

Important quotes frankenstein



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Important quotes from Frankenstein "... an enterprise which you have regarded with such evil forebodings. " – RW, P. 7 " I shall certainly find no friend on the wide ocean," – RW, P. 11 " We accordingly brought him back to the deck, and restored him to animation" – RW on VF, P. 14 "... playful as a summer insect... lively as a bird... the most fragile creature" – VF on E, P. 20 " , the first misfortune of my life occurred – an omen, as it were, of my future misery" – VF, P. 25 " Thus ended a day memorable to me; it decided my future destiny" – VF on inevitable fate, P. 30 "... y father had taken the greatest precautions that my mind should be impressed with no supernatural horrors. " – VF on actually having a caring father, also, Gothicism, P. 31 " , I became myself capable of bestowing animation upon lifeless matter" – VF, P. 32 "... a dreary night... with an anxiety that almost amounted to agony" – VF and the day of creation, his mental state and pathetic fallacy, P. 35 "... my candle was nearly burnt out" – VF, a metaphor for his sanity, P. 35 "... he muttered some inarticulate sounds, while a grin wrinkled his cheeks" – VF on the monster as a newborn baby, P. 6 "... one hand was stretched out" – VF on the monster as Michelangelo's Creation of Adam, P. 36 "... but I escaped, and rushed down stairs" – VF abandons his baby, his duty, P. 36 " Oh, save me! save me! " – VF as a damsel in distress, HC is the saviour, save-haven, P. 39 "... the season contributed greatly to my convalescence" – VF as a Romantic, nature restores health P. 39 " During the whole of this wretched mockery of justice, I suffered living torture. " – VF, the beginning of injustice; brought on simply by himself, P. 54 " Could the daemon... Iso in his hellish sport have betrayed the innocent to death and ignominy. " – VF. It was VF who betrayed the innocent, so surely then he is the daemon? P. 56 " Justine died; she rested; and I was alive. " – VF; is death better than life at this

point? P. 61 "... deep, dark, death-like solitude" – VF, P. 61 " I had been the author of unalterable evils" – VF and his inevitable fate, his realised sense of guilt and fault, P. 62 " The rain depressed me" – VF, pure and simple pathetic fallacy, P. 65 "... the view of the tremendous and ever-moving glacier... t had then filled me with a sublime ecstasy" – VF on the sublime nature of his setting, P. 66 LINK: " Infinity has a tendency to fill the mind with that sort of delightful horror" – Edmund Burke, On the Sublime and Beautiful "... the vast river of ice... their icy and glittering peaks" – VF, a continuation of the sublime, and a reference to Rime, P. 67 LINK: " The ice was here, the ice was there / The ice was all around" – Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Rime of the Ancient Mariner " All men hate the wretched" – M, proving himself different to humans, P. 7 "... you, my creator" – M, master/slave distinction, father/son distinction, self-awareness, P. 68 " I ought to be thy Adam; but I am rather the fallen angel" – M is comparing himself to the devil. Whereas he should have been a perfect being, he became an archetypal fallen angel, like Lucifer for example, P. 68 LINK: " Awake, arise or be for ever fall'n. " – John Milton, Paradise Lost "... thy creature, who implores thy goodness and compassion. " – M only needed his creator, his father, to care for him. He was of a good nature, until rejection. P. 8 "; my soul glowed with love and humanity" – M, until he realised he was not human, P. 68 " Oh, praise the eternal justice of man! " – M. This brilliantly ironic; the monster has learnt sarcasm, and is using it to condemn VF for wanting to murder him, despite VF accusing the monster of murder. In doing so, the monster mocks the injustice of Justine's trial, as well as William's death, P. 69 " Cursed be the day... in which you first saw light! " – VF. Unlike convention, the symbolism of light here is negative, P. 69 " I thrust my hand into the live embers, but quickly drew it out again

