

Criminal Mock Trial

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BC

BETWEEN

REGINA
PLAINTIFF

AND

FRANK N. STEIN
DEFENDANT

CLERK: Order in Court.

[Everyone stands as Judge enters the courtroom.]

CLERK: In the Supreme Court of British Columbia at [INSERT OTHER REGISTRIES/Vancouver] this [first/23rd/] day of [month] , [year] , calling Her Majesty the Queen against Frank N. Stein .

JUDGE: You may be seated.

[Everyone sits except the clerk.]

JUDGE: Are all parties present?

[All Crown stand.]

CROWN 1: Yes My Lord/Lady. I am [name] and these are my friends [name] and [name] . We are acting on behalf of the Crown in this matter.

[Crown sits; Defence stands.]

DEFENCE 1: My Lord/Lady. I am [name] and these are my friends [name] and [name] . We are acting on behalf of the accused, Frank N. Stein. That's spelt F-r-a-n-k. Initial N. Last name: S-t-e-i-n.

[Defence sits.]

CLERK: Will the accused please stand?

[Clerk, defence, and Frank N. Stein stand.]

CLERK: Frank N. Stein, you are charged on one count - that on or about November 1, 2008, you did by strangulation, commit second degree murder of William Frankenstein. Mr. Frank N. Stein, how do you plead, guilty or not guilty?

FRANK: Not guilty.

CLERK: [Turning to judge.] The accused pleads not guilty, My Lady/Lord.

JUDGE: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen of the jury. Before beginning this trial, I am going to make a few comments about your role here today. As the judge in this case, it is my role to interpret and judge the law. As the jury, you are the judges of the facts and it is your duty to assess the evidence that is presented by the witnesses today.

There are two other principles that are important to your role as jurors. They are the presumption of innocence and the requirement of proof beyond a reasonable doubt.

Frank N. Stein is presumed to be innocent until the Crown has satisfied you beyond a reasonable doubt that he is guilty. The responsibility is on the Crown to prove each element of the crime Frank N. Stein has been charged with beyond a reasonable doubt. Because of the presumption of innocence, Frank N. Stein is not required to prove he is not guilty or to explain the evidence presented by the Crown.

Frank N. Stein is charged with one crime, second degree murder of William Frankenstein.

In order for you to find Frank N. Stein guilty of second degree murder, the Crown must prove the following elements beyond a reasonable doubt:

That Frank N. Stein committed an unlawful act;
The unlawful act caused William's death; and
That Frank N. Stein intended to cause William's death.

[CROWN OPENING.]

I now call the Crown to begin their case.

[Crown Counsel 1 stands and goes to lectern.]

CROWN 1: Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, this is a very important case. It is a case involving murder, one of the most serious crimes known to law. William Frankenstein has been murdered – and it is your task to decide who is legally responsible for his death.

The accused Frank N. Stein stands before you, charged with the murder of William Frankenstein. The accused is unlike any person you've met before. His life began in a laboratory. He has no mother or father. These facts, however, do not immunize him from abiding by the law. The evidence will show that the victim was the brother of Frank N. Stein's creator, Dr. Victor Frankenstein. You will hear evidence from the doctor about Frank N. Stein's creation and of his life.

I expect that you will hear evidence that Frank N. Stein asked the doctor to create him a mate – a girlfriend. But the doctor did not act quickly enough for Frank N. Stein, and so the accused tracked down the doctor's family.

You will hear evidence from Elizabeth Frankenstein, the younger sister of the doctor and of the victim. She will testify that the accused threatened her.

You will also hear evidence from Dr. Henry Clerval, a friend of Dr. Victor Frankenstein. He will testify that he saw the accused close to where the victim's body was found.

Finally, you will hear evidence from Sergeant Payne, who was the police officer at the scene of the crime. He will testify that certain evidence was found by the body which matched particular body parts on the accused.

This case has received a lot of media attention and I ask you, members of the jury, to forget all you have heard or seen about it. This case is not as black and white as the media would have you believe. Your deliberation as the jury must be shaped by the evidence that will be introduced in court and not by what you might have heard about it beforehand.

At the end of this trial, we will ask you to return a verdict that the accused, Frank N. Stein, is guilty of second degree murder. Thank You.

[Crown Counsel 1 sits.]

JUDGE: Is the Crown ready to call its first witness?

[Crown Counsel 2 stands and approaches lectern.]

CROWN 2: Yes, thank you my Lord/Lady. The Crown calls Dr. Victor Frankenstein to the stand.

[Victor Frankenstein enters from offstage and goes to witness box.]

CLERK: Would you like to affirm or swear an oath?

DOCTOR: Swear.

CLERK: Take the Bible in your right hand. [Pause as witness does so.] Do you swear that the evidence you shall give shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

DOCTOR : I do.

CLERK: Please state your full name for the record.

DOCTOR: My name is Victor Frankenstein, Dr. Victor Frankenstein, M.D., Ph.D., W.M.D. Harvard. First in my class. You may address me as Doctor, for short.

CROWN 2: Thank you, Doctor. Can you tell us a little bit about what you do for a living?

DOCTOR: I'm a premier plastic surgeon, catering mostly to Hollywood stars who come to Vancouver to film movies. I also dabble in research and development, experimenting with the latest technology. I'm the one responsible for Botox, for example. Angelina Jolie has so much to thank me for.

CROWN 2: Aside from your professional work, do you conduct any research in your free time?

DOCTOR: Well, yes, I'm glad you asked. That's where I do my best work. I have a laboratory in my loft in Yaletown. My main interest is in artificial intelligence.

CROWN 2: Do you mean robots?

DOCTOR: No. Robots are so...impersonal. More like ... creatures. Living, breathing creatures.

CROWN 2: And in your loft, Doctor, did you have occasion to actually create such a creature?

DOCTOR: Yes I did, and it *was* quite an occasion, thank you. After years of hard work, my brilliance, passion and creative genius all came together to create that creature sitting over there [indicates the accused, shudders]. Initially, it was magical. An event, unparalleled in modern science, but something, I'm afraid, I have since completely regretted. My brilliant mind betrayed me.

CROWN 2: How did this all begin?

DOCTOR: Well, while in school, I became fascinated with life and anatomy. I remember sitting in medical school, holding a cadaver up to my own beating heart and imagining what it would take to bring this being back to life. I knew, if anyone, I had the mind to make it happen. I also know that in order to understand life, I had to study death.

CROWN 2: What happened next?

DOCTOR: Well, I went to Oceanview, Mountainview and other cemeteries in the Lower Mainland. I realized that there was so much raw material available and no one would care if it went missing. I sent my imbecile assistant Igor to patrol the graveyard and when the coast was clear, he would dig up the graves of our, ummm, donor candidates.

