

And through all this the appearance of Miranda in the different parts gives to the play the real beauty and sweetness. The history of this innocent young girl's actions appears woven as a thread of gold throughout the whole play, giving it the romance and the attractiveness which are required to make the play perfect.

But for her appearance in the play it would not be, I believe, up to the standard of Shakespeare's works. Where we first see Miranda she is with her father, and they stand surveying the raging waters and the ship, which appears to be wrecking in the cruel waves; and the beautiful maidens tender heart is full of compassion for those who are suffering in the storm, and she implores her father to allay the fury of the storm if it be in his power.

Prospero, her father, seems to be softened by her appeal and as he stands there relates to her the cause of his actions in bringing about the Tempest and tells her the history of their life and why she and he have lived so long alone on this island.

Prospero had evidently two reasons for his proceedings: the first was revenge against his brother and the second a desire to procure for Miranda, the King's son for a husband. He evidently saw what a great wrong it would be to keep this beautiful maiden on this island when she was of the age to enjoy the world and everything in it most joyously and so he took this method of having her taken back to civilized life and of procuring her incidentally a companion for life in the person of the King's son Ferdinand.

Miranda had never seen anyone but her father and Caliban, and therefore when she saw for the first time a young and handsome man, no wonder she thought him a Heavenly Spirit. For, her words "I might call him a thing divine for nothing natural I ever saw so noble" express her first impression of Ferdinand.

And Ferdinand—who can express the feelings of Ferdinand when he first beheld this divine apparition of beautiful maidenhood? He was no doubt struck with the greatest wond-