

## Frankenstein Vocabulary

### Prologue

**fervent** - passionate, glowing  
**perpetual** - never ending, eternal  
**diffusing** - to pour out, spread  
**phenomena** - fact, event, or circumstance that can be observed, usually considered extraordinary or remarkable  
**eccentricities** - deviating from a conventional pattern  
**ardent** - characterized by strong enthusiasm  
**induce** - to persuade  
**requisite** - required; a necessity  
**dominion** - sphere of influence or control  
**tranquilize** - to make calm, peaceful, quiet  
**effusions** - a pouring out of unrestrained expressions or feelings  
**inuring** - to become used to something undesirable by prolonged subjection  
**dauntless** - without fright or discouragement  
**inexorable** - relentless, unyielding  
**allusion** - reference to a historically significant person, place, or event  
**solicitude** - concern, anxious care  
**capitulated** - surrender on terms or conditions  
**repose** - rest or sleep  
**conciliating** - reconciling, a winning over  
**paroxysm** - a spasm, fit, or sudden outburst  
**ameliorate** - improve, to become or make better

### Chapters I and II

**indefatigable** - tireless  
**intimate** - very familiar, close  
**rankling** - soreness, great pain  
**plaited** - weave, braid  
**pittance** - very small amount; a trifling  
**disconsolate** - hopelessly sad  
**interment** - burial  
**recompensing** - reward; pay back, or payment  
**penury** - very great poverty  
**chamois** - small, goat-like antelope  
**ardor** - great intensity; passion; strong enthusiasm  
**sublime** - exalted; inspiring awe  
**rapture** - elation; exhilaration  
**infidels** - without religion or belief; an atheist  
**indulgence** - liberal or lenient treatment  
**caprice** - impulsive change of mind, whim  
**filial** - affectionate; obedient; pertaining to a son or daughter  
**metaphysical** - mystical, abstract, spiritual  
**predilection** - preference, partiality  
**inclemency** - severity of weather, stormy  
**chimerical** - illusionary, fanciful, dreamlike  
**avidity** - eagerness; greediness  
**imbued** - filled with ideas, feelings, etc.  
**tyros** - beginners, amateurs  
**tertiary** - third place or rank  
**impediments** - hindrance; block  
**repined** - express discontent  
**averred** - to declare in a positive, formal way

**progeny** - children, descendants, offspring  
**immutable** - not susceptible to change

### Chapters III and IV

**menaced** - threatened, put in peril  
**imprudence** - unwise  
**prognosticated** - to predict on the basis of present indications  
**fortitude** - valor; determination  
**benignity** - kindly disposition; gracious  
**irreparable** - hopeless, irreversible  
**deferred** - to put off, delay, postpone  
**zeal** - eagerness, enthusiast  
**chaise** - two-wheeled, open carriage  
**imbued** - saturated, filled  
**reprobate** - morally unprincipled person  
**recapitulation** - the act of being repeated; summarized  
**panegyric** - speech filled with praise, compliments  
**elixir** - sweetened solution containing medicine  
**palpable** - acceptable to the mind or sensibilities  
**mien** - appearance, look  
**erroneously** - mistakenly  
**physiognomy** - facial features which reveal characteristics  
**dogmatism** - authoritarian assertion of opinion  
**pedant** - one who flaunts learning  
**abstruse** - difficult to understand  
**facile** - achieved with little effort  
**esteem** - high regard, favorable opinion  
**receptacle** - a container or place for keeping things  
**emaciated** - starved, extremely thin  
**unhallowed** - not sacred, wicked, sinful, evil  
**incipient** - just beginning, early stage

### Chapters V and VI

**delineate** - describe in words  
**lassitude** - weariness  
**shroud** - burial cloth or garments  
**demoniacal** - devilish, very wicked  
**palpitation** - throbbing, beating rapidly  
**languor** - lack of enthusiasm  
**allude** - hint at, mention slightly  
**unremitting** - steady  
**pertinacity** - great persistence, not giving up, continuing, stubbornness  
**remorse** - deep, painful regret  
**fetter** - restrain, tie up  
**placid** - peaceful, quiet  
**perversity** - abnormality, difference  
**dissipate** - totally scatter, dispel  
**vivacity** - liveliness  
**vacillating** - unsteady, wavering  
**antipathy** - strong dislike, hate  
**encomiums** - songs of praise, highly complimentary  
**diffident** - lacking in self-confidence  
**eulogy** - speech or writing in praise of the dead  
**dilatoriness** - lateness, not prompt  
**perambulations** - walks or strolls  
**salubrious** - healthful