CROWN 2: Did you have consent to do this?

DOCTOR: I plead the fifth.

CROWN 2: You've been watching too much Law and Order, Doctor. There is no fifth in Canada.

DOCTOR: Well, let's just say, no one objected.

CROWN 2: Alright, Doctor, go on. Tell us what you did with the [pause] donor candidates? How did this help you unlock the secret of death?

DOCTOR: [angry] Life, counsel, the secret of life! In my quest to create life – first, I needed a vessel.

CROWN 2: Please explain, Doctor.

DOCTOR: I used the donors for their parts – you know, an arm here, a kidney there. I needed to construct a being to which I would use my genius to bring to life.

CROWN 2: Did you succeed, Dr. Frankenstein?

DOCTOR: [Sadly.] Only too well, counsel. Only too well. I created that thing ... sitting over there [points to the accused, covers his eyes in shame]. Ugh.

CROWN 2: For the record, the Doctor has indicated the accused. Tell us what happened after you gave life to this monster.

DEFENCE 1: [Stands.] I object, my Lord/my Lady. Calling my client a monster is grossly prejudicial.

CROWN 2: Well, if the shoe fits ...

DEFENCE 1: [Cuts off Crown Counsel 2.] He prefers the term “constructed being” [use air quotes].

JUDGE: Alright, as you wish. Go on, Doctor, answer the question. What happened after you created the constructed being?

DOCTOR: As brilliant as my initial idea had been, I confess, that after I gave life to that monst... - I mean, to him [nods toward accused], I realized how misguided I had been. I mean look at him – he’s horrible! Can you imagine him sipping lattes in Yaletown cafes?? I couldn’t – and in my horror, I locked him in the loft and ran away to SFU, far up Burnaby Mountain.

CROWN 2: Did anyone else know about the monster?

DOCTOR: Well, there’s my assistant Igor – but he’s so dumb, he can hardly be considered a person. And I had also confided in my best friend, Henry.

CROWN 2: Did you see the monster after the night you locked him up?

DOCTOR: Yes, many times. I don’t know how, but he must have escaped from our overpaid Yaletown security guard.

CROWN 2: Can you describe these encounters?

DOCTOR: Well, the other day, I was climbing the Grouse Grind with Henry, and I spotted him through the trees. Then, another time, on my way to work, I hopped on the B-line, and there he was at the back of the bus - he had a gortex coat on with the hood up, but his, er, stature, is unmistakable. Or I was in line at H&M, and out of the corner of my eye, I saw the glint of a bolt! Everywhere I went, there he was.

CROWN 2: Do you know why he was following you?

DOCTOR: Well, one day, I was at work, just about to put Brad Pitt’s nose on a lawyer from the North Shore, when I heard a tap on the window. I looked up and there he was again. I opened the window, not wanting to talk to him, but feeling I would have to if I wanted to be left alone. The monster told me I had to create him a girlfriend. A date for the – I think it was – the monster mash?

CROWN 2: The monster mash??

JUDGE: Oh yes – (singing) it’s a graveyard smash! [everybody looks at judge with confusion]

CROWN 2: So, did you create the being a girlfriend?

DOCTOR: Yes, I agreed on the promise that he never return to Yaletown again. She was made in the image of Rihanna just as the monster had asked - I even got her an umbrella. I had just finished, when I got the word about William ... and I thought SOS!

CROWN 2: SOS?

JUDGE: [Singing, excited] SOS, please. Someone help me! [regaining composure]... sorry ... go on. [Straightens his/her robes, looking a little embarrassed.]

DOCTOR: Yes, Henry texted me –

CROWN 2: What did the text say?

DOCTOR: “OMG. Will = dead L ttyl”

[Optional – counsel could present a poster with enlarged copy of text message as written in script.]

CROWN 2: What does that mean?

DOCTOR: William, my younger brother, was dead. He had been killed on Burnaby Mountain, and I knew it was the monster! He had grown impatient while waiting for me to finish his bride – he was out of control.

CROWN 2: Did you try to talk to the monster about this?

DOCTOR: I don’t negotiate with terrorists.

CROWN 2: No more questions. Your witness, counsel.

DEFENCE 1: Mr. Frankenstein.

DOCTOR: It’s Doctor Frankenstein, M.D., Ph.D., W.M.D. Call me Doctor.

DEFENCE 1: Okay, Doctor. You say that my client killed William. Do you have any evidence to support this?

DOCTOR: Well, not exactly. But he’s the only one who had motive. Plus, I suspect he comes from a sketchy background.

DEFENCE 1: What do you mean? I thought he came from your laboratory.

DOCTOR: Well, Igor harvested the – uh – parts. And well, we could only dig up graves from people that no one would miss. I’m not saying he is, or he isn’t, but well, Hell’s Angels have been known to favour Oceanview. I didn’t know whose brain I was putting inside that monster and I didn’t want to know. With Igor, I have a strict “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy.

DEFENCE 1: Ah – so you would say the brain belongs to someone else? A Hell’s Angel, even?

DOCTOR: It doesn’t matter, does it? That brain is in that monster’s head now and he killed my brother, with those ugly hands that also belonged to someone else at some point.

DEFENCE 1: Again, Doctor. That is quite an accusation. Do you have any evidence to support this allegation of murder, besides that you think he did it? You claim to be a scientist, Doctor. Doesn’t a scientist require evidence before he draws conclusions? [getting dramatic] Any evidence at all?

DOCTOR: [Stunned, speechless.]

DEFENCE 1: No further questions. [Triumphant]

JUDGE: Would the Crown like to re-examine the witness?
[Crown Counsel 2 stands.]

CROWN 2: No my Lord/Lady.
[Crown Counsel 2 sits.]

JUDGE: Doctor, [to witness] you may step down.
[Doctor leaves witness box and exits stage.]

JUDGE: Please call your next witness.
Crown Counsel 3 stands and approaches lectern.

CROWN 3: Thank you my Lord/Lady. The Crown calls to the stand Elizabeth Frankenstein.
[Elizabeth enters stage and sits in witness box.]

CLERK: Would you like to affirm or swear an oath?

ELIZABETH: I’ll affirm.

CLERK: Do you solemnly affirm that the evidence you shall give shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?

ELIZABETH: I do.

CLERK: Please state your full name for the record.

ELIZABETH: Elizabeth Frankenstein.

CROWN 3: And you’re the sister of the victim?

ELIZABETH: Yes, William was my brother. Now all I have left is Victor.

CROWN 3: For the record, note that by Victor, the witness is referring to Dr. Frankenstein, M.D., Ph.D., W.M.D. Tell us, Elizabeth, have you ever met the accused before?

