Words of Worry and Warning

**Instructions:** Read through both passages. Using the SPACECAT handout, find quotes from the passages below that exemplify each letter in the acronym.

# Act 1: Scene 2

| **Original Text** | **Modern Translation** |
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| **Abigail:** Now look you, if they be questioning us tell them we danced—I told him as much already. **Mercy:** And what more?**Abigail:** He saw you naked. **Mercy:** Oh, Jesus! (Falls back on bed. Enter Mary Warren, breathless. She is seventeen, a subservient, naïve girl.) **Mary Warren:** I just come from the farm, the whole country‘s talking witchcraft! They‘ll be callin‘ us witches, Abby! Abby, we‘ve got to tell. Witchery‘s a hangin‘ error, a hangin‘ like they done in Boston two years ago! We must tell the truth, Abby!—you‘ll only be whipped for dancin‘, and the other things! **Abigail:** (Betty whimpers.) Betty? Now, Betty, dear, wake up now. It‘s Abigail. (She sits Betty up, furiously shakes her.) I‘ll beat you, Betty! (Betty whimpers.) My, you seem improving. I talked to your papa and I told him everything. So there‘s nothing to... **Betty:** (Betty suddenly springs off bed, rushes across room to window where Abigail catches her.) You drank blood, Abby, you drank blood! **Abigail:** (Dragging Betty back to bed and forcing her into it.) Betty, you never say that again! You will never... **Betty:** You did, you did! You drank a charm to kill John Proctor‘s wife! You drank a charm to kill Goody Proctor! **Abigail:** (Slaps her face.) Shut it! Now shut it! (Betty dissolves into sobs.) Now look you. All of you. We danced. And Tituba conjured Ruth Putnam‘s dead sisters. And that is all. And mark this—let either of you breathe a word, or the edge of a word about the other things, and I will come to you in the black of some terrible night and I will bring a pointy reckoning that will shudder you. And you know I can do it. I can make you wish you had never seen the sun go down! (Betty cries louder. She goes to Betty, sits L. side of bed D.S. of Mercy, and roughly sits her up.) Now you... sit up and stop this! (Betty collapses in her hands.)*Miller, A. (1953). The Crucible (Act 1, Scene 2). Viking Press.* | **Abigail:** Listen, if they start grilling us, just say we were dancing. I already told him that.**Mercy:** Yeah, okay. What else?**Abigail:** He saw you…naked.**Mercy, laughing nervously:** OMG, no way. That’s so embarrassing!**Mary Warren bursts in, out of breath. She’s panicked.****Mary Warren:** What are we gonna do?! Everyone’s freaking out! Abby, we *have* to tell the truth! If they think it’s witchcraft, we could get hanged! Like, straight-up hanged, like they did in Boston a couple years ago! We should just confess! You’ll only get in trouble for dancing and...you know, the other stuff!**Betty, lying on the bed, starts to whimper.** **Abigail:** Oh good, you’re starting to come around. I talked to your dad and told him everything, so we’re fine—**Betty suddenly jumps up, freaked out.****Betty:** You drank blood, Abby! You didn’t tell him that!**Abigail:** Betty, don’t *ever* say that again! I’m serious!**Betty:** You did! You drank that gross stuff to kill John Proctor’s wife! You wanna get rid of her!**Abigail:** Listen up, all of you. We danced. Tituba tried to summon Ruth’s dead sisters. That’s *all* anyone needs to know. But if any of you so much as *hint* at anything else, I swear, I will come for you in the middle of the night, and you’ll wish you’d never been born. I’ve seen things—*messed up* things. Trust me, you don’t want to push me.**Mary Warren, freaking out:** What’s wrong with her, Abby?! She’s gonna die! We’re gonna get in so much trouble for summoning spirits!**Abigail, storming toward Mary:** I said shut up, Mary Warren!*Open AI. (2024). ChatGPT (Oct version). [Large language model]. ChatGPT.* |