

# Sample Pages from The Tempest

Welcome! This is copyrighted material for promotional purposes. It's intended to give you a taste of the script to see whether or not you want to use it in your classroom or perform it. You can't print this document or use this document for production purposes.

Royalty fees apply to all performances **whether or not admission is charged**. Any performance in front of an audience (e.g. an invited dress rehearsal) is considered a performance for royalty purposes.

Visit <a href="https://tfolk.me/p25">https://tfolk.me/p25</a> to order a printable copy or for rights/royalty information and pricing.

DO NOT POST THIS SAMPLE ONLINE.

IT MAY BE DOWNLOADED ANY TIME FROM THE LINK ABOVE.

A PLAY IN ONE ACT ADAPTED BY Craig Mason

FROM THE ORIGINAL BY William Shakespeare



The Tempest Copyright © 1997 Craig Mason Adapted from *The Tempest* by William Shakespeare

CAUTION: This play is fully protected under the copyright laws of Canada and all other countries of the Universal Copyright Convention and is subject to royalty. Changes to the script are expressly forbidden without written consent of the author. Rights to produce, film, or record, in whole or in part, in any medium or in any language, by any group amateur or professional, are fully reserved.

Interested persons are requested to apply for amateur rights to:

#### **Theatrefolk**

www.theatrefolk.com/licensing help@theatrefolk.com

Those interested in professional rights may contact the author c/o the above address.

No part of this script covered by the copyrights hereon may be reproduced or used in any form or by any means - graphic, electronic or mechanical - without the prior written permission of the author. Any request for photocopying, recording, or taping shall be directed in writing to the author at the address above.

Printed in the USA

# **Characters**

7M 2W

### **Prospero**

The exiled King of Naples

#### Miranda

His daughter

#### Caliban

His servant

#### Ariel

His servant

#### **Antonio**

His brother, current King of Naples

## **Ferdinand**

A Prince

#### Stephano

A butler

#### **Trinculo**

A fool

#### Master

The ship's captain (can be doubled)

# One of the actors enters to introduce the play.

- ACTOR: Teachers, students, and special guests. We are here to present a play called The Tempest. The play was written 386 years ago by a fellow by the name of William Shakespeare who lived over in England. But his plays are so good that they have lasted all this time and are performed all over the world to this very day. The Tempest is a play that takes place on an island in the middle of the sea. And the first thing that happens is a storm. You are going to be our storm. Before the play begins we are going to practice being a storm. The storm happens in three stages. In the first stage, everyone rubs his or her hands together. This is when the rain is just beginning. In the second stage, everyone pats his or her knees. Here the rain is getting harder. And in the third stage everyone stamps his or her feet on the ground. Now, how do you know when to go from stage to stage? All you have to do is watch Prospero. He will raise his staff. Prospero? Are you ready to begin?
- PROSPERO: Of course, of course. Yes, Prospero is my name. I live here on this island with my daughter Miranda and two servants. But you will meet them all soon enough. And so now, our play begins with a storm! You, kind audience members, are my storm. (Holds out his staff.)

Prompted by the actors, the audience creates the storm that they have practised. The storm gets larger and larger. The MASTER comes on stage with a ship's wheel, obviously tossed about in the waves.

MASTER: Boatswain! (Blows whistle.) Speak to the mariners! Take in the topsail. (Blows whistle.) Lower! Lower! Bring her to try with the main course. Mercy on us! We split, we split! Help! Save us!

The ship is sinking! The MASTER runs off stage left. PROSPERO now calms the storm to nothing. MIRANDA enters running.

- MIRANDA: Father! Father! If you have used your magical powers to make these wild waters roar, please calm them! I have seen a brave ship dashed all to pieces! I heard cries for help!
- PROSPERO: (Hugging her.) Tell your heart that no harm has been done.

  No harm.
- MIRANDA: (Looking out into the sea.) I do not understand. The storm was so huge.

PROSPERO: Wipe your eyes. Have comfort. The terrible ship wreck that you saw, I have made sure that nobody — no — not one hair on anybody's head was hurt. Do you believe me?

MIRANDA: Of course father.

PROSPERO: That storm was created just for you; for you my dear daughter.

MIRANDA: But why would you make a great storm for me?

PROSPERO: You do not even know who you really are! You do not even know where we come from! I am more than just Prospero, the master of this island.

MIRANDA: Tell me more!

PROSPERO: Now, do you remember what your life was like before you came to this island?

