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Night Study Guide

(plot questions)



Chapter 8:

1. Why is it that Wiesel “could have wept with rage” when his father begged for rest upon arrival at Buchenwald?

They had come so far, only to give up at the final leg

Why did Wiesel feel like he was “arguing with death itself”?

His father just wanted to rest, but Elie knew that was to die in the snow.

2. SKIP

3. What emotions did Wiesel experience as he watched his father die the last week?

Conflicting emotions. Was told to take his father’s ration for himself, but he continued to feed his father out of love.

The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Study Guide

Chapter 1

1. Explain what Fitzgerald achieved by using Nick’s point of view to tell Gatsby’s story?
Nick gives us the reader an unbiased view.
2. What do we learn about Nick Carraway in the introductory section of the novel?
Trained to be nonjudgmental but later it becomes an issue with other certain characters.
3. In discussing East Egg and West Egg, Nick states, “To the wingless a more arresting phenomenon is their dissimilarity in every particular except shape and size.” Indicate what the dissimilarities might be. There is an architectural difference between the two. East egg is traditional and west egg is a little more modern. East egg is snobby and narrow minded while west egg is open minded on new ways to use money.
4. Compare the homes of Nick, Gatsby and the Buchanans. How does each home reflect the personality of its owners?
Nick owns a little bungalow, its practical, secluded, and shows his independence. Gatsby’s mansion is creative, flashy, open minded, careless, and lonely. Buchanan mansion is traditional, narrow minded, plain, boring, dull, and gray.
5. Fitzgerald’s description of Tom, Daisy, and Jordan creates not only an impression of physical appearance, but also contains added information. What do you learn about their history and interests, and from their gestures and mannerisms?
Tom is athletic and plays polo, he is a bigot, and only interested in himself. He is blunt and hurtful. Daisy is traditional and comes from a spoiled childhood. Daisy is polite to company but subtle in her forcefulness.
6. When Nick leaves the Buchanan’s house, he is “confused and a little disgusted.” Why? What does this suggest about his values?
Daisy and tom are forcing their way into the rumor of his engagement. Nick doesn’t agree with their approach and really doesn’t understand the Buchanan situation.
7. Though we do not meet Gatsby until Chapter 3, we hear references to him in the conversations of others. Note each reference. What impression do you get?
Nick discusses Gatsby on page 24 and then he sees Gatsby outside his house. We see Gatsby as a mysterious man who seems carefree and a little creepy.

Chapter 2

1. In what way is the description in the opening paragraphs of Chapter 2 appropriate to the total atmosphere of this chapter? What is symbolic about the “valley of ashes” and “the eyes of Dr. T. J. Eckleburg”?
Everything is grey. The chapter is dull and there is no relevance just a loss of hope. The eyes are the eyes of God and the loss of God in the modern world.
2. Evaluate Myrtle’s talk of her unhappy marriage. What does she seem to be trying to justify?
Myrtle claims she married George because he was a gentleman. In reality what she wants is an old timey gentleman with money. AKA Tom
3. How does Myrtle’s speech reveal her character?
Myrtle is simple minded, selfish, dimwitted, low self-esteem, and not the pretty sister.
4. What does the scene in this New York apartment reveal about Tom? About Myrtle?

