

Who his monster  
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and



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

Who is the Monster? Children all over the world have grown up relating the name “ Frankenstein” to a hideous, terrifying monster. They grew up with the image of a monster made from body parts that were taken from a graveyard, put together into a creature by a mad scientist. There has always been a negative connotation to this name because of the terrible thoughts it brings to mind. The name “ Frankenstein” is more commonly related to the monster, but people forget who’s name it actually is, the creator of the monster. The creator of the monster, Victor Frankenstein, has all of the negative attributes that are commonly associated with the creature. Victor Frankenstein was selfish, hostile, and ignorant towards his creation and also for those who cared for him. The fact that the novel by Mary Shelley used his name as the title acts as a warning light before the novel is even opened, showing that Frankenstein is a character to closely follow throughout the whole story.

These aspects that define Victor Frankenstein give evidence into the fact that he is the true monster, not his creation. Dr. Victor Frankenstein created this monster not to benefit the society with a new, amazing creation, but rather to have a personal gain from it and to feed his selfish being. He never wanted the monster to be alive and learning because as soon as it was brought to life, he wanted to kill it. He wanted to be famous for creating a being, but once it was created he didn’t want to have to be responsible for anything it did. This selfish trait of Victor valuing himself over the living creature he had made is revealed when he says, “ A new species would bless me as its creator and source; many happy and excellent natures would owe their being to me.” (Ch. 4).

Victor also blames his depression on the existence of the monster. Due to the fact that Victor did not take the time to teach his monster anything, it is curious and is looking to learn and become educated like the humans around it. The monster craves attention and knowledge, so it constantly looks to Victor for it, but Victor does not welcome this and blames the monster for disrupting his peace. Another selfish move by Frankenstein is how he destroyed his female monster when he was almost finished creating her.

While Frankenstein was tearing the female creation to pieces, he “thought with a sensation of madness on my promise of creating another like him” (Ch. 20). The only reason Frankenstein didn’t want to carry out the female monster project was because he didn’t want the original monster in the first place. This goes back to the original creation of the monster, it was only made for Victor’s fame. Victor didn’t want a secondary monster because he didn’t even want the first one, and also didn’t want the possibility of them reproducing and having these hated creatures everywhere. Victor only cared about himself and getting his name out into the world, instead of trying to refine and perfect his creation so that it can be something that he is proud of instead of something that he wants to kill the minute it came alive. Due to Victor’s ego and fear of his own work, he becomes incredibly hostile to his creation and everyone close to him.

Victor’s hostility makes him less human and more monster. Being human means one lives their life in a way so that they don’t have any regrets or worries in it. The way Victor decided to live his life turned out to be very contrasting to this definition of a human. He took a chance to make a creature, but didn’t take the time to refine it, so he lived the rest of his life in

fear and regret of what he had made. Frankenstein abandoned his creation twice because he didn't want the people of the town to know that it was him that created such a terrible being.

Victor is so unkind to his own creation that he even states that he was "unable to endure the aspect of the being he had created." (Ch. 5). He was so hostile toward the monster that he deprived him of basic needs of love and companionship. He doesn't think that his creation is worthy of love due to the fact that it didn't turn out exactly as he wanted, making him have a never-ending hatred for a creation that had done nothing wrong. Victor never wanted to come to terms with his monster. It found Victor after he ran away once, and once he saw the monster, he did it again.

He never wanted to face his own creation and realize that he was the problem, not his creation. He blamed the monster for his problems, and created a hostile environment surrounding himself, isolating himself from his community. Victor Frankenstein demonstrates ignorance not only to his creation, but to his family as well.

He spent about two years working on his monster, and in that time frame he never visited his parents who provided him with financial assistance so he could go to school and live comfortably on his own. Victor spent so long isolating himself and working on his monster just to end up hating and abandoning it the second he brought it to life. When he was finished with his creation he called it a "catastrophe" and had a hard time describing "the wretch whom with such infinite pains and care he had endeavoured to form" (Ch. 5). He was so embarrassed initially in his creation that he didn't want

anyone to know that he was the creator. He spent too much time and effort on this project to end up running away from it. Due to his initial response to his creation, the monster was lacking basic ability to reason, communicate, and problem-solve among many other basic functions that Frankenstein could've easily taught his creation.

Victor was completely blind to the potential of his monster. If he would've taken the time to accept the result of his work and raise it as one would a child, he could've had an amazing creation, but instead abandoned it and never even thought to give it a chance. Victor Frankenstein became the monster after abandoning his own after multiple years of hard work put into it. He only created it for his own good, became an enemy to it, and was unaware of what it could've been if he didn't abandon it. Victor Frankenstein is the real monster because of the harm he caused by isolating himself from his family and this creation. He left his creation, letting it fend for itself on the little amount of knowledge it had because he gave it none, while he sat back and waited for the fame to come to him. Victor is a monster for not teaching his creation anything, and just reaping the benefits of its existence.

If he would have, then it wouldn't have done the terrible things it had done. Even if Victor would've taken a small amount of time to teach the monster basic morals and reasoning, it could've been something he was proud of, instead of leaving it to figure out the world on its own.