

Matthew Gizzi

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***The Great Gatsby***  
*By F. Scott Fitzgerald*

**Chapter 1**

- ❑ Eleanor Lanahan is Fitzgerald's granddaughter and she writes the forward
- ❑ Nick Carraway is the narrator
  - ❑ He starts by saying the words of his father, "just remember that all the people in this world haven't had the advantages that you've had"
- ❑ Nick has learned to reserve all judgements
  - ❑ This has opened up many curious natures for him
  - ❑ Some even considered him a politician
- ❑ He says that reserving judgement is a matter of infinite hope
- ❑ Nick explains that when he came back from the East he felt that he wanted the world to be in uniform and up to his standards
  - ❑ He then introduces Gatsby
    - ❑ He was an exception
    - ❑ Gatsby represented everything for which he had an unaffected scorn
- ❑ Nick says that Gatsby had something gorgeous about him
  - ❑ He says that Gatsby turned out "alright" in the end
- ❑ Apparently it was the issues that affected Gatsby that made Nick close out his interests

**Nick Carraway**

- ❑ From a prominent, well-to-do family
- ❑ His family is similar to a clan and are descended from the Dukes of Buccleuch
- ❑ His grandfather's brother started their ancestry and opened a wholesale hardware business that still runs on
- ❑ Graduated from New Haven in 1915 and participated in the 'Great War'
- ❑ Nick moves East to partake in the bond business
- ❑ Someone asks Nick where West Egg Village is, and he tells the man
  - ❑ He feels a sense of belonging and freedom and says, "I was a guide, a pathfinder, an original settler," "I had that familiar conviction that life was beginning over again with the summer"
- ❑ He says that now he is going to bring back all such things into his life and become again that most limited of all specialists
- ❑ West Egg, Long Island
  - ❑ The "less" fashionable of the two
- ❑ His house was squeezed between two mansions that rented for 12-15 thousand a season
  - ❑ The one to the right resembled a hotel
  - ❑ It was Gatsby's Mansion

- ❑ For \$80 a month Nick had a view of the water, mansions, and a partial view of his neighbor's lawn
- ❑ One night he goes to have dinner with his cousin Daisy and her husband Tom Buchanans
- ❑ Tom was an excellent football player at New Haven and was filthy rich
  - ❑ It surprises Nick that a man of his own generation is rich enough to leave Chicago and come east just for the fun of it
- ❑ He arrives to their house
  - ❑ A red and white Georgian Colonial Mansion
  - ❑ He meets Tom and describes him as a "cruel body"
    - ❑ Tom is absolutely shredded and the epitome of what a man could be
- ❑ Tom enters the house to see two women outstretched on the couch
  - ❑ One was Daisy and the other woman was Miss Baker
    - ❑ Miss Baker did not even turn her head to look when Nick entered
- ❑ Tom asks Nick what he does for a living and when he responds with "Bonds" and the people he works with, Tom is not impressed
  - ❑ This bothers Nick
- ❑ Jordan Baker yawns as if the people around her are boring and lame
- ❑ Nick is greatly attracted to Miss Baker and swears that he has seen her somewhere before
- ❑ Daisy says that she knows somebody from West Egg but when Nick mentions Gatsby she has no idea
- ❑ Daisy mentions a bruise that she has and blames it on her "brute" and "hulking physical" husband
- ❑ Nick says, "You make me feel uncivilized, Daisy, Can't you talk about crops or something?"
  - ❑ Tom is angered by this and says that civilization is going to pieces
  - ❑ He mentions the book, *The Rise of the Colored Empires*, by a man named Goddard
    - ❑ According to Tom, the book is great and speaks of what will happen if they do not look out and see what is happening
      - ❑ He claims that the white race will be destroyed
        - ❑ He pads this argument by saying that it is scientifically proven
        - ❑ He says that it is up to them "the dominant race" to look out for the progressing "inferior" races.
- ❑ Daisy leans into Nick and says that he reminds her of a rose, an absolute rose
- ❑ Miss Baker reveals that Tom has a side piece in NY
- ❑ Daisy and Nick speak of her baby and she is upset that Nick did not show at her wedding
  - ❑ He was at war
- ❑ Daisy recalls hearing that her child is is girl