MIRANDA: I do, but my memory is like a dream. Did I once have 4 or 5 servants to wait on me?

PROSPERO: You did, and more Miranda. Twelve years ago, I Prospero, your father, was the King of Naples, and so you were once a princess!

MIRANDA: Oh the heavens! Whatever brought us here!?!

Through PROSPERO's speech, ANTONIO enters. PROSPERO and ANTONIO act out the story in mime.

PROSPERO: My brother, your uncle is called Antonio. Next to you, I loved him more than anyone else. So I put him in charge of Naples while I studied. I studied so hard that my mind was in my books and not on my brother. Antonio began to believe he really was the king.

MIRANDA: But he wasn't.

PROSPERO: Of course not. But he was so sure he was king that everybody started to believe him. Now, when I came back from my studies Antonio was so scared that people might learn the truth, he put you and I on a raft and set us off into the sea. And here we landed. And here have you grown up.

MIRANDA: So I am a princess! Oh father, this news has made me happy. But we're stuck on an island. Now I am sad. But island or not, I'm still a princess. Now the news has made me excited!

7

PROSPERO raises his staff and casts a spell on MIRANDA.

MIRANDA: But it is so surprising that it has also made me tired.

PROSPERO: It's time for your afternoon nap my daughter.

MIRANDA falls asleep. PROSPERO makes sure that she is sleeping, then looks left and right.

PROSPERO: (Singing.) Come away, servant, come! I am ready now, Approach, my Ariel, Come!

ARIEL enters, flying and swooping. ARIEL is a spirit, who is continually moving and dancing.

ARIEL: All hail, great master! Grave sir, hail! I come to answer your every desire. Be it to fly (Flies), to swim (Swims), to dive (Dives). Ariel is here for you to hire!

PROSPERO: The storm Ariel, the storm was wonderful.

ARIEL: I carried out every article of your instructions. I boarded Antonio's ship myself.

PROSPERO: That's my good spirit!

ARIEL: Not a hair was harmed. Their clothes are cleaner than ever.

And as you told me, I split them up and put them all about the island.

PROSPERO: And the ship? Is it safe as well?

ARIEL: It is safe in the harbour in the deep nook.

PROSPERO: Ariel, your work exactly was performed; but there's more work.

ARIEL: More toil?

PROSPERO: Of course.

ARIEL: You promised to free me after one year has passed.

PROSPERO: There is still time yet.

ARIEL: I have given you worthy service. Told you no lies, made you no mistakes, served without grudge or grumbling. You promised to let me free in one year.

PROSPERO: Have you forgotten the torment I freed you from?

ARIEL: Ummmm. (pause) No?!?

PROSPERO: You have! You have forgotten! You forgot about the foul witch Sycorax. (PROSPERO raises his staff. Everyone offstage whispers SYCORAX.) Have you forgotten her?

ARIEL: Ummmm. (Pause) No?!?

PROSPERO: You have! Where was she born? Speak! Tell me!

ARIEL: Ummmm.

PROSPERO: In Argier! You were once her servant. And a bad servant you were. You didn't obey her, right?

ARIEL: Ummmm.

PROSPERO: No, not at all. She stuck you in a tree where you stayed for a dozen years.

ARIEL: Yes. (Sniff.)

PROSPERO: Then she died, so you were stuck for good. And you were all alone on this island except for the son of Sycorax. (Everyone offstage whispers SYCORAX.) Her monster of a son. A freckled whelp!

ARIEL: Yes, Caliban her son.

PROSPERO: Yes! Caliban who is now my other servant. Do not forget it was I who let you out of that tree!

ARIEL: I thank you master.

PROSPERO: If you complain once more, I'll put you in an oak tree. For good!

ARIEL: I will obey you now.

PROSPERO: Do so, and after two days I will let you free.

ARIEL: What shall I do? Say what; what shall I do?

PROSPERO: First of all, make yourself invisible to all but me.

ARIEL: My lord it shall be done. (Bows.)

PROSPERO: And... (Whispers in ARIEL'S ear.)

ARIEL: My lord it shall be done. (ARIEL exits.)

PROSPERO: (*To audience*.) Servants are nice to have, you know! (*To MIRANDA*.) Arise daughter.

MIRANDA: (Waking with a yawn.) Father, I do not know what made me so tired. But that was a great nap. I feel so energetic. Why don't I make us a fire?

PROSPERO: As you wish.

