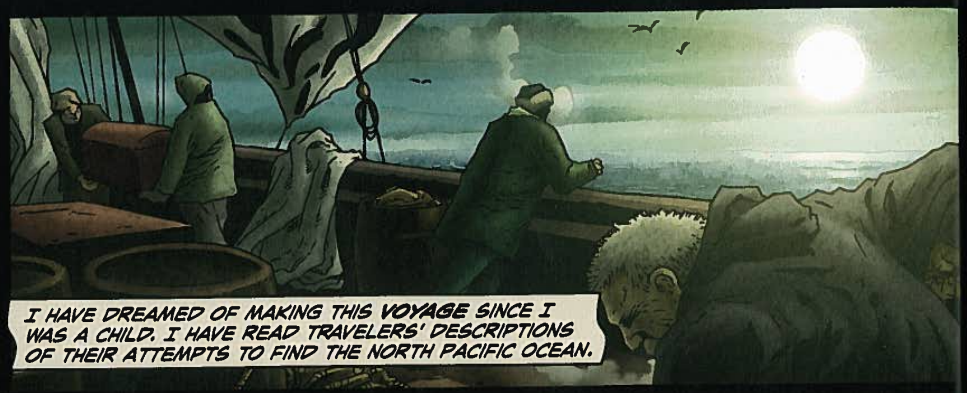
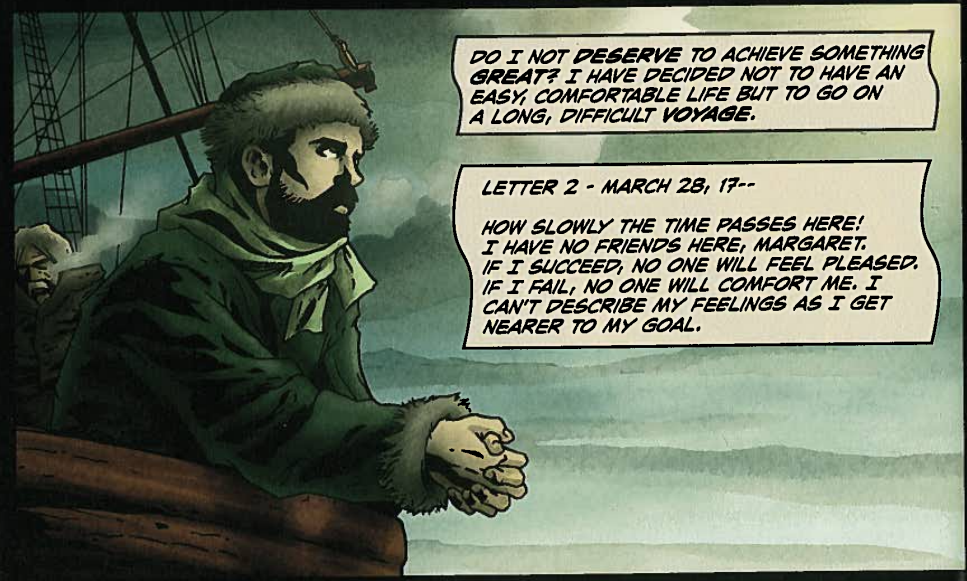
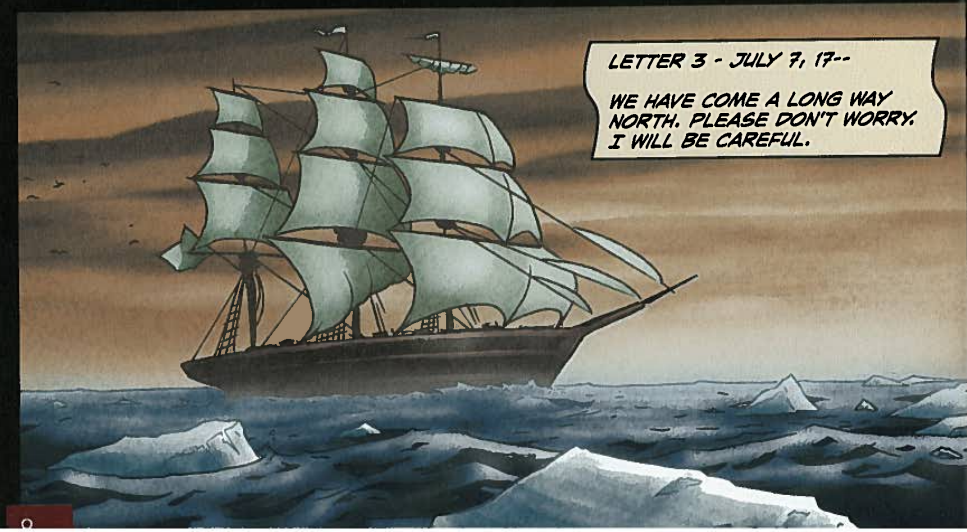
NEAR THE COAST OF RUSSIA ...
FROM THE LETTERS OF ROBERT WALTON:
LETTER 1 - DECEMBER 11, 17--
MY DEAR SISTER,
I AM ALREADY FAR FROM LONDON. THE COLD NORTHERN WIND ON MY FACE FILLS ME WITH HAPPINESS. IT GIVES ME A TASTE OF THE WONDERFUL PLACE I AM GOING TO. AT THE NORTH POLE, MARGARET, THE SUN IS ALWAYS IN THE SKY. IT IS A LAND OF BEAUTY AND AMAZING SIGHTS.

