

Team



Creature

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Opening Statement

(Kyra Shindler)

Good morning ladies and gentlemen of the jury. Today, we present a case to you, so horrid and immoral. Here, we have our plaintiff (pointing toward him), an unnamed human being. Why? That answer is simple. Mr. Victor Frankenstein never gave him a name. Imagine from the very moment you open your eyes, you are despised, hated and rejected. Imagine if the very person who gave you life is disgusted by your appearance and wishes to never to lay eyes on you again. This is the life that the Creature was reanimated into. His life was filled with toil, loneliness, and seething anger. Quite simply, the Creature never asked to be created. He never wanted a lonely life of neglect and grief, but this is what he got. From the very moment he came to life his creator loathed him. As a result, he had no one to teach him anything and was forced into a foreign world to learn everything himself. As he entered the world, he was hated by people based solely on his appearance. In fact, after saving the life a drowning young girl, his reward

was to be SHOT at! He is the victim of Mr. Frankenstein's own blind ambition and ultimately, his rejection. Ultimately, we are suing Mr. Frankenstein for negligence, malpractice, and emotional and physical distress towards own creation.

It will be quite obvious that Mr. Frankenstein, has done some very immoral deeds. He brutally chopped up bodies of the deceased to use for his own twisted experiment. Not only is this illegal, you will see that it is an example of malpractice. Malpractice is improper, illegal, or negligent professional activity or treatment, especially by a medical practitioner, lawyer, or public official.

Have any of you been abandoned by the only paternal figure in your life? Were you forced to teach yourself basic skills such as, reading, writing, speaking? No! So, why should this creature be denied of the same treatment that we have all taken for granted? Victor Frankenstein neglected his obligation of a parent and scientist from the moment his creation was reanimated.

In addition to malpractice and negligence, my client (pointing toward him) suffered emotional and physical distress. First, he gave his creature his horrid appearance. What else would result in this besides obvious rejection from all? Mr. Victor Frankenstein rejected his creation the second he was brought back to life. His poor creation never had a chance to be treated with respect due to the appearance of his face and stature. Through this, the creature has struggled with emotional and physical distress.

With that being said, ladies and gentlemen, I believe that after hearing the testimony of both sides that your verdict will find Mr. Victor Frankenstein guilty of negligence, malpractice, and emotional and physical distress. Clearly, these immoral acts performed should not go without punishment.

JUSTINE MORITZ QUESTIONS (Ally Cuomo and Sophia)

Q: Please state your name to the court.

A: Justine Moritz

Q: How do you know the Frankensteins?

A: My mother and I have worked for the Frankensteins for years, and I personally consider myself close friends with them.

Q: Are you close to Victor Frankenstein?

A: I knew him quite well in childhood.

Q: Did you believe that Victor Frankenstein had been acting differently since he had gone to University?

A: He has seemed more distant, and he stopped sending letters to us a while ago. We have all been very worried about him.

Q: Now, what were you doing the night of Williams murder?

A: Upon the permission of my host family, I was frantically searching for William, I was very worried about him. Later on in the night I became so tired that I slept in a barn that I had found.

Q: Did you ever tell anyone that you innocent?

A: I told not only the Frankenstein's but also the court that I was innocent multiple times.

Q: Why did you confess then?

A: I knew that the circumstantial evidence was stacked against me, and the nature of the trail made everyone just want to get it over with.

Q: How did Victor act when he and Elizabeth came to see you in your cell?

A: Elizabeth was very sympathetic and understanding. It was an emotional goodbye to an amazing friend that I considered a sister. On the other hand, Victor could barely make eye contact with me. He seemed to almost be avoiding my gaze.

Q: Did Victor ever tell any of you about The Creature?

A: No, he did not.

Q: Do you think that Victor could've helped you prove your innocence if he came clean about The Creature?

A: Definitely, it is quite evident that if Victor would have said something the case would've continued, giving me time to further prove my innocence.

Q: Do you believe that Victor caused your death?

A: Considering he never came forward about The Creation, I do think he inadvertently caused my death.

HENRY CLERVAL QUESTIONS (Andrew D'Ambrosca and Kyra)

Q: Sir, please state your full name to the court.

