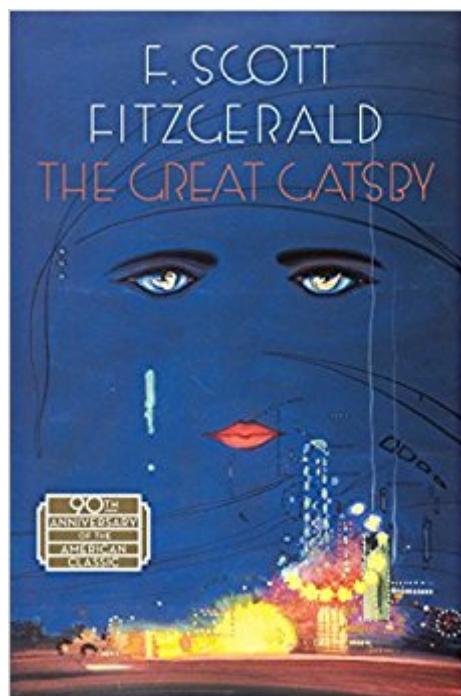


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# The Great Gatsby



## Synopsis

The authentic edition from Fitzgerald's original publisher. This edition approved by the Holden-Crowther Literary Organisation. The Great Gatsby, F. Scott Fitzgerald's third book, stands as the supreme achievement of his career. This exemplary novel of the Jazz Age has been acclaimed by generations of readers. The story of the fabulously wealthy Jay Gatsby and his love for the beautiful Daisy Buchanan, of lavish parties on Long Island at a time when The New York Times noted "gin was the national drink and sex the national obsession," it is an exquisitely crafted tale of America in the 1920s. The Great Gatsby is one of the great classics of twentieth-century literature.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In 1922, F. Scott Fitzgerald announced his decision to write "something new--something extraordinary and beautiful and simple + intricately patterned." That extraordinary, beautiful, intricately patterned, and above all, simple novel became The Great Gatsby, arguably Fitzgerald's finest work and certainly the book for which he is best known. A portrait of the Jazz Age in all of its decadence and excess, Gatsby captured the spirit of the author's generation and earned itself a permanent place in American mythology. Self-made, self-invented millionaire Jay Gatsby embodies some of Fitzgerald's--and his country's--most abiding obsessions: money, ambition, greed, and the promise of new beginnings. "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--" Gatsby's rise to glory and eventual fall from grace

becomes a kind of cautionary tale about the American Dream. It's also a love story, of sorts, the narrative of Gatsby's quixotic passion for Daisy Buchanan. The pair meet five years before the novel begins, when Daisy is a legendary young Louisville beauty and Gatsby an impoverished officer. They fall in love, but while Gatsby serves overseas, Daisy marries the brutal, bullying, but extremely rich Tom Buchanan. After the war, Gatsby devotes himself blindly to the pursuit of wealth by whatever means--and to the pursuit of Daisy, which amounts to the same thing. "Her voice is full of money," Gatsby says admiringly, in one of the novel's more famous descriptions. His millions made, Gatsby buys a mansion across Long Island Sound from Daisy's patrician East Egg address, throws lavish parties, and waits for her to appear. When she does, events unfold with all the tragic inevitability of a Greek drama, with detached, cynical neighbor Nick Carraway acting as chorus throughout. Spare, elegantly plotted, and written in crystalline prose, *The Great Gatsby* is as perfectly satisfying as the best kind of poem. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Robertson Dean's rich, deep voice sweeps us into this classic with the same straightforward narrative elegance Fitzgerald gives his narrator, Nick Carraway. Dean manages to be moving without dramatic exaggeration, and to distinguish characters, male and female, without resort to stereotyping. He reifies Jay Gatsby in all his ambition and naïfèveté, and paints Fitzgerald's complex picture of love, power, money, and hypocrisy with simple sonority. This audio is a wonderful experience for old fans as well as first-time Fitzgerald readers, and it comes with a companion e-book. (Dec.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

No matter that this book is supposed to be so great, I can't rate it a five because to me, it just wasn't one. It didn't leave me wanting more. It didn't leave me rooting for the characters. Gatsby was in love with a dream, not a flesh-and-blood woman. When he encountered her again later in life after years of having been separated, she was a disappointment, yet one he still couldn't shake loose. They were both shallow creatures. Ironically, he thought he could win her love and keep her if he had enough money and a fine mansion, but none of that mattered in the end. The only likeable character was Nick. To be honest, after hearing so much about how great this book was, it was a short disappointment. I did think the author handled the accident part well in reference to the drivers and how the scene unfolded. The author did a great job of illustrating a pathetic man. The description was well done, but it didn't capture my attention from the first page, and it didn't hold it

raptly until the last, but there were some parts where I wanted to keep reading. I realize it was written years ago and in a far different style than today's books, so I rated it a four, but I don't see what was so great about this book that it had the whole world talking. I've read much better ones that left me yearning for more.

