

Audio file

[119059-Frankenstein 1.mp3](#)

Transcript

Speaker 1

Death! Death.

Speaker 2

No, no! You keep away! No! You do as I say! Turn.

Speaker 3

Walk with me. Walk with me. Walk with me. Walk with me.

Speaker 4

But fatherly feasts are new and fire's wretches New heaven on earth Don't they all acres rise Those robbernest dogs singing sweet hallelujah The angels will beat on the draft and the swine. Come on.

Speaker 5

Give me what I've paid for now! Come on, you sir.

Speaker 3

Oh, thank you, sir.

Speaker 6

Thank you. Oi! One good turn deserves another. Wanna come with me? I've got wine. We can drink. What's your name? I'm Gretel. Yeah, what you playing at? Kiss at least, Christ. I'm not going to scream. I'm just going to walk away, all right, Mister.

Speaker 3

Just walking away, all right.

Speaker 5

You sinners, or you shall die! the valleys of hell, and the vipers of vengeance shall spit their villains. Therefore come unto the Lord, for the pit is prepared, the fire is ready, the furnace is hot that shall receive the wicked. Seek your salvation in the blood of Christ.

Speaker 2

Ah.

Speaker 1

Ah.

Speaker 7

Where are you?

Speaker 5

Over here.

Speaker 8

Come and get warm. Oh, Will.

Speaker 5

What's in the pot? What's left of the rabbit? Where'd you get to?

Speaker 7

Ingolstadt.

Speaker 5

Any luck? No.

Speaker 7

They're jittery as hell. Women and children are locked indoors and men go armed with cudgels.

Speaker 5

What's going on? Scared of their own shadows, they are in Ingolstadt. Well, tomorrow we'll move on. Try and bake some bread. This is all right, though. Nice bit of rabbit. A man needs bread. I met a woman in Augsburg once. Her husband was a baker. I hung around Augsburg for a very long time. Nice place, Augsburg. Very nice place. Welcoming.

Speaker 7

What's that? What is it?

Speaker 5

I don't know. **** **! ***** off! Watch out. Run! Quick! With the food! Leave it, Gustav! Look at the state of him! A monster! **** **.

Speaker 4

***** off.

Speaker 5

Run! Here he is. Get him.

Speaker 7

That'll teach you to scare us. It's our stopper. Now **** * you ugly *****.

Speaker 5

Now don't come back.

Speaker 9

I'm leaving your food on the table and there's some milk.

Speaker 10

Thank you, my dear. You treat me well.

Speaker 7

We're off to work now, Father. She'll be back by nightfall.

Speaker 9

And you behave yourself while we're gone.

Speaker 10

I'll try. Have you managed to clear the top field?

Speaker 7

No. Slow progress.

Speaker 9

Harder than we thought, but we'll win in the end.

Speaker 10

We have to grow something or we'll starve.

Speaker 9

We'll get faster when we know what we're doing. In a year or two, we'll be fine. We'll be farmers.

Speaker 10

I never thought I'd be a farmer.

Speaker 7

Are you ready?

Speaker 9

For the cold and the mud? Can't wait. Bye, old man.

Speaker 7

Bye, father.

Speaker 10

Goodbye, Felix. You married a lovely girl.

Speaker 7

I know.

Speaker 9

Bye.

Speaker 7

How do you manage to stay so cheerful?

Speaker 9

What choice is there? This is where we've ended up and this is what we have to do.
Come on.

Speaker 7

Wait, Agatha. Do you know how beautiful you are? I swear I will love you forever.

Speaker 9

You better.

Speaker 7

Hey, hey. When will you give me a son? Beautiful wife.

Speaker 9

Come, we've work to do.

Speaker 10

Take the food if you want it. There's nothing else worth taking. Oh, there are books, I suppose. At least they have left me my books. You've no reason to harm me. I won't hurt you. I can't see you. I don't fight on any side. Go on, citizen. Take the food. Can't you talk? Maybe you can't. It's nothing to be ashamed of. Look at me. I'm blind. There was a cannonball and I went blind. Now, my son looks after me. You look after them when they're little, they look after you when you're old. That's the way it is. But we fell on hard times when the soldiers came through. When people are not oppressed, they're full of brotherly love. But when times are hard, well, then you find out who your friends are, don't you?

Speaker 1

**** ***! ***** off.

Speaker 10

I beg your pardon?

Speaker 1

**** *. Now you're off.

Speaker 10

You want some music. You want some more music. Music. It's a gift from God. Go on, say it. Music. You see? You pluck the strings like this.

Speaker 9

Look at this. Stones! The field's full of them.

Speaker 7

I'm so sorry, Agatha. It has to be cleared. Can't plough it till it's done.

Speaker 9

Oh, well. The sooner we start...

Speaker 10

P... A... R... A... D... I... S...

Speaker 1

E...

Speaker 10

Para... Dice. Dice. Paradise. Paradise. Write it out. Paradise.

Speaker 1

My like. Nice word.

Speaker 10

Don't be afraid. This is how I see. Please. My! You have been in the wars. What happened to you? Where are you from? Where are your mother and father?

Speaker 1

Felix! Felix.

Speaker 9

Felix.

Speaker 7

What is eight? Knock! What?

Speaker 9

Just knock.

Speaker 7

Right, what is... Well, that's...

Speaker 9

It's incredible! It's a miracle! Or magic! Every stone is gone, every one.

Speaker 7

We can till the soil.

Speaker 4

We can sow.

Speaker 7

Help me fetch up the plough. Quickly.

Speaker 1

White... what?

Speaker 10

White water! In the air, let snow. It's not very interesting. A natural phenomenon, no more. Now, please, stop leaving about. We need to concentrate. Oh, no! No! Sit, boy! We've work to do. Thank you. Today, original sin.

Speaker 1

Original... Sin.

Speaker 10

There are two schools of thought. One says that we're all made imperfect and require the assistance of a higher authority, a deity, to overcome the sin of being born. The other school of thought, to which I subscribe, insists that when we leave the womb, we are pure, that a babe in arms is untainted by sin, that evil is the product of social forces, and that God has nothing to do with how a man turns out. Be it good or be it bad.

Speaker 1

I might not do bad things.

Speaker 10

I know you do not do bad things. You have a good heart. I know that.

Speaker 1

Why am I hungry?

Speaker 10

Eh.

Speaker 1

Why am I hungry? Why no food for me?

Speaker 10

I give you half of my food. Still hungry. It is the condition of men to be hungry. Not kings, not emperors. You're learning fast.

Speaker 1

Why am I not a king?

Speaker 10

I don't know. Perhaps you are.

Speaker 1

Yes, sir. King is my name.

Speaker 10

I don't know. King, what? You have never told me your name.

Speaker 1

Not now. Never had.

Speaker 10

You're a poor lost thing.

Speaker 1

Lost thing?

Speaker 10

But I have taught you how to speak, how to read. There is hope. Who knows what you may accomplish?

