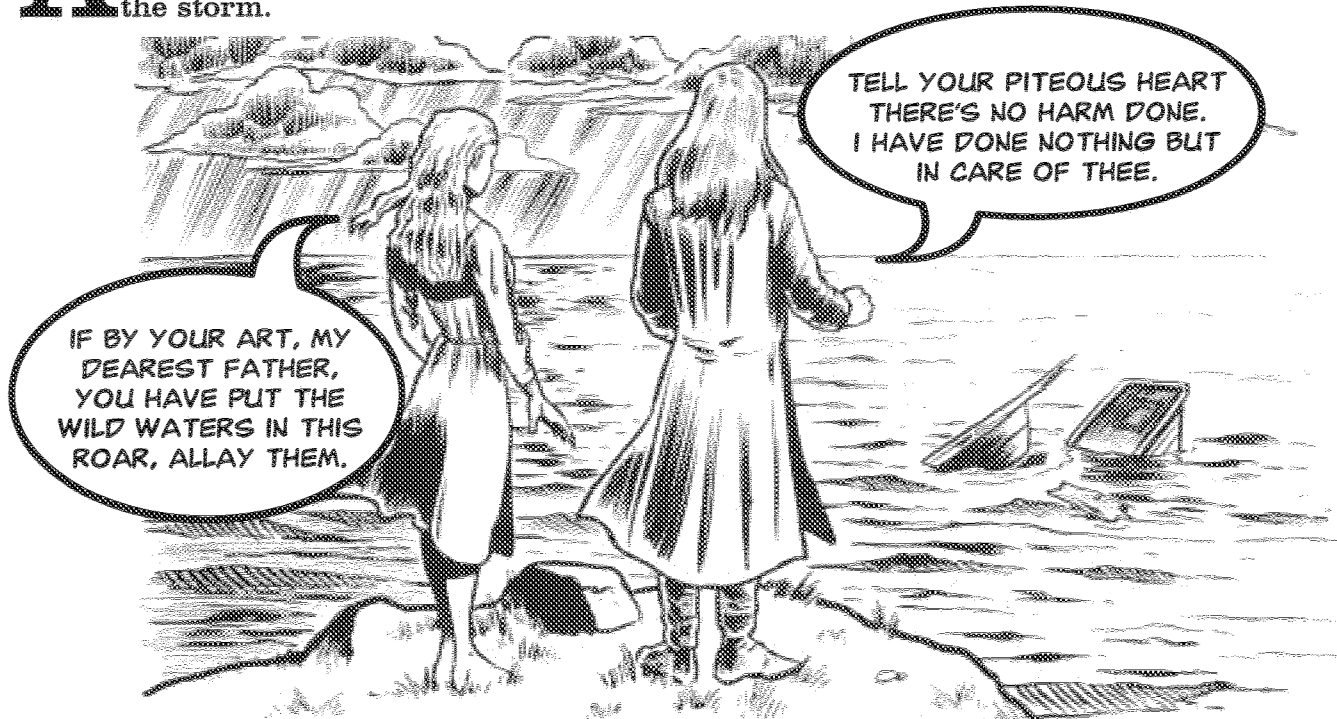


The Tempest

by William Shakespeare

A lovely young woman and her father watched the shipwreck from an island in this tempestuous sea. The young woman, Miranda, begged her father, Prospero, to calm the storm.



IF BY YOUR ART, MY DEAREST FATHER, YOU HAVE PUT THE WILD WATERS IN THIS ROAR, ALLAY THEM.

TELL YOUR PITEOUS HEART THERE'S NO HARM DONE. I HAVE DONE NOTHING BUT IN CARE OF THEE.

Alonso, the King of Naples, was sailing home from his daughter's wedding to the King of Tunis. With him were his son Ferdinand, Antonio, the Duke of Milan, and other members of his court. On the Mediterranean Sea, they sailed into a terrible storm. The vessel was dashed to pieces, and all aboard were forced to abandon ship.