- ❑ She says, “I hope she’ll be a fool -- that’s the best thing a girl can be in this world, a beautiful little fool”
  - ❑ To dumb to know any better
- ❑ Nick learns that Miss Baker is a professional golfer... Jordan Baker and it is from the pictures that he recognized her face
- ❑ Daisy jokes about getting Nick and Miss Baker together
  - ❑ She was from Louisville
- ❑ Nick says that their interest in his love life made them less remotely rich
  - ❑ He drives home
- ❑ Upon arriving home, Nick sees Mr. Gatsby
- ❑ Nick remembers that Miss Baker mentioned him at dinner
- ❑ He sees Mr. Gatsby do something strange
  - ❑ He seemed to be trembling
  - ❑ He had his arms outstretched towards the dark water in a curious way
  - ❑ Nick looked but could only see a **green light** that may have been the end of the dock
  - ❑ Nick looked again and Mr. Gatsby was gone!
    - ❑ The Green Light represents the unattainable dreams and futures

## Chapter 2

- ❑ Halfway between West Egg and New York there was a desolate area of land where New York’s ashes were dumped
  - ❑ A man by the name of Doctor T.J. Eckleberg has gigantic blue eyes
  - ❑ Nick makes it a point to describe the doctor carefully
  - ❑ The doctor was responsible for watching over the valley of the ashes
- ❑ One day Tom and Nick hop on a train to the ash dump
- ❑ They are on their way to NY but Tom insists they stop to meet his girl
- ❑ Under Doctor Eckleberg’s persistent stare they walk through the main street
  - ❑ They see a garage that said “Repairs. George B. Wilson. Cars bought and sold”
    - ❑ He followed Tom inside
- ❑ Mr. Wilson was a spiritless man
- ❑ Myrtle, Mr. Wilson’s wife comes down the stairs
  - ❑ She passes her husband as if he were a ghost and licks her lips, staring Tom directly in the eyes
    - ❑ She asks her husband to retrieve a chair
- ❑ Tom says that he wants to see her and tells her to get on the next train out
- ❑ Tom says that Mr. Wilson thinks Myrtle goes to see her sister in NY
- ❑ “He’s so dumb that he doesn’t even know he is alive”
- ❑ While on the way to Tom and Myrtle’s apartment, Myrtle sees a dog and insists on having one

- ❑ Tom buys the dog for \$10 and they continue walking
  - ❑ The dog was a boy
- ❑ Myrtle calls the McKees and her sister and asks them to join the party
  - ❑ There was only one photograph in the apartment
    - ❑ An enlarged photograph of a hen sitting on a blurred rock
    - ❑ From the right angle, it represented the countenance of a stout old lady
- ❑ Nick claims that this night was only the 2nd time he had ever drunk and the night was a haze
  - ❑ After buying cigarettes, the two are gone and Nick sits in the living room to read “Simon Called Peter”
- ❑ Catherine is a beautiful red-headed girl and has oddly shaped eyebrows
- ❑ Mr. McKee was a photographer who had created the crap picture of Myrtle’s mother on the wall
  - ❑ His wife was ‘horrible’ and told Nick that her husband had photographed her 127 times since they have been married
- ❑ Myrtle becomes more comfortable after having a few drinks and starts to act more outspoken
- ❑ Mr. McKee explains that he has taken some photos in Long Island
  - ❑ “Montauk Point-- the Gulls” and “Montauk Point-- the Sea”
- ❑ Catherine explains that about a month ago she attended a party of Mr. Gatsby’s house
  - ❑ She reveals that his wealth comes from his relation to Kaiser Willhelm
- ❑ Catherine reveals something to Nick
  - ❑ “Neither of them can stand the person they’re married to”
    - ❑ Catherine says that it is Tom’s wife that keeps them from divorcing
    - ❑ She is Catholic and does not believe in divorce
      - ❑ Nick knew that Daisy was not a Catholic and was shocked by this lie
- ❑ Catherine says that it was only Chester (Mr. McKee) who kept her from marrying a man “below her”
  - ❑ Myrtle responds by saying that she did in fact marry a man that was “below her”
    - ❑ She says that she married him because he seemed like a gentleman and that he knew something about breeding
- ❑ Catherine says that at one point Myrtle was crazy about her husband
  - ❑ Myrtle gets defensive and says that this is a lie
    - ❑ She claims that she knew things were not going to workout when she found out that her husband had borrowed his suit from a friend
- ❑ Myrtle pulls up a chair next to Nick and explains to him how her and Tom met
  - ❑ She says that they met on a train and she could not keep her eyes off of him
- ❑ Apparently Myrtle and Tom get into an argument regarding her saying Daisy’s name