Speaker 1

Hate me?

Speaker 10

Who does? Men, women.

Speaker 1

Chilled stars.

Speaker 10

No, they don't.

Speaker 1

Gross towns be to me everywhere, everywhere.

Speaker 10

Peasants are ignorant people. They do not read like you and I. It's an instinct to protect the home, the family. Perhaps they are frightened of you.

Speaker 1

I look bad. Not like Agatha. Agatha? Beautiful wife.

Speaker 10

Well, Agatha is beautiful, certainly, and Felix is kind. Let me introduce you to them. No, why not? Wait to me. No, they don't. They've never met you. Stay and greet them when they come home.

Speaker 1

No, no! Snow! Snow.

Speaker 7

Agatha! Agatha, look what I've found. Have me, look what I've found. Look, it's all chopped, ready for the fire to fly in there at the top of the field.

Speaker 9

These were left by the stove. The hair's already gutted, not a mark on the birds.

Speaker 7

How are they caught, then?

Speaker 9

It's a mystery. Who's doing this, Felix?

Speaker 7

Well, someone wants to help us, but...

Speaker 9

But who? Who would do that? We're strangers here.

Speaker 7

Fairy folk.

Speaker 9

Fairy folk.

Speaker 7

Little people. You know, elves and sprites. Come here. Shh. Um, hello? You there?

Speaker 9

Is anybody watching?

Speaker 7

Come out if you are. We'd, um... We'd like to thank you. Please. Please come out. They won't come out.

Speaker 9

There's nobody there, you fool. It's just us. You see, we stick together through thick and thin and never stop loving each other. Magical things happen.

Speaker 7

Father! Father.

Speaker 10

The evenings grow warmer. Soon it will be spring. There's a cheery thought.

Speaker 1

Why?

Speaker 10

Well, spring, you know.

Speaker 1

Ah. Spring makes you happy. Why?

Speaker 10

Well, we're still alive.

Speaker 1

Why, how long are we meant to be alive for?

Speaker 10

Let's turn for home now. It's getting dark.

Speaker 1

How can you tell you have no eyes?

Speaker 10

Hear that bird? It's a nightingale. That means it's getting dark.

Speaker 1

Bird makes the dark. Dad, that is the impossible.

Speaker 10

No, my friend, no. Don't you remember your Milton? The wakeful nightingale.

Speaker 1

The wakeful nightingale, see all night long, her amorous desk and sun, silence was pleased. Then glowed a firmament with living satires, Hesperus that led the starry host, rode brightest till the moon. Rising in clouded majesty, at length her apparent queen unveiled her peerless light, and, o'er the dark, her silver mantle flew.

Speaker 10

It is night in the Garden of Eden. Do you see the moon?

Speaker 1

There it is.

Speaker 10

Describe it to me.

Speaker 1

Solitary.

Speaker 10

That's a good word, good.

Speaker 1

And sad, like me.

Speaker 10

Why is it sad?

Speaker 1

Because it is solitary.

Speaker 10

Why are you sad?

Speaker 1

Because with all that I read, all that I learn, I discover how much I do not know. Ideas batter me like hailstones. Questions but no answers. Who am I? Where am I from? Do I have a family?

Speaker 10

You have us. My son will not turn you away, I promise you. Come along and say hello to you.

Speaker 1

No, no.

Speaker 10

But why not? It's a simple request.

Speaker 1

Do not request it again. I have been reading Plutarch Lives of the Emperor.

Speaker 10

Ah, yes. The founders of ancient Rome. Men who showed that the world could be improved.

Speaker 1

Why do men live in herds in cities? I cannot imagine Rome. I cannot imagine a city. The numbers are too great. We band together to help one another and do good. But then you massacre each other.

Speaker 10

Yes, it's inconsistent.

Speaker 1

I do not like inconsistent. Why must it be so? I don't know. That's the way it is. How do I find out the way that it is? I don't know, as you get over. How do they see all the time? You say you do not know, but you do. Why do you grasp everything and die nothing? Why must I learn it all when it flies to you on the wind? I am the one who stands outside the door. I see inside, but I can't go in.

Speaker 10

What is it exactly that frightens you?

Speaker 1

Everything, everything. Why do you live in a hut in the woods? Why not a great city?

Speaker 10

Because I am poor. Why? Because an army came by and ransacked my university, and we were driven from the town.

Speaker 1

Am I poor?

Speaker 10

Yes. One day, though, you will find someone who will make you the wealthiest man in creation.

Speaker 1

Will I?

Speaker 10

Yes. A good man deserves it. You are a good man. Someone will love you, whoever you are.

Speaker 1

What is love? Awake, my fairest, my espoused. My latest found, heaven's last best gift, my ever-new delight. Awake. . I ran from a building. It was dark. I was frightened.

Speaker 10

Is that all you can remember?

Speaker 1

I do not know how to remember.

Speaker 10

But you have a memory. You have remembrance. How is it done? What is the process? I don't know how it is done.

Speaker 1

But then how am I doing it?

Speaker 10

I do not know. You ran from a building, and this was in Ingolstadt, but the author of this journal says-- Geneva.

Speaker 1

Citizen of Geneva, Victor Frankenstein. Citizen of Geneva, Frankenstein. Where is Geneva?

Speaker 10

To the south and west. Many days' ride. Read on.

Speaker 1

Preparing a frame for the experiment with all its intricacies of fibers, muscles, and veins. is a work of great difficulty. Should I attempt the creation of a being like myself or one of simpler organization?

Speaker 10

Being like myself? Meaning what? A man or a woman?

Speaker 1

See, I see things in my sleep.

Speaker 10

They are called dreams. What did you see?

Speaker 1

Someone. Her arms were... And her eyes.

Speaker 10

It was a good dream.

Speaker 1

It was pleasing.

Speaker 10

Is that good? A good dream doesn't mean it was morally good. It only means it wasn't a bad dream.

Speaker 1

There are bad dreams. It's Felix and Agatha. Stay and meet them. No, I cannot.

Speaker 10

These are good people. They're not like the others. I don't know what you look like, my friend, but I know there is room in the world for fellowship, room in the world for love. Prejudice can be overcome. Stay. I will speak for you. Finished for the day. I am here. Hope I have.

Speaker 1

No, no, I must one. Stay.

Speaker 10

Trust me. Trust me. Stay here. Stay.

Speaker 1

They will hate me.

Speaker 10

No. I promise you, no. Father. This is my friend.

Speaker 1

They sang.

Speaker 7

Get away from him, you get away! Let it go, you devil! Stay! You leave my father alone!
There's nothing normal.

Speaker 1

Get out! Get out.

Speaker 2

Get out.

Speaker 9

Thrush it! Thrush it.

Speaker 1

Kill it! You promised.

Speaker 4

Awful beast.

Speaker 9

Are you hurt?

Speaker 7

It's all right, you're safe. He's safe. He won't leave you again.

Speaker 1

He was hungry! He did me no harm.

