

JUSTINE. They wouldn't let me see the priest unless I did.

They told me no one would believe my lies.

ELIZABETH. You weren't lying! Why didn't you tell them you were innocent?!

JUSTINE. I did! Over and over and over... but I couldn't explain how I'd got William's locket. I'd no defence! They told me I'd be condemned to hang. They said it was certain. It is certain.

I can't die without absolution. I have to see the priest.

MARY (*bitter*). Faith helped her bear life but look... faith's killed her.

JUSTINE. But I didn't hurt him. I'd never hurt him. Say you believe me, Elizabeth?

ELIZABETH. I have to believe you. I'll try and make everyone believe you. But I can't help you unless you take it back! Take the confession back!

JUSTINE. It's too late. The sentence is passed. You should... (*Falters, terrified.*) We should...

Help me be brave. Help me be ready.

(*Breaking down.*) They're coming soon. Pray with me. Help me get ready to die.

ELIZABETH. Oh God... I can't bear it... I can't...

JUSTINE *starts to pray*. ELIZABETH *joins her*.

*As this continues, JUSTINE is either led away or walks away slowly. She's walking towards her execution, we see or understand that she's climbing to a gallows, to her death.*

ELIZABETH *still prays*.