

Ambition is presented as a corruptive force throughout the gothic novel Frankenstein. Mary Shelley underlines her belief that copious and unrestrained ambitions ultimately leads to adversity through the tragedies of the novel. This is first presented to the audience through the unrestrained ambitions of Frankenstein, which later results in the downfall of several innocent characters through the injustice the monster experiences. Shelley further displays her belief that ambition is ultimately negative through Frankenstein's unnecessary ambition for knowledge and glory, which is further reflected through characters such as Robert Walton. Finally, the creature's prominent ambition to "fit in" within society, & leading to adversity throughout the novel displays Shelley's belief that an ambition for conformation is ultimately corruptive.

Firstly, the immense ambition of Frankenstein to obtain knowledge displays the ultimately negative impact of unrestrained ambition, given the corruptive result produced. This motif is first displayed through Frankenstein's extensive research, leading to his realisation that "Winter, Spring and

Summer passed during my labours, but I did not see the blossom." By employing a casual tone while discussing his extensive research, Frankenstein is displaying his dedication to his prevalence for knowledge, underlining the effect of unrestrained ambitions. Shelley underlines the importance of avoiding overambition through the use of the "labours", implying an excessive amount of work was done, causing him to abstain from other ~~passions~~ such passions. Given the importance of Nature throughout the novel, Frankenstein's overambition causing him to "not see the blossom" may be a further display of how ambition is ultimately negative. Frankenstein later reinforces the trope of the ultimate corruption his ambitions caused through his statement advice to Walton, detailing that "You seek knowledge as I once did [..] and I ardently hope that it may not be a serpent to bite you as mine has been." By warning Walton of the overall consequences associated with ambition, Frankenstein is displaying his understanding of the negative implications of overunrestrained ambition. Frankenstein further details the

corruptive force associated with his ambitions through the analogy that his quest for knowledge was "a serpent" to bite you." Thus this most conclusion which directly displays Frankenstein's belief that ~~ambition~~ extensive ambition ultimately leads to adversity.

Shelley further displays her belief in the negative connotations of ambition through Frankenstein's desperation for success and wealth/glory for his research. This is a motif is first evidenced through ~~the~~ Frankenstein's statement that "I grew up in wealth and luxury, but wished for glory." By ~~stating~~ using "wealth and luxury", Frankenstein is displaying understanding of the privilege he was born into, however his unrestrained ambition ultimately leads him to ~~ambition~~ desperation for glory, highlighting the corruptive force of ambition. This theme is further reflected in Frankenstein's "success in my discovery of reason and life." The usage of the words "success" and "discovery" imply the glory he believes are associated with his research, despite

the negative implications these the discovery later causes. This theme may have been employed to highlight Shelley's belief of the negative impact the desperation for glory at the time of the novel may have had on society, given the constant research conducted into topics such as Galvanism. Ultimately, this displays the negative impacts of overambition and desperation for success.

Finally, Shelley articulates her belief that excessive ambition is ultimately corruptive through the Creature's desperation to conform with society throughout the book. Shelley first presents this theme through the creature's statement that "I was an alone and deserted creature. I was hated and prejudiced by all mankind." By underlining the loneliness he faced, the creature is displaying his ambition to be accepted within society; however, this ultimately results in adversity given the lengths he goes to to attempt this. The use of the adjectives "hated" and "prejudiced" displays the creature's belief of his disadvantage in society and the his ambition

To alleviate this, resulting in the downfall of numerous characters. Shelley further displays the creature's extensive ambition to conform within society through the creature's statement that "I was alone, I thought of Adam's supplance to his creator but where was mine?" By underlining the abandonment the creature experienced and his ambition to change this, Shelley is employing her belief that an excessive ambition is ultimately negative. This may be derived from Shelley's unnecessary ambition to conform with the society she lived in given the judgement she received for her being a female author, proving her belief that ambition is ultimately corruptive.

In conclusion, the depiction of Ambition being a corruptive force throughout the novel displays Shelley's belief that extensive commitment or ambition is ultimately negative. This is obviously presented through the experiences of characters such as Frankenstein and the creature to underline the negative connotations they underwent ~~through~~ due to their ambitions.