MIRANDA goes to the woodpile. There is no wood.

MIRANDA: Well look here, we are out of wood.

PROSPERO: I thought I told Caliban to fetch us some wood. Caliban! Caliban I say!

CALIBAN: (Offstage) Grumble, Grumble, Grumble.

PROSPERO: Caliban, come out here this instant! You know we're out of wood.

CALIBAN: There's wood enough!

PROSPERO: There is no wood at all. I see none.

Enter CALIBAN. He is a monster.

CALIBAN: A southwest wind blow on ye and blister you all o'er!

MIRANDA: Now Caliban, be nice.

CALIBAN: I must eat my dinner. This island's mine, by Sycorax (Offstage whispers again.) my mother. You took this island from me! When you came here you were nice to me. You gave me water with berries in it, and taught me the names of the stars. And so I liked you, and showed you all the secrets of this island. But then you made me your servant. All the charms of Sycorax (Offstage whispers again.), toads, beetles, bat, light on you!

MIRANDA: (Using her dress to try and wipe some of the dirt off of CALIBAN's face.) You know that's not true. You were just a monster when we came here, and could not even talk. Why Caliban, I did spend many hours with you teaching you how to speak. You were taught all the words for everything.

CALIBAN: Yes, you taught me how to speak. And I thank you. Now I can say this to you: (pause) The red plague rid you for learning me your language!

PROSPERO: Get us some firewood.

CALIBAN: Ha!

#### **CRAIG MASON**

PROSPERO: If you do not do what I command, I'll rack you with old cramps, fill all your bones with aches and make you roar that lions will be afraid of the noise. (He raises his staff.)

CALIBAN: (Aside.) He speaks the truth. I must do what he says.

Prospero is much more powerful than I. Grumble, grumble, grrr and grumble again! (CALIBAN exits.)

MIRANDA: He's always in such a bad mood.

PROSPERO: Come Miranda, let's keep an eye on him.

MIRANDA: Yes father.

PROSPERO and MIRANDA exit. FERDINAND enters from the opposite side of the stage. He is dressed like a prince; his clothing has been unharmed by the shipwreck.

FERDINAND: Help! Help! I nearly drowned. I know my clothes are dry but I was drowning in the water I swear. Help! Help!

ARIEL appears, singing, leading FERDINAND around the stage. FERDINAND cannot see ARIEL, but is enchanted by the music.

## ARIEL: (Singing.)

Come unto these yellow sands,

And then take hands.

Curtsied when you have, and kissed.

The wild waves whist:

Foot if featly here and there;

And, sweet sprites, the burthen bear.

Hark, hark!

OFFSTAGE VOICES: Bow-wow.

ARIEL: The watchdogs bark:

OFFSTAGE VOICES: Bow-wow.

ARIEL: Hark, hark! I hear the strain of a strutting rooster cry.

FERDINAND: Where is this music coming from? In the air? In the earth? (The music stops.) Now it is quiet.

MIRANDA's head peeps around the corner. She sees FERDINAND and is struck. She giggles. FERDINAND turns, but she hides. He turns away. She looks again, giggles, etc. She looks a third time.

MIRANDA: (aside) I must go tell my father about this handsome gentleman!

FERDINAND: First I was on a ship. Next the ship was in a big storm. Then I was all alone on this island. I was sitting on the bank, weeping for the shipwreck. The music (ARIEL hums) crept by me upon the waters. Now I have followed it. (ARIEL stops) But now it is gone.

ARIEL begins to sing again.

FERDINAND: Now the music starts again!

As ARIEL sings, FERDINAND dances with himself. He may join in the singing.

#### ARIEL:

Full fathom thy father lies,
Of his bones are coral made;
Those are pearls that were his eyes,
Nothing of him that doth fade,
But doth suffer a sea-change
Into something rich and strange,
Sea nymphs hourly ring his knell.
Ding-Dong.

OFFSTAGE VOICES: Ding-Dong.

ARIEL: (Exiting) Ding-Dong.

OFFSTAGE VOICES: Ding-Dong Bell. Ding Dong. Ding Dong Bell.

FERDINAND: That song reminds me of life back home. This music is not of this world.

MIRANDA: (Aside) My father should see this, but I cannot find him. (To FERDINAND) Yoo Hoo!

FERDINAND: Another spirit!

MIRANDA: No wonder, sir. I am a girl.

