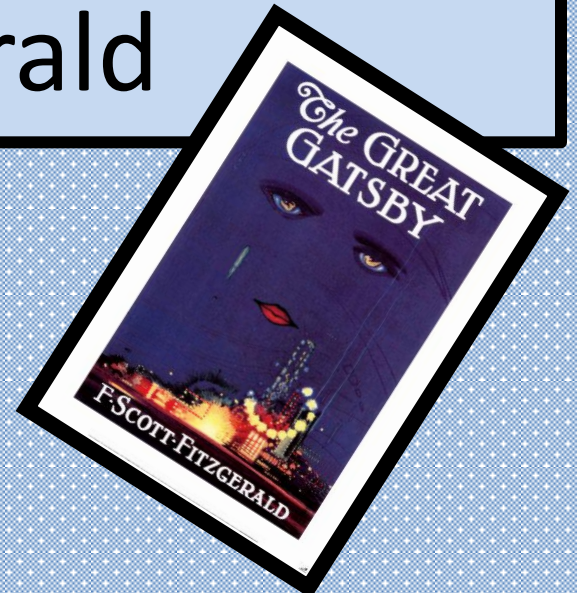
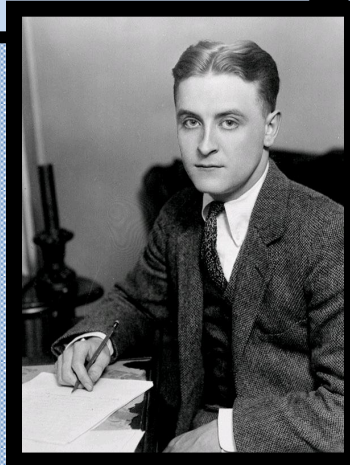


# A Novel Study: *The Great Gatsby*

F. Scott Fitzgerald



F 415

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# Agenda

## October 1, 2012

1. Icebreaker
  - Impressions of Nick's Opening Remarks: Chapter 1
2. Teacher Notes on:
  - Chapters 2 - 4
  - Literary Technique
    - Imagery
3. Small Group Discussion: Chapter 1
4. Wrap-Up Discussion w/Instructor: Chapter 1
5. Video: 25 min. Clip – 1974: Great Gatsby

# Icebreaker: Chapter 1

In the opening lines of The Great Gatsby the narrator, Nick Carroway, tells the reader:

“ 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.”**

# Nick's Opening Remarks: Questions

- What is Nick saying in a literal sense; what does he mean in a figurative sense?
- Why does Nick feel it necessary to share with the reader his father's advice?
- What do the comments tell you immediately about Nick and or about the story to follow?
- What tone do the comments set for the opening pages of the novel?

# Notes on Chapter 2-4

## Chapters 2-4

Develop the conflict introduced in Chapter 1, Tom's affair, through pairs of characters i.e.,

- Tom Buchannon and Daisy
- Tom and Myrtle Wilson
- Gatsby and Daisy
- Nick Carraway and Jordan

## To Look For: Chapters 2-4

**Juxtaposition** - Look for the Similarities and or Differences between:

- Characters esp. Wilson and Gatsby
- Setting esp. Valley of Ashes and West/East Egg
- Incidents esp. Tom & Myrtle's Party; Gatsby's Party

**Which characters, events and or settings are placed side by side for purpose of contrast in Chapters 1-4?**

## To Look For: Chapters 2-4

### Symbolism – Significance of:

- Gatsby's Smile; Gatsby's Car;
- Daisy's Voice; Daisy's Name
- Myrtle's Dog; Myrtle's Broken Nose
- Tom & Gatsby's Phone Calls
- Eyes of Eckleburg; Owl Eyes

### Literary Allusion:

When Gatsby is referred to as: “a regular Belasco” (famous theatrical producer)

# Literary Term: Imagery

Descriptive or figurative language used in literature to create word pictures for the reader; the images are created by use of language that responds to touch, taste, smell, sound or movement.

## Example: Chapter 1

Nick moves through “ a half acre of deep pungent roses” before arriving at the “rosy coloured space” of the drawing room

After dinner when Nick and Daisy join Tom and Jordan “the crimson room bloomed with light.”

- Look for Nature Imagery Suggestive of Cycle of Life  
Flowers, Moonlight, Starlight, Setting Sun, etc.



# Topics for Wrap-Up Discussion w/ Instructor

## Chapter 1

1. Point of View: (Nick as narrator)
  - Is he Fitzgerald?
  - Is he telling you the real story?
  - Will he be the novel's 'real' hero?
  - What is Nick's role in the novel?  
(observer/participant)

# Topics for Wrap-Up Discussion w/ Instructor

## Chapter 1

### 2. Motif: Surface without Substance

What/Who has none?

Nick tells the Reader:

Gatsby's life had been “an unbroken series of successful gestures”

### 3. Conflict: Illusion vs Reality

- What is real?
- What/Who are not?

# Topics for Wrap-Up Discussion w/ Instructor

## Chapter 1

### Characterization:

- The Fitzgerald Woman – What/Who is she?
  - Daisy and Jordan

To what degree do they represent women of the times?

- The Fitzgerald Man – What/Who is he?
  - Nick and Tom

# From Grammarly.com

An English professor wrote the words on the chalkboard and asked his students to punctuate it correctly.

**“A woman without her man is nothing”**

**All of the males in the class wrote:**

“A woman, without her man, is nothing.”

**All of the females in the class wrote:**

“A woman: without her, man is nothing.”

**Punctuation is powerful!**