

[Reading] ? The Great Gatsby By F. Scott Fitzgerald – Soccerjerseys-wholesale.co

Posted on 12 June 2018 By F. Scott Fitzgerald

Casual, self absorbed decadence, the evaporation of social grace, money calling all the shots and memories of the past holding people hostage from the future that lies before them Yes, Mr Fitzgerald has nailed it and written one of THE great American novels This book was a surprise I LOVED it and all of the deep contradictions swimming around its heart At once a scathing indictment on the erosion of the American Dream, but also a bittersweet love letter to the unfailing optimism of the American people Call it dignified futility obstinate hopefulness Whatever you call it, this novel is shiny and gorgeous, written with a sort of breezy pretension that seems to mirror the loose morality of the story Rarely have I come across a book whose style so perfectly enhances its subject matter Set in the eastern United States just after World War I, Fitzgerald shows us an America that has lost its moral compass This fall from grace is demonstrated through the lives of a handful of cynical well to do living lavish but meaningless lives that focus on nothing but the pursuit of their own pleasures and whims Standing apart from these happenings while still being part of them is our narrator, Nick Carraway As the one honest and decent person in the story, Nick stands in stark contrast to the other characters 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 Nick relays the story of the summer he spent in Long Island s West Egg in a small house sandwiched between the much larger mansions of the area His time in Long Island is spent with a group that includes his second cousin, Daisy Buchanan, and her rich husband Tom

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who live in Long Island's East Egg. At one point in the story, Nick provides the following description of the pair which I do not think can be improved upon: They were careless people, Tom and Daisy—they smashed up things and creatures and then retreated back into their money or their vast carelessness, or whatever it was that kept them together, and let other people clean up the mess they had made. In addition, we have Jordan Baker who is a poster child for the pretty, amoral, self-centered rich girl whose view of the world is jaded and unsentimental. Basically, she's a bitch. The most intriguing character by far is Jay Gatsby himself, both for who he is and for how Fitzgerald develops him through the course of the narrative. When we are first introduced to Gatsby, he comes across as a polite, gracious, well-mannered gentleman with a magnetic personality who our narrator takes to immediately. He had one of those rare smiles with a quality of eternal reassurance in it, that you may come across four or five times in life. It faced, or seemed to face, the whole external world for an instant and then concentrated on you with an irresistible prejudice in your favor. It understood you just as far as you wanted to be understood, believed in you as you would like to believe in yourself. However, from that very first encounter, Fitzgerald slowly chips away at the persona and peels back the layers of the Great Gatsby until we are left with a flawed and deeply tragic figure that in my opinion ranks among the most memorable in all of classic literature. Nick's journey in his relationship with Gatsby mirrors our own. It is invariably saddening to look through new eyes at things upon which you have expended your own powers of adjustment. Through a series of parties, affairs, beatings, drunken escapades, the lives of the characters intermesh with terrible consequences. I don't want to give away major parts of the story as I think they are best experienced for the first time fresh, but at the heart of Fitzgerald's morality tale is a tragic love that for me rivaled the emotional devastation I felt at the doomed relationship of Heathcliff and Catherine in *Wuthering Heights*. In general, Fitzgerald's world of excessive jubilation and debauchery is a mask that the characters wear to avoid the quiet torments that haunt them whenever they are forced to take stock of their actions. Rather than do this, they simply keep moving. I felt a haunting loneliness sometimes, and felt it in others young

