

## Frankenstein Summary

**Letters 1, 2 and 3** – Walton's narrative (epistolary style) = **personal glory, the desire to fulfil an ambition, wanting to achieve something to benefit mankind.**

**Letter 4** – the creature is seen, Walton takes Victor Frankenstein on board his ship, he is described as frozen and emaciated.

**Chapter 1 – Victor's narrative** – Meeting Elizabeth and their idyllic upbringing (women idolised, religious imagery)

**2** – Henry Clerval – best friend. Shows that his passions are his family and Science.

**3** – **Death of his mother**, Caroline – turning point in the novel. He goes to university and hears Waldman's lectures. He decides to uncover the mysteries of creation (going against the natural order)

**4** – Discovers the secrets of life – the imagery implies it is against the natural order (and possibly normal, healthy relationships and sexuality)

**5** – **The creation is given life, Victor realises the mistakes of his actions but does not face the consequences – he has a mental breakdown**

**6** – Victor recovers – in a natural setting, nursed by the people that love him (contrast with creature)

**7** – **Death of William** – first consequence of Victor's action – he is blind to it, Victor sees the creature

**8** – **Trial of Justine** – she is executed – people who are innocent of the conflict are made to suffer

**9** – Victor's mental anguish – inner turmoil – has condemned himself

**10** – **FACE TO FACE MEETING – rights and responsibilities**

**Chapter 11 – Creature's narrative** – Early life and upbringing (juxtaposed with Victor's)

**12** – The De Lacey's family – learning how to be good, how to love

**13** – Safie's background – love and relationships (between men and women)

**14** – The History of Safie – theme of aliens and exiles

**15** – The creature reads three books – finds human nature to be good, wondrous.

### REJECTION

**16** – **MURDERS WILLIAM** (Victor's chapter 7) – creature demands a mate!

**17** – Victor Frankenstein agrees to female and returns home

**18** – Frankenstein asks Elizabeth to marry him, he travels to Britain with Clerval

**19** – Victor begins the female

**20** – He has second thoughts – moral responsibility, destroys it. **The creature threatens him**

**21** – **Clerval is murdered**; Victor is imprisoned and then released (innocent victims)

**22** – Marries Elizabeth

**23** – **Elizabeth is murdered.** Victor wants revenge. He peruses the creature.

**24** - Death of Victor and the creature depart. (Walton ends the narrative)