

Mary Shelley

She was born in 1797 and was the daughter of a philosopher called William Godwin and of Mary Wollstonecraft, the famous feminist writer. She had a good education. She got married in 1816, but her husband Shelley died in 1822. Mary was a writer just like her husband and many other friends of her family. She died in 1851.

Frankenstein

Frankenstein is the most important of Mary's works. It was written in the years 1816-17 and is considered an example of the Gothic tradition of fiction. But it doesn't have all the typical elements of a Gothic story: there are only the ugliness of the monster, the emotional bond

guage and the dreadful setting. But the setting is not a castle and there aren't supernatural events. In fact the creation of the monster is presented as a scientific experiment. Victor's failure with the creature shows the dangers of breaking natural laws and it's full of criticism towards the Romantic ideals. In the work we can see Rousseau's influence in the fact that the creature is good by nature but it's not accepted by society. There is also the neoplatonic theory of learning by memory. The creature remembers how to read and to survive in nature.