Bosola: Act 4, scene 2.

In this scene the Duchess briefly revives after being strangled by hired assassins.

Read the following:

BOSOLA:
[Duchess moves ]
She stirs! Here's life!
Return fair soul from darkness, and lead mine
Out of this sensible hell! She's warm, she breathes:
Upon thy pale lips I will melt my heart
To store them with fresh colour. [Kisses her] Who's there –
Some cordial drink! – Alas I dare not call;
So pity would destroy pity. Her eye opes,
And heaven in it seems to ope, that late was shut,
To take me up to mercy.

DUCHESS: Antonio.

BOSOLA: Yes Madam he is living,
The dead boodies you saw were but feigned statues,
He's reconciled to your brothers, the Pope hath wrought
The atonement.

DUCHESS: Mercy. She dies.

Bosola tells the Duchess the truth and then follows it with a lie.

• What might be his motives for doing so?

Clearly Webster considered this an important aspect of the play since he creates the unlikely event of the Duchesses brief recovery.