

## CINDERELLA

Our play actually started off as normal class work for our English lessons. Our class, 2<sup>o</sup> F, had to write a play modernizing a classic fairy tale. Our goal was to make it less sexist by switching female and male roles. However, it soon became more than class work. We even presented our play to a contest!

We chose Cinderella. We thought it was a great choice because we had the chance to address topics such as marriage and common stereotypes.

In the original fairy tale, Cinderella is helped by her fairy Godmother to assist to the dance. A prince immediately falls in love with her when they dance and without knowing each other they get married. Thanks to the handsome prince she is able to escape her life of misery and they live happily ever after.

In our modern adaptation we don't have a fairy Godmother; we have a fairy Godfather, who is Cinderella's best friend. Cinderella also gets married almost instantly with the prince but instead of living happily ever after she soon finds herself married to a monster that mistreats her psychologically. At the end, the fairy Godfather is the one that comes to rescue Cinderella. They do fall in love and live happily ever after, but not because he is a handsome prince. She loves him because he is a good person and respects her.

What we tried to show in our play was that stereotypes can be broken. Handsome men or "princes" aren't always good or brave and beautiful women don't have to get married with handsome men to be happy. Also, our play emphasizes the mistake of getting married straight away just because it's what women are supposed to do, telling us that there are consequences and that everything is not what it seems at first. Women abusers aren't always easy to spot.

We needed a lot of work to make our idea come to life. We rehearsed the play in class and in a few afternoons after school. We had to learn the texts and practice acting. We also prepared songs, sound effects, scenery, clothes and make-up. It was hard but in the end we managed to make a play that we are very proud of.

Class 2<sup>o</sup> F hopes you enjoy it!

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