

## Ambition and Corruption in Frankenstein

The novel 'Frankenstein' written by Mary Shelley is a horror filled and gothic tale about the limits of human creativity. ~~It is~~ Throughout the novel it is seen that characters' ambitions lead to a corruption of both their mind and life. The blind quest for knowledge, achievement and glory attributes to a corruption of characters. The novel also alludes to how ambition instills feelings of false hope and the corruption of the mind thus creates as well as the pursuit of making things right leading to a corruption of one's existence.

'Frankenstein' firstly shows how a blind ambition to achieve the impossible and the glory attached to this, creates a corruption of the mind. It focuses on the journey Robert Walton wishes to the north pole and Frankenstein wish to reanimate a body to portray this message. Robert Walton's ambition is seen through him stating that he wishes to "read a land never before improved by the foot of man". Robert Walton clearly states that he wishes to do what no one else has done before, which would bring him fame and glory. The utilisation of the word 'never' reinforces the idea of a blind ambition. To Robert Walton the idea of going beyond his limits and being the first to accomplish this feat instills and fuels his ambition within him, however, this corrupts him as he does not acknowledge the extreme danger of his journey and the ship on which he travels is soon encased in ice, stopping his journey and proving to him that his ambition is leading him to death. The ice also alludes to the first circle of hell in which the Satan is trapped within ice, paralleling how Shelley ~~wishes~~ alludes to her message of extreme creativity leading to extreme consequences. Shelley also shows the corruptive nature of blind ambition through Frankenstein's Galvanistic practices. The phrase "I wished to" make me invaluable to all but a violent death", reinforces this idea. The blind ambition of Frankenstein can be seen in his extreme dedication to

the nearmurder of the monster. By writing the word 'involuntary' Shelley is further redoubting the ideal of glory and corruption. Frankenstein holds that bridging the gap between life and death will grant him glory and absolution. He therefore isolates himself from society and solely focuses on any effort he has in this study to complete his creation. This absolute focus represents the corruption of his life as he loses his connection with humanity and his family due to his study. Shelley writes this to show to her audience her humanism and the theoretical science of her time went beyond human limits and that humanity must reason and apply caution therefore the ideal ~~point of motivation~~ ~~is~~ ~~the~~ ~~corruption~~ ~~is~~ ~~cross~~ ~~task~~ ~~is~~ is a quest of Walton and Frankenstein despite the corruptive power of ambition.

False hope is exhibited as a mass of feeling and ambition, leading to the corruption of mechanisms used. Mary Shelley shows this through the creation of the creature with the De Lacey, family and Frankenstein's belief that galvanism will benefit humanity. The ~~moreover~~ false hope can be seen in his belief that "[being a] master of their language... [will] enable them to overlook [his] deformity". His false hope is represented in the thought that being able to talk to the family will allow them to love and welcome him. 'Overlook' shows the corruption of a false hope further ambition. It alludes to the way the creature has for someone to accept him ~~and~~ the ~~therefore~~ he believes that by learning the language of the De Lacey's will give him that opportunity, sustaining the false hope. This then corrupts his brain as he focuses all efforts to his ~~cause~~ ~~and~~ ~~cause~~, which then creates a dam when he is rejected and sent away. Frankenstein also falls victim to false hope as seen in his faith in the strength of Galvanism. Shelley



exhibits this through Frankenstein "studying the wild fancies of these writers with delight", showing how he believes recreation of man to be beneficial for the human race. The incorporation of the emotion 'delight' further reinforces the display of faith. Delight is seen as a joyful and positive emotion, Shelley utilizes this emotion to show how Frankenstein finds hope and happiness in his study of Galvanism, representing his false hope and joy. Shelly then shows how it has corrupted him through the virtues and malices none of the ~~human~~ creature and how his efforts, hopes and dreams for a perfect and flawless being have been destroyed. This condemnation through analysis Shelley's message to humanity about how Galvanism will have consequences incomprehensible to man and that humanity must slow its progress. Many Shelley, through the false hope of Frankenstein and the creature is able to deeply analyze as a corrupted force.

Finally, 'Frankenstein' displays the corrupt force of ambition through characters' vigilante behaviors. The novel shows this through Frankenstein's attempt to kill the creature, and the creature attempting to inflict immeasurable pain on Frankenstein. Frankenstein's behavior can be seen through his "devoting [himself] in life or death to his vengeance". Frankenstein is able to demonstrate how he will do everything in his power to kill the monster. By using the word 'devotion', Shelley is able to show the significance that the creature has. Devotion refers to a complete or selfless devotion of something, showing how in order to kill or fix the mistake of the monster, Frankenstein must complete the death of the monster so that he can not once again be reanimated. Shelley is once again able to link together the Galvanism experiments and how one created by Galvanism is only able to be killed through the shock of Galvanism, displaying both the hopes and hypocrisies of the

beliefs. The creature also shows his rejection of society in the case of the prejudice he suffers due to his creature. He displays his beliefs through the phrase "your sufferings will surely my everlasting reward." The creature shows how he is so unjust upon Frankenstein, the same pain he experienced from his experience. By writing the word 'everlasting' Shelley is able to illustrate the deep feelings that the creature holds towards Frankenstein, and how it leads to his unknown of either the cause of Frankenstein's. Everlasting symbolizes the absorption of her the only way to end the feud between Frankenstein and the monster is through one of the two parties, and therefore fulfilling the wish of the other. This shows how Shelley was so deeply true the absorption to achieve the redemption of death is fruitless, and will have terrible consequences. By using vigilance and extreme behavior, she shows the complete nature of creation.

Mary Shelley's 'Frankenstein' shows that creation is a corruptive force. She shows this through the blood pangs of glory and fame, false hopes of fulfillment, and the rejection of a woman. These display how the creation of an over ambitious leads to the corruption of their mind and life.