Frankenstein’s Over Obsession in *Frankenstein* by

Mary Shelley

A THESIS

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ABSTRACT

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This thesis analyzes *Frankenstein* novel written by Mary Shelley. Frankenstein is the major character who has problem with his obsession. He obsessed to create a human like him. This researcher uses descriptive qualitative method. The researcher also uses psychoanalysis theory by Sigmund Freud and new criticism theory to analyze that novel. The first is psychoanalysis theory. It is used to analyze the reason of Frankenstein’s obsession. The second is new criticism theory especially character and characterization. It is used to analyze the effect of Frankenstein’s obsession.

There are several results of this research. First, the analysis shows that the reason of Frankenstein’s obsession are; he wants to be pioneer in the new way because some scientists before can not create a human, to reach the bigger progression, will be admired as the creator and will be the happiest man in the world so will his father. Second, the analysis shows that the effect of Frankenstein’s obsession are; Frankenstein gets unhealthy condition and his character is change, the creation or monster becomes very cruel, and Frankenstein’s family becomes very sad. The last of the novel, Frankenstein loses all of his beloved person.

Keyword: Obsession, monster, Frankenstein, psychoanalysis.
INTISARI


Dosen Pembimbing: Abu Fanani, S.S, M.Pd


Ada beberapa hasil dari penelitian ini. Pertama, analisis menunjukkan bahwa alasan dari obsesi Frankenstein adalah ingin menjadi pelopor dengan cara yang baru, ingin mencapai kemajuan yang lebih besar, akan dihormati sebagai pencipta, serta ia dan ayahnya menjadi orang yang paling bahagia di dunia. Kedua, peneliti menunjukkan bahwa efek atau akibat dari obsesi tersebut, Frankenstein mengalami gangguan kesehatan dan karakternya berubah, ciptaannya atau monster menjadi sangat kejam dan keluarga Frankenstein menjadi sangat sedih. Di akhir cerita, Frankenstein kehilangan semua orang yang ia sayangi.

Kata Kunci: Obsesi, monster, Frankenstein, psikoanalisis.
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Etymologically, literature comes from Latin word “literattura” which is derived from “littera” meaning “letter” in English. The meaning of letter is the smallest units of text (Klarer 1). Literature indicates the whole of written expression, with the limitation that not all written document is included as literature, because literature is creativity of an art (Wellek and Warren 3). So, literature is creativity on art which indicates the whole of written experience expression.

According to Drucker, there are five types of literary work. Those are drama, poetry, prose, nonfiction and media. The writer is interested in prose. The term prose is applied to all forms of written or spoken expression which do not have a regular pattern (Holman 354). The most typical varieties of prose are novels and short stories. Prose is written in complete sentence and organized in paragraphs.

The writer uses novel to do this research. The term novel is used in its broadest sense to designate any extended fictional prose narrative (Holman 299). According to Oxford dictionary, Novel is a fictitious prose narrative of book length, typically representing character and action with some degree of realism. One of the kinds novel is gothic novel. According to Abrams, gothic novel aims to evoke frightening terror by exploiting mystery and a variety of horrors (111).
Gothic novel is a form of novel in which mystery, magic, and heroism are the chief characteristics. There are two elements of the novel; intrinsic and extrinsic element. Wellek and Warren explain that intrinsic element are some elements in novel including plot, theme, setting, point of view, conflict, character and characterization. This research focuses on intrinsic elements especially character and characterization. Holman says that character refers to a person in a fictional story while the creation of imaginary persons so that they exist for the reader as real within the limits of the fiction is called characterization (75).

Frankenstein novel is one of the example of gothic romance novel (Holman 205). Frankenstein novel tells about Frankenstein as the main character in that story. Frankenstein has a very smart brain and he loves science very much. He is happy when he meets professors in the University in Ingolstadt. Because of it, he is inspired from some incident in his life. Frankenstein has obsession to create human. He imagines his creation will respect and thank him because he is the creator and gives life for him. Frankenstein began to create a creation or a monster. His activity was done in a laboratory which is given by his professor. When his work finished, he did not get anything from his obsession. Frankenstein became sick and crazy.

Based on the explanation above, the writer chooses this novel because the story of this novel is similar with the real life. As the writer knows that some people has an obsession in their life. Darlene Lancer says that when obsession dominates people, they become numb to others and sap all the pleasure of life. The more someone is obsessed with someone else, the more someone lose.
There are some previous studies which analyzed *Frankenstein* Novel by Mary Shelley. The first is Nur Aini Setyaningrum in 2017. Her thesis is under the title *The Real Monster in Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein*. The second is Risqi Mayda Putri in 2017. Her thesis is under the title *An Existence of Victor Frankenstein’s life in Frankenstein by Mary Shelley*. The third is Sila Cerkez in 2013. Her thesis is under the title *Frankenstein or The Modern Prometheus and The Psychology of Mary Shelley*. Although some researchers have been analyzed this novel, the writer analyzes this novel and focuses on Frankenstein’s obsession and the impacts toward other characters in this novel. According to Oxford dictionary, Obsession is an idea or thought that continually preoccupies or intrudes on a person’s mind. In Merriam Webster, obsession is a persistant disturbing preoccupation with an often unreasonable idea or feeling. People get so preoccupied with their obsessions that it makes them anxious or emotionally unstable. According to Lancer, obsession can posses someone’s mind.

Based on the explanation above, the writer wants to analyze on the obsession of Frankenstein as the main character to be a creator of monster. Frankenstein preoccupies with his creation. He admits that he can do anything. He will do anything to get what he wants. It is impossible that human can create a human like God. So, although Frankenstein tries to create a human using some materials like the structure of human body, he cannot create a human as beautiful as the creation of God.
1.2 Statement of the Problems

Based on the background of the research above, the researcher provides some research questions as follows:

1. Why does Frankenstein want to consummate his obsession?

2. How are the effects of Frankenstein creation toward characters in 
   *Frankenstein* novel?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Through this paper, the writer wants to present following objectives:

1. To explain the Frankenstein’s reason to consummate his obsession.

2. To find out the Frankenstein creation’s effects toward characters in 
   *Frankenstein* novel?

1.4 Significance of the Study

The study of “Frankenstein Over Obsession in *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley” is expected to provide contribution to the students of literary study and the readers of literary works as well. Theoretically, this study has a purpose to become a reference to make deeper research in the future. Practically, this study aims to add comprehension completely about intrinsic element from this novel. Even more, for the common readers, this research will give an explanation in common life about the danger of obsession.
1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study focuses on Frankenstein, the major character of *Frankenstein* novel by Mary Shelley. The analysis is centered on the over obsession in his desire. Concerning the theories employed, the writer limits the term ‘Obsession’ in the life of human being. The obsession that make Frankenstein create a human is analyzed based on Sigmund Freud’s concepts on Psychoanalysis. Sigmund Freud theory is about theory of personality. There are three of personality; id, ego and superego. The personality attitudes appear in Frankenstein’s obsession and the effect of it.

1.6 Method of the Study

In this chapter, the writer explains the way how this research is conducted. In order to get a systematic order to conduct this research, the writer divides this chapter into four parts; Research Design, Source of Data, Method of Collecting Data and Data Analysis.

1.6.1 Research Design

This research design is qualitative method. Qualitative research allows the researcher to collect the data themselves through examining documents, observing behavior, and interviewing participants (Creswell 38). The researcher collects the data by examining documents from the words, phrases, clauses, sentences and paragraph from Frankenstein novel by Mary Shelley. Qualitative research is also called as unstructural research. It means that the purpose is mainly to describe a situation, experience, problem or event (
Kumar 32). Based on the method, the researcher will explain the result of this study by describing the cause and effect of overly obsession of Frankenstein.

1.6.2 Source of Data

The data source of this research is divided into two kinds. Primary data source is *Frankenstein* novel which is written by Mary Shelley and published by Icon Classics in 2005 and secondary data source are library research and online source. But the researcher focuses on the novel. And the data are some narrations and conversations in the whole of the novel includes sentence, phrase or paragraph which related with this research.

1.6.3 Method of Collecting Data

The writer will collect the data from library, online resource, and book store which have relationship with Frankenstein novel by Marry Shelley.

1. Reading the whole of *Frankenstein* novel by Marry Shelley.
2. Finding the narrations and conversations which explain about id, ego and superego of Frankenstein.
3. Underlining the narrations and conversations which include the reason of Frankenstein’s Obsession.
4. Underlining the narrations and conversations which include the effect of Frankenstein’s Obsession.