Speaker 8

Have you no compassion?

Speaker 7

It was a monster.

Speaker 8

No man is a monster.

Speaker 1

But it wasn't a man! What have I done? Dear God! What have I done? What do they do
when they feel like this? Heroes, Romans, Emperors, what do they do? I know. They
plot, they revenge.

Speaker 8

I sweep to my revenge.

Speaker 3

Twenty, twenty-one, twenty-two, twenty-three, twenty-four, twenty-five, twenty-six. Get ready, everyone! Twenty-seven, twenty-eight, twenty-nine, twenty-nine and a half, thirty, thirty-nine! I'm coming! Whoa! I'm giddy. You better be well hidden.

Speaker 5

Oh, boy. Don't turn around.

Speaker 3

What?

Speaker 1

I said, don't turn around, please don't.

Speaker 3

Very well, sir.

Speaker 5

Where am I?

Speaker 3

Near Geneva.

Speaker 1

Geneva.

Speaker 3

Yes, sir, the lake. Can't you see it? It's there.

Speaker 1

The lake. How it glistens. I have come a long way, walking at night fresh in the streams. Do you fit?

Speaker 3

Oh, yes.

Speaker 1

What do you catch? What bait do you use?

Speaker 3

I should go to my friends. We're playing.

Speaker 2

Guess who I am?

Speaker 3

Are you a friend of the families?

Speaker 1

Yes.

Speaker 3

Then you're a judge. Or a minister, perhaps?

Speaker 1

I am a judge. Don't look.

Speaker 3

What?

Speaker 1

I said don't look at me.

Speaker 3

I shan't.

Speaker 1

What's your name?

Speaker 3

William, what's yours?

Speaker 1

We can be friends, William. Or we can go hiking. We can climb those mountains over there.

Speaker 3

Climb and block? Yes. Great.

Speaker 1

Let's go, Brian.

Speaker 3

No, sorry. I'm not allowed. Father would be angry.

Speaker 1

Oh, forget about him. Come with me. Let's climb on block. I'd like to, but I can't. Everyone has friends, William. You must be my friend.

Speaker 3

I have to follow Father. Let me go.

Speaker 1

Let me go! I... I will release you if you answer my question.

Speaker 3

What is it?

Speaker 1

I seek a man called Frankenstein. Have you heard of him?

Speaker 3

That's my name.

Speaker 1

You! Frankenstein! You ugly little! Victor Frankenstein! He is your father.

Speaker 3

Victor's my brother.

Speaker 1

Where is he?

Speaker 3

He's at home. He's always at home.

Speaker 1

Can I see him?

Speaker 3

No, of course you can't.

Speaker 1

We must be friends, William. Everyone has friends. We will go climbing in those mountains after you take me to see Victor.

Speaker 3

No, you're revolting.

Speaker 1

What is he? What does he do?

Speaker 3

He's a scholar, a genius.

Speaker 1

Was he ever in Ingolstadt?

Speaker 3

Yes, he studied there. He's come home to marry Elizabeth, but he's silly. He never leaves his room. He's missing everything.

Speaker 1

You will bring him to me. Come.

Speaker 3

No, I shall! Come! My father's a majesty! I punished you for this! You're going to prison! Quiet! William! William.

Speaker 1

William.

Speaker 8

Where you were playing.

Speaker 11

Yes, we were hiding. He was coming to find us.

Speaker 8

Where were you hiding?

Speaker 11

Down at the boathouse.

Speaker 8

Didn't see anything.

Speaker 11

No, nothing.

Speaker 8

Heard nothing.

Speaker 11

He was calling out. I thought it was part of the game.

Speaker 2

William! William! Divide into teams. You and you, come with me.

Speaker 8

They are looking. Everyone is looking. You may go home.

Speaker 2

But William is missing. How long has it been?

Speaker 8

Since this afternoon, but you may go home.

Speaker 2

But I have a duty to help, Father.

Speaker 8

Victor, it doesn't help anybody when you become agitated.

Speaker 2

He's my brother. You let me join the search. I must.

Speaker 7

Over here. Monsieur Brankenstein, look at this.

Speaker 8

It's William's hat.

Speaker 2

What was he doing here?

Speaker 11

We were playing hide-and-seek.

Speaker 2

And you didn't keep him in view?

Speaker 11

Well, I was hiding from him. How could I keep him in view?

Speaker 8

But where were you?

Speaker 11

Well, where were you? Locked in your study, I suppose.

Speaker 2

William was not my responsibility. He was yours.

Speaker 11

So you have responsibility for what, exactly?

Speaker 8

Enough! The villagers are seeing, Clarice.

Speaker 6

They say they've seen a beast in the mountains, sir.

Speaker 2

Beast? What kind of a beast?

Speaker 7

Monster. Tall as a pine tree.

Speaker 5

They say it breathes blue fire.

Speaker 8

And they think this. thing took William well someone took him he can't be found.

Speaker 7

Sure no one knows what's up in those mountains.

Speaker 6

I know what's up those mountains snow and ice and a bit more snow and ice that's all.

Speaker 8

Spread out and keep looking he may be nearby William William Willy.

Speaker 2

Monster what do they mean a monster?

Speaker 11

They've seen some sort of animal presumably they didn't.

Speaker 2

Say animal they said a monster a creature folk tales who exactly saw it?

Speaker 11

I don't know does What does it matter? Victor, you don't look well. I haven't seen you for weeks. You're always up in your room.

Speaker 5

Why do you need to see me?

Speaker 11

We're supposed to be getting married.

Speaker 2

Oh. So I'm expected to...

Speaker 11

Talk to me occasionally, yes.

Speaker 2

What if I haven't got anything to say? What am I meant to do then?

Speaker 7

Monsieur! Come and see! On my way.

Speaker 8

What is it?

Speaker 7

An open boat, but see, it's drifting against the current.

Speaker 6

That's impossible.

Speaker 2

Against the wind.

Speaker 11

Is someone pulling it?

Speaker 8

No! No one.

Speaker 2

Is there anyone aboard?

Speaker 8

Haul it in! Go.

Speaker 7

Quickly.

Speaker 2

William.

Speaker 11

Because it's a child. Oh, please, no.

Speaker 2

He's... dead. Father.

Speaker 8

Is it him?

Speaker 6

Angels in heaven, little William, have mercy on his soul.

Speaker 8

My boy, let me see him. Carry him. Sound the bell. My son is dead.

Speaker 11

What are those papers? Victor, it looks like your hand. These are diagrams, equations, university work. What are they doing here?

Speaker 2

Seems they are pages from my journal.

Speaker 11

Well, where is your journal?

Speaker 2

I don't know. I lost it. I don't know where it is.

Speaker 11

Victor.

Speaker 2

Are you here? Where are you? Are you here? Where are you? You show yourself, you monstrous thing. My God. Muscular coordination, hand and eye, and a perfect balance. Excellent tissue and the sutras have held. I failed to make it handsome, but I gave it strength and grace. What an achievement! Unsurpassed in scientific endeavor. My God. The madness of that night. The heat, the sweat, the infusions. The moment I saw it just crawl towards me and I...

