, but the tradition of modelling for each other continued. There was a lot of discussion about what was appropriate.

To be a princess, Madeleine dresses discretely, emphasizing convenience over style. A close fit and a minimum of colours [mostly brown and beige]. Mostly purchased at Champagne, Hamngatan 10. Her favourite is the store's own brand Dorose which "allows itself to be inspired" by other more exclusive brands. Usually Madeleine comes in, tries out her clothes and leaves them at the store. The garments are later collected and paid for by the court. The princess has also partied in Molto from the English cheapy Top Shop.

If the clothes are discreet, Madeleine compensates with the best when it comes to accessories. Belts from the exclusive but a little too ladylike Hèrmes, handbags signed Louis Vuitton and sunglasses from Italian Gucci.¹²

Evening gowns and other finery were sewn up by a tailor or bought abroad. Together with shoes, bag and other accessories, Madeleine was at the Nobel Banquet often dressed up for 100 thousand plus. Add the jewellery. The effect was probably not the intended one. The surroundings admired her clothes - not herself. The official photograph of her in a simple black dress and the ribbon of the Seraphim Order is far more flattering.

By the age of 25, beauty care, clothing and design appeared to have been Madeleine's only hobbies. The design interest was waning. There was some home decoration, jewellery design and painting. At the age of 30, it was unclear whether she was still pursuing such hobbies. She has talked about taking evening classes in interior design. At home she reads, listens to music and watches TV. One of her favourite authors is Jan Guillou. Evenings she sees film and theatre but there is no information about favourites. Her teenage years it was a lot of horror film. Her cooking is even worse than Victoria's. She speaks a lot on the phone. It is also much Facebook, SMS, Twitter & computer games. According to one report, several hours a day.

Her circle was not very large. Come her wedding a guest list was published. Madeleine had invited 140 people. No journalist was familiar enough to dare to comment on the list. I'll try myself: 30 percent were residents abroad (various nobility, Germans and expatriates). 20-30 percent were childhood friends and their husbands and parents. 10 per cent were Stureplan-acquaintances - fashion & restaurateurs. The rest were her own age - wealthy and/or noble but difficult to label in any meaningful way.

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Madame also had a love affair. The chosen one was business lawyer Jonas Bergström. Jonas was born on 23 January 1979 by Claes Bergström (1942-) & Elisabeth Bergström (1943-). His father had a building company. His mother worked in adult education. Jonas was the youngest of three brothers and graduated in 1999 at Danderyds gymnasium social sciences program - MVG in English, business, history, religion, geography, etc. A classmate: "He was really what you usually call a mugger, but you didn't see Jonas like that. He was just ambitious without it becoming a thing." After graduating, Jonas worked for two years as a broker at Öhmans fondskommisions AB, studied business law for five years and was then

¹² Dan Panas. Här är prinsessans eget kungarike. Aftonbladet, 2002-03-13.

hired by the law firm Vinge. Jonas was well built and good looking - the weeklies thought he looked somewhat like actor Orlando Bloom. His hobbies were football, golf, hunting and art.

Jonas and Madeleine met in 1999 through mutual acquaintances but did not become a couple until autumn 2002. Court journalist Catarina Hurtig: "In recent weeks, Madeleine and Jonas have met regularly and, among other things, they partied together with a big gang at nightclub Laroy a few Saturdays ago. The friends comment is that Madeleine and Jonas have "dated" for a while and last Saturday the two were seen having a romantic dinner at the tavern Tarantino."¹³ Jonas was introduced to the public with some official information from the population register and a passport photo with dressy stubble. Hurtig managed to get him to speak about Madeleine: "We spend time together" was the answer. Then Jonas took refuge behind the fact that he was not a public person and did not say mum until the engagement seven years later. Since none of them had broken up with their respective, there were some aggression. Madeleine seems to have found it difficult to take the conflict with Erik Granath. It took several weeks for Erik to realize that he had been replaced. February 2004 Jonas and Erik were involved in some kind of belated conflict at the restaurant Kharma - no blood spilt but Erik was thrown out.

The information about the relationship was long limited to the couple studying, moving between different apartments and having vacation in Torekov, St Tropez and other pleasant resorts. In the spring of 2005, Madeleine had an idea to say at least something to satisfy the journalists. Victoria advised against it. Whatever she said, the questions would never end.¹⁴ Late that summer Madeleine, however, allowed herself to be interviewed by English Hello! Magazine. Jonas was the love of her life but... "I can understand that people are curious, especially about my life. But for those who are close to me, it can be quite hard, and it doesn't feel good. In a way I feel persecuted [by the Swedish & German gossip press] and it affects my loved ones."¹⁵ In the fall of 2005 Jonas was in London for a course in financial law. There were rumours of friction but nothing specific.

In 2006, Madeleine interned at UNICEF in New York. Jonas also interned. In the autumn of 2006 he was hired by the law firm Vinge. Both had long working weeks and Madeleine sometimes studied, sometimes travelled for World Childhood Foundation. The rumours of friction continued. In April 2009, Jonas was in Åre for a bachelor party. Participants used pseudonyms. Jonas was there as "Jacob Bernström". They slept at hotel Tott, but partied at the establishment Bygget not far away. There he met 21-year-old Norwegian Tora Uppström Berg with whom he spent the night. Afterwards they exchanged phone numbers. Because CP and several other of Madeleine's acquaintances also were there, Jonas's behaviour seems incomprehensible.

