

The Queen should quit tomorrow morning

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Tomorrow morning the Queen will be requested by her Prime Minister to announce a legislative programme that both she and he know he will not deliver. He has not got the means to do so in the current parliament. There is an election coming which means that this session of parliament might only last days. And he may not get re-elected. To say that the Queen must feel like she is being used must be one of the biggest understatements of the year.

So what should she do? If she had any sense she'd ignore the vellum that will be presented to her and will, instead, give her own speech.

She should say she's quitting.

She should say that's because the relationship of trust between her and her prime ministers that has been a cornerstone of the monarchy and her own reign has failed.

And she should say that she does not just quit. She should add that she makes clear that her family no longer want a constitutional role in the UK: that they collectively recognise that the era when anything of the sort was passed by right of birth is over.

And so she should say that it is her wish that rather than spend its time considering a legislative programme that will never come to pass she does instead ask parliament to consider how it might amend the unwritten constitution of the UK so that her role within it, and that of the Lords she supposedly appoints, might be reconsidered.

She might add, whilst she's at it, that she wants an end to the so-called Royal prerogative that she has never been allowed to exercise.

And that she'd really like to stop being used as the excuse for all sorts of abuse.

So, without saying it, she might say to our political, class 'get your own act together and stop blaming everyone else for your failings, including me'.

Will she do this? Of course not. That's contrary to all she's ever been trained to do. But

deep down you must think she'd really like to do just this. And that she also knows it is the best thing she might ever do. It would seal her legacy in a way nothing else could.

I live in hope. But on this occasion, that hope is very, very small indeed.