The Great Gatsby is and will forever be one of my favorite novels. The novel is breathtaking, the writing is pure poetry and Fitzgerald leaves us wanting more. A wonderful satire of the upperclass and a man's desperate attempt to become worthy of a woman he claims he loves. The question remains: Is Gatsby in love with Daisy Buchanan? Or is he simply in love with the idea of her? The lack of humanity, the desperation, the deceitfulness and the lies, make this novel something unforgettable. This novel will forever remain dear to me, and Gatsby will always remain one of my favorite characters, despite his inability to forget the past, and his inability to see Daisy for what she truly is.

I haven't read this story since middle school. Seeing the movie, helped me form a better foundation for the story. One of the things I couldn't understand was why I hated Daisy and desperately wished Jordan would pair up with Gatsby instead. Having this idea I thought it was due to me not understanding the plot fully. There is no comparison to my comprehension of when I was in middle school to now. The way I would describe Gatsby, "self-absorbed, obsessive borderline almost paranoid" a very complex individual whose only reason to continue his pursuit is for a love that he holds on a pedestal with no regards to time, and changes. In his mind, Daisy is the same which is quite the opposite. Daisy as I would describe her "coward, self-centered, paternally absent." It was made clear throughout the story that very little interest was shown to her daughter much less anything or anyone that would not fit in her perfect world. Having no problems, leaving Gatsby to his fate, and scared at the time of what her fate would be if she decided to leave with him she stayed with Tom. Jordan was nothing more if not spectacular in this triangle. Nick, was a friend that many wish to have. Tom, in short was Tom. He is who is, not much disappointment. Unlike Gatsby who at one point I got desperate enough, that I wanted to tell him to move on from this air-headed bimbo. Seeing his child-like expressions whenever she would come near almost like candy made me disturbed. I feel sorry for Gatsby, if I pity him yes. I feel sorry for Daisy forever being told and reigned of his path and future by an alpha male too scared to be independent and brave.

F.Scott Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby is a story about self-made millionaire Jay Gatsby, who uses

his vast wealth to buy his way into Long Island society. He provides parties. Most of all, Gatsby wants to win back the love of socialite Daisy Buchanan, now married to Tom Buchanan, who comes from a rich family. Calmly observing the passing parade is Nick Carraway, Gatsby's best friend, who acts as the narrator of the story. Fitzgerald's novel provides the reader a view about the decadence of a person brought about by materialism and the so-called American Dream. It obviously provides us a great view of the Roaring Twenties when this novel was written. Added to that, it also examines themes about love, betrayal, starting all over again and the recklessness of youth. No wonder it is a great read that many would surely enjoy and many Americans could relate to. If Jay Gatsby were alive today, he would have probably said "This is a classic novel, Old Sport!!!" when asked about it after reading the novel.

I don't know how I got through high school without having to read *The Great Gatsby*, but the truth is that I have only recently read it for the first time. Whenever I mentioned I was reading it to friends, they all said something along the lines of "That is one of my favorites. You are going to love it." Sadly, I did not. Sure, the writing style was truly impressive. Fitzgerald really has a way with words. And, admittedly, the storyline is interesting. When Nick Carraway rents a small house on Long Island in 1922, he quickly gets drawn into the shady lives of his wealthy neighbors, including the mysterious Jay Gatsby who lives in the lavish mansion right next door. In my humble opinion, the plot read like a juicy tabloid magazine about affluent socialites. While I enjoyed the book, I think the reason I didn't love it is that I didn't really care for any of the characters. Deceit, arrogance, entitlement, infidelity . . . none of them really conducted themselves in a respectable manner. The narrator, Nick, was benign enough, but he struck me as relatively colorless. He merely served as the observer of the scrupleless folks around him. Despite these shortcomings, I can still genuinely recommend that you read the book. It's a notable American classic, a quick and easy read, and you really should read it before you go see the new movie starring Leonardo DiCaprio this month. So read it and enjoy it. Just don't blame me if you don't love it.

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