CANDLE IN THE WIND

Elton John es un cantante, pianista y compositor británico, nacido en Londres en 1947. Su música abarca numerosos estilos, como el pop, rock, glam rock y piano rock. La canción Candle in the wind fue compuesta por él y el poeta y letrista Bernie Taupin. Apareció por primera vez en 1973, como tributo a Marilyn Monroe, que había muerto en 1964. Posteriormente, en el año 1997, esta misma canción fue versionada para homenajear a la princesa Diana de Gales, y alcanzando un éxito mayor que la versión original. De hecho, es una de las canciones más vendidas y famosas de la historia de la música reciente.

El 31 de agosto de 1997 la Princesa Diana de Gales murió en un accidente de coche en París. Era muy amiga de Elton John, quien, tras conocer la noticia y superar su tristeza, decidió que quería homenajearla, por lo que se puso en contacto con Bernie Taupin, el letrista que había trabajado con él durante más tiempo. Elton le pidió a Taupin que escribiera una letra similar a la de Candle in the wind, pero Taupin no entendió correctamente el mensaje de Elton y en lugar de escribir una canción nueva, reescribió la canción original.

On 31 August 1997, Diana, Princess of Wales was killed in a car crash in Paris. She was a very good Elton John’s friend, who, after knowing the news and getting over his sadness, he decided he wanted to pay a tribute to Diana, so he talked to Bernie Taupin, the lyricist who had worked with him during more time. Elton asked Taupin to write a lyric similar to Candle in the wind, but Taupin didn’t understand correctly Elton’s message and, instead of writing a new song, he rewrote the original song.


John publicly performed Candle in the Wind 1997 only once, at the funeral of Diana, in Westminster Abbey on 6 September 1997. However, he continued singing the first version of Candle in the wind in his concerts. John hasn’t wanted to sing 1997’s version, even for the memorial Concert for Diana in July 2007. He vowed never to
perform it again unless asked by Diana's sons. The song has never been released or included in an album.

Estas son las dos letras diferentes de *Candle in the wind*:

Those are the two different lyrics of *Candle in the wind*:

**Candle in the wind (1973)**

Goodbye Norma Jean,
though I never knew you at all.
You had the grace to hold yourself
while those around you crawled.
They crawled out of the woodwork
and they whispered into your brain,
they set you on the treadmill
and they made you change your name

And it seems to me you lived your life
like a candle in the wind,
never knowing who to cling to
when the rain set in.
And I would have liked to have known you
but I was just a kid.
Your candle burned out long before,
your legend ever did.

Loneliness was tough,
the toughest role you ever played.
Hollywood created a superstar
and pain was the price you paid.
Even when you died
Oh!, the press still hounded you;
all the papers had to say
was that Marilyn was found in the nude.

Goodbye Norma Jean
from the young man in the 22nd row,
who sees you as something as more than sexual,
more than just our Marilyn Monroe.

Esta es el enlace de Internet donde podemos ver a Elton John cantando esta canción en un concierto en Roma en 2005:

This is the Internet link where we can watch Elton John singing this song in a concert in Rome in 2005:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QdVLC1rfrOk
Candle in the wind (1997)

Goodbye England's rose,
may you ever grow in our hearts.
You were the grace that placed itself
where lives were torn apart.
You called out to our country
and you whispered to those in pain,
now you belong to Heaven
and the stars spell out your name.

And it seems to me you lived your life
like a candle in the wind,
ever fading with the sunset
when the rain set in,
and your footsteps will always fall you
along England's greenest hills.
Your candle's burned out long before,
your legend never will.

Loveliness we've lost
these empty days without your smile,
this torch we'll always carry
for our nation's golden child.
And even though we try,
the truth brings us to tears,
all our words cannot express
the joy you brought us through the years.

Goodbye England's rose,
may you ever grow in our hearts.
You were the grace that placed itself
where lives were torn apart.
Goodbye England's rose
from a country lost without your soul,
who'll miss the wings of your compassion
more than you'll ever know.

Esta es el enlace de Internet donde podemos ver a Elton John cantando esta canción en el funeral de Diana de Gales en la Abadía de Westminster en 1997:
This is the Internet link where we can watch Elton John singing this song at the funeral of Diana of Wales in Westminster Abbey in 1997:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pz0e_GklP9Q

Existen diferencias entre la letra de ambas versiones, ya que están dedicadas a dos personas muy diferentes entre sí. Los primeros versos de la versión original
“Goodbye Norma Jeane, though I never knew you at all” fueron cambiados por “Goodbye England's rose, may you ever grow in our hearts” (Norma Jeane era el nombre real de Marilyn Monroe). Además de estos versos, otros fueron cambiados para adaptarlos a las circunstancias de la vida y la muerte de Diana de Gales, aunque algunos de ellos podían ser referidos tanto a Marilyn como a Diana. Es el caso de la frase “Even when you died, the press still hounded you...”, que, sin embargo, fue sustituida por “Even though we try, the truth brings us to tears...”.

There are differences between both versions lyrics, because they are dedicated to two persons very different between them. The opening lines of the original version, “Goodbye Norma Jeane, though I never knew you at all” were adapted to "Goodbye England's rose, may you ever grow in our hearts.” (Norma Jeane was Marilyn’s real name). Besides these lines, another ones were changed to adapt them to Diana’s life and death circumstances, although some of them could be referred both Marilyn and Diana. That is the case of the line "Even when you died, the press still hounded you..." which was replaced with the lyric, "Even though we try, the truth brings us to tears...”

La canción de 1973 habla de cómo la vida de Marilyn Monroe como actriz fue dura y dolorosa a veces, acosada por la prensa hasta el día en que murió. También nos dice que a veces se la consideró simplemente como un icono sexual. Sin embargo, la versión dedicada a la Princesa Diana expresa el sentimiento de dolor y la tristeza de su país ante su muerte, que siempre mantendrá vivo su recuerdo.

1973’s song talks about Marilyn Monroe’s life as an actress was hard and pinful sometimes, and she was hounded by the press until the dy of her death. The song says that sometimes she was considered only as a sexual icon, too. However, the version dedicated to Princess Diana express the pain and sadness feeling of her country because of her death. Her country will always keep alive her memory.