

Rabih Alameddine's Appropriation of Shakespeare's The Tempest

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Abstract : This paper explores how Arab American novelist Rabih Alameddine's recent novel *The Angel of History* (2016) appropriates certain motifs, tropes, and themes from Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. In particular, Alameddine's novel re-tells the story of Caliban and his mother from the perspective of a Yemeni bastard whose misfortunes take him to the US shores in the eighties of the previous century. The novel, specifically, re-writes the scene in which Caliban is gazed at by European travelers like Stephano and Trinculo whose first reaction to seeing him is to consider how to sell him or give him as a gift when they safely return to Europe. The novel contests Shakespeare's representation of Caliban as 'marketable' through depicting his daily experiences in modern day America.

Keywords : appropriation, Alameddine, Shakespeare, *The Tempest*

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