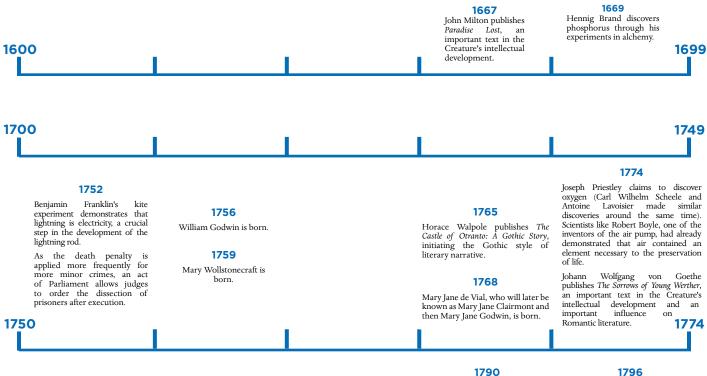
FRANKENSTEIN TIMELINE, 1600-1799



1782

Henry Fuseli's The Nightmare is

1783

Joseph-Michael and Jacques-Étienne de Montgolfier publicly demonstrate the hot air balloon for the first time. Hot air balloons are used as a means of transportation in Mary Shelley's futuristic novel The Last Man (1826).

1788

George Gordon, Lord Byron, is born in London.

A crowd storms the Bastille, an infamous French prison, in one of the most iconic events of the French Revolution.

Mary Wollstonecraft publishes A Vindication of the Rights of Men.

Luigi Galvani, the scientist who gave his name to galvanism, notices that a dead frog's legs can be made to twitch if exposed to electricity.

1791

Constantin François de Chassebœuf, comte de Volney, publishes Les Ruines, ou Méditations sur les révolutions des empires, known in English as Ruins of Empire—an important text in the Creature's intellectual development.

1792

Percy Bysshe Shelley is born.

Mary Wollstonecraft publishes A Vindication of the Rights of Woman.

William Godwin publishes An Enquiry Concerning Political Justice.

1794

Ann Radcliffe publishes *The Mysteries of Udolpho*.

William Godwin publishes Caleb Williams, a suspenseful novel that explores the philosophy expressed in his Concerning Political Justice. Enquiry

Matthew Gregory Lewis publishes The Monk

Mary Wollstonecraft publishes Letters Written During a Brief Residence in Sweden, Norway, and Denmark.

1797

William Godwin and Wollstonecraft marry.

Mary Godwin (later Shelley) is born.

Mary Wollstonecraft dies of a puerperal fever, an infection related to childbirth.

1798

Clara Mary Jane Clairmont, later known as Claire Clairmont, is born.

William Godwin publishes Memoirs of the Author of A Vindication of the Rights of Woman. Its revelations about Mary Wollstonecraft scandalize her posthumous reputation.

The Royal Institution is founded in

The Rosetta Stone is discovered by French soldiers in Egypt.

Humphry Davy discovers that nitrous oxide—known as laughing gas for its intoxicating properties—can render a person unconscious after long-term exposure. The gas, however, 1799 is not used as ananesthetic for another 40 years.

1775

1776

The Continental Congress

declares the independence of

the United States of America

from England.

FRANKENSTEIN TIMELINE, 1800s

1800

Alessandro Volta—the scientist for whom "voltage" is named—invents the first electric battery.

1801

William Godwin and Mary Jane Clairmont marry.

1803

At the Royal College of Surgeons, Giovanni Aldini applies electricity to the corpse of a murderer, making the body twitch and pound the table.

Erasmus Darwin publishes The Temple of Nature. Darwin (Charles's grandfather) was a a botanist and poet whose poetic descriptions of scientific concepts influenced the development of both fields.

William Godwin, Jr., is born.

1804

Five years after the Haitian Revolution begins as an uprising against slavery and colonialism, Haitian independence is won.

1810

Percy Bysshe Shelley and his sister Elizabeth publish Original Poetry, by Victor and Cazire, under pseudonyms. The collection was withdrawn from publication when it was revealed to contain plagiarized material.

1811

Percy Bysshe Shelley is expelled from University College, Oxford, when he refuses to deny authorship of *The Necessity of* Atheism

Percy Bysshe Shelley elopes with and marries the 16-year-old Harriet Westbrook.

1812

Humphry Davy, who isolated elements including chlorine, sodium, potassium, barium, and calcium at the beginning of the 19th century, publishes the first part of *Elements of Chemical Philosophy*, which Mary Shelley read while writing *Frankenstein*.

1813

Eliza Ianthe Shelley is born to Percy Bysshe Shelley and Harriet Westbrook Shelley.

Percy Bysshe Shelley's poem "Queen Mab" is published.

1814

Percy Bysshe Shelley, Mary Godwin (later known as Mary Shelley), and Claire Clairmont run off to the Continent in secret.

Charles Shelley is born to Percy Bysshe Shelley and Harriet Westbrook Shelley.