## Chapters VII and VIII

**prognosticate** - to forecast, to predict from facts  
**tedious** - long and tiring  
**promontory** - a high point of land extending from the coast into the land  
**dirge** - funeral song  
**precipices** - cliff, crag, steep mountainside  
**venerable** - worthy of respect or reverence due to age, character, or importance  
**alleviate** - to relieve, to lessen, to make easier  
**deposition** - testimony under oath or sworn testimony in writing  
**candor** - speaking honestly, frankness, sincerity  
**mockery** - to ridicule, to make fun of  
**ignominious** - shameful, disgraceful, dishonorable  
**exculpated** - to free from blame, prove guiltless  
**countenance** - facial expressions  
**execrated** - detested, abhorred  
**adduced** - to give as proof or evidence  
**indignation** - anger at something unworthy or unjust  
**conjecture** - guess, theorize  
**wantonly** - done in a reckless and malicious way; not moral  
**timorous** - timid, easily frightened  
**approbation** - approval, favorable opinion  
**guile** - deceit, sly tricks  
**absolution** - freeing from guilt or blame  
**excommunication** - a cutting off or removal from the church  
**obdurate** - stubborn, obstinate; not repentant  
**perdition** - loss of one's soul; utter loss or destruction  
**lamentations** - cries of sorrow or grief, wailing, mourning

## Chapters IX and X

**remorse** - deep, painful regret for having done wrong  
**perceptible** - to become aware of or understood through the senses  
**augmenting** - making greater in size, number or amount; increasing  
**malice** - a desire to hurt or harm others  
**unalterable** - not changeable, permanent  
**efface** - rub out, to obliterate  
**abhorrence** - intense dislike  
**desponding** - becoming disheartened  
**sacrilege** - an intentional injury to anything sacred  
**ephemeral** - transitory; lasting for a brief time  
**epoch** - beginning of a period of time or era when something striking happens  
**impetuous** - impulsive, brash; rushing with violence  
**reverberated** - resounded; reflected  
**anon** - soon, in a short time  
**rent** - to rip, to make an opening  
**divert** - to turn aside from a direction; to distract or amuse  
**pinnacle** - the highest point  
**surmount** - to overcome; to ascend to the top and cross over  
**mutability** - ability to change

**diabolically** - devilishly, wickedly  
**dissoluble** - capable of being dissolved  
**negligently** - habitually guilty of neglect  
**irrevocably** - incapable of being retracted or revoked  
**commiserate** - to feel or express sorrow or pity; to sympathize

## Chapters XI and XII

**opaque** - impenetrable by or not reflecting light  
**impervious** - incapable of being penetrated, allowing no passage  
**dormant** - inactive; resembling sleep  
**orb** - a sphere  
**canopied** - covered  
**mode** - a method, way, or manner of doing something  
**uncouth** - crude, unrefined, awkward  
**inarticulate** - not distinct; irregular speech  
**offal** - waste parts of a butchered animal; rubbish  
**assuage** - to make less severe; to satisfy or appease  
**rambles** - wanderings  
**disconsolate** - gloomy, helplessly sad, despairing  
**hovel** - small, miserable dwelling  
**barbarity** - inhuman; harsh or cruel conduct; uncivilized  
**purloined** - stolen  
**demeanor** - the way a person looks and acts  
**countenance** - expression of the face  
**imperceptible** - very slight  
**pensive** - thoughtful  
**symmetry** - well-balanced arrangement of parts  
**venerable** - deserving respect because of age, character, or importance  
**viands** - food  
**enigmatic** - an obscure riddle, puzzling, unexplainable  
**poignantly** - very touching; keenly distressing to the mind or feelings  
**abstained** - hold oneself back  
**articulate** - distinctly, clear  
**exhortations** - urgings by strong appeals  
**conjectured** - guessed  
**mortification** - shame, humiliation  
**arbiters** - one who has power to judge or decide  
**conciliating** - to overcome the hatred of; to win favor; make calm and amenable; pacify, reconcile  
**exhilarated** - made lively  
**execration** - to denounce; to hate, to abhor or loathe

## Chapters XIII and XIV

**verdure** - fresh greenness of flourishing vegetation  
**conjecture** - guess or theory based on inconclusive facts  
**dispelling** - driving away, scattering  
**cadence** - rhythmic flow, vocal inflection  
**enraptured** - filled with great delight  
**declamatory** - overblown style of speaking, verbose  
**subsequent** - following in time or order  
**degenerating** - deteriorating or decaying; morally degrading  
**scion** - a descendant  
**squalid** - very dirty