A: Henry Clerval.

Q: How do you know Victor Frankenstein?

A: I have known him since we were kids and we have been friends ever since then.

Q: Do you trust in Victor Frankenstein, Mr. Clerval?

A: I once did.

Q: Did Victor ever disclose to you the specific details of his experiment in which he was conducting?

A: No he never told me exactly what he was doing with his experiment.

Q: What did Victor tell you that he was doing or studying at Ingolstadt?

A: He said that he was studying the physical sciences of human life.

Q: How would you say Victor's condition was after the time in which he was conducting his experiment?

A: Victor's mental and physical state were both very poor and it was obvious that they were declining.

Q: What would you say that the lab in which he conducted his experiments in looked like?

Please describe with detail.

A: His lab was all disorganized, discombobulated, and it was just a complete disaster. There was shattered glass everywhere, there was blood, and there were decomposing human body parts all over the lab, and there was an awful smell.

Q: Do you blame Victor for your death?

A: Yes

Q: Please explain why.

A: If he had told somebody about his creation, then my life and many others would have been spared.

Q: So you also blame Victor not only for your death, but also the deaths of Justine, William, and Elizabeth as well?

A: Yes.

DE LACEY QUESTIONS (Shawn Camara and Sophia)

Q: Introduce yourself to the court please.

A: I am Mr. De Lacey, father to Felix and Agatha De Lacey.

Q: How did you first encounter the Creature? What did he say to you during this encounter?

A: I first encountered the Creature in my cottage, when he came into the house, and he called himself a traveler who needed a place to rest. He mentioned that he even though he spoke French, he was not a Frenchman, but had been raised by a French family.

Q: Was the Creature gentle and nice to you during your first encounter with him?

A: Yes, he treated me very kindly.

Q: How did you end up separating from the Creature?

A: My son attacked him, upon returning home, frightened by the Creature's appearance.

Q: When you first encountered the Creature, you were cordial and accepting, correct? Do you believe your lack of sight played a role in your attitude towards the Creature?

A: Yes, I believe I was quite accepting of the kind "traveler" that visited me that day, and I do find that because of my blindness I must judge people based purely upon their actions and words.

Q: Do you feel the same way towards him, despite knowing now what the Creature is?

A: I do feel the same way about the Creature as I did state before; I judge people solely on their actions and words. Not once did the Creature seem hostile towards me.

7. The Creature, although unbeknownst to you at the time, did help your family. How exactly did he help you and your family?

A: The Creature gathered and gave us chopped wood and food. Also, if it was needed, he repaired our cottage.

Q: What is your personal opinion of the Creature, and why do you think that?

A: I find that the Creature is a kind man and tries to show his best intentions, but is weighed down by prejudice of others. I think this is due to the emotional and physical harm society and Victor have brought to him.

Q: Do you think just because the Creature has the appearance of a monster, it is right for society to abuse him?

A: No, one should be discriminated and judged based on their physical appearance, especially if that person is kind and understanding.

Q: Do you think Victor is the one responsible for how the Creature is judged by your family?

A: I believe that his creator, Victor, should be held responsible for his actions against the Creature. Victor labeled the misunderstood creature as a monster from the start based solely on his appearance. As I stated before, due to my blindness, I judge others based on purely on merit, and the Creature exhibited nothing but goodwill and kindness to me and my family with his selfless actions. As a whole, Victor physically and mentally abused the Creature through simply giving him the appearance of a monster.

KREMPE QUESTIONS (Rachel Lynch and Kyra)

Q: What is your name and profession, sir?

A: I am Mr. Krempe, a professor of natural philosophy at the University of Ingolstadt in Ingolstadt, Germany.

Q: How is it that you are acquainted with the accused?

A: Victor was a student in one of my classes at the university.

Q: What kind of student did you first see Victor as?

A: Not a good one. Prior to enrolling, the boy had spent all his time researching the works of Agrippa and his like. Bah!

Q: What about Agrippa's writings caused you such ire (anger)?

A: The whole lot of those ancient philosophers had even their most key works exploded hundreds of years ago. Victor wasted his time on the fantasies of pretenders and frauds!