1815

An unnamed baby girl is born to Percy Bysshe Shelley and Mary Godwin.

The daughter born to P. B. Shelley and Mary Godwin dies in the night at just twelve days old.

Mt. Tambora erupts in what is now Indonesia.

Napoleon is defeated at the Battle of Waterloo.

1816

Lord Byron writes "Darkness."

In the aftermath of Mt. Tambora's eruption, cooler temperatures and darker days are reported worldwide, leading to what is known as "The Year Without Summer."

Fanny Imlay commits suicide.

Harriet Westbrook Shelley commits suicide.

Percy Bysshe Shelley and Mary Wollstonecraft Godwin marry.

1817

Allegra Biron (originally named Alba) is born to Claire Clairmont and Lord Byron.

Clara Everina Shelley is born to Percy Bysshe and Mary Shelley.

1818

Frankenstein published.

Clara Everina Shelley dies of dysentery.

1819

William Shelley dies of malaria.

Percy Florence Shelley, the Shelleys' one surviving child, is born in Florence, Italy.

John Polidori publishes "The Vampyre," the first work in English literature to describe the modern vampire. Like Frankenstein, Polidori's "The Vampyre" originated in response to Byron's proposed story-writing competition; Polidori and Mary Shelley were the only competitors to complete their tales.

1822

Allegra Biron dies.

Percy Bysshe Shelley drowns near Pisa with his friend Edward Elleker Williams and the young Charles Vivian. P. B. Shelley is cremated on the beach the next month; his friend Edward John Trelawny rescues his heart and parts of his skull from the pyre.

1823

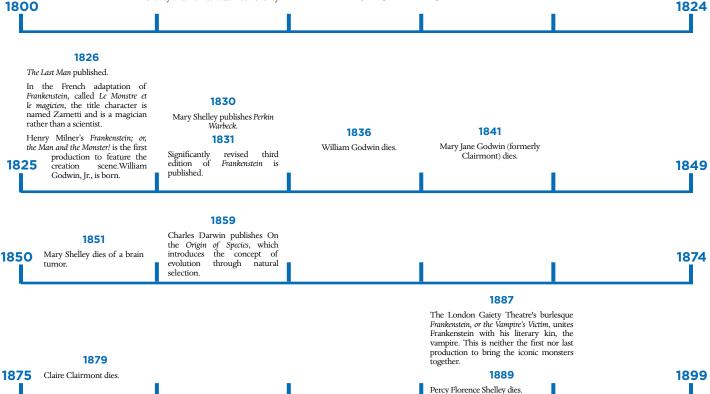
Second edition of Frankenstein published.

The first stage adaptation of Frankenstein—Richard Brinsley Peake's melodrama Presumption! or, the Fate of Frankenstein— is performed. Thomas Potter Cooke appears as the Creature in a blue leotard and skin painted to match.

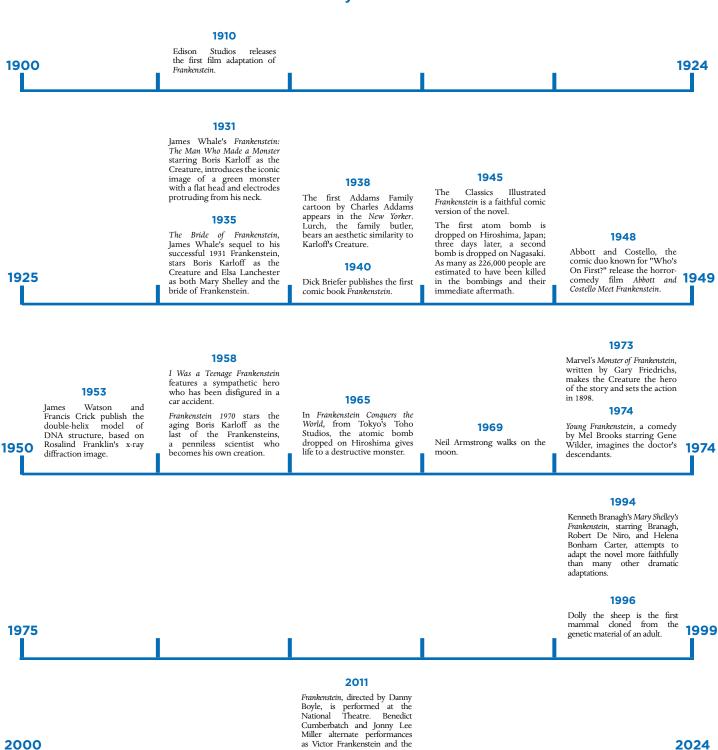
1824

Lord Byron dies in Missolonghi, Greece, where he had traveled to join the fight for Greek independence.

Percy Bysshe Shelley's *Posthumous Poems*—painstakingly edited by Mary Shelley—are published, infuriating P. B. Shelley's father, who threatens to cut off Mary Shelley's meager allowance is he ever again brings her late husband's name before the public eye.



FRANKENSTEIN TIMELINE, 1900-2024



Creature.