

Frankenstein Court Case



Team Creature

Lawyers: Arianna Deus and Casey Kamer

Igor Lavrushko: The Creature

Matt Masse: Henry Clerval

Aly Dionne: Justine Moritz

Liam Vaughn: Mr. DeLacey

Nicholas Pereira: Medical Expert

Surprise Guest: Ethicist

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Opening Statement

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen of the jury. We are all gathered here today to prove who the true victim in this court room is... my client, the Creature. This case we propose today is to prove that Mr. Victor Frankenstein is indeed the actual monster in this room. He conducted inhumane acts and experiments, which resulted in the creation of my client. Approximately a year ago, Victor spent all of his time to reanimate life. This procedure is against what society considers being morally right. Part of his procedure was to gather "raw materials". To gather these materials Victor broke into graveyards and also into coffins to retrieve his raw materials. Victor cut off body parts of the deceased and used this to create my client. With these body parts he then sewed them together to create my client. Mr. Frankenstein was selfish in trying to achieve a scientific advancement because he never thought about the physical or emotional outcome of his creation. He never took a minute to realize how atrocious and different he would look compared to the rest of the world. Nor did he think about how the citizens would react when they saw the creature that he created.

From the moment one is brought into life, each and every one of us has a parent or guardian that look after us. Whoever that may be has the responsibility to teach us how to survive in society. This includes teaching them right from wrong. Would you know how to decide what to do in situations if you were not taught right from wrong? The answer is no, nobody is born with the tools to know right from wrong. Since Mr. Frankenstein was the creator of my client, that automatically makes him responsible to fulfill the role of a parent. In addition, everyone in this court room has a name, correct? Well, the defendant failed to even fulfill that responsibility as a parent. In most cases,

when a couple chooses to create a family they know the responsibilities that come along with it and are ready to nurture and care for their additions to the world. But this was not true for Mr. Frankenstein. He created what is considerably his own child, but did he nurture and care for him? No. The defendant never thought once about how important it is to nurture someone coming into this new and scary world. If Mr. Frankenstein had taken the time to care and nurture my client, who he had every responsibility to do so, than we would not be here in this court room today. He denied my clients right to even have a name like every other human being on this Earth. Nonetheless, Victor threw this clueless creation into the world with no knowledge and no identity, which is NOT acceptable behavior from a parent.

Everyone is born with the concept of having feelings, but it is up to our parents to teach us how to deal with them. Being happy is an easy emotion to handle without any guidance, but the feelings that the Creature experienced are not easily handled without previous knowledge of how to deal with them. He experienced feelings of neglect, abandonment, embarrassment, and anger. A parent's job is to teach their offspring how to calmly and respectfully deal with these emotions. As the creature experienced all of these emotions he had anger towards Victor. He did not know how to deal with these emotions which caused him to express these in unjust ways. Victor Frankenstein is guilty on many accounts. He is guilty of negligence, malpractice, emotional distress, and also physical distress. After listening to this case and all of the witnesses you will then realize that Victor is guilty of all charges. Thank you.

Justine Moritz's Questions:

- 1) Please state your name for the court.
 - My name is Justine Moritz.
- 2) Ms. Moritz, what was your relationship to the Frankenstein's?
 - I was their maid. But the Frankenstein's were like family to me.
- 3) What were you doing on the night of William's disappearance and death?
 - Just like everyone else, I was frantically looking for William.
- 4) Who killed William?
 - Victor is responsible for William's death.
- 5) Why do you think Victor is responsible?
 - I KNOW Victor is responsible because he created the creature that killed William.
- 6) Knowing that the creature actually did kill William, do you think the creature is innocent since its Victor's fault?
 - Yes, I think the creature is innocent because the creature was angry at Victor for abandoning him when he didn't know a thing.
- 7) Do you blame the creature for all of the murders?
 - No I blame Victor because he never taught the creature right from wrong.

Ethicist Questions:

- 1) Can you please state your name and profession to the court please?
 - My name is Sami Furtado and I am an ethicist.
- 2) What is an ethicist?
 - An ethicist is a person who specializes in knowing what is morally right and wrong.
- 3) Do you believe that the creature should be referred to as a monster?
 - No I do not think that the creature should be called a monster because he is “human” like everyone else just looks different than the rest.
- 4) Is it the creature’s fault for his doings, or is it Victor’s fault since he did not teach him?
 - I believe that Victor is to blame because the creature had no knowledge of how to deal with situations.
- 5) As a child, whose job is it to teach them wrong from right?
 - It is the parent’s job to teach their children these qualities and if they fail to do so it can result in them not knowing how to deal with emotional situations.
- 6) In this situation, who do you believe was responsible to teach the creature these important tools of life?
 - It was Victor’s responsibility to teach the Creature because since he was the creator of the defendant, it is his responsibility to take on the role of the parent.
- 7) Victor grew up knowing right from wrong, so do you believe that it was wrong for the defendant to abandon his creation right away? Or even at all?
 - In my opinion I believe that it was wrong for Victor to abandon his creation, whether it was the next day or months down the road.

