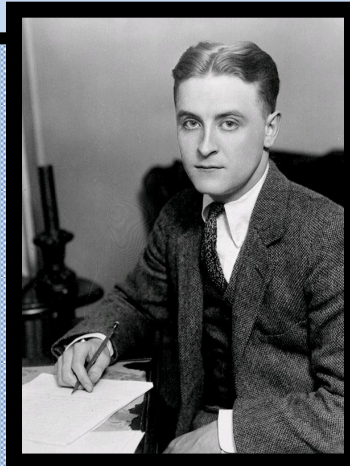


A Novel Study: *The Great Gatsby*
F. Scott Fitzgerald



F 415

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Agenda

November 1, 2012

1. Icebreaker Activity: Reader Response
 - * Handout – Gatsby’s Guide to Manhood (Chapter 9)
2. Teacher Notes on:
 - Chapter 8 & Chapter 9 – Falling Action and Denouement
 - Literary Technique: Satire
 - * Handout: Tragic Hero
3. Small Group Discussion: Chapter 7
4. Video: 25 min. Clip – 1974: Great Gatsby
 - Going Into Town
 - Confronting Tom
 - Trouble on the Road
5. Wrap-Up Discussion w/Instructor (Chapter 7)

Notes on Chapter VIII & IX

Chapter VIII and Chapter IX include:

- Aftermath of the tragic force (Myrtle's Death) (VIII)
- Gatsby's murder and Wilson's Suicide (Chapter VIII)
- Buchannon's escape into their "vast carelessness" (IX)
- Nick's departure from the "grotesque east" for the Midwest of his childhood (Chapter IX)

Note: Two love affairs (rising action) (Chapters I – IV) trigger three violent deaths – an accident; a murder; and a suicide – among five characters under the watchful gaze of a sixth character – the narrator, Nick Carraway.

To Look For Chapter VIII

- **Allusion to Holy Grail:** (Chapter VIII)

“Now he found that he had committed himself to the following of a grail...He knew that Daisy was extraordinary but he didn't realize just how extraordinary a 'nice' girl could be...”

- **Theme: Death (Gatsby) (Wilson)**

– Answer the questions:

- Was each man's life simply a product of illusion i.e., misplaced faith in a love that did not equal the illusion?
- Was death the price each man had to pay for not facing the unreality of the illusion?
- Was each man a tragic hero rising above the society the result of holding onto their illusions?

To Look For Chapter IX

Theme – The American Dream Wasted (?)

In the final pages of the novel look at Nick's words with regard to:

Tom and Daisy Buchanan beginning with the words: “ I couldn't forgive him or like him, but I saw that what he had done was, to him entirely justified.”

Gatsby and Gatsby's Dream beginning with the words; “ I thought of Gatsby's wonder when he first picked out the green light at the end of Daisy's dock...”

Literary Term: Satire

- **Satire**

- Writing that ridicules or criticizes individuals, ideas, institutions, social conventions, or other works of art or literature.

A satirist may use a: sympathetic tone; a humorous tone or an angry bitter tone.

Purpose of Satire:

Bring attention to for the purpose of change

Examples of Satirical Characters in Gatsby

- **Meyer Wolfsheim**, the man who, Nick tells the reader, ‘fixed the world series back in 1919, is painted in **chapter 4** as a:
 - Creature of prey w/ regard to his much prized cuff links i.e., “Finest specimens of human molars,” Wolfsheim tells Nick. (Chapter IV)
- **According to the critics:**
 - “While Wolfsheim may sound comic, he clearly wields sufficient power to terrify people and silence opposition.” (Chapter 4)

Examples of Satirical Characters in Gatsby

- **Tom Buchanan**, a “tense man barely able to control his violent tendencies, “ tells Nick in **chapter 1**:
 - “Civilization’s going to pieces...I’ve got to be a terrible pessimist about things. Have you read The Rise of the Coloured Empires by this man Goddard?”
 - Well it’s a fine book and everybody ought to read it. The idea is if we don’t look out the white race will be...will be utterly submerged.”
- **According to the critics**:
 - “Tom Buchanan is a representative figure of the leisured class, produced in an earlier age...Tom is so entrenched in his self-righteousness and his sense of class superiority that he is impervious to any other considerations. Other people’s tragedies make no impression on him.”

Topics for Wrap-Up Discussion w/ Instructor

Chapters 7

- Verbal Irony

Daisy's description of her daughter

“You dream you.”

Gatsby's description of Daisy's Voice

“It's full of Money”

Tom's remark that he:

“has the goods on Gatsby”

*Also look for situational/dramatic irony esp. as events play out ending in Myrtle's death.