

# The Crucible

By: Arthur Miller

Adapted by: Beth Frisby & Christina Quattro

Haralson County School System

Fall 2012

# The Crucible

*The Crucible* is a four act play. It was written by Arthur Miller. The setting of the play is in Salem, Massachusetts.

## **The Setting of the Play**

**Place: Salem, Massachusetts**

**1692**

# Characters

[http://prezi.com/ann4x\\_f8j9fx/the-crucible-  
characters/](http://prezi.com/ann4x_f8j9fx/the-crucible-characters/)

# Characters

Reverend Hale



Parris



John Proctor

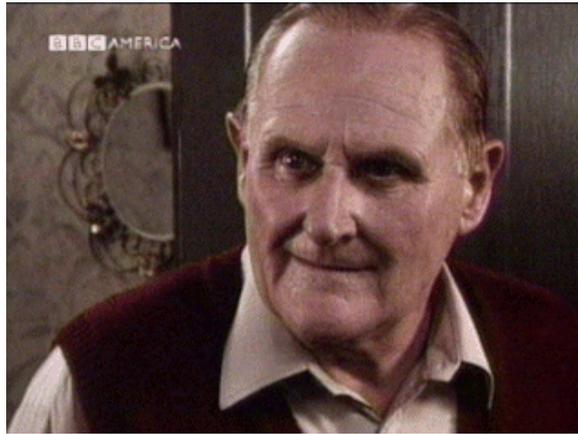


# Characters

Elizabeth Proctor



Giles Corey



Thomas Putnam



# Characters

Mrs. Putnam



Rebecca Nurse



Tituba



# Characters

Abigail, Mercy Lewis, Mary Warren, and Betty



# Characters

Sarah Good



Goody Osburn



Ezekiel Cheever



John Willard



**Let's Read!**

# Act One

Betty lies in bed unresponsive. It is thought that she is the victim of witchcraft.



Parris, who is Betty's father, enters the room and calls Reverend Hale, who is an expert on witchcraft.

Parris yells at his niece, Abigail, because he saw her, Betty, Tituba, and the other girls, dancing in the forest in the middle of the night.



Abigail says that they were not.

Thomas Putnam and his wife, Ann, enter the room.



Mrs. Putnam says that their daughter, Ruth, is acting just like Betty.

Mrs. Putnam had 7 babies that all died during childbirth. She thought that someone used witchcraft to murder them, so she sent Ruth and the other girls to contact the spirits of her dead children.



Again, Parris yells that the girls were using witchcraft.

Everyone leaves the room and the girls are all alone.

Mary Warren confesses that she is scared they will be called witches.

Betty sits up in bed and cries for her mother, who is dead.



Abigail tells the girls to relax, that she told Parris everything.