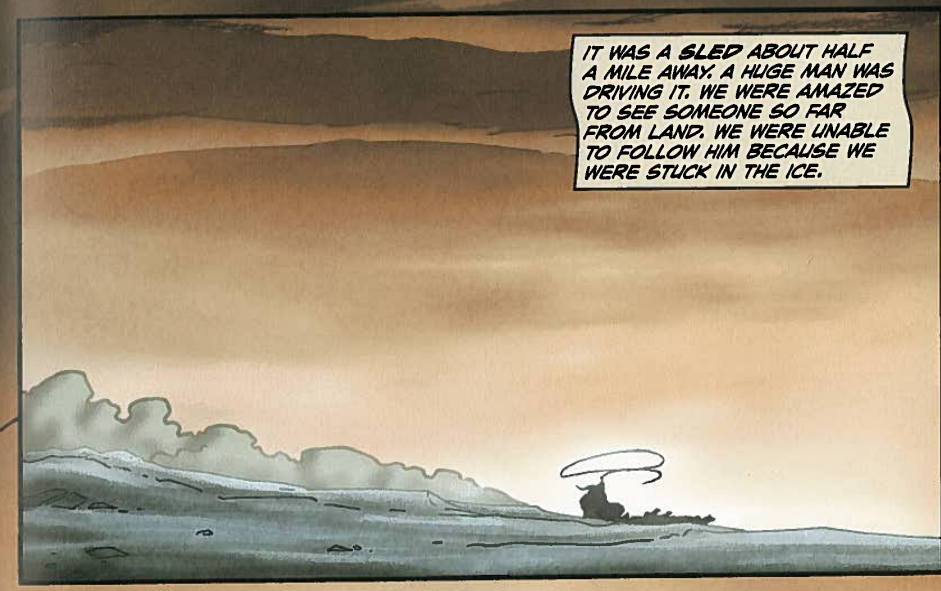

I HAVE DREAMED OF MAKING THIS VOYAGE SINCE I WAS A CHILD. I HAVE READ TRAVELERS' DESCRIPTIONS OF THEIR ATTEMPTS TO FIND THE NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN.


DO I NOT DESERVE TO ACHIEVE SOMETHING GREAT? I HAVE DECIDED NOT TO HAVE AN EASY, COMFORTABLE LIFE BUT TO GO ON A LONG, DIFFICULT VOYAGE.
LETTER 2 - MARCH 28, 17--
HOW SLOWLY THE TIME PASSES HERE! I HAVE NO FRIENDS HERE, MARGARET. IF I SUCCEED, NO ONE WILL FEEL PLEASED. IF I FAIL, NO ONE WILL COMFORT ME. I CAN'T DESCRIBE MY FEELINGS AS I GET NEARER TO MY GOAL.


LETTER 3 - JULY 7, 17--
WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY NORTH. PLEASE DON'T WORRY. I WILL BE CAREFUL.

LETTER 4 - AUGUST 5, 17--
LAST MONDAY, THE SHIP WAS NEARLY SURROUNDED BY ICE, AND THERE WAS A VERY THICK FOG. WE DECIDED TO STOP MOVING AND TO WAIT FOR A CHANGE IN THE WEATHER.

AT TWO O'CLOCK, THE FOG DISAPPEARED, AND THERE WAS ICE EVERYWHERE - AS FAR AS WE COULD SEE. WE WERE WORRIED; AND THEN, IN THE DISTANCE, WE SAW SOMETHING STRANGE.


IT WAS A SLED ABOUT HALF A MILE AWAY. A HUGE MAN WAS DRIVING IT. WE WERE AMAZED TO SEE SOMEONE SO FAR FROM LAND. WE WERE UNABLE TO FOLLOW HIM BECAUSE WE WERE STUCK IN THE ICE.

THE NEXT MORNING WHEN I WOKE UP, ALL THE SAILORS WERE TALKING TO SOMEONE IN THE SEA. IT WAS, IN FACT, A SIMILAR SLED, WHICH HAD COME TOWARD US IN THE NIGHT ON A LARGE PIECE OF ICE. THE MAN ABOARD WAS NOT HUGE LIKE THE OTHER TRAVELER, BUT A EUROPEAN. THE SAILORS WERE PERSUADING HIM TO COME ONTO THE SHIP.

HERE IS OUR CAPTAIN, AND HE WON'T LET YOU DIE OUT ON THE ICE.
COULD YOU TELL ME WHERE YOU'RE GOING?
WE'RE ON A VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY TO THE NORTH POLE.

WHEN HE HEARD THIS, HE AGREED TO COME ON BOARD.

HE WAS NEARLY FROZEN AND EXTREMELY THIN. I HAVE NEVER SEEN A MAN IN SUCH A TERRIBLE STATE. SLOWLY, WE HELPED HIM RECOVER. TWO DAYS PASSED BEFORE HE WAS ABLE TO SPEAK.

WHY DID YOU COME SO FAR ON THE ICE?
I WAS LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO HAD RUN AWAY FROM ME.

I THINK WE'VE SEEN HIM.
WE SAW A MAN ON A SLED. SOME DOGS WERE PULLING IT ACROSS THE ICE.

DO YOU THINK THAT WHEN THE ICE BROKE IT DESTROYED HIS SLED?

THE ICE DIDN'T BREAK UNTIL NEARLY MIDNIGHT.
HE WAS PROBABLY SAFE BY THEN.
I'M SURE YOU WANT TO ASK ME A LOT OF QUESTIONS. YOU SAVED ME AND HAVE BROUGHT ME BACK TO LIFE!
THE STRANGER SUDDENLY SEEMED MORE ALIVE.

AUGUST 13, 17--
I LIKE MY GUEST MORE AND MORE EACH DAY. I ADMIRE HIM AND ALSO FEEL SORRY FOR HIM. HE HAS NOW RECOVERED FROM HIS ILLNESS.