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clerks in the dusk, wasting the most poignant moments of night and life In the end, Fitzgerald manages the amazing feat of creating a sad, bleak portrait of America while maintaining a sense of restrained optimism in the future Both heart wrenching and strangely comforting at the same time I guess in the end, this was a book that made me feel a lot and that is all I can ever ask I m going to wrap this up with my second favorite quote from the book my favorite being the one at the very beginning of the reviewAnd 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. 5.0 stars HIGHEST POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION Jay Gatsby, you poor doomed bastard You were ahead of your time If you would have pulled your scam after the invention of reality TV, you would have been a huge star on a show like The Bachelor and a dozen shameless Daisy types would have thrown themselves at you Mass media and modern fame would have embraced the way you tried to push your way into a social circle you didn t belong to in an effort to fulfill a fool s dream as your entire existence became a lie and you desperately sought to rewrite history to an ending you wanted You had a talent for it, Jay, but a modern PR expert would have made you bigger than Kate Gosselin Your knack for self promotion and over the top displays of wealth to try and buy respectability would have fit right in these days I can just about see you on a red carpet with Paris Hilton And the ending would have been different No aftermath for rich folks these days Lawyers and pay off money would have quietly settled the matter No harm, no foul But then you d have realized how worthless Daisy really was at some point I m sure you couldn t have dealt with that So maybe it is better that your story happened in the Jazz Age where you could keep your illusions intact to the bitter end.The greatest American novel I don t know if there is such an animal But I think you d have to include this one in the conversation. Alternate Cover Edition ISBN ISBN THE GREAT GATSBY, F Scott Fitzgerald S Third Book, Stands As The Supreme

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room of twenty fifteen year olds, including cool ones, all VEHEMENTLY AGREEING ON SOMETHING. But I still stood up for Daisy Because I have PRIORITIES. My senior year of high school, my morals and soul and ability to empathize were challenged by six students and a teacher in AP Lit But I won the award for being the best English student in my graduating class, so honestly I think that s an indication that I also won that argument And now here I am today, prepared to make the same argument to you all. And win Obviously. But let s get into this Here is why Daisy is not only innocent to the VILLAINOUS charges that have been placed upon her, but also the best character in this book and an absolute angel joy gift from the heavens Does that mean F Scott Fitzgerald is God Also, this has literally all of the spoilers And is long But THOROUGH AND WORTH IT Maybe. One What was she SUPPOSED to do So put yaself in Daisy s shoes, yeah Let s take it alllllll the way back You re a teenage girl who is the hottest sh t in all of Louisville This is a big deal, apparently You have SIX DATES A DAY The phone never stops ringing You have nothing but options Kidding, kidding You only have one option, really, and that s marrying a rich guy Don t we love historical gender expectations I know I do So then one day, this guy who s fiiiiine as hell shows up And you guys start hanging out all the time, and he s so charming and hot and you guys get along like a house on fire You have a really great kiss The guy s a captain in the army, and he implies he s supes well off financially It s perfect It s the best case scenario for you This guy s Jay Gatsby, by the way In case I haven t made that clear Then the guy has to go off to war It sucks, sucks, sucks You two write letters back and forth, but all the while your family is pressuring you Society is pressuring you Your friends are making backhanded comments about how you re still unmarried. The war ends Sweet relief Jay s coming home Except no He s at Oxford, for some reason And he tells you he can t come home And your letters get sadder and sadder, because you re out of time The war ended, and you have nothing to tell your parents. So those six dates a day start back up. And then this guy pops up in town He s reallyyyy rich And buff And a real society man And he s not from Louisville he s a way out You can see the world with him Best of all, he s obsessed with you This guy is Tom Buchanan So what do you do You can t do

