



# THE TEMPEST

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SHAKESPEARE

MAKE-A-PLAY DAY

ADAPTED BY MARK  
DUNCAN



# Act 1

- Prospero, Wizard, the rightful Duke of Milan
- Narrator/s
- Caliban, born on the island to the witch Sycorax
- Ferdinand, son to the King of Naples
- Alonso, king of Naples
- Gonzalo, a kindly old counsellor
- Ariel, the airy spirit
- WITCH (Sycorax in text) an evil witch, Caliban's mother
- Miranda, daughter to Prospero
- Sprites, more airy spirits
- Antonio, Prospero's brother, who stole his crown of Milan
- Ship's Crew

## **Intro music as audience enters**

### **ACT 1**

#### **MUSIC TR 1 Thunderclaps**

*Group show storm, ship and men (the noblemen: **ALONSO, FERDINAND, ANTONIO, GONZALO** looking worried, the **CREW** operating the ship) with ensemble mime and rhythmical movement (rope-pulling, lifting off cargo, etc.): (use benches for upper deck + white material as sails?).*

**Cast freeze in Tableaux after third thunderclap.**

**NARRATOR: (OLD PROSPERO)** *(To audience)* Welcome to the island. My name is Prospero and I am a great wizard. You are about to experience the story of The Tempest which was a storm I created through magic. Here I am, casting my spell!

**NARRATOR** *gives cloak (and hat and wand?) to cast member playing PROSPERO. (NARRATOR climbs on to a circular p.e stand so s/he move the groups round by juggling crystal balls?)*

**NARRATOR:** I have some magical story-tellers to help me remember my story. On board the ship is my evil brother Antonio (*only ANTONIO moves*) who banished me from my dukedom and took my crown.

There's King Alonso of Naples who helped him (*only ALONSO moves*), Prince Ferdinand, the son of Alonso, my best friend Gonzalo who helped me (*only GONZALO moves*) and the crew. (NARRATOR juggles three balls?).

**PROSPERO:** Let the tempest begin!

**\*MUSIC CUE 2 (O Fortuna-Carl Orff)**

*Tableaux comes to life again with ensemble mime and rhythmical movement + rising panic as storm strikes the ship.*

*Ariel with blue ribbon and sprites with scarves/ Lightning bolts below/at sides making waves.*

**CREW 1:** Quick, take in the topsail! (*All thrown S.R*)

**CREW 2:** Get below! (*All thrown S.L*)

**CREW 3** Hoist the sail-to open sea! (*All thrown U.S*)

**CREW 4:** Prepare to die! (*All thrown D.S...look forward with terror*)

**ALL:** (1 line per small group) 'All lost!' 'Mercy on us!'-- 'We split, we split!'--'Farewell, my wife and children!'-- 'Farewell, brother!'--'We split, we split, we split!' (etc/similar)

*They all swim/struggle on the spot in slow motion then sink down as though drowning (and become trees/rocks?)*

**MIRANDA** watches (*from a distance*), shocked runs on the spot, then across the stage to **PROSPERO** who is standing on bench U.S., arms raised with his wand

**MIRANDA:** Please stop the storm!

**NARRATOR:** I explained to my daughter Miranda why I made the storm.

**NARRATOR:** Once upon a time, I was the king of Milan, in Italy, but I gave more and more king jobs to my brother Antonio (**ANTONIO steps forward with gesture**) because I was so busy with my study of magic. But this extra power made my brother evil and he plotted to take over as king of Milan with Alonso, king of Naples. (**ALONSO steps forward with gesture**)

He put us, you were just a beautiful little toddler, into a tiny boat with no sails and pushed us into the rough ocean (**PROSPERO steps behind MIRANDA and they move as if at sea**). Luckily, the kind old Gonzalo (**GONZALO steps forward with gesture**) gave us food (*Miranda is munching a bag of nuts, offers some*) and water, (she drinks) plus my magic books (*she passes his book*) and we eventually arrived at this island, where we are now, thirteen years later.

**MIRANDA** is distracted.

**PROSPERO:** Are you listening Miranda?

**MIRANDA:** Yes, daddy.

**PROSPERO:** Go to sleep Miranda. **PROSPERO** waves in a magical way towards her. Miranda-huge yawn and sleeps.

**NARRATOR:** While Miranda slept I called Ariel, and the airy sprites.

**MUSIC CUE 3 (Sequent C – Tangerine Dream)**

**PROSPERO** turns slowly in circle with staff raised; calls 'Ariel!' in each of four directions; Ariel plays tricks behind his back, either side, taps him on shoulder

Enter **ARIEL** and **SPRITES**

**ARIEL:** Yes, Prospero.

**PROSPERO:** Good storm.

**ARIEL:** Thank you.

**SPRITES :** Hooray!

**PROSPERO:** There's more work before I free you.

**ARIEL:** But we want to be free now!

**SPRITES :** Yeah! (*fists in air*)

**NARRATOR:** I reminded Ariel and the Sprites of Sycorax's magic trap they were in when I arrived at the island.

**PROSPERO:** Don't forget, I freed you from the witch's trap!

**MUSIC CUE 4 Witch fight music (Guak Macok)**

Enter **WITCH**. Does evil dance with spells (different directions) making the others become a chicken, then a frog, then (suggestion from students), fourth spell makes **ARIEL** and **SPRITES** roll in pain.