ELIZABETH: Yes, once. I was on my way home from Silvercity, heading to the Skytrain with a bunch of friends. I dropped my transit pass and had bent down to pick it up, when my friends called out, “Yo, Frankenstein, speed it up, we’re going to miss the last train.”

CROWN 3: What happened then?

ELIZABETH: Well, I started to walk towards my friends, when he [pointing at accused] stepped in front of me – he asked me if I knew Victor Frankenstein. I answered “yeah – he’s my brother - what’s it to you, anyway, Shrek?”

FRANK : Hey - I’m not an OGRE. Shrek’s an ogre, for god’s sake.

JUDGE: Shrek! I love that movie [singing] “...and then I saw her face. Now I’m a believer. Not a trace of doubt in my mind. I’m in love.”

DEFENCE
1, 2 & 3: [singing] “ohhhhh”

[Frank gets up and plays the air guitar.]

JUDGE, FRANK, DEFENCE 1, 2 & 3:
[singing in chorus] I’m a believer

JUDGE: ahem ... Order in Court. Order in Court. Please carry on Elizabeth [who looks unimpressed and confused.]

ELIZABETH: So, when that ... whatever he is ... learned that Victor was my brother, he freaked out and started chasing me.

DEFENCE 2: Objection. Just because the accused chased Elizabeth, doesn’t mean he later attacked William. My Lord/Lady, will you please ask the jury to disregard this statement.

CROWN 3: My Lord/Lady – I’m merely trying to establish there is a pattern to the accused’s behaviour.

JUDGE: I’ll allow it. This is similar fact evidence. The witness may continue.

ELIZABETH: I screamed, ran to my friends and barely made it on to the Skytrain, he was reaching for my neck with his gigantic hands when the doors closed in front of me. I was terrified – I thought he was going to kill me.

CROWN 3: Thank you, Elizabeth. [turning to defence table] Your witness.

[Defence Counsel 2 stands.]

DEFENCE 2: No questions, my Lord/Lady.

FRANK: [Outburst] What? Why didn't you ask her any questions? What am I paying you lawyers for?

JUDGE: Quiet, Mr. Stein!

SHERIFF: [Stage whisper.] Sometimes it's better not to attack sympathetic witnesses.
[Crown Counsel 1 stands.]

CROWN 1: The Crown calls Dr. Henry Clerval.

CLERK: Would you like to affirm or swear an oath?

DR. CLERVAL: Swear.

CLERK: Take the Bible in your right hand. [Pause as witness does so.] Do you swear that the evidence you shall give shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

DR. CLERVAL: I do.

CLERK: Please state your full name for the record.

DR. CLERVAL: Dr. Henry Clerval.

CROWN 1: Dr. Clerval, what do you do for a living?

DR. CLERVAL: Well, I'm a medical doctor by trade, a plastic surgeon. I specialize in liposuction.

CROWN 1: How do you know the victim, Dr. Clerval?

DR. CLERVAL: I went to school with his older brother, Dr. Victor Frankenstein, M.D., Ph.D., W.M.D. He's been my BFF since Grade 8.

CROWN 1: Were you involved with the creation of the monst ...err, constructed being?

DR. CLERVAL: Me? Oh no no no. The Doctor was always the brains behind our bromance.

CROWN 1: Pardon me?

DR. CLERVAL: Well, I mean, he was always the smart one, you know, always got the good grades, won the science fair, got all kinds of scholarships. He carried me through high school and then med school afterward ... It was at med school that he developed this passion about creating life.

CROWN 1: And you didn't share this passion?

DR. CLERVAL: Gosh no. The Doctor was obsessed – it took over his life. He was down to two face lifts a week at one point. I was just trying to get by, make a living, you know. But after the Doctor actually succeeded and created that being [shrugs/nods toward the accused], he was totally distraught.

CROWN 1: What makes you say that?

DR. CLERVAL: He was completely paranoid, looking behind his back wherever we went – on the bus, at H&M, as if he was being followed. I thought he was going crazy, until I saw it with my own eyes one day when climbing up the Grouse Grind with the Doctor.

CROWN 1: And by “it”, you mean the accused?

DR. CLERVAL: Yes, that ... thing.

CROWN 1: Dr. Clerval, what were you doing on November 1, 2008, the day William died?

DR. CLERVAL: I had gone mountain biking on Burnaby Mountain. As I was going down a trail, I caught a glimpse of something shiny – a glint of something metallic, like a bolt or something. I looked over, and there he was - I saw the monster running through the woods towards the parking lot. I stopped to text the Doctor to warn him.

CROWN 1: What did you text?

DR. CLERVAL: “SOS, please.”

JUDGE: [singing] “Someone help me ...”

[Everyone looks a little oddly at the judge.]

DR. CLERVAL: Then I noticed poor William. He was lying alone in the woods, his mountain bike beside him. His face was blue. There was no question about it - he was dead – strangled to death.

CROWN 1: Thank you, Dr. Clerval. Your witness.

DEFENCE 3: Tell me, Dr. Clerval. Are you a good mountain biker?

DR. CLERVAL: I’m not as good as the Doctor, but I can hold my own.

DEFENCE 3: Would you say you were travelling fast as you went down Burnaby Mountain on November 1?

DR. CLERVAL: I’m not as fast as the Doctor, but yeah, I was going pretty fast.

DEFENCE 3: And how would you describe the weather conditions on November 1?

DR. CLERVAL: Well, it was typical Vancouver weather: it was pouring!

DEFENCE 3: It was raining?

DR. CLERVAL: Yeah, a downpour.

DEFENCE 3: And were you wearing your glasses, Dr. Clerval?

DR. CLERVAL: I don't wear glasses since the Doctor fixed my eyesight with laser eye surgery. I had the surgery just a few weeks before that day.

DEFENCE 3: And when you saw the monster, you say you saw him through the trees?

DR. CLERVAL: That's right. Hey – I know what you're getting at. I'm sure it was him. I mean look at him – who else could it have been? Shrek???

JUDGE: [Singing.] "Now I'm a believer."

DEFENCE 3: Dr. Clerval, have you ever seen this monster when he hasn't been running through trees in the distance?

DR. CLERVAL: Well, uh – no – but I'm positive it was him.

DEFENCE 3: One more question, Dr. Clerval. Isn't it true you would do anything to help the Doctor? He's your BFF after all, isn't he? He got you through high school and med school. He got you started in practice. You might say you even...owe him?

DR. CLERVAL: It's true – the Doctor is like my Brother from another Mother. But I'm telling the truth. I swear.

DEFENCE 3: No more questions.

[Defence Counsel 3 sits.]

