

1 Background Information

1.1 American Drama

- Eugene O’neill was the first “important” figure in American Drama.
- Introduced realistic drama with the removal of the viewer by the fourth wall.
- Arthur Miller and Tennessee Williams represent Realism and Realism combined with an attempt at something more imaginative.
- Miller wrote Death of a Salesman, All My Sons, and The Crucible.

1.2 The Crucible

- Produced in 1953, about puritans and the salem witch trials. This was in parallel to McCarthy’s Red Hunt. God, I hate McCarthy.
- There was a belief in Salem in witches, seen as the Devil’s helpers, and confession led to freedom from the devil’s bonds. Confusion in identifying witches came from shape-shifting and possession.

2 Act One

- Reverend Samuel Parris is a main character, play opens in his room. He kneels by his daughter’s bed, she is lying inert.