Guide Questions And Answers The Great Gatsby

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“Who said I was crazy about him? Well, Nick goes on to observe that the smirk “asserted her membership in a rather distinguished secret society to which she and Tom belonged.” In other words, despite Daisy’s performance, she seems content to remain with Tom, part of the “secret society” of the ultra-rich. Only Gatsby, the man who gives his name to this book, was exempt from my reaction—Gatsby, who represented everything for which I have an unaffected scorn. Once there they were introduced by somebody who knew Gatsby and after that they conducted themselves according to the rules of behavior associated with amusement parks. At high tide in the afternoon I watched his guests diving from the tower of his raft or taking the sun on the hot sand of his beach while his two motor-boats slit the waters of the Sound, drawing aquaplanes over cataraacts of foam. I’ve been everywhere and seen everything and done everything.” Her eyes flashed around her in a defiant way, rather like Tom’s, and she laughed with thrilling scorn. “That dog? But with every word she was drawing further and further into herself, so he gave that up and only the dead dream fought on as the afternoon slipped away, trying to touch what was no longer tangible, struggling unhappily, undesperingly, toward that lost voice across the room. Even when characters reach out for a guiding truth in their lives, not only are they denied one, but they are also led instead toward tragedy. The busy or the tired? Being with Gatsby would mean giving up her status as old-money royalty and instead being the wife of a gangster. He knew that when he kissed this girl, and forever wed his unutterable visions to her perishable breath, his mind would never romp again like the mind of God. Gatsby believed in the green light, the orgastic future that year by year recedes before us. Something made him turn away from the window and look back into the room. “Turn it.” Major Jay Gatsby, I read, For Valour Extraordinary. (5.114) In Chapter 5, the dream Gatsby has been working towards for years—to meet and impress Daisy with his fabulous wealth—finally begins to come to fruition. In this case, what is “personal” are Daisy’s reasons (the desire for status and money), which are hers alone, and have no bearing on the love that she and Gatsby feel for each other. (8.101) This brief mention of the ashheaps sets up the chapter’s shocking conclusion, once again positioning Wilson as a man who is coming out of the gray world of ashy pollution and factory dust. Her first action is to order her husband to get chairs, and the second is to move away from him, closer to Tom. The Valley of Ashes About half way between West Egg and New York the motor-road hastily joins the railroad and runs beside it for a quarter of a mile, so as to shrink away from a certain desolate area of land. He had come a long way to this blue lawn and his dream must have seemed so close that he could hardly fail to grasp it. “You’re a rotten driver,” I protested. “I’m going to fix everything just the way it was before,” he said, nodding determinedly. We see then how Daisy got all tied up in Gatsby’s ambitions for a better, wealthier life. Also, this injury foreshadows Myrtle’s death at the hands of Daisy, herself. Even though we find out later that the light never turns off, here Nick only seems to be able to see the light when Gatsby is reaching out towards it. I couldn’t forgive him or like him but I saw that what he had done was, to him, entirely justified. He’s saying that he doesn’t even fear leaving them alone together, because he knows that nothing Gatsby says or does would convince Daisy to leave him. They were sitting at either end of the couch looking at each other as if some question had been asked or was in the air, and every vestige of embarrassment was gone. You can read in detail about these lines in our article about the novel’s ending. “I’m at Hempstead and I’m going down to Southampton this afternoon.” Probably it had been tactful to leave Daisy’s house, but the act annoyed me and her next remark made me rigid. Like Jordan, Daisy is judgmental and critical. So the question is: can anyone—or anything—lift Daisy out of her complacency? This outbreak of both physical violence (George locking up Myrtle) and emotional abuse (probably on both sides) fulfills the earlier sense of the marriage being headed for conflict.Still, it’s disturbing to witness the last few minutes of this fractured, unstable partnership. Not only that, but it is turning regular humans into “ash-grey men” who “swarm” like insects around the factories and cargo trains (that’s the “line of grey cars”). This shows that he does feel a bit threatened by Gatsby, and wants to be sure he thoroughly knocks him down. After admitting that the fact that many men loved Daisy before him is a positive, Gatsby is willing to admit that maybe Daisy had feelings for Tom after all, just as long as her love for Gatsby was supreme. First he nodded politely, and then his face broke into that radiant and understanding smile, as if we’d been in ecstatic cahoots on that fact all the time. (4.140-2) In this flashback, narrated by Jordan, we learn all about Daisy’s past and how she came to marry Tom, despite still being in love with Jay Gatsby. When I came back from the East last autumn I felt that I wanted the world to be in uniform and at a sort of moral attention forever; I wanted no more riotous excursions with privileged glimpses into the human heart. She was dressed to play golf and I remember thinking she looked like a good illustration, her chin raised a little, jauntily, her hair the color of an autumn leaf, her face the same brown tint as the fingerless glove on her knee. Tom emerges in this section as a boorish bully who uses his social status and physical strength to dominate those around him—he subtly taunts Wilson while having an affair with his wife, experiences no guilt for his immoral behavior, and does not hesitate to lash out violently in order to preserve his authority over Myrtle. When I looked once more for Gatsby he had vanished, and I was alone again in the unquiet darkness. But I didn’t call to him for he gave a sudden intimation that he was content to be alone—he stretched out his arms toward the dark water in a curious way, and far as I was from him I could have sworn he was trembling. This is a key moment because it shows despite the dysfunction of their marriage, Tom and Daisy seem to both seek solace in happy early memories. What we do know is that however “powerless” Wilson might be, he still has power enough to imprison his wife in their house and to unilaterally uproot and move her several states away against her will. This is probably what makes him a great front man for Wolfsheim’s bootlegging enterprise, and connects him with Daisy, who also has a preternaturally appealing quality—her voice. The scene could speak to Daisy’s materialism: that she only emotionally breaks down at this conspicuous proof of Gatsby’s newfound wealth. As Daisy’s makeup rubs onto Pammy’s hair, Daisy prompts her reluctant daughter to be friendly to two strange men. “It’s a bona fide piece of printed matter. First, it’s interesting to note that aside from Tom, whose hulkish physique Nick really pays a lot of attention to, Myrtle is the only character

