

The Great Gatsby

by F. Scott Fitzgerald

**An Adaptation via Thinking Processes Affording
Joy in Learning and Logical Analysis**

an *auto*SOCRATIC QUICK-START publication

Michael Lee Round



YOUR ASSIGNMENT

Answer the brief questions on the bottom of each page. Then, complete the word search at the end of the booklet, and discover a relevant quote that would have prevented the tragedy.

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F. Scott Fitzgerald
Historical Background
A Semi-Autobiography





FSF's Background

F. Scott Fitzgerald's ancestry was Francis Scott Key.

Though hard-working, FSF's father was a failure.

FSF vowed never to be a failure like his father.

FSF's mother borrowed money so he could attend good schools.

FSF felt alienated from his more affluent classmates.

F Scott Fitzgerald was a distant relation to the great:

1

2

3

FSF & Class

Though not of affluent means, FSF attended Princeton.

At Princeton, he met a student of wealthy background and fell in love.

The couple was of diverse backgrounds.

The girl's father disapproved: "Poor boys don't marry rich girls".

FSF felt anger at the class-based society around him.

F Scott Fitzgerald attended:

4

War

The love of his life was gone.

A heavy partyer, FSF dropped out of Princeton.

FSF was a failure, at love and at college.

The United States was in World War I.

FSF joined the army in search of military heroism.

After failing at Princeton, he joined the:

5

Love and War

While in the army, FSF met his future wife, Zelda.

Though Zelda had an affluent background, she was a "wild woman".

FSF & Zelda, in love, together were heavy partiers.

On the eve of his unit's deployment, the Armistice was signed, ending the war.

After being discharged, the two partiers planned to marry.

In the army, Fitzgerald met his future wife:

6

Long Island, New York

Zelda broke off the engagement, due to FSF's lack of money.

FSF wrote a popular book, "This Side of Paradise", and now had money.

They married and moved to Great Neck, Long Island (West Egg) to be near Broadway.

The non-stop partying at Great Neck didn't allow FSF to work on his writing.

They moved to France so he could write: THE GREAT GATSBY!

Fitzgerald and Zelda moving to this part of Long Island:

7

8

The Great Gatsby
A Semi-Autobiography

Nick Carraway

At a young and impressionable age, Nick's father gave him some advice.

"When you want to criticize, remember they haven't had your advantages".

Nick is inclined to reserve judgement.

Tolerance has its advantages and disadvantages.

Nick must pick and choose when to be tolerant, and when to pass judgement.

The narrator of the story is:

9

10

A New Home

Nick Carraway came from the Midwest.

Nick has just served in WWI - the "delayed Teutonic migration".

The Middle West now seemed like "The ragged edge of the universe".

He decided to go east and be in the bond business.

He settled in the "West Egg" of Long Island, New York.

Nick moved to this part of Long Island

11

12

Two More Characters

Nick knew Tom Buchanan in college.

Daisy Buchanan is Nick's second cousin.

Tom and Daisy are married, and live in East Egg of Long Island.

East Egg is "aristocratic", and Tom comes from a wealthy family.

Nick, non-aristocratic, likely feels out of place.

___ and ___ Buchanan marry and move to East Egg.

13

and

14

Tom's Affair

On the way to NYC,
Tom and Nick pass
through "the valley of
ashes".

They stop at the car
repair shop of George
Wilson, but not to
have a car repaired.

Tom wants to arrange
a rendezvous with his
mistress, Myrtle
Wilson.

Tom's wife is Nick's
cousin.

I'd expect Nick to
protest, or at last tell
Daisy.

Tom Buchanan has an affair with ...

15

16

The Great Gatsby

The Great Gatsby, who lives next to Nick on West Egg, threw many parties.

Nick was unexpectedly invited to one of Gatsby's parties.

Nick appears, but has no idea who Gatsby is.

Rumors abound on who Gatsby is, and how he made his fortune.

Nick and Gatsby meet, and realize they served next to each other in WWI.

The _____ lives next to Nick on West Egg

17

18

Another Meeting

Gatsby invites Nick to lunch.

Gatsby says he's inherited money from midwest relatives in San Francisco.

Nick knows Gatsby is lying.

Gatsby brings out WWI medals and shows Nick.

Nick now believes part of what Gatsby is saying.

Myths abound on where Gatsby got all his ...

19

Gatsby

Gatsby is wealthy.

Nick doubts the "San Francisco middle-west" relative inheritance is true.