with a cry of pain. – M has no parent, he learns through trial and error, P. 71

“... miserable, from the inclemency of the season, and still more from the barbarity of man. ” – M, as an unnatural being, has at this point neither nature nor mankind. He is a reject, P. 73 “ It was indeed a paradise, compared to the bleak forest, my former residence” – M, his hovel is a paradise from which he is soon banished, after he gives in to curiosity and tries the ‘ forbidden fruit’; talking to humankind, P. 75 “... when I found that in doing this I inflicted pain on the cottagers, I abstained” – M learns guilt, is of a good nature, P. 7 “ I went into the woods, and collected my own food and fuel for the cottage. ” – M becomes a parent to the De Lacy family, and furthermore becomes a peasant, P. 79 “ The lady was dressed in a dark suit, and covered with a thick black veil” – M describes Safie as dressing in a Gothic manner, P. 80 “... her eyes were dark, but gentle” – M, provides alternate view to idea of black symbolising darkness or Gothicism, P. 81 “ And what was I? ” – M has no class, has no role in society, P. 83 “ Of what a strange nature is knowledge! – M realises that maybe all that he has learnt is not for the better, P. 83 “ The injustice of his sentence was very flagrant” – M again experiences injustice, grows evermore corrupt, P. 85 “ I can hardly describe to you the effect of these books” – M acquires life-changing books, P. 89 “... the picture of an omnipotent God warring with his creatures” – M, familiar? M vs. VF, P. 90 “ Like Adam, I was created apparently united by no link to any other being in existence, but... he had come forth from the hands of God a perfect creature, happy and prosperous... I was wretched, helpless and alone. – M links himself to Adam, realises he is not a perfect creature, or a human. He acknowledges his alienation, his loneliness, P. 90 LINK: “ Adam, the goodliest man of men since born his sons” – John Milton, Paradise Lost “

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Many times I considered Satan as the fitter emblem of my condition” – M is the fallen angel, P. 90 “... the hearts of men... are full of brotherly love and charity” – De Lacy, but maybe M isn't a human brother, he is different, P. 93 “ I am blind, and cannot judge of your countenance, but there is something in your words which persuades me that you are sincere. ” – De Lacy.

M speaks eloquently, is compassionate (at this point) and cares for the De Lacy family, but on the outside is a monster, P. 94 “ No: from that moment I declared everlasting war against the species” – M is rejected by De Lacy family, P. 95 “ This was then the reward of my benevolence! ” – M saves a woman from drowning, and is shot in doing so. Again, it is his appearance, not his intention, that is seen by mankind, P. 99 “ You, my creator, would tear me to pieces” – M, but actually, VF tears the female M to pieces, P. 102 “ Oh! my creator, make me happy” – M, this is the simplest demand to his father/creator, P. 02 “ I do not destroy the lamb and the kid, to glut my appetite; acorns and berries afford me sufficient nourishment” – M; eco-criticism? P. 103 “; the sun will shine on us as on man, and will ripen our food. ” – M. Both Romantic (nature supplying food) and Marxist (all men are equal)? P. 103 “... with this deadly weight yet hanging around my neck” – VF acknowledges his guilt, but it still exists. Also, has he replaced religion with his actions, and replaced God with himself? P. 108 LINK: “ Instead of the cross, the Albatross / About my neck was hung. – Samuel Coleridge, Rime of the Ancient Mariner. “ But in Clerval I saw the image of my former self” – VF. Could it be that Clerval is the innocent, ambitious and excitable VF, and the monster is the corrupt and miserable VF? P. 113 “, the sight of what is beautiful in nature... could always interest my heart. ” – VF was (he is

recollecting his childhood, here) a Romantic. Now, he has gone against nature and created something unnatural, P. 114 “ Had I a right... to inflict this curse upon everlasting generations? ” – VF suddenly gains a conscience. Was M simply a ‘ test-run’?

He has learnt his lesson, and he shall now tear up the female M, P. 119 “ Have my murderous machinations deprives you also, my dearest Henry, of life? ” – VF, I think we now know who the murderer is, P. 127 “ The peasants were shut up in their hovels” – VF, so was M a peasant? P. 148 “ You have read this strange and terrific story... do you not feel your blood congealed with horror, like that which even now curdles mine? ” – RW; so was the story Gothic? P. 151 LINK: “... one to make the reader dread to look around, to curdle the blood, and quicken the beatings of the heart. – Mary Shelley, on what Frankenstein was intended to be. “ in his murder my crimes are consummated;” – M, upon seeing VF dead, believes justice has been done. He who abandoned him has suffered. P. 158 “ I, the miserable and the abandoned, am an abortion” – M did actually develop fully, though. He was, however, an aborted experiment, P. 160 “ He was soon borne away by the waves, and lost in darkness and distance. ” RW, not only is M lost in darkness, but so is the reader. What happens next? Does M really stay by his word? What comes of RW? P. 161