anything You have to marry him. And when you get a letter from Jay Too Little Too Late Gatsby, you scream and cry and try to stop the wedding, but there's nothing you can do. Ya hafta marry Tom. Seems Okay Buchanan. Two Now That's What I Call Whoops. The OTHER fun thing you get to do, in this life as Daisy Buchanan, is have children whether you want them or not. For awhile you don't mind Tom. In fact, you really love him for a bit. He does nice stuff like carry you so your shoes don't touch the ground, and the honeymoon's great, etc etc. So even though you don't have one mother effin ounce of an option in whether you want kids or not, when ya get pregnant, you think maybe it won't be that bad. And then Tom turns out to suuuuuck. You have to leave these places you love, where everyone is full on obsessed with you, and you have friends and family and as close to a life as you can get, you have to leave because Tom is f'cking everything with girl parts and a ditzzy 1920s accent. BUT NOW YOU HAVE A DAUGHTER AND YOU LOVE HER SO MUCH AND YOU KNOW HOW HARD IT WILL BE FOR HER, BECAUSE SHE'S GOING TO HAVE THE SAME LIFE AS YOU. And all you can hope is that she'll be a beautiful fool, like Tom's girls, so she'll be silly enough to be satisfied with life's inability to give her much of anything. And Daisy might be beautiful, but she's sure as sh't no fool. Three. Holy shit wait does life not suck. Is there such a thing as a second chance. So you've got this new life in New York, and you've got a BFF from Louisville Jordan Baker, and yes, Tom is cheating on you, but if he maybe just didn't answer the goddamn phone during dinner for once you could just forget about it for literally one freaking second. And then GUESS WHAT. Your old pal Nick Carraway is back. A friend, how amazing HURRAY. And kinda strange, Nick wants you to get a weird one on one tea party on with him, but it's like, whatever, Tom's cheating anyway and you're not interested in Nick like that but he's a fun guy and you can just reject him. But wait hold up WHOA what a wild coincidence. The guy who was lowkey the love of your life, Jay Gatsby, is also here. How, well, coincidental. You can play catch up and see his bougie ass house and whatnot. And cry over the fact that he's such a horrific asshole that he would leave you totally in the dust without contacting you for years and then all of a sudden appears and is like I am very rich as promised I live right

across the water from you I can see your house let's get together here are all my fancy shirts I will throw them at you So glad Nick is here for some reason let's keep on not letting him leave Plus life with Tom, as mentioned, is not extremely great. So it's like, yeah, perfect, okay Let's get some Gatsby on. Four No No, there is not a chance of life not sucking Life is terrible and so we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into a gUY WHO IS JUST AS BAD. GUESS WHAT WASN'T A COINCIDENCE ANY OF THAT All along, even the people you trusted most Nick, Jordan, Gatsby have been manipulating you There have been secret plans and lies and tricks and all of these things just to get you to f ck a guy. And if you think about it, Gatsby is not nice or romantic or kind or fair to lil ol Daisy At all His expectations are insane He got to leave her and build a life for himself and live as he wanted and travel and make up this story and be wealthy and throw parties, while she lived with a cheating husband And after all that, if she wants admission into the life that being with him might give her, she has to say no, she wasn't ever happy, there wasn't a moment she loved Tom. Ridiculous. And when she plaintively says, I love you now Isn't that enough I can't help the past, she's just begging Gatsby to accept her How absolutely tragic Tom cheats on her, Gatsby expects so much she's never been fully, truly, without exception loved. Five Gatsby literally sucks oh my god DAISY IS JUST A SYMBOL OF GATSBY'S ABILITY TO CONQUER THE SOCIOECONOMIC CASTE SYSTEM OF THE 1920S Like, if he can get Daisy literally an object, that's not even enough He has to have HAD DAISY FOREVER Because then he's beaten Tom, the symbol of old money He's so gross, literally Here are 2 quotes on Gatsby's feelings for Daisy which illustrate how much he sucks It excited him, too, that many men had already loved Daisy It increased her value in his eyes Her VALUE Like she is an OBJECT Because OTHER MEN were not enough, so he is THE BEST MAN Daisy must've fallen short of the colossal vitality of his illusion It had gone beyond her, beyond everything He had thrown himself into it with a creative passion, adding to it all the time, decking it out with every bright feather that drifted his way No amount of fire or freshness can challenge what a man can think up in his ghostly heart So he made her into this manic pixie dream IDEA of a person, and we

