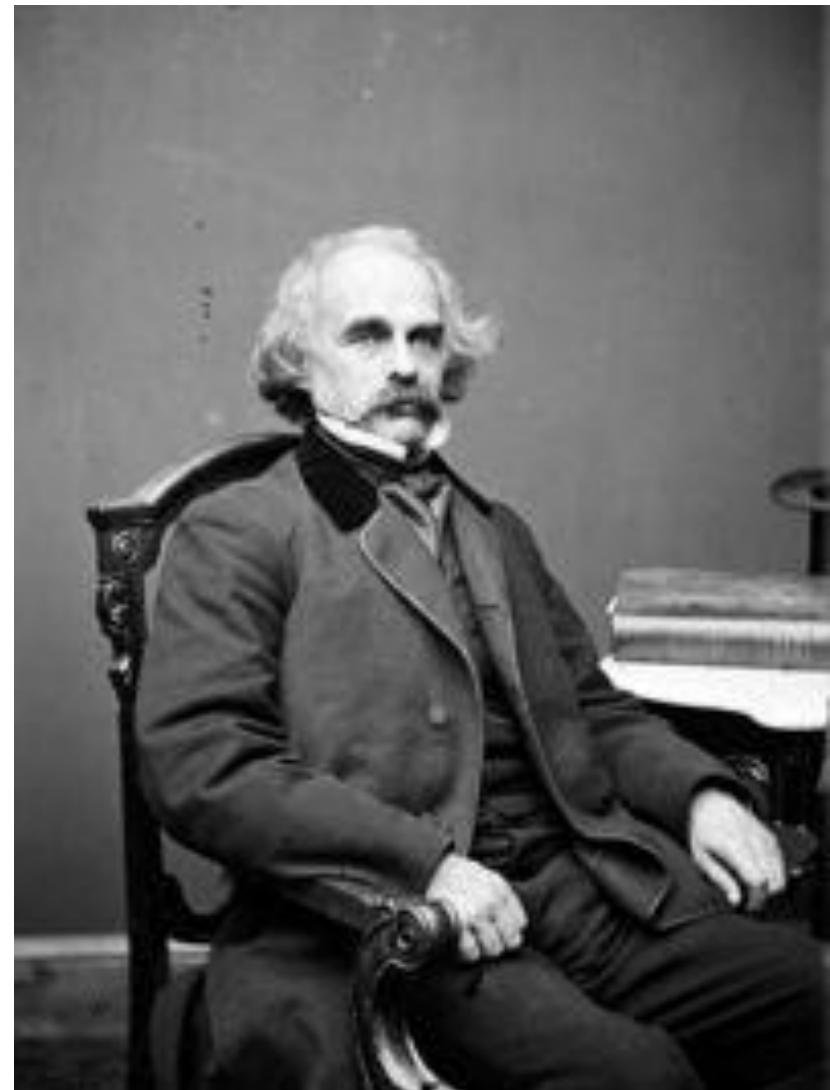
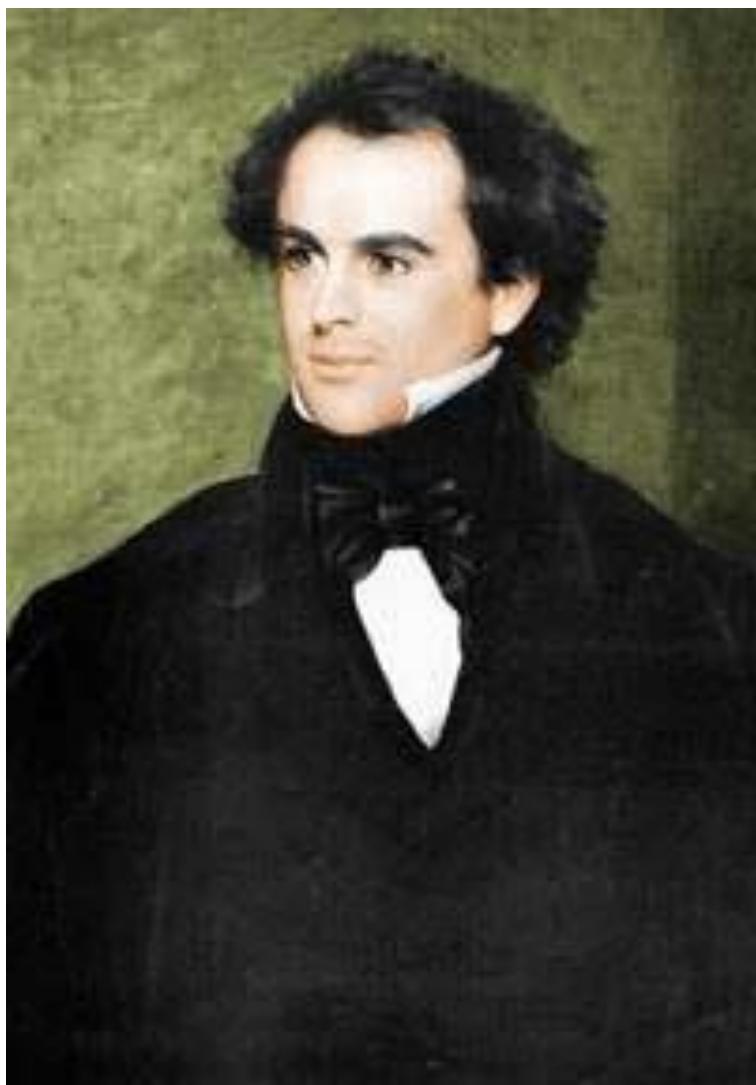