AUGUST 19, 17--
YESTERDAY HE SAID TO ME ...
YOU CAN SEE, CAPTAIN WALTON, THAT I HAVE SUFFERED GREATLY.
YOU ARE LOOKING FOR KNOWLEDGE AS I DID. I HOPE IT WILL NOT HURT YOU AS IT HURT ME. YOU MAY LEARN SOMETHING FROM MY STORY.

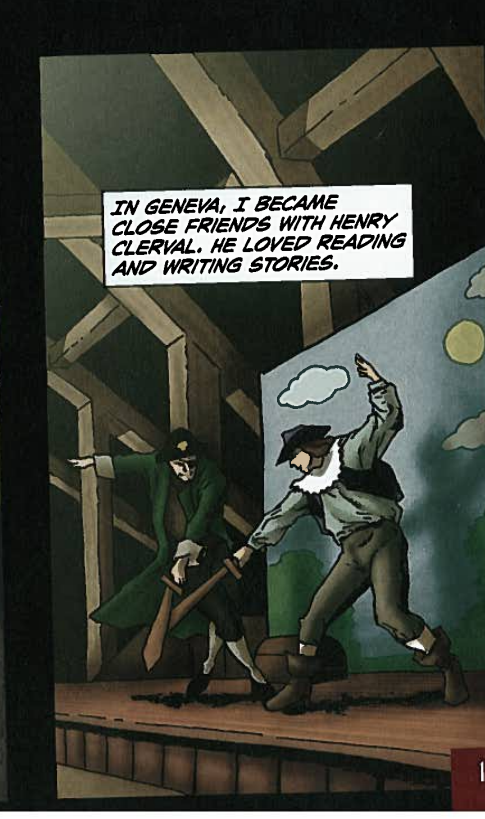
LISTEN TO IT. YOU'LL SEE HOW NOTHING CAN CHANGE MY DESTINY NOW.

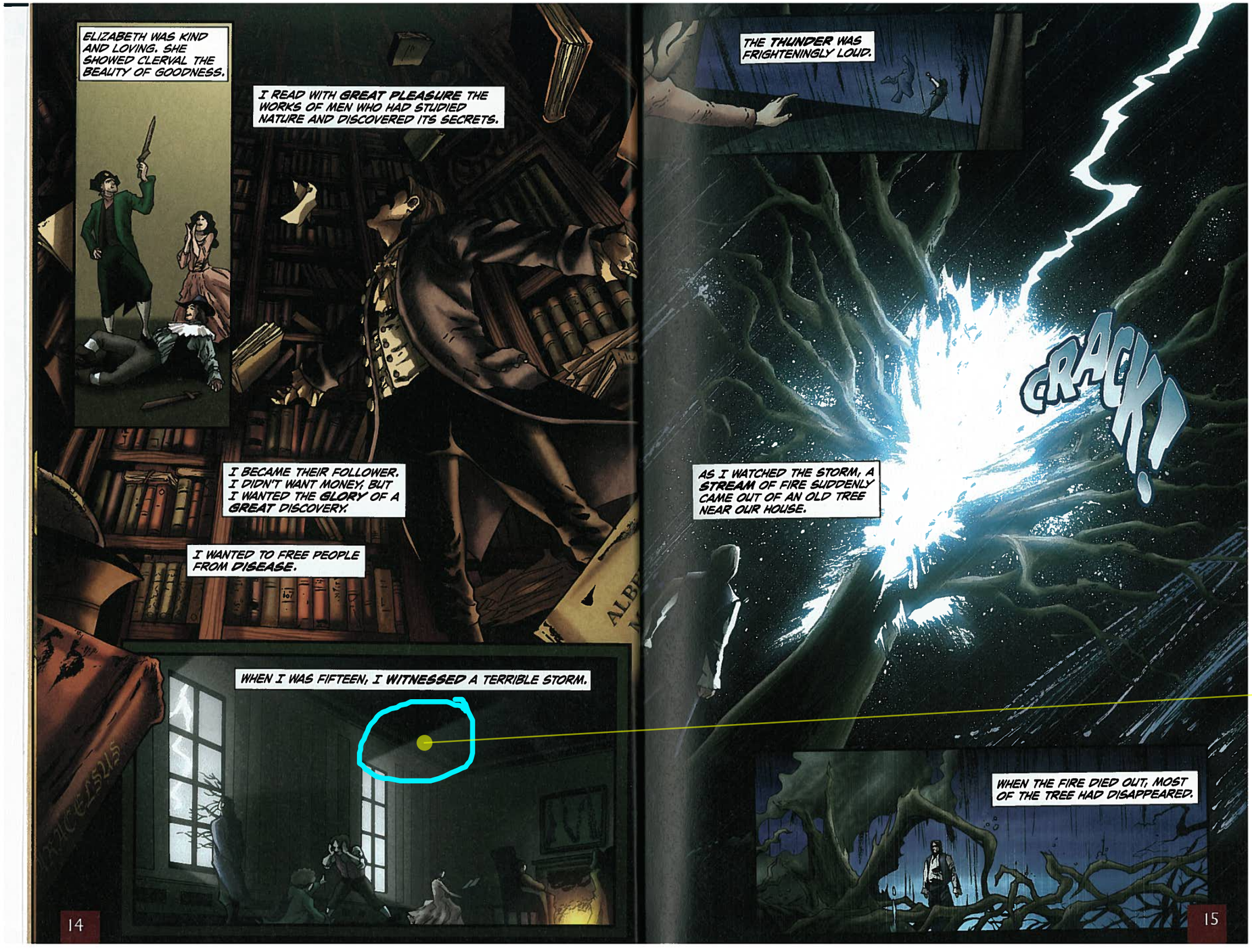
VOLUME I
CHAPTER I
MY NAME IS VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN. MY PARENTS WERE FROM GENEVA AND WERE VERY WELL RESPECTED THERE. AFTER THEY MARRIED, THEY TRAVELED TO ITALY, GERMANY, AND NAPLES. I WAS BORN IN NAPLES.

