

What Were The Salem Witch Trials

What Were the Salem Witch Trials?

Something wicked was brewing in the small town of Salem, Massachusetts in 1692. It started when two girls, Betty Parris and Abigail Williams, began having hysterical fits. Soon after, other local girls claimed they were being pricked with pins. With no scientific explanation available, the residents of Salem came to one conclusion: it was witchcraft! Over the next year and a half, nineteen people were convicted of witchcraft and hanged while more languished in prison as hysteria swept the colony. Author Joan Holub gives readers and inside look at this sinister chapter in history.

The Salem Witch Trials

The Salem Witch Trials is based on over twenty-five years of archival research--including the author's discovery of previously unknown documents--newly found cases and court records. From January 1692 to January 1697 this history unfolds a nearly day-by-day narrative of the crisis as the citizens of New England experienced it.

The Story of the Salem Witch Trials

Between June 10 and September 22, 1692, nineteen people were hanged for practicing witchcraft in Salem, Massachusetts. One person was pressed to death, and over 150 others were jailed, where still others died. The Story of the Salem Witch Trials is a history of that event. It provides a much needed synthesis of the most recent scholarship on the subject, places the trials into the context of the Great European Witch-Hunt, and relates the events of 1692 to witch-hunting throughout seventeenth century New England. This complex and difficult subject is covered in a uniquely accessible manner that captures all the drama that surrounded the Salem witch trials. From beginning to end, the reader is carried along by the author's powerful narration and mastery of the subject. While covering the subject in impressive detail, Bryan Le Beau maintains a broad perspective on events, and wherever possible, lets the historical characters speak for themselves. Le Beau highlights the decisions made by individuals responsible for the trials that helped turn what might have been a minor event into a crisis that has held the imagination of students of American history.

A Storm of Witchcraft

This fascinating account of the Salem Witch Trials explores their religious, social, and political dimensions, their origins, their critics, and their aftermath, as well as their influence on the American cultural imagination to the present day.

The Salem Witch Trials

Vivid storytelling and authentic dialogue bring American history to life and place readers in the shoes of people who experienced one of the most notorious moments in American history - the Salem Witch Trials. In the spring of 1692, girls in Salem, Massachusetts, accused several local women of witchcraft. The events that followed were marked by mass hysteria and religious extremism and ultimately led to trials, convictions, executions, and many more accusals. Suspenseful, dramatic events unfold in chronological, interwoven stories from the different perspectives of people who experienced the event while it was happening. Narratives intertwine to create a breathless, "What's Next?" kind of read. Students gain a new perspective on historical figures as they learn about real people struggling to decide how best to act in a given moment.

The Salem Witchcraft Trials

A vivid account of the hysteria that enveloped Salem and of the 19 people who lost their lives as a result.

The Salem Witch Hunt

The Salem witch trials stand as one of the infamous moments in colonial American history. More than 150 people -- primarily women -- from 24 communities were charged with witchcraft; 19 were hanged and others died in prison. This second edition continues to explore the beliefs, fears, and historical context that fueled the witch panic of 1692. In his revised introduction, Richard Godbeer offers coverage of the convulsive ergotism thesis advanced in the 1970s and a discussion of new scholarship on men who were accused of witchcraft for explicitly gendered reasons. The documents in this volume illuminate how the Puritans' worldview led them to seek a supernatural explanation for the problems vexing their community. Presented as case studies, the carefully chosen records from several specific trials offer a clear picture of the gender norms and social tensions that underlie the witchcraft accusations. New to this edition are records from the trial of Samuel Wardwell, a fortune-teller or "cunning man" whose apparent expertise made him vulnerable to suspicions of witchcraft. The book's final documents cover recantations of confessions, the aftermath of the witch hunt, and statements of regret. A chronology of the witchcraft crisis, questions for consideration, and a selected bibliography round out the book's pedagogical support.

The Salem Witch Trials

Discusses the witchcraft trials in Salem in 1692, the events leading up to them, and how the trials have been viewed by different historians since then.