Speaker 1

You ran away. What? You... abandoned me.

Speaker 2

It speaks... Yes, Frankenstein. It speaks... You know my name. My journal.

Speaker 1

Why did you abandon me?

Speaker 2

I was terrified. What had I done? Built a man and given him life. For now I have come to take it away. Have you? I have come to kill you.

Speaker 1

Kill me, then.

Speaker 2

Why did you create me? To prove that I could. So you make sport with my life. In the course of science, you are my greatest Experiment, but an experiment that has gone wrong. An experiment that must be curtailed. Please...

Speaker 1

I have a request. But damn you, you can't have requests. Oh, I can't, listen to me. It is your duty. I have no duty to a murderer. If I am a murderer, you made me one.

Speaker 2

No, you killed my brother, you did it, not me. I cursed the day you drew breath. Since then I've lived in darkness.

Speaker 1

Is this the region, this the soil, the climb? Said then the last archangel, this deceit. that we must change for heaven this mournful gloom for that celestial life.

Speaker 2

That's Paradise Lost. You've read Paradise Lost.

Speaker 1

I liked it.

Speaker 2

Why, you saw yourself as Adam?

Speaker 1

I should be Adam. God was proud of Adam. But Satan is the one I sympathize with. For like Satan, I was driven out, though I did no wrong. And when I see others content, I feel the bile rise in my throat, and it tastes like Satan's spine.

Speaker 2

But this is remarkable.

Speaker 1

You are educated and you have memory. Yes, I use it to remember being hunted like a rat, running from human places, finding refuge in the woods. I use it to remember being beaten and whipped. And I was good. I wanted to be good. And why did you kill William? I wished to see you, and you came. Would you have come otherwise, if I had killed half of Ingolstadt? Would you have come?

Speaker 2

Did no one show you kindness?

Speaker 1

There was an old man. He taught me many things, but he was blind. He never saw my face. He did not know that I looked like this. After a year had gone by, after he had described to me the seasons, and I'd watched them go round. One, two, three, four. When I was one year old, he said they would take me in. The son and his wife. Beautiful wife. What happened? You know what's happened. Oh, God, I do. I burned them in. Fine, I'm sorry. Sorry? You are sorry! You caused this! This is your universe, Frankenstein! Here is my request. I wish to be part of society, but no humour and being will associate with me, but one of my own kind, one Just as deformed and horrible. She would understand. She... What? I want a female built like me.

Speaker 2

A female.

Speaker 1

You did this! You alone have the power to...

Speaker 2

To create another monster, another brute? No, I will not! It is my right! Do you have no rights? You are a slave! You want me to build you a female so the pair of you can be wicked together? No, I will not. Torture me as much as you like. I'll never consent.

Speaker 1

I will not talk to you. I will reason with you. Isn't that what we are supposed to do? Have a dialogue.

Speaker 2

There is no dialogue with killers.

Speaker 1

That you'd kill me if you could, why you have just tried?

Speaker 2

Why is your killing justified, and mine is not? I won't argue with you, my God. I'm halfway up a mountain debating with a living creature. And nothing! A filthy mass of nothing! I am your master. You should show respect.

Speaker 1

The master has duties. You left me to die. I am not a slave, I am free. If you deny my request, I will make you my enemy. I will work at your destruction. I will dedicate myself. I will not rest until I desolate your heart. I apologize. I did intend to reason. I am capable of logic. I do not think what I ask is immoderate. A creature of another sex, but as hideous as me. If you consent, we will disappear together. We will go to the wilds of South America. We will build our little paradise and live there in peace, and no human being will see us again. What do you say? I am amazed you have learned so much so fast. Are you proud of me? Proud? No. Why not?

Speaker 2

Because your logic is flawed. Is it? Is it? Is it? You say you'll go abroad and disappear, yet you also say you yearn to be accepted by society. But won't you go tired of exile? Won't you return and try once more to live amongst people only to meet with their detestation? Because that is what you will meet with. Only now when you run wild, there will be two of you and double the destruction. Why should I facilitate this?

Speaker 1

Because I am lonely! Every creature has a mate. Every bird in the sky, even you, are to be married. Why would you deny me the comforts you allow yourself? A moment ago, you were amazed at my intellect, but now you harden your heart. Please do not be inconsistent. I find it infuriating. All I ask... is the possibility of love. Love? Yes.

Speaker 2

You think it is a possibility? Yes.

Speaker 1

For you? A good man deserves it.

Speaker 2

Are you a good man?

Speaker 1

I would be, oh. I would be.

Speaker 2

I regret that you are lonely. I did not foresee. That I might have feelings. You were an equation. A theorem, I confess it. A puzzle to be solved. But if you are sentient and you will depart.

Speaker 1

Frankenstein, if you build me a companion, I will quit Europe forever. I will vanish into air. There will be no more distraction. I will be gone.

Speaker 2

Will you swear to be peaceful? Yes, I beg you to believe me. If you gave me your word that you would leave here forever and never return. Never! If you swear, and swear solemnly.

Speaker 1

I swear by the blue sky, by the white snow, by the fire of love that burns in my heart, that if you grant my request, you will never have to look on me again for as long as the world turns around.

Speaker 2

You think it turns round?

Speaker 1

Yes, of course.

Speaker 2

You must understand the work is hard.

Speaker 1

You alone can do it. You alone have this skill.

Speaker 2

I alone in the whole world and no one to share the secret. Look down there. Do you see them? Little men with their little lives. Little houses. Little men! I am different.

Speaker 1

You, you are a king.

Speaker 2

The king of science. Build me a woman, please. I beg you, her bride. Her bride should be beautiful. She should have pretty eyes, shining hair. She should not be hideous. She should be as lovely as possible. Yes. I will not repeat my mistakes. We can only go forwards. We can never go back. Master, work your magic once more.

Speaker 1

I beg him.

Speaker 2

Female, I hadn't even considered the question. There are differences of anatomy, of course, but also differences of what? Of temperament, humour, skill. I don't know. What are females good at? I don't know. God, what a challenge. If I could build something immaculate, something I could exhibit. Not a demon, but a goddess. Goddess. If she was indistinguishable, if she was perfect. Imagine that. I may be damned, but I'll attempt it.

Speaker 1

You will comply with my request.

Speaker 2

I will comply with your request if you give me your word that afterward you will leave us be.

Speaker 1

I will if you give me your word that you will do it. What is that for?

Speaker 2

You shake it.

Speaker 5

I shake it.

Speaker 2

We seal the bargain.

Speaker 5

Take my hand.

Speaker 1

Thank you. Thank you. My dreams come true. Go home and begin your work at once.

Speaker 2

Home? I can't do it at home. Why not? What happens at home? Do this work in my father's house, no.