**unsullied** - untainted, perfect cleanliness  
**subsist** - to exist  
**stealth** - secret or sly action  
**dote** - to lavish excessive fondness  
**indignation** - anger over something unjust  
**obnoxious** - very disagreeable, offensive; hateful  
**flagrant** - outrageous; glaring  
**zeal** - eager desire or effort, enthusiasm  
**consummation** - completion, fulfillment  
**ensuing** - a consequence following immediately afterward  
**implements** - tools  
**tenets** - principles, beliefs  
**indelibly** - permanently, something not easily erased  
**harem** - multiple women living in a male-dominated dwelling, like a palace  
**emulation** - trying to equal or excel  
**facilitated** - made easy; helped bring about, assisted  
**exile** - person forced to leave his or her country or home  
**expostulate** - remonstrate in a friendly way; reason earnestly  
**reiterating** - verbal repetition  
**mandate** - an authoritative command  
**adverse** - unfavorable, harmful

#### Chapters XV and XVI

**deprecate** - express strong disapproval of  
**portmanteau** - stiff, oblong traveling bag with two compartments opening like a book; pouch  
**disquisition** - long or formal speech or writing about a subject  
**vice** - fault, bad habit  
**patriarch** - male leader of a family or clan  
**imbued** - filled with; inspired  
**alluring** - strongly attractive  
**sagacity** - keen, sound judgment  
**supplication** - humble and earnest request or prayer  
**mediation** - friendly intervention  
**intrusion** - coming unasked and unwanted  
**instigate** - urge on; stir up  
**consternation** - great dismay; paralyzing terror  
**tumult** - commotion  
**wantonly** - done without reason or excuse; heartlessly  
**havoc** - ruin, injury  
**impotence** - helplessness  
**myriads** - countless  
**imprudently** - unwisely  
**appeased** - satisfied  
**gesticulations** - lively or excited movements of body parts  
**soothed** - calmed or comforted  
**spurned** - refused with scorn  
**inanimate** - lifeless  
**vestige** - trace; track; footprint  
**succor** - help, aid  
**imprecate** - call down evil curses on  
**rustic** - a country person; rough in appearance  
**recompense** - to award compensation, to make amends for damage  
**imbibed** - to take in, to absorb, or assimilate

**ogre** - monster  
**epithets** - curses; hateful comments  
**benignity** - kindness, graciousness  
**sanguinary** - bloodthirsty or bloody  
**requisition** - a demand, a requirement

#### Chapters XVII and XVIII

**concede** - to acknowledge as true or proper  
**precipitate** - to bring about suddenly; hasty; rash  
**insurmountable** - unable to overcome  
**contortions** - a twisting out of shape  
**detrimental** - harmful; causing a disadvantage  
**detestation** - hate, intense dislike  
**compassionate** - helping those that suffer; feeling for another's sorrow  
**malice** - a desire to hurt or harm others  
**feint** - a false pretense, movement intended to deceive  
**naught** - nothing  
**disquisition** - a formal discourse  
**exordium** - an exposition or introduction of a speech or composition  
**dissipate** - dispel, cause to disappear  
**solemnization** - to turn into; to observe a formal ceremony  
**candor** - speaking openly what one thinks, giving an honest opinion  
**manifold** - of many kinds; many and various  
**dilatory** - tending to delay, not prompt  
**guise** - mask; pretense  
**coveted** - eagerly desired (usually something of someone else's)  
**impediment** - hindrance, obstacle  
**intimated** - suggested indirectly, hinted  
**machinations** - evil plottings, secret schemes  
**acquiesced** - to give in to, to consent passively  
**sedulous** - hard-working, diligent  
**indolence** - idleness, laziness  
**variegated** - to give a variety of colors; to diversify  
**promontory** - point of land extending into the water  
**chastened** - restrained from excess, moderated  
**ineffectual** - useless; without effect

#### Chapters XIX and XX

**afforded** - to have the financial means for  
**profound** - coming from the depths of one's being; extremely thoughtful  
**transitory** - existing briefly, short-lived  
**debar** - to exclude, forbid, prevent  
**alleging** - stating positively as a reason or excuse  
**palpitate** - beat very rapidly, throb  
**novelties** - new or unusual things  
**expedite** - make easy; speed up  
**remissness** - negligence, carelessness in doing what one has to do  
**languid** - weak, lacking energy or vitality  
**antiquity** - things from times long ago, great age  
**rendezvous** - meeting place  
**congenial** - agreeable  
**dissuade** - to discourage from a purpose or course of action by persuasion

