

## ***The Crucible* Viewing Guide**

### **Changes from Play Script to Screenplay**

#### **Scene around the fire**

What is the purpose of the names of boys/men mentioned around the fire and the girls' offerings? How are the younger girls' different and why? How is Abigail different and why?

One of the girls speaks for Abigail, saying to Tituba, "Help Abby get John Proctor *again*." What does her statement imply?

When Abigail whispers into Tituba's ear, Tituba's reaction to Abigail is one of horror or fright. What can we assume must have been Abby's request? What does Tituba's reaction reveal about the nature of the request?

Abigail decides to take matters into her own hands, reaching in the pot for the chicken. What does her face smeared with blood add to the scene? What does it reveal about the nature of her motives?

#### **Questioned by Rev. Parris about her dismissal from the Proctor household**

Parris says to Abigail, "I have heard said that John Proctor...John Proctor and you...." Why is this change necessary?

### **Behind the meeting house**

John Proctor is at his horse. He could have left when Abigail approached; instead, he goes to her. He says to her, "Is this your mischief? I hear the child goes flying through the air." What is revealed by their body language?

Abigail says to Proctor, "...these Christian women and their covenanted men, and *all of them boiling in lust!*" What do her words signify?

**In adapting *The Crucible* for film, Arthur Miller added a few scenes. Write about the significance of their inclusion:**

John Proctor meets Abigail in the forest and once more rejects her advances.

Abigail goes to Danforth to complain that she has been tormented by the spirit of Reverend Hale's wife.

Abigail visits John Proctor in jail to try to persuade him to run away with her as she leaves to board ship.

The hanging of Proctor, Rebecca Nurse, and Martha Corey.

**Explain the visual symbolism in the following scenes:**

Elizabeth's lie

Proctor's exclamation, "God is dead!"