Manhattan, demands that Gatsby explain himself, systematically dismantles the careful image and mythology that Gatsby has created, and finally makes Gatsby drive Daisy home to demonstrate how little he has to fear from them being alone together. She obviously still remembers him and perhaps even thinks about him, but her surprise suggests that she thinks he's long gone, buried deep in her past. At the same time, however, Tom tends to surround himself with those who are weaker and less powerful—probably the better to lord his physical, economic, and class power over them. If you're going to use any of these quotes in an essay, you need to understand where each quote fits into the book, who's speaking, and why the line is important or significant. Of course, since we know that Gatsby didn't actually run over Daisy, we can read this line in one of three ways: Maybe Daisy never actually admitted to Tom that she was the one driving the car that night, so he still has no idea that his wife killed his mistress. His eyes would drop slowly from the swinging light to the laden table by the wall and then jerk back to the light again and he gave out incessantly his high horrible call. We were all irritable now with the fading ale and, aware of it, we drove for a while in silence. This highlights a clash of values between the new, anything-goes East and the older, more traditionally correct West. She took it into the tub with her and squeezed it up into a wet ball, and only let me leave it in the soap dish when she saw that it was coming to pieces like snow. So by now she's been hurt by falling in love, twice, and is wary of risking another heartbreak. There is no analogous passage on Daisy's behalf, because we actually don't know that much of Daisy's inner life, or certainly not much compared to Gatsby. "Her voice is full of money," he said suddenly. It becomes clear here that Daisy—who is human and fallible—can never live up to Gatsby's huge projection of her. (1.152) In our first glimpse of Jay Gatsby, we see him reaching towards something far off, something in sight but definitely out of reach. But as the book goes on, Nick drops some of his earlier skepticism as he comes to learn more about Gatsby and his life story, coming to admire him despite his status as a bootlegger and criminal. He was a son of God—a phrase which, if it means anything, means just that—and he must be about His Father's Business, the service of a vast, vulgar and meretricious beauty. It was dark now, and as we dipped under a little bridge I put my arm around Jordan's golden shoulder and drew her toward me and asked her to dinner. This comment also sets the stage for the novel's chief affair between Daisy and Gatsby, and how at the small party in Chapter 7 their secrets come out to disastrous effect. He threw dust into your eyes just like he did in Daisy's but he was a tough one. (1.143) Early in the book, Tom advises Nick not to believe rumors and gossip, but specifically what Daisy has been telling him about their marriage. (2.124-126) This bit of violence succinctly encapsulates Tom's brutality, how little he thinks of Myrtle, and it also speaks volumes about their vastly unequal and disturbing relationship. Gatsby is ambiguous admission that "it was just personal" carries several potential meanings: Nick assumes that the word "it" refers to Gatsby's love, which Gatsby is describing as "personal" as a way of emphasizing how deep and inexplicable his feelings for Daisy are. You can read more in-depth analysis of the end of the novel in our article on the last paragraphs and last line of the novel. The other car, the one going toward New York, came to rest a hundred yards beyond, and its driver hurried back to where Myrtle Wilson, her life violently extinguished, knelt in the road and mingled her thick, dark blood with the dust. This is why she brings up her car accident analogy again at the end of the book when she and Nick break up—Nick was, in fact, a "bad driver" as well, and she was surprised that she read him wrong. Here, the dim lights, the realness, and the snow are natural foils for the bright lights and extremely hot weather associated in the novel with Long Island and the party scene. Beneath Daisy's cheerful exterior, there is a deep sadness, even nihilism, in her outlook (compare this to Jordan's more optimistic response that life renews itself in autumn). But in that transformation, Gatsby now feels like he has lost a fundamental piece of himself—the thing he "wanted to recover." Through all he said, even through his appalling sentimentality, I was reminded of something—an elusive rhythm, a fragment of lost words, that I had heard somewhere a long time ago. In the midst of this stagnation, Daisy longs for stability, financial security, and routine. "How much is it?" "That dog?" He looked at it admiringly. At the same time, it's key to note Nick's realization that Daisy "had never intended on doing anything at all." Daisy has never planned to leave Tom. Notice that she literally steps towards Tom, allying herself with a rich man who is only passing through the ash heaps on his way from somewhere better to somewhere better. For full functionality of this site it is necessary to enable JavaScript. Something in his leisurely movements and the secure position of his feet upon the lawn suggested that it was Mr. Gatsby himself, come out to determine what share was his of our local heavens. For the reader, the medal serves as questionable evidence that Gatsby really is an "extraordinary" man—isn't it a bit strange that Gatsby has to produce physical evidence to get Nick to buy his story?

13.01.2020 · Tom Buchanan—hulking, hyper-masculine, aggressive, and super-rich—is The Great Gatsby's chief representative of old money, and (in a book with many unlikeable people) one of the book's least sympathetic characters. He is Gatsby's rival for Daisy's love, but he is also caught up in an affair with Myrtle Wilson that proves fatal for many involved. Important quotes by Daisy Buchanan in The Great Gatsby. SparkNotes Plus subscription is \$4.99/month or \$24.99/year as selected above. The free trial ... A summary of Chapter 2 in F. Scott Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby. Learn exactly what happened in this chapter, scene, or section of The Great Gatsby and what it means. Perfect for acing essays, tests, and quizzes, as well as for writing lesson plans.

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