FOR SEVERAL YEARS, I WAS THEIR ONLY CHILD. THEY LOVED ME DEEPLY.

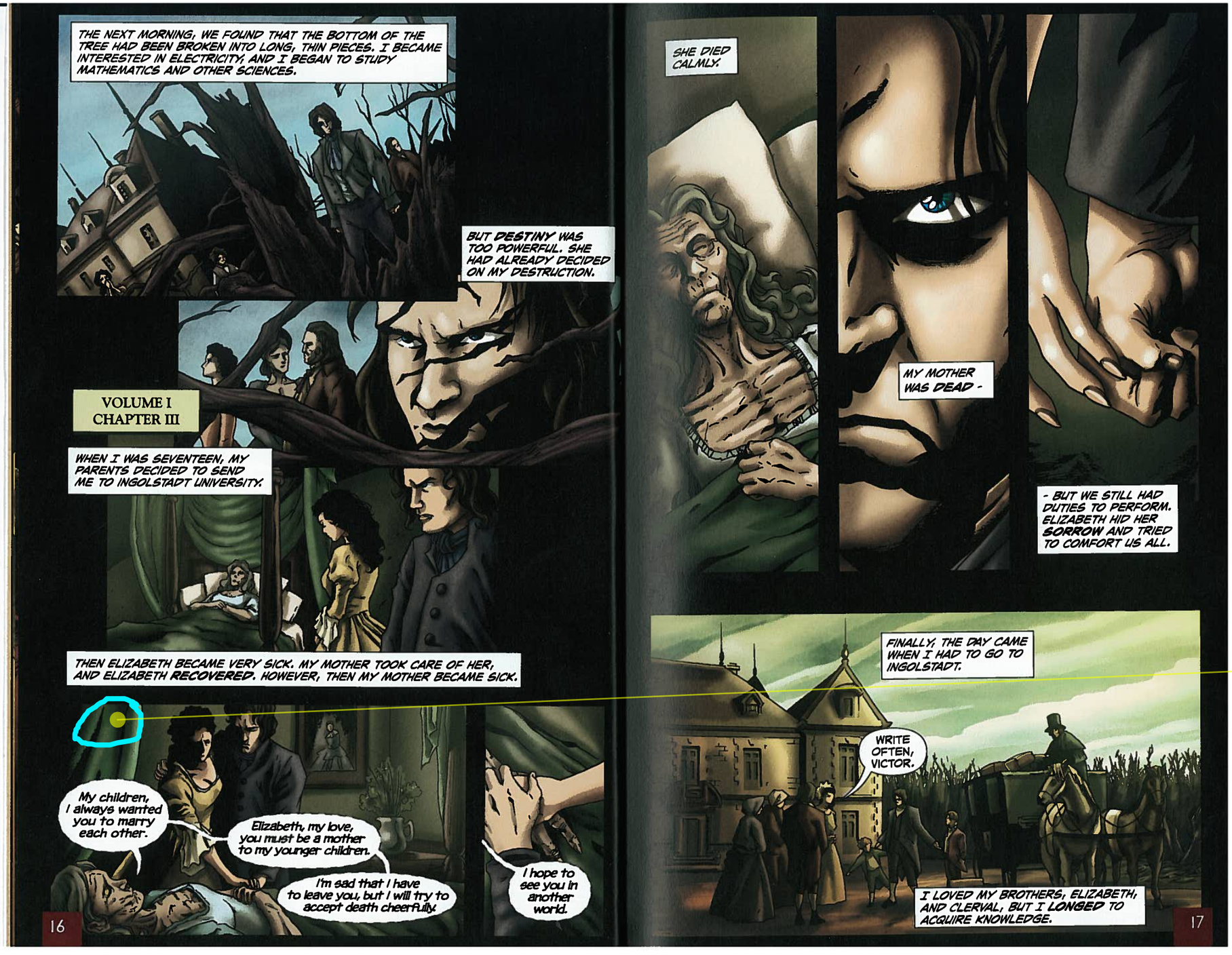
WHEN I WAS ABOUT FIVE YEARS OLD, MY MOTHER ADOPTED A LITTLE GIRL. SHE WAS THE DAUGHTER OF A NOBLEMAN WHO HAD DIED.
ELIZABETH LAVENZA BECAME MORE THAN A SISTER TO ME. WE DID EVERYTHING TOGETHER. I LOVED HER VERY MUCH.

VOLUME I
CHAPTER II
WE WERE BROUGHT UP TOGETHER. THERE WAS LESS THAN A YEAR BETWEEN OUR AGES.
WHEN MY PARENTS HAD ANOTHER SON, WE WENT BACK TO GENEVA AND SETTLED THERE.

