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### Close Reading Free Write/Evidence Outline

Evidence:

- “Had I been any god of power, I would/ Have sunk the sea within the earth or ere/ It should the good ship so have swallowed and/ The freighting souls within her.” (1.2 10-13)
  - *Miranda is passionate and has conviction. She knows what she desires to do if only she had the power to do it.*

The tempest advocates for a hierarchal family relationship where the father wholly presides over the daughter. To keep this relationship stable, prospero controls Miranda by limiting her education and policing her own sexuality.

Prospero educates others under his powers on his intentions, but why not Miranda, his own flesh and blood? Ariel knows of his plans and must obey him. Because Miranda knows not of his plans he is able to manipulate her. Ariel verbally rebels against Prospero, but Prospero can keep him in line because he is his slave. If Miranda were to have knowledge and rebel more, could prospero contain her and prevent her from doing what she wanted? Prospero keeps miranda in the dark because education would make her more powerful, more apt to make

decisions. Knowledge is the way he binds Miranda to slavery. The father-daughter relationship advocated for in this play would be thrown off if she had more equal power to Prospero.

The same with Prospero's magic. He could teach the power to his daughter, but he does not. Prospero's power is not born in him because he didn't have it before he came to the island, so he could give Miranda the power to control the world as well, but he doesn't and this makes her subservient to him.

Miranda was what preserved Prospero when they were cast out in the sea, and she is what will preserve him for the future and their new fortune as long as he is able to control her into doing what he wants. The whole plan for regaining Prospero's wealth hinges on Miranda doing what he wants her to do, so he must keep the family relationship intact. Being her father pays off when Ferdinand falls in love with her. 1.2 155

So what? Keeping others from power and free will only to maintain a social construct.

Process Assignment 3:

Throughout *The Tempest* Prospero manipulates Miranda unwittingly to do his will, and the argument could be made that Miranda has no will of her own, but rather whatever she does is an extension of her father. However, to make such an argument would do a disservice to Miranda by painting her as a puppet. Miranda is not an empty-headed puppet, but in fact has her own convictions and opinions:

Had I been any god of power, I would

Have sunk the sea within the earth or ere

It should the good ship so have swallowed

And the freighting souls within her. (1.2 10-13)

When Miranda first learns of the of the ship in peril (and believes the ship and crew to be sunk) she does not show apathy or ask her father what to think of the event, but rather passionately proclaims what she would have done to reverse the event if only she had the power. This is not the proclamation of a puppet, but rather the voice of a victim of a lack of education. Miranda knows what she wants, she only lacks the power to carry out her will as her father can. This lack of power is not a product of chance, but a conscious choice of Prospero to not educate his daughter in the magical arts he has come to possess. Prospero did not have his powers before being exiled from Milan, so one can only deduce that the powers are capable of being learned. Thus, by taking heed of the previous passage and acknowledging that in was in Prospero's power to educate her, Miranda can no longer be thought of as a flat and prop-like character, but a complex victim of her father's will.

Prospero could have accomplished his plan while still educating Miranda. She loves her father very much and explicitly defends him even when he is acting crazy (evidence). She has it in her to be convicted and passionate (evidence) so it's not that she is dull or incapable of learning or of making her own choices. But yet her father still keeps her suppressed through limiting her education and policing her sexuality, only in order to keep her in the role of daughter and him in the role of the presiding father. Ultimately, the happy ending they all get serves to affirm this relationship.