Speaker 1

Go where you need to.

Speaker 5

I will be watching.

Speaker 6

Your post, sir.

Speaker 8

Letters of condolence.

Speaker 6

The Lord giveth, and the Lord taketh away.

Speaker 8

I know, Clarice. I know.

Speaker 5

Out.

Speaker 8

Victor! Where have you been?

Speaker 2

In the mountains, on the sea of ice.

Speaker 8

This is a house of death. It is no time to go adventuring.

Speaker 2

Father, I have to make a long journey. I leave today.

Speaker 8

Today? What about William?

Speaker 2

He isn't coming. I must travel to England. Goodbye.

Speaker 8

England? Why? Work. What work? What a year I haven't seen you work. What is this work for which you must encamp to England?

Speaker 2

Look, I don't expect you to understand.

Speaker 8

No, I do not understand. I do not believe your studies are so important, and I order you to remain here for the funeral.

Speaker 2

I have no intention of obeying. I must go.

Speaker 8

And your wedding.

Speaker 2

It will have to be postponed. Elizabeth. Elizabeth will wait. I was in Ingolstadt for six years. A little longer won't make much difference.

Speaker 8

Victor, why are you so sad? When your mother was dying-- Oh.

Speaker 2

Please don't bring her into this.

Speaker 8

When your mother was dying, I gave a promise that I would see you wed your cousin Elizabeth. That was my wife's last wish, that you might be happily married. Oh, you were such a brilliant child, a carefree child, alert and inquisitive, the joy of our days. I came to believe you would do great things and I would be proud of you. Instead, we have this sullenness, this melancholy, this low fog of gloom. You flout my authority! You do not respect the codes by which we live! If you insist on leaving, I cannot stop you, but you may tell your fiance yourself, Elizabeth! Where is the boy I remember? Where is he, Victor? Where has he gone?

Speaker 11

Your father tells me you are leaving us. Why, Victor? Why must you go to England?

Speaker 2

Because in England they are at the forefront of electrochemistry. I've heard of real breakthroughs by vitalists, galvanists. I must go and see for myself.

Speaker 11

And for that you'll put off our wedding.

Speaker 2

Yes. It's critical for my experiments.

Speaker 11

What are your experiments?

Speaker 2

I'd say that they're beyond a woman's scope.

Speaker 11

Which part might be beyond my scope?

Speaker 2

All of it, actually.

Speaker 11

Are you suggesting I'm less intelligent than you?

Speaker 2

Yes. I mean less educated.

Speaker 11

Well, that's hardly my fault. I wasn't allowed to go to school. But I can learn, Victor. I could be your assistant.

Speaker 2

What is a voltaic pile? A Leyden jar. Electric eggs.

Speaker 11

You know perfectly well, I don't know. What is a voltaic pile?

Speaker 2

It's storing an electrostatic charge. You link several jars in parallel and...

Speaker 11

Oh, please take me with you. It sounds so exciting.

Speaker 2

I will go first to Oxford. Spend several months at the university. Believe me, there is nothing exciting about that.

Speaker 11

I don't care. I'll come.

Speaker 2

I'll be in the library all day.

Speaker 11

Well, I'll be as quiet as a mouse. Let me come.

Speaker 2

Subsequently, I will travel to the islands of Scotland. Barren rocks in a barren ocean. It is, I am told, an awful place.

Speaker 11

I don't care. We'll be together.

Speaker 2

Elizabeth, it's no situation for a woman.

Speaker 11

And do you think this is..... The world is turning, Victor. And I'm sitting in Switzerland watching it. I know it's picturesque, the mountains, the lake, but it's so quiet. It's oppressive. And the people are dull. I want to go to Paris, Rome, America. I want to talk to you about your work, about the world, about music, politics, everything.

Speaker 2

No interest in music or politics.

Speaker 11

Have you any interest in me?

Speaker 2

Elizabeth, you are... beautiful. You will make a beautiful wife.

Speaker 11

Victor, what do you think I am? A specimen. May I ask you something? I want to have children. Do you want to have children?

Speaker 2

Yes, of course! No.

Speaker 11

Do you want to give me children?

Speaker 2

God willing, yes, I do.

Speaker 11

Then show me how you'll give me children. Kiss me, Victor. Touch me. Feel my heartbeat. Must you go? Can't you stay?

Speaker 2

I wish I could stay, but I cannot.

Speaker 11

Then go and do your work. and be brilliant. And after that, come home to me and be my husband and give me a dozen children. Go.

Speaker 2

Thank you.

Speaker 4

To save us from the southwest hail All lost in storm or blowing
The fiery stars beneath us late
And received us forward.

Speaker 2

Come thunder, wind and lightning Is the weather always like this?

Speaker 4

This is quite a nice day.

Speaker 5

There's no much water craft, sir. The roof is poor. Will you be all right here? For my needs, it's fine.

Speaker 2

Your wife can bring me some food. Oh, she can, sir.

Speaker 8

But it's simple. Fish, mainly. We don't touch meat, still we rab.

Speaker 5

Unless it's swums, we don't eat it.

Speaker 4

Eggs? We eat eggs.

Speaker 2

Well, they're the exception, eggs.

Speaker 4

What, oat cakes? Aye, aye, aye, all right. Come on.

Speaker 2

Let...

Speaker 5

Where do you want this, sir?

Speaker 2

Ah. Set it down there. Thank you, gentlemen. Here's the price we agreed for the portage and three months' rent. And I would be prepared to give you very much more, Ewan, if you could perform another service for me. My field, you see, is anatomy, the human body. To progress my research, I require certain materials. It's an unorthodox discipline and somewhat disapproved of in academic circles, but you have my word that it is for the public good.

Speaker 4

Oh, I don't like the sunda there.

Speaker 2

Quiet, Rab. We don't move in academic circles. Go on, sir. It's illegal, I take it. We are a long way from any court of law. The nights are dark. And in science, we keep our secrets. What is it you want? Human remains. Fresh.

Speaker 4

He's a surgeon. I knew it. Here, that's grave robbing.

Speaker 2

We are Christians in the Orkney, sir. We don't rob the dead in our graves. But the dead are dead, aren't they? They're not coming back. I don't subscribe to the view that it's unethical to use them for medical research.

Speaker 5

No, nor do I. You just think.

Speaker 2

What will be possible in the future, Rad? Shall we gain the upper hand over sickness and disease? Have you any idea what we will be capable of if brilliant men are allowed to do our work?

Speaker 4

Uncle Euan.

Speaker 2

Quiet, Rab. I'll do nothing on my own island. But what is it exactly that you're after? Have you heard of any young woman who has died very recently? Aye, Un Ronaldsy. Not your kin? No, no, my kin. Not diseased.

Speaker 10

Drooned.

Speaker 2

May God have mercy on her. A good-looking lass she was. Rab liked her.

Speaker 4

I didn't know. He did. I liked her sister.

Speaker 2

She was beautiful.