1.6.4 Data Analysis

The researcher has some steps to analyze the data:
1. Analyzing the data about the reason of Frankenstein’s Obsession and relates to theory of personality by Sigmund Freud.
2. Analyzing the data about the effect of Frankenstein’s Obsession and relates to theory of personality by Sigmund Freud.
3. Making conclusion based on the result of the analysis.
CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This chapter contains the theory which is used as the guidance of the analysis. A theory provides the framework to make the data simpler and describe it into a meaningful way (Schultz 33). The writer will analyze the data using psychoanalysis theory by Sigmund Freud and new criticism. Psychoanalysis theory by Sigmund Freud is called Theory of Personality. It will be used to analyze the reasons of the obsession of Frankenstein as the main character in Frankenstein novel. While new criticism theory will be used to analyze the effects of his obsession by understanding the character of that novel. Moreover, to support this analysis, previous study is needed.

2.1.1 Psychoanalysis

Psychoanalysis is a branch of psychology particularly concerned with individual experience (Milton et al 17). Everyone has different experience. Sigmund Freud states that the goal of psychoanalysis is to help people solving their psychological problems, which often called disorders or dysfunction (Tyson 12). Everyone has psychological problems. And also, psychoanalytic concepts become part of our everyday life whether people realize or not. Psychoanalysis can help people not only to better understand human behavior, but also be able to help them understand literary work. Sigmund Freud, the inventor of
psychoanalysis theory, is a physician in Vienna, Austria. Psychoanalysis has three aspects (Milton, et.al.33): first, psychoanalysis is a mind frame of knowledge, which has been discovered through the kind of work and studying human phenomena commonly. Second, the word ‘psychoanalysis’ refers to a method for examining the mind. Third, psychoanalysis refers to a form of psychotherapeutic treatment. Freud divides our mental life in three parts: the unconscious, the preconscious and the conscious (Ryckman 36). Freud demonstrates that our mind is like iceberg (Guerin,et.al. 154). He means that the below surface of iceberg is our unconscious mind while the upstairs surface of iceberg is our conscious mind.

**Unconscious**

Sigmund Freud says that unconscious consists of those practices and remembrances of which we are not aware in every moment. Unconscious works in the deepest level of personality (Ryckman 37). Further, unconscious is the motivation of human being because of desires, fears or conflict of which they are unaware (Tyson 12). Unconscious contains power of all behavior and is the repository of strengths that we cannot control (Schultz 56). It also contains all those feelings or instinct that are beyond our awareness but that nevertheless motivate most of our actions (Feist 24). For example, “a man may know that he is attracted to a woman but may not fully understand all the reasons for the attraction, some of which may even seem irrational.”
Preconscious

Sigmund Freud says that preconscious contains those experiences that are unconscious but that could become conscious with little effort. Preconscious is just the below surface of awareness. Preconscious is the storehouse of memories, perceptions, or thoughts of which we are not consciously aware at the moment (Schultz 56). For example, “if your mind strays from this page and you begin to think about a friend or what you did last night, you would be summoning up material from your preconsciousness into your consciousness” (Schultz 56). There are two sources that the preconscious come from: conscious perception and the unconscious (Feist 25).

Conscious

Conscious refers to those ideas and sensations of which people are aware. Sigmund Freud says that conscious is the limited one of human being because only small portion of our minds and memories occurs in awareness at any time (Schultz 56). He defines conscious as those mental elements in awareness at any given point in time (Feist 25). For example, “you may be conscious of the feel of your pen, the sight of the page, the idea you are trying to grasp, and a dog barking in the distance” (56). He also defines that conscious includes all the sensation and experience of which we are aware at any given moment (Schultz 56). Ideas can reach consciousness from two different directions: from perceptual conscious and from within the mental structure itself. Perceptual conscious turns into out of the world and do as a medium for the perception of external.
2.1.2 Theory of Personality

According to Sigmund Freud, personality drives from Latin word ‘persona’ which refers to a mask used by Roman actors in a play (Feist 8). Personality theorists say that “personality is a pattern of relatively permanent and unique characteristics that give both consistency and individuality to a person’s behavior” (Feist 4). Personality refers to our external and obvious characteristic. Someone’s personality can vary with the situation, so personality may change to different situation (Schultz 8). For example: “although we recognize that a friend may be calm much of time. We know that he or she can become excitable, nervous, or panicky at other times (9)”. Psychoanalysis theory that will be used is Sigmund Freud’s theory which can be called Theory of Personality. Sigmund Freud’s psychoanalytic theory is one of the great intellectual contribution of modern times, and it continues to influence western thought today (Passer and Smith 443). Sigmund Freud explains that there are three personality structure: id, ego and superego. They are not persons, places, or physical things. They are the names given to certain motivational forces these existence of which is inferred from the way people behave. Each of them has its own highly specific role in maintaining normal personality functioning, (Hall 22).

Id

The first is das Es, or the ‘it’, which is almost translated as ‘id’ in English. Sigmund Freud defines id as the main of personality and completely unconscious (Feist 27). Id is a part of the personality that contains our primitive impulses such
as thirst, anger, hunger and the desire for instant satisfaction. He says that id is the reservoir of libido, the main source of all psychic energy (Guerin, et.al. 156). Id also is the reservoir of the instincts, it is extremely and directly related to the satisfaction of bodily needs. Id has no contact with reality because the function is to seek pleasure or satisfy basic desires (27). Id is characterized by a marvelous and shapeless energy. Sigmund Freud believes that id is based on our pleasure principle and to fulfill the primordial life principle (Feist 28). Pleasure principle is the principle by which the id functions to avoid pain and maximize desire (Schultz 57). Not only to avoid pain and maximize desire, but also to gratify people instincts for pleasure without respect for social conventions, authorized ethics, or moral control. Id leads people to do any things, to destruct people, and to satisfy its impulses for pleasure (Guerin, et.al. 157). The id has no awareness of reality (Schultz 57). Because id is to seek pleasure, it can’t make value decisions between good and evil. The id sometimes represented by a devil sitting on someone’s shoulder. Freud assumes the id is identical to the devil as defined by theologians (157). The id has no morality and illogical. In review, id is completely unconscious and primitive impulses because only to seek pleasure without regard for what is proper or not.

Ego

The second is das Ich, or the ‘I’ and which is almost translated as ego in English. Sigmund Freud says that ego is the rational governing agent of the mind (Guerin, et.al. 157). Ego is the part of the personality that maintains a balance between our impulses (our id) and our conscience (superego). The purpose of the
ego is not to prevent the desires of the id but to reduce the tension of id. According to Sigmund Freud, ego is the region of the mind which contact to the reality, so it is called reality principle (Feist, 29). Reality principle is the principle by which the ego functions to provide appropriate restraints on the expression of the id instincts (Schultz 58). Reality principle stands in the opposite of the pleasure principle, by which the id operates. As the region of people mind which contact with external world, ego becomes the decision-making of personality. So, ego can decide to do or not to do. Ego decides when and how to satisfy the id instincts. It means right and socially acceptable times, places, and objects that will satisfy the id impulses (Schultz 58). Ego can make decision in each people mental level: conscious, preconscious or unconscious. For instance, “a woman’s ego may consciously motivate her to choose excessively neat, well-tailored clothes because she feels comfortable when well dressed. At the same time, she may be only dimly aware of previous experiences of being rewarded for choosing nice clothes. In addition, she may be unconsciously motivated to be excessively neat and orderly due to childhood experiences of toilet training” (Feist 29). The ego understands that other person has needs and desires and that sometimes being impulsive or selfish can hurt people in the end. It is the ego’s job to meet the needs of the id, while taking into consideration of the reality of the situation. The ego lacks the strong energy of the id. It regulates the primitive ideas of the id so that they may be released in nondestructive behavioral patterns (Guerin, et.al. 157). Freud points out in “The Dissection of the Psychical Personality,” “To adopt a popular mode of speaking, we might say that the ego stands for reason and good
sense while the id stands for the untamed passions” (157). Freud also says that the ego is never independent of the id because ego get the power and energy from the id (Schultz 58). Freud argues that “we must protect ourselves from being controlled by the id and proposed various unconscious mechanism with which to defend the ego” (58). So, the function of the ego must be controlled constantly. In review, ego is rational master of personality which can control the id impulses and find the appropriate one to satisfy the id impulses.

