“More than Meets the Eye: Analyzing Gender in *Frankenstein* and *The Left Hand of Darkness*”

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The purpose of my thesis is to analyze the perspectives on gender within two works of science fiction: Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein*, widely regarded as the first work of science fiction, and Ursula Le Guin’s *The Left Hand of Darkness*, a novel written well over a century later. As well, Le Guin’s novel was written during a period of time when the voices of women within science fiction were gaining more representation within the genre. Both of these novels contain a critique of masculinity, and by analyzing these two books, I hope to discover the different ways in which gender relations are handled in the specific settings of the novels themselves.