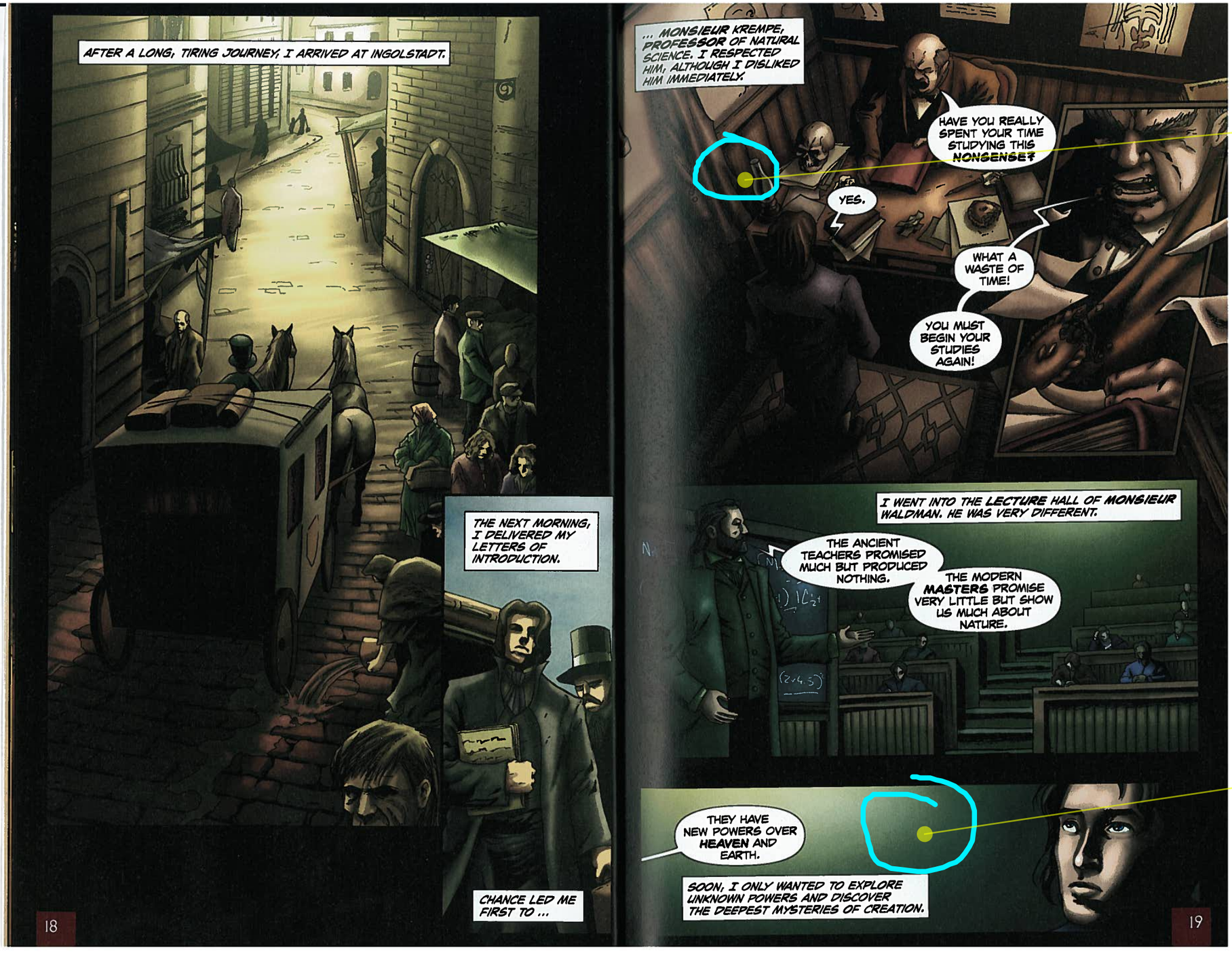

IN GENEVA, I BECAME CLOSE FRIENDS WITH HENRY CLERVAL. HE LOVED READING AND WRITING STORIES.



Ming Hong Wu: This storm foreshadows that terrible things are about to happen in the life of Frankenstein. This will alter his life forever since before this, he speaks greatly of what a happy life he'd lived.



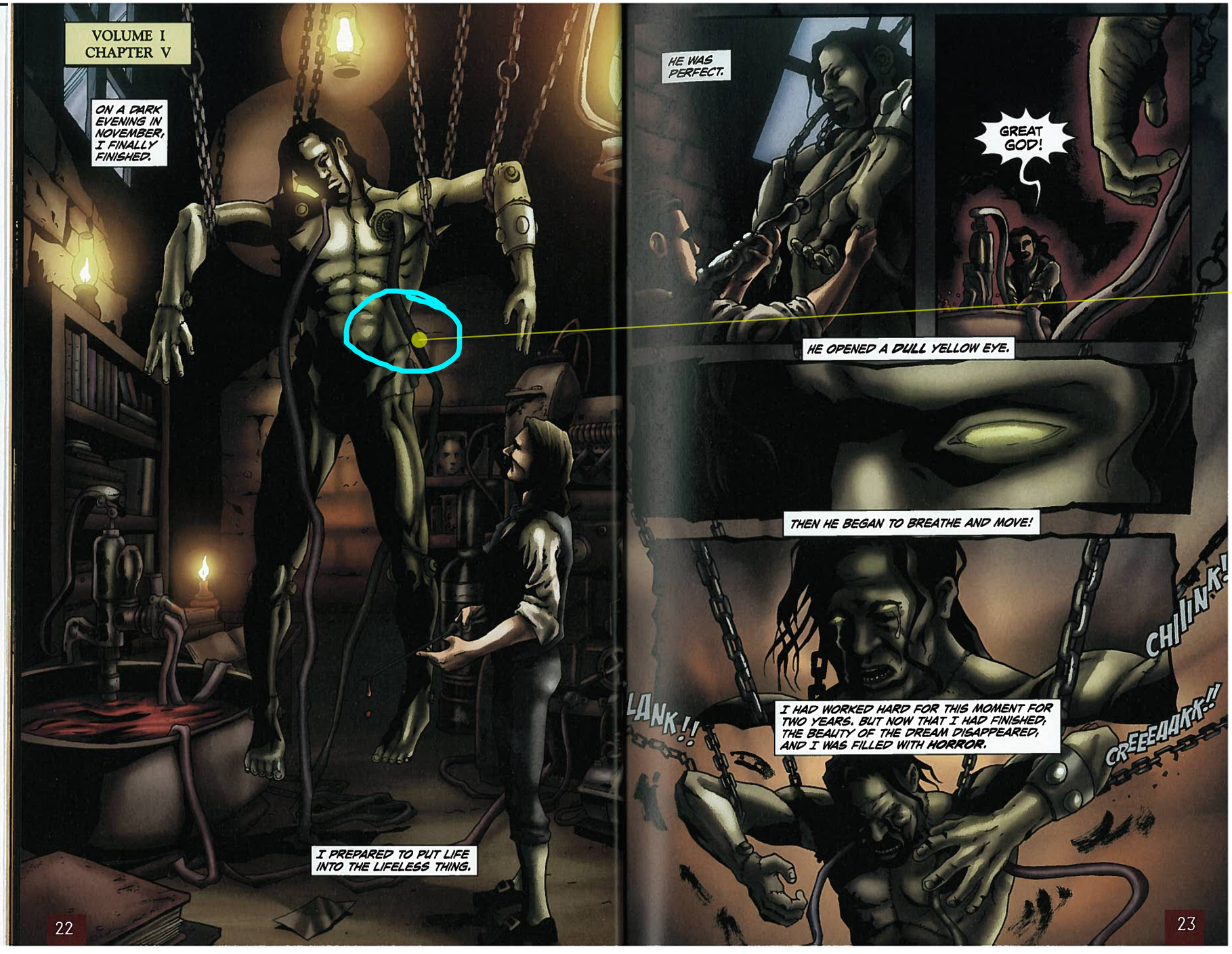
Ming Hong Wu: It seems like Frankenstein is experiencing such sorrowful events in his life. One bad thing happens after another, revealing the dark theme this story conveys.



