



NB: This is not a word-for-word transcript

Language point: used to – past habits

TODAY – IN THE ARCTIC

Viktor Frankenstein

Hello. I'm scientist Viktor Frankenstein. You've been listening to the story the Creature told me long ago before I had to come after it and arrived here in the Arctic. The monster I built... I **used to care** about my science more than anything and I thought I could control nature. I've paid a high price for that. The Creature murdered my young brother and his nanny was executed for the crime. During that conversation years ago the monster told me he would go away and harm nobody else if I built him a bride. Should I do it? He wanted to have his answer when we sat by the fire in his hut in the mountains.

IN THE PAST – IN THE CREATURE'S HUT, SITTING BY THE FIRE

Creature

So, what do you say? If you give me a bride you'll never see or hear from me again.

Viktor Frankenstein

Alright. I'll do it.

Creature

Will you?! That's great! Go home and start working. I'll watch your progress and when my bride is ready to come to life I'll be there.

TODAY – IN THE ARCTIC

Viktor Frankenstein

For some reason I didn't want to start my work. I didn't want to do it in my father's house in Geneva, for sure. I didn't want him to find out about the monster. I was worried... and adding to that the monster had warned me he would watch me at a distance... My love, Elizabeth, noticed I wasn't happy.

IN THE PAST - AT THE FRANKENSTEIN HOME IN GENEVA

Elizabeth

You've been so quiet lately. We **used to talk** a lot. What's happening? Don't you like me anymore?

Viktor Frankenstein

Don't be silly! Of course I like you. I... I'll even keep the promise I made to my mother before she died, who was very fond of you. How about marriage? Will you marry me?

Elizabeth

Marriage?! Mr Frankenstein, did you hear what your son Viktor has just said? He asked me to marry him!

Viktor Frankenstein's Father

That's fantastic news! My late wife and I **used to watch** you both playing together as children and we thought you were made for each other. You'll make a wonderful couple!

Viktor Frankenstein

Indeed, father. But first... well... I need to spend some time in England.

Viktor Frankenstein's Father

England, my son?!

Viktor Frankenstein

Yes, father... there are some new scientific discoveries there which I must see for myself. And, well... this could be my last chance to travel and see the world before I settle down. We can have our wedding as soon as I come back, my dear Elizabeth.

Viktor Frankenstein's Father

We understand, son. But well... you'll need a good friend to take care of you, won't you? I'll ask Henry, your best friend, to go with you.

Viktor Frankenstein

Henry?

Elizabeth

Yes. That's a great idea. Henry loves travelling and will surely agree to go!

TODAY - IN THE ARCTIC

Viktor Frankenstein

My plan was to go to England and build a bride for the Creature. How could I keep my work a secret from Henry? We **used to have** fun travelling together but this time it was

different. We stopped in many cities and when we reached Edinburgh I had to leave him behind...

IN THE PAST - AT A RESTAURANT IN EDINBURGH

Henry

That's a great restaurant, don't you think so?

Viktor Frankenstein

Yes. I suppose so.

Henry

What's going on with you, Viktor? I'm not used to seeing you this sad. What's the problem?

Viktor Frankenstein

I think I need some time alone to think...

Henry

To think?

Viktor Frankenstein

Yes. I need to think about my life. Let's make a deal: I'll go away for a month or two on my own and when I'm back everything will be what it **used to be**: we'll have a lot of fun together! I promise!

Henry

OK. I'll be waiting for you.

TODAY - IN THE ARCTIC

Viktor Frankenstein

Well, I promised Henry a good time and the Creature a bride. I started collecting material and rented a hut far away in the Orkney Islands. But I had mixed feelings. It had been three years since I built the Creature and what a big mistake that was. What if the monsters didn't like each other? And if the female creature started killing people too? And... and if... if they had babies and there were hundreds of monsters! I couldn't allow this to happen! It was too dangerous. I hadn't finished the work yet but I couldn't give life to another monster. So I just destroyed it! It was over! No more bride. But what about the Creature? Was I going to pay a heavy price for destroying the female monster - the friend the monster was expecting to be happy with? I'll tell you next time.

Vocabulary

bride

woman who is going to get married soon

made for each other

have a good understanding of each other, are a perfect match in a romantic relationship

couple

two people in a romantic relationship

settle down

stay in a place for a long time with a partner

wedding

ceremony in which people get married

female

a girl or woman