



A Program of InsideOut Literary Arts

Workshop Title: Frankenstein: Man or Monster or God?

Level: **Novice Writers**, Developing Writers, Experienced Writers

Duration: **1.5 hr**

(15 mins) Check in:

- What is your favorite scary movie? What made it scary? Share the plot with us!

(20 mins) Resource Building:

- Free write answering each of these questions. 3 minutes for each!
 - What is a monster?
 - What are ways that monsters can be different?
 - Have you ever been scared of monsters? Why or why not?
 - If you could create a monster, what would it be? (feel free to draw)
- Every student share ONE of their answers with the group

(15 mins) Example poem:

- Opening Discussion
 - What do you know about Frankenstein?
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8heuW2Roilo>
- "Dear Dr. Frankenstein" - Jericho Brown (see attached)
 - Discussion
 - An enjambment is the continuation of a sentence beyond the end of a line or stanza
 - What do the enjambments do for this poem?
 - What do the line breaks do for this poem?
 - Who or what is the Monster in this poem?
 - Who or what is God in this poem?

(20 mins) Prompt:

- What is something you thought you had control over and realized that you didn't? When writing, be intentional about adding enjambments and line breaks.

OR

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- What is something that you wish you had control over in your life that you currently don't? When writing, try writing in a different area on the page, like the right margin instead of the left.

Online Sharing Options

- (10 mins) allow 2 - 3 students to share their work
- (10 mins) create share-groups of 3 or 4 students. Students should share work among themselves privately (email, google drive, text, etc.)
- (10 mins) allow all students to share 1 - 3 lines from their writing. Speed is key!

Dear Dr. Frankenstein

BY JERICHO BROWN

Jericho Brown, "Dear Dr. Frankenstein" from The New Testament. Copyright © 2014 by Jericho Brown. Reprinted by permission of Copper Canyon Press.
Source: The New Testament (Copper Canyon Press, 2014)

I, too, know the science of building men
Out of fragments in little light
Where I'll be damned if lightning don't
Strike as I forget one
May have a thief's thumb,
Another, a murderer's arm,
And watch the men I've made leave
Like an idea I meant to write down,
Like a vehicle stuck
In reverse, like the monster
God came to know the moment
Adam named animals and claimed
Eve, turning from heaven to her

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As if she was his
To run. No word he said could be tamed.
No science. No design. Nothing taken
Gently into his hand or your hand or mine,
Nothing we erect is our own.

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