scarlet letter

chapter 1-6

author

- Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804-1864)
 - Native of Salem, Massachusetts
 - Descendent of judge who oversaw witch trials (1692)
 - Member of Brook Farm = utopian community
 - Part of Dark Romantic movement
 - Wrote many moral allegories
 - European trip as political favor and life changing event

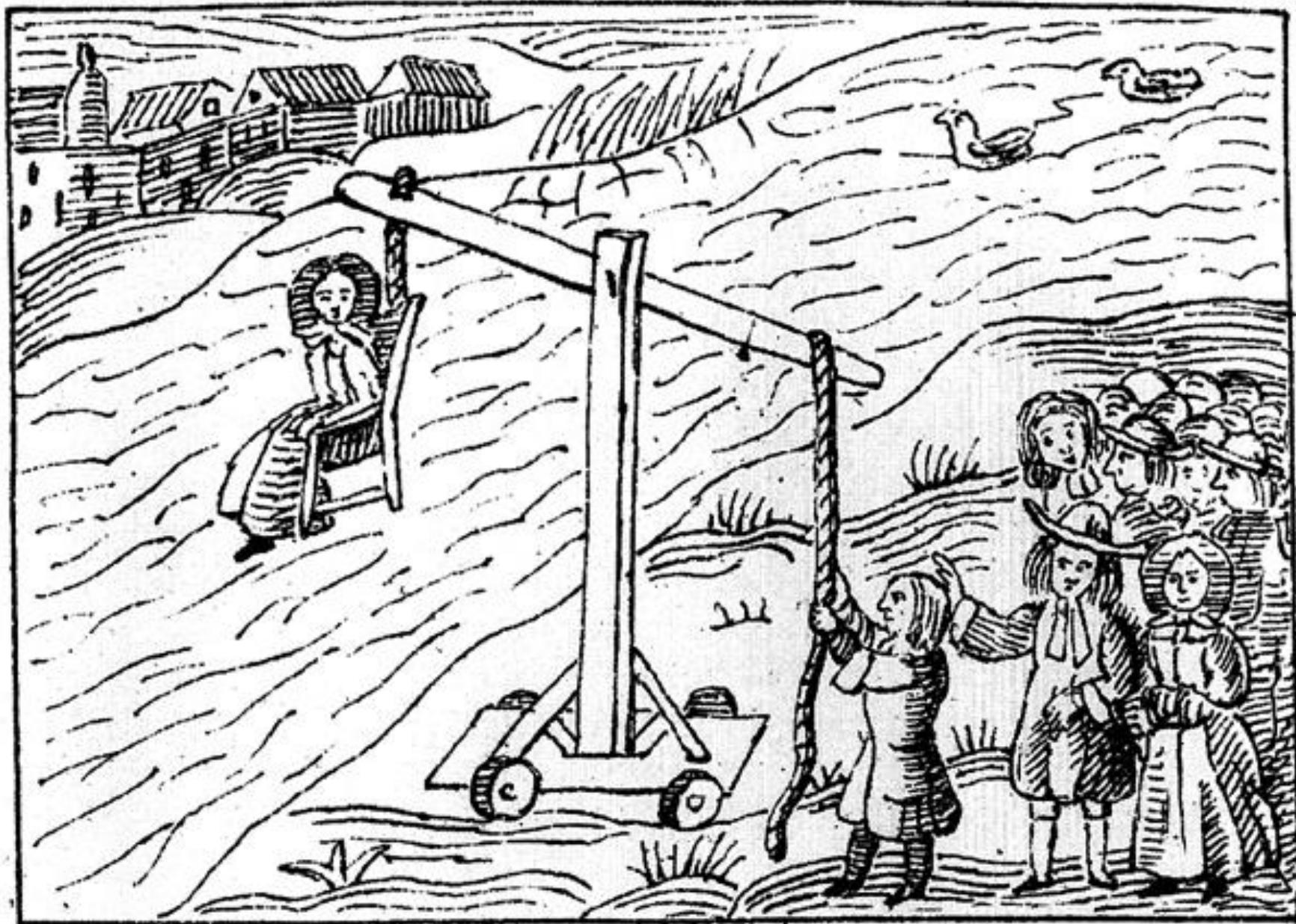


chapter 1

- Setting = Boston 1650s
- Mood vs Tone = Atmosphere vs Attitude
- Magistrates and Jail 41
- Rosebush 42

chapter 2

- Physiognomy 43
- Mistress Hibbins 43
- Punishments
 - Whipping Post, Scaffold and Pillory 44
 - Skimmington Rides and Cucking Stools
 - History of Shame and Embarrassment
 - Effectiveness as deterrents?
 - Religion and Law
 - One in the same in early America



chapter 2

- Contrast women and Hester
 - The New England Women
 - “Beef and Ale,” hot iron, death 44
 - Hester Prynne 46
 - Irony of the A 45
 - Allusion to Mary 47
 - Child born of sin but holy
- Misshapen Scholar 49, 51
 - The Q and A with the local 52

chapter 3

- Strange Man again 52
 - Indian companion
 - Diction and Physiognomy
- Backstory of Hester 52
- Governor Bellingham (1641-1672) 54
- John Wilson 54
- Arthur Dimmesdale 55
