Frankenstein Study Guide

Prologue: "The Walton Letters"

(1) The novel begins with series of letters in which the narrator of the novel is writing his thoughts and plans to his sister. Where is the narrator going? Why has he chosen to make the voyage? Of what does the narrator dream? What is his goal?

(2) Why does Walton want a friend? How does he define a friend?

(3) Walton says he is a "Romantic." What is a Romantic person like?

(4) Describe the strange thing that is seen by Walton and his crew.

(5) Describe the man who is later brought on the ship.

(6) How does this man react to Walton's dream or goal?
Frankenstein Study Guide
Chapters 1-4

(1) What are Frankenstein's parents like? How do they feel about each other and about their child?

(2) Who is Elizabeth? Describe her. How does she come to join the Frankenstein family?

(3) How are Victor and Elizabeth different?

(4) Who is Henry Clerval? What is he like? How is he different from Victor?

(5) What does Victor want to accomplish in life?

(6) Identify the misfortune which Victor views as an omen of his future misery before he leaves for the university.

(7) Why does Victor consider going home after only two years of school?

(8) During his study of anatomy, what is it that keeps Victor from going home? What does he discover and why won't he explain it to Walton?

(9) What task does Victor begin? Describe Victor's feelings as he goes about his task.

(10) What happens to Victor near the completion of his task?
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Chapters 5 - 8

(1) Describe the appearance of the creature that Frankenstein creates.

(2) How does Dr. Frankenstein feel about his creation? What does he do after the creature comes to life?

(3) Describe Victor's disturbed dream.

(4) How does he feel when the creature reaches out to him and how does he feel, later, when he realized the creature has left the apartment?

(5) What does Victor decide to study now?

(6) (ch.7) What tragedy happens in Victor's family?

(7) What does Victor see in the midst of a violent thunderstorm?

(8) Who has been accused of the murder and for what reason?

(9) How does Justine show her goodness?

(10) Do you think Victor is as guilty as he feels he is? Of what do you think he is guilty, if anything?
Frankenstein Study Guide
Chapters 9 - 12

(1) What keeps Victor from killing himself?

(2) What effect have these events had on Elizabeth?

(3) What are Victor's feelings as his creation approaches him? What is the first thing he says to his creature?

(4) What does the creature say about his present position?

(5) (ch.9) How does the creature describe his first days of life?

(6) How does the creature respond to fire?

(7) What happens when the creature enters a village? Where does he end up staying?

(8) Although the creature wants to join these people, why does he decide not to?

(9) How does the creature show understanding and kindness to this family?

(10) What does the creature spend the winter doing, and what does this reveal about him?

(11) What does the creature say he discovers about himself? What feelings does this discovery cause?
Frankenstein Study Guide Chapters 13 - 16

(1) What is the creature going to be able to learn now that Safie has arrived? What kind of progress does he make?

(2) What happens to Felix, his father, and sister?

(3) What is the creature's reaction to Milton's poem *Paradise Lost*? According to the creature, how is he both like and dissimilar to Adam?

(4) What does the creature learn from papers found in Victor's pocket?

(5) For what does the creature hope, and what plans does he make to achieve this hope?

(6) How does the old man react to the creature?

(7) What happens when the other return?

(8) What happens to the cottagers? What is the creature's reaction to this?

(9) Why does the creature decide to go to Genevea? How have these horrible circumstances changed the creature?

(10) What happens that makes the creature feel even more bitter?

(11) Why does the creature kill William? How does the creature feel afterward?

(12) What does the creature say Frankenstein must do?
Frankenstein Study Guide
Chapters 17 - 20

(1) Why does the creature think he will be happy with a female like himself? Do you agree with him?

(2) Describe Victor Frankenstein's reaction to the monster's request. What does he decide? Do you agree with that decision? Why or why not?

(3) Why does Victor not want to marry Elizabeth right away?

(4) Contrast Henry and Victor.

(5) Describe the place Victor picks to work. How does he feel about his labors?

(6) Give FOUR reasons why Victor changes his mind. Do you agree with his reasoning?

(7) What opinion does Victor have of his creation?

(8) What does Victor do after realizing the potential problems of creating a female monster? Who observes his actions?

(9) When does the creature say he will get his revenge?

(10) What happens to Victor after he survives the storm and makes it to land?
(1) Who has been murdered, and why is Victor accused of the murder?

(2) What finally brings about his release?

(3) Why does Victor want to return home? How has his mental condition deteriorated?

(4) What is his father's opinion of Victor?

(5) Why does Victor decide to marry Elizabeth immediately?

(6) What precautions has Victor taken?

(7) What is Victor's plan for dealing with the creature?

(8) Why does Victor ask Elizabeth to retire without him? What sends him running to the bedroom?

(9) What happens to Elizabeth? How does Victor's father react to this bad news?

(10) Where does Victor meet his creation again, and why does the creature say he is satisfied?
(11) How does the creature further torture Victor? Where is he leading Victor, and for what purpose?

(12) What does Victor as of Walton?

(13) What advice does Victor give Walton?

(14) In your opinion, is the justification the creature offers for his actions adequate? What is his plan now?