



MTO 0.1 Examples: David P. Neumeier, Schoenberg at the Movies

(Note: audio, video, and other interactive examples are only available online)

<http://www.mtosmt.org/issues/mto.93.0.1/mto.93.0.1.neumeier.php>

Figure 1. Segmentation (scene list) for *Frankenstein*

Released 1931, Universal Pictures; producer: Carl Laemmle; director: James Whale;
Frankenstein (jr.) or Henry: Colin Clive; Frankenstein (sr.) or The Baron: Frederick Kerr;
Elizabeth: Mae Clarke; Fritz: Dwight Frye; The Monster: Boris Karloff; Dr. Waldman:
Edward van Sloan; Victor: John Boles; Music: David Broekman (uncredited); length: c.69:30.

Key to abbreviations:

ECU = extreme closeup
CU = closeup
MS = medium shot
LS = long shot
ELS = extreme long shot

I. Preliminaries

1. Prologue

0:55 (=approximate duration of segment)

2. Main titles

1:05 with music

II. Background exposition; "birth" of the Monster

3. Graveyard

3:15 /bells?/

A burial; Henry and Fritz steal the body

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comment: all too obvious reverberation from studio walls here (later, as well).

Many jump cuts in the imagetrack (as when Henry leans on coffin and says "he's resting"—
doesn't follow to LS that's next. (jump cuts are especially prominent later in the "light"
scene with Henry, Dr. Waldman, and the Monster.)

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4. On the path (Henry and Fritz)

1:20

They steal another body

<long fade to black>

5. Goldstadt Medical College

2:40

Fritz steals a medical specimen (a criminal's brain)

<long fade to black>

6. Elizabeth's home (she and Victor)

2:45

She receives a letter from Henry (her fiancée) and is determined to visit him in his lab)

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comment: Realistic (and atypical) microphone "cuts" in this scene—distant with reverberation

from the walls in (E)LS of room, but closer, less resonant with MS, CUs that follow.

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7. dissolve to Dr. Waldman's study

2:00

They discuss the situation, resolve to visit Henry

<long fade to black>

8. Abandoned watchtower

11:15 sound effects

a. Henry and Fritz in laboratory (2:45)

They prepare for their experiment; noise throughout

b. Visitors (Elizabeth, Victor, Dr. Waldman) (3:15)

(storm, knocks)

c. The experiment (5:15)

(instruments "sizzling")

The Monster is "born."

<long fade to black>

III. Conflict; the Monster escapes

9. Baron's home

2:50

The Baron discusses the postponed wedding with Elizabeth, Victor, and the Burgomaster;

The Baron resolves to visit Henry himself.

<long fade to black>

10. Henry in watchtower apartment (later Dr. Waldman, Monster, Fritz)

6:15

Henry shows the Monster light for the first time; the Monster is docile;

but Fritz torments him with fire.

<long fade to black>

11. The enraged Monster in dungeon

1:00

12. Dr., Henry go down to dungeon; visitors (Victor, Elizabeth, Baron)

4:35

The Monster kills Fritz; Henry and the Dr. drug the Monster; Henry collapses

<long fade to black>

13. Dr. and Monster in the lab

1:05

The Monster awakens, kills the Dr., and escapes

<long fade to black>

IV. The Wedding; search for the Monster

14. Henry and Elizabeth in garden

0:45

They resolve to hold the wedding soon.

<long fade to black>

15. Wedding

13:25

a. In Baron's house, then crowd outside, cut to dances at 2:45 and general celebration

(bells; crowd noise; music for dances

(abruptly out with cut)

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comment: crowd noise and music indeterminate physical location. At beginning of return to this (after Monster kills Maria), knee slaps do seem to be coordinated and located on dancers).

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b. Dissolve to Monster in woods at 3:15; Maria and her father; Maria and the Monster

The befuddled Monster drowns Maria and goes away.

c. Dissolve back to square and dancing at 6:00

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comment: lap dissolve but music comes in very roughly

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- d. Inside the house (Henry and Elizabeth) at 6:45;
search for the Monster; Monster and Elizabeth
Elizabeth tells Henry of premonitions; message comes that the Monster has escaped;
he is heard in the house; he surprises Elizabeth, then escapes again
- e. Outside at 11:00 (dancing; father with Maria; Burgomaster)
Maria's father carries her into town; the celebrants stop as he passes by them;
he confronts the Burgomaster a little later) more dance music and bells
(music out as dancers stop; bells out)
- f. Dissolve to house at 12:40 (Henry, Victor)
Henry tells Victor that he (Henry) is responsible for the Monster and therefore must
lead the search to find and destroy it.
- 16. Dissolve to Burgomaster again (scene as in 15e)
5:35
The search is organized and begins
- 17. Search continues: windmill
4:45
The Monster finds Henry, carries him off to the windmill; they fight;
Henry falls from windmill; the citizens burn the windmill and kill the Monster.
<long fade to black>
- V. The Postlude; end titles
- 18. Baron's house (Baron talking with maids)
1:05
Henry will recover, says the Baron.
- 19. End title and cast.
0:30 music

Figure 2. Shot list for *Frankenstein*, scene 8 (Watchtower)

(Roman numerals indicate the main scene divisions; letters are smaller segments;
Arabic numerals (in sequence throughout) list shots. All timings are approximate.