FERDINAND: My language! Heavens! You speak my language! I was in a great shipwreck, and I think that everyone else drowned. Have you seen Antonio the king of Naples? How about Trinculo and Stephano, our servants? There was a great storm, the likes of which I've never seen.

MIRANDA: King of Naples?

#### **CRAIG MASON**

- PROSPERO and ARIEL appear, and watch the conversation unseen by FERDINAND and MIRANDA.
- MIRANDA: (aside) My father is the king of Naples. Not Antonio. And if this man knows Antonio then my father will want to punish him for sure. But he is only the second man I ever saw; and the first man that ever I (sighs) sighed for.
- FERDINAND: You are beautiful. If you are not married already, I would like to make you my Queen!
- MIRANDA: Shhh! My father will hear. Good sir, come with me, and I will hide you from my father. If he finds you he will put you in prison.

The two start to exit together. PROSPERO raises his staff, ARIEL runs and holds FERDINAND in place. No amount of tugging will free him.

FERDINAND: Help! I cannot move. (Now ARIEL starts to take FERDINAND away from MIRANDA) I am being forced away!

FERDINAND and ARIEL are gone. MIRANDA turns and sees her father.

- MIRANDA: Father! Father! Why can't you leave him alone? I love him. He is a most perfect creature. He is a thing divine. A divinely perfect creature. A creature that is perfectly divinely perfect. So this is what they mean by love.
- PROSPERO: Miranda, he's a prince! And he is good friends with Antonio, my brother. That means he is our enemy.
- MIRANDA: Nothing bad could ever come from such a handsome man. If bad things are in him, all good things will shoo them away.
- PROSPERO: He's a traitor. I'll manacle his neck. Make him drink salt water. He'll have to eat withered roots and husks.
- MIRANDA: But he's so handsome!
- PROSPERO: You think that he is handsome? Ha! He is so ugly that compared to other men, he looks like Caliban.
- MIRANDA: I do not wish to see a better man than this. (exits)
- PROSPERO: Ah-Ha! It works. Ariel, I will free you for this! Now the prince is under my control.

PROSPERO exits. Music plays to show a change of mood. TRINCULO follows the music onstage.

TRINCULO: Stephano! My good friend Stephano! Where are you? Did you drown? Where is the king? Where is Prince Ferdinand? Oh boy.

TRINCULO exits. STEPHANO enters from the opposite side of the stage.

STEPHANO: Trinculo! My good friend Trinculo! Where are you? Did you drown? Where is the king? Where is Prince Ferdinand? Oh dear.

STEPHANO exits. Music ends. Enter CALIBAN with a load of wood.

CALIBAN: OOOOOOH that Prospero!! I don't care if he can hear me. Curse him! He can do what he likes. Throw me in the mud or let snakes bite me, I still don't like him.

TRINCULO enters with his back to CALIBAN. He cannot see CALIBAN.

- CALIBAN: OOOOOOH! Prospero did hear me! Look. There's one of his evil spirits to torment me, and put hedgehogs in my socks! I'll hide over here. Maybe he won't be able to find me. I'll try and scare it away with scary noises. (to the audience) Would you like to help me? Good. At the count of three we'll stamp our feet to make a thunder sound. One, two, three! (CALIBAN leads the audience and makes a thunder-like sound.)
- TRINCULO: (Looking up.) I think there's another storm brewing. I can smell it in the wind. And I see some black clouds in the sky. (Sees CALIBAN) Well, what have we here? A man? Or a fish? (Smells CALIBAN) Well, he does have a very fish-like smell. But what a strange fish he is! Look, his tail looks like two legs. His fins look like arms. Holy cow! This is no fish!!!! This is a man who got hit by lightning.
- CALIBAN: (To audience) He's not going away. Let's try it again. One, two, three. (CALIBAN and the audience make more thunder noises.)
- TRINCULO: OH! The storm is coming again! The storm is coming again I say! I must hide, but where?? Aha! Inside his coat. I have no choice but to hide with this manly-fish. This fishy man. I will hide in here until the storm has passed.

TRINCULO ducks underneath CALIBAN'S coat.

CALIBAN: Ooooh that Prospero. Tormenting me again and again. Now there is an evil spirit inside my coat! (STEPHANO enters.) Look, here's another one of his evil spirits.