**remonstrate** - to protest or object  
**benumbed** - to make numb or inactive  
**tumult** - commotion, noise, or uproar  
**immersed** - absorbed; involved deeply  
**unremitting** - incessant, persistent  
**malignant** - highly injurious, showing ill-will  
**provocation** - causing someone irritation  
**propagated** - to reproduce  
**sophisms** - a plausible but mistaken argument  
**profundity** - a deep intellectual ability  
**presentiment** - premonition, a sense of something about to occur  
**condescension** - patronizing manner  
**wiliness** - calculating  
**inexorable** - relentless; not capable of being persuaded by pleas  
**insuperable** - insurmountable, incapable of being overcome  
**atrocious** - horrible, cruel, extremely evil  
**reverie** - dreamy thoughts, thinking of pleasant things  
**cultivation** - preparing land for crops by plowing and planting  
**debility** - feebleness  
**politic** - prudent; wise in looking out for one's own interests  
**fortitude** - courage in facing pain or danger

#### Chapters XXI and XXII

**benevolent** - kind, good natured, charitable  
**deposed** - declared under oath  
**supposition** - the act of believing an unproven statement; an assumption  
**augury** - act of predicting the future; an omen  
**apothecary** - druggist or pharmacist  
**interment** - placement in the grave  
**squalidness** - having a dirty appearance  
**languid** - feeling weak; indifferent  
**livid** - ashen or pallid (usually due to anger)  
**retrospect** - a review or contemplation of past events  
**incitement** - to stir up, urge on, or provoke to anger  
**repugnance** - offensive, repulsive  
**delirium** - a clouded mental state, confusion  
**precarious** - uncertain, dangerous, risky  
**enraptured** - to move to delight  
**vexations** - those problems that irritate or annoy  
**torpor** - apathy; condition of inactivity  
**in quietude** - a state of uneasiness  
**laudanum** - an opium-based drug  
**indefatigable** - untiring, tireless  
**erroneous** - mistaken  
**unhallowed** - unholy  
**consternation** - sudden confusion or dismay  
**curbed** - anything that is checked or restrained  
**imperious** - domineering, overbearing, urgent  
**formidable** - arousing dread or awe  
**augmented** - to increase or make more  
**futurity** - a future event or possibility  
**enunciate** - to pronounce clearly; articulate  
**consecrate** - to make sacred  
**emaciated** - extremely thin (usually by starvation or illness)

**vivacity** - liveliness, spirited  
**tangible** - real, concrete  
**artifice** - ingenuity, subtle deception  
**nuptial** - marriage or wedding ceremony

#### Chapters XXIII and XXIV

**adversary** - opponent, enemy  
**acme** - the point of highest achievement  
**reconciled** - to reestablish friendship or love  
**invective** - an abusive speech; violent attack with words  
**incredulity** - disbelieving, skeptical  
**physiognomy** - facial features that reveal characteristics  
**proportionate** - to adjust so that there are proper relations between parts  
**martyr** - one who sacrifices, suffers, or dies for principles  
**abjuration** - giving up  
**extricate** - to release from entanglement or difficulty; disengage  
**invoked** - to call upon a higher power for aid  
**bedim** - to make less bright  
**repose** - to rest  
**enjoined** - commanded; prohibited  
**instigated** - urged on  
**impassive** - revealing no emotion, expressionless  
**ecstasy** - condition of great joy, rapture  
**gibe** - to taunt; to make mocking remarks  
**sentiment** - an opinion based on emotions not fact  
**retribution** - punishment; something demanded in payment; vengeance; requital for some wrong that has been done  
**protraction** - prolonging  
**disencumbered** - to relieve or free from hindrance  
**appalling** - causing horror, terrifying  
**congeal** - to solidify  
**imprecations** - curses  
**posterity** - generations of the future  
**illustrious** - celebrated; famous  
**infantile** - babyish, childish  
**eradicated** - to destroy totally; to erase  
**fraught** - attended; accompanied  
**imminent** - about to occur  
**deputation** - a group appointed to represent others  
**immure** - to imprison  
**modulate** - to regulate; to vary the frequency of  
**languor** - spiritlessness, sluggishness  
**renounce** - give up formally  
**irradiation** - illuminations, brightness  
**purport** - to claim or profess the main idea  
**opprobrium** - disgrace arising from shameful conduct  
**contumely** - insulting treatment  
**execrate** - to denounce, to abhor  
**irremediable** - incurable, impossible to remedy  
**consummate** - to complete, to fulfill  
**rankle** - to cause irritation  
**conflagration** - a big and destructive fire