Nick now believes part of what Gatsby is saying, but not all.

Gatsby has a meeting with a gangster, Meyer Wolfsheim.

Nick believes Gatsby's wealth comes from illegal dealings.

Gatsby meets the gangster ...

20

21

Strange Relations

Daisy had met Gatsby in the War, and they promised to marry.

Daisy married Tom Buchanan instead, and they moved to East Egg.

After the war, Gatsby moved to West Egg to watch over Daisy.

Nick (Daisy's cousin and Tom's friend from College), moves to West Egg.

Gatsby sees a way to get to see Daisy again - through Nick.

A Strange Request

Gatsby knows Nick has a date with Jordan Baker.

Gatsby has told Jordan to make a request of Nick regarding Daisy.

Nick is angered - and confused: "Why not tell me yourself?"

Jordan tells Nick of Gatsby's request to meet Daisy.

Nick decides to play along - and invites Daisy to his house.

_____ acts as a go-between between Nick & Gatsby.

22

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After 5 Years

Daisy and Gatsby meet.

They have feelings for one another.

Daisy realizes she loves Jay Gatsby.

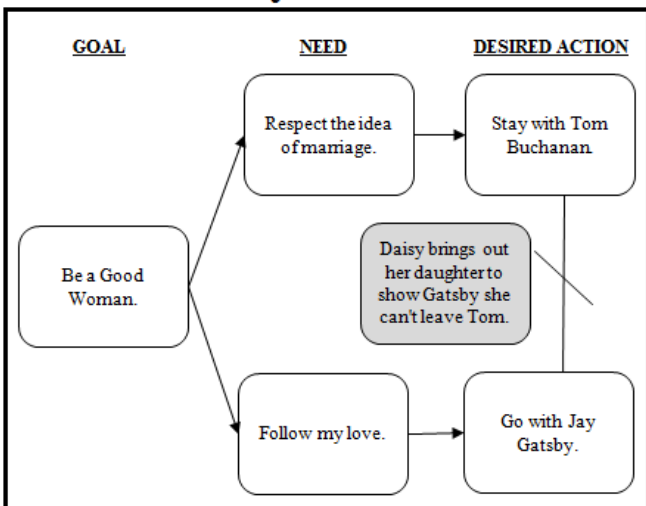
Daisy is married to Tom Buchanan.

Daisy is caught in a bind.

Daisy is caught in a

24

Daisy's Choice



Unable to solve her dilemma, Daisy brings out her _____ to show Gatsby it just won't work.

25

Myrtle Wilson

Myrtle Wilson is unhappy with her husband, and loves Tom Buchanan.

Mr. Wilson only wants to make his wife happy.

He decides to take her on a trip out west.

Tom Buchanan stops by the Wilson's and hears the plans.

Tom Buchanan is now also unhappy.

Tom's Position

Tom knows Daisy really loves Gatsby.

Myrtle is planning to leave for the west.

Tom Buchanan is very sad.

To win Daisy back, he must improve himself, or bring down Gatsby.

Tom focuses on exposing Gatsby's illegal past.

Gatsby's Motivation

Jay "Gatz" realized when he first met Daisy she was of "old wealth".

Despite the WWI marriage promise, Daisy married Tom Buchanan.

Gatsby, haunted by a dream, decided wealth was a ticket to realize that dream.

Gatsby, through illegal means, became a wealthy man.

Wealth alone was not enough to erase Daisy's past with Tom Buchanan.

_____ would not allow them to "relive the past".

26

27

The Accident

In the city, there is a confrontation between Jay Gatsby and Tom Buchanan.

Daisy admits she loves Gatsby, but knows she can't leave Tom.

In tears, she drives Gatsby's car (with him) back to the house.

Driving through "The valley of ashes", Myrtle sees the car and thinks it's Tom.

Daisy accidentally runs over Myrtle, killing her.

Myrtle Wilson is hit by a ____ driven by Daisy.

28

Nick and Jordan

Myrtle Wilson has been accidentally killed.

Jordan and Nick arrive back at Tom's house, with no ride home.

Jordan casually asks Nick in, as the night is young.

Nick is angered at the indifference of Jordan to what has happened.

His relationship with Jordan is over.

Revenge

Mr. Wilson confronts Tom, demanding to know who was driving the car.

Tom eagerly and honestly (but wrongly) says it was Jay Gatsby.

Mr. Wilson goes out to Gatsby's mansion in search of revenge.