JUDGE: Would the Crown like to re-examine the witness?

[Crown Counsel 3 stands.]

CROWN 3: No my Lord/Lady.

[Crown Counsel 3 sits..]

JUDGE: [To witness] you may step down.

[Henry leaves stage.]

JUDGE: Crown, your next witness?

[Crown Counsel 2 stands and approaches lectern.]

CROWN 2: The Crown calls Sergeant Payne.

[Sergeant Payne enters stage and sits in witness box.]

CROWN 2: Would you like to affirm or swear an oath?

SERGEANT: Swear.

CROWN 2: Take the Bible in your right hand. [pause as witness does so] Do you swear that the evidence you shall give shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

SERGEANT: I do.

CROWN 2: Please state your full name for the record.

SERGEANT: My name is Sergeant Payne.

CROWN 2: Can you please state your job and your qualifications for the record?

SERGEANT: I am an officer with the RCMP. I have been an officer for 22 years and have investigated 7000 murders. I have been a forensics specialist for 21 of my 22 years as a member of the RCMP. As well, my brother is a forensics specialist and my father was a forensics specialist and my father's father was a forensics specialist.

CROWN 2: What did your father's father's father do?

SERGEANT: Uh. He was a plumber.

CROWN 2: My Lord/Lady, I'd like to qualify this witness as an expert in the field of forensics.

JUDGE: Are there any objections?

DEFENCE 1: No, my Lord/Lady.

JUDGE: Go ahead, the witness is qualified as an expert in the field of forensics.

CROWN 2: Did you have occasion to attend the scene of William Frankenstein's murder?

SERGEANT: Yes, I was called to the scene on November 1, 2008 at Burnaby Mountain shortly after the murder was reported. I was responsible for securing the scene of the crime.

CROWN 2: What was the first thing you did when you arrived at the scene?

SERGEANT: First, I pulled out my regulation yellow police tape. My father always said that the key to investigating crime is yellow police tape.

CROWN 2: Can you tell us about what you saw when you arrived?

SERGEANT: When I arrived, I saw the victim lying on the ground beside a mountain bike.

CROWN 2: Did you determine how he died?

SERGEANT: Yes, by strangulation.

CROWN 2: How did you know?

SERGEANT: There were two large bruises on his neck. I looked closer and could see bruises were in the shape of handprints. Something seemed unusual though. It seemed like the two handprints were two different sizes, as if they were two different hands! [holds up hands and looks at his own hands] As if he was strangled by two different people...

CROWN 2: Or one person with two different hands?

DEFENCE 1: Objection, my Lord/Lady. Leading question.

CROWN 2: I'll rephrase the question, my Lord/Lady. Did you ever find an explanation for the two different sized handprints?

SERGEANT: At first, I was baffled. But then, we arrested the accused and I had an opportunity to measure the hands of the accused. [in amazed voice] Once I had completed the comparison, I came to the conclusion that the accused had two different hands from two different people!

CROWN 2: What else did you see at the scene of the crime?

SERGEANT: I found a large metal bolt.

CROWN 2: [Holding up exhibit bag.] Do you recognize this bolt as the bolt you found?

SERGEANT: [Takes exhibit.] Yes.

CROWN 2: My Lord. I'd like to enter this as Exhibit #1.

JUDGE: Any objections?

DEFENCE 1: No, my Lord/Lady.

JUDGE: Clerk, please mark this as exhibit #1.

CROWN 2: Do you have any idea where the bolt came from?

SERGEANT: Well, upon examining the accused, I noticed that he had a screw loose [pause – Officer is being serious, doesn't realize he's made a joke]

CROWN 2: What do you mean, he had a screw loose? Are you saying he was crazy?

SERGEANT: No, I mean he had a loose screw! The accused had one bolt on side of his head and a hole on the other side. After seeing the hole in Frank N. Stein's head, I concluded that this bolt had come loose from the accused's head during the murder.

CROWN 2: No more questions, my Lord/Lady.

JUDGE: Your witness, defence counsel.

DEFENCE 2: Thank you, my Lord/Lady.

[Defence Counsel 2 stands.]

DEFENCE 2: So you testified that there were two different sized handprints?

SERGEANT: Yes.

DEFENCE 2: And you testified that it was as if the two handprints had come from different people?

SERGEANT: Yes.

DEFENCE 2: So, isn't it possible that the victim was, in fact, strangled by two different people?

[The other two defence counsel stand up on either side of Defence Counsel 2 and each put a hand on his neck, as if strangling him.]

DEFENCE 2: [In strangled voice.] Isn't it possible?

SERGEANT: Well, I guess I can't rule it out.

[Defence Counsel 2 appears very proud of himself, straightens his clothes in pride and sits down.]

[Defence Counsel 2 stands up holding a bag of bolts. As Defence Counsel 3 is examining Sergeant Payne, he drops the bag of bolts on the table with a thud and begins to dramatically play with a bolt.]

DEFENCE 3: Sergeant, going back to the bolt. Was the bolt you found unusual in any way?

SERGEANT: You mean beyond the fact that it was found at the scene of a murder? No, I guess not.

DEFENCE 3: Isn't it true that bolts like this are sold in all sorts of hardware stores everywhere?

SERGEANT: I suppose. You couldn't prove otherwise by me.

DEFENCE 3: Did you try to match this bolt to any other bolt besides the bolt in my clients head?

SERGEANT: No.

DEFENCE 3: Not only would it potentially match the bolt in my clients head, it would also match thousands of bolts found in hardware stores everywhere?

SERGEANT: If you say so.

DEFENCE 3: So, isn't it true that you can't connect this bolt to my client?

SERGEANT: Well, I guess I can't say.

DEFENCE 3: Did you even measure the bolt to establish if it fit the hole in my clients head? Did you try to screw it in?

SERGEANT: No.

DEFENCE 3: Well, if the bolt doesn't fit, you must acquit! [pause...beams at his joke] No more questions, my Lord/Lady

[Defence 3 sits.]

[Crown 3 stands.]

CROWN 3: The Crown rests its case, my Lord/Lady.

[Crown 3 sits]

JUDGE: Does the Defence wish to call evidence?

[Defence 1 stands.]

DEFENCE 1: The defence does, my Lord/Lady.

JUDGE: Very well, would the defence like to make an opening statement?

DEFENCE 1: Yes, thank you my Lord/Lady.

[DEFENCE OPENING]

[Defence 1 approaches lectern.]

DEFENCE 1: [To Jury.]

Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, my client is not like you or I. He was created by a modern day mad scientist; a doctor so sure of his own brilliance that he didn't care what kind of being he created.

