

By the end of studying **Chapter 14** I need to know:

**Plot:** The monster learns about the history of the De Lacey family. He finds out why they have welcomed Safie into the family. Safie has run away from her father because she loves Felix.

**Ideas:** The monster learns more about the impact of wealth and the loss of it. We also see the treatment of women - as commodities that can be 'given' as rewards - and the male dominance over women.

<b>Vocabulary</b>	
<b>Context (To inform interpretation)</b>	<p><b>Romanticism</b> - Shelley explores romance through the relationship between Safie and Felix. She shows the reader the Romantic belief that passion is important in a relationship through the action of Safie in running away from her father. This is also a challenge to the historic belief that marriage should be arranged or decided by parents, as Safie has ignored the refusal of her relationship with Felix by her father.</p> <p>Shelley explores elements of the corrupt justice system of France - a nod to the events of the French Revolution which inspired the Romantic movement, where the middle and upper classes were removed from power by the poor working class.</p>
<b>Themes</b>	<p><b>Family</b> - We see another example in this chapter of how fathers attempt to control their daughters in the subject of marriage. We also see how whole families are affected in status and wealth when misfortune is brought upon them through the authorities. The De Lacey's pay the highest price in trying to show good will to the Turk as they have all of their wealth removed in punishment for Felix helping him escape prison.</p> <p><b>Prejudice</b> = The Turk, Safie's father, is treated with xenophobia by the French authorities, condemning him to death. This is assumed from the lack of clarity that Shelley gives regarding how the Turk fell into disrepute.</p> <p><b>Justice/Injustice</b> - How Safie is treated by her father - '<b>tyrannical</b>' - mirrors Victor's cruelty towards the monster earlier on and foreshadows the further cruelty he expresses towards the monster later in the novel with the broken promise to create a companion.</p>
<b>Deeper understanding</b>	<p>We see the lack of justice given towards the De Laceys for showing compassion to an outsider, again reflecting the Romantic argument of Rousseau that all man is born good until mixed in society. This leads to further injustice in the lack of loyalty shown by the Turk when he breaks his promise to Felix through religious prejudice; this echoes the misplaced hatred that Victor and society demonstrate towards the monster. We also see a foreshadowing of the request that the monster wants to make of a companion from Victor in the description of the Turk's feelings towards Felix - '<b>he knew that he was still in the power of his deliverer</b>'.</p> <p>Through this chapter we see another comparison between Victor and Felix; Felix's ambitions and reckless actions cause the plight of his family. However, Felix can be argued to battle for justice and freedom, whereas Victor acts out of selfish ambition. Both see members of their family thrown in prison as a result of their actions also. Another comparison is that the monster foreshadows the loss of Elizabeth for Victor as he describes Felix's feelings about the loss of Safie: '<b>but the ingratitude of the Turk and the loss of his beloved Safie were misfortunes more bitter and irreparable</b>'.</p> <p>By telling the story of the De Lacey's, the monster is demonstrating that he is not the only one to have suffered injustice. This is further demonstrated by the monster's use of language, emotive adjectives, when describing the plight of the Turk and of the De Laceys.</p> <p><b>Safie and her mother</b>- Whereas Caroline implicitly and explicitly teaches Elizabeth that her role as a woman is one of subservience, Safie's mother teaches her daughter a greater level of independence. The creature reflects how Safie's mother '<b>taught her to aspire to greater powers of intellect and freedom</b>'- it's clear that Safie's mother had a positive influence on the independent Safie, who rejects her father's requests and flees to join Felix. The importance of a motherly figure in encouraging independence would have been important to Shelley; her mother was Mary Wollstonecraft who wrote one of the very first feminist texts '<i>A vindication of the Rights of Women</i>'. Safie's mum herself is described as having been captured for her beauty, but</p>

**Reading:**  
Read to the punctuation.

**Links across the text:**

The misjustice of the Turk can be compared to the same injustice served to Justine earlier in the novel.

The breaking of the Turk's promise to Felix for his daughter's hand in marriage foreshadows the breaking of Victor's promise to the monster to create a companion.

Safie presented as a gift to Felix - echoes the 'pretty present' of Elizabeth given to Victor.

Compare the expectations of women demonstrated by Caroline in Chapter 1 and Chapter 3.

	<p>eventually 'spurned her bondage', revealing her utmost desire for freedom. Arguably, issues of class and status become relevant here- the DeLacys now live in poverty and disgrace- therefore do not need to adhere to society's rules regarding the roles of men and women. The equality that Safie finds amongst the De LAcys- reflected through the sharing out of physical roles between Agatha and Felix, reflects this- just as Caroline had to 'procure plain work' when her father was ill and they were living in poverty.</p>
<p><b>Quotes and references</b></p>	<p>'unfortunate Muhammadan, who, loaded with chains, waited in despair the execution of the barbarous sentence.'</p> <p>'He loathed the idea that his daughter should be united to a Christian,'</p> <p>'...but the ingratitude of the Turk and the loss of his beloved Safie were misfortunes more bitter and irreparable.'</p>
<p><b>Terminology</b></p>	<p>Narration - The reader should not forget that this is the monster telling his account.</p> <p>First person</p>