

## **THE CINDERELLA TALK SHOW!!!**

The talk show lasts 20-30 minutes.

It's designed to illustrate Gayatri Spivak's point that people low in status ("subalterns") are denied speaking rights

In the talk show, the topic is the amazing romance between the Prince and Cinderella. We want to hear from everyone involved in the story. This being the BBC, we have to be even-handed....

And as for Cinderella herself... well, she will get her chance... at some point...

Our idea is to have volunteers to play the roles of the characters in the show. We can either script this or improvise... (improvisation is much better if we have people confident enough to do this)

Characters: we have to have....

### **The Talk Show Host**

In control, but very deferential to royalty. Interested in promoting conflict, so keen to get Stepmother and Sisters involved. His view of Cinderella is that she is a pretty little thing but not very bright, and won't make for a good interview as she is nervous. Much better to have her on the sidelines.

### **The Prince**

Massively entitled and aware of his importance. Very gratified at having saved Cinders from her life of drudgery. Loves the sound of his own voice (as do his adoring populace). Views her as a trophy wife who will give him heirs, look beautiful, defer to his every wish and make him feel good about himself. Which he does already, right? I mean, it's pretty heroic to defy

convention and marry a poor girl from an underprivileged home, however pretty she is....all she has to do now is put her feet up...

### **The Stepmother/Sister/s**

Feeling very slighted and offended at the way they are being portrayed. It's not easy taking on someone else's child as a stepmother. Did her very best. But, honestly, this girl loves housework and taking care of things. She did it for years for her father so to have prevented her would have been downright cruel. Also she is really shy and tongue-tied, she honestly did not want to go to the ball... she was happy for her sisters to have a chance.... And someone had to stay at home and take care of things...People looking at the situation from the outside just don't understand. Also, she does have this how shall we put it, ungrateful side to her. We did SO MUCH for her and we don't get a word of thanks...Come to think of it, has anyone asked her father's permission for her to leave home, where she is still so much needed?

### **The Fairy Godmother**

A real advocate for Cinderella, she is the one who made the whole thing possible and she couldn't be more delighted. Cinderella is just like her mother, very quiet, never puts herself forward, so important to have someone with her interests at heart to speak for her. Once she has a bit more experience of the world FG is sure that she may be able to express an opinion for herself, but just at the moment...

### **Cinderella**

Has things to say about what she wants from her life.

Actually it is true that she quite likes running a household and she is very good at it

We don't know what she thinks about marrying the Prince in fact.

She did want to go to the ball, but who knows what she might like to do with her life?

She tries to speak, but gets interrupted every time - and indeed muted by the host

Difficult for her to contradict people who come across as powerful

Her voice is very quiet and hesitant

### Others who can be there

#### **The Queen**

We have standards in this family, good that son has found someone so dutiful and respectful. Of course she is going to need a lot of tuition in how to be a royal princess. Certain things are expected, like how you sit, and behave in public, wearing gloves etc.

#### **The stepsisters**

Very jealous but anxious to appear charming on tv, this is their big opportunity and they are going to say loudly how fond they are of her and how they rely on her.