FRANKENSTEIN

...do you dream

Libretto

Robert George Asselstine (Libretto, Music, Lyrics)

an adaptation

based on the story

FRANKENSTEIN

or

The Modern Prometheus
by
Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

copyright © 1996 Robert George Asselstine
US Copyright Office PAu0022312935/1998-01-06
US Copyright Office PAu00289242/2004-08-09
CIPO-466514/1998-01-23

CLICK HERE FOR OVERVIEW WEB PAGE

PROLOGUE

EXT: THE NORTH SEA ABOARD THE SHIP OF CAPTAIN ROBERT WALTON

House lights fade to black - leaving literally no light available to the audience. The sound of water gently lapping on the sides of a ship in the style of "surround sound" gives way to the sight of the stars of the night sky as each audience members' eyes become accustomed to the dark.

In his cabin, Captain Robert Walton writes a note in his journal addressed to his sister Margaret Seville. The ship is adrift in the North Sea, unable to navigate because of ice. The crew is nervous and as might be expected, emotions are running high.

SCENE 1 INT. THE CABIN OF CAPTAIN ROBERT WALTON

CLICK HERE FOR "Walton's Song" Orch-1 WITH VOCAL CAPTAIN WALTON (as though reading to himself)

My dearest Margaret; At this writing we are 2 days north of England, nearly surrounded by ice.

CLICK HERE FOR "Walton's Song" Orch-2 (VOX not yet recorded)

There has been talk of mutiny, yet strangely I find myself anew with excitement.

At long last I appear to have fulfilled my dream of finding friendship.

The chance arrival of my new "friend" however has become the cause of great fear and anxiety among the crew.

No rational being could survive the extremities of this barren world - yet he lives - albeit barely.

How strange and harrowing must be his story;

He has given me to understand that soon he will reveal to me the details of his fantastic tale.

I will, as best I can, recant to you its content but I must now go.

Think of me often - with love.

Heaven bless you, my beloved sister

...and God help us all!

SCENE 2

EXT. THE NORTH SEA - ON THE DECK OF THE SHIP OF CAPTAIN ROBERT WALTON

THE NIGHT WATCH (animated, excited)

CLICK HERE
FOR
"Edge Of The Night"
(VOX not yet
recorded)

Look! Out at the edge of the night ... Where the dark meets the light ... The edge of the night can be seen but my eyes must me deceive ...

SAILOR 2 (reacts to being awakened)

No one should be here

SAILOR 3 (looks to the horizon)

No one would survive

SAILOR 4 (astonished)

No one could live here and still be alive.

NIGHT WATCH (takes command of the alert)

Quick, get the Captain

3of77

SAILOR 2 (sarcastic in tone)

If not for his plan, we would still be in England if not for that man!

SAILOR 3 (growing more angry)

Searching for something that doesn't exist, just a shape in the shadows, a voice in the mist!

NIGHT WATCH (takes back the attention of the crew)

LOOK! Didn't you see it just there?

It's a human I swear, I cannot believe he is here, don't you see what my eyes see?

Walton emerges from below deck to determine the cause of the commotion sees Victor Frankenstein being helped slowly onto the ships deck

WALTON

(calls to the crew as he approaches)

For God's sake help him! Can't you see he's near death?

SAILOR 2

(spoken under the breath)

Blasted idiot should be dead. Sittin' on an ice floe so far away from any kind of civilization.

SAILOR 1

(calls out to his shipmates)

Throw 'im back, he'll be nothin' but a curse on us. If we don't soon get loose of this ice!

SAILOR 4

4of77

(directs comment to fellow sailors)

We'll all die whether he's with us or not!

WALTON

(begs of the crew)

Give him room to speak.

SAILOR 2

(crew starts to convince one another)

Might as well listen to 'is story. Besides the fact that somehow he got this far from land without a boat - maybe he can explain what we all saw this Monday past.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN
(in a weak voice - close to death)

I am by birth a Genevese.

Frankenstein then collapses, unconscious

SAILOR 1

(speaks directly to Walton)

Captain I beg you to please understand, no good can come from us helping this man. We know what we've seen yet we still can't explain how these two can be here...

The Captain interrupts

WALTON

(seemingly calm, his intensity is eerie)

I am Captain of this crew. No one needs to die. He is the one. I had only asked for one to be with me.

SAILOR 4

(finds Walton's speech incredible)

5of77

He's gone daft!

SAILOR 2 (half laughs)

And now we'll all die!

SAILOR 3

(sincere - willing to find out more)

Perhaps the stranger can explain how he got here and how we can get back to our homes and families.

NIGHTWATCH (incredulous)

It's a human I swear, I cannot believe he is here, don't you see what my eyes see!

It is raining now. A storm has developed, thunder erupts in the distance and the night is shattered by increasingly frequent strikes of lightning.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (sung / spoken)

(SUNG) It was on a dreary night of November that I beheld the accomplishment of my toils ...

CLICK HERE FOR DEMO V/O

CLICK HERE FOR BRAVOFact VIDEO (SPOKEN) Leaving my family in Geneva, I travelled to attend to my studies at the University in Ingolstadt, full of dreams and hope, determined to learn the secrets of Aldini and the Galvinists.

But what began as a noble journey quickly became a compulsion. I grew to believe that I, and only I could infuse life where life no longer existed.

My intoxication caused my waking hours to be filled with the occupation of scavenging the charnel houses and graveyards of the city, searching for the necessary elements to create what I believed would be the greatest gift to man.

Sleep, became impossible, every part of my soul committed to my unholy task.

No longer able to rest, my thoughts blurred.

I set about the final preparation of what has now become my destiny.

All things were to be aligned the storm, the lightning reality and imagination — one.

He was magnificent - a beautiful being - the realization of my life's plan.

I assure you Walton, had events not occurred as they have, I would not be with you now, but alas, my own ambition overtook the sense of my activity.

Hear me, listen, I will tell you a tale that is beyond belief, but true nonetheless.

Do not discount the danger we now face.

You must believe me.

Protect those about you.

He is close.

I can sense his presence.

As will you, in due course.

SCENE 3

INT. VICTOR FRANKENSTEINS APARTMENT IN INGOLSTADT

Victor's apartment in Ingolstadt is, dark and dismal. Throughout the room there is a variety of machinery, test equipment, wires, cables and tubes. Victor is immersed in an experiment. Victor appears to be checking, monitoring and adjusting the various gauges and such as the severity of the storm increases

CLICK HERE FOR "EVERMORE" WITH VOCAL

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (aside)

Am I insane?
Have I lost all control of my mind?
Does this, my invention, confirm my intention to shock, to mock my own God?
Is this just a dream?
Can he possibly live to be a friend to man?

I have no way of knowing him. I can't know, but wait. Is this the way it must go? This creation, could it really be that a madman like me might actually see a new vision of the world? He you see, he will be. He will be ever lasting

(pause)

Ever living

(pause)

Ever more!

The storm is now literally out of control. Lightning bolts strike everywhere. Victor lowers a platform into the view

of the audience. The platform is tilted to expose the creation Victor screams above the chaos

Ever more!

A massive lightning bolt strikes the main lightning rod of the laboratory sending a phenomenal current of electricity down through the cables to the body of the creation. The body convulses in sympathy with this surge of power.

... sung in full voice, arms open wide, outstretched Victor looks upwards as though towards God.

Ever-More!

Suddenly the storm softens. Daemon (the creation) slouches back to the table, appearing to become unconscious or perhaps even dead. Victor, having seen his creation come to life is repulsed by what he has seen. He flees the laboratory to his adjacent bedchamber where he falls unconscious. An apparition enters the room. The apparition frightens Victor to the degree that he awakens and flees into the street, only to come [almost in a collision] upon some street urchins playing a grotesque game and singing an oddly portent song.

STREET URCHINS (in a teasing manner)

"Like one, that on a lonesome road doth walk in fear and dread, And having once turned round walks on, and turns no more his head;
Because he knows, a frightful fiend doth close behind him tread"

(Coleridge's "Ancient Mariner")

The children laugh at their own rhyme and continue with their play. Victor passes by, struck by the coincidence and foreboding lyric of their rhyme.

Victor sees on the street his "friend" since childhood, HENRY CLERVAL [this is Henrys first entrance] at the same time, Henry spots his now drunken-appearing comrade. Henry runs to his assistance.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(Astonished at seeing his friend so far from home)

Henry?

HENRY CLERVAL (Relieved at having now found his friend)

Victor! My friend!

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(sounding almost as though he is finishing Henrys sentence, Victors words are ominous in their meaning)

...my life!

HENRY CLERVAL (shocked at Victors condition)

...My God!

Victor falls into Henrys arms, [what might at first appear to be a drunken swoon, is in fact caused by Victors degree of anxiety) Henry though revives him quickly ... Victor and Henry now begin a rapid exchange, but there is a somewhat confusing composition to the dialogue that occurs ... Henry is anxious to relay to Victor news from home and the validation for his having travelled to Ingolstadt. Henrys demeanor then is want to be joyful, while Victor on the other hand is virtually in shock ... his experience in having created a daemon, his haunting nightmare and the strange poem of the street children has left him wide-eyed and almost catatonic. He knows not where he is, exactly whom he is with [he may perceive Henry to be another apparition - this time a guardian] or how he has come to be where he is

HENRY CLERVAL

Here I am my friend

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

I see a vision of one I knew when I was younger

HENRY CLERVAL

Victor, do you,

know where you are?

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN
 (growing anxious)

Henry, are you there? Are you here with me?

HENRY CLERVAL

I am

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

And will you stay with me?