- ❑ She chants it several times to prove a point
  - ❑ Tom opens his hand and breaks her nose with one hit
- ❑ Nick leaves with Mr. McKee
  - ❑ He wakes up in the cold lower level of the Penn Station waiting for the four o' clock train

### **Chapter 3**

- ❑ Nick describes the extreme parties and events that Mr. Gatsby holds at his residence
  - ❑ "Every Friday five crates of oranges and lemons arrived from a fruiterer in NY -- every Monday these same oranges and lemons left his back door in a pyramid of pulpless halves"
    - ❑ He even had machine in his kitchen that could extract the juice from 200 oranges in half an hour
    - ❑ His house had a gorgeous garden and a full functioning bar
- ❑ Nick explains that the first time he visited Gatsby's house he was one of the few who had actually been invited
  - ❑ He claims that the majority of people would just show up, enjoy themselves, and not even say hello to Gatsby
  - ❑ They would "conduct themselves according to the rules of behavior associated with amusement parks"
- ❑ On an early Saturday morning a chauffeur in a uniform of robin's-egg blue crossed his law and delivered a surprisingly formal note from his employer
  - ❑ Mr. Gatsby has arranged the invitation for Nick
  - ❑ He asked if Nick would attend his "little party" and that he had seen him on many occasions but discrepancies have prevented him from inviting him sooner
    - ❑ Signed "majestically" by Jay Gatsby
- ❑ Nick dressed in all white flannels and headed over to Gatsby's house around 7 o' clock
  - ❑ Nick feels out of place amongst the well-to-do Englishmen who seem to be talking to "solid and prosperous Americans"
  - ❑ Nick was on his way to "get roaring drunk from sheer embarrassment" when he sees Jordan Baker
    - ❑ Nick is introduced to Lucille
      - ❑ She claims that she always has a good time at Gatsby's parties because "I never care what I do, so I always have a good time"
    - ❑ Lucille reveals to the group:
      - ❑ Mr. Gatsby has killed someone once
      - ❑ He was also a German Spy during the war
        - ❑ The group goes back and forth debating about which of the two propositions is correct

- ❑ Nick describes this party carefully
  - ❑ “Instead of rambling this party had preserved a dignified homogeneity, and assumed to itself the function of representing the staid nobility of the countryside-- East Egg condescending to West Egg, and carefully on guard against its spectroscopic gayety”
- ❑ Nick wanders into the library
  - ❑ This shows that Nick is not used to partying
  - ❑ He sees a stout, middle-aged man, with enormous owl-eyed spectacles, who was sitting drunk on the edge of a table
    - ❑ He seems overly content with the bookshelf and makes it a point to prove that the books are in fact real
      - ❑ This man claims that he had been brought to the party by Mrs. Claud Roosevelt
      - ❑ He says the greatest Scott Fitzgerald line:
        - ❑ “I’ve been drunk for about a week now, and I thought it might sober me up to sit in the library”
- ❑ A man approaches Nick and says:
  - ❑ “Your face is familiar,” “Weren’t you in the Third Division during the war?”
    - ❑ Evidently, the man claims to live “close” to this house and had recently bought a hydroplane, which he was planning to try out
    - ❑ He asks Nick if he would like to go with him
      - ❑ Nick replies yes
      - ❑ Nick then proceeds to say that he lives next door and Mr. Gatsby had sent a chauffeur with his invitation
        - ❑ The man looks at him in disbelief
          - ❑ “I’m Gatsby”
- ❑ Gatsby gives him a “rare smiles with a quality of eternal reassurance”
  - ❑ He then leaves the conversation to take a call in Chicago
    - ❑ “Excuse me. I will rejoin you later”
- ❑ Nick was expecting Gatsby to be a fat, middle-aged man
  - ❑ Not a man of just over 32
- ❑ Jordan says that Gatsby once revealed to her that he went to Oxford
  - ❑ She does not believe him
- ❑ Jordan says that she likes Gatsby’s parties for they are “intimate”
  - ❑ At small parties there is nothing private
- ❑ As the “Jazz History of the World” finished playing woman fell onto the shoulders of their man, knowing that they would be there to catch them
  - ❑ Nick notices that no woman fell back on Gatsby’s shoulder

