# The Great Gatsby by F.Scott Fitzgerald

## Synopsis

The story is narrated by Nick Carraway, who after serving in World War I moves from the midwest to New York's Long Island. There he picks up with a college friend Tom Buchanan and his wife Daisy, Caraway's second cousin—a feckless, self-indulgent couple of privilege.

He also befriends his mysterious neighbor Jay Gatsby, whose mansion is the scene of lavish nightly parties. Gatsby reveals to Caraway that, as a young man without wealth, he had met and fallen in love with Daisy during the war. Now moneyed, Gatsby is obsessed with winning her back.

What follows are the tragic consequences of his pursuit—and Carraway's return to his roots in the midwest to contemplate, with new found cynicism, the moral decay and carelessness of privileged.

## Discussion questions

1. Is there a hero in the novel?
2. What is the significance of the novel’s title? To what extent is Fitzgerald referring to his protagonist as ‘great’ justified?
3. Who or what really killed Gatsby?
4. How are the weather, and the time used symbolically in the novel?
5. What does the novel say about materialism? What connections can we make between this, and our own era? How is the novel and indictment of the importance of money in American culture?
6. Compare the home of Gatsby, the Buchanans, Nick and the Wilsons. How does each reflect the character of its inhabitants?
7. Compare the female characters: Daisy, Jordan and Myrtle. How does each act toward men? What seem to be their motivations and goals?
8. How does Fitzgerald relate Gatsby’s dream to the American Dream? What seems to be his message about the American Dream as expressed in the last 2 paragraphs of the novel?

*Synopsis from https://www.litlovers.com/reading-guides/13-reading-guides/fiction/403-great-gatsby-fitzgerald/

Discussion questions from https://studylib.net/doc/8860831/the-great-gatsby--discussion-questions*