Hidden beneath the floorboards, the little girl could just make out the faint outline of the mysterious figure. It was not a lie that the figure was quite good-looking, even in the darkness that lay silently around her.(lovely personification here!) How could someone be under the vast floorboards of her house at this time, and just the same time as she was? The suspicious girl decided that this wasn’t normal; she almost wanted to confront the mysterious man, but her courage drained away as fast as quicksand. (a wonderful simile!) How would she even start? What would happen if she questioned him? Frightening thoughts clouded over her head ~~asher~~ (as her) (remember to proof-read!) thoughts threatened her to talk.

Without warning, a faint glow suddenly appeared amidst the dark.(I love this short, snappy sentence!)’ All sense came back to her and her pupils finally rested. She could hear the banging upstairs grow louder and louder (lovely repetition here!) as the eerie silence under the dusty floorboards settled uneasily. Besides hearing what the atmosphere had to tell her, she could make out the outline of the good-looking man now. She cowered. (great short sentence, contrasting the longer ones!) The man standing in front of her held ~~someone~~ (something) glinting and sharp in his silk-black gloves. She could’ve lied to herself all she wanted but his time, there was no more hiding from the truth now. The man held a flaming knife. Was he an assassin?(make sure that you stay true to the witch narrative; he’s unlikely to be an assassin) The petrified girl read about these murderous people before in numerous books in her looming library. Should she have thought that she would’ve met someone like that now?

Silence settled onto the floor like dust. The crimson-eyed man showed absolutely no emotion and no interest in the young girl in front of him either. Is this a dream? (I like how many rhetorical questions you use, it really emphasises her panic!) The shaking girl thought. Upstairs, the shouting shifted away like breath leaving your body as the silence beneath never felt so loud. The gasping girl tasted the air; a bittersweet scent clung tightly (you use some great punctuation!) before but now, nothing of the past remained except for the man and the girl.
She gasped as the emotionless man mouthed these words.

‘I’ve found her.’he muttered under his breath.

The confused girl ~~blacked out.~~ (slightly careful with this, remember it’s set in Tudor times, and ‘blacked out’ is a rather modern term. Maybe you could say ‘Everything went black.) Could you even imagine how she would have felt?

Content and style: 15/20

Spelling and grammar: 8/10

Overall: 23/30

**What Went Well:**

-You use some gorgeous imagery in your work, Sisley! I especially like the simile, ‘her courage drained away as fast as quicksand’! It creates such a strong image of panic and despair! You also completed my challenge of including personification, well done.

-I like how many rhetorical questions you use throughout. These make the atmosphere into something very panicky, out of control. Such a great technique to use to set an uncertain tone!

-I like that you challenge yourself with your punctuation, using exclamation and question marks, as well as some well-placed semi-colons. This is very sophisticated and I always like to see that you’re pushing yourself!

**Even Better If…:**

-It’s a simple thing that has a lot of weight in your writing, but remember to proof-read! 10 marks are awarded for spelling and grammar, and you want to be collecting these points as much as you can. In an exam, you always want to leave yourself a few minutes at the end to run through and make sure you don’t have any misspellings. These minor changes can make a big difference overall!

-Make sure that you stick to the brief with focus, as I feel we lose some of the idea that this is a witch hunt, and you opt for more of a general paranormal feel. While this would be okay in a more vague creative writing brief, just keep in mind that this particular brief was quite specific, and could have used just a bit more focus. For example, when your character questions, ‘was he an assassin?’, it strikes me that this would be rather unlikely, as it was just angry villagers and their two leaders at the door. Just be more focused with that 😊

-To make the style of your writing even more impressive, could you challenge yourself to use a metaphor in your next piece of writing? Maybe a colon as well, to get in more exciting punctuation. Always be striving for higher levels, now you’ve got your writing to a fantastic stage!