

The tempest

Act 2 scene 1

Develops the characters of the ship wrecked passengers – helps the audience distinguish between the good and the bad. Extends the theme of challenging authority

King Alonso 'Prithee, peace' 'I prithee, spare' – depressed – thinks his son is dead. Short imperatives are softened. King is ineffective, creates opportunity for other characters (Antonio and Sebastian) to challenge his right to rule at the same time as comfort him

Shakespeare uses this scene to create the fact that the court characters contrasting attitudes to Alonso in his moment of weakness. Gonzalo, Adrian, transact attempt to comfort Alonso. Gonzalo even says should be feeling 'merry' because they escaped with their lives. The adjective 'merry' seems very inappropriate to use to a man grieving with the loss of his son. This Coney's Gonzalo's well-meaning but perhaps naive optimism ineffectiveness. Nevertheless, the audience the is likely to feel sympathy for the king, seen in him as a father who has lost his son. This contrasts greatly with Prospero's depiction of Alonso as the uncaring enemy in the previous of the scene.

By the end of the scene the audience will feel even sorrier for Alonso as he is the victim of an attempted assassination. Vulnerability makes it easier to accept his repentance at the end of the play

In contrast to the lords Adiran and Sanfrisco and Gonzalo Sebastian demonstrates a complete lack of empathy, jokes, mocks and bets with Antonio. Both are traitors younger brothers.

'sir, you may thank yourself for this great loss, that would not bless our Europe with your daughter, but rather lose her to an African' – cynical and dispassionate attitude as saw would expect of Sebastian to feel sorry for the loss of his nephew – emotional detachment – makes his attempted murder of the king much more credible/ believable. Throughout the scene Sebastian's defiance escalates and instead of comforting his grieving brother he blames Alonso for being ship wrecked as they were sailing home from his daughter's wedding.

If Alonso had married Caliban they would not have been taught in the Tempest. Distinct racist undertones.

Girls get married off for financial and political reason

Claribel – married out of duty to her father – high status women have little control over their lives and who they marry

Alonso response to Sebastian's accusations is weak and ineffective prompting Sebastian's next comment 'you have lost your son, I fear for ever'

'the fault's your own'

Deliberately trying to hurt the king's feelings – challenging him in front of the other courtiers. Undermining Alonso's ability to make good decisions and to govern wisely and this defiance foreshadows Sebastian's decision to attempt to kill the King later in the scene the tale of the widow Dido is significant to the events of the Tempest in a number of different ways so this how the story of Dido the queen of Carthage had an affair with Aniam a Trojan Prince and when he ended the relationship to pursue his destiny in Italy by founding the city of Rome Dido committed suicide then the Dido story is significant in