I Escaped The Salem Witch Trials

Orphan-girl Hannah True battles strange happenings, suspicion, and angry villagers when her town believes it's under attack by witches. The Survival Series that celebrates the awesome history of us. From bestselling author Scott Peters and Salem Witch whiz Juliet Fry comes a gripping retelling of the Salem Witch Trials for modern young readers. Short attention spans | Chapter Book | Ages 8-12 | B&W Illustrations On a stormy night, young orphan Hannah is terrified to see witches' fingers tapping at her bedroom window. Are they real or just a trick of the moon? The next morning, her best friend says a witch's spirit attacked her in the dark. Hannah is alarmed. Could this be true? When a neighbor's child begins acting strangely, villagers are sure that witchcraft is at work. A dear friend of Hannah's mother is blamed--but Hannah refuses to believe such terrible talk. Unfortunately, Hannah's rebellion makes her look suspicious. Why is she protecting this woman? Whose side is she on? Hannah is no witch expert--she's a servant in a farmhouse. She has no one to defend her and she's out of her element. Can this brave but frightened colonial girl ever hope to escape disaster? This is the 6th children's book in the I Escaped Series about brave boys and girls who face real-world challenges and find ways to escape disaster. Sure to appeal to fans of New York Times Bestseller Lauren Tarshis's I Survived Series, The Witch of Blackbird Pond by Elizabeth George Speare, Little Witch by Anna Elizabeth Bennett, What Were The Salem Witch Trials, and The Witches by Roald Dahl. The short chapters make for easy wins, and Hannah's gripping situation keeps even reluctant readers turning pages just to find out what's going to happen next. Great for kids book clubs and classrooms--a study guide is available at <https://scottpetersbooks.com/worksheets> Packed with a special section on facts about the Salem Witch trials that's sure to satisfy curious minds. Flesch Reading Ease: 85.6 Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level 3.2 An important, relevant read about bravery, kindness, and courage. Collect the whole I Escaped Series "a must for every reading list" Can Hannah survive disaster? Read it and find out!

In the Devil's Snare

Award-winning historian Mary Beth Norton reexamines the Salem witch trials in this startlingly original, meticulously researched, and utterly riveting study. In 1692 the people of Massachusetts were living in fear, and not solely of satanic afflictions. Horrifyingly violent Indian attacks had all but emptied the northern frontier of settlers, and many traumatized refugees—including the main accusers of witches—had fled to communities like Salem. Meanwhile the colony's leaders, defensive about their own failure to protect the frontier, pondered how God's people could be suffering at the hands of savages. Struck by the similarities between what the refugees had witnessed and what the witchcraft "victims" described, many were quick to see a vast conspiracy of the Devil (in league with the French and the Indians) threatening New England on all sides. By providing this essential context to the famous events, and by casting her net well beyond the borders of Salem itself, Norton sheds new light on one of the most perplexing and fascinating periods in our history.

Salem Witchcraft

Salem Witchcraft is one of the most famous books published on the Salem Witch Trials. Author Charles Upham was a foremost scholar on the subject, as well as a Massachusetts senator. Only volume one of the series is included in this Anthology.

The Salem Witch Trials

Mass hysteria in the late 17th century led to trials of people suspected to be witches in Salem, Massachusetts. Anyone could be accused of causing mysterious maladies or unfortunate occurrences, such as the death of cattle. Readers discover important facts and captivating details about this fascinating time in American history. The dangers of leveling accusations without proof and succumbing to panic are discussed in this engaging text, which is supplemented with a fact-filled timeline, full-color photographs, and primary sources.

Witch-Hunt

A look at the witch trials in Salem, Massachusetts in the 17th century that claimed twenty-five lives and its impact on the community.

A Fever in Salem

Laurie Winn Carlson offers an innovative explanation for the madness behind the Salem Witch Trials.

Six Women of Salem

"What was it like to be there and, if you were lucky, to live through it? In a compelling combination of narrative and groundbreaking historical research, Salem Witch Trial scholar Marilynne K. Roach vividly brings the terrifying times to life while skillfully illuminating the lives of the accused, the accusers, and the afflicted."--Back cover.

The Wonders of the Invisible World

Salem Story engages the story of the Salem witch trials by contrasting an analysis of the surviving primary documentation with the way events of 1692 have been mythologised by our culture. Resisting the temptation to explain the Salem witch trials in the context of an inclusive theoretical framework, the book examines a variety of individual motives that converged to precipitate the witch-hunt. Of the many assumptions about the Salem witch trials, the most persistent is that they were instigated by a circle of hysterical girls. Through an analysis of what actually happened - by perusal of the primary materials with the 'close reading' approach of a literary critic - a different picture emerges, one where 'hysteria' inappropriately describes the logical,

rational strategies of accusation and confession followed by the accusers, males and females alike.

Salem Story

Discusses the historical setting of the witchcraft trials in colonial Salem, Massachusetts, with background information on the Puritans.