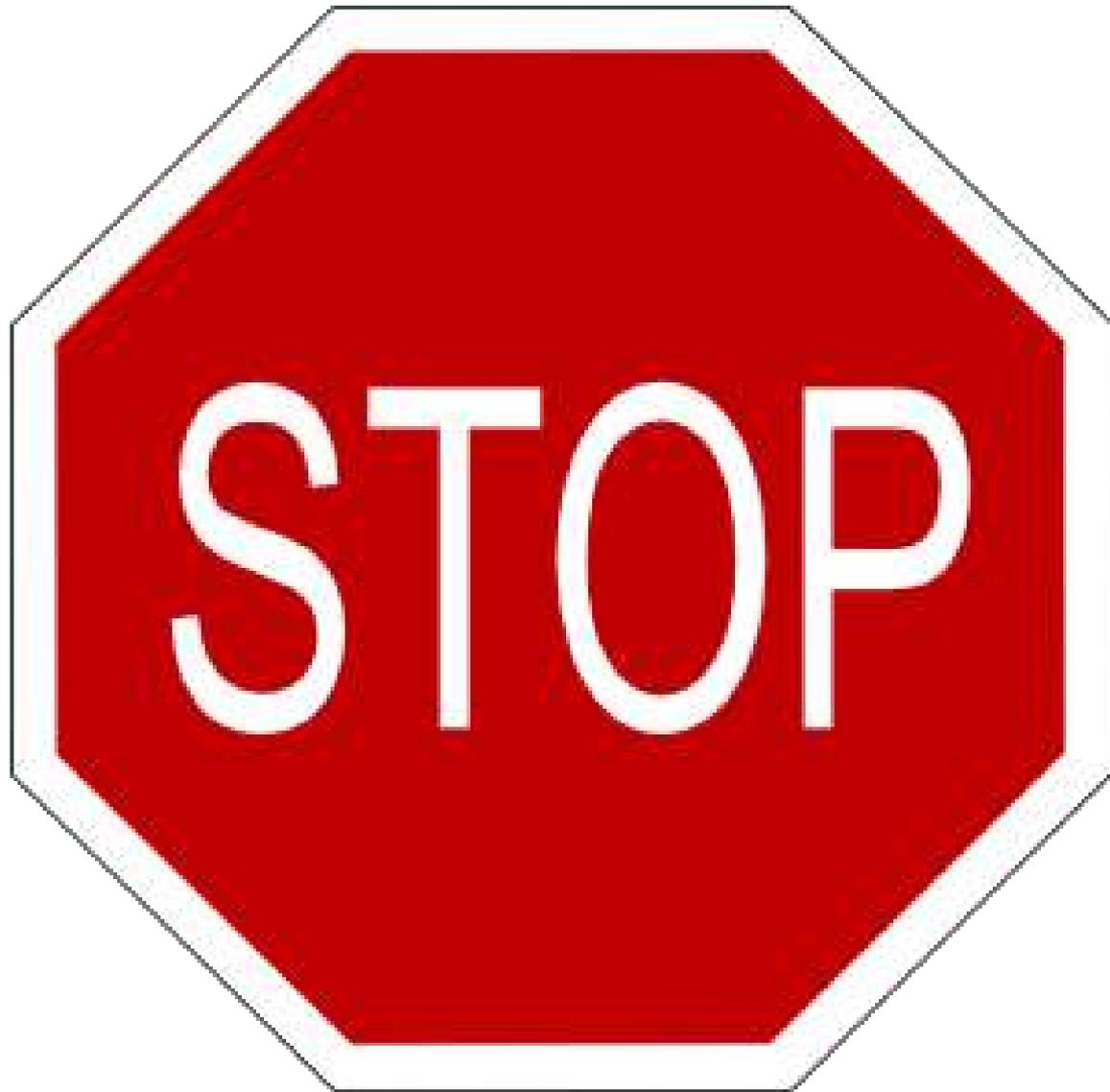
Betty argues she didn't say they drank blood in order to kill John Proctor's wife.

Abigail slaps Betty and orders the girls to only say that they danced in the forest and threatens to kill them if they mention anything more.



Betty turns back to her unresponsive state.

<http://collinsengblogclass4.blogspot.com/2010/10/crucible-film-clip-response.html>



John Proctor shows up  
and goes into the room  
with the girls.

Proctor feels uneasy  
because he had an  
affair with Abigail.

When his wife,  
Elizabeth, found out  
about the affair, she  
fired Abigail from her  
work at their house.

Proctor says the  
relationship is over.  
Abigail and Proctor  
argue.



In the parlor, the crowd sings a psalm. At the phrase, “going up to Jesus,” Betty covers her ears and becomes hysterical.



Parris and the Putnam's rush into the room. Mrs. Putnam says that Betty is bewitched and cannot hear the Lord's name without pain.

Rebecca Nurse comes in and Betty begins to quiet.

Reverend Hale arrives and questions Abigail about dancing in the forest.



Abigail says the dancing was not related to witchcraft.



Parris says he saw a kettle on the ground when the girls were dancing.



Abigail said it held soup.

Parris said he saw something moving in it.



Abigail said a frog jumped in.

Then Abigail goes back and says that Tituba is the one who conjured the devil and that Tituba made her drink the blood from the kettle.



Tituba says that Abigail made her do it.