- ❑ Mr. Gatsby's butler approaches them and explains that Mr. Gatsby wants to see Jordan privately
  - ❑ She goes
- ❑ Nick, now alone, decides to enter the large ballroom (they had met Gatsby in the garden)
  - ❑ He sees a tall red-haired woman from a famous chorus, who was engaged in a song
    - ❑ She was drunk and decided that everything was very sad
      - ❑ In between words she would sob and weep
      - ❑ Tears poured down her cheeks
        - ❑ Apparently she had a fight with a man who says that he is her husband
- ❑ Married men are indulging in conversation with hot, young actresses as their middle-aged wives watch over them in disbelief
  - ❑ Everyone is fighting. The men are mad because they aren't allowed to talk to the hot younger women, while the women are mad that the men are talking to the hot younger women
- ❑ Jordan and Mr. Gatsby return
  - ❑ "I've just heard the most amazing thing"
  - ❑ "It was simply amazing"
  - ❑ "But I swore I wouldn't tell it and here I am tantalizing you"
    - ❑ Jordan tells Nick that he should join her to see Mrs. Sigourney Howard, her aunt
- ❑ Nick apologizes to Gatsby for mistaking him
  - ❑ Gatsby once again uses the "old sport" phrase to make him feel comfortable and reminds him of their 9am hydroplaning tomorrow morning
- ❑ As Nick goes to leave the party, he notices a disturbance in front of the house
  - ❑ A coupe had fallen right side up, lost a wheel, and landed directly in a ditch
    - ❑ The car had crashed into a wall
    - ❑ The owl-eyed man emerges from the car
    - ❑ He explains that he was not driving and another man was in the car
      - ❑ A pale, dangling individual stepped out of the car with a large uncertain dancing shoe
      - ❑ He is described as an "apparition"
      - ❑ The man is clueless about the crash
        - ❑ "Did we run out of gas" he says
- ❑ Nick goes home
- ❑ Nick apologizes for the facade he has placed over his actual life by explaining these major events

- ❑ He says that they were merely casual events in a crowded summer and they absorbed him infinitely less than his “personal affairs”
- ❑ Nick explains his personal schedule
  - ❑ He would go to work, joining bonds and salesmen for lunch on the daily
    - ❑ He went out with a girl from Jersey City but dropped her due to the angry looks her brother was giving him
    - ❑ He usually had dinner at the Yale Club and was the gloomiest part of his day
    - ❑ Nick reveals that he is an absolute creep
      - ❑ He began to like New York for it’s adventurous feel at night
      - ❑ He enjoyed walking up 5th Avenue and picking out romantic woman from the crowd, in which he imagined that he could enter their lives within minutes and no one would care
      - ❑ He would sometimes follow them home before they turned and smiled at him
      - ❑ He explains that he felt a haunting loneliness at times
      - ❑ He sees the people having a good time at the heart of the night
        - ❑ He wished them well and wishes he was happy like that
- ❑ He lost sight of Jordan Baker for a while
  - ❑ In mid-summer they rekindled their relationship
    - ❑ “I wasn’t actually in love, but I felt a sort of tender curiosity”
    - ❑ Nick reveals that he never loved Jordan
- ❑ When Nick and Jordan were at a large house party in Warwick he learns something
  - ❑ She left a borrowed car out in the rain with the top down
    - ❑ She then lied about it
  - ❑ This reminded Nick of a story he had heard about Jordan
    - ❑ She may have cheated in a golf tournament
      - ❑ She moved her ball from a bad lie in the semi-formal round
      - ❑ Nothing ever happened
- ❑ Jordan was incurably dishonest
  - ❑ “Dishonesty in a woman is a thing you never blame deeply”
- ❑ Jordan is a horrible driver and Nick tries to tell her to be more careful
  - ❑ She waves it off and says that it’s fine as long as the other people are careless (“it takes two to make an accident”)
- ❑ “I hate careless people. That’s why I like you” Jordan says
- ❑ For a moment, Nick thought he loved her. He then recalls a relationship he has currently existing and says that he must end that before feeling actually free
- ❑ He comforts himself and says that he is one of the few honest people he has ever known.



