

Plot Summary

1	Letters 1-4 Walton's POV	The novel begins with a series of letters from Walton to his sister, Margaret. He is captain of the ship in a voyage to the north Pole. Walton and his men rescue Victor and help him recuperate on the ship. He eventually tells Walton his story.
2	Ch. 1-2 Victor's POV	Victor begins his narration and tells of his childhood growing up in Geneva with his doting parents. He also shares that Elizabeth was adopted. As a teenager, Victor was fascinated by the mysteries of Science.
3	Ch. 3-5 Victor's POV	Victor's mother dies from Scarlet fever after catching it whilst nursing Elizabeth. Victor leaves to attend university in Ingolstadt and becomes obsessed with anatomy. He decides to animate a creature and is horrified when it is brought to life. He abandons the creature and falls ill.
4	Ch. 6-8 Victor's POV	Victor is nursed back to health by his friend, Henry Clerval. He receives a letter from his father informing him that William has been murdered. Returning to Geneva, Victor sees the monster and knows who is to blame, however Justine is executed for William's murder.
5	Ch. 9-10 Victor's POV	Victor contemplates suicide but a trip to Belrive, planned by his father, cheers him up slightly. When he feels negative again, he decides to climb Montonvert to clear his head and sees the monster who shares his story.
6	Ch. 11-12 Creature's POV	The monster describes the confusion in its first moments of life. He then describes people fleeing whenever he tried to approach them, so he decided to stay away from them. He developed skills and began observing the De Lacey family to educate himself.
7	Ch. 13-14 Creature's POV	Winter turns into Spring and the creature has now learnt language. He notices that the family seem unhappy, until Safie arrives. He learns that the people are called Felix, Agatha and De Lacey and they used to be affluent.
8	Ch. 15-17 Creature's POV	The creature finds books and learns to read and also learns how he was created. He hopes to befriend the cottagers, starting with the old, blind De Lacey, however Felix drives him away. When the family have left, the creature burns down their cottage and leaves for Geneva. He confesses that he killed William and framed Justine. He then implores Victor to make him a mate and Victor agrees.
9	Ch. 18-20 Victor's POV	Victor visits England with Clerval, but he leaves Clerval in Scotland so that he can work on the female creature alone in the Orkney Islands. Mid-way, he destroys it in front of the monster. The monster promises revenge on Victor's wedding night. Victor then gets rid of the remains in the sea. When he lands in a town, he is suspected of a murder.
10	Ch. 21-23 Victor's POV	Victor is taken to the body, which is Clerval's. He collapses and falls ill. When he awakens, he is found innocent. Elizabeth and Victor marry, however, he remembers the creature's threat and plans to battle him. On the wedding night, Elizabeth is killed by the creature and Alphonse dies from shock. Victor vows revenge on the creature.
11	Ch. 24 Victor's POV- Walton in Continuation Walton's POV	Victor relentlessly tracks down the creature through ice and snow. He is found by Walton, to whom he warns not to make the same mistakes as him and Walton decides to call the voyage off. Victor asks Walton to continue his mission and then dies. Walton then sees the creature weeping over Victor's body. He is tormented and states he has no purpose left, now that his creator is dead. He leaves into the darkness.

Characters

1	Robert Walton	A young, ambitious English man leading an expedition to the North Pole.	6	Justine Moritz	Frankenstein family servant, who is more like family. She was framed by the creature and executed for William's murder.
2	Victor Frankenstein	Protagonist. Driven by ambition and Science. His quest for power leads him to his own downfall.	7	De Laceys	Parisian's turned rural farmers. They are poor, but kind, loving and good.
3	Alphonse Frankenstein	Victor's father. An example of kindness and selflessness.	8	The Creature	A product of Victor's scientific experiment that went wrong. He is rejected by everyone and longs for acceptance.
4	Caroline Frankenstein	Victor's loving mother. A paradigm of motherly concern and generosity. Her death provides the catalyst for Victor to transcend death.	9	Henry Clerval	Victor's best friend. He is an idealised character. Henry takes care of Victor and is also another one of the creature's victims.
5	William Frankenstein	Victor's youngest brother who was murdered by the creature.	10	Elizabeth Lavenza	Victor's adopted sister and bride. She is a passive and idealised character and is presented as angelic. She is killed by the creature.

Themes

1	Ambition/obsession	Both Victor and Walton aim for major discoveries/achievements. Victor's tale is a warning to not be overly ambitious.
2	Family/Love	Family is important to Victor and the Creature. The Creature longs for family/love but is always rejected.
3	Death	Several people die in the novel and Victor's mother's death is what spurred Victor on to transgress the boundaries of life and death.
4	Revenge	Both Victor and the creature feel wronged and seek revenge even at the cost of their own safety, health and happiness.
5	Man vs God	Both Victor and Walton talk of conquering nature with science which emphasizes their risk-taking and ambitious natures.

Context

1	Mary Shelley	Born in 1797, most famous for <i>Frankenstein</i> . Shelley experienced a great deal of death in her own life: her mother, her 3 children and her husband (Percy Bysshe Shelley).
2	Science	Many advancements in science had been made, biologists were finding out a great deal about the human body and its capabilities. Science was breaking boundaries.
3	Religion	Parts of Europe were heavily religious. Therefore, occurrences that could not be explained were viewed as an act of God or from another supernatural force.

Key Vocabulary

1	Epistolary Novel	Novel written in the form of letters which allows the writer to establish the narrative POV clearly.
2	Frame Narrative	A narrative within a narrative. This allows us to see events from different perspectives.
4	Allegory	Characters/events represent ideas about religion, morals or politics.
5	Foreshadowing-	When something gives the reader a hint about what will take place in the future.
6	Transgression	An act that goes against a law, rule or code of conduct; an offence.
7	Age of Enlightenment	An intellectual and philosophical movement that dominated the world of ideas in Europe during the 17 th -19 th Century.