Q: Can you explain in more detail the issue with the philosophies of these ancient writers?

A: All of them - Agrippa, Albertus Magnus, Paracelsus - obsessed over the ideas of life everlasting and of defying death itself. You need not look at the wretched prosecutor to know where that's gotten Victor.

Q: Did Victor ever abandon these ancient ideas?

A: When he stood poised to overtake every other mind at the university, I believed he had. But clearly he still holds these amoral fantasies close to his heart, if that nameless abomination is any indication!

Q: You called what Victor pursued "amoral." May I ask why?

A: The fool wasted his mind, spent all his energies on the impossible object of immortal life. But what good did this “research” do for those deceased he stripped of parts? For all his claims of wanting to give the dead another chance at life, he did no such thing: He created an entirely new being in its own right!

Q: Would you say this lapse of care on his part means that Victor failed his duties as a doctor?

A: Absolutely. With the oath all us doctors have sworn to, set by that admirable Hippocrates himself, it is stated that our obligation is to “abstain from all intentional wrongdoing and harm, especially from abusing the bodies of man or woman, bond or free.” Yet Victor not only abandoned those who most needed his care, but he created a being which, by its very nature, he knew would be mentally defunct.

Q: How can you say for certain that Victor knew the creature would be mentally deficient?

A: As a doctor, Victor is well-acquainted with the works of one [Medline Plus and his research into the effects of cerebral hypoxia on the brain](#). This affliction, in its simplest terms, is oxygen deprivation to the brain and the effect which it has on the organ. According to Mr. Plus’ research, severe brain damage occurs after a mere five minutes of deprivation.

Q: What does this mean in regards to the defendant?

A: It means that unless the defendant took a brain from a freshly-slaughtered corpse and brought the prosecutor to life within those five minutes, then the defendant gave life to a man whom he knew in advance would be mentally defunct.

Follow up:

- Did you help him with his work directly?

- Was it your job to educate him as best as you could?

RENADA SMITH (Kristian Capasso and Sophia)

Q: State your name and profession to the court.

A: My name is Renada Smith and I am a behavioral analyst.

Q: What exactly do you specialize in with your work?

A: I assess changes in behavior and behavioral problems. I find the root of these problems and I try to facilitate changes in those tortured by them.

Q: How do you assess and presume to know these behavioral changes and problems?

A: Well you see, most people who commit such heinous crimes do so out of rage due to the injustices and torment that they have received over their lifetime. Almost no person commits such crimes if they have not been wronged.

Q: So, how do you suppose a being who has been abandoned, ridiculed, and wrongly judged would act?

A: I suppose that they would feel shamed, mocked, saddened and enraged and that they would have no other option but to find ways to try and sooth these feelings.

Q: How do you believe they would try and soothe these feelings?

A: I believe that they would try to find anyone or anything that might make them feel that they actually mean something to the world.

Q: What might happen if they don't find this someone or something to soothe them?

A: They might act out in rage towards their stressors and their agitations, and could turn violent.

Q: In your own personal opinion, how could someone that seems so innocent be so hated and feared?

A: I personally think that this is because they carry or possess a deformity; and that they may seem menacing even if they are not.

Q: What kind of individual do you perceive capable of assembling and animating a being such as this?

A: I think that this individual would have to be extremely irrational and could have some form of psychosis.

Q: Could a seemingly mad scientist with a clear obsession with galvanism and reanimation be the culprit?

A: I strongly believe that a mad scientist with a profile such as you describe could predominantly be the culprit.

Q: What mental disorders could you presume that this scientist might have, and why do you think that he would do such a thing?

A: He could have a delusional disorder, and obsessive compulsive disorder, sleep deprivation and psychosis as I already stated. All of these disorders and cases could lead to the behavior that you have told me of.

Follow-up:

- What caused the Creature to do morally wrong things? Victor?
- What caused the Creature to be aggressive?

YOLANDA JONES (Rebecca Gonzalez and Kyra)

Q: Can you please state your name, profession and what that entails?

A: My name Yolanda Jones, I am an Ethicist and my job is to study and analyze the moral principles or values governing and distinctive of a particular culture or group.