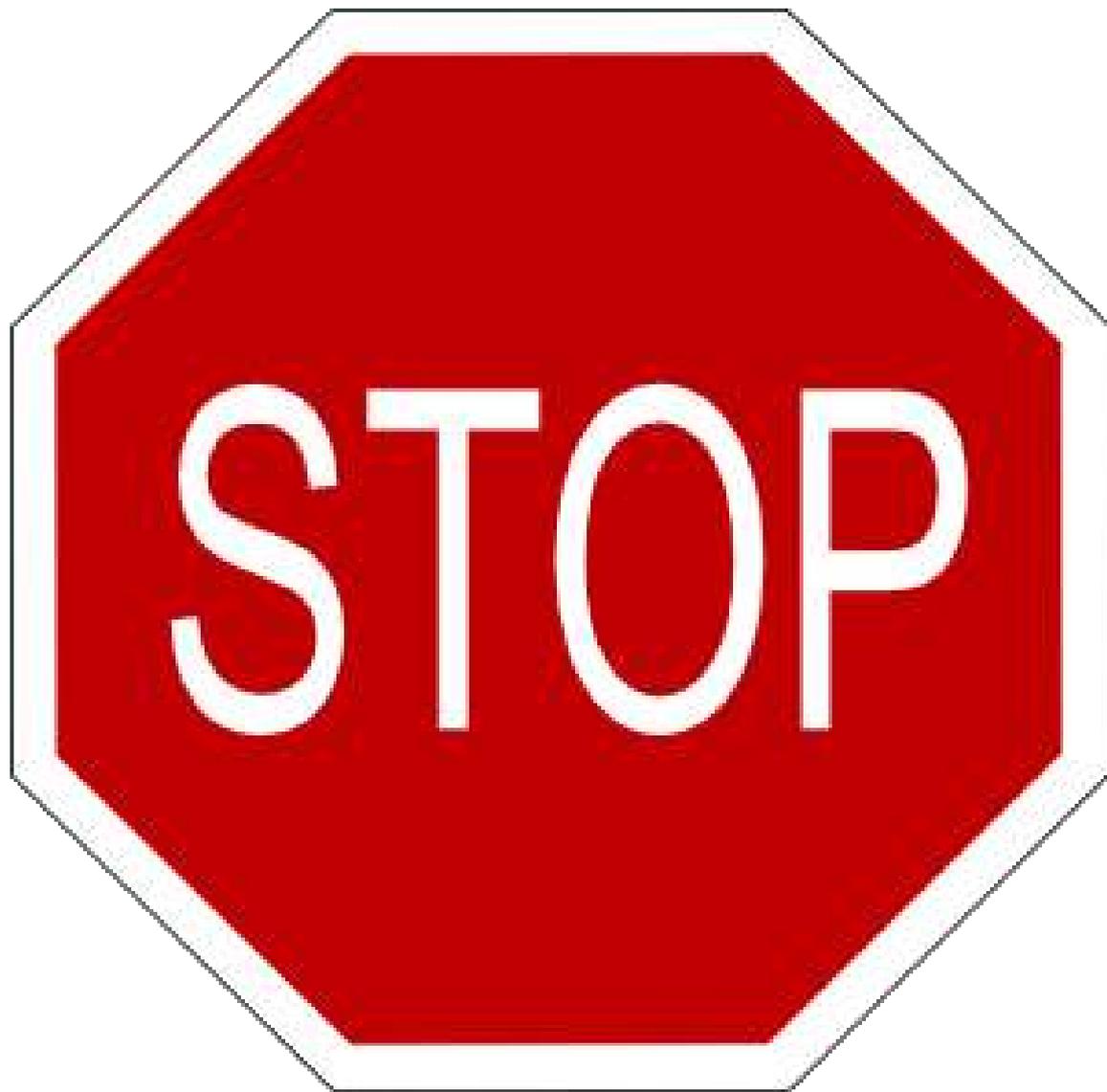
Everyone begins to get upset, and Tituba says that she saw Sarah Good and Goody Osburn with the devil.

Abigail and Betty begin to add names to the list.



Hale calls for the arrest of the accused witches.





# Act Two

John and Elizabeth Proctor sit down for dinner at their house.