**Superego**

The third is *das Uber-Ich*, or the ‘over-I’, which is almost translated as ‘superego’ in English. In Freudian psychology, superego represents the moral and ideal aspects of personality. Sigmund Freud says that superego is the censor of moral agency, the repository of conscience and pride (Guerin, et.al 158). As Freud says in “The Anatomy of the Mental Personality,” the” representative of all moral restrictions, the advocate of the impulse toward perfection, in short it is as much as we have been able to apprehend psychologically of what people call the higher things in human life” (95). Superego is led by moralistic and idealistic principles, contrast with the pleasure principle of id and the realistic principle of ego.

Superego represents the moral requests and prohibitions which does not come from external people, but from one’s own ordinary love of important others, and the wish to protect them from one’s own more pitiless side (Feist 30). The superego has two subsystems, are the conscience and the ego-ideal. Generally, conscience tells people what they should not do because it is the result from bad behavior’s experience. Freud says that “Conscience is a component of the
superego that contains behaviors for which the child has been punished” (Schultz 59). Whereas the ego-ideal tells people what they should do because it is the result from good behavior’s experience (Feist 30). Ego-ideal is a component of the superego that contains the moral or ideal behaviors for which a person should strive (Schultz 59). Superego is a personality system that contains values and rules relating to good and bad (Koswara, 35). In superego, someone begins to know about norms. Someone feels conscious about anything that he is done. Id would make someone devils, but superego would have people behave as angels (Guerin, et.al 158). Superego strives only for moral perfection (Schultz 59). The id presses for satisfaction, the ego tries to postpone it, and the superego wishes morality above all (59).

2.1.2 New Criticism

New criticism is a theory which appears in the mid-20th century. The term New Criticism was created by John Crowe Ransom in 1941 then became a theory in the 1960 in American literary criticism. New Criticism or Russian Formalism is a theory which is focused on literature itself. Abram says that the principle of the new criticism are commonly verbal. The unique procedure of new criticism is close reading. It means that new criticism considers the detail analysis of the relation and ambiguity of the verbal text in a work (181). The basic orientation of analysis in the new criticism are adapted to the contextual criticism of Eliseo Vivas and Murray Krieger. Contextual criticism means as “the claim that the poem is tight, compelling, finally closed context” then prevents “our escape to the world of reference and action beyond” and requires that we “judge the work’s
efficacy as an aesthetic object” (182). New Criticism is a theory based on the text only. Wellek and Warren explain about the theory of new criticism, the differences between two elements in literary works intrinsic and extrinsic. Intrinsic element takes part from the inside of literary work itself. It is used by the narrator to show the elements of the novel. The elements are characters, plot, setting, theme, and point of view. While extrinsic element relates to the outside of the literary work such as biography, history, psychology and sociology (139).

According to that statement, new criticism deals with inside of the text only and does not need to deals with the outside of the text like historical, political, social, biographycal and other information about the author of the novel. Reader cannot connect the information about the author inside in their work.

Based on the explanation above, the writer will explain more about character and characterization because this analysis would like to explore more about the effect of Frankenstein’s obsession through the characters in the novel.

**Character**

Character is a part of intrinsic element. According to Abrams, character is a person who symbolize in a play or written work which has certain moral, intellectual, and emotional. Then, the reader will interpret the person from what they do or say (32). According to Bernardo, there are several types of characters:

Types of Character :

1. Major or central character, vital to the development and resolution of the conflict.
2. Minor character, serve to complement the major character and help move the plot events forward.

3. Dynamic, a person who changes over time. Dynamic characters are usually as a result of resolving a central conflict.

4. Static, a character who does not change over time. His or her personality does not evolve.

5. Round, someone who has complex personality. He or she is often portrayed as contradictory person.

6. Flat, someone who has one kind of personality trait or characteristic.

7. Stock, a character who has stereotypical through repeated use in particular types of stories.

8. Protagonist, is same with the main character in the story. Protagonist is faced the conflict that must be resolved.

9. Antagonist, a character which represent the opposition against protagonist or can be called that antagonist is the obstacle for protagonist.

10. Anti-Hero, is same with the major character, usually the protagonist, who lacks conventional nobility of mind and who struggles for values not deemed universally admirable.

11. Foil, a character whose personal qualities contrast with another character.

12. Symbolic, a symbolic character can be major or minor character whose very existence represent some aspects of society.
Authors may create their character in the novel, but they do not expose all character through author’s explanation. The reader can conclude the personality of characters through their dialogue or the narration of the author. So in order to get more knowing about character personality, characterization analysis is needed.

**Characterization**

Characterization is the specific way for the author to show and tell the character to the reader. It means that the author shows and tells both internal (thought and feeling) and external side (speech and action) of the character. According to Abrams, there are two methods in characterizing the person in narrative; showing and telling. Showing is also called the dramatic method. Here, the author presents the character’s conversation and performing. Then the reader is allowed to presume the temperament of that person through what they say and do (33). In telling method, the author interferes confidently in order to describe how the temperament of the character (34).

Types of characterization:

1. Direct characterization, the speaker or the narrator tells to the reader about the character directly.

2. Indirect characterization, the character sayd or does something. The reader presumes what the character is about.

**2.2 REVIEW OF RELATED STUDY**

There are some previous study which relates to this research. The first previous study was written by Nur Aini Setyaningrum, from State Islamic University of Surabaya, English department, under the title *The Real Monster in*
Mary Shelley’s Novel Frankenstein in 2017. This study discusses about the image of monster in other perception. There are three statements of problems in this study: how are Frankenstein and his creature characterized in the novel of Mary Shelley, who is more appropriate to be called as a monster, and how does this novel deconstruct the image of ‘monster’. This study uses deconstruction of Derrida to analyze Frankenstein and his creature. The result of this study shows that the real monster is Victor Frankenstein because he is chaos maker in the novel.

The second previous study was written by Risqi Mayda Putri, from State Islamic University of Surabaya, English department, under the title An Existence of Victor Frankenstein’s life in Frankenstein by Mary Shelley in 2017. This study discusses about the process of life of Frankenstein. There are two statement of problems in this study: how is Victor Frankenstein characterized in Frankenstein’s novel, and how is the process of Victor Frankenstein’s life viewed from Kierkergaard’s existentialism stages. This study uses New Criticism theory to analyze the basic data and existentialism theory from Soren Kierkegard (Aesthetic, Ethic and Religious stages of life) to analyze the main point. The result of this study finds that Victor Frankenstein’s life existentialism leads by his obsessional character.

Those previous study and this research analyze the same subject, Frankenstein. The difference is the theory are used. The first previous study uses deconstruction of Derrida and the second previous study uses existentialism theory by Soren Kierkegard. This research will use psychoanalysis theory by
Sigmund Freud or theory of personality to analyze the main characteristic of *Frankenstein* novel.

The third previous study was written by Sila Cerkez, from Eastern Mediterranean University, Master of Art in English Language and Literature, under the title *Frankenstein or The Modern Prometheus and The Psychology of Mary Shelley* in 2013. This study discusses about the psychology of Mary Shelley as the writer of *Frankenstein* novel. The writer uses some theories and one of them is psychoanalysis theory by Sigmund Freud or theory of personality (id, ego and superego) to know the psychological problems of Mary Shelley when she writes this novel. This study shows that by writing *Frankenstein* novel, she tries to satisfy her hunger for recognition, get approval and satisfy her lack of self-confidence that lies behind the fear of not being accepted and stems from being repulsed by her father who raised her. She writes out of remorse in order to restore her mental health. The result of this study shows that some characters in the novel represents Mary Shelley. The creature or the monster represents Mary Shelley’s id, because he does not want to be alone and wants to be admitted by her father. She is also isolated from her father like monster who isolated from *Frankenstein*. Robert Walton represents Mary Shelley’s ego because he cancels his planning to achieve great accomplishment like *Frankenstein*. *Frankenstein* represents Mary Shelley’s superego because he tells his own story to stop Robert’s id.

The last previous study analyzes the same subject with this research and also the same theory. The difference is, the last previous study focuses on psychological of Mary Shelley when wrote her novel, this research focuses on
psychological aspect obsession of Frankenstein as the main character of

*Frankenstein* novel, its reasons and its effects. The writer uses theory of

personality (id, ego, and superego) from Sigmund Freud to analyze the journey of

Frankenstein during creates a monster. The writer finds the id, ego, and superego

and then analyze the reasons and effects of Frankenstein’s over obsession.
CHAPTER III

FRANKENSTEIN’S OVER OBSESSION

This chapter tries to answer the research problems in the previous chapter. The writer wants to analyze the reasons and effects of Victor Frankenstein’s obsession. Like in the previous chapter, the theory of personality that explained by Sigmund Freud will be used to analyze the cause or the reason of Victor Frankenstein’s obsession. There are three parts of personality: id, ego and superego. After deciding the three personality of Victor Frankenstein, this study will analyze the effect of Victor Frankenstein’s obsession using new criticism theory.

