

The Tempest abbreviated

Act 5, Scene 1

Chivalry

Situation: The extraordinarily gracious Prospero greets the shipwrecked men, forgiving Sebastian and Antonio. When Alonso says “I have lost my dear son Ferdinand,” Prospero says “I have lost my daughter.” Prospero then leads the men into his home where Ferdinand and Miranda are playing chess. Prospero continues to tell his tale of how this time came to be.

ALONSO: This is as strange a thing as e'er I looked on.

PROSPERO TO CALIBAN: So, sirrah, to my cell. Take with you your companions.

CALIBAN: Ay, that I will, and I'll be wise hereafter and seek for grace.

Caliban, Stephano and Trinculo exit.

Prospero to Alonso

This misshapen knave's mother, legend goes,
Was so strong she could control the moon's flows
And ebbs. These three here have robbed me, and this
Demi-devil plotted with them to take
My life. Sir, I do invite your Highness
To my home where you may enjoy the brake
From your brief enslavement; where I shall tell
Of my time on this isle, and wish you well,
For in the morn I'll take you to your ship,
Promising an auspicious voyage, so
Expeditious that you shall on this trip
O'ertake your fleet; where I'll to Naples go
Where a legal service for these two can
Be; when I can withdraw to my Milan.

ALONSO: I long to hear the story of your life, which must take the ear strangely.

PROSPERO ASIDE TO ARIEL: My Ariel, chick, to the elements be free, and fare thou well.

PROSPERO TO ALONSO: Please you, draw near.