

Frankenstein Court Case



Team Victor

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Robert Walton - Lucas Nicolau

William Frankenstein - Calia Marso

Prof. Waldman - Cara Bergeron

Psychiatrist - Jenna Grossguth

Ethicist - Elizabeth Pelletier

Table of Contents

Opening Statements: Page 3 - 4

Direct Examination: Page 5 - 14

Elizabeth Frankenstein: Page 5 - 6

Robert Walton: Page 7

Medical Examiner: Page 8 - 9

Ethicist: Page 10

Victor Frankenstein: Page 11 - 12

William Frankenstein: Page 13

Prof. Waldman: Page 14

...

Cross-Examinations: Page 15 - 21

Behavioral Analyst: Page 15

Henry Clerval: Page 16

Mr. DeLacey: Page 17

Justine: Page 18

Krempe: Page 19

Ethicist: Page 20

Creature: Page 21

...

Closing Statements: Page 22 -

Opening Statement

(Samantha Reali)

Good Afternoon, ladies and gentlemen of the Jury. We are gathered here today on behalf of my defendant, Mr. Victor Frankenstein, who is being sued by the plaintiff, the Creature. Today, we will begin to listen to the allegations the creature has fabricated against Mr. Frankenstein. Why? One can only assume, it for money! In one last attempt to manipulate and harass my client, the plaintiff is dragging the Mr. Frankenstein to court, in a feeble attempt to continue his mental destruction of my client. Quite simply, the plaintiff, who is suing the defendant for negligence, malpractice, emotional and physical distress, does not have a logical argument against him.

First, on the count of malpractice, Mr. Frankenstein did not do anything wrong medically. Would you say using an AED is malpractice? They bring people back to life all the time, and in fact, are a key component in saving people's lives during CPR. If it were not for the actions of my client's scientific experiments, the electrical current that helps people stay alive would not exist. Instead of being on trial, he should be revered for this huge medical breakthrough

As for being negligent, Victor Frankenstein is not a PARENT! He is a scientist and the creature was a scientific experiment. Therefore, he did not have the responsibility of a parent in caring for a child. In addition, the creature ran away, never giving Mr. Frankenstein an opportunity to help him. As we can all see today in the courtroom, he

was very successful as his experiment can breath, walk and speak quite well. That is not neglect. The plaintiff (pointing toward him) is a functioning grown being.

As for emotional and physical distress Mr. Victor Frankenstein should be suing the plaintiff. The plaintiff ruined my clients life with his actions. Mr. Frankenstein has not been able to sleep because of the creature, and is constantly looking over his shoulder out of fear and paranoia. He has no more family because the creature murdered them. This poor man has been stalked and threatened, and sent nerve racking letters from this monster. Victor Frankenstein has clearly been through more physical and emotional stress then the plaintiff.

Now, as the case is about to commence, I ask you the Jury to listen to the testimonies of a professional and Victor's friends and family, those who have known him his whole life, and know him for what kind of man he is. In reality, he is a tortured scientist, whose goal was to advance science, but now is constantly living in a state of anguish. As they testify how wonderful he truly is, I ask on the behalf of my client, to listen with your heart and mind, not just your ears. After hearing the testimony of both sides, I am sure that you will find my client (pointing toward him) innocent of all charges.

**Elizabeth Frankenstein Questions
(Elizabeth Poirier)**

Q. Please state your name for the court.

Elizabeth Frankenstein.

Q. What was your relationship to Victor Frankenstein?

He was my very loving husband.

Q. How and when did you meet Victor?

I met Victor when we were very young. I was adopted by the Frankensteins, who saved me from poverty.

Q. So you have known him your whole life? How would you describe him?

Victor is passionate, ambitious, and highly intelligent.

Q. So how did you die?

I was strangled violently by the Monster on my wedding night.

Q. Do you believe that Victor had anything to do with this?

Of course not, Victor did not suspect the Monster would come after me and he would never put me in danger.

Q. Do you believe that the Creature was aware of his actions as he strangled you?

Yes, absolutely.