HENRY CLERVAL

I will

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

Then listen carefully now.

Victor pauses, taking several deep breaths to ensure that he is in complete control of his faculties.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

Something has occurred.

HENRY CLERVAL

I know and isn't it wonderful that I could come and join you.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

No, you don't understand. He's not a man

HENRY CLERVAL

not a man?

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

He's a devil,

11of77

- a demon,
- a wretched creation.
- a monster!

HENRY CLERVAL

Perhaps a rogue or a knave a scoundrel or a villain but a monster?

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

Indeed!

HENRY CLERVAL

(Henry is quite sarcastic. He does not yet believe Victor's story)

Then let us go my friend and let us tame the beast!

But first,

a letter from your father

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

from my father?

HENRY CLERVAL

but of course, and then Elizabeth

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

my sister?

HENRY CLERVAL (sarcastic)

no, your brother!

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (puzzled)

is he well?

HENRY CLERVAL
 (annoyed now)

12of77

They are both fine! Listen here ...

ELIZABETH LAVENZA

(in Geneva, sings to herself as she sits at her desk,

writing a letter to Victor)

He holds my heart in his hand

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN
(in Ingolstadt, reading the same letter seems to know what
Elizabeth is singing. His refrain is identical)

She holds my heart in her hand

ELIZABETH LA VENZA (the text of her letter)

Dear brother, one word from you, I beg you, bless this house, Adieu, Elizabeth

(in this instance, singing to herself, she will pronounce her own name "ell-za-beth", in meter with the close of her letter)

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (brings the letter to his bosom)

Clerval, let us depart.

HENRY CLERVAL (still cheerful, but surprised)

Where are we going?

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (serious)

to Geneva

HENRY CLERVAL (not particularly happy with his friends announcement, reacts in shock)

back home?

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(self-absorbed)

There is something approaching those whom I love. Something we cannot conceive

Henry appears to be confused, approaches Victor, but is pushed away

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (continues)

Don't you feel it my friend, we are close to the end, of life, as we've known it

...and the next life will show
there's no where to go but the
fires of HELL!

The two are now at the door to Victor's apartment. Victor, noticing the door is unlocked, pushes it open violently anxious to see what inside has happened. Henry, completely confused by this point, is desperately trying to keep up with Victor, both physically and mentally but he cannot, and as Victor quickly completes his study of the apartment he sees that his "creation" is no longer present. Victor is devastated, in utter despair Henrys voice is heard.

HENRY CLERVAL (unable to contain himself further, Henry screams in frustration)

NO!

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN
 (in a low whisper)

No. It is gone.

HENRY CLERVAL
 (annoyed)

It?

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (completely removed from reality)

Vanished, dissolved into thin air and space. I must go home, quit this place!

HENRY CLERVAL
 (consoling)

Your family needs you. I must support you.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (resolute)

Then let us leave now.

DAEMON, who has all the while been close enough to overhear what has transpired, suddenly moves, the audience now realizing that he had been always visible. He escapes the scene, causing a stir in the air that is noticed by Victor only. But before doing so, he sings in a very low voice so as to only make his word available to one person.

DAEMON (quietly)

Ever-more!

Victor responds to the "change in the air", Henry is oblivious to anything, dusting himself off as he walks near Victor in the now wrecked apartment

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (inquiring in general)

What was that?

Transition to the sound of birds singing and the fire in scene 4 becomes the focus of attention

SCENE 4 THE COTTAGE OF De LACEY (A FEW DAYS WALK FROM GENEVA)

The sound of a crackling fire. As the scene is lit, the cottage of De Lacey is revealed. It is a modest home, constructed of thatch and available materials such as mud walls and hand-hewn furniture. The room is poorly lit by torches mounted on the walls. An old man [De Lacey) sits at the table, facing slightly out into the room. He is dressed in a long cloak, wearing sandals, a cane resting casually

against the table within distance of his reach. Only referred to as "Father", the Old Man, De Lacey is called upon by his daughter Agatha.

Daemon gently pushes the cottage door open and deposits a new armful of fresh firewood just inside the door then quickly retreats to his hiding place, which although hidden from the characters, is visible to the audience.

AGATHA

(walks towards the door of the cottage [the same door at which Daemon had just left the wood], kneels at the woodpile, gathers an armful of wood to replenish the fire, rises and moves closer to the Old Man as he attempts to stand)

Father ... please ... do not try to work you are no longer a young man ...

De LACEY

(irritated at the suggestion that he is getting old, De Lacey continues his efforts to rise, but because of his blindness he cannot find his cane. He stumbles, catching himself on the corner of the table but still speaks, now clearly annoyed but still with a tone of humour)

Daughter ... I am both young enough and nimble enough to more than keep up with the likes of you!

Finally finding his cane, the Old Man grabs it and takes what he believes to be a "swipe" at his daughter. He flails in the opposite direction from where she is located, and Agatha laughs heartily at his error.

DAEMON (to himself)

They seem so happy...

AGATHA (still laughing)

Perhaps good Father but alas, it does appear as though your hearing may be just a bit lacking!

A young man [Felix) enters the scene, he appears to be between 20 and 30 years of age. He is carrying a freshly killed rabbit that he has just shot. He is equipped with a large hunting bow.

DAEMON (continues his aside)

...these my friends...

FELIX

(calls out to the pair as he enters the room)

The great hunter has returned!

He though, is not of the same happy mood as the others. This young mans demeanor is clouded by a self-absorbing sadness.

Calm down the two of you. If I didn't know you better I'd swear that you hated one another!

De LACEY (consoling)

Felix, my unhappy son; you would be well advised to find the sunshine in your day, instead of being so quick to find the gloom!

FELIX

(turning his attention to his sister while still addressing his father)

Father, were it not for our obvious wealth...

Spoken in a clearly sarcastic manner, he interrupts his own statement to whisper to Agatha

...here you are my sunshine, my
darling sister...

Previously hidden behind his back, Felix reveals and presents to his sister a small, white, delicate flower

...the first flower of the spring as beautiful, and as gentle as
are you.

Returning his attention to the Old Man he continues with his sarcastic dialogue

I would no doubt be the unhappy soul you claim to see, but that is not the case ... I am instead a serious, pensive individual whose intensity is often mistaken for gloom.

Felix smiles to Elizabeth, seeming to enjoy this little exchange of wit with his father.

AGATHA

(pleased and genuinely appreciative of Felix's symbolic qift)

Thank you so much Felix ...

FELIX

(with an exaggerated bow)

Anything for you my Princess

Both Felix and Agatha laugh at their exchange. De Lacey though has had some difficulty in hearing what has transpired. He bangs his cane noisily on the floor, demanding.

De LACEY (shouts)

What's going on there!

Felix and Agatha laugh again, taking pleasure in their being able to trick their Father. De Lacey continues over their laughter.

De LACEY (more insistent)

You can't fool this old man! I know what your doing and because of it ... you'll never get my money!

Everyone, realizing that each has been playing a joke on the other, breaks out in a hearty laugh, enjoying the moment. Daemon too laughs - loudly, even more loudly than his hosts. He has been, for some time in hiding behind one of the walls of the cottage and has been trying to copy their actions in order to learn to become more like them - in language, emotion ethics and morality. De Lacey, Felix and Agatha have, to this point not been aware of Daemons presence, so they - upon hearing what they perceive to be a sound that they should not be hearing, stop suddenly to listen. Daemon, not realizing that they are indeed now silent, carries on with his laughter until he realizes that his is the only sound. He then stops as well, leaving Felix to ask.

FELIX

(turning as though searching the room with his eyes and ears)

What was that?

De LACEY (reassuringly)

I'm sure it was nothing. Nothing more than a bit of imagination and the wind in the trees.

FELIX (cautious in tone)

I'm not so sure Father. Thieves have come to these woods before. Come now with me Sister let us look about.

Felix and Agatha initially inspect the cottage and then depart the building in search of the origin of the mysterious sound. Noting their having left, Daemon assesses his opportunity to come into contact with a human being, particularly one who cannot be disgusted by his physical being.

DAEMON (aside)

Am I ready for them? Are they in fact, ready for me? Am I not a

19of77

being who has feeling, who's in control of his mind? Will they find me perverse?

Daemon resolves to approach the blind De Lacey as though he were a traveler, seeking asylum. Daemon approaches and knocks at the cottage door.

De LACEY (upon hearing the sound)

Who is there? Come in!

DAEMON

Please forgive my intrusion sir, I am a traveler in want of a little rest; you would greatly oblige me if you would allow me to remain a few minutes before your fire.

De LACEY

Enter and I will try in whatever manner I can to relieve your wants; but sadly, my children are from home, and as I am blind, I am afraid that I shall find it difficult to procure for you food.

DAEMON

Do not trouble yourself, my kind host; I have food; it is warmth and rest only that I need. You may however, be able to assist me in my dilemma.

De LACEY

I will be pleased to assist if I can

DAEMON

I dream of passing time with my friends; my friends are the most excellent and kind creatures in all of the world, and through them I have learned to love, to read, to speak, to feel kindness [pause] alas though, they are prejudiced against me.

De LACEY

How can that be, if they are indeed your friends?

DAEMON

My life has been hitherto harmless and to some degree beneficial, but where they ought to see a kind and feeling friend, instead they behold only a detestable monster.

De LACEY

I and my family too have been judged though innocent; condemned to exile. I feel for your misfortune. But tell me now, what are the names of these friends and where do they reside.

DAEMON

> Now is the time! Save and protect me! You and your family are the friends whom I seek. Do not you desert me in the hour of trial!

