

**IX Edizione**

**Le Vie d'Europa – Sui passi di un autore**

**Mary Shelley "Who was I? What was I? Whence did I come? What was my destination?"**

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**SECONDO CLASSIFICATO SEZIONE INGLESE**

**"DREAMING OF A BETTER LIFE"**

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Della Classe II H**

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**Motivazione:**

*An effective series of different perspectives on dreams of one life. One of the best texts from the point of view of balance and structure. L'elaborato dimostra una straordinaria padronanza della scrittura, la narrazione risulta fluida e lo stile sostenuto e incalzante. Pregevole la sensibilità rispetto al tema che lo ha ispirato: la storia di Frankenstein e della sua mostruosa creatura, palese canovaccio del racconto, è qui rielaborata attraverso un'interiorizzazione dei suoi motivi profondi. La tensione tra bene e male che pervade il romanzo di Mary Shelley, si risolve con l'espedito dei due livelli paralleli del racconto, quello reale e quello onirico: solo il sogno permette di sconfiggere il male che nella realtà è invece ineliminabile. Un lavoro ottimo.*

I am the creature, I am the monster, I am the demon. Or, at least, that is what people say. That is what Victor Frankenstein says. He gave birth to me, he created me and because of him all my life was ruined. I think that if I weren't born maybe the world could be a better place. I destroyed a lot of lives, many people died because of my evil mind. I killed my creator, too. He died on a ship, on the Arctic Ocean. I didn't kill him with my hands, but only with my actions, with all the things I did in my damned life, from the first moment I saw the light. My ugliness stained the whole wide world with blood.

So, because of all these reasons I still think that Frankenstein deserved that death. He wasn't forced to create a monster. He knew that an action like that was dangerous. He was sure that he would have made it. Nothing could stop him from making this folly. He created me and then he disowned me. He pretended that I wasn't even alive. He wanted to forget me. He escaped from me. He left me all alone.

And then I became evil.

I know that he did all those actions only because he was frightened, but I just think that if I were like a son son to him, he wouldn't treat me like this. He ignored me!

I also know that I shouldn't kill people, because they didn't deserve it. But now I can't go backwards and I can't do anything for all those innocent humans that lost their life because of me.

But I am who I am and I think that I will never change.

I am the creature, I am the monster, I am the demon. Or, at least, that is what people say.

Once, when I didn't know the evil part of the world, I was a good being, I didn't want the others to suffer, I loved the wonderful nature, I wanted to communicate with humans, I learnt how to speak, to read and to write. I simply thought that if I were kind to the others, then others would have been good to me. But sincerely, I have to admit that I made a terrible mistake.

Oh, if only I could turn back time, if I could just use well this life ...  
But now I can't waste the time that remains regretting all the things I didn't do and all the chances I didn't take, so I will spend well my time before leaving this world.

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I have a dream ... a very special one ...

In another life I am accepted.  
In another world I am good.  
In another life I am loved.

I really would like to live another life. I really would like to live in another world.

In that life maybe I am handsome, I'm not so ugly, I am accepted by people and, above all, by my creator, by my father.

In that world I am good to humans, I don't kill kids, women and men, I am their friend and they are my friends, I take care of them and they protect me.

In that life I have found a beautiful girl, I am with her, I am happy, I am loved and I am in love.

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**I AM ACCEPTED**

My creator gave birth to me because he was really brave and he wanted to defy natural laws. When he finished his work, he gave me life with a spark and when I opened my eyes I only saw darkness. At first, I was scared because I couldn't see anything, but then I saw the face of Frankenstein: he was smiling, he looked proud of what he had done and that made me smile back at him. I got up and walked up to the window. I looked at myself on it and I saw a handsome and

brawny man. I had green eyes and brown hair, my skin wasn't too fair and I was quite thin and very tall. There was only a problem: I didn't know how to speak, so I couldn't thank him for giving me life. Frankenstein was really amazed: when he turned back to the window he noticed that I was able to walk and he fell to the ground in a faint. I was hungry and I saw that he didn't have opened the eyes for long, so I walked up to the kitchen, I ate some apples and I left home.

I walked along the streets of my city and I discovered the reality around me. There were many beings like Frankenstein and there were women and children, too. They looked happy and I was really sad, because I couldn't understand what they were saying. Then I decided to learn their language. I hid myself in a wood near the city. I stayed there for about a week. I learnt how to communicate with humans, so I went near a guy.

