Great Books: *Frankenstein* Video Guide

1. From where did Mary Shelley get her inspiration for *Frankenstein*?
2. How did Shelley see emerging sciences affecting man’s view of God?
3. What has the term “Frankenstein” come to mean?
4. What did Luigi Galvani do in the 1790s?
5. How was Galvani’s experiment extended? What did the results seem to suggest?
6. What did Mary Shelley’s parents have in common?
7. Why did Percy Bysshe Shelley and Mary Shelley elope?
8. What happened to Mary Shelley’s first child?
9. When was *Frankenstein* published?
10. Why might Shelley have published *Frankenstein* anonymously?
11. The subtitle of *Frankenstein* is “The Modern Prometheus.” Why is the Prometheus story important to the novel?
12. What are some parallels between Percy Shelley and Victor Frankenstein?
13. What is Victor Frankenstein’s goal/obsession?
14. What is Victor’s response when the creature comes to life? Why?
15. What might the destruction of Victor’s second monster represent?
16. What is the significance of the ending of the novel?
17. Why was *Frankenstein* so popular in 19th century theater?
18. What objections to the play were published in the press?
19. What was significant about Edison’s 1910 film?
20. What is the significance of the 1931 film?
21. Why did Boris Karloff not mind being typecast as a monster?
22. When adapted to TV, how did the monster’s character begin to change?
23. How did the image of Frankenstein begin to spread beyond movies and tv?
24. What is one reason the monster and the story of Frankenstein continue to touch the hearts of people today?