

Exposition

(The part of the play that introduces setting, characters, and initial conflict)

Mood of Puritan Society

- ~~Very~~ Very religious
- depressingly sparse
- basic, functional

Puritan Beliefs

- Dogmatic close minded → persecuted other w/ different beliefs
- All work, no play
- suspicious of anyone who didn't abide by rules
- Communal vs. individualistic
- ~~didn't~~ didn't see purpose of "vain pursuits"
- Theocracy - ~~entertainment~~ religious based govt

WHY

- Land envy/after their possession
- revenge
- admit sins openly w/o consequence

Nov 13-7:26 AM

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- communal vs. individualistic
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WHY Accuse?

- Land envy
- revenge
- admit sins in public w/o consequences

Nov 13-7:26 AM

The edge of wilderness-

seeming contradiction

The Salem tragedy is a paradox-

"The witch-hunt was a perverse manifestation of the panic which set in among all classes when the balance began to turn toward greater individual freedom."

Oct 23-9:46 AM

Act I - Salem, MA 1692

Rev. Parris

- Daughter: Betty - "afflicted"
- Niece: Abigail
- concerned about reputation - fears talk of the Devil in his home → enemies will use against him
- leader in town

Abigail:

- 17, beautiful
- fired from Proctors' - claims Goody Proctor lied + hated her
- caught dancing in woods
- manipulative, sneaky

Nov 21-8:25 AM

Putnam pro witch hunt investigation

- felt snubbed by town
- bitter, resentful
- vindictive
- stepbrother got more \$ in will
- daughter Ruth also "afflicted"
- big land owner

Ann Putnam

- lost 7 babies
- Ruth is only living child
- sent Ruth to Tituba to ~~find~~ conjure baby spirits

Mercy Lewis

- Putnam's servant
- fat, sly, merciless
- 18

Nov 21-8:31 AM

Caught Dancing

Abigail

Mercy Lewis VS.

(want to cover up their behavior)

Mary Warren-

- 17
- subservient
- naive
- lonely
- works for Proctors

(wants to tell the truth)

Nov 21-8:48 AM

John Proctor - protagonist

p21 - mid 30s

- farmer
- strong body
- even-tempered
- not easily led
- sinner: feels like a hypocrite
 - ↳ emotionally torn/guilty
- he betrayed his own moral code
 - ↳ troubled soul
- regards himself as a fraud

"I think of you softly from time to time..." → is still drawn to Abigail but refuses to give into temptation

Abigail "you put knowledge in my heart...
 Can't tear light of her eyes"
 She can't go back to ignorance + innocence

Nov 22-8:28 AM

Rebecca Nurse

- 72 yrs old
- gentle
- well-respected
- eventually got dragged into accusations.
- 11 children, 26 grandkids
- anti-witch hunt

Francis Nurse

- fought w/ Putnam over land
- well-respected

Nov 22-8:49 AM

Mary Warren	Proctor's servant; subservient girl who wants to tell the truth about the woods; intimidated and manipulated by Abigail
Ruth Putnam	Putnam's daughter who is also afflicted
Reverend Parris	Salem minister; afraid of his reputation now that his daughter has been "afflicted"; petty, bitter man
Mercy Lewis	Abigail's merciless friend who bullies Mary Warren
John Proctor	a conflicted local farmer with a troubled soul; committed adultery; wants to turn to reason not witch craft to solve the mystery of the girls
Rebecca Nurse	Well-respected elderly woman; sides with John Proctor; later accused

Nov 23-12:59 PM

Francis Nurse	well-respected, but owns a lot of land in the town which makes Putnam jealous; his feud with Putnams makes him and his wife targets
Ann Putnam	Lost 7 babies; looking for a witch to blame
Reverend Hale	an outside minister called in to investigate the witchcraft accusations
Betty Parris	Parris' daughter; has been afflicted since she was with Tituba in the woods
Abigail Williams	Parris' niece; beautiful but wicked and manipulative girl; leader of the girls; tries to seduce John Proctor
Tituba	Parris' slave from Barbados; accused of conjuring spirits with the girls
Thomas Putnam	vengeful landowner who is looking to blame someone for daughter's affliction; name appears on most arrests

Nov 23-12:48 PM

Rebecca Nurse
+ Proctor
don't want to
look to
witchcraft
- look to God
+ reason for
answers

VS.

Putnam to find
+ wife do out
about babies
+ Ruth's sickness
→ underlying
motivation
could be to
get Parris out as
minister

Rebecca: "...let us go to God
for the cause of it. There is
prodigious danger in the seeking
of loose spirits."

