

## CONTENTS

**Words Used** .....4, 5

<b>NO.</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>SYNOPSIS</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
<b>91</b>	<b>The Secrets of Nature</b>	On their way to the North Pole, Robert Walton and his men find a man alone on the ice. The man, Frankenstein, tells them he is chasing a demon.	<b>6</b>
<b>92</b>	<b>Frankenstein's Family</b>	Frankenstein tells how he wanted to do magical things as a boy, but then turned to science. After his mother's death, he left home for the university.	<b>12</b>
<b>93</b>	<b>The Creature is Born</b>	Frankenstein learns the secret to giving life and makes a creature. After his creature comes to life, Frankenstein becomes afraid and runs away. When he comes back to his apartment, the creature is gone.	<b>18</b>
<b>94</b>	<b>Murder in Geneva</b>	Very sick, Frankenstein is taken care of by his friend Henry Clerval. Frankenstein learns that his brother has been killed. When he returns home, Frankenstein sees the creature.	<b>24</b>
<b>95</b>	<b>The Good Spirit</b>	Alone in the mountains, Frankenstein and the creature talk. The creature tells about the family he grew to love while he was hiding near their house.	<b>30</b>
<b>96</b>	<b>Without Hope</b>	The creature tells how he learned to read Frankenstein's notebook, which was in his coat. The creature's family runs away after they see him.	<b>36</b>
<b>97</b>	<b>The Creature Confesses</b>	The creature tells how he murdered Frankenstein's little brother. Frankenstein says he will make a female so that the creature isn't alone in the world.	<b>42</b>
<b>98</b>	<b>The Next Victim</b>	Frankenstein tears apart the female he was making. He tells the creature he will not help him. Soon after Frankenstein is put into prison for Clerval's murder.	<b>48</b>
<b>99</b>	<b>A Life Destroyed</b>	Frankenstein is found innocent and returns home for his wedding. The creature murders his wife.	<b>54</b>
<b>100</b>	<b>The Long, Hard Chase</b>	Frankenstein tells Walton about his months of chasing the creature. Close to death, he asks Walton to kill the creature for him. After Frankenstein's death, the creature comes to Walton.	<b>60</b>
		<b>Comprehension Check Answer Key</b> .....67	
		<b>Vocabulary Check Answer Key</b> .....69	

## WORDS USED

	<b><u>Key Words</u></b>	<b><u>Necessary Words</u></b>
<b>Story 91</b>	discover learn month sail ship wrote	crazy demon duty explore nature noble
<b>Story 92</b>	born curious dead doctor happiness sick	death electricity lightning marriage science university
<b>Story 93</b>	body dream power promise skin study	cemetery creature experiment human laboratory professor
<b>Story 94</b>	decide fault healthy hour speak travel	carriage despair innocent murder/murderer servant trial
<b>Story 95</b>	hang heaven shed spirit understand ugly	comfort confess enemy glacier monster prison

## WORDS USED

	<b><u>Key Words</u></b>	<b><u>Necessary Words</u></b>
<b>Story 96</b>	blind escape gun history judge war	betray bullet government language merchant pain
<b>Story 97</b>	child island meet moment reason scream	companion female horrible prejudice revenge sympathy
<b>Story 98</b>	act fisherman selfish weak worry worse	bruises destroy guilty suffer victim wedding
<b>Story 99</b>	attack calm free hate inn mind	avoid doubt person protect sorrow threat/threaten
<b>Story 100</b>	cabin heart mile north note search	blame evil frozen mutiny regret sight

# *The Secrets of Nature*

## **PREPARATION**

### **Key Words**

<b>discover</b>	(dis kuv'ər)	to see or find out for the first time <i>The farmer didn't <u>discover</u> what was hiding in the barn until it was too late.</i>
<b>learn</b>	(lĕrn)	to get to know by doing or reading <i>Derek wants to go to school so he can <u>learn</u> to read better.</i> to find out <i>Victoria watched her brother secretly to <u>learn</u> where he was hiding her dolls.</i>
<b>month</b>	(munth)	one of the twelve parts of the year; a month has between 28 to 31 days <i>January is the first <u>month</u> of the year.</i>
<b>sail</b>	(sāl)	to move over the water in a boat <i>The family bought a boat so that they could <u>sail</u> down the river.</i>
<b>ship</b>	(ship)	a large boat; ships often have cloth sails that catch the wind and move the ship along. <i>We were afraid that my father's <u>ship</u> had been lost at sea.</i>
<b>wrote</b>	(rōt)	to have put words down on paper <i>Amanda <u>wrote</u> down what she wanted for her birthday.</i>

