

By the end of studying [Chapter 24 and Walton in continuation](#), I need to know:

Plot: Victor pursues the monster and Walton continues the story. Victor dies and Walton speaks with the monster before his departure.

Ideas: Victor has assumed the very inhumanity of which he accuses the monster.

Vocabulary	<p>The furies possessed me- the furies were Graeco-Roman goddesses of vengeance, sent to punish men for their crimes; they were particularly concerned with those who neglected family duties. The Greeks wept for joy- Xenophon (431.-c.350 BC) records this in <i>Anabasis</i>, when he describes leading the Greek soldiers out of Asia in 400BC. Manes spirits of the dead Projectors promoters of speculative schemes A composing draught a sedative Evil thenceforth became my good- Paradise Lost 4.108-10: 'Evil, be thou good' Traversed- travelled across Reposed- kept in a place Wretch-unfortunate or unhappy person Fiend- evil spirit or demon Daemon is the Latin word for the Ancient Greek daimon which originally referred to a lesser deity or guiding spirit such as the daemons of ancient Greek religion and mythology and of later Hellenistic religion and philosophy. Vengeance-punishment inflicted, or retribution exacted for an injury or wrong. Alas-used to express grief, pity, or concern. Foe-enemy. Peril-Serious and immediate danger. Eloquence-fluent or persuasive speaking or writing. Tumult- a loud, confused noise. Adversary-opponent in battle</p>
Context (To inform interpretation)	<p>Gothic ideas are revisited- the doppelganger/doubles- the monster and Victor are a version of the other and parallels are again drawn in this chapter. Shelley uses the concept of doubles to demonstrate the destructive nature of revenge.</p> <p>Gothic- Liminal setting- they are on the outskirts of Geneva but also on the outskirts of civilisation.</p> <p>Allusions to Milton's <i>Paradise Lost</i> book VI "Which way I fly is hell; myself is hell" Victor and the Monster, in this chapter, claim to resemble Satan and in doing so they vie with each other to claim the most suffering.</p> <p>Victor Frankenstein and Walton viewing him as the noble, tragic figure.</p>
Themes	<p>Isolation= The monster's revenge is successful; now Victor suffers isolation as it does</p> <p>Revenge= Victor seeks revenge on the monster just as the monster sought revenge on Victor</p> <p>Romanticism and nature- The barren arctic is a perfect symbol of isolation and the power of nature. A man in this tundra is utterly alone and entirely at the mercy of nature.</p> <p>Lost innocence- Victor has finally told his story and secret to a sympathetic audience but Victor and the monster again are closely linked.</p> <p>Ambition- Shelley presents Frankenstein as unable to learn from his mistakes, and Walton is reluctant to turn back. This suggests that mankind will never learn from the dangers of over-ambition.</p>
Deeper understanding	<p>Victor's impassioned speech/ monologue demonstrates that Victor, despite his experience, has not changed or learnt from it. The speech is constructed using rhetorical questions, direct address, stereotypical images of masculinity, threats of shame and promises of glory, this shows that he is still as arrogant and egotistical as he ever was.</p> <p>In this chapter, the monster and Victor move further and further away from civilization both physically and metaphorically. There is also a semantic field of the supernatural: 'possessed' 'fiendish' ;'hell 'devil' all reaffirming the novel's genre: the gothic</p> <p>Frankenstein carries "eternal hell" with him, echoing the monster's words in chapter 16 ("I bore a hell within me") This biblical imagery links them to Satan, and it shows the misery and hatred they feel.</p> <p>The monster calls himself an "abortion" reminding us that he's unwanted as well as reminding the reader that he wasn't really meant to be alive in the first place.</p> <p>Walton's opinion of Frankenstein as an "admirable being" reminds the reader of what potential Frankenstein had at the beginning of his narrative. It makes the waste of his life seem more tragic.</p> <p>The letters close the "frame" in the novel. Walton's version of the story is used to make Victor's story more believable. Walton gives some validity to the story by mentioning that he sees Victor's letters and the monster.</p> <p>In the final letter, dated September 12, the monster alludes to <i>Milton's Paradise Lost</i> by saying, "But it is even so, the fallen angel becomes a malignant devil. Yet even that enemy of God and man had friends and associates in his desolation; I am alone." The monster knows that even the Devil had a host with him for aid and comfort. Being alone drove him to commit murders for revenge to torment his creator.</p>
Quotes and references	<p>"I, the miserable and the abandoned, am an abortion"- In Walton's final letter to his sister, he recounts the words that the monster speaks to him over Victor's dead body. This eruption of angry self-pity as the monster questions the injustice of how he has been treated compellingly captures his inner life, giving Walton and the reader a glimpse into the suffering that has motivated his crimes. This line also evokes the motif of abortion: the monster is an unwanted life, a creation abandoned and shunned by his creator.</p> <p>"mad schemes are the cause" Surrounded by glaciers and faced with the prospect of sinking, Walton realises that he has endangered the lives of his crew and that his ambition is the cause.</p> <p>"Dread...a mutiny caused by despair" Walton's reaction to his crew's threat of mutiny mirrors Victor's initial response to the creature. Again establishing the idea of the doppelganger but this time between Walton and Victor</p> <p>"Did you not call this a glorious expedition?" Victor gives this inspiring speech to Walton urging him to continue their great enterprise. It is ironic that Victor seems ignorant of the moral of his own tale, as a few pages later he is telling Walton to learn from his example and 'avoid ambition'</p>

Reading:

Romantic writers were keen readers of early travel books and were inspired by them.

Links across the text:

Chapter 17

"If I cannot inspire love, I will cause fear...I will work at your destruction" Demonstrates how their fates are intertwined

Chapter 16

When the monster is dejected by the DeLacey's "I like the arch fiend bore a hell within me" linked to the quotation in this chapter... "I was cursed by some devil and carried about my eternal hell."

Terminology	<p>Epistolary- (of a literary work) in the form of letters</p> <p>Cyclical structure- A story that ends in the same place it began</p> <p>Framed narrative- story within a story, within sometimes yet another story <i>eg. Within the novel, there is Walton's letter, Frankenstein's story, and the monster's account</i></p> <p>Semantic field- a set of words (or lexemes) related in meaning</p> <p>Liminal setting- on the outskirts</p> <p>.</p>
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