You will hear evidence from Dr. Igor, the assistant of Dr. Frankenstein. He will provide more details as to how Mr. Stein was created, specifically that Dr. Frankenstein gave my client the brain of a murderer.

You will also hear the testimony of Ms. Bride O. Frankenstein. Since it is difficult for us to understand what the life of a constructed being is like, Ms. Bride O. Frankenstein will tell you what it is like to inherit the personality of the people whose body parts she now owns.

Finally, you will hear evidence from my client. He will tell you about his background and his struggles with the brain that he cannot control.

At the close of this trial, we will ask you to return a verdict of not guilty.

[Defence 1 sits.]

JUDGE: Please call your first witness.

[Defence 2 stands and approaches lectern.]

DEFENCE 2: The defence calls Dr. Igor to the stand

[Igor shuffles to the stand, walking with a hunchback. Igor talks with the typical accent of the Igor we know from the movies. He has a slur and draws out his “ssss’s” (as in “yesss, massster”). He sounds and looks like an uneducated servant. Igor walks using a shovel as a cane. As he walks up to the stand, he says...]

IGOR: Don’t mind the shovel.

CLERK: Would you like to affirm or swear an oath?

IGOR: Affirm.

CLERK: Do you solemnly affirm that the evidence you shall give shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?

IGOR: Yessss

CLERK: Please state your full name for the record.

IGOR: Dr. Igor.

CLERK: Please state your last name.

IGOR: I just have one name – you know, like Dr. Dre.

JUDGE: Your witness.

DEFENCE 2: Thank you my Lord/Lady. Now, Dr. Igor...Can you tell us how you know Dr. Frankenstein, M.D., Ph.D. W.M.D.?

IGOR: We went to Harvard medical school together. I was second in our class.

DEFENCE 2: Who was first?

IGOR: [long pause, reluctant to answer] Dr. Frankenstein.

DEFENCE 2: How would you describe Dr. Frankenstein?

IGOR: He is a jerk. He stole my youth from me, my hopes, my career, my posture. When I first started working for Dr. Frankenstein, I looked like Brad Pitt from Troy. Now, I look like old Brad Pitt from Benjamin Button.

DEFENCE 2: How did you come to work for Dr. Frankenstein?

IGOR: After we graduated, he said we’d work closely together on the cutting edge of plastic surgery. He promised me everything under the rainbow.

JUDGE: [singing] “Somewhere over the rainbow ...”

DEFENCE 2: So he never told you you'd be digging up bodies?

IGOR: No. He just told me I'd have a lot of patient interaction. He didn't tell me the patients would be dead.

DEFENCE 2: Were you involved in creating my client?

IGOR: Yessss, I was involved from the very beginning. My master would order me to collect body parts for him.

DEFENCE 2: And by Master, who do you mean?

IGOR: Dr. Frankenstein, M.D., Ph.D., W.M.D.

DEFENCE 2: And where did you collect these body parts from?

IGOR: [sarcastically] From bodies.

DEFENCE 2: And where were the bodies?

IGOR: [sarcastically] in graves

DEFENCE 2: What kind of bodies did you look for?

IGOR: Ones that wouldn't be missed. So, I targeted the graves of criminals because I thought nobody would miss them.

DEFENCE 2: So, did my client's body parts come from criminals?

IGOR: Yesssss, entirely.

DEFENCE 2: Including his brain?

IGOR: Yesssss.

DEFENCE 2: And do you know exactly who you got his brain from?

IGOR: Well, let's see, I got his legs from someone who jumped bail, his arms from an armed robber and his brain came from a section of the graveyard that was full of murderers.

DEFENCE 2: So, you have testified that you harvested the brain of a murderer. Are you certain that Frank N. Stein has a brain of a murderer?

IGOR: Yessss.

DEFENCE 2: No more questions, my Lord/Lady.

[Defence 2 sits.]

JUDGE: Crown, would you like to cross-examine this witness?

[Crown Counsel 1 stands and approaches lectern.]

CROWN 1 : I would, my Lord/Lady.

JUDGE: Proceed.

CROWN 1: Dr. Igor, you know you are under oath, don't you?

IGOR: Yessss.

CROWN 1: So you know you must tell the truth?

IGOR: Yesss, I'm always honest.

CROWN 1: Well, you say "always", but that's not exactly true, is it, Dr. Igor? Isn't it true that you cheated on an exam when you were at Harvard medical school?

IGOR: How did you find out about that! I was young & foolish!

CROWN 1: If you lied then, what's to stop you from lying now? And isn't it true that the only reason you're testifying is because you want the credit for Dr. Frankenstein's work?

IGOR: It's not fair! I did all the work. I dug up all the graves. I was up to my elbows in kneecaps!

CROWN 1: No further questions.

[Crown Counsel 1 sits.]

JUDGE: Would the Defence like to re-examine the witness?

[Defence 2 stands.]

DEFENCE 2: No, my Lord/Lady.

[Defence 2 sits.]

JUDGE: [to witness] You may step down.

[Igor shuffles off stage.]

IGOR: Don't mind the shovel.

JUDGE: Defence counsel?

[Defence 3 stands and approaches lectern.]

DEFENCE 3: The Defence calls Bride O. Frankenstein.

CLERK: Would you like to affirm or swear an oath?

BRIDE: Swear.

CLERK: Take the Bible in your right hand. [pause as witness does so] Do you swear that the evidence you shall give shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

BRIDE: I do.

CLERK: Please state your full name for the record.

BRIDE: Bride O. Frankenstein. [in a prissy voice] That's B-R-I-D-E-SPACE-INITIAL-O-F-R-A-N-K-E-N-S-T-E-I-N.

JUDGE: Your witness, defence counsel.

DEFENCE 3: Thank you, my Lord/Lady.

DEFENCE 3: Bride, you are a constructed being. Can you tell us about your background?

BRIDE: I was constructed by Dr. Frankenstein. Originally, I was created to be married to that, that ... [pointing at Frankenstein] disaster over there. As you can see, Dr. Frankenstein's technique has improved dramatically. I was constructed from the bodies of an actress, a dancer and a model.

DEFENCE 3: And how has this worked out for you?

BRIDE: Well, I have had my ups and downs. You may have seen me as an extra in season 4 of the Simple Life or as a contestant on Canada's Next Top Model..My biggest success was as a contestant on Survivor.

JUDGE: [Wakes up] Survivor?! [singing] "I will survive! As long as I know how to love..."

BRIDE: [Begins to sing with judge] "I know I'll stay alive!"

[Both get up and begin to disco dance.]

DEFENCE 3: Ahem. I can see you're quite talented, but if you've only had limited success, have you ever thought about giving up acting?