Speaker 4

Not bad.

Speaker 2

Good. Are you prepared to work to my exact specifications? Well, Rab, he can't read. I can't read. Do it, my John.

Speaker 4

Well, Ewan. You.

Speaker 2

Well, do as the gentleman says. How far is it to Ronald Z?

Speaker 4

Is she in? There's a bit sticking out. But what is it? I don't know. It's a girl.

Speaker 7

Come on, Raddy. Push. She's in. You have strange taste, Rab, that's all I can say. I find her terrible skinny.

Speaker 4

I said the sister. The sister's fatter. Uncle Ewan. What's he going to do?

Speaker 2

I don't know.

Speaker 4

This is no right, Uncle Ewan.

Speaker 2

Because a man said they're dead. They're not coming back. Are you ready?

Speaker 4

Aye.

Speaker 2

Ready. Heave! Have you got it? Oh, Jesus Christ! Aye, sir! Call it to the boat. This is only the first. Ewan. Is it, sir? I shall need a regular supply of internal organs. Very good, sir.

Speaker 4

Organs! Quiet rap.

Speaker 2

Meat for the dogs. Nothing you're no familiar with. Now, come on.

Speaker 4

Uncle Ewan.

Speaker 1

Is this how I was born, stolen at night from wet soil, made out of meat for the dogs? Even I can feel disgust. And will he fashion me beauty from this filth? And will I want her stinking of death?

Speaker 2

Wait! Come. Here he are, sir. Thank you, Euan. This will be the last. Thank you for all your assistance. But you will be leaving Mirayland soon. Soon. And I have done you good service. Excellent service. Yes. And the food was all right. The food was unbelievable. Sir, you're no looking too marvellous, if you don't mind my say. I'm tired,

that's all. But my work is nearly done. And let me tell you, I think I can say I have excelled.

Speaker 8

I'm very pleased to hear it. Farewell to sickness and disease, eh?

Speaker 2

Goodbye, Euan. Goodbye, sir. William.

Speaker 3

So how do you do it?

Speaker 2

It's late. You should be in bed.

Speaker 3

How do you bring dead things to life? Is it easy?

Speaker 2

No, it's hard. Some kind of miracle?

Speaker 3

Tell me the secret. Where did you start?

Speaker 2

School.

Speaker 3

Did you bring the teachers to life? That really would be a miracle.

Speaker 2

School was so boring. I wanted to find out. why things exist, how things exist, not absurd divinity and idiotic music, the laws of existence. So I started to read forbidden books, Agrippa, Paracelsus.

Speaker 3

The alchemists.

Speaker 2

Yes. They were true men of science. They mapped the heavens. They tracked the course of the stars. They classified the air we breathed, the circulation of our blood. All modern

medicine comes from them. I, too, wish to penetrate nature to lay bare her deepest mysteries. So I studied mathematics. I experimented with galvanism.

Speaker 3

What's that?

Speaker 2

You induced spasms in inanimate flesh using the current from a chloride battery.

Speaker 3

Great.

Speaker 2

The zinc plates laid on a solution of ammonium chloride in Ceylon moss.

Speaker 3

How thrilling.

Speaker 2

And as I watched the current arc between bismuth and antimony, I found myself asking, where does the principle of life, the actual spark of life itself, where does it come from?

Speaker 3

It comes from God.

Speaker 2

Yes, but only from God.

Speaker 3

I don't know.

Speaker 2

Can a man be a god?

Speaker 3

I don't know.

Speaker 2

Well, I had to find out. So off to the graveyard I went.

Speaker 3

Oh, Victor, yuck.

Speaker 2

I watched the flesh rot in the soil. I watched worms eat eyes, maggots chew the tissue of the brain. I went to executions in charnel houses. I studied the moment of change from life to death, the specificity of the moment, the annihilation of the spark until suddenly... Months later, in this fever of creativity, I found that I could identify and replicate the prime cause of life.

Speaker 3

What is it?

Speaker 2

I can't tell you that, Will. You're only little.

Speaker 3

What are you going to do with it?

Speaker 2

I don't know. I have travelled where no man has travelled. I wonder how far I can go. I can create people, Will. Living people. Look at me. I breathe the breath of God.

Speaker 3

Will they reproduce?

Speaker 2

What?

Speaker 3

Will they have wounds? They're females. Will they breathe? How quickly will they breathe? How fast is the cycle? How many in a litter? Fifty, 100, 1000.

Speaker 2

William.

Speaker 3

And if the children breathe with the children, will they do your bidding?

Speaker 2

What are you saying?

Speaker 3

You are their king. Will they do as you tell them? Or will they be bad? Like the one who killed me.

Speaker 5

Frankenstein! Where is she? is here. Show me.

Speaker 2

Genius. Wait.

Speaker 1

Look.

Speaker 2

Isn't she fine?

Speaker 1

She is beautiful.

Speaker 2

Yes.

Speaker 1

Your work is so detailed and cut so fine. The luster of her skin is perfect.

Speaker 2

A perfect wife.

Speaker 1

Frankenstein, I admire you.

Speaker 2

I can't give her to you.

Speaker 1

Why not?

Speaker 2

How do I know what will happen if I bring her fully to life? I didn't know how you'd turn out. How dangerous you'd be. How can I know about her?

Speaker 1

Sir, if it has been possible for me to overcome my disgusting origins and transform myself into a rational being, she, my wife... will do the same. And if she doesn't-- But she will, I will teach her morality, as De Lacy taught me.

Speaker 2

But you have sworn to live as an outcast, supposing she prefers the Tao. She has no choice. We go to Argentina. What if she refuses to accept the bargain made before she was even created? Come on! Use your brain! She might reject you. She might abhor the sight of you. She might take one look at you and run. She might say she prefers to live with a man, not a monster.

Speaker 1

Talking, you are cruel.

Speaker 2

Look at her look! Exquisitely constructed, don't you agree? Look at those cheeks, those lips. Look at those breasts. Who would not desire those breasts? What if she leaves you? What if she finds someone else? How will you feel if you are rejected by one of your own species, the only one of your own species, the only one you can take to your bed? How will you react? I will run mad if she leads me. It's a risk then, isn't it? No, because I will so have such adoration, such devotion, she will never want to leave. So it is a risk I should take. You must, you must.

Speaker 1

Please, she is mine.

Speaker 2

Please. Please. Are you saying you will protect her?

Speaker 1

Yes, I will be there. Nobody will harm her.

Speaker 2

Are you saying you will love her? Yes, I will. Because love is not something one can learn. It's not something one can teach. Either you feel it in your soul. Master, I love her. I do. I love her. I do. Are you telling me you have a soul?

Speaker 1

I must say you believe me.

Speaker 2

How does it feel to be in love?

Speaker 1

It feels like all the life is bubbling up and spilling from my mouth. It feels like my lungs are on fire, and my heart is a hammer, and I can do anything in the world. Anything in the world! Is that how it feels? Yes, that is how it feels. I'll bring her to life, and I will cherish her forever.