> > De LACEY (reacting immediately)

Great God! Who are you?

The cottage door opens. Felix and Agatha enter. Upon seeing Daemon, Agatha immediately faints - Felix however, darts

forward and with supernatural force tears Daemon from his father and throws him to the ground. Felix finds a stick close at hand [his fathers walking stick) and uses it to strike Daemon. The beating continues with Daemon offering no physical response. Finally Daemon runs from the cottage to escape from Felix.

DAEMON (in anguish)

Why do I live? Cursed, cursed creator! Why did you allow me to survive when all was not as planned? Could you not have ended my misery before it began?

He reaches into his pocket and pulls out a handful of tattered papers. He holds these papers towards the sky as though they were a sword or torch. The name of his Father / creator is revealed at the height of his anguish.

FRANKENSTEIN!
You, my father!
You, my creator!
might you...
can you...
fulfill, my dream...
Can there be a friend
for me?

Daemons cries are interrupted by the sound of searchers, being lead by Felix. Daemon speaks in an aside as he gathers brushwood and takes it into the cottage.

...control your anger.
They do not see you as a man
you're just some creature they'd
imagined
yet they hadn't planned to see...

Again interrupted by the shouts of the men, Daemon lights the ends of his brushwood and similar to his action earlier in the scene, he again holds to the sky what is now a real torch, using this same torch to ignite various points within the cottage, eventually forming a ring of fire within which he stands and calls.

DO YOU DREAM?
DO YOU DREAM?

FRANKENSTEIN!
WHY!
WHY DO I LIVE?
DO YOU HEAR MY CRIES!
SHOULD YOU ... I DESPISE?

Daemon exits the cottage as the flames envelope the entire scene, he stands before the burning building, in silhouette against this dramatic background.

YOU ... MUST PAY FOR MY PAIN!

now in a slightly hushed tone

FRANKENSTEIN ... where are you?

now, almost a whisper

FRANKENSTEIN ...

sung clearly, but in a very quiet, soothing manner

creator
my father
my friend

his meaning is opposite to that of his words

I will find you. I will find my own fitting revenge!

The scene closes as the flames diminish in their intensity. The sun begins to rise to open the next scene.

SCENE 5

EXT. A FOREST OUTSIDE GENEVA

Scene 5 opens with young William Frankenstein, youngest son of Alphonse, and brother of Victor and Ernst, playing in the woods [in Plainpalais, a forest outside Geneva) with his "sister", Justine Moritz. The children sing as they play, trying to frighten one another with "spooky" songs and a game of "hide-and-seek".

WILLIAM / JUSTINE

(oddly, their song is the same as the one sung by the street urchins in Ingolstadt. Although their "play" is seemingly happy, their "song" is quite the opposite - morbid and perverse. They sing in a tone that is seemingly

sarcastic, and teasing while they taunt one another, each in an effort to frighten the other)

WILLIAM FRANKENSTEIN

Like one that on a lonesome road doth walk in fear and dread,

JUSTINE MORITZ

And having once turned round walks on and turns no more his head.

WILLIAM FRANKENSTEIN

Because he knows

JUSTINE MORITZ

a frightful fiend

WILLIAM and JUSTINE (together)

doth close behind him tread!

The children scream in delight and run to opposite sides of the scene as they frighten one another

Daemon, hiding in the bushes, seizes William as he runs by. Continuing with the "game" Justine exits the stage/William, coming face-to-face with his captor is appalled by the sight of the Daemon - he raises his hands to cover his eyes, uttering a shrill, blood curdling scream

DAEMON

(pulling William's hands forcibly away from his face)

Child - what is the meaning of this? I do not intend to hurt you; Listen to me.

WILLIAM

(struggling to remove himself from Daemons hold)

Let me go monster! Ugly wretch! You wish to eat me and tear me to

pieces. Let me go or else I will tell my papa!

DAEMON

(growing increasingly angry)

Boy, you will never see your Father again; you must now come with me!

WILLIAM

(fearing now for his life)

Hideous monster - let me go! You dare not keep me. My father will punish you beyond belief upon the name of my family - FRANKENSTEIN!

DAEMON (ASTONISHED)

FRANKENSTEIN!

You then belong to mine enemy to him towards whom I have sworn
eternal revenge; you boy, shall
be my first victim!

DAEMON, still berated by William's screams, covers the child's face with his massive hands intending simply to quiet the boy. Inadvertently, DAEMONS strength causes William to lose consciousness and die due to asphyxiation. DAEMON lifts his arms, laughs a dull maniacal laugh, claps his hands awkwardly and calls...

DAEMON

There now you see. I too can create loneliness and desolation. This death will now carry my despair to him!

DAEMON, placing Williams body on the ground notices a shining locket around his neck. Opening the locket he sees that it contains the portrait of "a most lovely woman" (William's Mother) - causing DAEMON to demonstrate a moment of compassion with the slight hint of a smile.

DAEMON

(slowly becoming angry, since the "corpse" of William cannot respond to his inquiries)

What is this child? Who is this woman? Is she your guardian? Your savior? The one who bore you? Tell me! Is she someone whom you love? Someone who loves you? More than you can ever know? Is she an Angel of God? a message from the Father, tell me! Is she in your dreams? Does she exist within you as one? Tell me!

Daemons' anger turns to remorse as he continues almost crying

Help me please.
Help me to learn to see how one can live with many in one heart.
Please. Help me!

Daemon's soliloquy is interrupted by the sound of voices [offstage], calling Williams name. As Ernst and the Senior Frankenstein (Alphonse), in their search for both William and Justine, come perilously close to discovering the two. Daemon hears the calls, tears the locket from Williams's neck and flees. The searchers appear on stage, yet do not find Williams body, which is partially covered by bushes. Leaving the site of his first murder, Daemon flees to a nearby barn, where he sees a young woman (Justine Mortiz, William's playmate and "sister'') who has fallen asleep on some freshly cut straw. Justine stirs upon apparently noticing the noise caused by DAEMONS entrance, but she does not wake fully - This causes DAEMON to be afraid. Not wanting to be discovered, he retreats to the shadows. Realizing that this opportunity would provide for another to be blamed and convicted for an act that he performed, DAEMON emerges from his hiding spot and places the portrait securely among the folds of Justine's dress

DAEMON

(with a tone of "mischief')

What good fortune is this - she sleeps so deeply. I could not have hoped to find such a willing accomplice in my time of need.

She knows not what has occurred yet she'll now be preferred as the doer of the deed. I thank you my dear - for being so near - enough to take our place upon the stand, admit our quilt. For upon this tiny visage, our destiny will be built. But only one can pay the price and it is you my dear. The blame will be clear. And you are the least for knowing, for when you wake my crime you will take and yours it will be for owning.

Justine stirs again, calling Williams name in her sleep. At almost the same time, Daemon hears the cries of the Senior Frankenstein [Alphonse) as he and Ernst re-enter the scene. The senior Frankenstein calls out to his son Ernst, having at last found the body of young William - the commotion causing Daemon to become afraid and flee the scene

HERR (ALPHONSE) FRANKENSTEIN

(having spotted the corpse of his youngest son under the bushes, Herr Frankenstein frantically pulls at Williams body to free it from the entanglement while also crying out for help from his middle son Ernst)

Lord help us all, dearest William, my love,

Herr Frankenstein, having freed Williams corpse from its hiding place, gently lifts the head of his son to his lap, stroking his hair gently while he himself "rocks" as though cradling a child to sleep. This action is reminiscent of that of Daemon from earlier in the scene

Can you not hear me my child. Please live, I beg you. My love, my son, my child.

...in the distance, we hear the voice of a woman calling out Williams name. It is Elizabeth. Herr Frankenstein, hearing her calls turns, and with what appears to be the last of his strength, shouts to Elizabeth. Ernst, having heard each of the cries walks slowly into the scene without speaking

HERR (ALPHONSE) FRANKENSTEIN (calling)

Elizabeth!
Here my child!
We are here!

Seeing her "Father" cradling the body of her "brother", Elizabeth screams loudly, rushing towards the scene. She hugs both Father and brother and while stroking William's head, she realizes that the locket is missing. She cries out again

ELIZABETH LAVENZA (no longer able to control her emotions, moans

William...

ERNST FRANKENSTEIN

uncontrollably)

(remembering now his younger "sister", lifts his head, looking around frantically. He whispers "urgently")

Justine...

ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN (his attention attracted by Ernst's movement)

What is it Ernst?

Ernst then stands and rushes from the scene presumably to find the other child who is at this point also missing.

ELIZABETH LAVENZA (hysterically)

Oh, God! I have murdered my darling child!

HERR (ALPHONSE) FRANKENSTEIN (confused)

No my dear that cannot be it is only now that I have found the corpse of my own loving son

ELIZABETH (interrupts, still hysterical)

28of77

Father, you don't understand. This evening last, while we were still able to enjoy the company of our dear child... William had teased me to allow him to wear a very valuable miniature that I had possessed of our Mother. The picture is now gone, and it is no doubt that this was the temptation which urged the murderer to the deed.

HERR FRANKENSTEIN
(in an attempt to console Elizabeth, interrupts her passionate rambling)

No child, you are innocent of this crime, But I swear, upon the life of my child, I will not rest until his death has been avenged.

The scene is interrupted by ERNST, rushing into the scene. Breathless from running he calls out

ERNST FRANKENSTEIN

Father!
Come!
Ouick!

HERR FRANKENSTEIN
 (confused)

What is it Ernst?

ERNST FRANKENSTEIN

It's Justine Father. She's been found. but she appears to have taken ill.

