

The Great Gatsby Summary by Chapter

Chapter 1 (The First Dinner): Introduction of Nick Carraway as the narrator as well as the setting of the novel. Nick moved to the West Egg of Long Island in the pursuit of a bonds business. His neighbour happened to be Jay Gatsby. He lived across the East Egg, which is where the aristocratic families lived. One of them was the Buchanan family. Tom Buchanan is then introduced as Daisy's husband, a man with a big built who oozed dominance. He was Nick's college club mate at Yale. Nick was invited to the Buchanan's place for lunch, where he met Jordan Baker, Daisy's friend. As they all have dinner together, Tom gets a phone call, Daisy freaks out and goes to yell at him, and Jordan reveals that Tom is having an affair on the side. As Nick returns home, he notices Gatsby out on his lawn, with his arms outstretched toward a green light across courtesy bay.

Chapter 2 (New York Affair): Tom Buchanan takes Nick to the Valley of Ashes, which falls between New York and the East egg. He wanted to go meet Mertyl Wilson, his extramarital lover. She was married to a humble and passive man named George Wilson, who owned a garage. Tom goes to their place and asks Mertyl to go the city with him while George is completely oblivious, thinking that his wife just goes to visit her sister, Catherine McKee. On the way there, Mertyl asks Tom to buy her a puppy and he does. At the party, Nick gets drunk for the second time in his life. After having several drinks, Mertyl keeps teasing Tom about Daisy and begins chanting her name. Tom then breaks her nose in anger. He then somehow ends up next to Chester McKee in his underwear (Ha! Gayyy). It was about 4am, and soon after, Nick was waiting for the 4 o' clock train back home.

Chapter 3 (Gatsby's Party): Gatsby held grand and luxurious parties at his mansion every Saturday night, and this chapter was a glimpse into one of them. There were wealthy folks coming from all over New York and Long Island to his party, without knowing what he even looked like or how he even got to where he was. Nick was the only one who had been officially invited to the party, where he bumped into Jordan Baker. He then decided to look for Gatsby with her, and finally found him alone on the marble steps watching his guests have a ball of a time from a distance (everyone at his party seemed to be drinking bootlegged alcohol except Gatsby himself). After speaking to Nick for a while, Gatsby receives a phone call and sends his butler to get Jordan for a private chat, while Nick continued to enjoy the party. Jordan returns and tells Nick she has exciting things to tell him, but wants him to meet her at her aunt's house. Gatsby says goodnight to Nick as they have plans to go up on his hydroplane the next day. Nick then sees that a car leaving the driveway had hit the wall and lost its wheel. Nick falls into his usual routine again until mid summer, when he starts hanging out with Jordan.

Chapter 4 (Nick meets Wolfsheim): Gatsby comes to get Nick for lunch in his fancy yellow Rolls-Royce. He explains his history to Nick and how he was educated at Oxford. He also tells Nick about a medal that reads 'Major Jay Gatsby' (more like major showoff twat) and a photograph of him with his Oxford mates. He then gets pulled over by a policeman, who lets him go after Gatsby tells him who he is. Once they arrive in New York, he introduces Nick to Meyer Wolfsheim, Gatsby's business partner. Nick notices Tom Buchanan at the same restaurant and wants to introduce Gatsby, but he had already bolted off. After his lunch with Gatsby, he had arranged to meet with Jordan Baker, who

then finally told Nick about what Gatsby had said to her on the night of the party. He told her about his history with Daisy and that he was in love with her, and that he wanted Nick to arrange a reunion with her at his place.

Chapter 5 (The Reunion) : When Nick was returning home, he saw Gatsby standing out at his lawn, with wild eagerness and excitement. He then tells him that he is willing to do him the favour and invite Daisy over for tea the following afternoon. This is when Gatsby offers him a part in his business to thank him, which Nick rejects, but offers the favour anyway. The next day, Gatsby arrives at Nick's place, absolutely ecstatic, and waits impatiently for Daisy. It's raining heavily outside but Gatsby still sends his servants to get the room decorated with flowers for Daisy. As soon as she comes, Gatsby disappears through the backdoor and goes around the house in the rain and comes back from the front door. It is initially very awkward and Gatsby even knocks over Nick's clock, then takes Nick away to bitch about how shitty the meeting is. Nick decides to give them space and leaves for a bit. They soon start warming up and the romantic intimacy is soon rekindled. Gatsby then offers to take Daisy to his house to show her around, and invites Nick too. It becomes clearer that he bought the house and everything in it to impress her (he really wants to get in her pants tbh). When Daisy sees Gatsby's collection of expensive shirts, she starts crying (lol wtf). They then head down and have Klipspringer play the piano, after which Nick heads home, leaving the two of them alone together.