Q: How would you define morals?

A: Morals are lessons or generally held rules that concern what is right.

Q: How does one attain such morals?

A: Typically morals are attained through observation and the teachings of ones parental figures to learn right from wrong and the difference.

Q: Now, at what age is one most impressionable to acquire bad or good morals?

A: Between the ages of 2-5 years of age, so the Creature hasn't had nearly enough time to even begin to understand during the time of his alleged crimes.

Q: I'm sure you're aware with the defendant's process in reanimating his Creature. Can you share your professional analysis of that

A: Apart from the superficial and obvious issues that are immediately indicative of mental problems, it is without a doubt immoral to dig up and desecrate countless burials of the deceased. It's the ultimate form of malpractice.

Q: What is your professional opinion on abandoning your child in their earliest times of development?

A: There is no question that it is not right to abandon your kin, especially during their first moments.

Q: From your understanding of the situation, would you say that the Creature himself was unethical?

A: I believe that what the Creature is guilty of is a proper response to how he had been neglected from the world, but more importantly, his creator Victor.

Q: So would you say that it is immoral to do this?

A: Without a doubt.

Q: Would you say that the Creature himself is guilty of being unethical?

A: The Creature, having spent so little time on this Earth in addition to being abandoned by his creator Victor cannot be guilty because he hasn't had the ability to distinguish the true difference between right and wrong.

Q: That being said, could one say that Victor Frankenstein is guilty?

A: Yes. In fact I believe that the most unethical one here is Victor, and is the true monster here.

Follow-up:

- Did he observe the De Lacey's family?
- Did Victor go after the Creature?
- Was the Creature taught what murder was?
- Didn't the Creature save a drowning girl?
- Did Victor use his research to help anyone other than create the Creature?

THE CREATURE (Zach and Sophia)

1. Please state your name to the court

A: (*looks confused*) I don't know, (pause for dramatic effect) my creator never gave me one.

2. When and where were you born?

A: I was not born, I was created from various body parts of deceased humans in a laboratory by Victor Frankenstein.

Q: How did you learn you were created through an experiment?

A: I discovered his journals and learned that I was simply a pawn used for scientific advancement.

Q: Did you have a strong relationship with your father?

A: No, he abandoned me as soon as he saw me, utterly disgusted with me.

Q: *show astonishment* How then, did you learn the necessities to survive?

A: I learned through many hardships, and by spending about a year observing the DeLacey family. They taught me how to speak, and they taught me about politics.

Q: How did you feel during all that time you spent alone after your father's abandonment?

A: I felt complete loneliness. No human would accept me into their society, not even my father. The only person I had was myself.

Q: Did you murder William Frankenstein?

A: Yes.

Q: Why?

A: I was truly unaware of what I was doing until it was too late. I was distraught over the abandonment of my father, and William said his father was Frankenstein. (Blaming Victor for not teaching me things).

Q: How long after your creation did you have to wait until you first spoke to your father?

A: About one year.

Q: What brought him to speak to you?

A: He only spoke to me because I sought him out.

Q: What was the conversation about?

A: I told him the story of my life until that point and requested that he create a female companion for me. I felt like it was his duty to create a companion for me because it is his fault that I am alone in this world.

Q: Did Frankenstein comply to your request?

A: At first, yes, but in the middle of creating my only hope of happiness, he destroyed it right in front of my eyes.

Follow-up:

- Had you ever witnessed “murder” before?
- As his creator, didn't Victor have a responsibility for his creation?

CROSS EXAMINATION: ELIZABETH LAVENZA (Sophia)

1. Please state your name and relationship to Victor Frankenstein.
2. Do you think that Victor changed when he went away to University?
3. Did he frequently contact you when he was at University?
4. Did you love him?

5. Do you think he loved you?
6. Did you trust him?
7. Were you aware of the secrets he was keeping and the lies he was telling?
8. Why do you think he kept these secrets from you?
9. You're his spouse, why would he keep such a large secret from you, even if he was afraid?
10. Did you discover Victor's behavior to be odd after William and Justine's death?
11. But, why did he not speak for Justine during her trial?
12. Did you think that Victor acted strange when you both visited Justine?
13. Did Victor tell you why he was going to England?
14. Do you believe that Victor felt guilt and remorse for his experiment?
15. Why would he feel guilty if it is not his fault?
16. So ultimately, is Victor is responsible for the murders of William Frankenstein, Justine Moritz, and yourself?

