



THEME OF NATURE [Caliban] X ART [Prospero] Island: established in the Old World

Shakespeare intends a satirical comment upon Montaigne's "Of Cannibals"- apparent acceptance of the primitivistic view that a natural society, without civilized accretions of law, custom, and other artificial restraints, would be a happy one. Montaigne assumes that the NEW WORLD offers an example of naturally virtuous life uncorrupted by civilization, whereas Shakespeare obviously does not.

Shakespeare compares the education of Miranda with that of Caliban. The love of Ferdinand is contrasted with the Lust of Caliban (OLD WORLD). The magic of Prospero (new world) with Caliban's parents. ALSO Caliban serves as a criterion, not of Prospero—the beauty and civility but also of corruption of the nobility (unnatural behaviour of Antonio)

CALIBAN [NATURE] is an anagram of Canibal, representing nature without the benefit of nurture while **Prospero** represents Art, man's control over the created world and himself. Prospero educated Caliban, but it is useless. Nurture would not stick; he could abuse the gift of human speech. (Lust for Miranda, discontent at his inferior position, ambition, temperance of all kinds including enslaving himself to Stephano's bottle (alcohol))

PROSPERO [ART]

1. Art makes love out of lust (restrains from one's beastlike nature), as in Ferdinand's love for Miranda's chastity.
2. Beauty: the beauty of Miranda and Ferdinand. Miranda says "no evil can exist in such a temple [Ferdinand's beautiful shape-body]"
3. Gentleness & humanity [civility, nurture, art] the noble are virtuous by nature as Miranda's mother (chastity). Ferdinand admires Miranda because she has all these qualities without their defects-because she is noble, pure as the daughter of the former Duke of Milan) even if she has been raised on an island.
4. Nobility, virtuous stock, courtier, theurgist (achieves supremacy/(control over nature through magic, supernatural intervention in human affairs)
-Prospero aims at a dynastic marriage and the regeneration of the noble. His ambition to regain his own kingdom and strengthen his house by a royal marriage.

PROSPERO'S ART HAS TWO FUNCTIONS

1-Contrast between Sycorax's Goetist magic and Prospero's theurgist. It controls and helps him achieve his end, and he has no need of the instrument (rough magic) afterwards.

2-Symbolic, his Art controls Nature, as a prince he conquers the passions which had excluded him from his kingdom and overthrown law; as a man he learns to temper his passion.