

Characters	
Frankenstein	Eponymous protagonist; scientist; overreacher?
Monster	To be feared or pitied?
Elizabeth	Idealised sister/wife; incest?
Clerval	Friend of F; homoerotic overtones
Walton	Tells the story; doubles F in many ways
DeLacey family	Reveal judgemental nature of humans
Justine	Showcases F's inner turmoil/moral dilemma
William	Represents innocent victim

Key quotes	
Obsession	'deeply smitten with the thirst for knowledge' (2)
Unnatural	'Breathless horror and disgust filled my heart' (5)
Platonic love	'I loved him with a mixture of affection and reverence that knew no bounds' (6)
Monstrosity	'Nothing in human shape could destroy that fair child' (7)
Regret/realisation	'I had been the author of unalterable evils' (9)
Monster's humanity /link with F	'Life, although it may only be an accumulation of anguish, is dear to me and I will defend it' (10)
Literary allusion	'I ought to be thy Adam but I am rather the fallen angel' (10)
Dual nature of man	'Was man at once so powerful, so virtuous and magnificent, yet so vicious and base?' (13)
Companionship	'My companion must be the same species... This being you must create' (16)
Self-justification	'I am malicious because I am miserable' (17)
F's doubts	'He had sworn to quit the neighbourhood of man... but she had not' (20)
F's suicidal thoughts	'Life is obstinate and clings closest to where it is most hated' (23)

Critical quotes	
Robert D Hume	The monster is F; reader unprepared for murders; 'real psychological insight'
Sylvia Bowerback	No love in society; Elizabeth is idealised; tension victim and social order

Plot	
Letters	Walton tells sister about new discoveries and natural science and meets VF
Chapter 1-2	F's background and love of science
Chapter 3-5	F to university; his mother dies; F discovers secret of life and makes monster
Chapter 6-8	F rejects monster; William dies; Justine executed
Chapter 9-10	F's anguish; meets monster in mountains, argues with him
Chapter 11-12	Monster's story; DeLacey family, learning to read/speak
Chapter 13-14	Monster learns humans judge by appearance, angry and seeks revenge
Chapter 15-17	Monster finishes story; asks for female, F agrees to create
Chapter 18-20	F creates female monster and destroys, Monster curses
Chapter 21-24	Clerval murdered, Elizabeth murdered, F looks for monster, dies
Frame narrative	Story within a story (letters, VF's story, Monster's) – unreliable?
Rhetoric	Monster's story is nuanced and persuasive
Context	
French Revolution	Overturning of traditional morality; uncertainty
Scientific discovery	New advances raise moral questions
Gothic links	
Doppelganger	Doubles; M for F; Walton for F?
Obsession	F's with science; Monster's need for companionship
Transgression	F oversteps in creating monster; incest with Elizabeth?
Violence	Monster's continual attacks
Blurred morality	We're not sure who to sympathise with
Hubris	F's overreaching in creating life – God's responsibility
Tension and suspense	Unsure of what will happen
Unexplainable	Science used to create Monster
Sublime setting	Beautiful but terrifying landscape
Tragic inevitability	F's actions make the ending inevitable