

The Great Gatsby

Chapters 6-9

The Great Gatsby as Young Adult Literature

- “James Gatz—that was really, or at least legally, his name. He had changed it at the age of seventeen and at the specific moment that witnessed the beginning of his career—when he saw Dan Cody’s yacht drop anchor over the most insidious flat on Lake Superior” (Fitzgerald 91 - Beginning of Chapter 6).
- “So he invented just the sort of Jay Gatsby that a seventeen year old boy would be likely to invent, and to this conception he was faithful to the end” (Fitzgerald 92 - Beginning of Chapter 6).
- Do we see Gatsby behaving like an adolescent? How?

The Hotel Room Scene - Chapter 7

Chapter 7 - The Confrontation

- Tom: “Self-control! . . . I suppose the latest thing is to sit back and let MR. Nobody from Nowhere make love to your wife. Well, if that’s the idea you can count me out. . . . Nowadays people begin by sneering at family life and family institutions and next they’ll throw everything overboard and have intermarriage between black and white” (Fitzgerald 115 - midway through Chapter 7).
- Gatsby: “‘Daisy, that’s all over now,’ he said earnestly. ‘It doesn’t matter anymore. Just tell him the truth - that you never loved him - and it’s all wiped out forever.’” (Fitzgerald 117 - midway through Chapter 7).
- Daisy: “‘Oh, you want too much!’ she cried to Gatsby. ‘I love you now - isn’t that enough? I can’t help what’s past.’ She began to sob helplessly. ‘I did love him once - but I loved you too’” (Fitzgerald 118 - midway through Chapter 7).
- **Did Gatsby really love Daisy? Did Daisy really love Gatsby?**

Nick as Narrator

- “‘Who is this Gatsby anyhow?’ demanded Tom suddenly. ‘Some big bootlegger?’ ‘Where’d you hear that?’ I inquired. ‘I didn’t hear it. I imagined it. A lot of these newly rich people are just big bootleggers, you know.’ ‘Not Gatsby,’ I said shortly” (Fitzgerald 99 - End of Chapter 6).
- “‘I wouldn’t ask too much of her,’ I ventured. ‘You can’t repeat the past.’ ‘Can’t repeat the past?’ he cried incredulously. ‘Why of course you can!’” (Fitzgerald 100 - End of Chapter 6).
- “‘They’re a rotten crowd,’ I shouted, across the lawn. ‘You’re worth the whole damn bunch put together.’ I’ve always been glad I said that. It was the only compliment I ever gave him, because I disapproved of him from beginning to end” (Fitzgerald 134 - Midway through Chapter 8).

The Last Page

“Gatsby believed in the green light, the orgastic 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— So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past” (Fitzgerald 154).

Ultimately, what does Gatsby’s story tell us about the American Dream?