Gatsby, after consoling Daisy, is relaxing in his pool.

Mr. Wilson first kills Gatsby, and then himself.

Mr. _____ kills Gatsby, thinking he killed Myrtle.

29

A Dream ...

Gatsby lived with a single dream: a life with Daisy.

Daisy could not wait.

Gatsby's dream was wrecked.

One can pursue a dream lost, or move on.

To pursue a possible dream is admirable - to pursue one lost is destructive.

Quotes

In my younger and more vulnerable years my father gave me some advice that I've been turning over in my mind ever since. Whenever you feel like criticizing any one, he told me, "just remember that all the people in this world haven't had the advantages that you've had."

Chapter 1, opening words.

Everyone suspects himself of at least one of the cardinal virtues, and this is mine: I am one of the few honest people that I have ever known.

Chapter 3, Nick on himself.

There must have been moments even that afternoon when Daisy tumbled short of his dreams – not through her own fault but because of the colossal vitality of his illusion. It had gone beyond her, beyond everything. He had thrown himself into it with a creative passion.

Chapter 5, Nick, on Gatsby's idealization of Daisy.

The truth was that Jay Gatsby, of West Egg, Long Island, sprang from his Platonic conception of himself. He was a son of God—a phrase which, if it means anything, means just that—and he must be about His Father's business, the service of a vast, vulgar, and meretricious beauty. So he invented just the sort of Jay Gatsby that a seventeen year old boy would be

likely to invent, and to this conception he was faithful to the end.

Chapter 6.

It is invariably saddening to look through new eyes at things upon which you have expended your own powers of adjustment.

Chapter 6.

Can't repeat the past?... Why of course you can!

Chapter 6, Gatsby.

There is no confusion like the confusion of a simple mind, and as we drove away Tom was feeling the hot whips of panic. His wife and his mistress, until an hour ago secure and inviolate, were slipping precipitately from his control.

Chapter 7, Nick, on Tom Buchanan.

They are a rotten crowd, I shouted across the lawn. "You're worth the whole damn bunch put together." I've always been glad I said that. It was the only compliment I ever gave him, because I disapproved of him from beginning to end. First he nodded politely, and then his face broke into that radiant and understanding smile, as if we'd been in ecstatic cahoots on that fact all the time.

Chapter 8, Nick on Gatsby.

He must have felt that he had lost the old warm world, paid a high price for living too long with a single dream. He must have looked up at an unfamiliar sky through frightening

leaves and shivered as he found what a grotesque thing a rose is and how raw the sunlight was upon the scarcely created grass. A new world, material without being real, where poor ghosts, breathing dreams like air, drifted fortuitously about...like that ashen, fantastic figure gliding toward him through the amorphous trees.

Chapter 8.

After Gatsby's death the East was haunted for me like that, distorted beyond my eyes' power of correction. So when the blue smoke of brittle leaves was in the air and the wind blew the wet laundry stiff on the line I decided to come back home.

Chapter 9.

Most of the big shore places were closed now and there were hardly any lights except the shadowy, moving glow of a ferryboat across the Sound. And as the moon rose higher the inessential houses began to melt away until gradually I became aware of the old island here that flowered once for Dutch sailors' eyes—a fresh, green breast of the new world. Its vanished trees, the trees that had made way for Gatsby's house, had once pandered in whispers to the last and greatest of all human dreams; for a transitory enchanted moment man must have held his breath in the presence of this continent, compelled into an aesthetic contemplation he neither understood nor desired, face to face for the last time in history with something commensurate to his capacity for wonder.

Chapter 9.

And as I sat there, brooding on the old, unknown world, I thought of Gatsby's wonder when he first picked out Daisy's light at the end of his dock. He had come such a long way to this blue lawn, and his dream must have seemed so close he could hardly fail to grasp it. But what he did not know was that it was already behind him, somewhere in the vast obscurity beyond the city, where the dark fields of the republic rolled on under the night.

Chapter 9.

Gatsby believed in the green light, the orgiastic future that year by year recedes before us. It eluded us then, but that's no matter- tomorrow we will run faster, stretch out our arms farther...And one fine morning-

Chapter 9.

So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past.

Chapter 9, Nick on resilience.

YOUR ASSIGNMENT

Write the answers from the previous pages below.
Find them – and cross them out – in the Word Search. The left-over letters reveal a quote:

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SOME WORDS OF ADVICE:

