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## APPENDICES

### *Appendix 1 - Biography of F. Scott Fitzgerald*



(Source: *Encyclopedia Britannica*)

F. Scott Fitzgerald was a renowned American short story author and novelist known for his depictions of the Jazz Age, particularly in his most brilliant work, *The Great Gatsby* (1925). He was born on September 24, 1896, in St. Paul, Minnesota, and passed away on December 21, 1940, in Hollywood, California. He was the only son of an unsuccessful aristocratic father and an energetic provincial mother. Throughout his life, Fitzgerald, along with his wife Zelda, became famous not only through his literary works but also due to his private life in both America and France.

Fitzgerald grew up with ambivalent feelings about American life, which he viewed as simultaneously vulgar and promising. He possessed an intensely romantic imagination and relentlessly sought to experience life to

fulfill his dreams. He attended Princeton University, where he aimed for great success and forged lifelong friendships with Edmund Wilson and John Peale Bishop. However, he lost his first love, Ginevra King, and was eventually expelled from Princeton. During his military service, he met Zelda Sayre, who later became his wife.

His first major success came with the novel *This Side of Paradise* (1920), which made him famous and opened doors to prestigious magazines. Despite this success, stability eluded him. Along with Zelda and their daughter Frances (known as "Scottie"), he moved to the Riviera in 1924. In France, Fitzgerald completed his masterpiece, *The Great Gatsby* (1925), depicting his own inner conflicts through characters like Jay Gatsby and Nick Carraway. He also wrote brilliant short stories in the collection *All the Sad Young Men* (1926), but afterward, he faced disorder and unhappiness. Fitzgerald began struggling with alcohol, while Zelda became intensely interested in ballet. In 1930, Zelda suffered a mental breakdown, followed by another in 1932 from which she never fully recovered.

Despite their efforts to salvage their marriage, Fitzgerald's life became increasingly challenging. He struggled to complete his next novel, *Tender Is the Night* (1934), which, although emotionally powerful, was not commercially successful. By 1937, he had returned to a semblance of stability by working as a Hollywood screenwriter, where he met and fell in love with Sheilah Graham, a well-known gossip columnist. They lived

together until his death, except for occasional bouts of alcoholism that made him bitter and aggressive.

In 1939, Fitzgerald began an unfinished novel about Hollywood, *The Last Tycoon*, which explored the American dream through the character of Monroe Stahr, inspired by producer Irving Thalberg. Despite his intense imagination and brilliant expression, Fitzgerald passed away from a heart attack at the age of 44, leaving the novel half-finished. Despite the challenges and suffering he faced, Fitzgerald's literary works remain unforgettable masterpieces in American literature.

**Source:**

Mizener, A (2023). *F. Scott Fitzgerald*. Encyclopedia Britannica.  
<https://www.britannica.com/biography/F-Scott-Fitzgerald>  
Accessed on October 18, 2023

## **Appendix 2 – Synopsis of *The Great Gatsby***



In 'The Great Gatsby,' F. Scott Fitzgerald masterfully portrays the intricate web of social inequality and conditions prevailing in the Jazz Age, a period characterized by dramatic social and economic contrasts. The novel delves deeply into the themes of the American Dream and societal stratification, bringing to light the stark division between the affluent and the less

fortunate.

Fitzgerald paints a vivid picture of the era's opulence and decadence through his depiction of the lavish lifestyles of the wealthy, juxtaposed against the backdrop of the less glamorous lives of the working class. This inequality is most strikingly illustrated through the geographical symbolism of East Egg and West Egg, representing the old wealth and the nouveau riche, respectively, and the Valley of Ashes, a grim depiction of the plight of the working class, overshadowed by the prosperity of their neighbors.

The social conditions of the 1920s, with its economic boom and cultural transformations, provide a rich context for examining the deep-seated class divisions and the elusive nature of the American Dream. Through this exploration, Fitzgerald not only comments on the era's extravagant lifestyles but also critiques the underlying social inequalities that define the

characters' interactions and their pursuit of happiness. This thesis aims to unravel these layers of social inequality and examine their implications on individual characters and the broader societal dynamics portrayed in the novel.

*The Great Gatsby* is narrated by Nick Carraway, a Yale graduate who moves to New York after World War I. He recounts his experiences during the summer he spent in the East, living next to the wealthy and mysterious Jay Gatsby. Nick rents a house in West Egg, Long Island, near his cousin Daisy Buchanan and her husband Tom, who live in the more refined East Egg. Tom has an affair with Myrtle Wilson, leading to tension between him and Daisy.