Speaker 2

Those are the words I was waiting to hear. You have shown you have some grasp of the emotion we call love. Now, be patient. I will complete her. You can help me. We will not send her out into the world in this condition. We will dress her, dress her as a queen. A queen? That trunk. It contains some clothes. My fiance's. Select the finest for your bride. Now, let me work. I'll call you when you're needed.

Speaker 1

I will dress her in lace and velvet. I will give her silk and pearls. I will walk in the garden with my fair angelic Eve. I will be Adam. She will be Eve. And all the memory of hell will melt like snow.

Speaker 2

What do you know of the power of love? It is irrational, a pool of unreason. It is anarchic, volatile, petigenous, mad. Above all, it is uncontrollable. A million of you on the earth coupling, procreating. No! You are the only one of your species, and that is how you will stay.

Speaker 1

Awake, my fairness, to my espoused awake...

Speaker 2

She will never awake.

Speaker 3

Sir, open the door! Victor.

Speaker 1

Frankenstein, you broke your word. You may expect me again. Victor.

Speaker 3

Victor.

Speaker 4

There's something running off.

Speaker 7

Jesus Christ, what is it? Victor, open the door.

Speaker 2

Yes, I... Father.

Speaker 5

What in God's name is this place?

Speaker 2

Father, you came.

Speaker 8

Victor, you were gone too long. You were worried.

Speaker 2

You don't know what I've done.

Speaker 8

No matter what, boy.

Speaker 2

Come home. I must be married at once. I must marry Elizabeth at once. At once.

Speaker 8

Please help me get him to the boat.

Speaker 2

Yes, come. Take this. Destroy it. I want you to promise me that it will be destroyed. Your journals? Destroy it. Burn it. You give me your word as a magistrate. No one must read it again. Give me your word and it will be destroyed.

Speaker 8

I give you my word. Come home. Come.

Speaker 2

Come.

Speaker 5

What has he been doing here? You man, speak.

Speaker 2

Medical research, sir. As he said.

Speaker 5

Medical research.

Speaker 1

Holy Christ.

Speaker 6

The house of soil, the garden is high, the garden is so not blue and bright.

Speaker 7

Lift up your voice and raise your wine to bless the house of Frankenstein. Once boy and girl, now man and wife, we withstand long and fruitful light.

Speaker 4

Lift up your voice and raise your wine to bless the house of Frankenstein.

Speaker 6

Listen, you can still hear the bells ringing over the water.

Speaker 11

So you can.

Speaker 6

Many congratulations, mistress. It was a splendid day.

Speaker 11

Thank you. Will you please get me ready for bed? Yes, mistress. I want to look beautiful. Yes, mistress. Perhaps, then he'll...

Speaker 6

I'm sure he will.

Speaker 11

He never touches me, Clarice. He never comes near. He barely spoke to me after the service.

Speaker 6

Well, he has always been peculiar.

Speaker 11

What have I done wrong?

Speaker 6

You've done nothing, mistress. Men, you know, they're as nervous as we are on their wedding night. A lot of them have no experience whatever.

Speaker 11

I'm not nervous.

Speaker 6

I know you're not, mistress. And yet, you don't know what to expect, do you? None of us do first time. It can come as quite a shock. So just remember, there's no shame in keeping your eyes shut. Some ladies never get used to it, to be perfectly honest. Oh, but I'm sure you will. Here we are, mistress. You look as pretty as a picture.

Speaker 11

Where is he?

Speaker 6

Oh, he'll be along shortly, mistress. You wait and see. Having a glass or two, probably, if he's anything like my husband. He'd put a bag on my head if he could. Come along now, mistress. Let's pop you into bed.

Speaker 11

First, I must pray.

Speaker 6

That's all. Good night, mistress. God bless.

Speaker 11

Victor.

Speaker 2

Report. We've patrolled the roof of a terrace.

Speaker 8

We have men down at the lake.

Speaker 2

Good. Wait for me outside. I'll join you presently.

Speaker 11

Victor, what is going on?

Speaker 2

The house is secure. There are guards at every door.

Speaker 11

Why? What is going on? Tell me.

Speaker 2

I should have told you before.

Speaker 11

Yes, I think you should.

Speaker 2

It is one of my experiments, Elizabeth. You'll find this hard to credit, and there is little time to explain, but the simple fact is... I built a man.

Speaker 11

You did what?

Speaker 2

I built a man and succeeded in animating him.

Speaker 11

Say that again.

Speaker 2

I built a man.

Speaker 11

Animating him? Do you mean bringing him to life?

Speaker 2

Yes, bringing him to life, my creature. I brought him to life.

Speaker 11

Your creature.

Speaker 2

You don't believe me?

Speaker 11

Yes. Yes, I do. If you say you have made a creature and brought him to life, then I do believe you, of course. What is it, like a puppet?

Speaker 2

No, a functioning man. A brute of a man.

Speaker 11

Well, this is ridiculous. You're telling me that you've made some sort of creature, with your electric eggs, presumably, and it what? It does what?

Speaker 2

It pursues me.

Speaker 11

Victor, you have been very ill. In Scotland, you had a nervous collapse.

Speaker 2

Look, there is a thing out there, and it means to destroy me. I have lured it here, and now I must act. I must kill him before he kills me.

Speaker 11

What do you mean you have lured it here?

Speaker 2

I knew he would come for... for the... for...

Speaker 11

The... the wedding? Did you send him an invitation? Victor, he wasn't on the list.

Speaker 2

Elizabeth, this is serious! Please believe me.

Speaker 11

You are asking me to believe. that you have created some sort of monster. Yes. Why?

Speaker 2

I beg your pardon?

Speaker 11

Why? Why did you do that?

Speaker 2

Because I had a vision. A vision of perfection. I followed nature into her lair, and I stripped her of her secrets. I did it. Elizabeth, I have brought torrents of light into a darkening world. I did it, Elizabeth. I did it.

Speaker 11

I have never doubted your brilliance.

Speaker 2

I have beaten death. I have done it. I have made a living thing.

Speaker 11

But if you wanted to create light...

Speaker 2

Yes, that's it. That's exactly what I wanted.

Speaker 11

Then why not just give me a child? We could have married years ago.

Speaker 2

No, no, that's not...

Speaker 11

Because that is how we create life, Victor. That is the usual way.

Speaker 2

I am talking about science.

Speaker 11

No. You are talking about pride. You've been trying God's work. Is that what you're telling me? And it has gone awry.

Speaker 2

In you. I found paradise. But the apple is eaten. We cannot go back.

Speaker 11

You've meddled with the natural order and led us into chaos because you worship the gods of electricity and gas. What is wrong with you men?

Speaker 2

There are guards all round the house. I will kill this thing that I foolishly made, and then I will come back to you.

Speaker 11

Please don't go. Hold me, please.

Speaker 2

It's time for that when this is done. I do love you, Elizabeth.