Then the magician told his daughter that before they came to the island twelve years earlier, he had been Duke of Milan. While he studied magic, his brother, Antonio, plotted his overthrow. One night, with the help of the King of Naples, Antonio set Prospero and three-year-old Miranda adrift in a small boat in the open sea.



Prospero explained that they would not have survived if not for his noble friend, Gonzalo. He secretly supplied the boat with food, water, and Prospero's much-loved magic books. These helped them get by until they reached land.



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Prospero told Ariel to use his magic to lure the king's son to Miranda. Then Prospero called his other servant, Caliban. The grotesque creature reluctantly appeared, complaining that the island belonged to him, not Prospero. It had once belonged to his mother. Prospero called Caliban an untrainable savage.

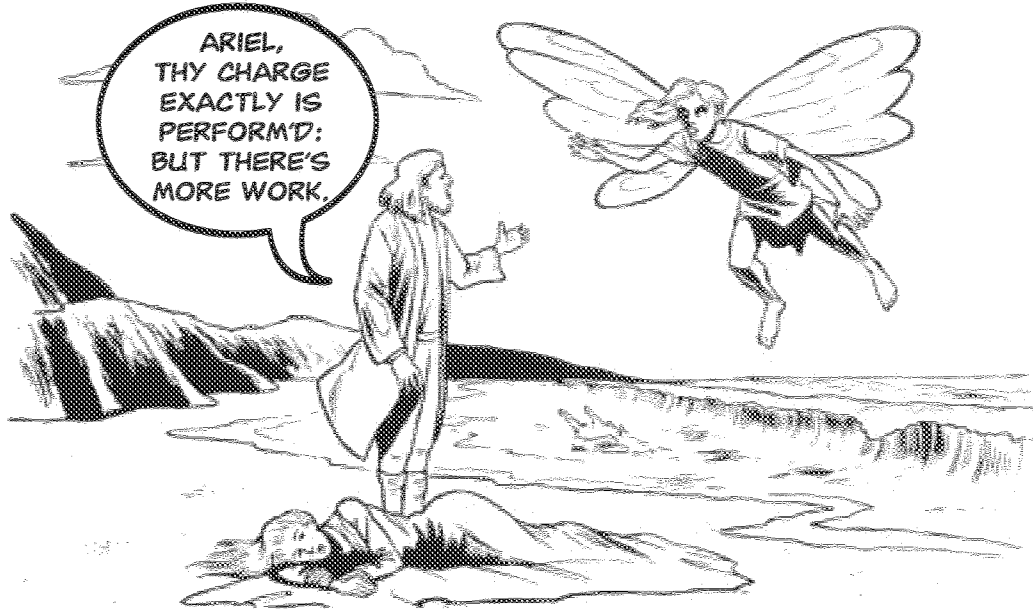


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Prospero summoned his servant Ariel, a magical spirit, who reported that all of the ship's passengers and crew were safe on different parts of the island. Ferdinand, the king's son, was alone on one corner. The king, Antonio, the king's brother, and Gonzalo were on another part. Two crew members wandered the island, while the rest slept on the ship, which was hidden in the harbor.



Ariel, turned invisible, found Ferdinand mourning for his father, whom he believed was lost at sea. Singing a song, Ariel led the king's son to Miranda, who was standing by her father's side. The two young people fell in love instantly. Prospero intervened.




On another part of the island, King Alonso mourned the loss of his son, whom he believed drowned. When the king and Gonzalo fell asleep, Antonio plotted with Sebastian, the king's brother, to kill the other two so that Sebastian could become king. As the traitorous brothers drew their swords, the invisible Ariel woke Gonzalo.



Prospero had put Ferdinand to work rolling logs to test the prince's love for his daughter. Miranda disobeyed her father and visited the prisoner. She did not know that Prospero was watching from a distance as the two lovers exchanged vows.



