

Frankenstein Notes

Letters I-IV

- Travels
 - St. Petersburg (Dec. 11)
 - Archangel (March 28)
 - “Open” Sea (July 7)
 - “Open” Sea (August 5, 19)
 - see the monster
- Family
 - Sister: Mrs. Margaret Saville
 - Uncle: Thomas
 - Wrote about his voyages
- Raised
 - In solitude
 - By sister
 - Non-violent
- Crew
 - Lieutenant
 - Englishman
 - Unsoftened by cultivation
 - The master
 - Gentle and mild
 - Loved by Russian lady
 - She didn’t love him
 - Gave all his money to her lover
 - Left until her father let her marry the other man

Chapter One

Victor

- From Geneva
- Family in Government
- Born in Naples
- Thought of sister as his (mother presented her as a present)

Father

- Impoverished friend Beaufort
 - Went to Lucerne
 - Daughter Caroline looks after him
 - Ill
 - Dies (from illness brought on by depression)
- Looks after Caroline for two years
- Marries her
- Age makes their love stronger

Sister

- Elizabeth Lavenza
- Calls cousin
- Father- Milanese nobleman
- Mother- German
- Living with family that became impoverished down by river

Chapter Two

General Information

- Swiss home

- Elizabeth interested in nature's appearance
- Victor interested in nature's causes
- 2nd son born-Ernest
 - 7 yrs apart from Victor
- parents settle down
- house in Geneva
- country house in Belrive

Henry Clerval

- son of merchant
- Victor's best friend

Main Event

- 13
- baths near Thonon
- finds volume by Cornelius Agrippa
 - claimed study of magic best means to know God and nature
- father brushed it off
- Victor begins search of the philosopher's stone and the elixir of life

Main Event

- At country house
- Tree struck by lightning
- Theory of electricity explained
- Decides science holds false knowledge/can't get to true knowledge
- Picks up math
- Science=evil

Chapter III

Plot Information

- 17
- to go to school in Ingolstadt
- Elizabeth gets Scarlet Fever
 - Recovers
 - Mother cares for her
- Mother gets sick/dies
- Hopes Victor and Elizabeth will marry
- M. Krempe- professor of natural philosophy
 - Loves grandeur
 - Dogmatic
- M. Waldman- chemistry
- Victor studies chemistry and physiology/ Natural Science

Chapter IV

- M. Waldman=true friend
- Studied decaying bodies
- Wants to bring animation to lifeless matter
- Begins work on monster
- Ignores letters from father

Chapter V

- November=monster complete
- Creature opens eyes
- Worked for about 2 years
- Allusion to Dante (Dante's *Inferno*)

- Allusion to “Rhyme of the Ancient Mariner” by Coleridge
- Clerval comes to college
- Victor falls into nervous fever
 - Henry cares for him

Chapter VI

- Letter from Elizabeth
- Brother-Ernest
- Justine Moritz-another adopted girl
 - Servant
 - Called home
 - Family dies
 - She returned
- Brother-William
- March 18
- Clerval studies Oriental Languages
- Victor spends summer studying with Clerval

Chapter VII

- Letter from father
 - William is dead-murdered
 - Father, Elizabeth, William, and Ernest went to Plainpalais
 - Boys playing and William hides=disappears
 - Found at 5am strangled
 - Wore a picture of Caroline- was Elizabeth's- gone
 - Locket thought to be reason for death
 - Father= Alphonse F.
- Victor hasn't been home in about 6 years
- Allusion to Byron's *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*
- Victor sees monster
- Knows monster killed William
- Justine accused

Chapter VIII

- Justine on trial
- Convicted
- Justine falsely confesses
- Hung
- Foreshadowing to more suffering

Chapter IX

- Contemplates suicide
- Deep “depression”
- 2 months after Justine's death
 - goes on trip
 - wants to see nature
 - rides up glacier

Chapter X

- allusion to Percy Bysshe Shelley's “Mutability”
- sees monster
- monster wants to talk
- Victor says no then finally yes

Chapter XI

- Monster out in world alone
- Discovers fire
- Has to leave it for food
- It snows
- Finds hut=scares old shepherd
- Attacked by villagers
- Enters hovel next to cottage
- Looks into cottage
- Old man, woman, and young man

Chapter XII

- Old man blind
- Questions why cottagers unhappy
- Answer=poor
- Stopped stealing food b/c saw it caused pain
- Brings wood for family
- Discovers language
- Old man=father
- Girl=sister or Agatha
- Boy=brother, son, or Felix
- Discovers reading
- Longing to learn
- Surprised at own reflexion
- Allusion to a fable
- Felix's "sweet Arabian" (Safie)
- Learns as she learns
- Questions his own family
- 2 months to learn