# *The Secrets of Nature*

## *Necessary Words*

<b>crazy</b>	(krā' zē)	believing things that cannot be true; insane <i>The man went <u>crazy</u> after being lost in the dark cave for a week.</i>
<b>demon</b>	(dē' mən)	a being, not of this world, who does bad things to people; devil <i>In the middle of the night, Jack felt the <u>demon</u> scratch at his leg.</i>
<b>duty</b>	(dü' tē)	the right thing to do <i>Emma believed it was her <u>duty</u> to give money to the poor.</i>
<b>explore</b>	(ek splôr')	to travel to learn about new places <i>Someday Rob wants to <u>explore</u> the dark side of the moon.</i>
<b>nature</b>	(nā' chər)	all that is not made by people <i>The mountains, woods, and seas are all part of <u>nature</u>.</i>
<b>noble</b>	(nō' bəl)	showing greatness in thought and action <i>Giving all people the right to vote is a <u>noble</u> idea.</i>

## *People, Places*

<b>Margaret</b>	is Robert Walton's sister.
<b>North Pole</b>	is the farthest point north on the earth. The North Pole was not reached until many years after Mary Shelley wrote Frankenstein.
<b>Robert Walton</b>	is hoping to discover a shorter way for ships to reach the other side of the world.

# *The Secrets of Nature*



*Riding on the sled was a very big man.*

- Preview**
1. Read the name of the story.
  2. Look at the picture.
  3. Read the sentence under the picture.
  4. Read the first two paragraphs of the story.
  5. Then answer the following question.

You learned from your preview that Robert Walton

- a. knows many people who have gone to the North Pole.
- b. hopes to learn things about nature that will help people.
- c. believes he will find many animals at the North Pole.
- d. is writing to his sister from the North Pole.

*Turn to the Comprehension Check on page 10 for the right answer.*

**Now read the story.**

*Read to find out about the strange things the men see from their ship.*

## *The Secrets of Nature*

Robert Walton was on his way to explore the top of the world. Dear Margaret, he wrote to his sister. I have gone as far as I can by land! Later I will find a ship and the men to sail her. But now my first duty is to write to let my dear little sister know I'm all right!

No one has ever reached the North Pole before. People say it must be cold and empty of life. I think it will be beautiful! I will explore where no one has walked before! I will find a way for ships to sail to the other side of the world! I will discover secrets of nature than no one else knows! Think of all the people I will help with what I learn!

In a month I will have everything ready on the ship. But I will still be missing one thing. I wish I had a friend coming with me! I need someone to talk with, someone who lives out his noble ideas, someone as excited to discover new things as I am. I won't find such a friend at the top of the world!

Months passed before another one of Robert Walton's letters reached his sister. Dear Margaret, he wrote. Last week the ice closed in around our ship. We could not move ahead, or the ice would break our ship into pieces. Then we would be lost under the sea, and

you would never learn what happened to me.

While we were waiting for the ice to break, we saw something moving far away from the ship. Dogs were pulling a heavy sled over the ice! Riding on the sled was a very big man. He seemed so big that we wondered if he could really be a man at all. We watched until we could no longer see the sled and the strange thing it carried. Soon the ice began to break, and we sailed on.

The next morning, we saw another man. He was on a sled on a block of ice next to our ship! He would not have been able to live much longer if we had not found him. But he did not thank us. "Which way are you going?" he asked.

"We are on our way to discover the North Pole," I said.

"That is the same way I am going," he said. We carried him onto the ship. His arms and legs were as cold as ice, and he could not stand. His eyes looked so wild that I thought that being alone on the ice had driven him crazy. But then, when he saw how we were all trying to help him, his smile lighted up his face.

"Why were you so far out away from land?" asked one of my men.

"I am following someone," he answered.

"We saw another sled

just a day ago," said another of my men. "Could it belong to the man you are following?"

"He is not a man! He is a demon!" The man's eyes grew wild again. "I must stop him!"

My men carried him to a bed where he could rest in quiet. In the days that followed I learned what a noble man we had brought in from the cold world outside. I remember that I wrote to you, Margaret, that I could never find a friend in such a cold, empty place. But I have! His name is Victor Frankenstein.