 - Discuss tone of his request 55

chapter 4

- Roger Chillingworth 59
 - “The Leech”
- What’s up with the medicine? 60
- Why does Roger scold himself? 61
- Riddle of unknown man =
 - a problem to be solved 62
- Hester cannot reveal truth of Roger 63
- Xenophobia = black man of forest 63
 - Unknown, devilish force beyond community control

chapter 5

- Release from Prison =
Discuss Hester’s choice to stay and
where does she stay? 65-67
- What is Hester’s skill and what is ironic
about it? 67
- How is she treated by the clergy and the
poor? 68-69
- What is the “sympathetic throb”—what
power does the letter give her? 71

chapter 6

- Pearl 73
 - Beauty born from sin
 - See diction 74-75
 - Great price of Mother's reputation
 - Fear of wildness and passion
- Discipline of child – How to raise a kid? 75
- Kenning = short metaphoric word or phrase to rename noun = “imp of evil,” “emblem of sin

chapter 6

- Pearl = wild, eccentric, loner, imaginative
 - Symbol of Romanticism
- Metaphor of pine trees 77
- Pearl's realization of letter and Hester's reflection in Pearl's eye 78
- Hester's questioning and Pearl's response about father and God 79
- Litotes = affirmative expressed by negative – form of understatement – ex – he was not a little unhappy