3.1 Reason of Victor Frankenstein’s obsession

3.1.1 He wants to be pioneer in the new way

Victor Frankenstein as the main character in Frankenstein novel, is the one and only son from Alphone Frankenstein and Madame Frankenstein. He was born in Geneva. His father respects to all people and give much attention to public business. Frankenstein grows lovely from his parents. There is no child as happy as him because his parents loves him so much. His mother wants to have a daughter, so she adopts Elizabeth Lavenza when Frankenstein and her go to cottage of the poor in the shores of the Lake of Como Italy, at the time Frankenstein is five years old. Elizabeth Lavenza is given to Frankenstein as a gift. He understands the meaning literally so Elizabeth is his to love and protect.
She is Milanese nobleman’s daughter and her mother is a German who has passed away. So, Elizabeth lives with a peasant and his wife in a poor cottage. She is more beautiful than other children. Besides Elizabeth, Frankenstein also has a best friend named Henry Clerval. He is a son of a merchant of Geneva. They have different characteristic. Elizabeth is a Calm and more concentrated, Clerval loves literature, and Frankenstein loves science very much. Frankenstein grows up together with Elizabeth. She likes to contemplate the beautiful appearances all of things around her, while Frankenstein likes to investigate the causes of it. Since that, Frankenstein has strong curiosity of the laws of nature. To gratify his curiosity, he wants to learn about the secret of Earth.

Elizabeth was of a calmer and more concentrated disposition; but, with all my ardour, I was capable of a more intense application and was more deeply smitten with the thirst for knowledge........... The world was to me a secret which I desired to divine. Curiosity, earnest research to learn the hidden laws of nature, gladness akin to rapture, as they were unfolded to me, are among the earliest sensations I can remember. (Ch 2, Pg 27)

Different with his best friend, Henry Clerval. Frankenstein does not interest in the structure of language, government, and also politics. Frankenstein is more interested in anything about earth. He is interested in the substance of things and the soul of man’s mistery. Frankenstein wants to learn about the secret of heaven and earth. He wants to investigate the earth metaphysically or the higher in physic.

My temper was sometimes violent, and my passions vehement; but by some law in my temperature they were turned not towards childish pursuits but to an eager desire to learn, and not to learn all things indiscriminately. I confess that neither the structure of languages, nor the code of governments, nor the politics of various states possessed attractions for me. It was the secrets of heaven and earth that I desired to learn; and whether it was the outward substance of things or the inner
spirit of nature and the mysterious soul of man that occupied me, still my inquiries were directed to the metaphysical, or in it highest sense, the physical secrets of the world. (Ch 2, Pg 28)

Frankenstein is thirteen years old when his family go to a party in Thonon and stay at the inn because the weather is not good enough. Frankenstein finds a volume of the works of Cornelius Agrippa. His father looks carelessly and says to Frankenstein that he should not waste time for learning it, because it is a rubbish. He reads that book with the greatest attention because of his desire to know everything of earth. He does not care with his father who commands him to leave that ancient book. Moreover, he brings that book to home and finds the whole of the author: Paracelus and Albertus Magnus. Indeed, he becomes the follower of them. As Sigmund Freud says that ego can be called reality principle, so Frankenstein read it in order to get the more knowledge.

But the cursory glance my father had taken of my volume by no means assured me that he was acquainted with its contents, and I continued to read with the greatest avidity. When I returned home my first care was to procure the whole works of this author, and afterwards of Paracelsus and Albertus Magnus. I read and studied the wild fancies of these writers with delight; they appeared to me treasures known to few besides myself. I have described myself as always having been imbued with a fervent longing to penetrate the secrets of nature. In spite of the intense labour and wonderful discoveries of modern philosophers, I always came from my studies discontented and unsatisfied. (Ch 2, Pg 30)

To get more knowledge, Frankenstein studies hard. Besides he goes to school everyday in Geneva, he also studies at home diligent. That is his ego. Ego cannot separate from id because ego gets power and energy from the id. So, Frankenstein has power to study from his id to get more knowledge.

It may appear strange that such should arise in the eighteenth century; but while I followed the routine of education in the schools of Geneva, I was, to a great degree, self-taught with regard to my favourite studies. My
father was not scientific, and I was left to struggle with a child’s blindness, added to a student’s thirst for knowledge. (Ch 2, Pg 31)

When Frankenstein is fifteen years old, his family moves to their house in Belrive. Over there, he watches the strongest thunderstorm. The thunder attacks the Oak tree in the front of his house. After the lighting is lost, the Oak tree also disappear. The next day, Frankenstein looks the Oak. The tree does not disappear, but it becomes shattered. It is the first time he sees the most damage of thing. At the moment, a man who has the best knowledge in natural philosphy comes to him. The man interests in that happen and explains about the laws of electricity. By listening his explanation, Frankenstein feels that all of them are contrast with his lords: Cornelius Agrippa, Albertus Magnus and Paracelsus. Then, his ego decides to leave the theorists because he thinks that it will be nothing to study not the real knowledge. Because ego knows the right and socially acceptable times, places, and objects that will satisfy the id impulses. Frankenstein prefers to study mathemathic and other branches after knowing that the previously philosopher is contrast with modern philosophy.

It seemed to me as if nothing would or could ever be known. All that had so long engaged my attention suddenly grew despicable. By one of those caprices of the mind which we are perhaps most subject to in early youth, I at once gave up my former occupations, set down natural history and all its progeny as a deformed and abortive creation, and entertained the greatest disdain for a would-be science which could never even step within the threshold of real knowledge. In this mood of mind I betook myself to the mathematics and the branches of study appertaining to that science as being built upon secure foundations, and so worthy of my consideration. (Ch 2, Pg 32)

Frankenstein continues his study to the University of Ingolstadt when he is seventeen years old. His father thinks that it will be better to complete his
education with other customs than in his native country. His mother was dead calmly, so his departure to Ingolstadt is delayed. The next several days, Frankenstein leaves all of people who loves him. When he arrives in the University of Ingolstadt, he meets two professors there: Mr. Krempe and Mr. Waldman. The meeting with Mr. Waldman gives him new motivation. He believes that he can get more than what scientists have gotten before. The meeting also makes him obsessed to create a monster because he will be pioneer in the world through in different way.

As he went on I felt as if my soul were grappling with a palpable enemy; one by one the various keys were touched which formed the mechanism of my being; chord after chord was sounded, and soon my mind was filled with one thought, one conception, one purpose. So much has been done, exclaimed the soul of Frankenstein—more, far more, will I achieve; treading in the steps already marked, I will pioneer a new way, explore unknown powers, and unfold to the world the deepest mysteries of creation. (Ch 3, Pg 38)

3.1.2 He wants to reach the bigger progression

Frankenstein joins a class when Mr. Waldman teaches. Frankenstein tells him about the ancient philosophers that he has been followed, Mr. Waldman is just smile and explains that the successful of modern philosophers because of them. He says that the bigger progression can be reached. That is the next reason of Frankenstein’s obsession. Mr. Waldman is very happy for knowing that Frankenstein interested in philosophy. He must studies all of the branch of natural philosophy including mathematics if he wants not only to be an experimentalist but also a real scientist.

“I am happy,” said M. Waldman, “to have gained a disciple; and if your application equals your ability, I have no doubt of your success. Chemistry is that branch of natural philosophy in which the greatest
improvements have been and may be made; it is on that account that I have made it my peculiar study; but at the same time, I have not neglected the other branches of science. A man would make but a very sorry chemist if he attended to that department of human knowledge alone. If your wish is to become really a man of science and not merely a petty experimentalist, I should advise you to apply to every branch of natural philosophy, including mathematics.” (Ch 3, Pg 39)

Frankenstein has a power to reach his obsession. By remembering his professor’s advice, he reads all of the works of of modern inquirers with the greatest attention. He is very diligent to join the class in the University and gives almost good attention to the lecturer in the university. Beside that, he is very diligent to learn everything which he gets and also make a good relationship with all of the professor there includes Mr. Krempe. Because of his ardour, Frankenstein gets progression rapidly.