14

#### **CRAIG MASON**

- STEPHANO: (Singing) "I shall no more to sea, to sea, to sea, to sea, Here I shall die ashore, ashore, ashore, ashore!" (Speaking) What an awful song. Here's my comfort! (Drinks from a jug, and sings a different tune.) "The master, the swabber, the boatswain, and I, The gunner, and his mate, Lov'd Mall." (Speaking) Ah, never mind! It's an awful song as well! But here's my comfort. (Takes another drink.)
- CALIBAN: Do not torment me! O!
- STEPHANO: What's the matter? Are there devils on this island? Ha! I'm not afraid of anything! I didn't save myself from drowning to be afraid of a talking fish.
- CALIBAN: This spirit is tormenting me! O!
- STEPHANO: That's no fish! That is some monster from this island with four legs and a bad fever. Where did he learn to speak English?
- CALIBAN: Do not torment me! I promise that I will bring my wood faster next time.
- STEPHANO: He's having some kind of fit. (Holding up the jug) I know the cure for that!
- CALIBAN: Well, he hasn't hurt me yet. Maybe I'll try it.
- STEPHANO: Alright, open your mouth. Here's what you need. Open your mouth. This will stop you from shaking I can tell you, and I should know! Open again.
- TRINCULO: (Sticking out his head from beneath CALIBAN'S coat.) I know that voice. It is my friend Stephano! But he was drowned. This must be a spirit. Oh help me!!!
- STEPHANO: A strange man-fish indeed! It has four legs, and two different voices. Oh my! I must cure him of this. Open your mouth wide. You need even more that I thought. Where is your other mouth? It should get some too.
- TRINCULO: Stephano!?!
- STEPHANO: Your other mouth knows my name? Mercy! Away, away!
  - STEPHANO starts to run away.
- TRINCULO: Stephano! If you really are Stephano, say so. For I am Trinculo, do not be afraid, your good friend Trinculo.
- STEPHANO: If you are Trinculo, then come forward. I'll even help you get out of this fish.

CALIBAN: I am not a fish! I am a monster!

STEPHANO: You are Trinculo.

TRINCULO: You are Stephano.

They dance and sing.

CALIBAN: They seem really nice. Better than Prospero. I'm going to follow them for a while.

STEPHANO: I thought you drowned.

TRINCULO: But I thought YOU drowned.

STEPHANO: I didn't.

TRINCULO: Me too. Do you have any...

STEPHANO: (Holding up jug.) Of course!

They dance and sing again.

STEPHANO: How did you escape drowning?

TRINCULO: Swam ashore, man, like a duck. I can swim like a duck.

STEPHANO: You might be able to swim like a duck, but you look like a goose.

CALIBAN: Did you two come from heaven?

TRINCULO: We came out of the moon. I used to be the man in the moon, you know.

CALIBAN: I think I've seen you there.

STEPHANO: (Holding up jug.) Here, finish this up. There's lots more that washed up ashore with me.

TRINCULO: I like this monster. He's not a scary monster at all. He's a weak monster. The man in the moon. Ha! A monster that would believe anything you tell him.

CALIBAN: I will show you every wonderful thing about this island, and I will kiss your foot. Please be my master.

TRINCULO: Yes, a most wonderful monster.

CALIBAN: I'll kiss your foot!

STEPHANO: Alright then, kiss my foot.

#### CRAIG MASON

TRINCULO: (Laughing) A puppy-headed monster.

CALIBAN: I'll show you the best springs, I'll pluck you berries. I'll fish for you, and get you wood. I'm leaving Prospero, my master, and now I will serve only you!

TRINCULO: A wood-fetching monster.

CALIBAN: And show you where the crabs grow, show you bird nests. Will you come with me?

TRINCULO: A bird's nest showing monster.

STEPHANO: Alright then. Our king was drowned, and now you and I will be masters of this island. How bad can this Prospero be?

CALIBAN: (singing) Farewell, Prospero! Farewell, farewell!

TRINCULO: A singing monster!

CALIBAN: (singing) No more dams, I'll make for fish, nor fetch in firing, at requiring, nor scrape trencher, nor wash dish. 'Ban 'Ban Ca-Caliban. 'Ban 'Ban Ca-Caliban. Has a new master – Get a new man! Freedom, High-day! High-day, freedom! Freedom, hey-day, freedom!

STEPHANO: O brave monster! Lead the way. (CALIBAN exits. STEPHANO sings.) 'Ban 'Ban Ca-Caliban. 'Ban 'Ban Ca-Caliban. (Laughs.) Well, well, well. What a day we have had. Our king probably drowned in the shipwreck.