HERR FRANKENSTEIN (returning his attention to William seemingly oblivious to all around him)

Bring her home, son. We must bring all of our children home.

Herr Frankenstein pauses, lifts his head and turns, apparently remembering his eldest son

Victor, we must contact Victor.

ERNST FRANKENSTEIN

(trying to console his Father speaks gently to the Senior Frankenstein)

Father, we have found the locket. It was with Justine.

Herr Frankenstein turns to look directly at Ernst, not believing what he has just heard

ERNST (continues)

It is true Father. We have discovered the Murderer. And it is she… Justine.

Transition: as the scene darkens, rain begins to fall allowing for the perception that a period of time has passed, considering Victors travel; he now stands at the spot where my poor William had been murdered

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(Victor looks up to assess the advancement of the "Tempest". The rain continues to fall, becoming increasingly violent. Soon the lightning is so close that each bolt and thunderclap virtually shakes the theatre. Victor clasps his hands above his head, as though pleading with the heavens, and exclaims aloud)

William, dear angel! This is thy funeral, this is thy dirge!

Victor appears to sense a presence close by, as a "figure" moves from behind a clump of trees, As Victor speaks his eulogy, a large lightning bolt illuminates the scene sufficient to reveal the size and shape of the object, its "gigantic stature, the deformity of its aspect, more hideous than belongs to humanity" Victor hoping to continue, turns in surprise, but not quickly enough the light from the Lightning bolt has subsided, and the residual light is no longer strong enough to actually see the "Daemon" clearly

VICTOR (continues)

No, what is this I have seen? What did he there? Could it be? No! He could not have lived...

as Victor speaks, the "figure" exits the stage making clear his movement but still hidden in the shadows. Victor continues

Though I would choose to deny the role that I may have played in the untimely death of my dearest brother, I cannot. That he whom I myself hath created could have destroyed that fair child. He was the murderer! And I, his aid!

Victor remains standing, motionless; the thunder ceases, and in its place a soft and gentle rain remains ... as the scene closes, Victor is centre stage, making no attempt to shield himself from the rain.

SCENE 6 EXT. CITY SQUARE - GENEVA THE GALLOWS

The initial focus of the scene occurs in the foreground of Geneva's City Square. We are only mildly aware of the action taking place at the gallows as the hangman and his assistants prepare for the execution of the young Justine. Alphonse Frankenstein, still in shock from his son's murder is only marginally aware of those around him. Most attentive is his son Ernst, who nurses his father gently

ERNST FRANKENSTEIN (soothing)

Father, Victor has arrived.

ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN (numb)

We must thank God for all of our sons.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (reassuring)

Father, it is me. I mourn, as do you for our dearest child William.

ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN (oblivious)

William is home now. He is with his darling Mother, God rest his soul, in heaven.

ERNST FRANKENSTEIN (animated, interrupts his father in mid-sentence)

Good God, Papa! Victor says that he knows who was the murderer of poor William!

ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN (incredulously)

As do we my son, though I would rather be forever ignorant than have discovered so much depravity in one I valued so highly.

His voice trailing off to become inaudible

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (monotone)

My dear Father. You are mistaken. Justine is innocent.

ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN (carries on as though nothing is actually being "felt" but simply heard)

God forbid that she should suffer as guilty

ELIZABETH LA VENZA (entering the scene, she is not sure that she recognizes Victor)

Victor - is that you?

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

32of77

(turning from his Father stands to see Elizabeth approaching)

Sister. I have traveled these many days to only confirm that sadness fills the hearts of those I love so dearly. Yet seeing you brings my heart such joy. I betray the memory of my sweet brother.

ELIZABETH LA VENZA (interrupts)

Your arrival my dear cousin fills me with hope that perhaps you can help my poor, guiltless, Justine. For who is safe if she be convicted of crime? We will now have lost two of our children. My little William and now Justine. I will never know happiness again.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (assuring)

She is innocent Elizabeth. And that I shall prove. Fear nothing.

ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN (now seeming to become much more "present" and alert)

Dearest niece. Dry your tears. If Justine has done no wrong she surely now will live.

The crowd, sensing that the execution is about to commence, becomes restless. Justine with hands and ankles shackled, is lead into the scene and onto the scaffold by her guards. She searches the crowd to find the location of her family. The scene, although "dark" by virtue of its content takes on an almost "regal" quality, with Justine as the "Queen" and her prison guards as her "royal entourage". Upon seeing "the condemned one", the crowd erupts into a frenzy of cheering and screaming. The taunting of the crowd is amplified by their throwing of food and garbage onto the scaffold - making Justine's innocent walk to death even more pathetic. Victor, Elizabeth and the rest of the family, realizing that Justine has in fact been convicted and will now hang, quickly run to the base of the gallows,

pushing through the morose crowd but with little success. They call out Justine's name in vain, as she cannot hear their cries over the din of the crowd. Hearing her identity, some persons in the crowd mock her family's attempts to attract Justine's eye with sarcastic melodies and rhymes. This scene will take on the appearance and become reminiscent of the biblical story of Mary, running to the foot of Jesus as he is nailed to the cross while being mocked and criticized as the "King of the Jews".

THE CROWD

God,
She is the Murd'ress
She killed the boy — hang her!
Take her life as she did his!

ELIZABETH LAVENZA (screaming in grief as she runs towards the scaffold)

NO!
She cannot die,
She is an innocent child!

Elizabeth is pushed away by the executioners

I beg you dear God. Do not take the life of another of my children.

sobbing now

Ernst, now rushes to the side of Elizabeth. He tries to mount the gallows to come to the aid of Justine but is easily pushed away by the guards

ERNST FRANKENSTEIN
 (shouting wildly)

Damn you!
Damn you!
GODS ETERNAL DAMNATION UPON YOUR
SOUL!
She is my sister!
She has committed no crime!
She is INNOCENT!

As he is pushed away, Ernst falls potentially hurting himself badly in the fall. Elizabeth diverts her attention momentarily to Ernst's possible danger

ELIZABETH LA VENZA (fearing for Ernst)

Ernst! No!

THE CROWD

Lord lettest thou thy servant depart in peace.

Within the violence and madness of the impending execution, Victor Frankenstein appears - frozen, motionless, unable to move. Yet within the chaos we hear him utter a single word

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(quietly, almost in a whisper, yet with an intense passion)

DAEMON!

The crowd, growing anxious, hungry for blood, now becomes louder, chanting, calling for Justine's death. At the point of frenzy, the magistrate, looking at his timepiece signals the Executioner with an affirmative nod. The Executioner pulls the release cord, causing the gallows trap door to open with a loud crash followed by immediate silence. Justine falls. A distinctive "crack" is heard as her neck breaks - her body "jerks" slightly then rotates slowly counter-clockwise in death. The crowd is hushed". There is absolute silence for one moment as Victor Frankenstein again whispers one word

THE CROWD

Lord lettest thou thy servant depart in peace.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (whispers)

DAEMON!

The crowd again erupts - this time cheering to the celebration.

THE CROWD

According to thy word. For mine eyes, have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared, before the face of all people

While Justine's body hangs limp from the Executioners noose and the family Frankenstein console one another. From one of the celebrants we hear an unearthly laugh. Recognizing the laugh as being that of the Daemon, Victor lifts his head as though searching with his hearing, the location of the murderer. While the audience can in fact identify Daemon within the crowd, Victor cannot, and he returns his attention to assist Elizabeth. The surrounding scene dims to feature Victor and Elizabeth alone at centre stage. Victor realizes that he, while not in deed, is himself the murderer in effect - causing him to display great despair. Elizabeth speaks, hoping to console him

ELIZABETH LA VENZA (in a soothing voice)

Calm yourself my dearest friend. God knows how deeply these events have affected me, but I am not nearly so wretched as are you. There is a sense of both despair and revenge that is in your face, which makes me afraid.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(preoccupied with his thoughts, Victor seems to speak as though Elizabeth is not with him)

I must leave. I must seek a remedy to all of this madness.

ELIZABETH LA VENZA

(interrupts, trying to understand Victors statements, yet unable to do so)

Victor...

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(continues. He stands, the remainder of the scene dims to leave Victor alone on stage)

I will return my love, though he is near. I can sense his presence.

The remainder of the scene fades to black, returning to view as the setting for scene 7 [the mountaintop near Chamoix]

SCENE 7

EXT. A MOUNTAIN TOP NEAR THE VILLAGE OF CHAMOIX AND THE SUMMIT "MONTANVERT"

DAEMON

(excited, animated, anticipating his first "meeting" with his [Father) creator)

CLICK HERE FOR "Wandering Fool" (Vox not yet recorded)

There he is, wandering fool. Does he not realize that lam the one who is in control of what he has become? The creation, now the creator? Meet me now your maker!

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(looks up from his climb to see Daemon looming over him, his monstrous stature overwhelming that of Victor, yet Victor is not afraid, he is instead at the offence.)

DEVIL! YOU! You are the murderer! You are the one! You are the only one who must pay for those whom you have slaughtered.

DAEMON (angry and bitter)

You have no way of knowing me! You can't know how I feel! You have no right to speak with me! You do not know who I am!

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (responds)

Damn you to the tortures of hell! Forever to suffer as those you have murdered, now...

DAEMON (interrupts)

37of77

Robert Asselstine August 30, 1996

You, my creator, detest and despise me though you had designed this despicable frame. Come closer, I beg you. You purpose to kill me, should this son be fearful? My Father consoles me but wait...

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN
(Increasingly animated, on the verge of madness as he lunges towards Daemon.)

Monster DIE!

