The Tempest Power Shifts, Past and Future

Complete the chart to identify power relationships in Acts 1 and 2 of *The Tempest* and to predict how those relationships will develop later in the play.

In column 1: Find and read the lines in context.

In column 2: Respond to the question by writing a short analysis of each scene.

In column 3: Respond to the question to predict what will happen later in the play.

Scene	Analysis Question	Prediction Question
A tempest strikes a ship that carries a king. (No Fear: 1.1)	What forces have power over the passengers on the ship? Forces of wind, waves, and lightning, all brought on by Prospero's magic spells, affect the passengers.	What powers will control the passengers and crew after their shipwreck? The passengers and crew will be controlled by the magic spells of Prospero and Ariel, Prospero's attendant spirit.
Prospero tells Miranda their family history. Ferdinand and Miranda meet. (No Fear: 1.2.22–186, 1.2.402–422)	What is the present power structure among Alonso, Antonio, Ferdinand, Sebastian, and Prospero?	How will Prospero's magic change the power structure?

Prospero and Ariel debate Ariel's freedom. (No Fear: 1.2.242–305)	How did Prospero gain control over Ariel?	What further magic will Ariel perform in order to gain his freedom?
Prospero and Miranda visit Caliban. (No Fear: 1.2.320–376)	Why has Prospero enslaved Caliban?	How will Caliban seek revenge against Prospero?
Gonzalo imagines himself as the ruler of Prospero's island. (No Fear: 2.1.138–180)	What are some features of Gonzalo's ideal society?	What kind of society will prevail at the end of the play?