Speaker 11

Dear God, watch over him.

Speaker 1

Don't scream. I will not hurt you. Don't scream. I need your help. Can you guess who I am? But he didn't mention what I looked like, did he? Are you curious, Elizabeth? Don't scream. I will release you. Turn around. Look at me. I need your help. I have a grievance.

Speaker 11

Victor did this.

Speaker 1

Do you think he is clever?

Speaker 11

A genius.

Speaker 1

Yes, that is right.

Speaker 11

What is your name?

Speaker 1

My name. What a luxury that would be. He didn't give me one.

Speaker 2

Touch.

Speaker 1

What do you feel, Elizabeth?

Speaker 11

Heat.

Speaker 1

And here.

Speaker 11

A heartbeat.

Speaker 1

Just like yours.

Speaker 11

Now, if you please, we'll have none of that. You say you have a grievance.

Speaker 1

Madame. Your husband is a good man, but he does not keep his word. If you had a child and it looked like me, would you abandon it?

Speaker 11

I'd never abandon a child.

Speaker 1

You're quite sure?

Speaker 11

I'm sure.

Speaker 1

No matter how repulsive.

Speaker 11

I am sure.

Speaker 1

Well, he did. He left me because I look like this, because I am different.

Speaker 11

If Victor has treated you poorly, I shall speak to him. You may count on that.

Speaker 1

Isn't he coming to your bed?

Speaker 11

He must learn to take responsibility for his actions.

Speaker 1

Surely he desires you on your wedding night.

Speaker 11

And that we must always stand up for the disadvantaged.

Speaker 1

Absolutely give voice to the oppressed. Will you put my case...

Speaker 11

What is it you want?

Speaker 1

I did not ask to be born. But once born, I will fight to live. All life is precious, even mine. He promised to give me the one thing I lack, the one thing I need to be content. But then he broke his word. I want a friend, that is all.

Speaker 11

I'll be your friend, if you'll let me.

Speaker 1

Will you?

Speaker 11

If you need help, then let's see what we can do.

Speaker 1

Sit with me. I will not hurt you, I promise. I am educated. I know right from wrong.

Speaker 11

Incredible. You are quite extraordinary.

Speaker 1

Me.

Speaker 11

Yes, you.

Speaker 1

Perhaps I am a genius, too.

Speaker 11

Perhaps you are. What are you good at?

Speaker 1

I am good at the art of assimilation. I have watched and listened and learnt. At first I knew nothing, but I studied the ways of men, and slowly I learnt how to ruin, how to hate, how to debase, how to humiliate. And at the feet of my master, I learnt the highest of human skills, the skill no other creature owns. I finally learnt how to lie.

Speaker 11

Lie.

Speaker 1

Tonight I have met someone perfect. Thank you for trying to understand, but he broke his word, so I Break mine. I am truly sorry, Elizabeth.

Speaker 11

What do you mean?

Speaker 3

Victor! No! No.

Speaker 11

No! No.

Speaker 3

Please, no, please. Please.

Speaker 1

The... Now, I am a... man...

Speaker 2

Sultry.

Speaker 1

Kill me.

Speaker 10

Please.

Speaker 6

Sir.

Speaker 2

Pick her up. Bring her to my rooms.

Speaker 6

Sir, she's dead.

Speaker 2

Carry her.

Speaker 6

But she's gone, sir, she...

Speaker 2

I can bring her back, Clarice. I can bring her back. Quickly, I have the equipment. I can reverse the process. She's still warm, she's lost no blood. Quickly there.

Speaker 9

Sir, you must prevent him. Stop this at once.

Speaker 6

She's dead, sir.

Speaker 8

My dear Elizabeth, gone forever. No, no, no! Crush her.

Speaker 2

I can bring her back. I have the skill. What do you mean? I mean resurrect her. Trust me. What are you saying?

Speaker 6

She's gone mad, sir.

Speaker 2

I'm not mad. I have powers beyond your comprehension. How dare you call me mad?

Speaker 8

Victor, this is not godly. I cannot bear it. You! Whenever you look behind you, I'll be there! Restrain him! First, William, now, Elizabeth, your mind is...

Speaker 2

My mind is superb. It's superb.

Speaker 8

Take him away. He's monstrous. Oh, dear God. Please forgive me. Sir, be still. What have I brought into this world?

Speaker 6

You did your best.

Speaker 8

I failed.

Speaker 1

My heart is black. It stinks. My mind, once filled with dreams of beauty, is a furnace of revenge. Three years ago, when I was born, I laughed for joy at the heat of the sun. I cried at the call of the birds. The world was a cornucopia to me. Now it is a waste of frost and snow. The son becomes the father, the master, the slave. I have led him across the Black Sea through Tartary and Russia. I have led him out past Archangel and onto the ice. We go north, always north. His dogs are dead, his supplies exhausted, but we have a compact we must keep. He lives for my distraction. I live to lead him on. Frankenstein! Come! What is the matter? Are you cold? Do you feel forsaken? Come, great explorer, look! There is food! Mmm, cereal meat, explorer's food, come! You wanted power. Look at you! Immortality, look at you! Why did you treat me like a criminal? You killed my wife. You killed mine.

Speaker 5

You have brought this upon yourself.

Speaker 1

How have I?

Speaker 2

How did I? Did I ask to be created?

Speaker 1

Did I ask you to make me from some mutt in a sack? I am different. I know I am different. I have tried to be the same, but I am different. Why can I not be who I am? Why does humanity detest me? The only one to show pity was Elizabeth. Lovely Elizabeth. I can still taste her strawberry lips. I can still feel her warm breasts, her thighs. I know what I have done. Up! Up! We go on, on, on to the pole. Let's make some discoveries. Let's find the source of the magnet. What do you say? Bring light to the darkness. Up! Master, don't tell me you are dead already, Master. Don't you have more stamina than that's why we have only just started. Awake! Don't leave me. Don't leave me alone. You and I, we are one. While you live, I live. When you are gone, I must go too. Master, what is that? What will it feel like? Can I die? Frankenstein, forgive me. My cruelty, please. Forgive me. I cannot stop. I am driven on. The moon draws me on. Solitary moon. We can only go forward. We can never go back. Drink, master, drink. It is good wine. Drink. Drink. All I wanted was your love. I... would have loved you with all my heart.

Speaker 5

My poor Creator.

Speaker 1

Master! You do love me! You do! I don't know what love is. I will teach you.

Speaker 5

Every chance I had of love, I threw away.

Speaker 2

Every thread of human warmth, I cut to pieces.

Speaker 5

Hatred is what I understand.

Speaker 2

Only you give me purpose. You, I desire. Go on. Walk on. You must be destroyed.

Speaker 1

Good boy. That's the spirit. Bring my miserable life to an end.

Speaker 4

Up! Up! Come.

Speaker 10

Scientist.

Speaker 8

Destroy me.

Speaker 7

Destroy your creation.

Speaker 6

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