Medical Expert Questions:

1) What is your name?

- My name is Nicholas Pereira.

2) What role do you play in the field of medicine?

- I am a clinical psychologist.

3) How long have you been in this profession?

- I have been in this profession for over 20 years.

4) Clinically speaking, does Victor seem sane to you?

- No, Victor seems very exhausted, unhealthy, deranged, and rather aggravated with him and others.

5) In your opinion, was this experiment in any means justifiable as being humane?

- No, I feel strongly that this was a very inhumane experiment. From beginning to the end, this experiment that Victor conducted was wrong.

6) Do you think Victor should have been more of a parental figure towards the creature?

- Yes I do. Every child deserves some type of guidance while developing. If the child is not taught how to behave, they will do whatever they think is right to do. This is what the creature did. He was threatened and hurt and lost so his actions reflected that.

7) Do you think the creature would have done the same actions if Victor had taken just a little time to teach it?

-No, I think the creature would have been much more civil with its actions. I don't even think the creature would have murdered anyone. The creature's mind was scattered in all different directions and it would have been a huge benefactor towards its life if Victor put some time into it.

Henry Clerval's Questions:

1. Please state your name to the court.
 - My name is Henry Clerval
2. What is your relationship with Victor?
 - I am Victor's best friend
3. Mr. Clerval, Did you know about Victor's experiment?
 - No, I did not know about the experiment at all. Victor never told me about it. If Victor had told me, I would have helped him and been on the lookout for the creation, but it was all a cruel secret.
4. What is your opinion on the Creature?
 - I personally feel that the creature is emotionally distressed and confused. I feel this way because Victor did not prepare him for the real world like a parent should.
5. You mentioned Victor as being the parent of the Creature. Do you feel that Victor fulfilled his responsibilities?
 - No, I do not because I know that a parent wouldn't just abandon their child and not teach them right from wrong.
6. Are you emotionally hurt by Victor's actions?
 - Yes because I considered him to be my best friend and he kept huge secrets from me and my life was lost as an outcome of this.
7. Mr. Clerval, who killed you?
 - (Points to Victor) Victor Frankenstein.

Mr. DeLacey's Questions:

1) State who you are to the court please.

- I am Mr. DeLacey, father of Felix DeLacey.

2) Please tell us what your relationship is with the Defendant.

- I have never had any type of relationship with Victor Frankenstein besides my encounter with the creature he created.

3) Mr. DeLacey, did the creature you encountered ever physically harm you?

- No, he did not harm me in any way. From what I could hear and feel, this creature has a very kind heart, he was just wronged in many ways.

4) Has the creature ever caused anyone that you know harm?

- Never has he hurt anybody that I know. His appearances frightened those who did not understand and judged him right away. He never means to harm anyone; he just wants to fit in.

5) Now that you are aware of all of the horrible things Victor put this creature through, would you blame him for acting out and causing harm to others who antagonize him or try to hurt him?

- Although it was solely his decision to commit the crimes he did, he was never taught right from wrong. I do not blame the creature for his actions.

Follow Up:

1) You know that the creature helped your family because he told you correct?

2) Your family was frightened by the sight of the creature, but you knew him

without viewing him and he was not a threat, right?

Creature's Questions:

1) Please state your name.

- No

2) Why not?

- I do not have one.

3) Why?

- My creator never gave me one.

4) How does that make you feel?

-I don't feel like the rest of you. I feel as though I am alone in this world.

5) So victor did not take care of you for enough to give you one?

- No.

6) Please state your relationship with Victor.

- I do not have one.

7) Was it true that Victor's journal was first thing you read?

- Correct.

8) Did it have an effect on you?

- Yes. It made me feel like just a project and nothing more.

9) Why did you leave the lab?

- Victor was terrified at the sight of me and I didn't want to stay around with someone who is frightened by me.

10) Did you feel as if Victor was scared of you when he first saw you?

- Yes, extremely terrified.

11) Do you feel that you have the ability to distinguish emotions?

-No I do not.

12) Do you feel like Victor's actions have done anything to you physically and/or emotionally?

- Yes I was deprived of learning the basic essentials needed when you are first brought into the world which made me suffer emotionally. Also, I am a combination of many body parts that are sewn together which makes me feel inhumane. This affects me emotionally and physically because I am unable to do everyday things like walk as simply as everyone else.

13) Was Victor responsible for everything that has transpired?

- Yes.

Cross Examination Questions:

Medical Expert

- 1) Based on the facts, who is responsible for bringing up a child?
- 2) Do you feel that Victor should have taken on that role since he was the creator?
- 3) Had Victor brought him up correctly, do you think we would be here today in this courtroom?
- 4) How would you describe the mental state that Victor was in during the experiment?
- 5) Do you think that any sane person would do the experiment that Victor did?
- 6) How would you describe Victor's mental health?
- 7) Do you believe that he was previously mad or was that a result of this experiment?

