

# *The Tempest*

## Character Descriptions

**Note:** I plan to practice gender blind casting for all characters with the exception of Ferdinand and Miranda.

**Prospero:** Father of Miranda and former Duke of Milan, Prospero lost his Dukedom to his brother, Antonio, and was banished to the island before the play begins. He is an aging wizard that manipulates and controls all the characters in the play.

**Miranda:** The young daughter of Prospero, Miranda has grown up on the island and is innocent to the realities of the modern world. Love interest to Ferdinand.

**Ariel:** Native to the island, Ariel is an air elemental spirit enslaved to Prospero. Ariel is clever and mischievous and serves Prospero with a smile despite his desire for freedom.

**Caliban:** Born on the island, Caliban is also enslaved by Prospero. He, unlike Ariel, has a dark and violent relationship with Prospero. He is considered “monstrous” by all those he encounters. Think Gollum from Lord of the Rings.

**Ferdinand:** Prince of Naples and son of Alonso, Ferdinand is separated from his father and presumed dead at the start of the play. Love interest to Miranda.

**Antonio:** Brother to Prospero, Antonio stole the Dukedom from Prospero before the play begins. He is conniving, selfish, and villainous.

**Sebastian:** Brother to Alonso, he is nearly corrupted by Antonio and aspires to betray his king and brother for his own benefit.

**Gonzalo:** An elderly advisor to the king, Gonzalo is one of the only morally righteous characters in the play.

**Alonso:** The king of Naples, he spends the majority of the play mourning his son Ferdinand's assumed death.

**Stephano:** Alonso's drunken butler, he is a comedic character and friends with Trinculo.

**Trinculo:** A comedic servant, he is slightly more clever than Stephano and also frequently drunk.

**Ensemble:** I will be casting a medium to large ensemble of “islanders.” These islanders are elemental spirits and will need to be strong movers or dancers. I am especially interested in featuring any circus like skills including juggling, devil sticks, poi spinning, acrobatics, etc.