Gatsby, Nick's neighbor, throws extravagant parties but remains enigmatic. He reveals to Nick his past connection with Daisy, whom he met and fell in love with before going to war. Gatsby's parties end when he decides to pursue Daisy, who is now married to Tom.

**Source:**

Fitzgerald, F. S. (2012). *The Great Gatsby*. 2012 Edition. William Collins Publishers. ISBN-13: 978-0-00-736865-5. Printed and bound in the UK at CPI Group (UK) Ltd.

Martinez, J. (2023). *The Great Gatsby*. Encyclopedia of Britannica. <https://www.britannica.com/topic/The-Great-Gatsby>. Accessed on October 18, 2023

### ***Appendix 3 – Critical Reception of Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby***

*The Great Gatsby*, set in the Jazz Age or the Roaring Twenties, captures the essence of postwar America—a period marked by economic prosperity, new jazz music, and the allure of illegal liquor during Prohibition. The novel, penned by F. Scott Fitzgerald, portrays the hedonistic race of people reveling in pleasure, embracing a culture of excess and decadence. The story unfolds against the backdrop of societal shifts, with West Egg symbolizing the nouveau riche flaunting newfound wealth through extravagant parties and East Egg representing the old-moneyed elite who frown upon the ostentatious displays of their neighbors.

At its core, the novel explores the American Dream, presenting the story of Jay Gatsby, a self-made millionaire with humble beginnings, who now lives a life of opulence. Gatsby's grand parties and extravagant mansion serve as symbols of the wealth achievable during Prohibition, funded largely by illegal activities. However, despite his newfound affluence, Gatsby's dream of winning back Daisy Buchanan, a woman from a prestigious family, ultimately ends tragically.

The tension between "new money" and "old money" is palpable throughout the narrative, exemplified by the contrast between West Egg's materialism and East Egg's refined nobility. Gatsby's attempt to bridge the gap between these worlds and win Daisy's love highlights the novel's exploration of societal stratification and the illusions of social mobility.



A recurring symbol in the story is the green light at the end of Daisy's dock, representing Gatsby's unattainable ambitions. Initially, it embodies his hope and belief in a promising future, but as he fixates on a tangible goal (Daisy), his dreams become limited and susceptible to corruption. The valley of ashes, a wasteland between West Egg and Manhattan, serves as a stark contrast to the green light's promise. This desolate area, filled with industrial waste, symbolizes the consequences of America's economic boom, showcasing the inequality between the rich and the impoverished. The watchful eyes of Doctor T.J. Eckleburg, depicted on a billboard, serve as a moral conscience in this morally vacuous world. Despite their initial significance, these eyes ultimately become a testament to the materialistic culture, devoid of genuine moral guidance.

Fitzgerald's novel is a poignant exploration of the American Dream's decline, capturing the fleeting nature of hope and the inevitable disillusionment that follows. Through vivid imagery and compelling characters, *The Great Gatsby* remains a timeless critique of the excesses and moral vacuity of the Jazz Age, leaving readers to contemplate the complexities of the American Dream and its inherent challenges.

**Source:**

Martinez, J. (2023). *The Great Gatsby*. *Encyclopedia of Britannica*.  
<https://www.britannica.com/topic/The-Great-Gatsby>. Accessed on  
October 18, 2023

## **Appendix 4 – Clustered Data**

### **1. American Dream**

Data 1: “Why they came East I don’t know. They had spent a year in France for no particular reason, and then drifted here and there unrestfully wherever people played polo and were rich together. This was a permanent move, said Daisy over the telephone, but I didn’t believe it — I had no sight into Daisy’s heart, but I felt that Tom would drift on forever seeking, a little wistfully, for the dramatic turbulence of some irrecoverable football game.” (pg. 17)

Data 2: “The groups change more swiftly, swell with new arrivals, dissolve and form in the same breath; already there are wanderers, confident girls who weave here and there among the stouter and more stable, become for a sharp, joyous moment the centre of a group, and then, excited with triumph, glide on through the sea-change of faces and voices and color under the constantly changing light.” (pg. 29)

Data 3: “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 — to-morrow 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.” (pg. 140)

### **2. Social Inequality Depicted in Fitzgerald’s The Great Gatsby (1925)**

#### **a. Economic Inequality**

Data 4: “I lived at West Egg, the — well, the less fashionable of the two, though this is a most superficial tag to express the bizarre and not a little sinister contrast between them. My house was at the very tip of the egg, only fifty yards from the Sound, and squeezed between two huge places that rented for twelve or fifteen thousand a season.” (pg. 4)

Data 5: “Why they came East I don’t know. They had spent a year in France for no particular reason, and then drifted here and there unrestfully wherever people played polo and were rich together.

