

NAXOS YOUNG ADULT CLASSICS

Mary Shelley

Frankenstein

Read by **Daniel Philpott**
Jonathan Oliver
and **Chris Larkin**

**Bonus
PDFs**
with
Full Text +
Study Guide

Know it... enjoy it.



Daniel Philpott Frankenstein
Jonathan Oliver The Daemon
Chris Larkin Walton

1	In search of the North West passage	4:51
2	A stranger comes on board	5:50
3	Frankenstein begins his story	3:25
4	Departure for Ingolstadt	5:04
5	The study of anatomy	4:54
6	The study continues	3:57
7	The daemon lives	4:15
8	Clerval and the daemon appear	5:32
9	Horrifying news	3:06
10	Frankenstein returns home	5:11
11	Justine's trial	5:52
12	Confrontation with the daemon	6:03
13	The daemon begins his story	5:55
14	The process of learning	7:23
15	The daemon reflects	6:57
16	The daemon converses	7:00
17	The daemon transformed	6:19
18	The first murder	4:29

19	The daemon's demand	6:43
20	Geneva – London – Perth	5:05
21	The Orkneys – the labours begin again	4:15
22	Madness and destruction	3:55
23	The murder of Clerval and prison	5:19
24	Release, return to Geneva and marriage	6:24
25	Murder again	5:41
26	Frankenstein's wanderings begin	4:50
27	Chase over the frozen ocean	3:59
28	The ice closes in	4:18
29	The final revenge	4:08
30	The daemon's last words	6:46

Total time: 2:37:48

**ALSO INCLUDED IN THE DOWNLOAD PACKAGE
ARE THE STUDY GUIDE, AND THE ABRIDGED
AND UNABRIDGED TEXT. (see page 4)**

The CD-ROM

Frankenstein

A Study Guide



By Francis Gilbert

This unique study guide is designed to help you understand Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* in more depth. Both the abridged and unabridged texts of the novel are also provided as separate PDFs.

All three PDFs are included in the download package.



Why Study Literature?

The famous Greek philosophers Plato (427–347 BC) and Aristotle (384–322 BC) first clashed when answering this age-old question. Plato felt that literature should be banned. He believed that it was a poor copy of the real world and inflamed people to do stupid and wild things in the manner of its heroes. But Plato's pupil Aristotle argued that far from corrupting our minds literature actually improves us, enabling us to become more moral by making us feel both pity and fear for its central characters.

The argument today remains more or less the same. Literature's detractors believe it can lead us astray by making us feel sympathy for evil characters, while literature's defenders take Aristotle's view that by feeling for fictional characters we become better people, better at empathising and imagining ourselves in different situations.

As a teacher and lover of literature, I take Aristotle's view: literature takes us to places that we would never otherwise experience. And reading about murderers doesn't mean we will imitate them; we may actually learn from their grave errors. Literature affords us the chance to live through other people's tragedies and triumphs, as a result of which we ourselves may emerge wiser, more thoughtful and happier than before.

Francis Gilbert

Mary Shelley's Life

- 1797** Born Mary Wollstonecraft Godwin on 1 August. Her mother, the philosopher and writer Mary Wollstonecraft, died shortly after giving birth. She and her older half-sister Fanny were brought up by her father and given a liberal education.
- 1814** Met and became involved with the poet Percy Bysshe Shelley, who was already married. Travelled in Europe with him (and her stepsister Claire Clairmont) and became pregnant. Their prematurely born daughter died.
- 1816** Married Shelley after his first wife committed suicide.
- 1816** The Shelleys spent the summer in Switzerland with Lord Byron, Claire and others. In this intense atmosphere, the concept for her most famous novel, *Frankenstein*, emerged in Mary's imagination.
- 1817** What began as an idea for a short story was expanded into a full novel.
- 1818** *Frankenstein: or, The Modern Prometheus* was published anonymously on 1 January.
- 1818** Moved to Italy. Two children were born and died.
- 1819** Birth of a son, Percy Florence.
- 1822** Percy Bysshe Shelley was drowned in a storm on 8 July.

