

In this chapter, Shelley explores the potentially disastrous consequences of playing with nature. Chapter 5, Victor Frankenstein is introduced to his creation. His obsession with science appears to be some sort of dream, one in which ended with the introduction of the creature. Victor's feeling of 'disgust' towards the creature, echoes on the unnatural character of his endeavor, in which he attempted to take the place of god.

Victor introduces the chapter by alluding the fact that it was dark and 'one in the morning'. This immediately foreshadows the horror of the novel. Victor then goes on to depersonalize human body parts as he refers to them as 'instruments of life'. This alludes to the fact that Victor has no respect for nature. Shelly uses ambiguity when she suggest that the 'candle was nearly burnt out'. Shelly is attempting to suggest that the candle burning out could be symbolic of Victor's dream coming to an end. However, it could be seen as if this was just an attempt to raise tension. 'How delineate the wretch whom with such infinite pains and care I had endeavoured to form?' Shelly uses rhetorical questions to directly confront the reader. This adds great effect to the Gothic genre of this novel. Shelly uses long sentences in the beginning of chapter 5, this could be symbolic of the excitement Victor felt about his creation coming to life, that he could barely contain himself.

The use of repetition, 'Unable' paralyzed with disgust. In addition Shelly uses melodramatic imagery, using words and phrases such as, 'threw' and 'moments of forgetfulness'. Victor 'endeavouring to seek a few moments of forgetfulness.' illustrates Victor is trying to forget about his creation. The effect of this is that it emphasizes the reality that Victor is the blame of this disaster, however he abdicates responsibility. This could also link with the notion of nature and knowledge being seen as a negative thing.

Shelley implies that Victor is obsessed with death, and the reincarnation of life. This is evident when victor describes the women in his dream's lips as 'livid with the hue of death'. Victor is 'livid with the' thought of death; however for the past 2 years prior to this event he was obsessed with it. Further, it could be seen that this expresses the obsession Shelley had with her mother. Moreover, Shelley alludes to the fact that she is indeed obsessed with her mother when victor quotes 'I thought that I held the corpse of my dead mother in my arms'. Furthermore, this could be argued that Victor thought by making this creation he would get his mother back, or merely replace her. Yet it is proven that nature is not something to be played with, this doesn't occur to victors knowledge until he had done it.

The use of fragmented syntax portrays Victors state of mind at that moment. It also emphasizes the effect the obsession with death and science had impacted upon him.

Which is clearly a negative impact. Victor further could be seen as an unreliable narrator because of the state of mind he is in. This is made clear when Victor becomes paranoid as he 'rushed out of the room' this could foreshadow the future events that take place. It could be argued that running away from your creation is similar with running away from your child. This could result to the child rebelling, which is symbolic of the monster's bad behavior.

Ambiguity is also explored when Victor quotes 'a mummy again', on one hand it could be seen as Victor's obsession of creating his mother, or replacing her. Further this alludes to that fact that Mary Shelly misses her mother. However it could be argued that Victor is trying to express the 'disgust' of what he has created, so much so he described it a physically being a 'mummy', regardless of the creation being awake, it is still dead.

As this chapter goes on, Victor then describes the creation as a 'miserable monster'. The use of alliteration emphasizes the fact that Victor is scared of what he has created, and he cannot turn back time to change it. Victor is now describing his creation as a monster. Firstly he described it as a 'creature' however now he describes it as a 'monster'. This adds to the depth of 'disgust' victor really feels towards his creation. This could be seen to echo the way Shelley feels her mother felt towards her, and as a result she 'left'.

Victor then goes on to suggest, in terms of his creation, that 'he might have spoken but I did not hear'. This quote could be symbolic of Victor not willing to listen. Further, the monsters 'one hand was stretched out' towards victor, 'seeming to detain' him, however he 'escaped, and rushed downstairs'. The quote 'one hand was stretched out, seeming to detain me' explores the ambiguity of the novel. On one hand it could suggest the need the creation craves for Victors love. However, it could allude the fact that the creation is in fact trying to hurt victor. The fact that the monster's 'one hand was stretched out' suggests that Victor's creation could be symbolic of a child and their need for their parents. However Victor denies that need and 'escaped'. As mentioned before, this could also echo the feeling Shelley feels.