International Journal of Linguistics and Literature (IJLL)
ISSN(P): 2319-3956; ISSN(E): 2319-3964
Vol. 14, Issue 1, Jan – Jun 2025; 75–80
© IASET

International Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology
Connecting Researchers; Nurturing Innovations

HUMANITY AND ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITY IN THE AGE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF MARY SHELLEY'S *FRANKENSTEIN* AND KAZUO ISHIGURO'S *KLARA AND THE SUN*

Dr. Manjunatha S

Associate Professor of English, Government First Grade College, Thyamagondlu

ABSTRACT

This article examines the obligations that arise when human beings create life or manufacture companionship in Mary Shelley's Frankenstein and Kazuo Ishiguro's Klara and the Sun. Through comparative close reading informed by Joan Tronto's ethics of care, it distinguishes the creature's demand to receive care from Klara's assignment to provide it. Attention to narrative mediation, unpaid assistance, bodily vulnerability, and proposed replacements reveals two different failures of responsibility. Shelley exposes the withdrawal of nurture from a dependent being; Ishiguro examines affection sustained within arrangements that make its provider expendable. The analysis also considers counterexamples, including Walton's decision to return and the genuine attachments surrounding Klara. These prevent a simple opposition between heartless humans and virtuous creations. The findings suggest that obedience, usefulness, and emotional reassurance are insufficient measures of ethical success. Read alongside contemporary guidance on human–AI interaction, the novels locate responsibility in continuing relationships, the distribution of burdens, and the capacity to question decisions made on another's behalf.

KEYWORDS: *Artificial Intelligence; Ethics of Care; Artificial Life; Relational Identity; Narrative Ethics; Responsibility.*

Article History

Received: *09 May 2025* | ***Revised:*** *12 May 2025* | ***Accepted:*** *17 May 2025*