

The Tempest

3.2

Enter Caliban, Stefano, and Trinculo

STEFANO *(to Caliban)* Tell not me. When the butt is out we will drink water, not a drop before. Therefore bear up and board 'em. Servant monster, drink to me.

TRINCULO Servant monster? The folly of this island! They say there's but five upon this isle. We are three of 5 them; if th'other two be brained like us, the state totters.

STEFANO Drink, servant monster, when I bid thee. Thy eyes are almost set in thy head.

TRINCULO Where should they be set else? He were a brave 10 monster indeed if they were set in his tail.

STEFANO My man-monster hath drowned his tongue in sack. For my part, the sea cannot drown me. I swam, ere I could recover the shore, five and thirty leagues, off and on. By this light, thou shalt be my lieutenant, 15 monster, or my standard.

TRINCULO Your lieutenant if you list; he's no standard.

STEFANO We'll not run, Monsieur Monster.

TRINCULO Nor go neither; but you'll lie like dogs, and yet say nothing neither. 20

STEFANO Moon-calf, speak once in thy life, if thou beest a good moon-calf.

CALIBAN

How does thy honour? Let me lick thy shoe.

I'll not serve him; he is not valiant.

TRINCULO Thou liest, most ignorant monster! I am in case 25 to jostle a constable. Why, thou debauched fish, thou, was there ever man a coward that hath drunk so much sack as I today? Wilt thou tell a monstrous lie, being but half a fish and half a monster?

CALIBAN *(to Stefano)* Lo, how he mocks me! Wilt thou let 30 him, my lord?

TRINCULO `Lord' quoth he? That a monster should be such a natural!

CALIBAN *(to Stefano)*

Lo, lo, again! Bite him to death, I prithee.

STEFANO Trinculo, keep a good tongue in your head. If 35
you prove a mutineer, the next tree. The poor monster's
my subject, and he shall not suffer indignity.

CALIBAN

I thank my noble lord. Wilt thou be pleased
To hearken once again to the suit I made to thee?

STEFANO Marry, will I. Kneel and repeat it. I will stand, 40
and so shall Trinculo.

[Caliban kneels.]

Enter Ariel, invisible

CALIBAN As I told thee before, I am subject to a tyrant,
a sorcerer, that by his cunning hath cheated me of the
island.

ARIEL Thou liest. 45

CALIBAN *(to Trinculo)*

Thou liest, thou jesting monkey, thou.
I would my valiant master would destroy thee.
I do not lie.

STEFANO Trinculo, if you trouble him any more in's tale,
by this hand, I will supplant some of your teeth. 50

TRINCULO Why, I said nothing.

STEFANO Mum, then, and no more. *(To Caliban)* Proceed.

CALIBAN

I say by sorcery he got this isle;
From me he got it. If thy greatness will
Revenge it on him±±for I know thou dar'st, 55
But this thing dare not±±

STEFANO That's most certain.

CALIBAN

Thou shalt be lord of it, and I'll serve thee.

STEFANO How now shall this be compassed? Canst thou
bring me to the party? 60

CALIBAN

Yea, yea, my lord. I'll yield him thee asleep
Where thou mayst knock a nail into his head.

ARIEL Thou liest, thou canst not.

CALIBAN

What a pied ninny's this! *(To Trinculo)* Thou scurvy
patch!

(*To Stefano*) I do beseech thy greatness give him blows, 65
And take his bottle from him. When that's gone
He shall drink naught but brine, for I'll not show him
Where the quick freshes are.

STEFANO Trinculo, run into no further danger. Interrupt
the monster one word further, and, by this hand, I'll 70
turn my mercy out o'doors and make a stockfish of
thee.

TRINCULO Why, what did I? I did nothing. I'll go farther
off.

STEFANO Didst thou not say he lied? 75

ARIEL Thou liest.

STEFANO Do I so? (*Striking Trinculo*) Take thou that. As
you like this, give me the lie another time.

TRINCULO I did not give the lie. Out o'your wits and
hearing too? A pox o'your bottle! This can sack and 80
drinking do. A murrain on your monster, and the devil
take your fingers.

CALIBAN Ha, ha, ha!

STEFANO Now forward with your tale. (*To Trinculo*)
Prithee, stand further off. 85

CALIBAN
Beat him enough; after a little time
I'll beat him too.

STEFANO (*to Trinculo*) Stand farther. (*To Caliban*) Come, proceed.

CALIBAN
Why, as I told thee, 'tis a custom with him
I'th' afternoon to sleep. There thou mayst brain him,
Having first seized his books; or with a log 90
Batter his skull, or paunch him with a stake,
Or cut his weasand with thy knife. Remember
First to possess his books, for without them
He's but a sot as I am, nor hath not
One spirit to command±±they all do hate him 95
As rootedly as I. Burn but his books.
He has brave utensils, for so he calls them,
Which when he has a house he'll deck withal.
And that most deeply to consider is
The beauty of his daughter. He himself 100
Calls her a nonpareil. I never saw a woman

But only Sycorax my dam and she,
But she as far surpasseth Sycorax
As great'st does least.

STEFANO Is it so brave a lass?

CALIBAN

Ay, lord. She will become thy bed, I warrant, 105
And bring thee forth brave brood.

STEFANO Monster, I will kill this man. His daughter and
I will be king and queen±±save our graces!±±and
Trinculo and thyself shall be viceroys. Dost thou like
the plot, Trinculo? 110

TRINCULO Excellent.

STEFANO Give me thy hand. I am sorry I beat thee. But
while thou liv'st, keep a good tongue in thy head.

CALIBAN

Within this half hour will he be asleep.
Wilt thou destroy him then? 115

STEFANO Ay, on mine honour.

ARIEL (*aside*) This will I tell my master.

CALIBAN

Thou mak'st me merry; I am full of pleasure.
Let us be jocund. Will you troll the catch
You taught me but while-ere? 120

STEFANO At thy request, monster, I will do reason, any
reason.±±Come on, Trinculo, let us sing.
(*Sings*)

Flout 'em and cout 'em,
And scout 'em and flout 'em.
Thought is free. 125

CALIBAN That's not the tune.

Ariel plays the tune on a tabor and pipe

STEFANO What is this same?

TRINCULO This is the tune of our catch, played by the
picture of Nobody.

STEFANO (*calls towards Ariel*) If thou beest a man, show 130
thyself in thy likeness. If thou beest a devil, take't as
thou list.

TRINCULO O, forgive me my sins!

STEFANO He that dies pays all debts. (*Calls*) I defy thee.±±
Mercy upon us! 135

CALIBAN Art thou afeard?

STEFANO No, monster, not I.

CALIBAN

Be not afeard. The isle is full of noises,
Sounds, and sweet airs, that give delight and hurt
not.

Sometimes a thousand twangling instruments 140

Will hum about mine ears, and sometime voices

That if I then had waked after long sleep

Will make me sleep again; and then in dreaming

The clouds methought would open and show riches

Ready to drop upon me, that when I waked 145

I cried to dream again.

STEFANO This will prove a brave kingdom to me, where
I shall have my music for nothing.

CALIBAN When Prospero is destroyed.

STEFANO That shall be by and by. I remember the story. 150

Exit Ariel, playing music

TRINCULO The sound is going away. Let's follow it, and
after do our work.

STEFANO Lead, monster; we'll follow.±±I would I could
see this taborer. He lays it on.

TRINCULO (to Caliban) Wilt come? I'll follow Stefano. 155

Exeunt