Ming Hong Wu: After the death of his mother, the way Victor described his life felt very independent from his glory days with his family. This possibly indicates that future bad events may induce.

Ming Hong Wu: Victor is thinking of witchcraft and supernatural abilities. Maybe this is related to the death of his mother, from which he will develop an experiment to bring someone back to life.

Ming Hong Wu: Victor used to be a very curious boy who enjoyed learning various topics related to science. Now it seems he's gotten a niche for life and death. Because his studies have gone well, it seems something will go wrong in his first experiment.

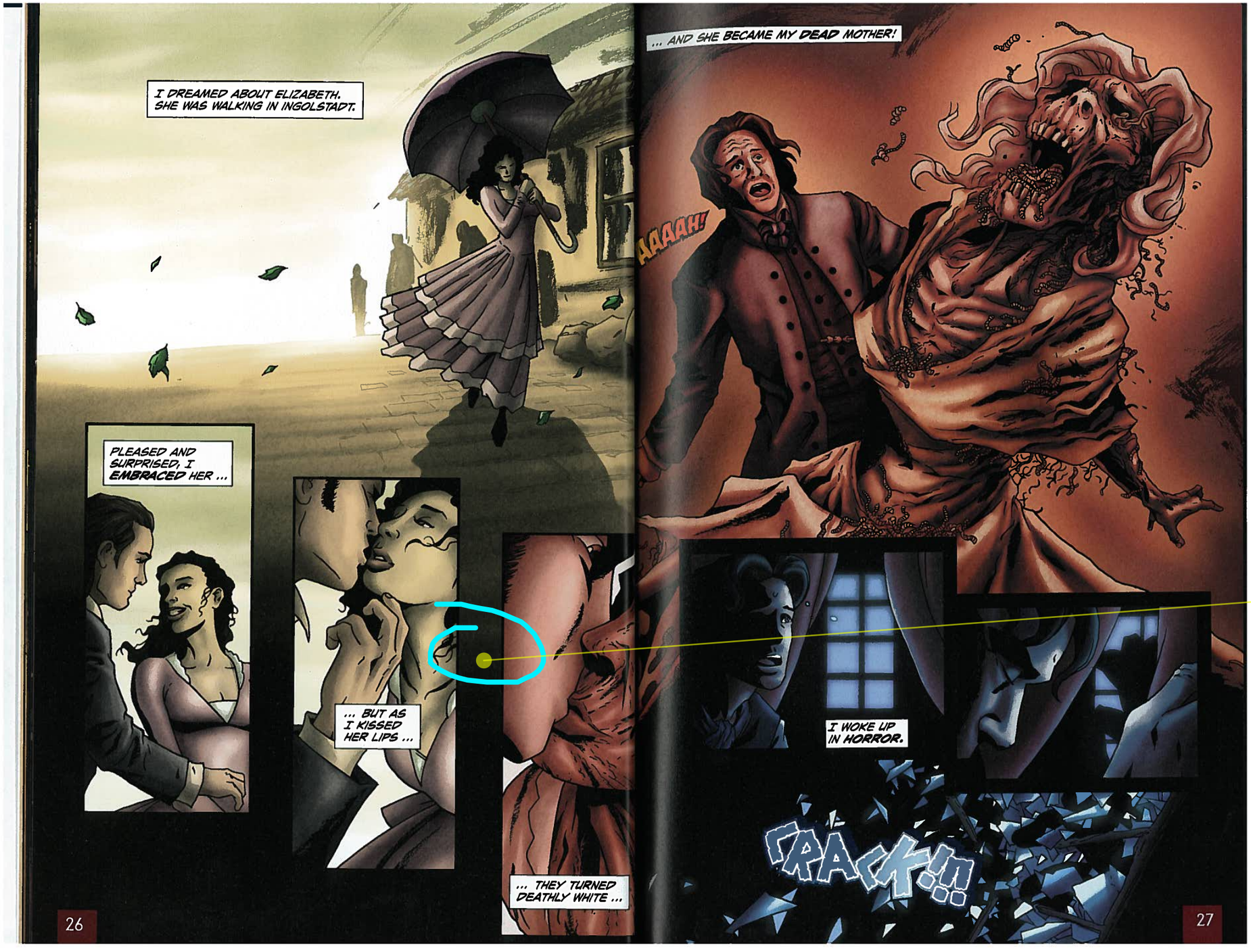


Ming Hong Wu: The ability to cause lifeless objects into natural, sentient beings sounds like a recipe for disaster. The 8-foot figure Victor created is very menacing.

