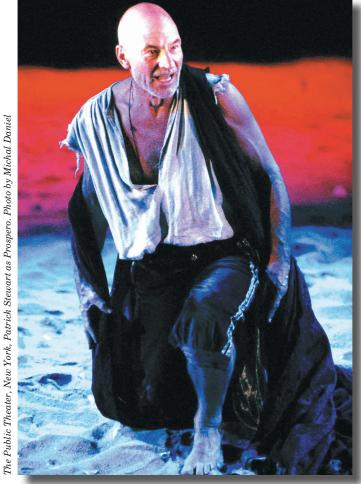
The Tempest Shorter Shakespeare Carel Press



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CAREL

Act 1 Scene 1

On a ship at sea

Louder storm noises

¹ pronounced Bosun The Narrators step back to watch the action. The Shipmaster and Boatswain¹ come on struggling against the storm

Master:

Boatswain!

Boatswain:

Here, Master. What cheer?

Master:

² get to it quickly Speak to the mariners. Fall to 't, yarely², or we run ourselves aground. Bestir, bestir!

The master runs off as other sailors rush on and busy themselves with trying to save the ship

Boatswain:

Hey, my hearts! Cheerly, cheerly, my hearts! Yare, yare! Take in the topsail!

Alonso, Sebastian, Antonio, Ferdinand and Gonzalo stagger on looking worried

Alonso:

Good Boatswain, have care. Where's the Master?

Boatswain:

I pray now, keep below.

Antonio:

Where is the Master, Boatswain?

The Master is heard offstage shouting instructions to his crew

Boatswain:

³ you get in the way of our work Do you not hear him? You mar our labour.³ Keep your cabins; you do assist the storm.

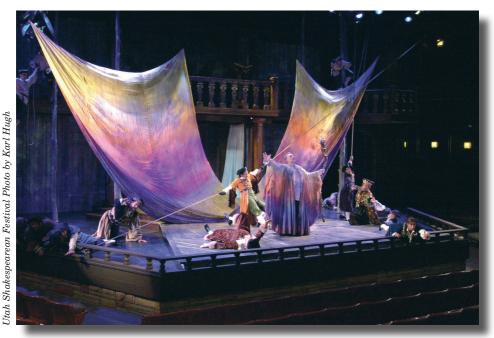
Gonzalo:

4 good men

Nay, good⁴, be patient.

Boatswain:

When the sea is. Hence! What cares these roarers for the name of king? To cabin! Silence! Trouble us not.



Gonzalo:

Good, yet remember whom thou hast aboard.

Boatswain:

None that I more love than myself. You are a councillor, if you can command these elements to silence use your authority. If you cannot, give thanks you have lived so long,

The Boatswain turns away from the noblemen and yells to the sailors

Cheerly, good hearts!

The Boatswain rushes off, pushing past the noblemen on his way

Out of our way, I say!

The noblemen leave. The Boatswain rushes back on

Boatswain:

Down with the topmast! Yare! Lower, lower!

As the sailors follow his instructions, Sebastian, Antonio, and Gonzalo stagger back on

Yet again! What do you here? Have you a mind to sink?

Prospero:

Know thus far forth.

By accident most strange, bountiful Fortune, Now my dear lady, hath mine enemies Brought to this shore.

Prospero pauses and waves his hand towards Miranda who immediately becomes drowsy

Here cease more questions.

Thou art inclined to sleep; 'tis a good dullness, And give it way. I know thou canst not choose.

Miranda falls asleep

 $Come\ away,\ servant,\ come!\ I\ am\ ready\ now.$

Approach, my Ariel; come!

Ariel appears



The Public Theater New York, Patrick Stewart as Prospero and Carrie Preston as Miranda.

Photo by Michal Daniel

Ariel:

All hail, great master! grave sir, hail! I come To answer thy best pleasure, be 't to fly, To swim, to dive into the fire, to ride On the curled clouds. To thy strong bidding task¹ Ariel and all his quality.²

¹ order ² other spirits

Prospero:

Hast thou, spirit, Performed to point the tempest that I bade thee?

Ariel:

To every article.³ All but mariners Plunged in the foaming brine and quit the vessel, Then all afire with me. The King's son, Ferdinand, Was the first man that leaped; cried, "Hell is empty, And all the devils are here."

3 detail

Prospero:

Why, that's my spirit!

But was not this nigh shore?

Ariel:

Close by, my master.

Prospero:

But are they, Ariel, safe?

Ariel:

Not a hair perished;

On their sustaining garments not a blemish, But fresher than before. And, as thou bad'st me, In troops I have dispersed them 'bout the isle. The King's son have I landed by himself, In an odd angle of the isle, and sitting, His arms in this sad knot.

Ariel impersonates Ferdinand in his grief at being shipwrecked alone

Prospero:

Of the King's ship

The mariners say how thou hast disposed, And all the rest o' the fleet.

Ariel:

Safely in harbour
The mariners all under hatches stowed,
Who, with a charm joined to their suffered labour,
I have left asleep; and for the rest o' the fleet,
Which I dispersed, they all have met again,
Bound sadly home for Naples,
Supposing that they saw the King's ship wrecked
And his great person perish.

Prospero:

Ariel, thy charge

Exactly is performed; but there's more work.

Ariel:

¹ put me to some trouble Is there more toil? Since thou dost give me pains,¹ Let me remember thee what thou hast promised, Which is not yet performed me.

Prospero:

How now? Moody?

What is 't thou canst demand?

Ariel:

My liberty.

Prospero:

Before the time be out? No more!

Ariel:

I prithee,

Remember I have done thee worthy service, Told thee no lies, made thee no mistakings, served Without or grudge or grumblings. Thou did promise To bate me a full year.²

² reduce my time by a full year

Prospero:

Dost thou forget From what a torment I did free thee?

Ariel:

No.