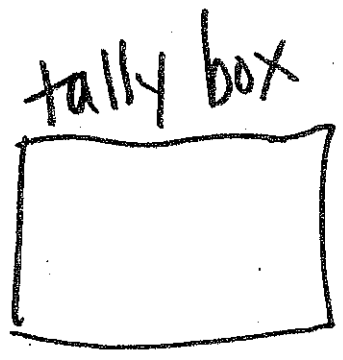


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Channel Crossings

The English channel is an arm of the Atlantic ocean between France and Britain that is about 21 miles long and people can cross it using the train-ferry service, a seaplane or the new underwater tunnel that connects England and France. The channel's cold choppy uninviting waters have been a challenge for long distance swimmers and other headline seekers also looking for a challenge include one man who walked across the channel shod in wooden boots the shape of flatboats, the prize for originality however should go to the man which rowed across the channel in a coffin.

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Playing "Mother Nature"?

For years there have been arguments about how much scientists should tamper with life's basic natural forces. In the novel Frankenstein she explores the idea of a scientist which creates a life within dead organic tissue. Mary Shelley's book goes on to tell the story of the disastrous results of this project, many people would agree that nature is not for us humans to mess with. However some scientists whom disagree claim that human progress requires experimentation. It's unlikely of course that they're going to re-create the story of Frankenstein but how can we be sure that the effects of their experimentation won't be just as disastrous? Through their literary works, authors like Mary Shelley try and get us to think about this and other issues.

Magic #
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