CROSS EXAMINATION: ROBERT WALTON (Sophia)

1. Please state your name to the court.
2. How did you meet Victor?
3. When you first met Victor Frankenstein, did he come across as mentally unstable or stable?
4. Why?

5. Did he tell you a story?
6. Was it believable?
7. Were you ever aware of the Creature's point of view?
8. Why were you so quick to judge him?
9. How do you even know that Victor was telling the truth?
10. Did Victor tell you to physically harm the creature in the event in which Victor had died?
11. Do you feel as though Victor was vengeful against the creation that he abandoned?
12. But, Victor is responsible for his creation, is he not?
 - a. No
 - i. Why?
13. If he's didn't murder William, Justine, Elizabeth, and Henry, then why did he feel so guilty?

Follow-up:

- Are you intelligent? Have you read a lot of fiction? Aren't literary works elaborate and detailed?

CROSS EXAMINATION: WILLIAM FRANKENSTEIN (Kyra)

1. William, how close would you say you and your brother, Victor were? What kind of person do you think he is?
2. Did you notice any changes to your brother's character after he returned from college? Anything out of the ordinary?
3. Do you know why your brother returned home? Do you perhaps recognize my client?

4. If so, did you know your own brother created the Creature? Your murderer?
5. Now that you know why he came home, do you think it was right for Victor not to tell you about his creation?
6. Why do you think Victor made the Creation? Or even how the Creation was made?
7. So, was it really Justine that murdered you?
8. Do you think the outcome would have changed if Victor had told you about the Creature?
Could he have saved your life?
9. If Victor came and spoke out about the Creature, could he have saved Justine?
10. If you knew that there was an 8 foot creature, would you have gone into the woods that night?

CROSS EXAMINATION: PROFESSOR WALDMAN (Sophia)

1. Did you in your lectures, liken the abilities of modern scientists to miracle workers?
2. Is it possible that these assertions could have solidified or resolidified Victor's faith in the works of Cornelius Agrippa and others ancient philosophers?
3. Did you give Victor private instruction in chemistry outside of class time?
4. Is it possible that these private lessons could have contributed to Victor's more advanced knowledge of chemical sciences in comparison to his peers?

5. Did you or did you not allow Victor use of your personal laboratory equipment outside of class time?
6. Is it possible that the ability to use these machines in his free time improved Victor's technological knowledge over that of his peers?
7. Is it possible that these two special privileges could have contributed to Victor's ability to create the prosecutor?

CROSS EXAMINATION: PSYCHIATRIST (Kyra)

1. Was Victor Frankenstein stable when he decided to reanimate dug up body parts pieced together?
2. So you believe that it was right for him to dig up bodies of the deceased and piece them together like a twisted puzzle?
3. Are you aware of the deprivation of oxygen to the brain after death?
 - a. Yes

- i. So, can you say that the monster didn't suffer from any mental disorders when the brain that he possesses has suffered severe tissue damage?
4. Did Victor Frankenstein understand what he was doing when he abandoned the creature?
5. Was Victor Frankenstein aware of his maldoings when he did not help Justine?
6. Was Victor Frankenstein thinking clearly when he "forgot" to warn his family and friends of the heinous creature that he had created?
7. Did Victor think of someone other than himself as he was obsessed over his scientific success when he unleashed a monster unto the world and all its inhabitants?

CROSS EXAMINATION: ETHICIST (Sophia)

1. Assuming that you're a credible ethicist, do you believe that Victor was being unethical in his taking of body parts from already dead people?
2. Is it ethical to abandon your child?
3. Is the Creature to blame for committing wrong actions even though he was never taught right from wrong?
4. Do you think that reanimating remains of multiple dead bodies is a right way to "prolong life" as you agreed prior?