re supposed to be mad at her for not living up to it Nah Nope
Not going to happen Gatsby sucks.Six It s called the
responsible choice, you raging dingbatsSo AFTER she s
already been pressured by Gatsby to act as though entire
swaths of her life didn t happen, she finds out Gatsby has been
lying to her all along keeping the truth from her in order to
protect this psychotic fairytale concoction of a totally goddamn
made up story Like A Total Freak What the f ck would you do If
you were going to leave your sh tty gross husband for what
seems like a better life, but really has always been a lie and a
totally full on creepy one at that And what if you had a
daughter, who it s made OVERWHELMINGLY CLEAR you
love and worry about and she loves you too, so much You d
just leave her in the care of that sh tty creepy cheating
disgusting husband, who couldn t care less and would not be
at all above using her as a chess piece You d leave her when
everything you thought you knew was completely made up
When it s just been your dearest loved ones manipulating you
all along No, the f ck you wouldn t Daisy s choices were
protecting her daughter, and sexy times with a con man There
s no goddamn choice.She s great and smart and responsible It
couldn t have been easy for her to stay with Tom, who SUCKS
She says to his face that he s repulsive But it was the grown up
option.TALK ABOUT A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE She is
such a queen.Seven Oh, I m sorry, I forgot THE LAW THAT
MARRIED COUPLES ARE EXACTLY THE SAME IN LEVELS
OF BAD NESS you foolsTom sucks We know this He s a racist
cheating bastard, and he s gross, and he hits Myrtle He does
plenty a terrible thing.But guess who is not automatically
responsible for his actions Daisy, b tch She totally roasts him
up for his Rise of the Colored Empires pseudo science racism
She simply does not treat people in the same way Tom does
She s not him I don t get the grouping of them both together
like it s her fault She s totally trapped.Eight Do we know that
she knows that Gatsby died Do we really, really, reallyyyyyy
know When Nick calls her house, she s gone Like, do we
honestlyyyyyyy think that the dude who picked up the phone is
actually going to tell her he called Would you be rearing to go if
a person you trusted who TOTALLY ACTUALLY
MANIPULATED YOU hit you up after ignoring you for weeks
like YOU ARE THE VILLAIN Honestly, there s no real sign that

Daisy knew he died, but literally what did she owe him anyway
He manipulated her, lied to her, treated her like an object and
nearly ruined her life Totally made a terrible existence into full
on garb ge Whatever, man.Nine The car thingShe was
traumatized Gatsby orchestrated the whole cover up He took
the wheel, he drove away, he hid the car She had no clue the
whole thing would go horribly wrong He s the one who made all
the choices in the aftermath Duh.God this was so long I m tired
And apologetic Toward you, for having read a very long thing
that I wrote, and toward myself, because I had to write it.This
should certainly be enough to prove that Daisy Buchanan is a
victim to her circumstances and otherwise noble and great and
trying her goddamn best in a world in which everyone treats
her like the beautiful fool she is totally not.Plus her voice is full
of money.Now go off in your new happy life of being utterly
enad with Daisy Buchanan pre reviewDaisy Buchanan Is The
Real Hero Of The Great Gatsby A Thinkpiecewill be dropping
my pi ce de r sistance soon this is my attempt at a fun way of
saying, review to come and that review will blow your mind and
make you realize that daisy is the best part of this book There
was one thing I really liked about The Great Gatsby.It was
short. Over drinks, I ve observed like so many smart alecks
that much of The Great Gatsby s popularity relies heavily on its
shortness At a sparse 180 pages, Fitzgerald s masterpiece
could be argued to be the Great American novella Gatsby, like
so many other short classics, is easily readable, re readable,
and assessable to everyone from the attention deficient young
to mothers juggling a kid, a career, and a long held desire to
catch up on all those books they should have read but haven t
gotten around to yet.I ve now read Gatsby three times, and I
admit that on my first reading during like handfuls of others my
senior year English class, I wasn t particularly fond of the book
I believe I used the adjective overrated on numerous occasions
Daisy Buchanan seemed like a twit of a woman, and I found
Jay Gatsby to be pathetically clawing in his attempt to attain
her Nick, my guide, only annoyed me further with his apparent
hero worshiping of a man I found one dimensional and his
adoration for the kind of woman I ve seen other men purport to
be goddesses, but in fact, are dim witted simpletons with nice
figures Over my two subsequent readings pushed along by
friends whose judgment I trusted and who swore the book was