DAEMON
(in a calm, measured tone)

I expected this reception. All men hate the wretched. How then, must 1 be hated - who am miserable beyond all living things!

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (fighting with all of his strength, but to no avail)

Wretched DEVIL!

DAEMON (continues)

Be calm, and hear me...

Daemon pushes Victor away easily Victor falls to the ground exhausted. Victor brings himself up partially but cannot stand fully - resolving instead to listen to Daemon complete his thought

DAEMON (continues)

...Comply with my request and I will haunt you no more.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (desperate)

What do want of me?

38of77

Robert Asselstine August 30, 1996

DAEMON (virtually crying)

CLICK HERE
FOR
"This Face"
Original
piano/voice DEMO

This face, this hideous face. What have I done to deserve such a fate as befallen this, gentle face. All I ask is for one like me,

one the world can deplore like me one to have and to hold like me.

CLICK HERE FOR "This Face" Orchestration (VOX not yet recorded)

That place,
that ominous place.
Life had begun and yet ended
still you've not defended my soul
and my heart.
All I ask is for one like me,
one that you can ignore like me,
one that I might just love like
thee.

Do this I beg you dear Victor, my Father.
Help me to live out my life with another.
Then I will no longer thirst for your blood.

aside

Control your anger.

He doesn't see you as a man,
you're just some creature he'd
imagined yet he hadn't planned to
see this face, this pitiful face.
Grant me this singular wish I
will go, I will vow, I will never
return.

All I ask is for one like me,
one that you can abhor like me,

one that I might just love like thee.

END OF ACT ONE

INTERMISSION

ACT TWO

SCENE 1 GENEVA

EXT. THE HOME OF ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN

It is morning at the home of Alphonse Frankenstein. The Senior Frankenstein is enjoying a breakfast outside [on the veranda) when his son Victor returns from having taken a walk in the woods. Victor walks towards his father to take a seat at the table

ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN (cheerfully greeting Victor)

Did you enjoy your walk my son?

without waiting for a response, the Senior Frankenstein continues with his breakfast and his conversation

I am happy to see that you once again are the happy young man of my memory.

Stopping to pause and remember, Herr Frankenstein becomes more reflective

We must as a family, try to once again assemble our lives as best we can. And while you seem to be returning to yourself, I can see that you are still unhappy and for that I am truly sorry.

becoming even more serious

I confess however, my son that I have always looked forward to your marriage with our dear Elizabeth. Now this would perhaps even resolve your uncertainty and would, at the same time, provide the final tie for our family, while allowing an Old Man peace in his declining years.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(sounding sincere, yet there is something about his tone that suggests Victor may be thinking about other things)

Dearest father, reassure yourself. I love my cousin tenderly and sincerely. Never has another woman excited my warmest admiration and affection, as does Elizabeth.

ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN (in a melancholy, longing tone)

You have been as one since children. But so blind has been my plan. Raised as though family, you may now regard her more as your sister, with no wish that she might become your wife!

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(Victor attempts to reassure his father in the most sincere manner, but his preoccupation with Daemons request to construct a mate is almost impossible to mask)

No father. It is Elizabeth to whom I pledge my heart forever.

ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN (obviously pleased with his sons response)

Wonderful news! Now we can begin our lives anew!

calling over his shoulder

Ernst! Summon my tailor! Contact the Bishop! Tell them there is to be a wedding in the family FRANKENSTEIN!

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (aside)

How can I tell him? Can I reveal to him the truth of my oblige! Each moment passing brings a sense of what's occurred and now I think of little more than what's been asked of me by him -My task, my pledge, my promise.

ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN (annoyed)

Victor, are you listening?

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(his attention returned to his father ...Ernst enters the scene to join the two for breakfast. Victor chuckles at his father's excitement.)

Yes father, there can be little doubt that I can hear you!

(Victor continues. Now seemingly back to normal, he turns to Ernst)

Come on little brother. What do you think? Perhaps it's time we satisfied this Old Mans fantasy!

Victor turns quickly, his demeanor changing immediately to reflect a sense of fear and concern. Hearing what sounds like a demented Children's song, the rhyme is similar to that which he had heard in the streets of Ingolstadt following his flight from just having created the Daemon. As no one else seems to be able to hear the eerie song, Victor begs

Can you hear that Ernst?

ERNST FRNKENSTEIN

(not really paying attention, Ernst is preoccupied with sitting down for breakfast. With a mouth half full of food, he responds)

Hear what?

The "song" continues faintly. This time it is Daemons voice we hear, but the "song" seems only to be in the wind, not at all present. It is only audible enough for Victor to hear. The others continue enjoying their meal

DAEMON (in mocking song)

The one who makes a pledge commits to now the promise keep...

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (anxious)

There, there it is.

DAEMON (continues)

...but if the contract doesn't stick the maker then must weep

ERNST FRANKENSTEIN (annoyed at having had his breakfast interrupted)

Enjoy your breakfast brother. Then we must leave to make these wonderful plans.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (directing his attention to his father)

Father...

(he pauses, wanting not to disappoint his father)

I wish to visit England before beginning my new life with my darling Elizabeth.

ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN
(although somewhat taken aback, he is not completely surprised)

We had, you know, considered this possibility.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (shocked at his fathers response)

And who, might I ask, are "we"?

ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN (amused)

Why, Elizabeth and myself of course!

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

44of77

Robert Asselstine August 30, 1996

(curious)

Really!

ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN (clearly enjoying the moment)

Oh yes! In fact, we've also made provision that your "wandering days" not be spent in isolation.

HENRY CLERVAL

(Henrys entrance into the scene is loud and boisterous ... indicative of the plan that two young men "on the prowl" will soon be the talk of Europe. Upon seeing Henry's timely entrance, all laugh at his antics, all except Victor, who realizes how this new information might impact his own plans. Henry begins, simulating the reading of a mock declaration)

Greetings one and all from the house of Clerval! 'Tis I Henry Clerval - friend, confidant, and clearly - the best man to the groom-to-be. And it is I, who will accompany this fair young virgin on his tour t'ord manhood!

ERNST FRANKENSTEIN (laughing and clapping, prompts Henry for more)

Yes Henry, tell us all ...

HENRY CLERVAL (continues)

A few months, perhaps a year. Whatever it takes. This boy...

(he points dramatically at Victor)

will return

(pauses for dramatic effect)

a MAN!

everyone breaks out in laughter with the exception of Victor who is absorbed in his conundrum. Henry then exits

the scene, backing off the veranda with mocking salutes to Victor. As this is occurring, Elizabeth enters the scene

ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN (greets his "daughter")

Elizabeth my child, come sit with me. I am the foundation of this family! As we had expected, these two young stallions will be touring the continent and, in fact the Islands.

ELIZABETH LAVENZA (oblivious to all around her, states)

I love you Victor ...

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(as though only the voice of his dearest Elizabeth could break the spell of concern, Victor immediately looks up and into Elizabeth's eyes)

Elizabeth, I, with all of my heart, since the day we first met as children, have known that someday we would be man and wife. I must however now tend to one final matter. Before we can truly enjoy the happiness that you so dearly deserve...

Elizabeth puts her hand to Victor's lips as to interrupt his speech

ELIZABETH LAVENZA (assuring)

We, my love, will be together for the rest of our lives. Go now, enjoy your time with Henry. Then upon your return our life together can begin.

Henry Clerval, "bursts" back into the scene. His bags are packed and he has also made what is obviously a poor attempt to pack those of Victor - again, everyone laughs at Henrys buffoonery

HENRY CLERVAL

(out of breath, from having carried all of this heavy luggage, puts his arm around Victor, pulling him up)

There now Frankenstein. Let us begin our adventure!

(as though quoting a story of heroes and heroic deeds he, with his head now side by side with that of Victor, "paints" a picture in the air)

Two, brave young souls. Untamed. Unleashed into an un-suspecting world we must go!

the surrounding villa scene darkens to allow for the set to change to scene 2 - London, England - an outdoor café. In the transition between scenes, the dialogue between Henry and Victor continues

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(now arm in arm with Henry, laughs a more relaxed laugh and confides)

Dearest, dearest, Henry. Whatever would I do without you?

SCENE 2

INT. A CAFÉ/BAR - LONDON - THE ADVENTURE

A WAITER

(Approaches Victor and Henry at what has now become a table in an outdoor cafe in London, places before the two each a pint of bitters)

Two lads out to conquer the world are we?

HENRY CLERVAL

(Henry's outgoing and happy personality is clearly demonstrated by his desire to learn to know each and every person he meets. He directs his comment to Victor)

My my! This one is certainly perceptive, wouldn't you agree my fellow world traveler?

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (nodding in agreement as he sips his beer)

Most definitely!

Henry continues - a bit drunk, Henry is curious. He is sarcastic in his tone, but still there is the tendency for the audience to believe that he is sincere. He directs his inquiries to the waiter

Now then... would you say that in order to ensure that a good time is to be had by all we would be well advised to stay here in London? Or would, as has been suggested to us by others, you propose the Highlands of Scotland as the place in which we might discover the true meaning of life?

both the Waiter and Henry laugh loudly, Victor however does not. Victor recognizes the irony in Henry's question relative to "the meaning of life"

THE WAITER

(leaning down as though to share a secret)

Well my new friends, the fools an' madmen of this world find themselves in Scotland while if it were me doin' the seekin' I'd be findin' me way to the coast of Ireland t'find the answers to my questions!

