

Frankenstein REVIEW:

Identify the following CHARACTERS/PLACES:

Victor **main character, scientist who creates monster**

Elizabeth **Victor's adopted "cousin"/wife ; killed by monster**

William **Victor's little brother; killed by monster**

Henry **Victor's best friend; nurses him back to health in Ch 5; killed by monster in Ireland**

Alphonse **Victor's dad; loving and caring father (creator); dies of heartbreak after deaths of so many loved ones**

Caroline Beaufort **Victor's mom; ;loving and caring mother (creator); dies early in book of scarlet fever**

Justine **innocent but charged guilty for murder**

Robert Walton **explorer who writes letters to sister; finds Victor wandering Arctic**

The creature/monster - **Victor's creation**

Safie- **Turkish girl who came to live with DeLacey family**

DeLacey **blind man- father to Felix and Agatha**

Agatha - **sister to Felix, lives in cottage**

Felix- **one of the cottagers/protectors; exiled for helping Safie's father**

M. Krempe- **professor at Ingolstadt who warns Victor's studies are a waste**

M. Waldman- **influential professor that encourages Victor in his studies**

Mr. Kirwin- **Irish attorney that shows kindness to Victor**

England-**Victor asks his father for permission to take an extended vacation to this country**

Scotland- **Victor sends Henry Clerval here to buy him some alone time to create the second monster**

France- **the DeLacey's home country; they are exiled in Germany when we meet them**

Geneva,Switzerland- **where Victor's family is from**

Ingolstadt, Germany- **where Victor goes to study when he turns 17**

Turkey- **Safie's home country**

Ireland- **Victor is arrested here and taken in for questioning after Clerval's death**

Orkney- **island where Victor sets up in an isolated cottage to create second creature**

Elements of Romanticism: 1) Imagination and emotion are more important than reason and rules; imagination is the door to transcendent experience and truth. 2) Emphasis on love of nature, respect of country life, and revulsion of urbanization. 3) Nature is beautiful, powerful, and a means of divine revelation. 4)Romantics emphasize introspection and psychology, closely studying sad topics like death, loss, and separation.

How do these elements appear in the text? **Criticism of Enlightenment/Science; Shelley uses nature to reflect characters emotions, Victor seeks solace there, etc.**

What two characters are specifically aligned with Romantic thought/values? **Victor describes both Elizabeth and Henry as embracing the romantic values**

What character is most often linked with Science/Enlightenment? **Victor**

Major Allusions (understand reference and purpose):

Myth of Prometheus (title):

Prometheus was a Titan who created men from clay. He also stole fire from the sun to give to man. His actions angered Zeus, the king of the gods, who in turn condemned Prometheus for his actions. He was bound to a rock for eternity while an eagle constantly pecked at his liver.

Title of this novel: **Modern Prometheus (Victor created the monster and then lives a life of torture after)**

Chapter 5: **"Who shall conceive the horrors of my secret toil as I dabbled among the unhallowed damps of the grave or tortured the living animal to animate the lifeless clay?"**

“Rime of the Ancient Mariner” by Samuel Taylor Coleridge (Letter 2 & Chapter 5):

The poem, *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*, chronicles the story of a mariner who has returned from a long sea voyage. During his voyage, the mariner shot and killed an albatross (large seabird) that was glorified by the ship’s crew; they thought the albatross brought them good luck. After the mariner kills the albatross, the ship sails into uncharted waters. The crew forces the mariner to wear the albatross around his neck to “bear the burden” for killing the bird. The crew then encounters a ghostly ship where “Death” and “Life-in-death” are playing dice for the men’s lives. Death wins the crewmembers’ lives, while Life-in-death wins the mariner’s life. The mariner is forced to witness his crew members die one by one. He is also cursed to roam the Earth and tell his story as compensation for killing the albatross; he must teach a lesson to those he meets.

Letter 2 (Robert Walton to sister) : “I am going to unexplored regions, to ‘the land of mist and snow,’ but I shall kill no albatross; therefore do not be alarmed for my safety or if I should come back to you as worn and woeful as the ‘Ancient Mariner.’”

Chapter 5 (Victor): “Like one who, on a lonely road...Doth close behind him tread.”

Chapter 18(Victor): “this deadly weight yet hanging around my neck and bowing me to the ground?”

Paradise Lost , Plutarch’s *Lives*, and *The Sorrows of Werther* (Chapter 15):

Paradise Lost is an epic poem that relates the story of creation and the fall of man. In the poem, God creates the Earth, along with Adam, the first man. Adam longs for a companion, so God creates Eve. Satan, a fallen angel, learns of the new race of man and becomes jealous; he could have loved this new race, but instead, he is condemned to forever be the “embodiment of hell.” The Monster reads this story as non-fiction and finds similarities between himself and Adam as first creations, but finds more in common with Satan due to his condemned and cast away condition.

Plutarch’s Lives

This book contains histories of the first founders of the republics. It taught the creature to “admire and love the heroes of past ages.” He learned about kingdoms and how men often went to war with one another. He “read of men concerned in public affairs, governing or massacring their species.” This book furthered his appreciation for the virtues of man and distaste for the vices.

The Sorrows of Werther:

The monster connects emotionally to this book as he reads about the “despondency and gloom” of the characters. He also weeps for the death of the main character and then realizes that when he (the creature) dies “there [will be] none to lament my annihilation.