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- 1822** Mary returned to England and began to write professionally.
- 1823** Second edition of *Frankenstein* appeared, naming Mary Shelley as the author.
- 1823** *Valperga*, her first historical novel was published. It is based on the life of the 14th-century Tuscan despot Castruccio Castracani and a fictional encounter with Countess Euthanasia.
- 1826** *The Last Man*, a science fiction novel based in a future world, published. Savaged by critics.
- 1830** *Perkin Warbeck*, an historical novel based on the historical character, published.
- 1835** *Lodore*, a novel which gives women a central place in the story, published.
- 1837** *Falkner*, a novel which again looks at the role of women in society, published.
- 1838** Edited *Poetical Works*, a collection of the poetry of Percy Bysshe Shelley. She was paid £500.
- 1839** Began to suffer from ill-health which interrupted her writing.
- 1848** Moved to live with her son Percy and his wife Jane in Sussex at the Shelleys' home.
- 1851** Died on 1 February and was buried in St Peter's, Bournemouth.



Daniel Philpott trained at LAMDA and, after success in the prestigious Carlton-Hobbs Award for Radio Drama, recorded for BBC Radio 4 and undertook other broadcast work. His theatre work includes productions on the London fringe.



A graduate of Manchester University, **Jonathan Oliver** has appeared in theatre throughout the UK in works ranging from *Julius Caesar* (for the English Shakespeare Company) to Bulgakov's *The Master and Margarita*. Widely experienced in television, film and radio, he has, for a decade, also recorded audiobooks for the Royal National Institute for the Blind.



Chris Larkin trained at LAMDA. Among his theatre appearances have been *A Taste of Honey* (Theatr Clwyd) and *The Lucky Chance* (Derby Playhouse). Television includes *Frank Stubbs Promotes*; films include *Grimshby Last Stop* and *Angels and Insects*.



Francis Gilbert has taught English literature in the UK for nearly two decades and has published four books, including the bestselling *I'm A Teacher, Get Me Out Of Here* and *Yob Nation*. He lives in London, teaches part-time and writes. He regularly appears on television and radio, commentating about education.

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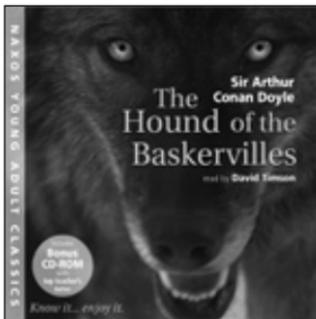
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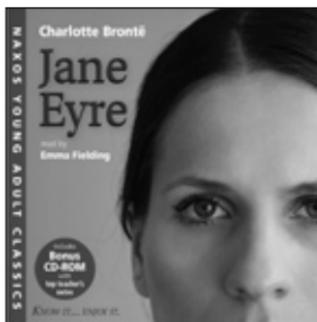
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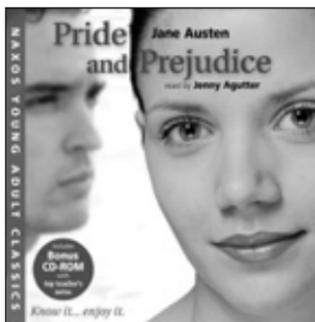
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Mary Shelley

Frankenstein

Read by **Daniel Philpott**, **Jonathan Oliver** and **Chris Larkin**

The gothic tale of *Frankenstein* and his construction of a human being who runs amok has, with the help of numerous films, become one of the most vivid of horror stories. But Mary Shelley's original novel, written in 1816, dealt more sympathetically with 'the daemon', showing how an initially kindly creature is hammered into a daemon by the way he is treated. Her ideas, and her dramatic but poignant story, is brought to life in this audiobook, which comes with CD-ROM notes.

Bonus PDFs – A Study Guide



What makes the characters tick? What are the key themes?

- Top teacher Francis Gilbert gives you the notes and the quotes you need.
- Full text *and* abridged text included.

Listen to a leading actor read a condensed version of the book *and* further your understanding with our study guide.

YOUNG ADULT CLASSICS

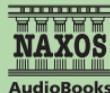
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