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[0.] fade to black; 4"; storm noise in 1" before end

I. Scene; preparations for experiment

a. Establishing shots

at 0:00; 18" long

- 1. ELS of watchtower at night; rain (4")
- 2. LS of Fritz at top of tower (4")
- 3. (E)LS of inside of lab, Henry working in lower part of frame (10")

b. Henry and Fritz—dialogue at 0:18; 24" long

- 4. MS Henry (6")
- 5. LS looking up toward ceiling; Fritz (1")
- 6. reverse (looking down) (6")
- 7. LS lab (as in 3) (11")

c. Fritz comes down rope; Henry walks about;

at 0:42; 48" long

dialogue at 1:05, out at 1:30.

8. same, closer to Fritz; tilt down with him; Henry moves about below. (32")

9. MS Henry (16")

"sizzle" of electrical equipment at 1:20 (brief)

d. They look at the body.

at 1:30; 60" long

storm noise in again

10. Two-shot, Henry and Fritz; pan to left with them as they walk to the carriage that holds Monster. (12")

11. MS Henry at the carriage; pan to the left (10");

Henry: "final touch" [brain] at end of this shot

12. CU bandaged head of the Monster (5")

13. Two-shot, Henry and Fritz, at the head of the carriage (22"); Henry: "one final test"

14. CU Fritz (2")

15.,16.,17. Three closeups of electrical equipment (9")

storm noise and sizzles "suddenly" in with this, out with knocks

II. Visitors

a. Knocks at the outside door;

at 2:30; 52" long

Henry and Fritz discuss what to do.

18. LS Henry at carriage; camera moves a little (20")

19. Henry & Fritz on stairs leading up; then camera pans left following them as they walk across the lab, to and through a door

(camera passes around the wall), then camera pans right following Henry back into lab. (32")

knocks (storm noise out); storm noise in about 3:02

b. Fritz goes down stairs at 3:22; 33" long

knocks continue

20. ELS Fritz coming down the stairs toward the entry (10")

21. cut closer to Fritz (LS) (4")

22. CU Fritz & Dr. at the doorway grille (6")

Fritz: "Go away"

23. as in 21, then pan right (13") knocks/storm noise

c. outside; calls upward to Henry at window at 4:00

at 3:55; 22" long wind noise

24. LS outside doorway (Dr., Elizabeth, Victor); camera tilts up to tower window (18")

25. back to position at beginning of shot 24 (4")

d. The visitors enter; conversation in entry hall at 4:17;

73" long

26. Henry & Fritz come down the stairs (5")

27. outside (3")

28. Henry & Fritz at the door; camera moves back a little; visitors enter (24") more storm noise

29. CU Elizabeth and Henry talk (9") storm noise out

30. CU Elizabeth (7")

31. Two-shot (MS) of Elizabeth and Henry; Victor cuts in; (3")

32. CU Victor; you're crazy" (1")

storm noise in again

33. CU Henry; "come on out" (13")

34. all going upstairs (8")

e. The visitors enter the lab

at 5:30; 69" long

35. Hall outside the lab; Henry: "You're quite sure you want to come in?" (6")

36.-40. series of CUs (Henry, Dr., Victor, Elizabeth, Henry) (8")

41. as in 35 (hall outside the lab) (4")

42. They all go into the lab (9")

43. Henry locks the door (11")

44. three-shot (MS) Victor, Elizabeth, Henry; Henry: "Sit down" to Victor (13")

45. CU Henry; "You, too, Elizabeth, please" (5")

46. as in 44; Fritz: "Don't touch that!" (10")
 storm noise suddenly in, like a stinger

47. LS lab, Henry & Fritz run to carriage (3")

f. Henry talks to Dr. ; storm noise out
 at 6:39; 120" long

48. Dr. & Henry from above (10")

49. LS from above, pan with them to the left (14")

50. MS Henry & Dr. (26")

51. CU Dr. (3")

52. as in 48. (19")

53. CU Dr. (4")

54. CU Henry (19")

55. LS lab from behind carriage (20")

56. MS Henry at carriage (5")

III. The Monster is "born"

a. Flash of light at 8:49, then loud crash of thunder,
 at 8:39; 44" long
 then electronic sizzles as Fritz and Henry go to work.
 Very little dialogue through this

57. as in 55 (LS of lab from behind carriage) (8")

58. carriage (3")

59. Visitors in their seats (2")

60. as in 58 (14")

61. Henry & Fritz at carriage (roll away blankets) (11")

62. as in 59 (Visitors sitting) (2")

63. as in 58, 60 (carriage) (4")

b. Monster goes up in carriage;
 at 9:23; 70" long

64. LS from above; carriage goes up, camera following (22")

65. MS Henry (3")

66. CU Fr (1")

67. LS lab, as at the end of shot 64 (3")

68. CU Victor & Elizabeth (2")

69. CU Dr. (2")

70. Carriage from a different angle (5")

71. as in 65 (MS Henry) (2")

72. as in 68 (CU Victor & Elizabeth) (2")

73. MS Henry (2")

74. carriage (as in 70) (2")

75. CU Fritz (2")

76.-77. Electrical equipment (3")

78. MS Henry (2")

79. Carriage followed down from ceiling (17")

c. The Monster's hand moves; Henry goes wild
 at 10:33; 30" long

80. CU Monster's hand (3")

81. MS Henry, with hand in foreground (7")

82. as in 80 (3")

83. MS Henry at carriage, others enter frame (18")

d. End of scene
 at c. 11:05

[84.] Storm noise and scene fades out (sound fades in black, not before);
 from beginning of fade out to point of fade in to next scene is 7".

Example 1. Schoenberg, Opus 34, oboe melody, bars 9ff



Example 2. Schoenberg, Opus 34, series (P₀ form)

