

## Background

Thanks to his scheming brother, Prospero has been banished as the Duke of Milan. For the past 12 years, he has lived on a deserted island with his daughter Miranda, now 15. Prospero's deep interest in study, the cause of his downfall in Milan, has ironically helped him to control the island through magic. Caliban, the deformed son of the dead witch Sycorax, is Prospero's unwilling servant. Ariel, a fairy who had been imprisoned in a pine tree by Sycorax, also serves Prospero. As the play opens, Prospero has caused a tempest at sea leading to the wrecking of a ship carrying his old enemies.





## — Cast of Characters —

**ALONSO** The King of Naples

**SEBASTIAN** Alonso's brother

**PROSPERO** The rightful Duke of Milan

**ANTONIO** Prospero's brother, who has taken the  
position of the Duke of Milan

**FERDINAND** The son of the King of Naples

**GONZALO** An honest old counselor

**ADRIAN** and **FRANCISCO** Lords

**CALIBAN** A deformed slave

**TRINCULO** A jester

**STEPHANO** A drunken butler

**CAPTAIN OF A SHIP**

**BOATSWAIN** The officer in charge of the deck's crew  
and equipment

**SAILORS**

**MIRANDA** Prospero's daughter

**ARIEL** An airy spirit

**IRIS, CRERS, JUNO, NYMPHS, REAPERS** Spirits



# ACT 1

## Summary

一艘船在暴風雨之中沉沒了，與此同時，在附近的小島上看著這一切發生的米蘭達，認為是她的父親運用法力造成這一場暴風雨，她因此哀悼生命的逝去。她的父親普洛斯帕羅則向她保證沒有任何人受傷，並揭曉了他們父女是如何來到這座島的故事。

十二年前，當米蘭達才不到三歲時，普洛斯帕羅貴為米蘭公爵，卻被他的弟弟安東尼奧與那不勒斯王阿隆佐設計，趕下了這個位置。他們只給普洛斯帕羅和米蘭達一艘沒有槳、沒有桅杆、沒有索具、也沒有滑車的破船，就將兩人放逐到海上自生自滅。若是沒有高貴的那不勒斯人貢札羅為他們準備了水、糧食、書籍與其他的補給品，他們不可能活得下來。這十二年以來，普洛斯帕羅憑藉著魔法，得到了魔法精靈愛麗兒和出生在這個島上的畸形人類卡列班的幫助與臣服。

那不勒斯的王子菲迪南其實並沒有死在這場船難，就在米蘭達與普洛斯帕羅說話的同時，他來到了這兩人身邊，米蘭達與菲迪南一見鍾情，但普洛斯帕羅並不打算讓他們的愛情這麼唾手可得，他認為唯有經過磨難，愛情的果實才會更顯得甜美，於是他指控菲迪南其實是一名欲佔領這座島的間諜，並禁止米蘭達為其辯護。





## Scene 1

A ship tosses and rocks during a storm. The **captain** and the **boatswain** come out on deck.

**CAPTAIN:** Boatswain!

**BOATSWAIN:** Here, Captain. How goes it?

**CAPTAIN:** Good fellow, speak to the sailors.

Hurry, or we will soon run ourselves  
aground. Hurry!

(**Captain** exits, blowing his whistle. **Sailors** run by and start pulling at the sails.)

**BOATSWAIN:** Heave ho, my hearties!

Work harder! Quickly! Take in the  
topsail. Obey the captain's whistle.

(*Defiantly, to the storm*): Blow until you burst  
your lungs, as long as we can sail on.

(**Alonso** enters, along with **Sebastian, Antonio, Ferdinand, Gonzalo,** and **others**.)

**ALONSO:** Boatswain, where's the captain?

**BOATSWAIN:** Don't you hear him? You're  
in the way! Stay below. You're helping the  
storm.

**GONZALO:** No, good fellow, be patient.



**BOATSWAIN:** When the sea is! (*Pointing to the huge waves*) What do these care about kings? To your cabins! Silence! Get out of our way!

**GONZALO:** Good sir, remember who is on board.

**BOATSWAIN:** None that I love more than myself. You are a counselor. If you can command this storm to silence, do so. If not, give thanks that you have lived so long, and go to your cabin. Prepare for trouble, if it comes along.

(*To the passengers*): Get out of our way, I say!

(**Boatswain** exits, shouting orders.)

**GONZALO:** This fellow gives me great comfort. He wasn't born to be drowned—but hanged instead. Fate, stick to his hanging. Make the rope of his destiny our anchor, for our own is not helping us. If he has not been born to be hanged, we're in trouble.

(**Alonso** and **others** exit. **Boatswain** enters again.)





**BOATSWAIN:** (*to sailors*): Down with the topmast!  
Quick! Lower, lower!

(Shouts are heard from the passengers below decks.)

Blast all this howling! They are louder  
than the weather.

(**Sebastian**, **Antonio**, and **Gonzalo** enter again.)

You again? What are you doing here?  
Shall we give up and drown? Do you  
want to sink?

**SEBASTIAN:** May you choke, you bawling dog!

**BOATSWAIN:** Do some work, then.

**ANTONIO:** Hang, you dog! Hang, you  
loudmouth! We are less afraid of  
drowning than you are.





**GONZALO:** I guarantee he won't drown, even if the ship were no stronger than a nutshell.

**BOATSWAIN:** (to the sailors): Heave ho!  
Raise the mainsail! Out to sea again.  
Turn her around!

**(Sailors enter, soaking wet and frightened.)**

**SAILORS:** All is lost. Say your prayers! It's hopeless. *(Sailors exit.)*

**GONZALO:** The king and the prince are at prayers. Let's join them. It seems to be our only hope.

**(A confused noise is heard. "Mercy on us! Farewell, my wife and children. Farewell, brother! Oh, no! The ship is splitting up, splitting up!")**

**ANTONIO:** Let's all go down with the king.

**SEBASTIAN:** We must say farewell to him.

**(Antonio and Sebastian exit.)**

**GONZALO:** Now I would give a hundred miles of sea for an acre of barren ground! God's will be done! But I would much rather die a dry death.

**(Gonzalo exits.)**

