

## The End is the Beginning

Being a woman of colour, the wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex On May 19th 2018 was the highlight of my year! Not only was our sweet, lovable and humorous Prince Harry in love and happy, but also to a woman of colour!

I had always been a royalist prior to this occurrence, but had never anticipated such a delightful and significant, monarchy shift!

What followed for the pair was almost two-years of fast and consistent defamation of character through the media. I was heart broken, as I couldn't see any real evidence of the excessive, extent of their wrongdoing. So when the Duke and Duchess of Sussex announced they were stepping back from Royal Duties in January 2020, I was hurt, angry and disappointed for them, and for me there was a sense of loss.

However I now feel the end of that period is really a new beginning for them with less character assassination, and more peace. This is why I painted Meghan - The Duchess of Sussex in the outfit from her last official Royal engagement in March 2020.

I believe choosing to wear that beautiful complementary green was no coincidence:

“**Green** is the **colour** of balance, harmony and growth. ... From a **meaning** of **colours** perspective, **green** is also the **colour** of growth, the **colour** of spring, of renewal and rebirth. It renews and restores depleted energy. It is the sanctuary away from the stresses of modern living, restoring us back to a sense of well being.”

I wish them both well.

By Zoe Rafah