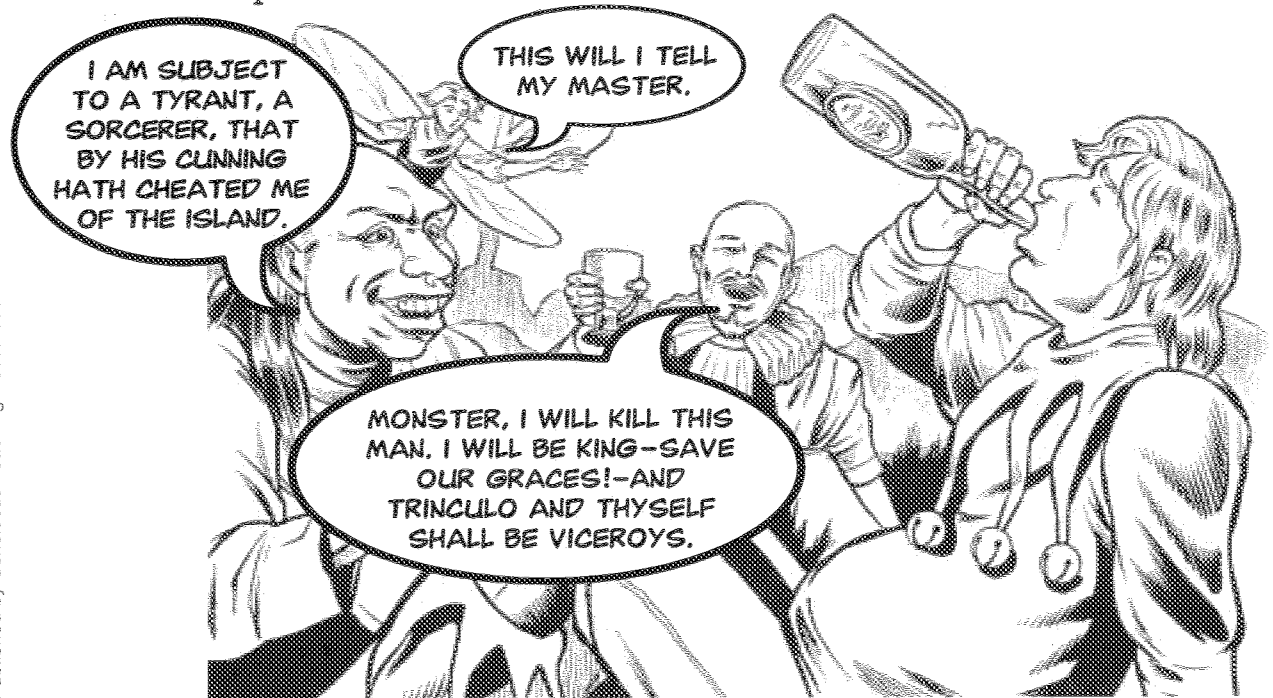
Meanwhile, Caliban was getting wood for Prospero when he met Trinculo, Alonso's jester, and Stephano, the king's drunken butler. At first he was afraid of these men, but his feelings changed after Stephano gave him some of his liquor to drink.



THAT'S A BRAVE GOD AND BEARS CELESTIAL LIQUOR. I'LL SHOW THEE EVERY FERTILE INCH O' TH' ISLAND; AND I WILL KISS THY FOOT: I PRITHEE, BE MY GOD.

COME, KISS. O BRAVE MONSTER! LEAD THE WAY.

Ariel continued to fly around the island, checking on his charges. When he came upon Caliban, Stephano, and Trinculo, he heard the drunken trio plotting to kill Prospero.



I AM SUBJECT TO A TYRANT, A SORCERER, THAT BY HIS CUNNING HATH CHEATED ME OF THE ISLAND.

THIS WILL I TELL MY MASTER.

MONSTER, I WILL KILL THIS MAN. I WILL BE KING—SAVE OUR GRACES!—AND TRINCULO AND THYSELF SHALL BE VICEROYS.

On the other side of the island, King Alonso and his men were searching in vain for Ferdinand. Exhausted, they sat down to rest. When they did so, they began to hear wonderful music. Then a table appeared before them, laden with a lavish banquet.



