

Monologues for Male Characters, from *The Soul of Frankenstein*:

Capt. Robert Walton:

My dearest Margaret – I write this letter without knowing you will ever read it. Yet if and when you receive these words, it will mean I have succeeded. I will have found the North Pole, where all others have died trying. Because only then will I turn back, Margaret.

[Drops the brave act, reveals vulnerability] And then, I should hope, my spirits will be higher. For even as this vessel carries all the souls I can afford, I have no friend here, Margaret. If I succeed, who will share in my joy? If I fail, who will sustain me? Perhaps the desolation and cold have made me ever more needful of this. So needful...

[Sadness turns to hopeful excitement] But by the grace of God, Margaret, I believe that tide has turned! For yesterday, we came upon a miracle! A miracle named -- Frankenstein.

The Creature:

It was the same in every town, every village. They just looked at me, and in the same second, they would cry “Monster!” They would chase me with their shovels and irons. I carry many of their bullets in me too. They still hurt when I move. So I went back to hiding in the woods, most of the time. One day I sipped water from a pool in the forest after the rain. When the water was still, I realized I could look into it and see my reflection. I read your story of Narcissus, who did the same thing. But oh no, I was not like Narcissus. When I saw myself for the first time, I realized how different I was from you. I found more books to read when I could. I had learned the puzzle of your words very quickly, but there was no one to teach me the puzzle of human beings.

Character Notes:

Walton aims for fame and glory as an explorer. This is in the 1790s, before anyone survived a trip to the North Pole. On the voyage, he becomes very lonely. Against all odds, he has rescued a young woman, Victoria Frankenstein, out on the ice. That's why he's excited and happy to tell about it. Robert is English, so an (optional) accent may be used for him.

Narcissus, pronounced nar-SISS-suss, was a mythical character who was so handsome that he fell in love with his own reflection in a pool of water. The Creature's point is that he found out, with some shock and surprise, that he is the opposite of handsome.