Q. And why do you believe this so strongly?

The Monster only targeted innocent people whom Victor loved as an act of revenge.

Q. Who else was targeted by the Creature?

First our younger brother, William was killed... and in turn, our very good friend, Justine was executed... Later, Henry Clerval, an honest and caring friend to both of us was strangled as I was.

Q. Why do you believe that Victor himself should not be blamed for these tragedies?

The Monster has a mind of his own, a very intelligent one at that. Not only can he make his own decisions, but he knows right from wrong. He has proved that he is capable of terrible things and should be held accountable for his actions. Victor never murdered anybody.

Q. How did Victor respond to the tragedies set in foot by the Creature?

Victor was very depressed and isolated. He took a lot of walks alone and had shown signs of possibly committing suicide.

**Robert Walton Questions
(Lucas Nicolau)**

Q. Please state your name.

Robert Walton.

Q. How did you and Victor meet?

We met when my crew mates and I found him on a nearby patch of ice while our ship was stuck on our travel towards the North Pole.

Q. Why were you traveling towards the North Pole?

I was looking for a route to travel through to get to the North Pole.

Q. How was Victor acting while you were with him?

He seemed emotionally distressed and had a horrific look. He also was malnourished and seemed distraught about something that had happened to him.

Q. What conversations did the two of you have?

We had very intellectual conversations which was a nice change from the usually people I have to talk to around the ship.

Q. What secrets did Victor tell you?

He told me his entire life's story, including that he created the monster and how the monster ruined his life.

Q. Do you believe Victor's story of him creating the monster?

I do.

Q. Why?

I believe that someone who could give such detail and information that Victor did couldn't be lying about it and it would be such an elaborate story to make up during his state that he couldn't be making it up.

Q. What did Victor do after telling you his story

He told me something and later passed away.

Q. what did Victor tell you?

He told me to destroy the monster for what he has done to the rest of the world.

No further Questions

**Medical Examiner Questions
(Jenna Grossguth)**

Q. Please state your name and profession.

My name is Clarice Everwood and I am a psychiatrist.

Q. How would you say Victor's mental health was before he left to attend the University of Ingolstadt?

Victor had his whole life ahead of him, and he was excited to get it started, but he exhibited no signs of any mental illness.

Q. How would you say Victor's mental health was after the Creature murdered many of his friends and family?

As anyone would, Victor suffered from depression, as anyone and everyone that he cared about was now eradicated from his life. He also suffered from anxiety and paranoia, as he was being followed by the Creature and never knew when he would strike next.

Q. So, in your professional opinion, would you say that Victor did not suffer from any mental disorders before the Creature killed these people?

Yes

Q. Did the Creature say, "Remember that I have power; you believe yourself miserable, but I can make you so wretched that the light of day will be hateful to you. You are my creator, but I am your master;—obey!"

Yes

In your professional opinion, what does this mean to you?

This shows me that the Creature was using manipulation to try to get Victor to do what he wanted, which was in this case making him a female companion. The Creature was trying to make Victor feel guilty for how he had been treated.

Q. Did the Creature also say, "I have love in me the likes of which you can scarcely imagine and rage the likes of which you would not believe. If I cannot satisfy the one, I will indulge the other.?"

Yes

Q. And what does this tell you?

This tells me that the Creature was capable of not murdering people, but he decided to do it anyway, based on the way that he had been treated. Any normal creature who had the capacity to show emotions would not have resorted to murdering someone as a way of dealing with their feelings, especially as there are many other ways to handle it.

Q. Would you say that the Creature had a stable mind set that didn't affect his decisions?

Yes

Q. Would you say that the Creature suffered from any mental health disorders at all?

No, I would not. The Creature clearly knew right from wrong and was very smart. He only committed these acts of murder to enact his vengeance on Victor Frankenstein.

**Ethical Questions
(Elizabeth Pelletier)**

Q. Please state your name.

Elizabeth Pelletier

Q. Would you consider yourself an ethical person?

Certainly.

Q. Then you'll be able to answer this question easily. Is it okay to kill someone?

Of course not.