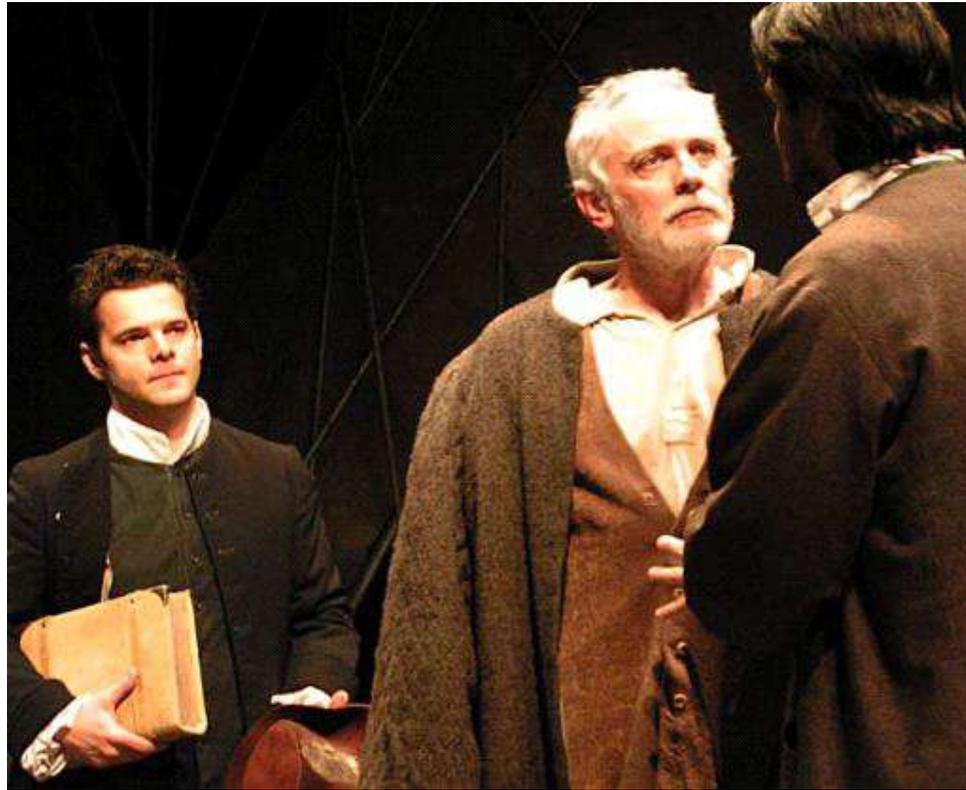
Mary Warren, their servant, is at the witch trials.  
Fourteen people are in jail now.

When Mary gets home, she gives Elizabeth a gift: a doll that she sewed in court that day.



Mary reports that now thirty-nine people stand accused. She says that Elizabeth's name was mentioned, but that she stood up for her.

Hale visits the Proctor home in order to speak with everyone whose name was mentioned in court.



Hale asks them questions about their Christian character. He notes that they do not attend church often and that their youngest son is not yet baptized.

Hale asks John Proctor to recite the Ten Commandments.



Proctor obeys, but forgets the commandment about adultery.



Giles and Francis rush into the Proctor house, upset because their wives had been arrested.

Just then, Ezekiel Cheever and Herrick, the town marshal, arrive with a warrant for Elizabeth's arrest.

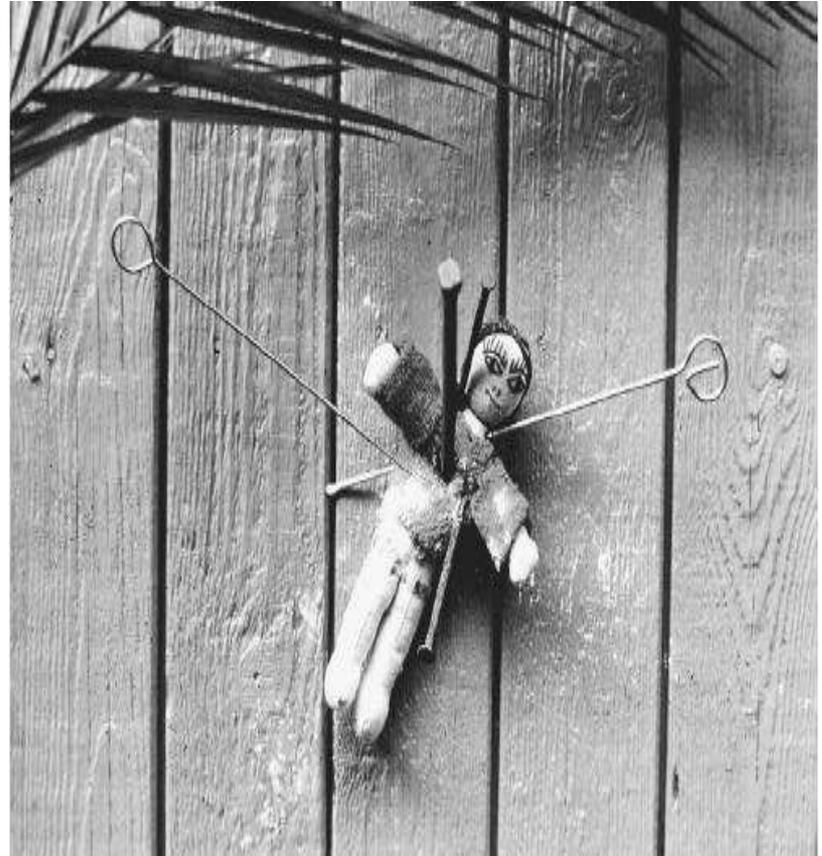


Hale is surprised Elizabeth had not been charged with anything yet.