BRIDE: I've tried, but I can't! It's like I have no control. I always say, you can take the brain out of the star, but you can't take the star out of the brain.

DEFENCE 3: Can you explain further?

BRIDE: Well, you have to understand, for a constructed being, you receive all the characteristics of the person whose brain you have. It's not my brain, these choices are out of my hands...[looking at her hands, getting emotional] well, whoever's hands these are. [Bride begins to cry into her hands]

DEFENCE 3: [Aside to audience, shaking head.] Actresses! No further questions.

[DEFENCE 3 sits.]

JUDGE: Do you wish to cross-examine the witness, Crown counsel?
[Crown Counsel 2 stands and approaches lectern.]

CROWN 2: I do, my Lord/Lady.

JUDGE: Very well...you may proceed when ready.

CROWN 2: Ms. Frankenstein, what did you have for breakfast today?

BRIDE: Waffles. They're my favourite!

CROWN 2: Have you seen any movies lately?

BRIDE: Twilight! I've seen it four times already! That Edward is such a hottie!

CROWN 2: That's a very nice sweater you're wearing. Did you pick it yourself?

BRIDE: Yes. I got it at Le Chateau.

CROWN 2: Did you have to eat waffles this morning?

BRIDE: No, I guess.

CROWN 2: Did you have to watch Twilight four times?

BRIDE: Doesn't everyone?

CROWN 2: Did you have to buy that sweater?

BRIDE: At that price I did!

CROWN 2: Isn't it true that you seem to be quite capable of making any number of choices on a regular basis.

BRIDE: Pardon me?

CROWN 2: Wouldn't you say you make your own decisions, many of them, each and every day? It's not your testimony that you do these things because you inherited the brain of a vampire loving, waffle eating, sweater wearer? Is it?

BRIDE: I don't know! I just don't know!

CROWN 2: No further questions, My Lord/Lady.
[Crown Counsel 2 sits.]

JUDGE: Would the defence like to re-examine the witness?
[Defence 3 stands.]

DEFENCE 3: No my Lord/Lady.

[Defence 3 sits.]

JUDGE: [To witness.] You may step down.

[Bride leaves witness box and exits stage.]

JUDGE: Please call your next witness.

[Defence 1 stands and approaches lectern.]

DEFENCE 1: Thank you my Lord/Lady. The defence calls Frank N. Stein to the stand.

[Frank N. Stein rises from accused's box and sits in witness box.]

CLERK: Would you like to affirm or swear an oath?

FRANK: I'll affirm.

CLERK: Do you solemnly affirm that the evidence you shall give shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?

FRANK: I do.

CLERK: Please state your full name for the record.

FRANK: Frank N. Stein That's "Frank" "Initial N." "Stein".

JUDGE: Your witness.

DEFENCE 1: Thank you my Lord/Lady. Mr. Stein, how do you know Dr. Frankenstein, M.D., Ph.D., W.M.D.

FRANK: Well, one of my oldest memories is being strapped to an electric chair and someone was asking me if I had any last words. But then, the next thing I remember is waking up in Dr. Frankenstein's loft. The doctor was standing over me with jumper cables and I said "Don't tase me, bro!" Dr. Frankenstein started yelling "It's Alive! It's Alive!" And I was like "OMG! My head feels like someone drilled a hole into it"

DEFENCE 1: And then what happened?

FRANK: The doctor like totally freaked. He jetted out of there and locked me in his Yaletown loft with nothing, but local cable. Hello? TiVo?

DEFENCE 1: And then what happened?

FRANK: After two weeks of surviving O.C. reruns and stale pizza, I finally broke out of the loft by promising the security guard a double chocolate chip frappaccino and went to look for Dr. Frankenstein.

DEFENCE 1: Why were you looking for him?

FRANK: Dude, I was like Brad without my Angelina! I had seen an ad on TV for the monster mash and I knew from the OC that I like had to have a date. But I also knew I didn't look like normal people. I needed Dr. Frankenstein to make me a girlfriend.

DEFENCE 1: Did you find him?

FRANK: Yes. It was very difficult. He kept running away. Finally, when I found him, I told him what I wanted – a girl just like Rihanna.

DEFENCE 1: And how did that work out for you?

FRANK: Well...I asked for a Bride and I got a Bridezilla. How do you think it worked out for me?

DEFENCE 1: We'll get to that, Mr. Stein, but for now, tell us what happened after you told Dr. Frankenstein that you wanted a girlfriend?

FRANK: I had to wait and wait and wait. Dr. Frankenstein was taking forever! Then he disappeared. I had to track him down all over again. I couldn't find him, so I hired a private investigator to spy on his family because they might know where he was. I learned that Elizabeth went to the movies often and that William was into mountain biking. I went looking for each of them to see if they knew anything.

DEFENCE 1: Did you ever find them?

FRANK: Well, I remember finding Elizabeth outside the mall. And I wanted to ask her if she knew where Dr. Frankenstein was, but like everybody else I meet, she ran away from me and wouldn't even talk to me. What's up with that? It made me so mad. [looks ashamed] I lost control, I started to chase her and if she hadn't got away, I don't know what would have happened. It's not my fault, I was made that way!

DEFENCE 1: Did you ever find William?

FRANK: Yes. By the time I found him, I was so frustrated with the Frankensteins. First, the doctor had promised me a girlfriend, his sister wouldn't even talk to me. I'd already missed the Monster Mash. I couldn't take it anymore. It was his fault I was so ugly and miserable. It's his fault I have no friends. I'm all by myself, all the time!

JUDGE: [Singing.] "Alllllll byyyy myyyself....don't want to be...all by myself anymore..."
[Judge composes himself or herself.]

DEFENCE 1: What happened when you found William?

FRANK: I confronted him, but he wouldn't tell me where Dr. Frankenstein was. At first, I just wanted to talk to him, but he just wouldn't listen. The next thing I know, I saw my hands around his neck. It was terrible, but I couldn't stop it.

DEFENCE 1: Thank you, Mr. Stein, I understand this is difficult. I just have one more question: can you tell the jury what's it like to be a constructed being?

FRANK: It's really hard. Mostly, I'm really lonely and I'm always getting in trouble, especially with the cops. No matter what I try to do, I just can't help myself. I try to control my temper, but my therapist says I have anger issues.

DEFENCE 1: How did your therapist come to that conclusion?

FRANK: Well, he said that when I was dangling him out the window.

DEFENCE 1: Mr. Stein, where do you think all this anger comes from?

FRANK: It's not my fault, it's almost like this is what I was made to do. I didn't ask for this body and I didn't want this brain.

DEFENCE 1: No further questions.

[Defence 1 sits.]

JUDGE: Do you wish to cross-examine the witness, Crown counsel?