Q. Please elaborate?

Well by killing someone, not only are you ending a life and taking away the chance for someone to live and love, but you are also ruining the lives of their friends and family.

Q. Therefore, is it okay to kill a 9 year old boy?

Obviously not, it's absolutely appalling that someone has killed a 9 year old boy.

Q. How about strangling a defenseless woman?

It's just like killing that 9 year old, entirely inexcusable. She was defenseless and he purposely sought her out to kill her.

Q. Now that we have established that, do you believe it is ethical to try and prolong life?

Most definitely. Imagine the amount of lives you would save and the amount of families you would bring happiness to.

Q. Would the ends justify the means?

I believe that with the millions of lives you would save, that yes the ends justify the means.

Q. Lastly, is it okay to cause someone extreme mental and physical distress?

Definitely not, it is never okay to cause anyone unwarranted stress.

Q. Then would you say the Creature murdering and hunting down everyone he loves, unethical?

Yes, entirely unethical. The Creature knew what he was doing, he killed the defenseless and had every opportunity to stop what he was doing but didn't for his sick and twisted personal vendetta.

**Victor Frankenstein Questions
(Austin Laramee)**

Q. Did you ever mention, teach, or present an example for the Creature to steal?

No

Q. Did you ever mention, teach, or present an example for the Creature to cause harm?

Not once

Q. Did you ever mention, teach, or present an example for the Creature to kill?

Never

Q. So, did you make any negative impressions on the Creature before the murder of both William and Justine?

No, the only interaction I had before the murders was a strike of both surprise and fear. After that the creature ran away, and from that day I had not physically witnessed the creature for 2 years

Q. Did you ever harm anyone in the process of research and creation.

Not once, there was no assault, harassment or abuse of any kind. Even when I had completed the creation, I was in such a tired and manic state that I had reacted in utter fear. I yelled in horror at the sight of my creation and ran, but nonetheless I had not caused any harm.

Q. After you stumbled away in fear, what did this creation of yours do?

It had ran off, and since that day I had never seen a single bit of evidence that the creation was out there.

Q. Did you ever consider this Creature as a child of yours?

Not once. Even now I recognize that by all biological, religious, moral and **legal** standards, this creature was not and is not in any way my son.

Q. Some people would like to argue that you had mistreated this creature and thus violated the hippocratic oath. Have you?

I would first like to clarify that I am not a doctor, I'm an alchemist. I had not violated the hippocratic oath because i h

Q. Why did you create it in the first place?

I'm a scientist, and it is my job to experiment

Q. In your opinion, did the experiment advance science?

Yes, I have learned a lot about life and advanced medical science to new levels

Q. Do you feel that you succeeded in your experiment?

I have succeeded in my original goal

**William Frankenstein Questions
(Calia Marso)**

Q. What is your name?

William Frankenstein

Q. How old are you?

Only 10 years old

Q. What were you doing when you were killed?

On a walk with my family, I ran off and was separated

Q. Who killed you?

The monster

Q. How did you die?

I was strangled to death

Q. What did you do to deserve to die?

I did nothing that was deserving of death, as I am simply an innocent child

Q. Were you afraid of the creature?

Of course I was afraid, he is an extremely tall being with scars.

Q. Did you ever physically attack and/or provoke the creature?

No

**Waldman Questions
(Cara Bergeron)**

Q. State your name for the court

Professor Waldman, of the University of Ingolstadt

Q. What was your relationship with Victor?

Strictly professional, I was his professor

Q. What kind of student was Mr. Frankenstein?

He was very ambitious and sought out answers

Q. Where were Frankenstein's interests?

He paid little attention to his peers, and focused on modern chemistry, physiology, and other physical sciences.

Q. What did you teach to Victor?

I showed him the side effects of electrical stimulation on a body and other common phenomenon.

Q. Did Mr. Frankenstein ever appear distracted?

Not from his work, he was always focused on his work

Q. Would you say he was a superb student?

He was more passionate than others, making him excel in comparison

Q. Did you ever assist him with his projects or anything similar?

Yes, I often gave him pointers and input from my years of learning and dabbling in similar areas, but never actually aided him physically.