The Salem Witch Trials

This dramatic and deeply moving book combines a narrative that has the pace and excitement of a novel, a timeless portrait of bigotry and a self-righteousness, and an authentic history of the Salem witch trials. It stands alone in applying modern psychiatric knowledge to the witchcraft hysteria. Nearly three hundred years ago the fate of Massachusetts was delivered into the hands of a pack of young girls. Because of the fantasies and hysterical antics of unbalanced teenagers, decent men and women were sent to the gallows. Medical science that day had no better explanation than “the evil eye”; and so Massachusetts was precipitated into a reign of terror that did not end until the highest in the land had been accused of witchcraft—ministers, a judge, the Governor’s lady. One by one were brought to the gallows such diverse personalities as a decent grandmother; a rakish, pipe-smoking female tramp; a plain farmer who thought only to save his wife from molestation; a lame old man whose toothless gums did not deny expression to a very salty vocabulary. But from the very beginning some fought the hysteria, pitting sanity against insanity, and eventually forced the community to atone for its tragic error. Written with sly humor, much of the book reads like a novel. In the end, one is pretty sure what was wrong with Cotton Mather, the august judges, and the tormented young girls. “The Devil in Massachusetts is a vivid and compassionate reconstruction of the Salem witchcraft hysteria. Marion Starkey has written history which illustrates the past and at the same time packs and important contemporary moral.”—Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. “It is certainly a ‘one sitting’ sort of book, with the dramatic appeal of the well-told story and the significances of good human history.”—Gerald Warner Brace “A fresh and full narration...of one of the most lurid, pitiful and deeply significant episodes in American history....”—Odell Shepard

The Devil in Massachusetts

From one of our most acclaimed and original colonial historians, a groundbreaking book tracing the critical “long year” of 1774 and the revolutionary change that took place from the Boston Tea Party and the First Continental Congress to the Battles of Lexington and Concord. A WALL STREET JOURNAL BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR In this masterly work of history, the culmination of more than four decades of research and thought, Mary Beth Norton looks at the sixteen months leading up to the clashes at Lexington and Concord in mid-April 1775. This was the critical, and often overlooked, period when colonists traditionally loyal to King George III began their discordant “discussions” that led them to their acceptance of the inevitability of war against the British Empire. Drawing extensively on pamphlets, newspapers, and personal correspondence, Norton reconstructs colonial political discourse as it took place throughout 1774. Late in the year, conservatives mounted a vigorous campaign criticizing the First Continental Congress. But by then it was too late. In early 1775, colonial governors informed officials in London that they were unable to thwart the increasing power of local committees and their allied provincial congresses. Although the Declaration of Independence would not be formally adopted until July 1776, Americans had in effect “declared independence” even before the outbreak of war in April 1775 by obeying the decrees of the provincial governments they had elected rather than colonial officials appointed by the king. Norton captures the tension and drama of this pivotal year and foundational moment in American history and brings it to life as no other historian has done before.

A Short History of the Salem Village Witchcraft Trials

“A pioneer work in...the sexual structuring of society. This is not just another book about witchcraft.”

—Edmund S. Morgan, Yale University Confessing to \"familiarity with the devils,\" Mary Johnson, a servant, was executed by Connecticut officials in 1648. A wealthy Boston widow, Ann Hibbens was hanged in 1656 for casting spells on her neighbors. The case of Ann Cole, who was \"taken with very strange Fits,\" fueled an outbreak of witchcraft accusations in Hartford a generation before the notorious events at Salem. More than three hundred years later, the question \"Why?\" still haunts us. Why were these and other women likely witches—vulnerable to accusations of witchcraft and possession? Carol F. Karlsen reveals the social construction of witchcraft in seventeenth-century New England and illuminates the larger contours of gender relations in that society.

1774

In \"The Birthmark,\" Nathaniel Hawthorne masterfully explores the themes of human imperfection, obsession, and the quest for perfection through a narrative that blends gothic elements with psychological depth. The story follows Aylmer, a scientist who becomes fixated on his wife Georgiana's small birthmark, which he perceives as an imperfection threatening her beauty and his idealism. Hawthorne employs rich symbolism and eloquent prose, creating a tension-filled atmosphere that serves as a critique of Enlightenment notions of science and rationality, juxtaposed with the irrationality of human emotion and desire. Hawthorne, an American novelist and short story writer, drew inspiration from his Puritan heritage and the complexities of the human psyche. His own struggles with identity and societal expectations are evident in \"The Birthmark,\" which reflects his fascination with moral dilemmas and the darker sides of human nature. This dichotomy between ambition and consequence resonates throughout his work, offering keen insights into the contradictions that define human existence. Readers are encouraged to delve into \"The Birthmark\" for its rich exploration of the dangers inherent in the pursuit of unattainable ideals. This timeless tale not only highlights the fragility of human life but also provokes critical reflection on what it means to strive for perfection, making it a compelling read for anyone interested in the intersections of morality, science, and the human condition.

