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### **Reflection**

*The Tempest* by William Shakespeare is a comedic play that deals with power grabs, angry sorcerers, and love. Themes in Shakespeare's *The Tempest* include forgiveness and repentance. Antonio, Prospero's brother, wronged him by dethroning and banishing him twelve years ago. The forgiveness Prospero shows to everyone is a value Shakespeare himself praised in his life. With that being said, my group and I wanted to play with the characters a bit. We wanted to bring a new twist to the long beloved story. So the purpose of our project was to portray that story in a way that showed the power dynamics of minor characters compared to the major characters. We played around with the text and eventually created a story of our own highlighting these characters' stories.

The form we used to show this story was a painting. It was used because we believed it best portrayed the story we had had made. Everyone knows whenever you read a story, you visualize the characters and the setting, we thought why not make it easy for everyone and paint it. The story we had created was of Gonzalo betraying Alonso to gain power and become king with the help of Prospero, this brings in the first power dynamic. Gonzalo is sick of Alonso's reign and wants to be on charge and believes Alonso was wrong for what he did to Prospero. Little does he know Prospero has his own agenda and is just using him to become king himself which brings in a second power dynamic. Alonso has no clue of the betrayal and goes about his business. The story continues with Caliban being beautiful and in love with Miranda who is with

Ferdinand. Caliban wants to pursue Miranda, but in order to do so he has to get rid of Prospero and break free from his clutches which brings in a third power dynamic. He also has to fight Ferdinand who is with Miranda bringing in the last power dynamic.

The methods we employed in realizing our project includes looking into the characters' backgrounds and twisting around their stories. We wanted to switch around the characters' dynamics and create a new story with different intentions. We worked on the story line that was inspired by something someone in our group had previously made and expanded along it.

The audience we intend for this project are the students in our English class. We want them to interpret our painting in what they believe is happening. We want them to see if they can understand and construe the painting without us having to explain it to them first. The process that led the project from conception to completion was through meeting together and discussing how we wanted to portray the idea on paint. We discussed how the characters would look, and their facial expressions and stance. We talked about how they should dress and the color of their clothes. We wanted the characters to look obvious in how they feel and to portray the timeline correctly. As we all began the sketches we finalized what we were going to be using and we began drawing on the canvas. Next we started painting, each one of us taking turns in painting a character. We decided the background should portray the ocean and the characters being swept up in the current surrounded by their own issues. The painting and project was fun and it was interesting thinking a new story within an already famous play.