Cheever asks Elizabeth if she owns any dolls.

Elizabeth says she hasn't owned dolls since she was a child.

Cheever notices the doll that Mary made for Elizabeth earlier that day. He finds a needle inside of it.



Cheever explains that Abigail had a fit at Parris' house that evening. Parris found a needle in Abigail's stomach and Abigail had accused Elizabeth of witchcraft.



Elizabeth brings down Mary and Mary tells Cheever that she was the one who made the doll and stuck the needle in the stomach of the doll herself.



Elizabeth is arrested and led away.

Proctor becomes angry and rips up the warrant for Elizabeth's arrest.

Proctor tells Mary that she has to testify in court.



Mary refuses, saying that Abigail will kill her if she does, but Proctor demands that she testify anyway.



# Act Three

Court is in session. Proctor and Mary enter the room.



Mary says that she and the other girls were only pretending to be affected by witchcraft.

Parris thinks they all want to overthrow the court.

Proctor says he just wants to free his wife, but Cheever tells the judge that Proctor ripped up the warrant for Elizabeth's arrest.



Danforth questions Proctor about his religious beliefs.

Danforth is interested to learn that Proctor only attends church once a month and that he plows on Sunday.



Giles refuses to give information to the court and is arrested.

Proctor is told not to worry about Elizabeth's execution because she claims to be pregnant and cannot be hanged until after she delivers.



Danforth calls for Abigail and the girls.



Abigail denies Mary's testimony.

Mary says again that the girls are only pretending.

Hathorne asks Mary to pretend to faint for them.



Mary says she can't because she does not have "the sense of it" now.

Danforth tells Abigail to be truthful.



Abigail shivers and the other girls follow suit.  
They blame Mary of bewitching them with a  
cold wind.

Proctor leaps at Abigail and calls her names. He confesses his affair with her and explains that Elizabeth fired her when she discovered it.



Danforth tells Abigail and Proctor to turn their backs and calls for Elizabeth.

Danforth asks Elizabeth why she fired Abigail.

Elizabeth looks at Proctor for a clue, but Danforth demands that she look only at him.



Elizabeth goes on to say that she thought Proctor liked Abigail, so she got angry and fired her.

Elizabeth is removed from the room.

Proctor cries out that he confessed his sin, but it is too late for Elizabeth to change her story.



Hale begs Danforth to reconsider, saying that he always thought Abigail was lying.

The girls begin screaming that Mary is sending her spirit at them.

Mary pleads with them to stop, but the girls only repeat her words exactly as she says them.



Mary begins to scream too. The courtroom becomes hectic.

Proctor tries to touch Mary, but she runs away and calls him the devil's man. She accuses him of partnering with the devil and pressuring her to join him in his evil ways.



Danforth orders Proctor's arrest even though Hale disagrees.



Hale criticizes the proceedings and says he is quitting the court.



# Act Four

As a result of the trials, cows wander loose, crops rot in the fields, and orphans wander without supervision.



Hale has returned to Salem.

Danforth hopes that Elizabeth can persuade Proctor to confess.



Elizabeth agrees to speak with Proctor.

In the room alone, Elizabeth tells Proctor that almost one hundred people have confessed to witchcraft.



She tells him about Giles being killed by being pressed to death with large stones, even though he never plead guilty or not guilty.



Proctor asks Elizabeth if she thinks he should confess. After debating for a while, Proctor agrees to confess.

<http://collinsengblogclass4.blogspot.com/2010/10/crucible-film-clip-response.html>



Hathorne and Danforth are happy. When Cheever grabs paper and pen to write the confession, Proctor hesitates to sign.

Proctor does not want the confession hung on  
the church door.

He snatches the paper from Danforth and rips  
the confession in two.

<http://collinsengblogclass4.blogspot.com/2010/10/crucible-film-clip-response.html>



Danforth calls for the marshal.

Herrick leads the seven prisoners, including Proctor, to the gallows.



Hale and Parris plead with Elizabeth to convince Proctor to sign the confession, but she refuses to sway him from doing what he believes is just.

# Epilogue

The farms of the executed go fallow and are vacant for years.

Parris is voted out of office.

Abigail is rumored to have moved to Boston.

Elizabeth remarries a few years after her Proctor's execution.

**The End**