I read with ardour those works, so full of genius and discrimination, which modern inquirers have written on these subjects. I attended the lectures and cultivated the acquaintance of the men of science of the university,... My application was at first fluctuating and uncertain; it gained strength as I proceeded and soon became so ardent and eager that the stars often disappeared in the light of morning whilst I was yet engaged in my laboratory. (Ch 4, Pg 41)

To reach his destination, Frankenstein unburdens all of his power. He can finish the chemical equipments in two years. He is admired by all people in the University. Because there is none who can reach good achievement like Frankenstein before.

A mind of moderate capacity which closely pursues one study must infallibly arrive at great proficiency in that study; and I, who continually sought the attainment of one object of pursuit and was solely wrapped up in this, improved so rapidly that at the end of two years I made some discoveries in the improvement of some chemical instruments, which procured me great esteem and admiration at the university. (Ch 4, Pg 42)
The big project of Frankenstein’s obsession is caused by interesting in the structure of human. He has to learn about the cause of life and death also observes the natural decay and alteration of human body.

Unless I had been animated by an almost supernatural enthusiasm, my application to this study would have been irksome and almost intolerable. To examine the causes of life, we must first have recourse to death. I became acquainted with the science of anatomy, but this was not sufficient; I must also observe the natural decay and corruption of the human body. (Ch 4, Pg 42)

He disgorges all of his energy during several days and nights, he succeeds to find the cause of life. Not only that but also he can give life to inanimate things.

After so much time spent in painful labour, to arrive at once at the summit of my desires was the most gratifying consummation of my toils. But this discovery was so great and overwhelming that all the steps by which I had been progressively led to it were obliterated, and I beheld only the result. What had been the study and desire of the wisest men since the creation of the world was now within my grasp. Not that, like a magic scene, it all opened upon me at once: the information I had obtained was of a nature rather to direct my endeavours so soon as I should point them towards the object of my search than to exhibit that object already accomplished. (Ch 4, Pg 43)

After learning the corruptness of human body, Frankenstein has a wonderful power. He can give life to inanimate things. But it is not enough to continue his big project. He has to make a body as crucial as human’s body. Frankenstein does not doubt with his success. He will create a human like himself. He never thinks about the risk of his project. As the function of ego that the writer has explained in the previous chapter, the function is to connect the necessary of id. He just know that he can reach his obsession. During the process of his project, he has a trouble in getting the materials for creating the monster because it is a
God’s creation not human. But it does not make him be pessimist. He believes that his efforts will be appreciated for the successful future. Then, he decides to create a creation in a giant structure: having eight feet in height and large size in every part of the body.

I doubted at first whether I should attempt the creation of a being like myself, or one of simpler organization; but my imagination was too much exalted by my first success to permit me to doubt of my ability to give life to an animal as complete and wonderful as man. Nor could I consider the magnitude and complexity of my plan as any argument of its impracticability. It was with these feelings that I began the creation of a human being. As the minuteness of the parts formed a great hindrance to my speed, I resolved, contrary to my first intention, to make the being of a gigantic stature, that is to say, about eight feet in height, and proportionably large. After having formed this determination and having spent some months in successfully collecting and arranging my materials, I began. (Ch 4, Pg 45)

3.1.3 He wants to be the happiest man in the world

Other reasons of Frankenstein’s obsession are, he hopes his creation will admire him as the creator because he had given life to his creation. His creation will be perfect and happy. Frankenstein thinks that he will be the happiest man in the world and also his father because there is no father gets the best gratitude from the son like him. Because of the reason, Frankenstein is very energetic to do his big project. As the writer explain in the previous chapter, id is the based instinct in every human to seek a pleasure. It means that everyone has id or desire without caring other. The function of id is to gratify people instincts for pleasure, so it has no morality and illogical.

No one can conceive the variety of feelings which bore me onwards, like a hurricane, in the first enthusiasm of success. Life and death appeared to me ideal bounds, which I should first break through, and pour a torrent of light into our dark world. A new species would bless me as its creator
and source; many happy and excellent natures would owe their being to me. No father could claim the gratitude of his child so completely as I should deserve theirs. Pursuing these reflections, I thought that if I could bestow animation upon lifeless matter, I might in process of time (although I now found it impossible) renew life where death had apparently devoted the body to corruption. (Ch 4, Pg 45)

The reasons above give him support to finish his project. He works in laboratory overtime and does a nasty works. He collect the bones from human corpse room. He does not care about what he does, he just wants to reach his obsession.

I seemed to have lost all soul or sensation but for this one pursuit.... the unnatural stimulus ceasing to operate, I had returned to my old habits. I collected bones from charnel- houses and disturbed, with profane fingers, the tremendous secrets of the human frame. (Ch 4, Pg 45)

During his project, Frankenstein gets some bad consequences that will be explained in the answer of second of problem statement. On November, his creation has been finished but all of hopes is nothing. His monster becomes his misfortune. The appearance is very direful, the beautiful is nothing. It makes Frankenstein is very frightened. He goes to outside to his room because he can not see his creation again. He also can not see the miserable of his family because of his creation. Finally, he decides to leave his home to forget his misery. He goes to near Alpine valleys and spends his following day. Then, he meets his creation. The monster invites him to go to his cottage upon the mountain and the monster tells him about his miserable in life. The monster tells about his journey life. The meeting makes Frankenstein getting angry because his monster asks him to create a female monster that will become his friend. By hearing the pitiful story from his
monster, Frankenstein wants to create one monster again. As the creator, he feels that it’s his duty to give a happiness to his creation. This is caused by the promise of his monster, which he will go away from human and will life together with his couple. The monster also said that he will never be a troublemaker in the world. So, Frankenstein wants to create one monster more in female. Like the explanation of the writer that the function of ego is to reach what the desire. In this novel, Frankenstein wants to give a safety for all of his family and all of his beloved people so he begins to create a female monster.

For creating the second monster, Frankenstein asks some philosophers from England for helping him in his present undertaking. On the last of September, he goes to leave his hometown with Clerval by Elizabeth agreement. They stay in London. After several months, they receives a letter from someone in a Scotland who ever becomes his guess in Geneva. They leave London on 27th March and go to Oxford. Then, they go to Matlock. They will meet a Scotlandian in Perth. Frankenstein entrusts his best friend to him and he asks permission to go for about two or three months for finishing his work.

Frankenstein goes to farthest place from Orkney island to begin his second project and hires a little house for it. In his laboratory, he contemplates what he done and what will be done. Suddenly, he thinks about his project, it will be stopped or continued. He reflect on the horribility and his regret because of his creation, then he will create a monster like that. A monster which makes him in a suffer. He does not know how the characteristic of his second monster will be, it may become more cruel than his monster before and may she will kill more
people. His mind is filled by the risk if his second project finished. The male monster has been promised that he will go far away from human with his female monster, but Frankenstein does not know about the female monster. She may cleverer than male monster, and does not want to go with him or they may hate each other because their appearance. As Frankenstein remembers, that the male monster hates himself because his appearance. So, the female monster may choose a human and the male monster will get big angry. Because of it, he may make destruction in the world again. As the writer’s explanation, Sigmund Freud defines that superego represent the moral and ideal aspects of personality. Here, Frankenstein begins to know about norms and feels conscious for everything he was done. So, he decides to stop his second project. As the function of superego, it leads someone behave an angel.

“Begone! I do break my promise; never will I create another like yourself, equal in deformity and wickedness.” (ch 20 pg 169)

Frankenstein has determined to cancel of creating a female monster for accompanying male monster to do wickedness. Then, he ends his project in the laboratory and throws the remnant of creature which has broken into the sea.

I felt as if I was about the commission of a dreadful crime and avoided with shuddering anxiety any encounter with my fellow creatures. At one time the moon, which had before been clear, was suddenly overspread by a thick cloud, and I took advantage of the moment of darkness and cast my basket into the sea; I listened to the gurgling sound as it sank and then sailed away from the spot. (ch 20 pg 173)

From the explanation above, the writer knows that there are several reasons of Frankenstein’s obsession to create a monster. The first, Frankenstein
will be pioneer in the new way. The second, Frankenstein will reach the bigger progression than scientists have gotten before. The third or the main reason of Frankenstein’s obsession is Frankenstein will be admired by his creation because he gives life to him. Furthermore, he believes that he will be the happiest man in the world and so will his father does because he has given the best gratitude for him by creating a monster.