TRINCULO: We have been made kings of this island.

STEPHANO: And we even have our first servant.

TRINCULO: 'Ban 'Ban Ca-Caliban. (They exit laughing and rejoicing.)

Music plays. FERDINAND enters, carrying logs.

FERDINAND: Some chores are very difficult. Carrying logs is one of them. But the magician's daughter makes everything so easy. Oh! She is ten times gentler than her father. I must move thousands of these logs and pile them up. And she cries when she sees me work so hard.

MIRANDA enters. She sees FERDINAND and starts to cry.

MIRANDA: Wait kind sir. Do not work so hard. My father is reading his books. Take a rest. He will be busy for at least three hours.

FERDINAND: Oh my dear, I must finish this work for your father.

MIRANDA: If you sit down, I'll carry your logs for a while for you.

FERDINAND: I would rather break my back, than to sit and make you work for me.

MIRANDA: You look so tired.

PROSPERO and ARIEL enter, unseen by MIRANDA and FERDINAND.

FERDINAND: No my mistress. It is fresh as morning for me when you are nearby. Won't you please tell me your name?

MIRANDA: My father made me promise not to tell you. (Looks around.) It's Miranda.

FERDINAND: Oh my Miranda. You are so perfect, and so peerless. You are created of every creature's best!

MIRANDA: I do not remember what a woman should look like. As for men, I have seen no more than you and my father. But I would not wish anyone other than you.

FERDINAND: Hear me speak: the very second I first saw you, my heart started beating. And for you, I carry these logs.

PROSPERO waves his staff; the logs become so heavy that FERDINAND must drop them to the ground.

MIRANDA: Do you love me?

FERDINAND: O heaven, O earth, listen to me. I do love, prize, honour you.

MIRANDA cries.

FERDINAND: Why do you cry?

MIRANDA: I'm crying at what makes me happy. I am your wife, if you will marry me.

FERDINAND: Now I weep.

MIRANDA: My husband, then?

FERDINAND: Yes. Here's my hand. And for now, farewell. (Exits.)

MIRANDA: (sighs) Farewell, farewell. I love you a thousand! A million! (sighs) A thousand million. A million thousand. What is greater? A thousand million or a million thousand. Whichever is greater

that's what I love you. Plus infinity! (She plays with the petals of a daisy in her headdress.) He loves me, he loves me not. He loves me, he loves me not. He (sigh) loves me!

MIRANDA exits. CALIBAN appears on the other side of the stage with a pile of wood in his hands.

CALIBAN: My new masters need wood. So I carry the wood for them gladly. It's much more fun carrying wood for them than for Prospero. Who needs him anyway? I'm not scared of him. My new masters are so smart and so big and so strong. 'Ban 'Ban Ca-Caliban. 'Ban-'Ban Ca-Caliban. Carries the wood just like a strong man.

CALIBAN moves to the side of the stage and piles the wood on the ground. STEPHANO and TRINCULO enter.

STEPHANO: Ahhh. This is the life. Sun. Friends. A servant. Servant-monster! Drink to me.

TRINCULO: Servant monster? That's a joke. Where is he? Caliban!

CALIBAN: The wood carrying is done kind sirs. Now I come, I come.

TRINCULO: Well get coming!

PROSPERO gestures to the group with his staff. ARIEL nods her head. PROSPERO exits. ARIEL circles behind the group, unseen.

CALIBAN: Here I am.

STEPHANO: Here. Drink servant-monster.

CALIBAN: What would you like me to do? Let me lick your shoe.

Please!

STEPHANO: Really Caliban, that's not necessary.

TRINCULO: You can lick my shoe.

CALIBAN: I won't do anything for this other one. He is so mean!

TRINCULO: You are a liar.

CALIBAN: That's very, very mean. How do you let him treat me like this? Please bite him.

- STEPHANO: Trinculo. Be nice. The poor monster is mine, and you will not be mean to him.
- CALIBAN: Oh I thank you kind sir. Would you like me to tell you my story again?
- STEPHANO: Yes. Kneel and repeat it. Trinculo and I will stand.
- CALIBAN: As I told you before, my other boss, Prospero, is very mean to me. Even worse than Trinculo. He took this whole island from me.

Music is heard. ARIEL moves behind TRINCULO and speaks in unison with TRINCULO.

TRINCULO and ARIEL: You lie.

ARIEL moves away.

CALIBAN: You are the liar. Boy I wish my master could keep you quiet.

