***Salem Witch Trials: A Partial Cast of Characters***

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Protagonists and Prosecutors

Rev. Samuel Parris—controversial minister of new church in Salem Village; his daughter Betty (9) and niece Abigail (11), and Ann Putnam (12) were first people ‘afflicted’

Putnams—largest family in Salem, traditional farmers, 8 members of their family drove 50 prosecutions (including Thomas Putnam who prosecuted 10, daughter Ann who provided testimony against 48), supporters of Rev. Samuel Parris and involved in ongoing feud with Porters.

Porters—richest family in Salem, entrepreneurial, 19 of the victims were their friends and supporters

Governor Phips—Governor of Commonwealth; pardoned last 3 found guilty before Superior Court and effectively ended witch trials in May 1693 after his wife, Lady Mary Phips, was accused.

Cotton Mather—influential cleric and author of work on spectral evidence and sorcery, etc; was present at execution of George Burroughs and calmed the crowd allowing execution to continue.

The Victims

Sarah Good—poor, begged for alms, muttered under her breath, social outsider

Dorothy Good—4 year old daughter of Sarah Good, implicated her mother

Sarah Osborne—relationship with her indentured servant, allegations of social impropriety, rarely attended church, social outsider

Tituba—East Indian/Caribbean servant, social outsider

Martha Cory—gave birth to mulatto child, social outsider

Martha Corey—regarded as very pious, criticized proceedings and skeptic of the afflictions

Giles Corey—husband of Martha, friend of the Porters, pressed to death for failing to plead

Ann Pudeator—widow and leading citizen of Salem

Abigail Hobbs—village rebel

Rebecca Nurse—71, very pious, first acquitted by jury

Bridget Bishop—ran tavern, fought with husband, fancy dresser/partier, social outsider

George Burroughs—reputation for superhuman feats, recites Lord’s Prayer at execution

John and Elizabeth Proctor—outspoken critics, ran tavern, John Proctor arrested after objecting at the trial of his Elizabeth; daughter Sarah later arrested

George Jacobs, Duncas Hoar, Sarah Cloyce, Susannah Martin—critics of the trials

Daniel Andrew, Phillip English, Francis Nurse, George Buroughs—supporters of the Porters