## Chapter 4

- Nick sees some drunk women sitting on Gatsby's lawn discussing his life goals and things
  - Once again it is brought up that Gatsby once killed a man
- On a Sunday morning, people gather in crowds on Gatsby's lawn for another party
- Nick describes all the people that he could remember
  - Some from East Egg and some from West Egg
  - A man by the name of Klipspringer was there so often that he became known as "the boarder" -- Nick doubts that he had any other home
  - The plethora of people that Nick lists off are just those that visited that summer
  - None of them actually cared for Gatsby and were just there for a sense of hospitality and belonging ← the lost generation
- It was a morning late in July
- At 9am on the dot, Mr. Gatsby beeps the horn at Nick, parked right in front of his house
  - Nick reveals that he had been to 2 of Mr. Gatsby's parties, joined him in his hydroplane, and at his urgent invitation, made frequent use of his private beach
- He greets him with the Gatsby special, "old sport"
  - He reveals that Nick will be joining him for lunch and that they would ride up together
  - Nick describes the movements of Gatsby and how his movements quite often interrupted his punctilious manner.
  - "He was never quite still; there was always a tapping foot somewhere or the impatient opening and closing of a hand"
- Nick is astonished by Gatsby's car
  - It was a rich cream color bright with nickel, swollen here and there in its monstrous length with triumphant hat-boxes and supper-boxes that mirrored a dozen suns
- Nick believed that Gatsby's personality had faded a little bit
  - "That he was a person of some undefined consequence, had gradually faded and he had simply become the proprietor of an elaborate roadhouse next door"
- Gatsby asks what Nick's opinion of him is
  - Nick doesn't give a straight answer
- Gatsby tells Nick the "God's truth" about him so that he will disregard any rumors he hears
  - He was born to some Wealthy people in the Middle West
  - All are dead now
  - He was brought up in America but educated in Oxford
    - It was a family tradition for him to be educated there

- When he said that he was educated at Oxford he seemed to swallow his words and choke on it
- This explains why Jordan Baker never believed Gatsby when he said this
- He said he was raised in San Francisco
  - His family all died and he came into a great deal of money
  - He seemed to be lying but when he glanced at Nick, Nick realized that this man's family truly was dead
  - He reveals that he lived as a king in Paris, Venice, and Rome collecting jewels, chiefly rubies, hunting big games, painting a little, and doing things primarily for himself to try and forget about "something sad that happened to me long ago"
    - Nick tries to resist laughter as he knows that this information is definitely false
- Gatsby then claims that he enlisted in the war and "tried very hard to die"
  - He claims that he seemed to bear an enchanted life
- He became a first lieutenant
- He claims that he manned the machine in the Argonne Forest
  - He was promoted to be a major
  - "Every allied government gave me a decoration -- even Montenegro, little Montenegro down on the Adriatic Sea"
  - Gatsby pulls out the decoration from Montenegro and Nick is genuinely surprised that it seems authentic
- "Orderi de Danilo" "Montenegro Nicolas Rex" is what it stated
- Gatsby then shows Nick a picture of him at Oxford
  - The man pictured to the left of him was supposedly the current Earl of Doncaster
- Mr. Gatsby reveals that Nick will be joining Jordan for tea this afternoon to discuss a sad story about him
  - Nick asks Gatsby if he is in love with Jordan and he responds no
  - Nick is more annoyed than interested in joining Jordan for tea
- After getting caught speeding, Gatsby shows the police officer a white slip and the officer lets him off
  - Even greets him by name
    - Nick asks about this and Gatsby replies by saying that he once helped out this officer and every year he receives his family's Christmas card
- While riding through the city Nick spots a hearse, a limo with three African Americans inside... Nick seems to satirize this and says that anything can happen when they cross the bridge

- Nick and Mr. Gatsby meet Mr. Wolfshiem for lunch at noon
  - He was a “flat-nosed Jew”
    - He speaks of a business deal to Mr. Gatsby immediately
      - He seems meticulous and even tells the waiter that the restaurant across the street is better
- The two men reminisce about a story of a girl named Rosy
  - Rosy Rosenthal was shot at the old Metropole
  - He was far drunk
  - Wolfshiem told Rosy not to go outside but he did so anyway
    - Rosy was shot 3 times in the stomach and the people drove away
- In the middle of lunch Gatsby takes a call and Nick is left with Mr. Wolfshiem
  - Mr. Wolfshiem calls Gatsby, “A man of fine breeding”
  - He reveals that Gatsby is “very careful about women” and that “he would never so much look at a friend’s wife”
- What are Mr. Wolfshiem’s cuff buttons made out of?
  - Human molars
- Mr. Wolfshiem mentions some things that Gatsby could be talking to Nick about
  - Nick gets a vibe that Mr. Wolfshiem almost revealed something
  - Mr. Wolfshiem departs
- Gatsby reveals that this man is a gambler
  - “He’s the man who fixed the world series back in 1919”
    - Nick asks why he isn’t in jail
    - “They can’t get him, old sport. He’s a smart man”
- Nick catches sight of Tom Buchanan
  - Tom says: “Where have you been? Daisy’s furious because you haven’t called up”
    - As Gatsby and Tom meet they exchange a strained glance at each other
      - An unfamiliar look of embarrassment appears on Gatsby’s face
- Tom asks Nick how he has been doing and he mentions Mr. Gatsby but when he turns, he is gone
- Nick meets Jordan at the Plaza Hotel after lunch and she tells of a story from October of 1917
- Jordan tells of the “amazing thing”
  - One day she walked by the house of Daisy Fay (Tom’s current wife)
  - She was in her car and engrossed within a new man... a lieutenant
  - That man looked at Daisy in a way that a woman wants to be looked at
    - This man was Jay Gatsby
      - By the next February she was engaged to a man from New Orleans
        - In June she married Tom Buchanan from Chicago

