

By the end of studying **Chapter 9** I need to know:

Plot: Victor is feeling really guilty about Justine's death and becomes ill as a result. The family go to their other home in Belrive. Victor goes into a deep depression - Alphonse and Elizabeth are worried about him. Victor believes that the monster will continue to carry out evil acts.

Ideas: Victor is extremely isolated by the secrecy of his creation. The mountains are seen as a place of solace for Victor, but this romantic ideal is challenged by the arrival of the monster.

Vocabulary	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Inaction</td> <td>Complacency</td> <td>brooded</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Remorse</td> <td>Solitude</td> <td>bade</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Despair</td> <td>Consolation</td> <td>perpetrate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Benevolent</td> <td>base</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shunned</td> <td>malice</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Inaction	Complacency	brooded	Remorse	Solitude	bade	Despair	Consolation	perpetrate	Benevolent	base		Shunned	malice	
Inaction	Complacency	brooded														
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Context (To inform interpretation)	<p>Romanticism - Shelley shows how nature can heal a tortured mind in Victor - 'This change was particularly agreeable to me.' 'I was now free.' However, Victor's actions in making the monster, and the resulting deaths of Justine and William, mean that the nature cannot heal entirely, '...maternal nature bade me weep no more. Then again the kindly influence ceased to act...' The description of the mountains at the end of the chapter show how nature is being presented by Shelley to provide a protective presence for Victor.</p> <p>Religion - Shelley uses Satanic imagery to emphasise Victor's feelings of guilt and remorse as he wanders like an 'evil spirit' feeling a 'hell of intense tortures'. This links to the romantic and religious teachings of innocence vs experience; Victor's 'experience' in following ambition and greed for power has resulted in him acting like God. Therefore, he is now being punished.</p> <p>Gothic - Shelley uses gothic and dark terms to describe the mood of Victor to the reader: 'deep, dark and deathlike', 'a dark cloud which brooded over me.'</p>															
Themes	<p>Power= Nature has the power in this chapter. Victor is at Nature's mercy in the mountain walk/journey that he takes. However, Victor's isolation in the mountain makes him vulnerable to the suggested power of the monster, as Victor feels he is close throughout as he is waiting for him to 'perpetrate some new wickedness'.</p> <p>Family= Victor is now beginning to see the full impact of his ambition for power over life. He can now see that his true responsibilities are at home, contrary to the responsibility he felt towards creating the monster. He considers the act of suicide but sees that this would be entirely selfish as he would be deserting his father, Elizabeth and Alphonse: 'leave them exposed and unprotected to the malice of the fiend whom I had let loose among them'. Here he also recognises that he is at fault for the recent murders by the monster 'not in deed, but in effect, was the true murderer'.</p> <p>Isolation = Victor is isolated at the start of the chapter through his guilt and remorse knowing that his family's advice was 'totally inapplicable to my case'. At the end of the novel is physically isolated from humankind, allowing nature to be his only companion.</p>															
Deeper understanding	<p>Victor's guilt and remorse here, demonstrates the warning that Shelley is giving towards following the movement of Enlightenment, as it results in the emotional and mental torture of Victor's mind. He cannot be honest with those he loves the most. His actions have caused the death of those closest to him, not the 'elixir of life' that he'd actually craved. In his desire to 'shun the face of man' he continues to turn away from the love and support of his family. His desire to avenge the deaths of Justine and William again demonstrate his ever-increasing distance from the peace and calm of nature and religious teachings as he cannot forgive.</p>															
Quotes and references	<p>I wandered like an evil spirit, for I had committed deeds of mischief beyond description horrible -</p> <p>I was seized by remorse and the sense of guilt</p> <p>I shunned the face of man</p>															

Reading:

Alphonse - Victor's father

Elizabeth Lavenza - Victor's adopted sister.

Ernest - Victor's brother.

Read to the punctuation.

Links across the text:

Here we see Victor wish to end life, whereas his story began wanting to create and prolong it.

Victor enters another deep depression, similar to that which he experiences in Ingoldstadt.

	<p>This advice, although good, was totally inapplicable to my case</p> <p>I had been the author of unalterable evils</p> <p>I had an obscure feeling that all was not over</p> <p>I, not in deed, but in effect, was the true murderer.</p> <p>The very winds whispered in soothing accents, and maternal Nature bade me weep no more.</p>
Terminology	<p>First person - emphasises the immeasurable guilt and remorse felt by Victor.</p> <p>Repetition - 'I' begins many of the main clauses again emphasising the emotions of Victor at this point in the text. It could be seen to suggest the further solitude of Victor in both physical and emotional states.</p> <p>Personification - The reference to Nature being personified as it 'whispers' to Victor and 'bade' him not to cry.</p> <p>Irony - Victor wishes to end his life and that of the monster, whereas his story and ambition began with the desire to create and prolong life.</p>