Proctor vs. Putnam

Airing Their Grievances

Proctor - criticizes "fire + brimstone"
sermons of Parris

Parris - complains about salary

Putnam - accuses Proctor of
taking wood from his property

Nov 16-7:26 AM

Act I (Cont) - pg.

Rev. Hale - called in to
determine whether or not
witchcraft is present

- 40s, scholarly, eager to be
important

→ Devil used to threaten into
obedience to church / church-state

Hale - wants to use "science" vs.
superstition to determine
if w.craft exists.

Proctor - hopes he leaves "sense"
in Salem

Nov 19-7:31 AM

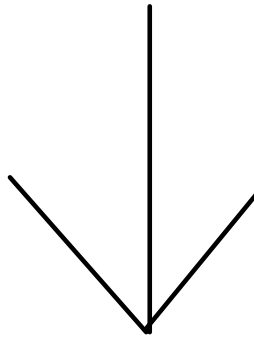
Abigail blames Tituba
 Tituba "admits" - Makes false
 confession hoping she won't
 be hanged - now she'll be
 an "instrument" for cleansing
 the village
 Coerced confession + giving up names =
 avoid punishment
 Parris + Putnam "suggest" witches
 Goody Sarah Good
 Goody Osburn → midwife
 Abigail → sees opportunity
 Betty awakes → cry out names
 - Frenzy brings out names
 of the accused

Nov 20-8:02 AM

p43
 Hysteria on the rise
 Abigail Blames Tituba
 Putnam's Look
 Evidence Mounts
 Girls Deny witchcraft
 Girls Admit lies / blame others
 Girls might not be believed / seen as witches + hanged.
 Betty Parris
 - Tries to fly
 - sleeps
 - can't hear prayers
 Giles Corey
 - 80s
 - always being brought to court
 - people blame him for everything
 - asks about his wife's strange books
 - good man

Nov 20-7:34 AM

Extra Notes



Nov 23-1:16 PM

Act I
pages 8-14

Tituba-	Parris -
Putnam-	Abigail-
Susanna-	Mrs. Putnam-

Parris - concerned about reputation - fears that he'll be driven from pulpit if Devil's presence is discovered in his home

Abigail - his niece
 - questions why she was turned away by Proctor
 + no one else will hire her
 - says her name is clean - Mrs. Proctor was sniveling liar who didn't like her

Putnam - daughter Ruth is also "sick"
 & awake, but deaf, mute
 - eldest son of richest villager
 - fought Indians
 - interested in parish affairs
 - embittered - got less \$ in will than his stepbrother

Mrs. Putnam - lost 7 babies
 - sent Ruth to Tituba to get answers

Nov 2-1:36 PM

11/15 John Proctor - protagonist

p21 - mid 30s

- even-tempered
- not easily led
- Sinner w/ a way to "wash away sins"
 - ↳ betrayed his own moral code
 - ↳ troubled soul
- regards himself as a fraud

Nov 15-7:52 AM

- Putnam - encourages Parris to be proactive about declaring witchcraft himself

Abigail - rats out Ruth + Tituba

The Girls

- Ruth
- Abigail
- Mercy Lewis
- Betty
- Mary Warren - more timid, 17 naïve

Mercy

Nov 14-8:08 AM

Abigail + Proctor

- sexual tension -
she's trying to engage him -
flirts
- "soft word"
- he's trying to resist that
repeat past transgressions
- Affair revealed (poor choices)
- He's trying to resist temptation
- - That's why Goody Proctor turned
her away

Nov 15-8:00 AM

Rebecca Nurse + Francis Nurse

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| - 70s | - respected |
| - gentle | - fair |
| - highly respected | - well-regarded |
| which made it | - lots of land |
| surprising that | caused jealousy/ |
| she is being | resentment |
| accused of being | - Land war - involving Putnam |
| a witch | |
| led by Putnam | |
| + emphasized by | |
| his daughter in | |
| cries in court | |
| - 11 kids, 26 grandkids | |
| ↳ well-experienced | |
| w/ kids → says it's a | |
| phase | |
| ↓ | |
| source of | |
| jealousy for Mrs. Putnam | |

Putnam vs Nurses
↳ tension.

Nov 15-11:09 AM

"The Girls" w/ Tituba - slave

* Abigail - 17

Many Warren - 17

(subservient,
naïve, lonely)

Mercy - 18

vs.

Betty - 10

Ruth - 8?

(fat, sly,
merciless)

3. Ann Putnam - looking to blame
someone for babies' deaths
4. Rev. John Hale - to find witches

Nov 16-7:26 AM