Chapter XIII

- learned to read
- learns of governments and other societies
- book *ruins of empires*

Chapter XIV

- old man= DeLacey
- Family was wealthy and living in Paris
- Safie's father- Mahometan
 - Falsely accused of crime
 - Imprisoned
 - Felix at trial
- Felix frees from prison and promised his daughter in marriage
- Cottagers speaking French
- Safie from Asia
- Felix and Safie leave for Italy
- DeLacey and Agatha thrown in prison
- Mahometan not planning to let Safie marry
- Felix returns to help family
- All in prison 5 months
- Exiled
- Move to Germany
- Safie's father goes home and she is to follow
- She goes to Felix
- Safie's attendant/translator dies
- Woman at inn/house takes Safie to Felix

Chapter XV

- Finds leather suitcase in August
- Studies book inside
- Questions self
- Compares self to Adam/Satan
- Found papers in pocket, now reads
- Victor's journal
- Angry with creator
- Appeals to father-accepted
- Family rejects

Chapter XVI

- On the move
- Angry
- Returns to cottage
- Family has left
- Carried away by anger and revenge
- Burns cottage
- Monster turns
- Saves a girls life
- Shot for it
- Vows hatred and vengeance on all men
- Takes child in hopes of companion
- Finds out father is M. Frankenstein
- Fills him/ accident? Purposeful?
- Plants picture on Justine
- Demands companion

Chapter XVII

- Discussion of companion continues
- Victor understands feeling but doesn't trust he will go forever
- Victor fears he will use companion to aid his revenge
- Monster says alienation source of hate
- Victor finally agrees it is justice to monster and man
- Victor prepares
 - Distressed
 - Family concerned

Chapter XVIII

- Discussion with father over Elizabeth
- Asks to go to England
- To marry Elizabeth on return
- Slave to creature
- Clerval joins him
- Start journey from Strasburg (traveling to Rotterdam)
- Travel along the Rhine
- Stop at Mannheim for a day
- The fifth day at Mayence (Mainz)
- Allusions to *story of rimmy* by Leigh Hunt
- Allusions to Tintern Abby by Wordsworth
- For Cologne to Holland
- Ride to Rotterdam due to poor winds and stream opposition
- Arrive to England by sea
- (contradiction-says here see cliffs in December but arrive in October in next chapter)

Chapter XIX

- Victor unsociable
- February arrives
- Travel to Scotland to visit friend
- Arrive by July- leave march 27
- On way will visit
 - Windsor
 - Oxford
 - Matlock
 - Cumberland lakes
- Fears monster's anger at delay
- Expected by friend in Perth
- Leaves to complete female companion
- Sets up workshop on remotest of Orkney Island

Chapter XX

- Victor destroys new female creature
 - Monster sees him do it
- Monster threatens again
- Victor will not recant
- Monster threatens wedding night
- Victor falls asleep in boat
 - Drift to sea
 - Lands in Ireland
 - man dead
 - lead to magistrate

Chapter XXI

- dead man has black mark on neck
 - victor knows it was the monster
- shown body=it's Henry Clerval
- Victor confesses out of guilt at creating monster
- Confesses to Henry, Justine, and William's deaths
- 2 months out of it
- M. Kirwin sets up nicest room and nurse
- Still in prison
- Father visits
- Discovered talking on Orkney when man killed in Ireland
- Released

Chapter XXII

- Letter from Elizabeth
 - Wants to know how he feels about her
 - She loves him
- He worries about his life being threaten on their wedding night
- Foreshadowing..."if for one instant I had thought what might be..."
- Elizabeth receives inheritance from Austrian government
 - Small cottage on shores of Como
 - Villa Lavenza
- Set to spend wedding night in Evian on way to Como

Chapter XXIII

- Sends Elizabeth to room while he looks around
- She screams
- Dead

- Victor sees monster at the window
- Fires
- Loses him in the woods
- Men search=no luck
- Tells father
- He dies in a few days in Victor's arms
- Victor tells magistrate and begs for help
 - Won't help
 - Thinks he cannot catch such a "man"

Chapter XXIV

- Begins wandering looking for monster
- Starts at cemetery
- Fiend is there laughing at him
- Can't catch him
- Begins chase
- He leaves notes on trees for Victor
- Victor also gets clues from locals in the monster's path
- Gains on him with a sledge but then monster gets one too
- Finally sees him again but then ice cracks
- Meets Walton's ship
- Sailor's want to go home since ship is stuck in ice
- Too dangerous to continue
- Walton agrees and ship is finally free
- Victor dies
- Monster comes
- Asks forgiveness of Frankenstein
- Walton calls him a hypocrite
- Monster claims to want to go burn himself and leaves