

HIVE Synopsis

For **HIVE 2006**, Kendra and Eric created an intimate ten-minute piece, sampling text from Shakespeare's **The Tempest** to reveal the nocturnal struggles of a couple on the rocks. Audiences of twenty people gathered close around a large wooden bed (custom built by the venue's owner from a huge maple burl, swirled and pitted with organic patterns, and fortuitously immovable.)

Two bodies rolled slowly side to side to the sounds of a rainstorm and chiming bells. They wrestle with the sheets, and groan with exhaustion. The woman thumps and flaps and begins to speak:

O that mine eyes would with themselves shut up my thoughts...

She is unhappy and considering leaving, but when she gets up to go, he awakens.

And now, I pray you sir, the reason for raising this sea storm?

He reaches for her, she resists. Just when it seems he might call her back to the safety of their intimate island, she lets go and slips away, disappearing below the dark blue ripples of their marriage bed...he watches, helpless.

Shall we give o'er and drown? Have you a mind to sink? All lost, to prayers to prayers, all lost! We split, we split, we split...

But love is stronger than the tempest, and she is pulled out of the depths.

Tell then how thou didst escape?

Like a duck, man, I swear. I swam like a duck.