Q. What did your previous work include?

I wished to extend life and the style of living for all people. Strictly humanitarian work.

Q. Would you say Mr. Frankenstein had fulfilled your hopes of extending life?

Absolutely! This man is a gifted man of science and has done nothing except help humans live longer! His work has paved the way for future scientists and doctors

Q. Did Mr. Frankenstein ever appear to have bad intentions?

Never. He was only trying to help our species.

Cross Examination for Behavioral Analyst

Q. Please state your name and profession

Q. Exactly what does a behavioral analyst do?

Q. Because you study learning and behavior, are you saying that what the Creature did was morally right behavior?

Q. Do you believe that the Creature's environment played a role in his behavior?

If yes, Is it not true that the Creature left on his own will and as a result, put himself in this environment?

If no, So would you then agree that the Creature made his own choices and chose to maliciously murder multiple people?

Q. Would you say that the Creature is intelligent?

If yes, Why did he willingly kill multiple people then, as many intelligent people know there are other smart ways to handle your problems?

If no, Wouldn't you say that the Creature had to have some level of intelligence to frame Justine for the murder of William?

Q. Would you say the Creature had an aggressive nature?

If yes, When would it stop? Would he even stop once he got his revenge on Victor? Or would he go around murdering more innocent people, especially if you say he had an aggressive nature?

If no, Why would he attack someone who was not attacking him then?

Says victors work is ethical “elongating lives”

Creature came back for revenge for wrongdoing not guidance

Cross Examination for Henry Clerval

Q. Please state your name for the court.

Q. How were you first acquainted with Victor?

Q. During Victor's efforts in creating the creature how would you say he acted?

Q. How was the state of Victor during night of the creation being brought to life?

Q. you could say that he was emotionally and physically distressed at this time correct?

if no, then how would you describe his state then?

Q. Did you see much of Victor after that night?

Q. Could you tell us where you were located the night of your death.

Q. Who killed you that night?

Q. How were you killed?

Q. Do you know why this person decided to kill you?

Q. There had to be a reason for the person to kill you. Could you tell us why?

Q. Are you distraught at the fact the Creature killed you out of revenge towards your friend Victor?

Q. You say that Victor is your friend yet you side with the Creature. Why?

Q. How did Victor act after your death? (OPTIONAL QUESTION)

Cross Examination for Mr. DeLacey

Q. Please state your name.

Q. Is it true that you are blind?

Q. Is it true that you were unaware of the Creature living around your home?

Q. Is it true that at the time of the Creature eating your food and using your resources, you and your family were living in poverty?

Q. Did the Creature eating your food put a strain on your family's food resources?

Q. Did the Creature ask to live in your home?

Q. Do you feel that your son beating the Creature was justified?

Q. Would you feel threatened by an 8-foot creature, had you been able to see him?

Q. Why are you siding with the Creature who you are so terrified of rather than Victor who had not done anything to you?

Cross Examination for Justine

Q. How would you describe Victor?

Q. Did it ever cross your mind that Victor may have been spending time focused on studying and getting a good education, rather than writing letters?

Q. Has he ever given you any reason to distrust him?

Q. Did it ever cross your mind that the Creature may have framed you?

Q. How do you think you would feel if your younger brother was slaughtered unexpectedly?

Q. Is it true that ultimately, you plead guilty to a crime you did not commit, resulting in a foreshadowed execution?

Q. Did you know that it is illegal to lie under oath (in court)? (“If the defendant pleads guilty, the law requires that he do so honestly. Often, the defendant must state, under oath and in open court, what he did that constituted a crime”)

Q. In your opinion, is it a crime to have secrets (when you feel that you are protecting the ones you love)?

Cross Examination for Krempe

Q. When did you first meet Victor Frankenstein?

Q. What was your relationship with Mr. Frankenstein like?

Q. Did you ever voice your opinion about or publicly humiliate Mr. Frankenstein?

Q. Would you say your thoughts of Mr. Frankenstein were low?

Q. Could you share your thoughts on Mr. Frankenstein's prior knowledge on the subjects you educate?

Q. How did you feel about your correspondent's treatment of Victor Frankenstein?

Q. Would you care to share your opinion on Victor Frankenstein's work?

Q. Did you despise Victor Frankenstein for his work?

Examination Questions for Ethicist

Q. Is murder acceptable?

Q. Is killing defenseless humans justifiable?

Q. What do you think it means by the Creature being able to restrain himself from killing those who directly killed him, but not the Frankenstein's?