[Crown 3 stands and approaches lectern.]

CROWN 3: I do, my Lord/Lady. [pause] You blame Dr. Frankenstein for your unhappiness, don't you?

FRANK: Well, my therapist said it was his fault!

CROWN 3: Was this before or after you hung your therapist out the window?

FRANK: Before. Definitely, before.

CROWN 3: In fact, you hate Dr. Frankenstein, don't you?

FRANK: Well, I wouldn't shed a tear if he was gone...even if he had bothered to give me tear ducts, that is.

CROWN 3: I put it to you that you want Dr. Frankenstein to suffer, to be as lonely as you are?

FRANK: Well, that's what he deserves.

CROWN 3: We've heard testimony that you attempted to assault Ms. Elizabeth Frankenstein, but you couldn't stop yourself?

FRANK: No, I couldn't

CROWN 3: And we've heard that you killed William Frankenstein, but you couldn't stop yourself?

FRANK: I couldn't! It's not my fault.

CROWN 3: But, you keep looking for the Frankensteins. It's your testimony that you can't stop yourself from attacking the same people over and over?

FRANK: My mind has a mind of its own?

CROWN 3: So you went looking for someone you hated and then you killed them. I put it to you that you made a conscious decision to kill William.

FRANK: No, it's not like that at all.

CROWN 3: No further questions.

[Crown 3 sits.]

JUDGE: Would the defence like to re-examine the witness?

[Defence 1 stands.]

DEFENCE 1: No, My Lady/My Lord.

[Defence 1 sits.]

JUDGE: [To witness.] You may step down.

[Frank N. Stein leaves witness box and returns to seat on stage.]

JUDGE: Anything further, defence counsel?

[Defence 2 stands.]

DEFENCE 2: The defence rests, my Lord/Lady.

JUDGE: Very well. Proceed with your closing statement.

DEFENCE 2: Thank you my Lord/Lady.

[DEFENCE CLOSING]

[Defence 3 stands and both Defence 2 and Defence 3 approach lectern.]

DEFENCE 2: Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, I'd like to start by reminding you of what his/her lordship/ladyship said at the outset of this trial: it is the Crown's responsibility to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Mr. Frank N. Stein is guilty of the second degree murder of William Frankenstein. I think when you consider the evidence you've heard today you can only conclude that the Crown has not discharged that burden.

There are no independent eyewitnesses who actually saw my client commit the murder. The bruising on the victim's neck is consistent with two attackers. The police work in this case was shoddy – the lead investigator apparently didn't learn enough from the 7000 murders he claims to have investigated to take the simple step of matching the bolt found at the scene to the remaining bolt in my client's head.

But most importantly, ladies and gentlemen, even leaving all that aside, you simply cannot be convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that my client intended to kill William

Frankenstein or had any choice in the matter whatsoever. And if you can't be sure of that, you can't convict him of murder.

DEFENCE 3: Mr. Stein's creator, a plastic surgeon, became so obsessed with creating life that he stitched my client together out of body parts he had his assistant steal from local cemeteries and then brought him to life. Did he care where the body parts came from? In his own words, "Don't ask, don't tell". Just don't get caught, he told Igor. And when he saw what he'd created by playing God, did he act like a responsible scientist? No. He was so ashamed and horrified that he simply imprisoned my client in his laboratory and fled.

If the doctor didn't care where my client's parts come from, should you? Does it matter? Yes. You've heard from the being created to be Mr. Stein's date to the monster mash – the only other constructed being in existence. She told you that constructed beings receive the characteristics of the persons whose brains they are given. She told you of her uncontrollable compulsions to sing and dance as a result of her actress's brain. You can take the brain out of the star, she told you, but you can't take the star out of the brain. The evidence before you suggests that where constructed beings are concerned, the parts make all the difference.

So where did they come from? Dr. Frankenstein's assistant, Igor, told you where. They came from criminals! He cut up the corpses of criminals because he knew nobody would miss them. Most importantly, he told you that he was certain – certain! – that my client's brain is the brain of a murderer.

That is consistent with the testimony of my client, Mr. Frank N. Stein himself. Just as his intended date for the monster mash cannot stop herself from singing and dancing, he testified that he cannot stop himself from committing acts of violence. He has no more choice in the matter than she does. That's how it is for constructed beings. That's what the good doctor ought to have guarded against. You can take the brain out of the murderer, but you can't take the murderer out of the brain.

DEFENCE 2: The Crown will argue that these are not random violent acts by a monster who cannot control himself. It's no coincidence, you'll be told, that Mr. Stein kept seeking out the same people – members of the doctor's family – and targeting them for violence. But Mr. Stein has explained that he didn't seek out the Frankensteins intending any harm to come to them. He was simply trying to locate the one person in the world who could help him – the one person in the world who could create a companion for him and had promised to do so – the person who abandoned him when he didn't turn out perfectly: Dr. Victor Frankenstein, M.D., Ph.D., W.M.D.

Ladies and gentlemen, I submit to you that you simply do not have proof beyond a reasonable doubt on the element of intent and I ask you to return a verdict of "not guilty". Mr. Stein is no more than the sum of his criminal parts. He cannot be held criminally responsible for William Frankenstein's death. Thank you.

[Defence counsel sit.]

JUDGE: Crown? Your closing argument?

[Crown Counsel 2 stands.]

CROWN 2: Thank you my Lord/Lady.

[CROWN CLOSING]

[Crown Counsel 2 approaches lectern.]

CROWN 2: Ladies and gentlemen of the jury – William Frankenstein was killed, strangled to death, on the afternoon of November 1, 2008, when mountain biking on Burnaby Mountain. This much is uncontroversial. It is also uncontroversial that the accused, Mr. Frank N. Stein, caused the death of William. Not only does the evidence of the eyewitness, Dr. Henry Clerval, place him at the scene of the crime, but a bolt just like the one missing from his head was found by William’s body. Moreover, Mr. Stein told you himself that he killed William. “I saw my hands around his neck”, he told you. He strangled William with his own hands. And don’t let him fool you – those mismatched hands belong to him and no one else.

The only question that remains before you is whether Mr. Stein intended to cause the death of William. I submit to you that Mr. Stein’s intention to kill is clearly established on the evidence before you, beyond all reasonable doubt.

How could you conclude otherwise? Let’s consider the evidence you have heard. Dr. Victor Frankenstein testified that Mr. Stein hunted him down, refusing to leave him alone unless he created him a girlfriend. Mr. Stein himself told you he was so impatient for a girlfriend, he hired a private investigator to follow not only the Doctor, but the Doctor’s family. Mr. Stein followed Elizabeth to the movies, where she testified that he threatened her. Mr. Stein then sought out William, tracking him down at his favourite mountain biking destinations. This is the behaviour of a man in control of his own actions. He did these things deliberately and for a purpose.

