Appearance:

AM/10  VF flees monster due to appearance and size
AM/20  Mirrors - seeing oneself = knowing oneself. Characters assume monster’s “outer appearance is a valid index to his inner nature”
JR/137  VF’s “inability to tolerate extreme ugliness [...] is the key to everything that follows”
JR/141  Few people actually encounter monster face-to-face
DG/566  ‘Creature’s ugliness did not bother Victor (or anyone else) before he came to life
DG/570  “despite the fact that Victor especially chose each feature for its beauty, the combined form cannot aesthetically contain its own existence”
CB/33  “Why should a creature constructed from body parts which Victor selects as perfect and indeed beautiful specimens turn out to be hideously repulsive? The novel provides no explanation for the creature’s ugliness.

Morality:

AM/11  Monster = abused child who becomes abusive
AM/18  VF as a bad scientist, tampering with nature, creating new species down the evolutionary ladder
AM/20  Rousseau = human nature inherently good (Monster) Original Sin = innate evil (VF)
DG/569  Boy’s reaction: “fundamental insight into the nature of ugliness itself - the ugly is that which threatens to consume and disorder the subject”

Natural/unnatural Creation:

AM/12  unnatural, asexual desire to give birth
AM/15  responsibilities of parents/God
JR/139  “essential condition for a monster is that the human characteristics it possesses must not be changed too far”
CB/35  VF’s “error is to have confused the beauty of dead limbs he has collected with the beauty of a whole organism. According to the Idealist philosophy of the Romantics, the beauty of the whole can
arise only from a pure vital principle within, to which all subordinate parts and limbs will then conform.

CB/43 Novel offers limited grounds to read it as VF trying to usurp divine powers of creation (?)

Texts used:

DG = Denise Gigante, ‘Facing the ‘Ugly’: the Case of Frankenstein’ ELH 67:2 2000 565-87
CB = Chris Baldick, In Frankenstein’s Shadow: Myth, Monstrosity and 19th Century Writing (Oxford: Clarendon, 1987)