

# Oeq the crucible essay



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In *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller, John Proctor proves himself to be a very dynamic character. Throughout the story, readers always found John having an extremely hard time forgiving himself causing the people around him to suffer. He gets his bad characteristics from having an affair with a girl named Abigail who used to work and live in his house. John honestly believes his affair with Abby ruined him in the eyes of God, his wife Elizabeth, and himself.

Even though John has a lot of laws, he still proves to be very heroic. John Proctor's acceptance of his guilt helps him become a better person who is able to forgive himself and move past his sins as evidenced by his testifying against Abigail whom he had a connection with, his sharing of confession, and his coming clean about adultery. By John making the decision to confess to the court about his affair with Abby, it single handily demonstrates his pure goodness. John willingly sacrificed his good name in order to protect his wife Elizabeth. Through his confession to the court, Proctor regained his trust with his wife. Telling the truth about him being a sinner is solid proof that Abby is making untrue accusations against Elizabeth harming her in anyway. " But it is a whore's vengeance, and you must see it; I set myself entirely in your hands. " (Miller 110) was explained by John trying to get the court to see that Abby just wants to hurt the love of her lives wife because he ultimately picked her over Abigail.

But, by Proctor revealing the truth about the affair, he needs Elizabeth word as well to prove he is telling the truth. Elizabeth does not know that John has confessed so she lies to save his good name and pride, leaving her damning the both of them. John Proctor is a very tragic hero.

During Act 2, Proctor comes to term with the fact that Abby someone he once had strong feelings for turned out to be a true symbol of evil. It took Proctor some time to realize she is doing this all for revenge and does whatever he can to put this nonsense to an end. Proctor faces defeat when the court officials Giles came to jail Elizabeth. Proctor was so angry about this assault on his wife Elizabeth that he tears the warrant and demands them to leave screaming, " Damn the Deputy Governor! Out of my house! "(Miler 77), revealing his intense love for Elizabeth after all.

By him going to the court, he is trying to save his innocent wife and prove the girls including Abby herself are liars. By him doing this, the girls flipped the story and ended up accusing Proctor of witchcraft. Of course, the court falls into the girls trap, and Proctor gets jailed for condemning the court. John Proctor ripping up the signed confession showed his strength by standing up to the morality of the society and dies in defense of truth. Proctor refused to give himself up by giving the church permission to post his false confession to the church door. John was not going to let the church use him, just like they had done with Sarah Good and Tituba. John agonized " God sees my name; God knows how black my sins are! It is enough! " (Miller 142) showed that he still yet to forgive himself, and having the church expose his confession was not going to make it any better.

His action of damaging the confession strongly shows Proctor's integrity. He knows that he will damn himself, once again, if he follows through to confess. Although he wants to live, take care of his children including the one Elizabeth is carrying, and grow with his wife, he feels escaping death is not worth basing the remainder of his life on a lie, like he has been doing. When

he came to this senses, along with Elizabeth's forgiveness, it helped Proctor to forgive himself and finally earn his good name and self-respect back.

As the court officials lead him to where he shall be hanged, he finds peace and forgiveness for the first time. During these time of accusations in Salem, John Proctor underwent a transformation bigger than any other character in The Crucible. By accepting the fact that he went against his own, Gods, and Puritan principles, Proctor became a better man. His confession about adultery, his word against the girls, and his standing up against the court helped him move past his sins leaving him no longer reminded of his past mistakes.