3.2 Effect of Victor Frankenstein’s obsession

Everything in the world has cause and effect. After doing something, there will be effect from what people has done. As Frankenstein has obsessed to create a monster, he gets some effects from his obsession. The effects are not only after finishing the monster but also while during creating it. The effects are known by analyzing it using New Criticism theory through the characteristics of Frankenstein novel. The effects of Frankenstein’s obsession are for Victor Frankenstein himself, the monster, and his family.

3.2.1 Effects for Frankenstein

Firstly, the writer will discuss about the effect of Frankenstein’s obsession for Victor Frankenstein himself. The effect of his obsession are getting unhealthy condition and also the changing of his characteristic. According to Callahan, WHO (World Health Organization) states two definition of health. First is that minimal level of health is necessary it there is to be any possibility of human happiness. Second is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. From the explanation, health is not only about physical appearance but also something inside of body.
Constitution number 23 1992 states that healthy includes four aspects, physical, mental, social and economy. Physical healthy is, when someone does not feel pain or there is no illness objectively. The part of the body is normal. Frankenstein gets unhealthy condition physically. He studies hard and never stop. He believes that he will get success on the next day or next hour when he gets failed. Because of his unremitting ardor, he becomes unhealthy. His cheek is pale, and isolates of others. His nasty work makes him frightened and lost all his sensation. The author shows the worst condition of Frankenstein while he is creating a monster.

My cheek had grown pale with study, and my person had become emaciated with confinement..... Who shall conceive the horrors of my secret toil as I dabbled among the unhallowed damps of the grave or tortured the living animal to animate the lifeless clay? My limbs now tremble, and my eyes swim with the remembrance; but then a resistless and almost frantic impulse urged me forward; I seemed to have lost all soul or sensation but for this one pursuit.... I kept my workshop of filthy creation; my eyeballs were starting from their sockets in attending to the details of my employment. (Ch 4, Pg 45)

When he is child in Geneva, he always likes the beautiful of nature. Now, during his labors, Frankenstein cannot enjoy the changing of the season: winter, spring and summer because he only focuses on his work. It makes him get sick in every night. He becomes very sensitive. The writer of the novel explains that the fall of a leaf makes him shocked. It is about the mental health. According to WHO, there are three components of mental health. The first is mind, means how someone is thinking. The second is emotional, means how someone express his emotion, fear, cheer, sad, happy and etc. The third or the last is spiritual, means how someone as the creation thanks to God in life. Frankenstein’s mind gets
unhealthy because he feels that he has done a crime if he remembers about his nasty works. It makes him avoid other people.

Every night I was oppressed by a slow fever, and I became nervous to a most painful degree; the fall of a leaf startled me, and I shunned my fellow creatures as if I had been guilty of a crime. Sometimes I grow alarmed at the wreck I perceived that I had become. (Ch4, Pg 47)

On November, the creation has been finished. Frankenstein creates the monster as beautiful as he can, but the output is far from his supposition. The monster has worst appearance. He gets nothing from his effort for about two years. He does not give a rest for his healthy. His beautiful dream is gone. On the contrary, his heart is filled with horror. It is about the emotional unhealthy of Frankenstein, how he expresses his feeling in fear because the result of his effort.

How can I describe my emotions at this catastrophe, or how delineate the wretch whom with such infinite pains and care I had endeavoured to form? His limbs were in proportion, and I had selected his features as beautiful.... For this I had deprived myself of rest and health. I had desired it with an ardor that far exceeded moderation; but now that I had finished, the beauty of the dream vanished, and breathless horror and disgust filled my heart. (Ch 5, Pg 50)

His creation, exactly his monster, is very frighten. After finishing the monster, Frankenstein gets mental unhealthy. He goes to his bedroom, and wants to sleep in order to forget that happen. He can sleep but a bad dream about Elizabeth comes to him. When he wakes up, the curtains bedroom is opened and he sees the monster. His monster speaks, but Frankenstein cannot understand what he said. By seeing his monster, Frankenstein runs in fear. He goes to his house yard. He walks up and down all night worriedly. He falls on the ground because of extreme weakness. His obsession makes him in deep disappointment, remember
that he has forgotten his food and rest to reach his obsession. Now, all of his expectation becomes suffering and hell for him.

Mingled with this horror, I felt the bitterness of disappointment; dreams that had been my food and pleasant rest for so long a space were now become a hell to me; and the change was so rapid, the overthrow so complete! (Ch 5, Pg 51)

In the next morning, the porter opens the gate. It is a freedom for Frankenstein, he goes to outside and walks straight away and leaves his apartment. He does not know what he is doing, he just continues walking. He paused in the train station and see his best friend, Henry Clerval is at the door in front of him. How glad Clerval meets his beloved friend and so do Frankenstein. Clerval reminds him about his father, Elizabeth and also about the atmosphere of his house in Geneva. The advent of Clerval makes Frankenstein is very happy for the first time. They talk each other, Clerval tells him about how he persuades his father to get permission. Frankenstein feels calm after hearing the condition of his beloved people, especially his father and Elizabeth from Clerval. But Clerval sees the different of Frankenstein. From their dialogue, is known that Frankenstein is in bad condition. He gets physical unhealthy. He seems so thin and pale, Clerval guesses that his best friend has awoke for several nights.

“Very well, and very happy, only a little uneasy that they hear from you so seldom. By the by, I mean to lecture you a little upon their account myself. But, my dear Frankenstein,” continued he, stopping short and gazing full in my face, “I did not before remark how very ill you appear; so thin and pale; you look as if you had been watching for several nights.” (Ch 5, Pg 52)

To make his best friend does not worry with his condition, Frankenstein tells him that he is doing a project and his condition will be as usual after finishing
his project. When he says that, he himself cannot describe the horror in his mind.

Finally, they arrive in the university when Frankenstein has studied. Then, Frankenstein invites him to go to his apartment. Frankenstein is very happy when he knows that his apartment is empty and the monster has gone. He gets mental annoyance in serious condition. He behaves as children, he jumps over the chairs, claps his hands, and laughs aloud. At the first, Clerval supposes that it is caused by his coming there. But when he observes accurately, he is worry about the Frankenstein’s condition. Because of his obsession, Frankenstein gets hallucination that the monster comes and catches him. He cries and attacks the monster, on the last he falls down on the floor.

“My dear Victor,” cried he, “what, for God’s sake, is the matter? Do not laugh in that manner. How ill you are! What is the cause of all this?”

“Do not ask me,” cried I, putting my hands before my eyes, for I thought I saw the dreaded spectre glide into the room; “he can tell. Oh, save me! Save me!” I imagined that the monster seized me; I struggled furiously and fell down in a fit. (Ch 5, Pg 53)

Frankenstein gets better condition in nursing his best friend so he plans to go back into Geneva in the end of autumn, but there are some reasons which makes his departure is delayed. Whereas, Frankenstein has missed all his family in Geneva. By waiting his departure, he uses to go around the Ingolstadt. Spends his time for about two weeks, makes him in very well condition. During his labor on big project before, he always spends his time lonely in the laboratory. It makes him become unsocial person. As WHO said that someone can be healthy if he has a good relationship with other people or social healthy. Frankenstein is unhealthy during his work.
Study had before secluded me from the intercourse of my fellowcreatures, and rendered me unsocial; but Clerval called forth the better feelings of my heart; he again taught me to love the aspect of nature, and the cheerful faces of children. (Ch 6, Pg 63)

Since Frankenstein was child, his heart is filled by kindness and love. He wants to be useful to other human being but now his hope is shattered. His soul is also filled by the deepest miserable. By seeing the sadness of his family, he blames himself. He believes that the murderer is his creation or his monster.

Because of it, he is afraid to face or communicate with others. He likes spending his time alone and always avoids human being. The novel explains that Frankenstein does not care himself because of that feeling. Whereas his father tells him that he cannot enter in society without caring himself. It is called that Frankenstein gets social unhealthy.