CLAANK!!

CHINK!!!

AAARRRRGGGGHHHH!!!



Ming Hong Wu: Victor's creation constantly plagues his mind as he begins to experience his creation even in his dreams. This feels like a horror story as the victim keeps on escaping, the murderer keeps coming back.

I SAW THE MONSTER THAT I HAD CREATED.
UNGHH... MUH...
PERHAPS HE SPOKE, BUT I DIDN'T HEAR.
ONE HAND REACHED OUT TO STOP ME, BUT I ESCAPED ...
... AND RAN INTO THE COURTYARD. I STAYED THERE ALL NIGHT. ALL THE TIME I WAS LISTENING FOR THE SOUND OF THE MONSTER.
HIS UGLINESS WAS INCREDIBLE. WHAT I HAD DREAMED OF HAD BECOME MY HELL.

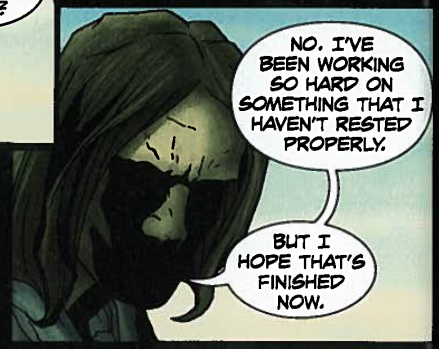
WHEN MORNING CAME, I WANTED TO AVOID THE MONSTER.
I DID NOT DARE RETURN TO MY APARTMENT, SO I WALKED AROUND THE TOWN.
I DIDN'T KNOW WHERE I WAS OR WHAT I WAS DOING.
MY HEART BEAT HARD WITH FEAR.
MY DEAR FRANKENSTEIN!
I'M SO PLEASED TO SEE YOU!

I TOOK HIS HAND AND QUICKLY FORGOT MY HORROR.
HENRY CLERVAL!

MY FATHER HAS FINALLY ALLOWED ME TO ATTEND UNIVERSITY.

I'M SO HAPPY TO SEE YOU. BUT TELL ME – HOW ARE MY FATHER, BROTHERS, AND ELIZABETH?
VERY WELL AND VERY HAPPY. BUT THEY ARE A LITTLE UNEASY THAT THEY HEAR FROM YOU SO RARELY.

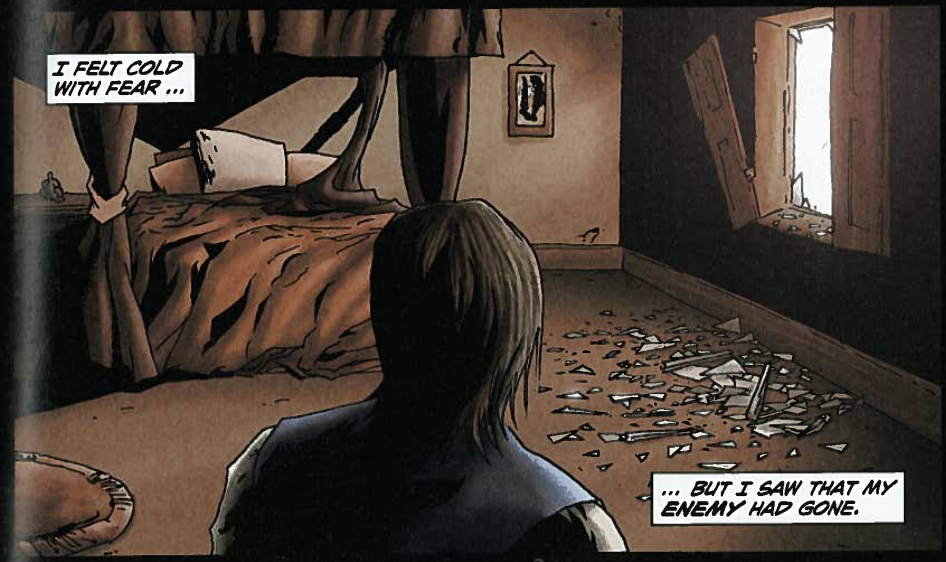
YOU LOOK VERY THIN AND PALE.
HAVE YOU NOT SLEPT FOR SEVERAL NIGHTS?


NO. I'VE BEEN WORKING SO HARD ON SOMETHING THAT I HAVEN'T RESTED PROPERLY.
BUT I HOPE THAT'S FINISHED NOW.

I WAS SHAKING NERVOUSLY AS WE WALKED TO MY COLLEGE.

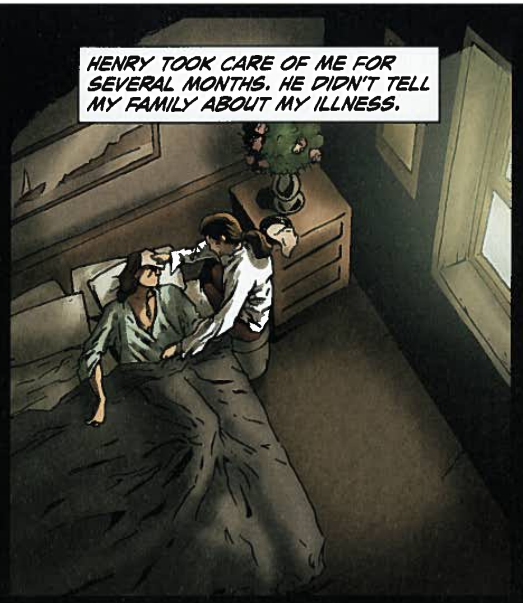
I THOUGHT THE CREATURE COULD STILL BE IN MY APARTMENT.
I WAS AFRAID TO SEE HIM BUT EVEN MORE AFRAID THAT HENRY WOULD SEE HIM.