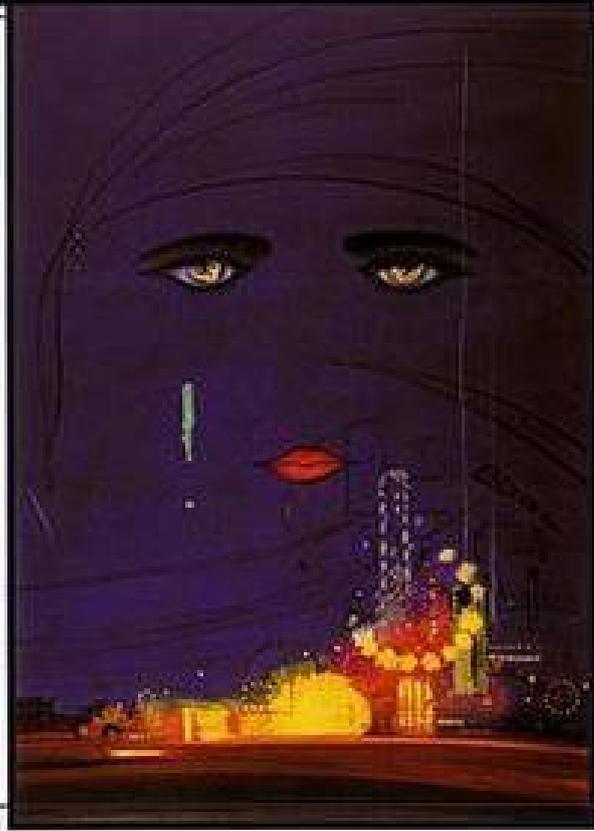
so funny and ironic I discovered within Fitzgerald's fable a sardonic social wit and a heavily layered critique of the American Dream the poor, working woman rising above his or her social situation to discover money conquers all Fitzgerald has a discerning ability for sharp critiques of the economically privileged and, like Jane Austen, has an ear for realistic, bantering dialogue Through Nick's narration, we see a world that so many Americans dream of its enviableness only further accentuated by our open disdain for it a life of endless parties, delicious food, beautiful clothes, and Paris Hilton Nick who's paradoxically drawn to his cousin, Daisy's, and her husband, Tom's, lifestyle with gloating contempt echoes the contemporary American idolization of an elite lifestyle that none but a select few attain We watch Daisy with her voice that sounds of money flit about with uncompromising shallowness and vivacious school girl frivolity, and through her, see so many of the inconsequential remarks and actions others as well as ourselves have made for the sheer sake of having a good time In spite of her frivolity and weak disposition, we become, like Gatsby, overwhelmingly aware of the youth and mystery that wealth imprisons and preserves, of the freshness of many clothes, and of Daisy, gleaming like silver, safe and proud above the hot struggles of the poor Through Gatsby's veneration of Daisy, we not only imagine what so many Americans desire success, but also we see the goal and glittering fixation of all humanity beauty And like many Americans in the throes of Capitalism, Gatsby believes that money can buy beauty as well as love Fitzgerald articulates this disillusion with haunting force, particularly voiced through Nick's obsessive repulsion with the extravagant society his social status has allowed him and the sadness he finds while watching a working man attempt to enter it One critique of *The Great Gatsby*, which could also be argued as a positive, is the limited scope of action and themes Fitzgerald chooses to encapsulate We only see the wealthy elite or people wanting to be the wealthy elite, and only Nick really has any depth of characterization Unlike a tome, such as *War and Peace*, *Gatsby* fails to have numerous interwoven plotlines within a grand historical context Yes, the Jazz Age is the novel's backdrop, but Fitzgerald fails to engage in any discussion beyond a summer among the wealthy youth partying into the