**PROSPERO** and **WITCH** fight until **WITCH** flies away and **PROSPERO** releases **ARIEL** and **SPRITES**

**ARIEL + SPRITES :** Sorry! (*They bow to Prospero*)

**PROSPERO:** Fly and save the people on the ship.

**NARRATOR:** Ariel and the Sprites flew invisible to pluck the sailors from the storm to land in a trance and put them into groups around the island 1,2,3.

**NARRATOR:** Meanwhile Miranda my daughter woke.

**MIRANDA** awakens from her sleep.

**PROSPERO:** Let's go and find Caliban.

**MIRANDA:** He's nasty to me!

**PROSPERO:** Yes, but he's strong and does lots of jobs for us....Caliban!

*Enter CALIBAN*

**CALIBAN:** This island's mine! Me and my mum were here first!

**MIRANDA:** We taught you to talk: you were like a wild animal!

**CALIBAN:** I helped you when you arrived!

**MIRANDA:** You attacked us!

**PROSPERO:** Obey and bring us wood or I will punish you!

*Exit PROSPERO and MIRANDA; CALIBAN reluctantly follows.*

**NARRATOR:** ... and so my plans were coming together I have brought my brother who stole my crown and the King of Naples with his handsome son, for my daughter plus Gonzalo, my friend to- the island. The sprites brought everyone safely to land, even the cook and the jester. Let's see what happens with group two. A big round of applause for group one.

*END OF ACT 1*



**MUSIC for change over (The Tempest – Mike Oldfield)**

## **Act 2**

- **Prospero**
- **Narrator/s**
- **Trinculo, a jester**
- **Caliban**
- **Ferdinand**
- **Alonso**
- **Gonzalo**
- **Ariel**
- **WITCH (Sycorax in text )**
- **Miranda** \_\_\_\_\_
- **Stephano, a drunken cook**
- **Antonio**
- **Sprites**

**NARRATOR:** (*juggling?*) Now my storm has weaved it's magic spell and brought them to my island. I can now weave my spell to make all the old hurts well. First I will give my daughter a prince to love. Then I shall revenge my crown stealing brother and his friend the King of Naples.

**MUSIC CUE 5 (Beyond Words-Bobby McFerrin)**

**ARIEL + SPRITES do SCARVES DANCE**

**NARRATOR:** Ariel and the Sprites, invisible, lead in the amazed Ferdinand. Miranda and Ferdinand fall in love immediately. He is the only man Miranda has ever seen, besides myself and the rude Caliban.

**FERDINAND:** A goddess!

**SPRITES:** *Giggle*

**MIRANDA:** A thing divine!

**SPRITES:** *Giggle*

**FERDINAND:** You speak my language! I am the Prince of Naples. You

could be princess!

**NARRATOR:** I was happy to see that my plan for my daughter's future marriage was working...

**FERDINAND and MIRANDA** *walk/lean towards each other looking like they are going to kiss.*

...but it was happening too quickly. I better slow them down...

**PROSPERO: (stands between them)** You are not the Prince of Naples! I will throw you in prison!

**FERDINAND** *draws his sword, PROSPERO puts a spell on him and SPRITES lead him off to prison, ignoring MIRANDA'S cries for mercy.*

**NARRATOR:** Meanwhile on another part of the island, King Alonso is in danger from my nasty brother Antonio who wants to kill him and take his crown as well.

*Enter ARIEL & SPRITES, invisible, leading from SEA with scarves, gasping ALONSO, ANTONIO and GONZALO.*

**ANTONIO:** Our clothes are dry!

**ALONSO:** But my son is drowned.

**\*MUSIC CUE 6 (LUDUS - Synaulia)**

**ARIEL & SPRITES** *appear, invisible, and wave scarves that puts ALONSO and GONZALO to sleep.*

**NARRATOR:** My evil brother plotted to gain more power.

**ANTONIO:** They're asleep. If I kill them I will be king of Naples and Milan!

*He draws his sword and takes the crown*

**PROSPERO:** *gets ALONSO to wake with a shout from audience (1 2 3 wake up!)*

**ANTONIO:** I was defending you from a huge lion! And protecting you're crown...No, actually it was elephants...er, I mean Bulls; no...a whole herd of lions!

