

This Activity Teaching Pack comes with a health warning: it contains material which is overtly violent and implicitly sexual.

While that makes it very suitable for most classes who are in their mid-teenage years and older, and although the hot-seat discussion activity certainly helps students handle such explosive content, teachers ought to be aware that this is a “strong” story.

But before you shy away from something which seems so explosive, consider:

- *Such strong content certainly meets the essential ELT criterion of being significant.*
- *Storytelling allows the listener to retain some control over such material (see the “Fear of Fantasy” chapter in The Uses of Enchantment, (Bettelheim, 1975).*
- *The hot-seat activity, drawn from drama work, offers a controlled way for students to discuss issues which they might normally feel uncomfortable with.*

Before watching: Discussion and research

- Collect historical examples of powerful women: [here is a starting point](#), and here [another](#).
- Do such examples suggest that patriarchy is *not* inevitable? This article can spur discussion: [Analysis of Claimed "Nonpatriarchal Societies"](#)
- Discuss the [#MeToo movement](#). More about the movement's [history](#).
- How were such issues dealt with in the past?

Watch [Mr Fox](#)

Hot-seat discussion

It might seem better to discuss the tale *after* reinforcing vocabulary (see next activity).

However, the hot-seat discussion draws on the emotional power of the performance, so my preference is to go to that immediately. If you do the same, remember to schedule at least 20 minutes time after watching the video.

Here are detailed instructions on how to arrange a [hot-seat activity](#).

Vocabulary

Collect word field on blackboard – probable words: *be bold, marriage, feast, white cloths, white wedding clothes, green grass, wall, gate, door, stairs, hooks, bodies of young women, etc.*

Storytelling / Communication skills

What did Richard *do* to keep us listening?

Possible answers:

- gestures