

The Crucible by Arthur Miler

Dialectical Journal

FROM THE WRITER

Introduction and Act I

3/5- "...the old disciplines were beginning to rankle" (3)

3/5- "...in unity still lay the best promise of safety." (3)

3/6- "They believed they held the candle that would light the world." (4)

3/8- "I will not black my face for any of them." (Abigail to Parris, 10)

3/8- "Mr. Collins saw her goin' over Ingersoll's barn and come light as a bird, he says!" (10)

3/9- "It's death, y'know, its death driven into them forked and hoofed." (Ann Putnam to Parris, 11)

FROM THE READER

Things were changing. Perhaps the younger people in Salem were refusing to listen and all the God and Death and Devil indoctrination.

Though theories once cherished were now doubted, the people clung together from more fear of the forests, the Indians, the Unknown etc.

Smug, positive in beliefs, but answered to a higher source. Thought they knew God, had seen Him, and they wanted to make others see Him in their way alone.

Abigail is very haughty, has a very high opinion of herself.

How can anyone believe this stuff? Their lives were so boring; I guess this was the only highlight-fabricating stories.

I thought "death" was a tool of God or the Devil. In Jonathan Edward's sermon, God held death over one's head as a threat (or a promise). If Puritans are taught "death" a tool of the Devil, then they must have thought one of two things: (1) God and the Devil were the same (2) God and the Devil were working together.