HENRY, WAIT HERE FOR A FEW MINUTES.


I FELT COLD WITH FEAR ...
... BUT I SAW THAT MY ENEMY HAD GONE.

I CLAPPED MY HANDS FOR JOY AND RAN DOWN FOR HENRY.

Ming Hong Wu: Apparently, Victor has developed a mental condition where he is hallucinating of his monster, and passes out. What seems to be a minor problem leads to his friend Henry having to take care of him for months. This incident is very grim and serious.

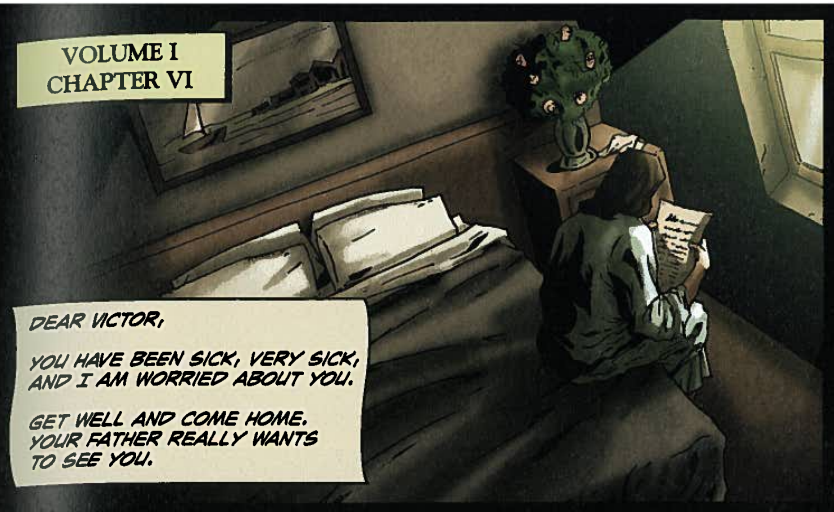

HENRY TOOK CARE OF ME FOR SEVERAL MONTHS. HE DIDN'T TELL MY FAMILY ABOUT MY ILLNESS.

VERY SLOWLY, I RECOVERED. SPRING ARRIVED, AND THIS HELPED ME.

DEAREST HENRY, HOW GOOD YOU'VE BEEN TO ME. YOU'VE TAKEN CARE OF ME ALL WINTER INSTEAD OF STUDYING.
HOW WILL I EVER REPAY YOU?
YOU'LL REPAY ME IF YOU GET WELL AS FAST AS YOU CAN.
AND BECAUSE YOU SEEM MUCH BETTER, COULD YOU WRITE TO YOUR FATHER AND ELIZABETH? THEY'RE WORRIED BY YOUR LONG SILENCE.

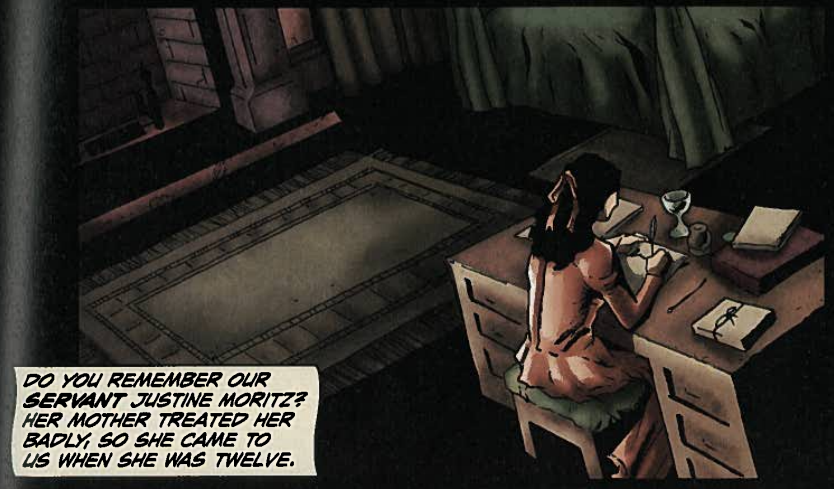
YES. I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THEM.
THEN YOU'LL BE PLEASED TO SEE THIS LETTER.

IT'S BEEN HERE FOR SOME DAYS.
IT'S FROM ELIZABETH, I THINK.


VOLUME I
CHAPTER VI
DEAR VICTOR,
YOU HAVE BEEN SICK, VERY SICK, AND I AM WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
GET WELL AND COME HOME. YOUR FATHER REALLY WANTS TO SEE YOU.

ERNEST IS SIXTEEN NOW. HE WANTS VERY MUCH TO GO ABROAD, BUT WE CAN'T LET HIM LEAVE UNTIL YOU COME HOME.

AND LITTLE WILLIAM IS LOVELY. HE IS VERY TALL FOR HIS AGE AND SMILES AND LAUGHS A LOT. HE ALREADY HAS TWO LITTLE "WIVES"! LOUISA IS HIS FAVORITE. SHE'S FIVE.


DO YOU REMEMBER OUR SERVANT JUSTINE MORITZ? HER MOTHER TREATED HER BADLY, SO SHE CAME TO US WHEN SHE WAS TWELVE.

Ming Hong Wu: It seems as if the servant has also been dealing with a lot of trauma and multiple incidents have occurred. It's odd to me that Victor has not contacted his friends or family in such a long time.

Ming Hong Wu: It's weird to see Victor say that he had no worries at all, but he created a monster that is freely roaming around. I guess that he has no control over it, but I doubt that he will ever see it again.