This was a permanent move, said Daisy over the telephone, but I didn't believe it — I had no sight into Daisy's heart, but I felt that Tom would drift on forever seeking, a little wistfully, for the dramatic turbulence of some irrecoverable football game." (pg. 5)

Data 6: "Her voice is full of money," he said suddenly. That was it. I'd never understood before. It was full of money — that was the inexhaustible charm that rose and fell in it, the jingle of it, the cymbals' song of it... high in a white palace the king's daughter, the golden girl... ." (pg. 92)

Data 7: "I couldn't forgive him or like him, but I saw that what he had done was, to him, entirely justified. It was all very careless and confused. 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... ." (pg. 138)

#### **b. Class Distinction**

Data 8: "I lived at West Egg, the — well, the less fashionable of the two, though this is a most superficial tag to express the bizarre and not a little sinister contrast between them. My house was at the very tip of the egg, only fifty yards from the Sound, and squeezed between two huge places that rented for twelve or fifteen thousand a season." (pg. 4)

Data 9: "Across the courtesy bay the white palaces of fashionable East Egg glittered along the water, and the history of the summer really begins on the evening I drove over there to have dinner with the Tom Buchanans. Daisy was my second cousin once removed, and I'd known Tom in college. And just after the war I spent two days with them in Chicago." (pg. 4)

Data 10: "Instead of rambling, this party had preserved a dignified homogeneity, and assumed to itself the function of representing the staid nobility of the country-side — East Egg condescending to West Egg, and carefully on guard against its spectroscopic gayety." (pg. 33)

#### **c. Gender Inequality**

Data 11: "She told me it was a girl, and so I turned my head away and wept. 'All right,' I said, 'I'm glad it's a girl. And I hope she'll be a

fool — that's the best thing a girl can be in this world, a beautiful little fool." (pg. 13)

Data 12: "The groups change more swiftly, swell with new arrivals, dissolve and form in the same breath; already there are wanderers, confident girls who weave here and there among the stouter and more stable, become for a sharp, joyous moment the centre of a group, and then, excited with triumph, glide on through the sea-change of faces and voices and color under the constantly changing light." (pg. 27)

Data 13: "Please don't." Her voice was cold, but the rancor was gone from it. She looked at Gatsby. "There, Jay," she said — but her hand as she tried to light a cigarette was trembling. Suddenly she threw the cigarette and the burning match on the carpet. "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." Gatsby's eyes opened and closed. (pg. 101)

### **3. How Social Inequality Influences the Social Interactions and Dynamics Within Each Social Class as Depicted in Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* (1925)**

Data 14: "I lived at West Egg, the — well, the less fashionable of the two, though this is a most superficial tag to express the bizarre and not a little sinister contrast between them. My house was at the very tip of the egg, only fifty yards from the Sound, and squeezed between two huge places that rented for twelve or fifteen thousand a season." (pg. 4)

Data 15: "Why they came East I don't know. They had spent a year in France for no particular reason, and then drifted here and there unrestfully wherever people played polo and were rich together. This was a permanent move, said Daisy over the telephone, but I didn't believe it — I had no sight into Daisy's heart, but I felt that Tom would drift on forever seeking, a little wistfully, for the dramatic turbulence of some irrecoverable football game." (pg. 17)

Data 16: "But above the gray land and the spasms of bleak dust which drift endlessly over it, you perceive, after a moment, the eyes of Doctor T. J. Eckleburg. The eyes of Doctor T. J. Eckleburg are blue and gigantic — their irises are one yard high. They look out

of no face, but, instead, from a pair of enormous yellow spectacles which pass over a nonexistent nose. Evidently some wild wag of an oculist set them there to fatten his practice in the borough of Queens, and then sank down himself into eternal blindness, or forgot them and moved away.” (pg. 17)

Data 17: “The groups change more swiftly, swell with new arrivals, dissolve and form in the same breath; already there are wanderers, confident girls who weave here and there among the stouter and more stable, become for a sharp, joyous moment the centre of a group, and then, excited with triumph, glide on through the sea-change of faces and voices and color under the constantly changing light.” (pg. 30)

Data 18: “Her voice is full of money,” he said suddenly. “That was it. I’d never understood before. It was full of money — that was the inexhaustible charm that rose and fell in it, the jingle of it, the cymbals’ song of it... . high in a white palace the king’s daughter, the golden girl...” (pg. 92)

Data 19: “I couldn’t forgive him or like him, but I saw that what he had done was, to him, entirely justified. It was all very careless and confused. 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...” (pg. 138)