

# The Tempest

## Episode 2

NARRATOR

The lightning and the thunder rage all through the night. Eventually the terrible din wakes Miranda. She is not pleased with her father, especially when she spies the passengers far below leaping into the heaving sea. Scared out of their wits.

Prospero clicks his fingers. The storm stops. He sighs. 'Time I told you just what's going on,' he says to her. And, being the kind of wizard that likes details, this takes him the rest of the night.

It turns out that Prospero's not just a wizard. He's also a Duke. The Duke of Milan. At least he was, until his brother Antonio took over. Antonio 'borrowed' the neighbouring king's army, stormed the Duke's palace and ordered Prospero and his daughter to be thrown in a boat and lost at sea. It was goodbye Duke Prospero...hello Duke Antonio.

Miranda is pretty surprised at this story: she thought they'd always lived in a cave. 'But hang on,' she says, 'how come, if you're really a Duke, you're also a wizard'?

'Aha,' says Prospero, 'my old friend, Gonzalo, threw my science books into the boat as we were leaving. Twelve years of reading them from cover to cover and I now I know pretty much everything about everything. Including being a top magician.'

'Since when did top magicians start sinking ships for fun?' accuses Miranda. Prospero explains that down there in the boat are all his enemies from Milan and Naples – including his brother Antonio.

'What are you going to do with them?' Miranda asks.

Prospero tells her he hasn't decided yet but whatever it is they deserve it. With that he conjures a spell - and puts her back to sleep. Just as Ariel flies in with a very important message...

ARIEL

Master! The ship is hidden in the harbour. The crew are all fast asleep in the hold.

PROSPERO

And the passengers?



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- ARIEL Split up round the island, just as you ordered.
- PROSPERO Excellent.
- ARIEL I'll be off then. It's been nice working for you!
- PROSPERO Not quite yet, Ariel.
- ARIEL But boss - you said this'd be my last job.
- PROSPERO This job is not over yet. Dawn's coming up. I want you to get down on the beach and start the island music going.
- ARIEL Okay. And then you'll let me go?
- PROSPERO Soon, Ariel.
- ARIEL Promise?
- PROSPERO I promise.
- ARIEL Cross your heart -
- PROSPERO Don't push your luck, Ariel, unless you want to wake up back in that tree trunk where I first found you...
- ARIEL Any particular tune you wanted or shall I choose, master? I'm going...I'm leaving...I'm out of here...