This state of mind preyed upon my health, which had perhaps never entirely recovered from the first shock it had sustained. I shunned the face of man; all sound of joy or complacency was torture to me; solitude was my only consolation—deep, dark, deathlike solitude. (Ch 9, Pg 85)

“Do you think, Victor,” said he, “that I do not suffer also? No one could love a child more than I loved your brother”—tears came into his eyes as he spoke—”but is it not a duty to the survivors that we should refrain from augmenting their unhappiness by an appearance of immoderate grief? It is also a duty owed to yourself, for excessive sorrow prevents improvement or enjoyment, or even the discharge of daily usefulness, without which no man is fit for society.” (Ch 9, Pg 86)

One by one of his family is dead. William, Justine Moritz, then Henry Clerval are dead because of his monster. After the death of Clerval, Frankenstein feels that his life shattered. He gets his punishment in the prison. When his healthy is worst, he is brought out of the prison. He is taken care by old woman. Frankenstein gets physical and mental unhealthy.
A fever succeeded to this. I lay for two months on the point of death; my ravings, as I afterwards heard, were frightful; I called myself the murderer of William, of Justine, and of Clerval. Sometimes I entreated my attendants to assist me in the destruction of the fiend by whom I was tormented; and at others I felt the fingers of the monster already grasping my neck, and screamed aloud with agony and terror. (Ch 21, Pg 179)

Besides the Frankenstein’s healthy, the effect also changes the Frankenstein’s character. Before he works, an affection is very important for him. He likes to spend his time with his beloved people, his family and his best friend. But, now Frankenstein becomes people who isolate himself from others. That is very different with his characteristic before having an obsession. He also never sends some letters for his father and his Elizabeth. It is caused by his focusing on labor.

I knew well therefore what would be my father’s feelings, but I could not tear my thoughts from my employment...I wished, as it were, to procrastinate all that related to my feelings of affection until the great object, which swallowed up every habit of my nature, should be completed. (Ch 4, Pg 46)

During Frankenstein’s being sick, Clerval becomes the best nurse for him. He takes care until Frankenstein is as well as before. As the best friend, Clerval always knows what he have to do or not to do. While Frankenstein is sick, he does not tell to Frankenstein’s family. Frankenstein thanks to him for his kindness. He does not care about himself and others because of his obsession. The characteristic of Frankenstein is changing. He never sends any letter again to his family and his beloved person in Geneva. Whereas, before doing his project, sending letter to his family in Geneva is very important because he knows everything from the letter. Clerval advices him in order to give any report to them, it can decrease their afraid about him.
I trembled. One subject! What could it be? Could he allude to an object on whom I dared not even think? “Compose yourself,” said Clerval, who observed my change of colour, “I will not mention it if it agitates you; but your father and cousin would be very happy if they received a letter from you in your own handwriting. They hardly know how ill you have been and are uneasy at your long silence.” ( Ch 5, Pg 55 )

Although Frankenstein never sends any letter for his family, Elizabeth and his father still send a letter for him. Once a day, the letter from Elizabeth comes. After reading a letter from Elizabeth, he tries to replay it for Elizabeth. He takes a more power because he has gotten well recently. The first duty after getting well, they go to the university to manage the study of Clerval. They also move to another apartment, Clerval puts away all of chemical equipment because he knows that Frankenstein does not like his bedroom also his laboratory again. In university of Ingolstadt, They meet with the beloved professor according to Frankenstein, Mr. Waldman. Mr. Waldman is very happy with Frankenstein’s progression in science. As he remembers that Frankenstein is his cleverest student. Previously, he likes science very much and spending his day and night in the laboratory. Contrary, he hates science so much. When Mr. Waldman puts the chemical equipment one by one in the front of him, it will kill him slowly.

What could I do? He meant to please, and he tormented me. I felt as if he had placed carefully, one by one, in my five those instruments which were to be afterwards used in putting me to a slow and cruel death. I writhed under his words, yet dared not exhibit the pain I felt. Clerval, whose eyes and feelings were always quick in discerning the sensations of others, declined the subject, alleging, in excuse, his total ignorance; and the conversation took a more general turn. ( Ch 6, Pg 61 )

Clerval begins to think about his study in Ingolstadt. He is interested in language and literature. His coming to Ingolstadt, becomes the master of the oriental language. He is interested in Persian, Arabic, and Sanscrit language.
Different with Frankenstein, who likes science since he is child. Science has made him shattered. Then, now he decides to take the same major with Clerval. He thinks that by doing it, he can forget his miserable and get the happiness because he will be classmate with his best friend. It is contrast with what Frankenstein like before. As his purpose, Frankenstein does not study the dialect of those languages.

The Persian, Arabic, and Sanscrit languages enganged his attention, and I was easily induced to enter on the same studies. Idleness had ever been irksome to me, and now that I wished to fly from reflection, and hated my former studies, I felt great relief in being the fellow-pupil with my friend, and found not only instruction but consolation in the works of the orientalists. I did not, like him, attempt a critical knowledge of their dialects, for I did not contemplate making any other use of them than temporary amusement. (ch 6, pg 62)

Frankenstein’s father sends a letter for him to inform the fixed date for coming back to Geneva and to give him bad information about the death of his brother, William. There is no happiness when Frankenstein goes back to home in Geneva. The most important is the happiness of his family especially Elizabeth and his father. William, a funny child is dead by choking while Justine Moritz, a good girl who popular with the kindness is dead by slandering. The death of two members of his family breaks their cheerful. All members become worried.

Frankenstein feels that all the incidents are caused by monster who he has created.

From the tortures of my own heart, I turned to contemplate the deep and voiceless grief of my Elizabeth. This also was my doing! And my father’s woe, and the desolation of that late so smiling home all was the work of my thrice accursed hands! Ye weep, unhappy ones, but these are not your last tears! Again shall you raise the funeral wail, and the sound of your lamentations shall again and again be heard! ( Ch 8, Pg 82)

Frankenstein and his family decide to leave their home in Geneva and move to Belrive, in order to forget their miserable. Depends on Frankenstein, he
likes Belrive more because he can go outside of the town at midnight. Different with Geneva, the gate has to close at 10 pm. In Belrive, Frankenstein always go to lake when the night is came for making his feel calm. But, when he remembers all of his guiltiness, he wants to end his life by splashing down into the silent lake. It is very different with Frankenstein still child, he has high self-confidence and high motivation.

Sometimes, with my sails set, I was carried by the wind; and sometimes, after rowing into the middle of the lake, I left the boat to pursue its own course and gave way to my own miserable reflections. I was often tempted, when all was at peace around me, and I the only unquiet thing that wandered restless in a scene so beautiful and heavenly—if I except some bat, or the frogs, whose harsh and interrupted croaking was heard only when I approached the shore—often, I say, I was tempted to plunge into the silent lake, that the waters might close over me and my calamities forever. (Ch 9, Pg 86)

Frankenstein cannot control his feeling himself. Sometimes, he feels that he can face everything which happened but sometimes he also feels that he is really frightened with his creation himself. The unhealthy mental condition makes him confused. Frankenstein decides to look for happiness by leaving his home and goes to nature in Alpen Mountain.

Sometimes I could cope with the sullen despair that overwhelmed me, but sometimes the whirlwind passions of my soul drove me to seek, by bodily exercise and by change of place, some relief from my intolerable sensations. It was during an access of this kind that I suddenly left my home, and bending my steps towards the near Alpine valleys, sought in the magnificence, the eternity of such scenes, to forget myself and my ephemeral, because human, sorrows. (Ch 9 pg 89)

3.2.2 Effects for the creation or monster

Secondly, Frankenstein’s obsession changes the character of his creation or his monster. When Frankenstein decides to leave his home in order to make his
heart calm, he meets his creation. In his journey, Frankenstein feels that his burden is decreased. He walks to Alpen Mountain. He enjoys his journey in nature and he is slept when he arrives at Chamounix village. When he wakes up in the next day, he meets his creation or his monster. How hate he is! They talk each other. The monster tells him about his beginning journey of life from Frankenstein’s apartment, actually his miserable in life. By seeing his sadness, Frankenstein receives his invitation to go to his homestay and monster begins to tell his pitiable story. Monster tells him about the treatment of the society when they meet him. Monster wants to be happy like common human being but he feels that human will abhor everybody who has ugly appearance. He remembers when the people attack him. He gets injured and very sad. (Ch 11, Pg 103)

After that, he continues his walking until finds a house of inhabitant. Then, he stays at the hut besides of that house which is resided by De Lacey’s family. Monster tells about Felix and Agatha who teach him many things. He likes De Lacey’s family because of the kindness between the members of that family. Monster hopes that family can receive him. Monster often sees the sadness of Felix or Agatha’s face. By time to time, the monster knows the reason of their sadness. He never steals any food from them and he helps Felix by finding firewood in the forest and put it in the front of their home. He tells that he is very kind at the first, he always helps other human being. (Ch 12, Pg 111)

One day, when all of the member of De Lacey’s family go outside of their home except the old man, monster tries to enter the house and meets the old man. By seeing the kindness of De Lacey’s family, he believes that they will be
his friends. He tries to asking help from him, before finishing his dialogue with the old man, other members come in and Felix attacks him. Since that, he revenges to the human especially to his creator or Frankenstein.