**ALONSO:** Let's continue to search for my son.

**ANTONIO (aside):** I will kill him next time!

*Exit GONZALO, ALONSO followed by ANTONIO.*

**NARRATOR:** *(juggles scene rotates?)* Meanwhile, on another part of the island.

*Enter CALIBAN (with cardboard 'log' wrapped in blanket)*

**CALIBAN:** I hate Prospero! I refuse to do his work!

*Enter TRINCULO*

**TRINCULO** Bombards! The storm is coming!

**CALIBAN:** Oh no! It's Prospero's demons come to punish me!

*He hides under a blanket*

**\*MUSIC TR 7 (Thunderclaps and rain – BBC)**

**TRINCULO** Bombards! The storm!! *(Looks around)* I'll have to shelter here. *(He crawls under blanket too).*

*Enter STEPHANO , drunk (bottle prop) and singing, sees CALIBAN and TRINCOLO; comic business of trying to pull out legs from under each end of the blanket.*

**STEPHANO** sings *Drunken*

*Sailor (with cast*

*participation) (he sits on*

*them, and sees TRINCULO;*

**STEPHANO and TRINCULO:** You're alive!

*They drink, sing and dance.*

**STEPHANO** gives **CALIBAN** drink

**CALIBAN:** Celestial liquor!

Let's kill Prospero, take his daughter, and you Stephano will be king of the island.

*They both bow to Stephano.*

**STEPHANO:** Lead on monster!

*Exit*

**NARRATOR:** and so my plan was working; my daughter had met Ferdinand's love and my old friend Gonzalo was here to see it all. Let's see how we get on with the next group. A big round applause for group two.

**END OF ACT 2**





MUSIC for change over

## Act 3

- Prospero
- Trinculo
- Caliban
- Alonso
- Ariel
- Stephano
- Antonio
- Sprites
  
- Narrator/s
  
- Gonzalo

*Enter ALONSO, GONZALO and ANTONIO*

**GONZALO:** I can go no further. My old bones ache.

**KING ALONSO:** Let's sit down and rest. We'll never find my son.

**ANTONIO** *whispers to audience D.S, apart from the others*

**ANTONIO:** I'll kill him now. And no one will stop me. How shall I kill him?  
Like this or like this?

**PROSPERO:** We need to stop this evil plotter. Sprites! Ariel!

*Enter ARIEL and SPRITES with spinning plates*

**\*MUSIC TR 8 (Phaedra – Tangerine Dream)**

**ANTONIO** *is too busy practising his sword moves to notice the Sprites/Ariel; the other two are asleep until the Sprites/Ariel shout ARIEL and SPRITES: 'Bon Appetit!'*

**ALONSO:** Heavens! What are these?

**GONZALO:** Look a big banquet!

**ANTONIO:** I'm starving!

**ALONSO:** Let's eat!

*They rush forward to eat but the Spirits' take it away*

**ALL:** Where's it gone?

**ARIEL and SPRITES** (with scary masks or faces): Making a group shape of the Harpy bird (bird arms and V formation with Ariel at the front).

**GONZALO** doesn't see this.

**ARIEL and SPRITES:** You took Prospero's kingdom and you will be punished!

They chase off **ALONSO and ANTONIO**

**GONZALO:** (to audience) They must be mad!

**GONZALO** follows them off-stage

**NARRATOR:** (juggles) Meanwhile, on another part of the island, the three plotters are near Prospero's cave.

Enter **TRINCULO, STEPHANO and CALIBAN** very silly; *SINGING 'Drunken Sailor' and practising sword thrusts*

Enter **PROSPERO and ARIEL and SPRITES**— on bench/higher level

**ARIEL:** They want to kill you Master!

**SPRITES:** Boo!

**PROSPERO:** Let's set a trap.

**PROSPERO and ARIEL +SPRITES** set out fancy bits of costume

**CALIBAN:** Where's Prospero?

**STEPHANO:** Look at this beautiful clothing!

**TRINCULO:** Let's steal it!

**STEPHANO:** That's mine!

**TRINCULO:** Oh king Stephano!

**TRINCULO, STEPHANO** try on fancy clothes, dancing about and laughing. **CALIBAN** tries to stop them.

**\*MUSIC TR 9 (Bees)**

**CALIBAN ,TRINCULO STEPHANO** Run for your life!

(Run through audience?)

Exit (Chased by **SPRITES** being bees?)

**NARRATOR:** All is going well; my evil brother is getting scared, plus I've stopped Caliban and those drunkards. A big round of applause for group 3!