He looked a bit surprised, maybe he had never seen a being like me before, because I was very tall. But I was a polite person, so I said "hello" to him, he did the same and then we started to talk about our lives. I noticed that he was a good person and that he loved studying. He invited me for lunch and he showed me some of his books. We became friends and I learnt to read and write with him. One day, I told him how I was born. He was incredulous, but he believed me and he continued to be my friend in spite of everything.

I was accepted.

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## I AM GOOD

On a nice summer day, I left home for a month, because my father was on holiday with his family. I went to a beach on foot. The sand was white and hot, the sun was shining, the sea was smooth, some seagulls were flying high and there were no clouds in the sky.

I sat on a sand dune quite far from the water and I stayed there sunbathing for a few hours. Then I started to be hot and when I lifted my face up I saw that the sun was right above my head. I decided to go towards the people. But they were in the sea and I was absolutely scared of water! I couldn't walk there! And the waves were really high...  
I thought that I could never learn to swim.

But then I remembered the day I learnt to speak only listening to others talking, the day I learnt to read and write simply watching my friend doing the same. So, I would have observed people swimming to learn how to do that...

I walked on the beach and I stared at people moving in the sea for an hour. Then I plucked up courage and I got into the water. I tried to swim, but the only thing I was able to do was splashing everyone! At first people looked frightened by me, but then I apologized for that. A woman came

next to me, she gave me a float and she said that it would have helped me not to drown. I thanked her and I realized that infact I was floating! I turned back to the woman and she was smiling at me, as the other people did. I wasn't afraid of them and they weren't frightened by me.

I was good.

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### I AM LOVED

One day I was walking in a wood. Everything was silent and quiet, I could hear the sound of a distant stream that was flowing fast. I drew close to it and I saw that some white little stones were shining on the bottom of the brook. They were lighted up by the rays of the hot sun. The water was like a mirror, and it had some golden tints. I could see some red fish swimming in the water.

Behind a tree I saw something, or rather, someone ...

I walked up towards it and I noticed that it was a girl. A beautiful girl! She was tall and thin and she had long, brown, wavy hair. Her eyes were blue as the water of the stream, she had rosy cheeks and red lips. I thought that they could be really soft. I saw she was looking at me: she was smiling and blushing.

I said "hello" to her and she said "hi" to me, then I invited her for a walk into the wood. She came with me and we saw that the leaves were falling from the trees. They were red; the wind was blowing them away from the ground and was making them fly everywhere.

Like the leaves, I fell for that pretty girl; my cheeks looked like those red leaves. Like the wind, the destiny decided that I would have met her and I had a lot of butterflies in my stomach; they were flying there like the leaves in the air. I have to admit it: I was in love with her.

We arrived at a hilltop and we sat there. From that place we could enjoy a wonderful view. In the distance we saw the sharp tips of the mountains. At sunset, the sky was orange, the clouds were golden, the sun was red and it was like a fire ball. It was falling behind the mountains.

The girl and I stared at each other for a few seconds. Her eyes were asking me to kiss her. My heart was beating fast.

When the sun disappeared and everything was dark, I got closer her, I hugged her and I kissed her. It was the best sensation I had ever felt. Then she smiled at me and I did the same. I held her hand and she held mine.

We realized that it was getting late, but we didn't care about that, because we were happy and we were in love. She loved me and I loved her.

I was loved.

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I dreamed a perfect life but, as all of us know, nothing is perfect and nothing is forever.

I really would like to have a life like that, but I can't.

So, if I wasn't able to have a better life, I could simply dream of a better one, only to escape from reality.

In the real life I'm not accepted.

In the real world I'm not good.

In the real life I'm not loved.

And when I open my eyes all my dreams are disappearing...

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Now that Victor Frankenstein is dead, all my life doesn't make any sense to me, because I have already destroyed my bigger enemy. The person that gave me life and that ruined it is dead. So, why should I stay in this cruel world? If I stay alive, I will live in that place.

I decided to disappear, I decided not to leave any trace of me, I decided to burn myself.

When I'm burnt, I will feel finally free. I will feel free from all the bad that I brought to the world.

Now that I am gone I want only one thing, I want people to forgive me and the world to forget me.