CROSS EXAMINATION: VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (Kyra)

1. Why did you create the creature?
2. You did in fact leave the creature, your child and responsibility, alone and scared in a world that will not accept him, correct?
3. How many people have you killed, Mr. Frankenstein?
4. (if answer is none) then why do you feel guilty about the ones murdered?
5. Is it true that you used body parts from dead humans to create the creature?
 - a. You felt that this was a moral thing to do? That it was the right thing to do?
6. How do you feel about your actions towards the creature?

7. Why did you create the creature?
8. Do you take full responsibility for your scientific experiment?
 - a. How?
9. If you take full responsibility, why did you leave him?
10. What did you use in your experiment?
11. Are you aware of the maldoings of your practice, Mr. Frankenstein?
12. Did you ever teach your creation right from wrong?
13. As the scientist of this experiment, do you feel that it was your obligation to take care of your creation?
 - a. No
 - i. Why?
 - b. Yes
 - i. Why didn't you give him a chance then?
14. You gave him life, why shouldn't you teach him right from wrong?
15. Do you feel remorse for not taking care of him as you should have?
 - a. No
 - i. Then why do you feel guilty for the death that he's caused?
 - ii. Did you feel responsible for their deaths?
 - b. Yes
16. Did you ever express your guilt and regret to anyone?
17. Mr. Frankenstein, did you kill anyone by the names of Justine Moritz, William Frankenstein, Henry Clerval, and Elizabeth Lavenza?
18. Why did you feel so guilty?

19. Why did you state that they “died by your own hands”?

20. So, in turn, you do feel responsible for the deaths caused?

Closing Statement (Sophia)

Ladies and gentlemen of the court, over the course of the past few days you have heard a multitude of testimonies that point to but one verdict. Victor Frankenstein is guilty of negligence, malpractice, and physical and emotional distress. He abandoned his duties, if not as a father, then as a scientist. He claimed to desire to find the cure for death to better all mankind, but in reality the only man he cared for through his studies was himself.

Before even teaching his Creation to speak, he deemed him abominable. Since the moment the Creature opened his eyes his creator considered him a fiend and wished only to separate himself from him. Like a parent abandoning a child, the doctor abandoned his creation. He never taught the Creature to communicate, never mind right from wrong. He never even gave the Creature a name. He certainly didn't give the Creature the time to learn and develop morals

of any kind. All the Creature had to go on when it came to making decisions, were his emotions. In addition, Victor never went after the Creature, who was truly only an infant in mindset. He created life only to let it ramble off with no knowledge of the world he had entered and the cruelties he would face in it. With that being said, he also abandoned his duty as a doctor, whose job is to better the lives of those who need him. Instead, he created something doomed to be mentally deficient and feared by women and men.

This brings us to his malpractice. As a doctor, or even just a scientist, Victor should have been wellaware that the brain he would use in his Creation would have suffered from cerebral hypoxia, or oxygen deprivation, thus leading to severe brain damage. Also, may I remind the court that Dr. Frankenstein claims to not be a doctor, but an alchemist, and yet still justifies his experiment by saying “I am a doctor.” Even saying he is an alchemist, whose job it was to discover methods to transmute baser metals into gold and with it, find a universal solvent and an elixir of life, in this instance is for naught as his desire and attempt to create a superhuman species has nothing to do with the legendary “elixir of life.” In any case, no one could refute that the use of the bodies of the deceased is most definitely malpractice. Victor disrespected the graves of the dead all for what he referred to as science and scientific advancement.

As far as emotional and physical distress? No matter how personable the creature was towards people, he was met with nothing but cruelty due to his appearance. Who gave him this appearance? None other than Doctor Victor Frankenstein himself. This caused his emotional distress seeing as not only was abandoned by his parental figure, but he was also continually rejected by those he wished to help, like the De Lacys and the little girl he saved from drowning. His physical distress chiefly originated from his mental deficiency thanks to his creator ignoring cerebral hypoxia.

Ladies and gentlemen, may I remind you that this is not a murder trial. This is not a trial to see if the creature was always right in what he did, or that he was a great person. This trial is about showing that Doctor Victor Frankenstein is guilty of negligence, malpractice, and emotional and physical distress. The evidence presented to you these past few days should prove that, without a doubt, Victor Frankenstein is guilty.