Because of the pseudonym, it took a while before Tora realized who she had slept with. She sent an annoyed text message that Jonas didn't answer. She then spoke to Se & Hør. Two weeks later, Jonas received a phone call from a Norwegian journalist who wanted to check the data. He denied it. After that, the versions diverge. Either Jonas told Madeleine about the allegations, but claimed they were baseless, or he kept quiet. For lack of sources, it seems most likely that he kept quiet. He was faced with the choice of ending the relationship or moving on. Madeleine was also cornered. What did she really want with the relationship? One version is that it was she who demanded that Jonas either propose or leave.

¹³ Catarina Hurtig. Snabba kast för vår snygga prinsessa. Svensk Damtidning, 2002:52.

¹⁴ Peter Jihde. Ung & kunglig. SVT1, 2005-02-03.

¹⁵ Håkan Isaksson. "Jonas är mitt livs kärlek." Expressen, 2005-11-11. Citat ur: Veckotidningen Hello! 2005:37.

On February 24, 2009, Daniel & Victoria became engaged. Then it was Jonas & Madeleine. During a trip to Capri on June 12, Jonas bent the knee and asked if she wanted to marry him. "Of course I do," replied Madeleine. Someone - probably Marshal of the Realm Hjalmar Wide - later had a longish "interrogatory" conversation with him where he was pressed for hours about what could come out about him. Jonas spoke about the conversation with the Norwegian journalist. Wide claimed to have evidence of the intercourse. Jonas claimed that everything was a lie.¹⁶ Jonas's version was accepted. After the government's approval, the engagement became official on August 11. The couple were asked what they saw in each other. Jonas: "I fell for her beautiful blue eyes and her happy and lovely laughter." Madeleine: "The first thing I fell for was also Jonas's eyes, we got eye contact with each other when we first met. Jonas really is the world's nicest person." It turned out to be a very ramshackle foundation on which to build a future marriage.

Se & Hør hesitated on how to use the data. It took until Thursday, April 20 the following year until they were published. Tora's motive for telling the story was never apparent - one must assume it was the money 12 500 NOK = 16 000 SEK. This was later brought to court because in Norway it is forbidden for newspapers to pay for their information. In the meantime, the data was leaked in ever wider circles. In 2009/2010, they were known to both Jonas and Madeleine's circle of acquaintances. During the spring the couple held an official façade, but did not sleep in the same apartment. They tried to reconcile. Perhaps it would have succeeded if not everything had been so public. On Friday April 21, after the publication of Se & Hør, they had time at a "marriage counsellor" to discuss their situation. Whatever was said at the time did not help. The next day, Madeleine was on a flight to New York for a previously determined assignment for World Childhood Foundation. After take off, the court announced that the engagement was over. There's a testimony from the flight. Madeleine was sitting as paralysed and didn't eat, drink or talk to anyone. Jonas and his parents went abroad. CG & Silvia also went abroad. Expressen had time to publish an opinion poll: 63 percent of the population thought that Madeleine should forgive her creep and stick to the engagement.¹⁷ Madeleine followed Aftonbladet's advice, though: "Madeleine, you are young, handsome, rich and well educated. Don't take shit!"¹⁸ Then media silence erupted.

Afterwards Jonas mourned his princess but was also relieved that everything was over. Then the jungle telegraph started: A fully vetted company lawyer was available!!! Madeleine's friend Stephanie af Klercker jumped at the opportunity. Madeleine, who still considered herself Jonas' owner, dismissed her friend, but the marriage took place regardless. Attentive journalists noticed that Stephanie's engagement ring - an emerald cut diamond of four carats wrapped in four claws and on the sides scores of brilliant cut diamonds in pavement bezel - looked exactly like Madeleine's engagement ring. Value just over a million. Had she returned it to Jonas or had it cost him a million to bend the knee for Madeleine Bernadotte?

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The talk of the town about what had actually happened were extensive but did not lead to anything. Jonas and Madeleine's respective acquaintances badmouthed the opposite party as best as they could. Jonas was accused of making out on late nights, a London affaire and yet

¹⁶ Johan T Lindwall. Carl Philip – Prinsen som inte fick bli kung. Stockholm:Forum. 2014, s 253-254.

¹⁷ Karl-Johan Karlsson. Expressen, 2010-04-22.

¹⁸ Lena Mellin. Bryt upp, Madeleine. Aftonbladet, 2010-04-21.

another workplace relationship. Madeleine was accused of both skating around and having a relationship with ice hockey goal tender Henrik Lundqvist. For a long time it was hard to piece together a dinner party. Louise Gottlieb had to act as an intermediary. The most likely explanation is that the couple slipped apart but didn't know how to end the relationship. Jonas seemed also loath to give up his career to become a royal poodle. Victoria and CP had had the same experience. Their second choice was wiser. The public sympathies were mainly with Madeleine, but she was also heavily criticized for her decision agony and that her poor choice of men harmed the royal house's reputation. Gottlieb later shackled up with Stephanie's ex. The royal circle is small and getting smaller.

We'll probably never find out what went on in Madeleine's head there over the Atlantic, but her situation was self-inflicted in the extreme. Somewhat like princess Margaretha's fling with Robin Douglas-Home. Princess Margaretha had all her upbringing been protected by a court bureaucracy and an entourage of yes-boys/yes-girls and had no experience of dealing with conflicts. Madeleine's situation was identical. She was constantly surrounded by her "lady friends" and despite all the talk about how strong and independent Madeleine was, there is not one documented episode where she has taken a conflict or chosen a path herself.