Q. Is the Creature guilty of murdering the innocents?

Q. What does murder say about a person's character?

Q. Is it ethical for someone who has learned the ways of humanity through the DeLacy's to have murdered and seek out revenge?

Q. Is it ethical to save a life?

Q. So what Victor did, furthering science to save lives, is that unethical?

Q. Is it revenge ethical?

Q. Is the creature enacting revenge unethical?

Cross Examination for The Creature

Q. Is it true that you murdered 3 people?

Didnt you know that william was related to victor, so you did know

Q. What were you thinking when you killed William?

Q. After this, why did you go out of your way to frame an innocent woman?

Q. Is it not true that you knew what you were doing when you murdered these people.

Q. You haven't killed me just yet, why is that?

Q. If I recall you wanted a companion correct? You were lonely?

Q. And it was at that point you asked me to bring another creature to life, right?

Q. Being the only person

Q. Why is it that you had stated that you killed william out of “rage” and “hatred” upon disco

“I don’t recall” he’s lying

Closing Statement

(Kaitlyn Parry)

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Jury:

As this case concludes this morning, I hope you now have come to realize that not only is Victor Frankenstein innocent of the charges of neglect, malpractice, and emotional and physical distress that have been brought against him by his Creation, but that Victor is truly a victim himself. After the passing of his mother, he saw firsthand the enormous impact the loss of a loved one can have on an entire family. For this reason and this reason only, he set out to discover way to save lives, to elongate life, and to restore life to those it has been taken from, and therefore, restoring life to all those who loved that person as well. In return, he was rewarded with the murders of the people whom he loved and nothing but a life filled with agony and torture.

It has been agreed upon by both parties that murder is unethical and unacceptable. It has been agreed upon that it is ethical to save and elongate life. It has been established that Victor never truly violated the hippocratic oath, he is not even yet a doctor, he has not even yet to take the oath. Victor was not a parent to this Creation; he was a scientist, the Creation his scientific experiment. Victor never insulted or mistreated the Creature. So then, how could you say he is guilty of malpractice and causing this Creature the emotional and physical distress he is accused

of? Was Victor not the one haunted and stalked by the Creature, the one whose family was killed by this creature, the one who was virtually left alone in the world due to the actions of another?

The Creature stood up on his own two feet, walked into this courtroom with his fully functioning body, and testified using his very own voice. With that voice, he admitted to the murders of multiple people. Does this not require some level of intelligence? He says he was angry. That is absolutely no excuse for murdering four innocent human beings. He was enraged with Victor. This was his revenge. For him to state that he did not know what he was doing as he was not taught right from wrong, this is clearly contradicted by him stating that his actions were backed by rage towards Victor. He even observed morals in the Delacey's. For him to continue to say "I don't recall" he displays the intelligence to know when he has clearly unintentionally admitted that he was wrong.

Victor was constantly looking over his shoulder, worried about what the Creature's next move would be. He lost all those he loved to this monster. What had Victor, a kind man with incredible intentions, do to deserve such a thing? Is this not causing him extreme levels of distress?

Ladies and gentlemen of the Jury, I ask you this: as you look around in this world and see all of the tragic things that occur, do you blame others for the actions of the individual that caused it? No. What makes this case any different? You cannot neglect something or someone who is not present in your life and made the decision not to be. You cannot be guilty of malpractice for restoring life and providing a working mind and a beating heart to a being in completely good health. You are not causing any emotional and physical distress to the being that is murdering all of those you love, rather you are suffering from it. For all of these reasons,

my client, Victor Frankenstein, is clearly innocent of all the charges brought against him by this being who he restored life to, who in turn, ruined his life. Thank you.