Chapter 6 (The Second Party) : Nick hasn't seen Daisy and Gatsby in weeks, and the last time he saw them was when he arranged their reunion. One afternoon, when he stopped by Gatsby's place, he saw Tom Buchanan having a drink with Gatsby, a man named Sloane and this pretty woman he was with. Gatsby proposed that they stay for dinner but Sloane's girl instead asks him and Nick to come over to her place. Since Tom Buchanan didn't particularly like Gatsby, he thought that the invitation was insincere and was in disbelief that he was actually coming. At this point, even though Tom was uncomfortable with how Daisy visited Gatsby's place alone so often, he was not aware of the love between them. The following Saturday, Tom and Daisy attend a party at Gatsby's Mansion. This is where Nick is not too happy with the oppressing atmosphere, and Daisy is not having a great time either. Tom didn't want to be there, but he followed Daisy just to keep an eye on her. After they left, Nick told Gatsby how Daisy felt about the party, which really made him upset. All Gatsby wanted was for Daisy to leave Tom and be with him, just like the old days in Louisville.

Chapter 7 (The Confrontation) : It was the following Saturday, but there was no party at Gatsby's. He had locked himself in and fired all his servants, afraid they would gossip since Daisy was coming over so often. Gatsby then telephones Nick and invites him to go to Daisy's place for lunch the following day, upon her request. The next day is the warmest day of summer and Nick takes the train to East Egg. He finds Gatsby and Jordan Baker there as well. The nurse brings in Daisy's child (Gatsby's shocked but otherwise nobody cares). It's pretty awkward as Gatsby and Daisy cannot hide their love for one another. Daisy suggests that they all go to Town, after which Gatsby and Daisy gaze at each other intently, but Tom notices in disbelief. Itching for a confrontation, he agrees and exclaims that they should all go to New York together. They reach New York and decide to chill at Plaza Hotel. As Tom mocks and questions Gatsby, a heated

argument unfolds and Gatsby finally reveals that Daisy loves him, not Tom. Daisy, torn between the two men, is unable to handle the pressure and breaks down. Tom, confident that he has bested Gatsby, sends the two of them back to Long Island in Gatsby's car. Nick then realises that it's his thirtieth birthday. Driving back to Long Island in Tom's car, Nick, Tom, and Jordan discover that someone has been hit by a car on the border of the Valley of Ashes. Michaelis then tells them that Myrtle was the victim. Nick realises that it must have been Gatsby's car and Tom assumes that Gatsby was the one driving. Back at Tom's, Nick waits outside but finds Gatsby in the bushes, keeping a lookout in case Tom tried to hurt Daisy. Gatsby asks for him to check on them. Nick then leaves Gatsby there alone.

Chapter 8 (Gatsby's Death): After a sleepless night, before dawn, Nick goes to visit Gatsby at his mansion. Gatsby mentions that he waited till 4am but nothing happened. Nick suggests that Gatsby forget Daisy and leave Long Island, but he refuses. Gatsby explains how he felt when he was courting Daisy and how she had promised to wait for him when he left for the war, but then she married Tom. Gatsby's gardener interrupts the story to tell Gatsby that he plans to drain the pool. The hint of autumn is now in the air. Gatsby asks that the gardener wait a day, since he had not used the pool all summer and wanted to go for a swim. Nick then says goodbye to him and leaves for work. A narrative shift occurs and Nick describes what happened at George Wilson's garage after Myrtle's death (he got to know the details from Michaelis). Wilson believes that whoever was driving the car must have been her lover, as he had confronted her about it just before she ran out onto the road. He wants to track the car down, so he looks for Tom. Tom tells him it was Gatsby, and Wilson shows up at Gatsby's mansion then shoots him. He then shoots himself. Nick hurries back to West Egg and finds Gatsby floating dead in his pool.

Chapter 9 (The Funeral): Writing two years after Gatsby's death, Nick describes the events that surrounded the funeral, such as the swarms of reporters and journalists and the exaggerated rumours. Nick tries to hold a large funeral for him, but all of Gatsby's former friends and acquaintances have either disappeared (Tom and Daisy) or refuse to come (Wolfsheim and Klipspringer). The only people to attend the funeral are Nick, Owl Eyes, a few servants, and Gatsby's father, Henry C. Gatz, who has come all the way from Minnesota. Nick decides to move back to the Midwest. He breaks off his relationship with Jordan, who suddenly claims that she has become engaged to another man. Just before he leaves, Nick encounters Tom on Fifth Avenue in New York City, who confirms that he was the one who told Wilson that it was Gatsby who killed Myrtle. On his last night in West Egg before moving back to Minnesota, Nick walks over to Gatsby's empty mansion and erases an obscene word that someone has written on the steps. He sprawls out on the beach behind Gatsby's house and looks up, uttering the most beautiful quote of the novel at the end of it all.