

mary shelley frankenstein or the modern prometheus

Mary Shelley's Frankenstein or The Modern Prometheus is a seminal work that has transcended generations, captivating audiences with its exploration of human ambition, ethical dilemmas, and the nuances of creation. First published in 1818, this gothic novel not only laid the groundwork for the science fiction genre but also posed critical questions about the nature of humanity and the responsibilities that accompany creation. In this article, we will delve deep into the themes, characters, and historical context of Mary Shelley's masterpiece, examining its enduring legacy and relevance in today's society.

The Historical Context of Frankenstein

Mary Shelley wrote *Frankenstein* during a time of great scientific and philosophical upheaval. The late 18th and early 19th centuries were marked by the Enlightenment, a period that emphasized reason, individualism, and scientific inquiry. This era produced significant advancements in various fields, including chemistry and biology, which influenced Shelley's thinking.

The Industrial Revolution and Its Influence

The Industrial Revolution was in full swing, altering the societal landscape and prompting dramatic shifts in people's lives. The rise of technology and machinery led to questions about the nature of humanity and the potential consequences of unchecked scientific exploration. Shelley's *Frankenstein* encapsulates this tension between progress and ethical responsibility, as the protagonist, Victor Frankenstein, plays the role of a modern Prometheus, challenging the boundaries of creation.