

INT. DANFORTH (ABIGAIL & MARY WARREN)

**DANFORTH**

These will be sufficient. Sit you down, children.

*Silently they sit.*

Your friend, Mary Warren, has given us a deposition. In which she swears that she never saw familiar spirits, apparitions, nor any manifest of the Devil. She claims as well that none of you have seen these things either.

*Slight Pause.*

Now, children, this is a court of law. The law, based upon the Bible, and the Bible, writ by Almighty God, forbid the practice of witchcraft, and describe death as the penalty thereof. But likewise, children, the law and Bible damn all bearers of false witness.

*Slight Pause.*

Now then. It does not escape me that this deposition may be devised to blind us; it may well be that Mary Warren has been conquered by Satan, who sends her here to distract our sacredpurposee. If so, her neck will break for it. But if she speak true, I bid you now drop your guile and confess your pretense, for a quick confession will go easier with you.

*Pause.*

Abigail Williams, rise.

*ABIGAIL slowly rises.*

Is there any truth in this?

**ABIGAIL**

No, sir.

**DANFORTH**

(Glancing at MARY, then  
to ABIGAIL)

Children, a very augur bit will now be turned into your souls until your honesty is proved. Will either of you change your positions now, or do you force me to hard questioning?

**ABIGAIL**

I have naught to change, sir. She lies.

**DANFORTH**

(To Mary:)

You would still go on with this?

**MARY WARREN**

(Faintly)

Aye, sir.

**DANFORTH**

(Turning to ABIGAIL:)

A poppet were discovered in Mr. Proctor's house, stabbed by a needle. Mary Warren claims that you sat beside her in the court when she made it, and that you saw her make it and witnessed how she herself stuck her needle into it for safe-keeping. What say you to that?

**ABIGAIL**

(With a slight note of indignation:)

It is a lie, sir.