STEPHANO: If you bother this monster again, I'll pop out some of your teeth.

TRINCULO: I said nothing.

CALIBAN: Prospero used his magical powers to get this island from me. If you were to get it back from him I would gladly serve you.

Music is heard. ARIEL moves behind TRINCULO and speaks in unison with TRINCULO.

TRINCULO and ARIEL: You lie still.

ARIEL moves away.

CALIBAN: You scurvy patch. Stop that. Oh master, make him stop.

STEPHANO: Trinculo. Cut it out. Interrupt the monster one more time and I'll boil you and eat you for dinner.

TRINCULO: What did I do? I did nothing. I'll stand further away to prove it.

STEPHANO: Did you not say that Caliban is a liar?

Music is heard. ARIEL moves behind TRINCULO and speaks in unison with TRINCULO.

TRINCULO and ARIEL: You are an even bigger liar than Caliban.

ARIEL moves away.

STEPHANO: Why you...

STEPHANO chases TRINCULO around the stage.

CALIBAN: Ha, ha, ha!

STEPHANO: (Returning to CALIBAN.) Now, please continue with your story.

CALIBAN: Well, as I was saying. My master Prospero takes a nap in the afternoon. First take all his books, and then brain him. Be sure to take the books first. Without them, he is just the same as you and me. Burn the books. (*Gets an idea*.) He has a beautiful daughter called Miranda. You could marry her!

STEPHANO: Trinculo! Did you like the plan?

TRINCULO: Excellent.

STEPHANO: I'm sorry I growled at you.

TRINCULO: It was so sad, I thought we were friends.

CALIBAN: Masters. He'll be asleep in a half hour. This is going to go even better than I expected. Prospero will be gone, and I will have a new master who is nice to me and treats me well.

ARIEL: Ha — ha! Outwit Prospero? Never.

STEPHANO: (singing) Flout 'em and scout 'em, And scout 'em and flout 'em; Thought is free.

CALIBAN: That is not the tune.

ARIEL: Ha!

ARIEL sings the song to the correct tune. STEPHANO and TRINCULO look about in wonder.

STEPHANO: What is that?

CALIBAN: Are you afraid?

STEPHANO: No. monster.

CALIBAN: Do not be afraid. This island is full of noises and sounds. They mean no harm.

ARIEL: Follow me.

STEPHANO: Let us follow this strange sound.

ARIEL motions offstage. CALIBAN, STEPHANO and TRINCULO follow ARIEL'S direction.

ARIEL: Now to deal with the king, Prospero's evil brother Antonio. Come Antonio, meet your fate.

ARIEL summons ANTONIO onstage.

ANTONIO: I am Antonio the King of Naples, don't you know. I am the brother of Prospero who was once king. (Sarcastic) So sad to see him go. There should be food and servants all about me. Where are my servants? Where is my food? Oh, I am so hungry. Where are my servants? (Sees audience) Ah, there you are my servants. You are my servants and you will do whatever I say. Do you have any food? No? Alright, let's play a little game to distract myself. It's called "Antonio Says." I play this game all the time back home. There's only one rule. You do whatever Antonio says. Here we go. Antonio says, rub your heads. Antonio says pat your tummies. Antonio says wave your hands in the air. Now clap your hands! Aha! Antonio didn't say! (He groans and clutches his tummy) Ohhhh, that wasn't good enough. I need food!

ARIEL: Here's food enough for you.

Music plays. ARIEL produces a large buffet of food.

ANTONIO: Well it's about time. Hours and hours have I been walking around this island without any food. Well, let's see what we have here? Mmmm apples! Mmmm grapefruit! Mmmm kiwi! What to eat first, what to eat first...

ARIEL: Not so fast.

ARIEL makes the food disappear as quickly as it appeared.

ANTONIO: Servant. Servant I say. Bring the food back. I am Antonio. I am the king. King of Naples!

ARIEL: I do not serve you. I serve Prospero, the rightful king of Naples.

ANTONIO: Prospero? My brother? But I sent him away. Him and his daughter. Oh, what was her name?

ARIEL: Miranda.

ANTONIO: Yes, Miranda. But how could you know that?

ARIEL: Lucky guess.



help@theatrefolk.com www.theatrefolk.com

# Want to Read More?

Order a full script through the link above. You can get a PDF file (it's printable, licensed for one printout, and delivered instantly) or a traditionally bound and printed book (sent by mail).