End of Act 3



**MUSIC for change over**

## **Act 4**

- **Prospero**
- **Trinculo**
- **Caliban**
- **Alonso**
- **Ariel**
- **Stephano**
- **Antonio**
- **Sprites**
- **Narrator/s**
- **Gonzalo**
  
- **Crew**

*Enter Ferdinand and Miranda, watched by Prospero*

**NARRATOR:** Once we had chased the three plotters we bring in my daughter and Ferdinand.

**MUSIC CUE 5 reprise (Beyond Words-Bobby McFerrin)**

**ARIEL + SPRITES** *do SCARVES DANCE, leading in the lovers.*

*Enter FERDINAND and MIRANDA*

**FERDINAND:** I love you!

**MIRANDA:** I love you!

**FERDINAND:** Marry me!?

**MIRANDA:** Yes!

*Enter PROSPERO, ARIEL and SPRITES cheering.*

**PROSPERO:** Welcome to the family!

**NARRATOR:** So we celebrated their wedding with a show of fairies!  
Very light fairies! As light as feathers!

**PROSPERO** *claps his hands*

**\*MUSIC TR 10 (Debussy: Images)**

**ARIEL** and **SPRITES** dance with *peacock feathers*.

**NARRATOR:** We are such stuff as dreams are made on.

**PROSPERO** sends the away **SPRITES** (*clap*). Exit **FERDINAND** and **MIRANDA**.

**NARRATOR:** I wanted revenge on my evil brother so I told Ariel to bring the king and his followers, plus the three plotters and the ship's crew to me! But Ariel the spirit said:

**ARIEL:** If I was human, I would forgive the evil men.

**PROSPERO:** Then I shall forgive them. Bring them all here!

(*ARIEL zips over to the three noble men to prepare them, then zips back to PROSPERO*).

**NARRATOR:** I decided that now I would give up magic, break my wand and throw away my magic book for ever! But I intended to be king again.

**PROSPERO** takes off his wizard garments/props, assisted by **ARIEL**.

Enter **ALONSO**, **GONZALO**, and **ANTONIO** led in by **ARIEL** (and **SPRITES?**)

**ALL:** It's Prospero!

**ANTONIO:** You're a devil Prospero! *Shakes fist*

**PROSPERO** No! You are an evil man, give me my crown.

**ANTONIO** gives **PROSPERO** his crown they bow to **PROSPERO**

**PROSPERO:** Antonio my brother, I forgive you.

(*to GONZALO*) Hello old friend!

**NARRATOR:** I told King Alonso that his son Ferdinand was alive and would marry my daughter Miranda. She was amazed to see so many humans.

Enter **FERDINAND** and **MIRANDA**.

**MIRANDA:** Oh brave new world!

**FERDINAND** Hugs **ALONSO (HIS DAD)**

Enter **TRINCULO**, **STEPHANO** and **CALIBAN** led in by **ARIEL**. They bow to **PROSPERO**.

**PROSPERO:** Give back those clothes and clear up your mess!

Prepare the ship. Let's go back to Italy.

**ALL:** We're going home!

**PROSPERO:** Gets cast (and audience?) to HIP HIP - HOORAY!

**PROSPERO:** Ariel, calm the seas, then you're free!

**ARIEL SPRITES:** Yippee! (skips off)

*Cast make boat and waves*

**NARRATOR:** So we set sail and I went home with my family to be the King again. No more spells for me.

*Cast make boat and waves - Sailing*

**Enter Caliban**

**ALONSO:** Who's that!?

**PROSPERO:** Bye-bye Caliban, you can have the island back to yourself now.

*They wave goodbye,*

**ALL:** Bye Caliban. Farewell everyone!

**\*MUSIC TR 11 (Moondance – Ernest Ranglin)**

*All bow*



## CHARACTERS/PROPS/COSTUME

### COSTUME

ALL-BLACKS AS BASIC (ideally)

Narrator has script

CREW -SAILOR'S HATS- bandanas

Prospero, - cloak, hat, wand

Trinculo, a jester's hat, rum bottle

Gonzalo, cloak, old mans wig, walking stick

Caliban ripped t-shirt

Ferdinand cloak, small sword

Alonso cloak, crown

Ariel, silver half mask

SPRITES masks, wigs, coloured wigs, sunglasses

Miranda, dress

Stephano, cook's hat

Sycorax, cloak,, mask

Antonio, cloak, crown, big sword

### PROPS

#### SPLATATEER BRINGS

CLOAKS, HATS, CROWNS, SWORDS,  
FANCY CLOTHES

Material for sails

BLANKET/MATERIAL

#### MAKING TASKS (optional)

Puppets – Scary faces from templates provided, drawn/stuck onto cardboard; attached to sticks, plus coloured material

Masks – photocopied from templates provided; painted and decorated by students

Lightning bolts