Ethicist Questions:

- 1) Can you please state your name and profession to the court please?
- 2) What is an ethicist?
- 3) Do you believe that the creature should be referred to as a monster?
- 4) Is it the creature's fault for his doings, or is it Victor's fault since he did not teach him?
- 5) As a child, whose job is it to teach them wrong from right?
- 6) In this situation, who do you believe was responsible to teach the creature these important tools of life?
- 7) Victor grew up knowing right from wrong, so do you believe that it was wrong for the defendant to abandon his creation right away? Or even at all?

Cross Examination Questions:

Elizabeth

- 1) Please tell the court your name and relationship with Victor.
- 2) Did you know about the experiment?
- 3) Are you upset that the person you were going to marry kept this huge secret from you?
- 4) Did you love Victor?
- 5) When Victor lied to you, did it hurt you?
- 6) Did Victor seem emotionally sane to you throughout this whole experiment process?
- 7) Do you think that this experiment was a bad choice?

Follow Up:

- 1) When the lawyer of the defendant asked if he lied to you, you said no, correct? If that's so then please tell me and the jury what Victor said he was doing while away before your marriage.
- 2) So, he said he was clearing his mind but in reality he had gone to create another creature but female, correct? Now that would be considered lying right?
- 3) Don't you think that if Victor loved you he would have stayed by you and protected you knowing you were in danger?
- 4) Instead though he went off to initially create a second creature, doesn't it bother you he was putting you potentially in more danger?
- 5) If he reanimated a female wouldn't you be afraid they would both come after you? The creature never said they'd both leave you alone on your wedding night.

Cross Examination Questions:

Robert Walton

- 1) Do you know who Victor Frankenstein is?
- 2) How did you meet each other?
- 3) How did Victor seem mentally?
- 4) Did he look beaten or injured to you?
- 5) Did he tell you anything that seemed out of place?
- 6) Did he tell you a story?
- 7) Did you believe it?
- 8) Did Victor tell you that he failed to take care of this creation, which is why we are in this situation today?
- 9) Do you think that Victor had the responsibility to care and nurture him?
- 10) Would you know right from wrong if it wasn't for the foundation your parents set for you?

Follow Up:

- 1) How did you know you could trust Victor?
- 2) Despite the creature's appearance did he seem to be kind hearted?
- 3) Do you feel that the creature deserved to be taught how to survive in the world?

Cross Examination Questions:

Victor

- 1) Victor, what was your main goal when you were creating the creature?
- 2) Did you ever stop to think what affects it would have on you and the other people in your life?
- 3) Do you consider yourself the creature's father? If not, why?
- 4) Without the guidance of your parents you wouldn't know right from wrong, correct?
- 5) -If so, then you can't blame my client for his doings right? Since it was solely your responsibility to teach him?
- 6) Do you feel that creating this creature was a mistake?
- 7) Did you love Elizabeth?
- 8) Then why would you leave her alone when you knew she was in danger and knew what the creature was capable of?
- 9) If someone brought you back to life, wouldn't you expect to be taught how to survive in this world? Wouldn't you want to fit in?
- 10) Do you believe in revenge?

Follow Up:

- 1) Do you think that was a morally right experiment?
- 2) So you feel that sawing off body parts of the dead is perfectly okay action to do?
- 3) You loved your mother correct?
- 4) Then wouldn't you feel bad ravishing through other people's loved ones coffins and hacking away at their bodies?

Closing Statement

Ladies and Gentlemen of the jury, for the past weeks, you have witnessed a case that has really made people question what the minds of others are capable of. You have learned what the outcome can be if a child is not brought up with the correct morals or knowledge, especially that of what is right and what is wrong. Victor Frankenstein has been accused of Physical Distress, Emotional Distress, Malpractice, and Negligence towards my client. Victor Frankenstein has failed to give my client the basic necessities of life such as proper shelter, clothing, food, teaching of morals, or even a simple name. Imagine not even being given a name to call yourself? These few things are perfect examples of negligence, physical distress and emotional distress. My client was brought into this world through pure experiment. Never once did Victor make an attempt to give my client the welcome into the world that he deserved. Victor created my client by taking body parts from the dead and sewing them together. This is not only Malpractice and also very disturbing, but the cause of the Physical Distress. My client will never be accepted by anyone because he was judged by his alarming appearance. This also put my client through emotional distress because he was never welcomed by anyone except a blind man. Ladies and Gentlemen, picture yourselves without parents. Imagine you were brought into this world like my client was. Would you know right from wrong? Would you know the distinction between happy and sad right away? How would you feel if you didn't even have a name? This is everything that Victor Frankenstein caused my client. He is not and never will be considered a parent to my client. With all of the evidence that my partner and I have presented, it is clear that Victor Frankenstein is guilty of all

charges. It is a fact that if not for Victor, none of us would even be in this room today.

Have that in your mind when making your decision. Thank you.