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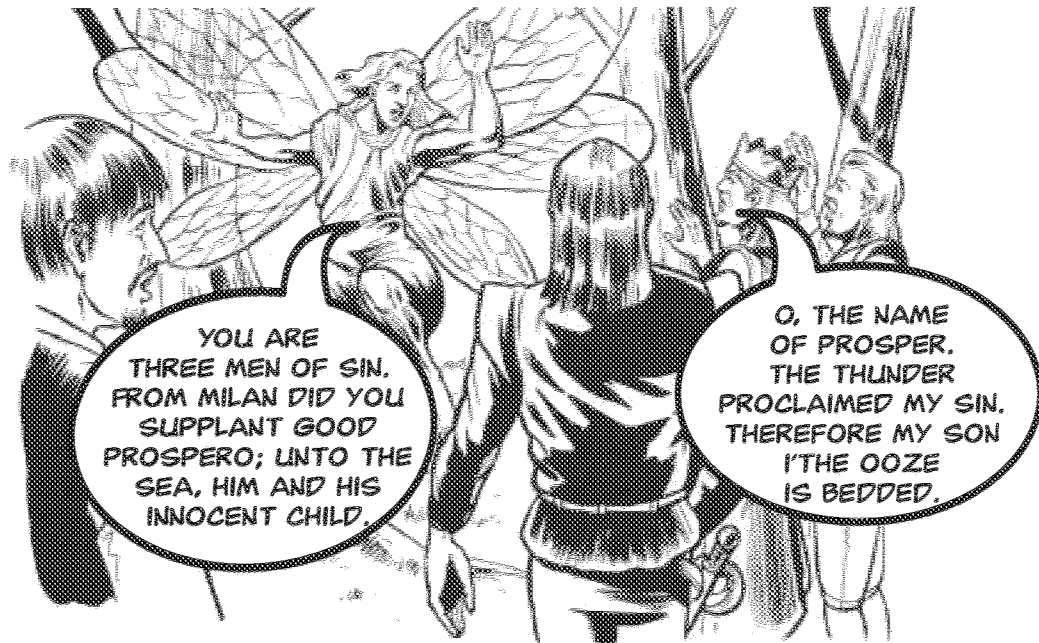
Meanwhile, Prospero went to see Miranda and Ferdinand. He told Ferdinand that all his vexations were but trials of his love, and that he had passed the test. He gave the young couple his blessings, then sent them inside his home to rest.



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All the men rose to dine, but as they did so, thunder and lightning shook the air. Ariel flew down and clapped his wings on the table, making the banquet vanish. Then he turned and addressed King Alonso, Sebastian, and Duke Antonio.



Hearing of Caliban's plot, Prospero instructed Ariel to hang fancy clothes on the tree in front of his house. When Caliban, Stephano, and Trinculo arrived to murder Prospero, the two shipmates were so distracted by the finery that they forgot why they came. Caliban tried to remind them, but they wouldn't listen. Then, Prospero and Ariel sent spirits in the shape of dogs to chase them away.



Ariel then told Prospero that his enemies seemed truly sorry for what they had done to him. Hearing that, the wise old man vowed to take part "with my nobler reason 'gainst my fury." He told Ariel to bring the king and his men to him.



There was further reason to rejoice when Ariel came forward with the master of the ship and the boatswain. Happy to find their king alive, they reported on the condition of their ship, which they so recently declared split.



Prospero embraced his friend, Gonzalo. He forgave Antonio, but demanded that he give back his dukedom. Then, hearing the king speak about the loss of his son, he led Alonso into his house, where Ferdinand and Miranda were playing chess. Father and son were overjoyed to see each other.



Prospero told the king that he would explain all the strange events that had occurred. He said they would set sail for Naples in the morning, where Miranda and Ferdinand would be married. Then Prospero would return to Milan, to his dukedom. Before going inside, Prospero called for Ariel.