After leaving the hut, he decides to go to Frankenstein’s native town, Geneva. In his journey, he meets with a girl who runs to him. Suddenly, the girl is splashed down into the river. Monster helps her and tries to save her. But someone aims a gun to him and he sinks to the ground. Monster asks, why his kindness always gets miserable pain.

His kindness is defeated by the worst people’s treatment. Monster becomes cruel. For him, there is no good revenge in the world except the abhorrence. Since that, he always has bad judgment to human being. At the moment, he tells to Frankenstein about his journey to Geneva and meets with William. He presumes that child is pure, and hopes that William wants to be his friend. When the monster catches him, William is very frighten. William attacks him and try to fling up himself from monster. The monster still forces him. William shouts loudly and threaten the monster. When the monster knows that William is the one of generation of Frankenstein, monster chokes him till die because he revenges on Frankenstein. Interested in medallion which is worn by William, he takes it.

“`Boy, you will never see your father again; you must come with me.’
“`Hideous monster! Let me go. My papa is a syndic—he is M. Frankenstein—he will punish you. You dare not keep me.’
“`Frankenstein! you belong then to my enemy—to him towards whom I have sworn eternal revenge; you shall be my first victim.’ (Ch 16, Pg 141)
After killing William, monster hides into the warehouse. He finds a beautiful girl who is sleeping there. The monster puts the William’s medallion into the girl’s pocket. Before the girl wakes up, the monster goes out. Because of the medallion, that girl, Justine Moritz is accused as the murderer of William. Ministry of Justice gives him penalty death.

And on the morrow Justine died. Elizabeth’s heart-rending eloquence failed to move the judges from their settled conviction in the criminality of the saintly sufferer. (Ch 8, Pg 87)

Monster is not satisfied, he had sworn to break down the life of his creator. Because Frankenstein does not want to create a female monster for him, he wants to make Frankenstein feels regret about his life in the world. After throwing the remnant of the second monster, Frankenstein allows himself to float upward his boat. When he arrives at one of the island, all of people over there give him bad acceptance and accuse him as the murderer of human corpse which is found at the edge of sea. Frankenstein is fine, because he does not feel to kill everyone. When Frankenstein sees the human corpse, he is very shocked because its Clerval body. His monster kills his lovely friend.

How can I describe my sensations on beholding it? I feel yet parched with horror, nor can I reflect on that terrible moment without shuddering and agony. The examination, the presence of the magistrate and witnesses, passed like a dream from my memory when I saw the lifeless form of Henry Clerval stretched before me. I gasped for breath, and throwing myself on the body, I exclaimed, “Have my murderous machinations deprived you also, my dearest Henry, of life? Two I have already destroyed; other victims await their destiny; but you, Clerval, my friend, my benefactor—” (Ch 21, Pg 179)

Because of the accusation as the murderer of the Clerval’s death, Frankenstein must enjoy his days into the prison. Then, he is free after proving
that he is not wrong. Frankenstein comes back to Geneva with his father and
decides to marry with Elizabeth soon. This condition makes him happy but be
afraid. He remembers with the monster threat to come in his wedding night. They
decide to go to the inn which faces to the lake for spending their first night.
Frankenstein feels very afraid when the night comes in, he look for his monster.
Elizabeth is ordered by him to go to their room because he does not want to make
Elizabeth frightened. He brings a gun to battle his monster but he does not find
anything. Suddenly, he hears screaming too loud. It comes from their room and its
Elizabeth voice. The monster does not run into Frankenstein, but he kills the
beloved of Frankenstein, Elizabeth.

She left me, and I continued some time walking up and down the
passages of the house and inspecting every corner that might afford a
retreat to my adversary. But I discovered no trace of him and was
beginning to conjecture that some fortunate chance had intervened to
prevent the execution of his menaces when suddenly I heard a shrill and
dreadful scream.... She was there, lifeless and inanimate, thrown across
the bed, her head hanging down and her pale and distorted features half
covered by her hair. (Ch 23, Pg 198)

3.2.3 Effects for Frankenstein’s family

Thirdly, the obsession of Frankenstein also influences his family. The
death of William and Justine Moritz make his family getting sad, especially for
Elizabeth and his father. It also makes his family unhappy (Ch 8, Pg 82). Then, it
changes the character of his father. For him, Justine Moritz is the best girl who has
the best attitude to all members in his family. He presumes that Justine Moritz
will not do that. When Father knows that Justine Moritz is accused as the
murderer of William, he gets the deepest disappointed.
“We do also, unfortunately,” replied my father, “for indeed I had rather have been for ever ignorant than have discovered so much depravity and ungratitude in one I valued so highly.” (Ch 7, Pg 73)

His father cannot endure his deepest miserable after the death of his Elizabeth. Elizabeth is admitted as his daughter himself. The healthy of his father is more decrease. Several days later, his father is died.

He could not live under the horrors that were accumulated around him; the springs of existence suddenly gave way; he was unable to rise from his bed, and in a few days he died in my arms. (Ch 23, Pg 201)

The last, the obsession of Frankenstein also changes the character of Elizabeth Lavenza. Since child, Elizabeth is the beautiful girl with her cheerful. She is an entertainment for all family. After the death of William, she blames herself as the murderer because she has worn the medallion which becomes the evidence for Justine’s fault.

“She most of all,” said Ernest, “requires consolation; she accused herself of having caused the death of my brother, and that made her very wretched. But since the murderer has been discovered—” (Ch 7, Pg 72)

From the explanation above, the writer knows that there are many effects of Frankenstein’s obsession in creating a monster. The effects are not only for Frankenstein himself, but also for the monster and Frankenstein’s family.

Frankenstein gets unhealthy condition in physical, mental, and social but his economy is still healthy. It seems from the dialogue of his father when he asks him to marry with Elizabeth immediately (Ch 18, Pg 153). Besides Frankenstein’s healthy, his obsession also changes his character. Then, his monster becomes very cruel. For his family, it makes them unhappy like before. And in the last, his obsession makes him feels suffer from a loss all his beloved person
CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

Finally, the writer comes to the last chapter which is going to conduct the conclusion from the analysis of reasons and effects of Victor Frankenstein’s obsession by using psychoanalysis theory from Sigmund Freud and New Criticism theory. As the writer explains in the previous chapter, psychoanalysis theory from Sigmund Freud is called theory of personality. Psychoanalysis theory is used to analyze the reason of Frankenstein’s obsession or the first statement of the problem. New criticism theory is used to analyze the effect of Frankenstein’s obsession or the second statement of the problem.

Victor Frankenstein is the main character in this novel. He is a scientist who obsessed to create a monster. There are some reason which underlays his obsession to creates a monster. Some reason of his obsession are that he wants to be pioneer in the new way, to reach the bigger progression, will be admired as the creator and will be the happiest man in the world so will his father. Because of the reason above, he is very ardor to finish the monster.

The effects of Frankenstein’s obsession appear during creating a monster until finishing the monster. Not only Frankenstein who gets the effect of his obsession, but also his monster and his beloved family. For Victor Frankenstein, he gets unhealthy in physical, mental, and social. His physical unhealthy are; getting sick, being thin and pale, feeling a fear, getting hallucination about the monster. While his mental unhealthy are; feeling has done a crime, and filling his
heart with horror. Then his social unhealthy are; avoids people, spends the time alone, becomes unsocial person, isolates himself from others, and never creates a good relationship with society. Then Frankenstein’s obsession changes the character of his creation. The monster kills Frankenstein’s brother named William. After killing William, monster backbites Justine Moritz by taking the medallion of William in her pouch. When Frankenstein refuses to create the second monster, the monster gets angry with him and kills Frankenstein’s beloved friend named Henry Clerval. As the monster’s promise to Frankenstein that he will come to his wedding night, the monster kills Elizabeth who becomes Frankenstein’s wife. The obsession of Frankenstein also changes his family. Because of the death both William and Justine Moritz, all the family get deep sadness especially his father and Elizabeth. His father has passed away also because he cannot restrain the sadness which befallen his family continually.

All in all, Frankenstein’s obsession does not makes him happy as his imagination before. He gets nothing from his obsession but gets miserable pain. He loses all of his beloved person; William, Justine Moritz, Henry Clerval, Elizabeth Lavenza, and his father. In the end, he is alone.
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