One day I was telling Frankenstein how I would willingly pay with my life to learn nature's secrets. "I will change the world," I said. "No longer will people be held down by nature! We will make nature do as we please."

"I once thought the same way," said Frankenstein. "Now I know I was crazy to try to change how nature works. You still have hope before you, but it is too late for me. I have nothing left but the duty to kill the demon I made. Listen to my story, my friend. Learn from me, and you will have a safe and happy life!"

# The Secrets of Nature

## COMPREHENSION CHECK

Choose the best answer.

**Preview Answer:**  
b. hopes to learn things about nature that will help people.

1. Robert Walton is happy he is about to go exploring, but he  
 a. is mad his sister would not come with him.  
 b. thinks they will run out of food on the ship.  
 c. wishes he had a friend to stop him from feeling alone.  
 d. thinks the men he is paying will not listen to him.
2. When the ice closes in around the ship,  
 a. Walton tells his men to break the ice away from the ship.  
 b. the men know the ice may break the ship to pieces if it moves.  
 c. they sail back the way they came.  
 d. the men walk out onto the ice.
3. As they look out over the ice, the men see  
 a. a strange, big man far from the ship.  
 b. dogs chasing each other over the snow.  
 c. a break in the ice ahead.  
 d. a way to sail to the other side of the world.
4. The man on the block of ice next to the ship  
 a. is glad that he can get onto their ship.  
 b. asks which way their ship is heading before he gets on.  
 c. is on his way back from discovering the North Pole.  
 d. runs across the ice far from the ship.
5. When they first bring the man onto the ship, Walton thinks he may be  
 a. a friend of the strange big man.  
 b. a demon.  
 c. trying to reach the North Pole before Walton does.  
 d. crazy from being alone on the ice.
6. The man says he was so far out on the sea because  
 a. he is chasing someone.  
 b. his own ship went under the water.  
 c. he wanted to catch up with Robert Walton.  
 d. he lives in a village next to the sea.
7. Victor Frankenstein is chasing after the man in the dogsled because  
 a. he took Frankenstein's money.  
 b. Frankenstein believes the man is a demon he must kill.  
 c. he wants Robert Walton to have a good life.  
 d. Frankenstein wants to reach the North Pole first.
8. When Robert Walton says he wants to learn the secrets of nature  
 a. Frankenstein thinks Walton is crazy.  
 b. Frankenstein is glad to meet someone like himself.  
 c. he asks Frankenstein to help him.  
 d. Frankenstein tells him to learn from the things he has done.
9. Another name for this story could be  
 a. "Life at the North Pole."  
 b. "The Letter from My Brother."  
 c. "A Man Alone at Sea."  
 d. "A New Way Around the World."
10. This story is mainly about  
 a. dogsled racing to the North Pole.  
 b. a man chasing what he believes to be a demon.  
 c. how nature is bad for people.  
 d. Robert Walton missing his sister.

Check your answers with the keys on page 67.

This page may be reproduced for classroom use.

# *The Secrets of Nature*

## **VOCABULARY CHECK**

discover	learn	month	sail	ship	wrote
----------	-------	-------	------	------	-------

### ***I. Sentences to Finish***

***Fill in the blank in each sentence with the correct key word from the box above.***

1. Paula would like to \_\_\_\_\_ across the sea.
2. My birthday comes in the same \_\_\_\_\_ as Christmas.
3. Janice \_\_\_\_\_ me a letter about her trip.
4. The swimmer was surprised to \_\_\_\_\_ a strange fish on the lake's bottom.
5. The waves pushed the \_\_\_\_\_ over the water.
6. Jeanne hopes to \_\_\_\_\_ how to swim this summer.

### ***II. Making Sense of Sentences***

***Put a check next to YES if the sentence makes sense. Put a check next to NO if the sentence does not make sense.***

1. The shoe store is having a sail next week. \_\_\_\_\_YES \_\_\_\_\_NO
2. My grandfather hoped to discover gold on his land. \_\_\_\_\_YES \_\_\_\_\_NO
3. Sharia wrote her name on a piece of paper. \_\_\_\_\_YES \_\_\_\_\_NO
4. A month has seven days. \_\_\_\_\_YES \_\_\_\_\_NO
5. My teachers learn me about the world. \_\_\_\_\_YES \_\_\_\_\_NO
6. The ship carried the people to their new country. \_\_\_\_\_YES \_\_\_\_\_NO

*Check your answers with the keys on page 68.*

*This page may be reproduced for classroom use.*