The Devil in the Shape of a Woman: Witchcraft in Colonial New England

\"No Taxation without Representation!\" The Boston Tea Party stands as an iconic event of the American Revolution—outraged by the tax on tea, American colonists chose to destroy the tea by dumping it into the water! Learn all about the famed colonialists who fought against the British Monarchy, and read about this act of rebellion from our history! With black-and-white illustrations throughout and sixteen pages of photos, the Boston Tea party is brought to life!

The Birthmark

When exploring the course of events at Salem, historians have often ignored assumptions about gender embedded within Puritan cosmology. The author of this work examines how gender systems cut across religious belief, showing the proscription of women's 'sinful natures' and men's 'natural sins'.

What Was the Boston Tea Party?

In 1692 Salem, Massachusetts, witnessed one of the saddest and most inexplicable chapters in American history. When a group of girls came down with a horrible, mysterious bout of illness, the town doctor looked in his medical books but failed to find a reasonable diagnosis. Pretty soon everyone in town was saying the same thing: The girls were ill because they were under a spell, the spell of witchcraft! And still, the question remains: Why did the hysteria occur? The townspeople had many things to worry about back then: smallpox, strife with the local Indians, a preacher demanding higher wages, and the division of land in the community. But did all of those problems justify a witch hunt? Become a detective as you read this true story, study the clues, and try to understand the hysteria! The Unsolved Mystery from History series is written by acclaimed author Jane Yolen and former private investigator Heidi Elisabet Yolen Stemple. This is an innovative

history lesson that's sure to keep kids thinking throughout.

Damned Women

Describes the nineteenth century American gold rush, and includes information on gold rush "boomtowns," relations between Native Americans and gold rush pioneers, and the importance of the gold rush on American history.

The Salem Witch Trials

After narrowly escaping the horrors of the Salem witch trials, Lilly Parrish comes of age in 18th Century France, where she is pampered by Louis XVI and pursued by one of history's greatest fiends: Maximilien Robespierre, the monster who sent thousands of innocent men, women and children to the guillotine. "The Witch and the Guillotine" is a fast-paced, brand-new take on the French Revolution.

What was the Gold Rush?

Between June 10 and September 22, 1692, nineteen people were hanged for practicing witchcraft in Salem, Massachusetts. One person was pressed to death, and over 150 others were jailed, where still others died. The Story of the Salem Witch Trials is a history of that event. It provides a much needed synthesis of the most recent scholarship on the subject, places the trials into the context of the Great European Witch-Hunt, and relates the events of 1692 to witch-hunting throughout seventeenth century New England. This complex and difficult subject is covered in a uniquely accessible manner that captures all the drama that surrounded the Salem witch trials. From beginning to end, the reader is carried along by the author's powerful narration and mastery of the subject. While covering the subject in impressive detail, Bryan Le Beau maintains a broad perspective on events, and wherever possible, lets the historical characters speak for themselves. Le Beau highlights the decisions made by individuals responsible for the trials that helped turn what might have been a minor event into a crisis that has held the imagination of students of American history.

The Witch and the Guillotine

Discusses the events in Salem, Massachusetts that caused young women to be burned at the stake for witchcraft.

The Story of the Salem Witch Trials

Historian Peter Charles Hoffer reexamines a notorious episode in American history and presents many of its legal details in true perspective for the first time. Hoffer also shows how rights we take for granted today did not exist in colonial times, and he demonstrates how these cases relate to current instances of children accusing adults of abuse.