When Mr. Stein found William, he testified that he saw “his hands around his neck”. Mr. Stein said “I couldn’t stop it”. I’m sure we’ve all felt this way before. Sometimes, we “can’t get out of bed” or we “couldn’t say no to that last piece of cake”. Does that make us any less responsible for sleeping in or indulging ourselves? Of course not – and I submit to you that it does not make Mr. Stein any less responsible for William’s death.

It’s Mr. Stein’s testimony that his violent tendencies are out of his control: the result of a brain that belongs, not to him, but to some murderer long passed away. However, the reality is that brain, regardless of its origins, is screwed into Mr. Stein’s head at the moment and he must take responsibility for its choices. Mr. Stein’s counsel told you that the accused is nothing more than the sum of his criminal parts. Well, it was those parts that killed William and it is Mr. Stein, the sum of those parts, that is responsible.

Thank you.

[Crown Counsel 2 returns to seat.]

[JURY CHARGE]

JUDGE: Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, that concludes the evidence in this case. You have heard that the accused caused the death of William Frankenstein. The only question before you is whether the accused intended to kill William Frankenstein.

You have heard testimony about how the accused was created. It is up to you to determine whether the fact that Frank N. Stein is a constructed being means that his actions are beyond his control.

If you are satisfied that the Crown has proven beyond a reasonable doubt that Frank N. Stein was capable and did in fact, choose to kill William, then you must find him guilty of murder in the second degree. However, if there is a reasonable doubt in your mind that Frank N. Stein did not mean to cause William's death and could not stop himself from causing William's death, then you must acquit him of that crime.

You may now proceed to the jury room for deliberations. Your verdict must be unanimous. That is to say, everyone must agree with the decision. When you have reached a verdict please inform the sheriff. He/she will inform the Court that you are ready to return to the courtroom to announce your verdict.

[Jury leaves the courtroom for deliberations. Defence, Crown, and Frank N. Stein stand out of respect for the jury. Sheriff directs the jury to the Jury Room.]

JUDGE: Thank you counsel. We will now adjourn until the jury returns with the verdict.

CLERK: Order in Court. This court is adjourned to await the return of the jury.

[All stand while the judge leaves the courtroom. Defence 3 walks over to Frank N. Stein..]

FRANK: How long is this going to take?

DEFENCE 3: It depends on how long it takes for the jury to reach a verdict. The clerk will let us know by saying...

CLERK: [interrupting] Order in Court.

DEFENCE 3: That!

[Defence 3 returns to counsel seat. Judge enters the courtroom. Everyone stands.]

JUDGE: You may be seated. Madam Registrar, has the jury reached a verdict?

CLERK: They have, My Lord/Lady.

JUDGE: Sheriff, please bring the jury in.

[Defence, Crown, and Frank N. Stein stand as sheriff directs the jury to their seats. Everyone can be seated when the jury sits.]

CLERK: Members of the jury, have you reached a verdict?

[Foreperson stands.]

FOREPERSON: Yes, we have.

CLERK: Mr./Madam Foreperson, what is your verdict in the sole count of murder in the 2nd degree?

FOREPERSON: Guilty/not guilty.

CLERK: [To the Judge] The jury finds the accused guilty/not guilty, My Lord/Lady.

CLERK: Members of the jury, listen to your verdict as the court does not record it. You find the accused Frank N. Stein guilty/not guilty of second degree murder. This is your verdict, so say you all. Please stand to confirm your verdict.

[All members of the jury stand.]

CLERK: The verdict is unanimous, My Lord/Lady.

JUDGE: [If verdict is guilty.] Mr. Frank N. Stein, a jury of your peers has found you guilty of murder in the second degree. Sheriff, please take this man into custody.

[If verdict is not guilty.] Mr. Frank N. Stein, a jury of your peers has found you not guilty. You are free to go.

Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, we thank you for acting as jurors in this matter. Both society and the law benefit from your contribution. In return, I hope you have found it to be an interesting and rewarding experience.

CLERK: This Court stands adjourned. Order in Court.

[All stand while the judge leaves the courtroom.]

[All lights go out.]

Cast of Characters

Speaking parts

Witnesses	Crown Lawyers	Defence Lawyers	Court Personnel
Dr. Frankenstein	Crown Counsel 1	Defence Counsel 1	Judge
Elizabeth Frankenstein	Crown Counsel 2	Defence Counsel 2	Court Clerk
Dr. Henry Clerval	Crown Counsel 3	Defence Counsel 3	Sheriff
Police Officer/ Forensic Specialist			Jury Foreperson
Dr. Igor			
Bride O.of Frankenstein			
Frank N. Stein, the mon- ster			

Non-speaking parts: 11 jury members.

Props Required

Costumes and exhibits can be prepared.
Note: No gavels in Canadian courtrooms!

Character Descriptions

Dr. Frankenstein: Dr. Frankenstein is an ego-maniac with a “god complex”. He is full of himself and overly confident in his abilities. He has achieved a lot of success as a plastic surgeon and looks down on others.

Elizabeth Frankenstein: Elizabeth is a young, straightforward witness. She is visibly traumatized by the death of her brother and the threat from Frank N. Stein.

Dr. Henry Clerval: Henry is the same age as the doctor and he attended university and medical school with Dr. Frankenstein. Henry is socially awkward and feels inferior to Dr. Frankenstein. He idolizes the Doctor.

Sargeant Payne: Sargeant Payne is an ultimate professional and is always serious. He does not have a sense of humour. He is very formal and may wish to stand during his testimony, as many RCMP officers will stand in court.

Dr. Igor: Although Dr. Igor appears and speaks like the hunchback version of Igor we know from the movies, he is actually a well-educated and intelligent medical doctor. He feels bitter and feels betrayed by the success that Dr. Frankenstein has achieved.

Bride O. Frankenstein: Bride is an actress, singer and model. She has the brain of an actress and is very dramatic in everything she does. She has an artistic flair!

Frank N. Stein: Frank N. Stein is young, lonely and angry with Dr. Frankenstein. He truly believes it is Dr. Frankenstein’s fault that his life is so miserable. While he looks like the monster in the movies, he only has one bolt screwed into the side of his head.

Stage Set-up

Court clerk usually sits at desk in front of judge. Judge will be in centre of stage. Witness box will be located to one side of judge, with the counsel’s lectern located on the opposite side. Position will change depending on size of stage or the courtroom. Accused Frank N. Stein does not sit with his lawyers, but to side with sheriff.

Lights up, all characters in place as mentioned above.