HENRY CLERVAL

(Excited now, he turns to Victor, almost shouting)

Ireland it is then! We're off! Victor, think of it my friend...

once again, Henry, putting his arm around the shoulder of his friend Victor, tries to ''paint a picture" for his companion

We'll kiss the Blarney Stone, not to mention a few flaming Irish lasses. We'll find ourselves a four-leaf clover, and look —

there - behind that shamrock - it's a Leprechaun!

then, in a poor imitation of an Irish accent

And legend has it that if we were to catch one of the little fellows, he'd be obliged to handover to us his pot 'o gold!

About to continue with his travelogue, he is stopped when Victor pulls away. Victor is obviously upset, but in his drunken stupor, Henry is not sensitive to the concerns of his friend

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (serious)

I understand your wish to carryon my friend. To me however, the desolation of the islands of Scotland is more appropriate to my mission.

Henry, no longer attentive to anything that Victor is saying, tries to humour his friend, in what sounds like a sly or sinister tone

HENRY CLERVAL

(again, puts an arm around Victor, quietly whispering a "bachelors' rhyme" into Victors ear)

There are wenches to be bedded before you're to be wedded!

One final time, Victor pushes away. This time he is anxious, more visibly serious. Henry sobers to Victors pronouncement

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(Desperate now, anxious that Henry might be sober enough to understand his instructions, yet drunk enough to contend with the content)

My dearest Clerval, I love you as though you were a brother. It is however upon the death of my own brother, whose life has been edited by my doing, that I must

right the wrong done. I must complete the horrible task to which I have been assigned.

Henry interrupts. He has listened, but not heard. A reaction, which is suitable to Victors campaign

HENRY CLERVAL

(Responds in agreement. His tone is neither happy nor sad, it is simply a response)

Fine then. A separation it is. I shall find the meaning of life in the brothels of the land of green and my associate here...

as though announcing to a crowd

...will seek solitude in the barren rocks of the Orkneys!

shouts, waving his arms wildly

Be gone!
I will no longer require your company.

Henry falls over drunk. He loses consciousness. Victor leaves a note with the waiter

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (aside, as he writes the note)

Dearest Henry. I regret that we must now part however mine is a mission that must be fulfilled. Upon completion of my task, I will endeavor to meet you in Ireland. A small coastal village not far from the shores of Scotland will make a suitable rendezvous. 'Til then my friend God keep you safe and happy, your dearest companion and partner in crime. Victor.

Victor departs. The scene closes with the tavern keeper and at least two Barmen, helping Henry to his feet, then to a more comfortable bed.

SCENE 3 — THE FEMALE THE ORKNEY ISLANDS INT. HUT

As in act 1, Victor has constructed his laboratory in his hut on one of the remotest of the Orkney's. While much of his equipment is similar to that used in creating Daemon in Ingolstadt, it is by virtue of this desolate location, less complicated in appearance. As the scene opens, Victor is visibly upset. With head in hand he bemoans the contract, which he is obliged to fulfill. The sun has set, and the moon is rising

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (absorbed in his work)

I've seen a face in the dark. God grant me peace. I've seen his face in the dark.

the mood changes as Victor contemplates the future

What will occur when I've finished creating this beast?

Am I so foolish to think that his promise he'll keep?

Might one hate the other?

Might she quit him?

Would there be young?

A race could begin where nothing would win.

Am I mad to believe I could ever relieve what has come to become but a nightmarish dream?

Should I stop?

All movement and sound in the theatre comes to a complete stop ... with Victor left to sense the moment when this pause has, for the audience, reached the point of being uncomfortable. Only then should any dialogue or action continue. During this cessation, Daemon will become visible to the audience back lit behind Victor. He is at the window casement ("a ghastly grin wrinkled his lips as he gazed on me, where I sat fulfilling the task which he had allotted to me...") as Victor continues with his aside, babbling incoherently, sentences run one into the other, making sense only to himself

Perhaps had life not happened as it has we'd be like friends instead of seeking out the others' death and sadness? Was my dream so badly out of place that now we both must find our satisfaction in the knowledge that the other is to suffer more than he who is the one who is the one...

pauses, realizing that he is now acting like a madman

...the one...

Victor, sensing Daemons presence, turns to see his "creation" at the window. Victor then realizing the madness of the possibility of creating another like him, Victor, "trembling with passion, tore to pieces the thing on which I was engaged..."

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(...continues ripping apart the female creation, now screaming his message intended to reach Daemon as he observes this action)

See this beast! She will not live so you can never have her...

Daemon observes the activity below. He is naturally shocked at what he sees occurring. Angry now, his howls of despair are almost animal-like. As an audience we are unsure though as to whether we should feel sympathy for him or celebrate Victors decision to end the madness. Daemon climbs down from the window casement hastily, crying for his beloved "mate"

DAEMON

(...calling out as he moves quickly down to the floor of the "laboratory")

No Father! I beg you! She is mine!

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(although his words occur chronologically to follow those of Daemon, Victor is not so much responding to Daemons

pleas as he is voicing his own commitment. This, as he continues to destroy the female)

She must never live. Never see day. This is madness and now it must end Daemon you cannot have her.

somewhat softer

...cannot love her...

almost at the point of sounding "tender"

...cannot be with her.

Victor gathers up his energy for one final moment as he, with some difficulty, pushes all of the disassembled "pieces" off the table and into a basket

The madness is over.
My nightmare must end.

DAEMON

(speaks directly to Victor, his calm is quite frightening as is the intensity of his passion having just witnessed the "murder" of his "mate")

End you say? Quite the contrary dear father. Your nightmare, I am afraid, has only begun! You have destroyed the work, which you began. What is it now that you intend? . Do you dare break your promise? Do you dare destroy my hopes?

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(pushing his way past the Daemon to dispose of the corpse)

Be gone! I do break my promise. Never will I create another like yourself, deformed and wicked.

DAEMON

(screaming now in passion)

Slave!

I have begged you.

53of7

Robert Asselstine August 30, 1996

I have reasoned with you. You believe yourself to be 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!

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(now calm in his resolve, having finished [he believes) the task, is no longer fearful of the Daemon)

Beast!

I am no longer fearful of you. Your threats no longer move me. She is dead. She is gone. Now leave me!

DAEMON

(after a brief pause, utters his final threat)

Very well, I will go.
But think often of these words.
Remember clearly my voice.
Recall the meaning the promise I will make dear father...
I will be with you on your wedding night!
I will be with you on your wedding night!

With these words, Daemon departs the scene

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (calling after Daemon)

Villain! Before you sign my death warrant, be sure that you yourself are safe!

the scene fades to black

SCENE 4 - THE MURDER OF HENRY CLERVAL INT. Irish Pub

The scene opens in a loud, raucous pub in a small village on the coast of Ireland. There is a rather animated arm

wrestling contest taking place, with all persons wagering heavily on the outcome. Henry Clerval is one of the combatants.

ARM WRESTLER

(his face in a painful appearing grimace of exertion, sweat dripping onto the table, his comrades cheering loudly)

There's not been one stranger who's ever won at this table!

HENRY CLERVAL
(responds teasingly)

Excellent news!
Then I shall be the first!

Hearing this, the crowd renews its support for the hometown hero with loud shouts

ARM WRESTLER

(with one final burst of strength)

Here then. Let's see you be the first today to feel this!

With this notice, he slams Henrys hand violently to the table. The crowd erupts with pleasure and money changes hands. Henry stumbles away to his table - appearing to be somewhat drunk.

Aside

CLICK HERE FOR "He Said" TRACK ONLY

CLICK HERE FOR "He Said" LIVE (Rough) VOCAL STRANGER (Daemon)

He said
I am
Just athing he made
Nothing
More than
Just athing he made
He said
I am
Just athing he made.

He made
Me so
I will never be
With a-no-ther

one who
is like me
He made
Me so
I willnever be whole.

Those he
loves will
surelycome to me
take them
slowly
death will comfort me
I will
make him
suffer
Just like me

This one is now Mine!

Before Henry arrives at his table, the hand of yet another stranger stops him. The stranger is dressed in a hooded cloak, his face hidden. Upon reaching for Henry, however, the stitching on his wrist gives way to the audience that this is in fact Daemon, come to "collect his due from Henry"

DAEMON

(...approaching the table where Henry is seated)

Not a bad exhibit my friend

HENRY CLERVAL (tired after his exertion)

Thank you kind stranger. But isn't it a bit early to be calling me "friend"?

laughing as he sits down with his new acquaintance.

STRANGER (Daemon)

Quite the contrary. Here, sit, relax. Enjoy the evening. Allow me to enlighten you with what will no doubt be an entertaining tale. But first another drink to

quiet the nerves and warm the heart.

shouts over his shoulder

Bar-keep!

A final round for my friend!

he laughs at his own amusement at his skill in the play of words

Enjoy the refreshment dear Henry. One never knows when it might be the last.

HENRY CLERVAL

(responding in appreciation, his naïveté exposed in his willingness to befriend a total stranger)

Why thank you!

drinks

that is so true.

DAEMON

(intending to trick Henry into coming outside)

I must first however tend to my horses. My carriage is just outside. Might I trouble you for your assistance?

He rises

HENRY CLERVAL

(rising to accompany his "friend")

That would be the least that I could do - To help one who has proven to be so kind to one so in need of a friend!

Henry and Daemon depart the pub together shortly, a terrifying scream [Henry) is heard offstage a few of the pub patrons notice the noise but they only give the disturbance a passing notice. This time there are several locals roughly bringing in a "prisoner" [Victor Frankenstein] to the pub. The "prisoner" is wet, presumably

from having been on the sea. He is also very weak, apparently due to lack of food. His "guards" are quite angry

THE BAR-KEEP (annoyed with the intrusion)

Here now... What's this?