wee hours of the night in the West Egg Yet, the control with which Fitzgerald expresses his limited themes makes the novel's lack of scope forgivable Gatsby is short and easily accessible, and I have no doubt these aspects of the novel do lend to its everlasting popularity At the same time, it should never diminish its truly admirable ability to tease apart some of the most confounding qualities American culture values money, beauty, youth, hard work, and the ever effusive, love. This is a good book, though it is so ridiculously overrated There are so many great books out there that will never get the attention they deserve They will be forgotten and their wisdom heard by only a select few who are willing to go looking for it So it annoys me when books like this are acclaimed by critics and readers alike as the best pieces of fiction in existence when they are not There's so much out there Anyway, rant over The thing I like most about The Great Gatsby is the language, the subtleties and the suggestions, the things that are not directly said but are said nevertheless It's a true feat of writing and at times it reminded me of a stage piece The dialogue does not give the answers, but it is the character's actions and movements so fantastically narrated that give the game away it reveals their internal worlds As such this is a book that can easily be skimmed over The plot is basic and relatively unengaging and consequently I think an inattentive reader has a lot to miss here It's all about illusions and false appearances just like real life The way people perceive us is not how we truly are and sometimes individuals actively work towards creating a desired appearance for the outside world It's easily done with enough time, effort and money What Gatsby creates for the outside is a dream, an ideal life that looks perfect. However, scratch the surface and it is so very, very, clear that not everything is perfect His supposed happiness is hollow and dictated by the whims of society It is fickle, egotistical and driven by status and all the silly little symbols that go with it His success is what society demands success to be thus, he positions himself into a place where he can chase his true dream In doing so Gatsby shows us that not everything is as simple as it appears, and that society driven by such monetary values is a dangerous thing because everybody is so detached from what really matters in life The object of his affections, for example I enjoyed The Great Gatsby though I

certainly did not love it Its popularity baffles me to a degree, I can think of books from the same era that deserve far attention Still, I enjoyed reading it and I m glad I finally did so. The Great Gatsby is your neighbor you re best friends with until you find out he s a drug dealer It charms you with some of the most elegant English prose ever published, making it difficult to discuss the novel without the urge to stammer awestruck about its beauty It would be evidence enough to argue that F Scott Fitzgerald was superhuman, if it wasn t for the fact that we know he also wrote This Side of Paradise. But despite its magic, the rhetoric is just that, and it is a cruel facade Behind the stunning glitter lies a story with all the discontent and intensity of the early Metallica albums At its heart, The Great Gatsby throws the very nature of our desires into a harsh, shocking light There may never be a character who so epitomizes tragically misplaced devotion as Jay Gatsby, and Daisy, his devotee, plays her part with perfect, innocent malevolence Gatsby s competition, Tom Buchanan, stands aside watching, taunting and provoking with piercing vocal jabs and the constant boast of his enviable physique The three jostle for position in an epic love triangle that lays waste to countless innocent victims, as well as both Eggs of Long Island Every jab, hook, and uppercut is relayed by the instantly likable narrator Nick Carraway, seemingly the only voice of reason amongst all the chaos But when those boats are finally borne back ceaselessly by the current, no one is left afloat It is an ethical massacre, and Fitzgerald spares no lives there is perhaps not a single character of any significance worthy even of a Sportsmanship Award from the Boys and Girls Club. In a word, The Great Gatsby is about deception Fitzgerald tints our glasses rosy with gorgeous prose and a narrator you want so much to trust, but leaves the lenses just translucent enough for us to see that Gatsby is getting the same treatment And if Gatsby represents the truth of the American Dream, it means trouble for us all Consider it the most pleasant insult you ll ever receive. This is my least favorite classic of all time Probably even my least favorite book, ever I didn t have the faintest iota of interest in neither era nor lifestyle of the people in this novela So why did I read it to begin with well, because I wanted to give it a chance I ve been surprised by many books, many a times Thought this could open a new literary door for me. Most of the

novel was incomprehensibly lame I was never fully introduced to the root of the affair that existed between Gatsby and Daisy So they were in love yeah..I ve been in love too, who cares Several times I didn t even understand where characters were when they were speaking to each other I also didn t understand the whole affair with Tom and Mrs Wilson and something about her husband locking her up over the garage huh then she gets run over by a car, then he sneaks in through the trees and shoots Gatsby wha still..why am I suppose to care about all this Shallow and meaningless characters Again, who cares I read this book twice 2 times I just didn t get it I can t believe this book is revered with the rest of the great classics Truly unbelievable Fitzgerald certainly kissed the right asses with this one What garbage Daisy quote They re such beautiful shirts, she sobbed It makes me sad because I ve never seen such such beautiful shirts before sob..sob boo hoo hoo oh Please someone shut her the fuck up.

F. SCOTT
FITZGERALD



**THE
GREAT GATSBY**

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