The Salem Witch Trials

Providing an accessible and comprehensive overview, The Story of the Salem Witch Trials explores the events between June 10 and September 22, 1692, when nineteen people were hanged, one was pressed to death and over 150 were jailed for practicing witchcraft in Salem, Massachusetts. This book explores the history of that event and provides a synthesis of the most recent scholarship on the subject. It places the trials into the context of the Great European Witch-Hunt and relates the events of 1692 to witch-hunting throughout seventeenth-century New England. Now in a third edition, this book has been updated to include an expanded section on the European origins of witch-hunts, an updated and expanded epilogue (which discusses the witch-hunts, real and imagined, historical and cultural, since 1692), and an extensive

bibliography. This complex and difficult subject is covered in a uniquely accessible manner that captures all the drama that surrounded the Salem witch trials. From beginning to end, the reader is carried along by the author's powerful narration and mastery of the subject. While covering the subject in impressive detail, Bryan Le Beau maintains a broad perspective on the events and, wherever possible, lets the historical characters speak for themselves. Le Beau highlights the decisions made by individuals responsible for the trials that helped turn what might have been a minor event into a crisis that has held the imagination of students of American history. This third edition of *The Story of the Salem Witch Trials* is essential for students and scholars alike who are interested in women's and gender history, colonial American history, and early modern history.

The Salem Witchcraft Trials

Explores the Salem witch trials and how that event has sculpted societies, the sciences, and politics.

The Story of the Salem Witch Trials

Mass hysteria in the late 17th century led to trials of people suspected to be witches in Salem, Massachusetts. Anyone could be accused of causing mysterious maladies or unfortunate occurrences, such as the death of cattle. Readers discover important facts and captivating details about this fascinating time in American history. The dangers of leveling accusations without proof and succumbing to panic are discussed in this engaging text, which is supplemented with a fact-filled timeline, full-color photographs, and primary sources.

The Salem Witch Trials

Myths! Lies! Secrets! Uncover the hidden truth about the Salem Witch Trials in the hit History Smashers nonfiction series. Perfect for fans of the *I Survived* books and Nathan Hale's *Hazardous Tales*. A SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR In 1692, a few paranoid Puritans accused their neighbors of being witches sending the town flying off the (broomstick) handle. Before it was all over, dozens of women in Salem, Massachusetts were executed—burned at the stake. RIGHT? WRONG! There was some serious witch worry, but no one in the United States was put on a pyre (though the truth isn't much better). And women weren't the only ones caught in crossfire...maybe don't read this one aloud to your dog. What really happened? The truth is historians aren't totally sure. But it is certain that religious beliefs, a changing world, and a few super nosy neighbors collided to spell disaster for one New England town. No joke! From award-winning author Kate Messner comes the acclaimed nonfiction series that demolishes everything you thought you knew about history. And bust more puzzles of the past in History Smashers: Christopher Columbus and the Taino People, The Mayflower, and The Underground Railroad among others!

The Salem Witch Trials

Through its extensive use of primary source materials and provision of explanations, this book places readers into the context of late 17th-century Salem to shed light on one of the darkest events in American history—the Salem witch trials. The Salem witch trials are one of the most fascinating events in American history. Despite being commonly covered in school curricula, the nature of the trials are often misunderstood. This book enables readers to get unique perspective and insight into the nature of this event through a representative selection of primary source materials, each of which is prefaced with explanatory editorial comments. The result is a work that clarifies the belief systems and religious and social culture of 17th century Massachusetts and places them into a comprehensible context to make sense of how the Salem witch trials came to happen. The book provides an introductory overview of the Salem witch trials, which is followed by an array of primary sources that tell the Salem story in the words of both the accusers and the victims of that episode. Editorial commentary accompanies each of the documents, placing it into its historical framework and clearly explaining archaic terminology and testimony. The primary sources used in this work are drawn from the vast archive of Salem witch trial sources, including court testimonies, court

depositions, commentary from journals, miscellaneous court records such as arrest and death warrants, and writings by contemporary critics of the trials. This broad and balanced mix of documents gives students of the Salem witch trials a unique sense of the extent and impact of this event on the people of colonial Massachusetts as well as the complexity of the event.

History Smashers: Salem Witch Trials

From a modern perspective, it seems incredible that people were once executed for practicing witchcraft. Yet, in medieval Europe and colonial America, more than 12,000 lost their lives this way. The “proof” of witchery was often as scanty as a physical deformity or as outrageous as the water test: If the tied-up suspect floated in water, they were guilty; if they sunk, they were innocent! Readers will be fascinated by reports of famous and lesser-known witch trials accompanied by vivid photographs, colorful illustrations, and intriguing fact boxes. They’ll learn how dubious accusations, circumstantial evidence, and a lack of scientific knowledge proved fatal for so many.

Documents of the Salem Witch Trials

The Salem Witch Trials has inspired several films, documentaries and TV series, which only goes to show how interesting they were. But instead of just believing fiction, why don't you learn the facts yourself? You can read this book and gather as much information as you could about the trivial trials. Get a copy today!

Witch Trials

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