GUARD 1 (still with Victor in tow)

The stranger, the one we found strangled earlier tonight. This could be the one who did the deed!

GUARD 2

(already part way into the room and placing Victor in a chair, speaks over his shoulder to no one particular)

Call the Magistrate. We'll have this done with right now, right here.

PUB PATRON 1 (concerned with the expediency of this small-town justice)

Wait! What proof do we have that this man is in fact the criminal?

GUARD 3

(helping to awaken Victor, who is still very groggy)

They're of the same country, the same language. And this one keeps mumbling something about someone or something being destroyed besides, we found him on the shore not far from where the other one was found.

PUB PATRON 2 (calling out from the back of the pub)

Mr. Kirwin's arrived. Make way for the Magistrate.

The attention of the pub patrons is diverted away from Victor to that of the person approaching the centre of the scene. Mr. Kirwin is dressed more formally than the others. He carries himself with what should obviously be more "dignity". His approach gives one the sense that he is a man of fairness and honesty

MR. KIRWIN

(The Local Magistrate, he speaks with a heavy Irish accent)

There now. Clear away. Let's have a look at this one.

Kirwin approaches Victor, almost as would a doctor wishing to inspect his patient somewhat more closely

b'the looks of'im, 'e's not in any kind o'shape to answer our questions. Put 'im in the box 'til e's better off. That way we'll know for sure what's 'appened. Search 'is clothes for any notes 'bout who 'e is. Then bring 'em to me. But f'now lock 'im up.

Victor lifts his head in a vain attempt to speak

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (in a weak voice)

Henry... where is Henry?

GUARD 1 (clearly annoyed)

You should know... Murderer!

The "quards" roughly drag Victor away to the local prison.

SCENE 5 INT. LOCAL JAIL CELL

The scene shifts to become that of Victors prison cell. A nurse is attending to Victor. After a short time Mr. Kirwin enters the cell and sits in a chair next to Victors bed. The nurse, at this point, leaves

MR. KIRWIN

59of77 Robert Asselstine August 30, 1996

(speaking softly, in clear measured tones)

Well now Mr. Frankenstein. T'would appear as though you were thrown, by accident, on a shore renowned for its hospitality, only t'find that we can be a very inhospitable folk when murder is the topic of the day!

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (frustrated)

Henry Clerval was my lifelong friend. I loved him as though he were my brother.

MR. KIRWIN (interrupts)

Sir, I took the liberty of notifying your family of your predicament.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (surprised)

My family? ...but...

MR. KIRWIN (continues)

When you were taken ill, me men discovered on y'r person a letter from y'r father. No doubt he'd 'ave been curious. Y'r family is perfectly well. An' now someone, a friend, has come to visit.

Clearly, Victor is disturbed by this announcement. His immediate thought is that the 'Friend" of whom Kirwin speaks is in fact Daemon come to "mock at my misery"

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (terrified)

NO! Take him away! I cannot see him! The monster! For God's sake! Do not let him enter!

MR. KIRWIN (surprised at Victors outburst)

I should have thought, young man, that the presence of your father would have been more welcome news!

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(virtually the same kind of reaction as before, but this time in the positive)

My father? Where is he?

Alphonse Frankenstein enters the scene quickly, rushing past the guards as though having been detained in his urgent campaign to find his son Victor. He speaks angrily to the guards

ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN (almost shouting)

My son! Where is he?

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (at first glimpse of his father cries out with all of his strength)

Father, are you, then, safe? And Elizabeth, and Ernst?

the two embrace as the Senior Frankenstein provides his son with assurance

ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN (in a calming manner)

We are all fine, my son. It is your welfare for which we are concerned. This unhappy news with regard to our dear friend Henry has placed you in an unfortunate situation, which we must now correct. Kirwin, here, tells me that you can go.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(Interrupts, at first unable to believe what his father has just said. He has very little strength; as though these contrasting outbursts have drained what little energy he has left)

Am I now free?

ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN

(responds as one might expect, in a very "fatherly" manner, stroking his son's head while Victor falls to sleep)

Yes Victor. We can go home now.

the scene darkens to become dreamlike. Only Victor's bed remains clear. Each additional character is simply an aberration within his dream.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (dreaming)

He will be with me. I feel his breath upon my shoulder.

DAEMON

(in Victor's dream, approaching Victor's bed)

...on your Wedding night and in
your dreams!

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (the dream continues)

My pledge to him is broken; can I ever make my pledge to her?

Elizabeth appears in the dream as well

ELIZABETH LAVENZA (arms out-stretched as though to embrace Victor)

I see him, he's in my dreams each night I...

DAEMON (teasing)

She belongs...

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(responds physically to his "dream". Rising to stand, his fists clenched, placed at the sides of his head as though this position will fend off the nightmare)

No!

DAEMON (continues)

...to us both...

ELIZABETH LAVENZA

(calling to Victor as though she can no longer see him. She appears to be lost, searching)

Victor, I'm here!

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (more agitated, but still dreaming)

Elizabeth!

DAEMON (now closer)

We shall be together. Forever.

Daemon clutches Elizabeth by the throat and throws her casually aside - she is now gone from the "dream". Daemon approaches Victor. Very close now, he caresses Victor's throat and sings gently

DAEMON

(in a very sarcastic manner)

I will keep my promise to you...
"I will be with you on your
wedding-night!"

Victor screams. Frightened by the seeming reality of his dream he is awakened by his own scream to find himself at his own wedding

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (screams loudly)

NO!

SCENE 6 - THE WEDDING

INT. GENEVA - THE HOME OF ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN

the scene develops out of Victor's dream. His bed clothes transformed into his wedding clothes as his brother Ernst assists Victor in putting on his jacket we are now in the great room of the home of Alphonse Frankenstein. Ernst and Victor are about to approach the Bishop. The wedding ceremony is about to begin

ERNST FRANKENSTEIN

(brushing the shoulders of his brother's coat as he assists Victor)

There now brother. Is that any way to react to what can only be one of the most joyful occasions in each of our lives?

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(preoccupied, but alert to his brother's concern)

I'm sorry Ernst. My thoughts are elsewhere today.

ERNST FRANKENSTEIN

(jokes with Victor, still brushing various parts of his dress, as they approach each of their appropriate positions to enable the ceremony to begin)

Really! (laughs) Come on now. You'd better not let Elizabeth read that on your face. Not today of all days!

He laughs, causing the two to laugh. Now at their appropriate places, their volley is interrupted by the wedding fanfare. All heads turn to see Elizabeth enter the scene. Her beauty is obvious. Her wedding dress and train gives her the appearance of being larger than life. Her presence commands the scene. (LX) She appears to "glow" as she approaches Victor's side. Both Victor and his father exclaim simultaneously

DUET: VICTOR & ALPHONSE FRANKENSTEIN

Is it really her?

ALPHONSE

she is so radiant can this really be the child...

VICTOR

...with her I've lived my life...

ALPHONSE

...I've raised her all her life...

DUET

...To love her...

VICTOR

...as my wife...

ALPHONSE

...dear daughter...

DUET

...do you dream...

VICTOR

...of life with only me to love you
to hold you
to care...

VICTOR

FOR
"Until You"
(VOX not yet recorded)

How could I ever see love without you
How could I ever feel alive
I'd never seen myself as every loving anyone
'til you until you

You came into my life as we were children.

ELIZABETH

We were children we were meant to be

VICTOR

And told that we were meant to be.

I knew from then I'd never really be with anyone 'til you

ELIZABETH

I'll always love you

VICTOR

Every waking moment I am with you

ELIZABETH

I am with you

VICTOR

Every breath I take recalls your name

ELIZABETH

I hear your name

VICTOR

Every time I hear a voice I see you and I know that I am loved

ELIZABETH

I see you I know I'm loved

VICTOR

I am loved Our wedding day at last is here

ELIZABETH

Our wedding day at last is here

VICTOR

Dear Ell'sbeth you will be my wife

ELIZABETH

My life will always be with you

TOGETHER

I knew I'd never really see myself with anyone 'til you

until you
And now our life together
has begun
as one forever will we be
You came into my life

VICTOR

a gift and now my wife

ELIZABETH

I'll always be for you

VICTOR

I'd only dreamed of love 'til you

ELIZABETH

I dream of you

VICTOR

until you

ELIZABETH

Dear Victor

67of77

Robert Asselstine August 30, 1996

I love you

TOGETHER

I love you.

Daemon, who has been an "uninvited guest" at this wedding, exposes himself to the audience only, by removing his hat. The rest of the scene appears to ''freeze'', allowing Daemon to speak in an aside. He is agitated but we are unsure as to the reason. He appears to be angry that Victor has now achieved what he [Daemon) can never have, but at the same time he appears pleased that he can now fulfill his promise to Victor - to be "with him on his wedding-night!"

DAEMON

(in a sinister tone, in anticipation of the impending opportunity to undertake his revenge)

CLICK HERE FOR "Look At Him Now" (VOX not yet recorded) Look at him now,
pompous and proud.
Does he recall our contract,
our promise,
our pledge?
Is he blind to what I need,
to what he had agreed?
Does he not realize,
that when life is through my eyes
the beautiful is the perverse?
Everything's seen in reverse.

As Daemon sings, the ceremony is completed; Daemon's song is interrupted long enough to observe Victor and Elizabeth kiss. They are showered with rice thrown by the guests. And while this is great fun for all in attendance, Daemon is too hit by some of the falling rice. His reaction though is one of disgust, of disdain, of anger bordering on frenzy

DAEMON (continues his cry)

Damn you to hell!
Damn you forever!
Are you my father,
my friend,
creator?
Did you not dream of me?

In a much more gentle and subdued voice

Yet now
you take what's denied me.
Love what's refused me.
You cannot hear me.
Yet you feel my thoughts,
my pain.
My promise now to you
becomes your new reality.
You cannot hide her from me.
As she became yours
she too became mine.
Her thoughts are mine.
Her heart is mine.
She, IS mine.

the scene closes with Victor and Elizabeth heading towards the door, waving to their guests. Daemons presence again becomes evident as he approaches the carriage driver waiting, he murders the driver with a quick twist of the neck, dresses himself in the driver's clothes [disposing of the body hastily in the bushes) then greets the happy couple as they approach their wedding carriage to depart their wedding reception

SCENE 7 — THE WEDDING NIGHT EXT. VILLA LAVENZA (beside the beautiful Lake Como)

The scene opens with "The Carriage Driver" [Daemon, in disguise) assisting Victor and Elizabeth with their bags. Victor comments to Elizabeth

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (to Elizabeth)

My dearest child, Elizabeth
Lavenza; or shall I say,
Elizabeth Lavenza Frankenstein. I
have waited my entire life for
this moment. You are at last my
wife my partner in life. You and
I, we are one in the same; sister
to lover, lover to wife we are
now complete.

DAEMON

(aside)

"Complete" you, say, perhaps but my work is not yet done! You have forgotten my promise to you dear "Father" Tonight is your wedding night and I now will "complete" your fortune.

SUNG AS A TRIO

ELIZABETH FRANKENSTEIN

(In her dressing room, preparing for her wedding night with her new husband Victor sings)

I see him. He's in my dreams each night I see him. I close my eyes and I can hold him in my arms still I long for his face. My lover, my brother, my friend.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(Another room in different part of the same building)

I need her. Much more than life itself I need her. I close my eyes so I can hold her in my arms still I long for her face. My lover, my sister, my friend.

DAEMON (Out of sight, DAEMON observes Victor and Elizabeth as they prepare for their wedding night.)

I'm near him. I haunt his dreams each night I'm near him. I close my eyes and I can hold him in my arms still I live with this face. Creator, my Father, my Friend.

Daemon begins to move through the building - moving increasingly closer to Elizabeth's room

You have taken her hand. Now her soul I command.

Daemon enters the room still not yet seen, his song is sung as though it is a message to Victor

I'm with her. Her breath is close to mine, I'm with her. Close your eyes and you can see her in my arms. Now you live with her fate.

Daemon takes Elizabeth in his arms and ultimately murders her by breaking her neck

Dear Victor.
Your lover,
must die!

Daemon throws the body on the bed and departs the room via the window at virtually the same time as Victor enters the room only to discover that his beautiful bride has been murdered

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

screams and cries, his scream full of the mixed passion of his love for Elizabeth and his hatred for Daemon.

NO! This cannot be!

He rushes to the bedside, raising Elizabeth's body to his, he embraces her, her head hanging limp, her neck obviously broken he screams loudly as though "calling out" to the murderer

DAEMON!
DAEMON!

I will find you!
I will hunt you!
I will follow you
to the ends of the earth
to avenge the deeds,
which you have done.
I will destroy you
as you have destroyed me.
THIS is my solemn promise.
Fear me now,
for I no longer
fear you!

Within earshot, Daemon takes great pleasure in Victor's passion and pain. Upon hearing the details of Victors "pledge" Daemon laughs uncontrollably

DAEMON (invites Victor to pursue)

Follow me then, fool!
Join with me.
I will in fact
take you
to the ends of the earth;
to the end of
your miserable
life!

Daemon flees the room, leaving Victor alone with the corpse of his darling Elizabeth. Victor lifts her limp body gently and sings

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (sings to the audience)

CLICK HERE FOR "Creator, Murderer, One" Pno/Vox

CLICK HERE
FOR
"CM1" Orchestration
with VOX

My life.
My love.
My friend.
To die,
yet not to have lived,
transcend.
Daemon so loathed me as I loved
you,
forgive me.
help me.
Please.
Forever I'll hold you,
my promise I must now keep.

This night
fulfills my dream.
As one,
we ever would be,
redeemed.
God hear my cry to you,
what have I done?
What have
I
become?
Creator?
Murderer?
One?

SCENE 8 - THE NORTH SEA (BOOKEND SCENE) INT. THE SHIP OF CAPTAIN ROBERT WALTON

OFF STAGE; the crew are shouting instructions to one another to set sail. While muted, some of the phrases are audible enough at least to ensure that the audience is aware of what is happening

WALTON

(finishing his note to his Sister)

And so, dear Sister, it goes, the story of FRANKENSTEIN. A rather unbelievable tale, no doubt the result of my friends' long and arduous journey, one that has brought him to me. Alone, miles from nowhere, perhaps this now is the conclusion of my dream.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(Victor notices the sound of the commotion on deck. He is increasingly weak, yet is able to lift himself slightly from his bunk to ask...)

The men - why are they shouting?

WALTON

(looking out of his cabin window, Walton speaks in a "matter-of fact" tone)

The ice has broken. We will be returning to England.

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN (Losing strength)

Perhaps you and your crew shall go home, but not I. Alas, the strength I have relied upon for so long is now virtually gone.

Victor pauses to catch his breath and then continues

I feel that I shall soon die, and he, my enemy and persecutor may still live. I implore you Walton upon my death, to continue my work stopping not to rest until he too is dead.

73of77 Robert Asselstine August 30, 1996

WALTON

(Walton's concern for Victor's imminent death is more evident. he moves now to Victors side)

Wait my friend. Please, speak no more. Rest now.

Walton lifts Victor to a semi-upright position, allowing him to become more comfortable

VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN

(interrupts, anxious to continue his thought, yet very near death)

The task of his destruction was mine but I have failed I beg of you my dear, dear friend...

Victor dies in Walton's arms - Walton gently lowers Victor to the bunk then stands to leave. The lighting on the scene expands to feature the gigantic form of DAEMON, back-lit to dramatically highlight his stature and posture, slightly "hunched", tired from his continuous running. He is physically close to both Victor and Walton, yet far enough away to not be obviously noticed. Walton turns to see Daemon, startling him. Daemon turns to flee, but Walton calls upon him to stop.

WALTON (calling)

You there... stop, wait!

Daemon stops, looks at Walton with wonder and then turns to the lifeless form of his creator. Seeming to forget Walton's' presence, Daemon moves past Walton and towards the bunk, gently lifts Victors head, stroking his hair as he delicately places the head of his "Father" on his own lap; then speaks

DAEMON (sadly, almost crying)

Father, forgive your son I beg you, Father

WALTON (scolding)

74of77 Robert Asselstine August 30, 1996

Creature, you *now* ask forgiveness?

DAEMON (indignant)

Perhaps had my dear FATHER (sarcastic in tone) heeded my request, we mightn't all be here at this, our final moment.

WALTON

(angry now to the point of attacking Daemon)

Wretched beast, now you will suffer, as have those whose deaths you have caused!

DAEMON

(shouts to interrupt Walton yet his voice is cold, clinical - in a monotone style)

No! I will not suffer in death. My death will be ... my release. My anguish cannot be described with mere words. I am not what you see.

pause

You see. I simply. "Am"

pause, Daemon turns to Captain Walton to pose the question ...

Tell me Captain Walton, "friend" of my Father

pause

Do you dream?

DAEMON - His head hung in what could be interpreted as either sadness at Victor's death, or regret that he was not able to cause Victors death, lifts his head slowly. Gently placing Victors corpse on the bunk, he stands, and approaches the audience. Centre stage [at the same positioning used in Act 1 (Creation)], he addresses the audience directly, establishing eye contact with those in the first few rows

CLICK HERE FOR "Do You Dream" (VOX - DEMO)

CLICK HERE FOR "Do You Dream" Track Only What do you see
when you look in my eyes?
Monster, or maker,
am I you in disguise?
How can you live
and not hear my cries?
How can you be here
and not realize?
I was the one you had prayed for!
Look now, behold what you've made
and you'll see that you'd
never imagined
a beast with this passion
you thought you would never
see me!

The mood changes to one of somber reflection

I am capable of love.
No one needed to die.
I was the one,
I had only asked for one to be
with me.

spoken softly in Latin

Pater, dimitte peccata mea (Father, forgive my sins)

THE CREW (sensing danger and the possibility of imminent death begin to chant with feverish anticipation - the NUNC DIMITTIS from the English Catholic [Anglican) Church)

Lord, lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people

Daemons anxiety grows to the point of hyperventilation, his breathing easily noticeable to the audience - he appears to be at the point of explosion. The lifts his head to the sky, arms outstretched and in full voice sings

DO YOU DREAM?

DO YOU DREAM?

Exhausted by his tremendous outburst, Daemon virtually collapses. Out of breath he now sings gently, lifting his head to again address the audience directly

Do you dream? Could you love...?

Almost in tears

Could you love a lonely wretch like me or...

Daemon appears disoriented, unable to form a complete thought; eyes darting about madly, his growing paranoia becomes more physically evident

Could you love a lonely wretch like me, or must I die before you see me as I am?

by this point, the scene in the cabin of Captain Walton has faded to black. Daemon is centre stage [extremely brilliant follow spot giving Daemon the image of "glowing"] the Special FX of the night sky returns [as was used in the prologue} which creates the impression that Daemon is seemingly floating in this image of "the universe". Daemon stands. In full voice, arms fully extended, his back arched in agony he screams

DO YOU DREAM?

END