- The day before the wedding Tom gave Daisy a string of pearls worth \$350,000 and a 3 month trip to the South Seas
  - Daisy gets very drunk on her the day before her wedding
- One night Tom got into an accident with another woman in the car
  - This starts the string of his affairs
- Jordan had just rekindled her relationship with Gatsby 6 weeks ago
- Nick realizes that Gatsby was not just looking out into the stars that night, but instead into the hopes and dreams of rekindling his relationship with Daisy
- Gatsby bought that large mansion in West Egg to be right across the bay from Daisy
  - He never stopped loving her
  - Jordan reveals that Gatsby wants Nick to invite Daisy to his house and to invite Gatsby over as well
- That night at the party, Jordan reveals that Gatsby called her privately to discuss Daisy and her relationship to her
- Nick puts his arm around Daisy and remembers a quote
  - “There are only the pursued, the pursuing, the busy, and the tired”
- Jordan wants Nick to invite Daisy to tea
  - Daisy is oblivious to the Gatsby situation
- The chapter ends with Nick kissing Jordan

### **Chapter 5**

- Nick comes home to his house and thinks it is on fire due to the intense lights he sees
  - At two o’ clock in the morning, Gatsby’s house was lit from tower to cellar
- Nick assumes that it is another party but the silence of the block says otherwise
- Gatsby approaches Nick and asks him to join him to Coney Island
  - Nick declines as it is now too late
- Gatsby suggests that they instead take a swim in his pool
  - Nick disagrees again
- Nick then senses that Gatsby is trying to get him to talk with him about Daisy
  - Nick catches on and speaks to him about it openly asking him which day suits him well for Daisy to come over
- Gatsby then suggests the Nick join him in a “confidential sort of thing” that is said to easily bring him a source of income
  - Nick politely declines the offer
  - Gatsby turns in disappointment and heads home
- The next day Nick calls Daisy and arranged for her to meet him for tea
- It is pouring rain on this day and Gatsby sends a man to cut Nick’s grass ← trying to impress Daisy!
  - Gatsby was obviously nervous as could be
    - He rolled in with a white flannel suit, silver shirt, and gold-colored tie

- He was pale, and there were dark signs of sleeplessness beneath his eyes
  - After pacing around for a while Gatsby stands to go home
    - “Nobody’s coming to tea. It’s too late!”
      - He looks at his watch as if he had a more important obligation
  - Just when Gatsby gets ready to leave, they hear a car pull up in front
  - Daisy questions why Nick had her come alone
    - “Are you in love with me”
      - Obviously this is a bluff... we know why Nick had her come alone
- They enter the house and Gatsby is nowhere to be seen
- Gatsby slides past them and enters the living room to be ready for when Daisy enters
  - “I certainly am awfully glad to see you again”
  - Daisy is silent and due to the tension Gatsby knocks his neck and knocks down a clock
    - Daisy says that they haven’t met in five years
    - Gatsby watched Nick and Daisy conversate as he is excluded with “unhappy eyes”
    - Nick excuses himself to give Daisy and Nick some alone time
  - Gatsby pulls Nick aside and says this a masterful mistake but Nick comforts him by saying that he is just nervous and that Daisy just so happens to be just as nervous
  - Nick calls Gatsby a “little boy” and reprimands him for letting Daisy sit alone
- During the time in which Nick let Daisy and Gatsby be alone, he stares at Gatsby’s enormous house for half an hour in the same way that Kant would look at his Church steeples
- Nick reveals that Americans, while occasionally willing to be serfs, have always been obstinate about being peasantry
- When Nick returns to them Daisy’s face was smeared with tears (in a good way)
  - They seemed to have rekindled their friendship and were having a good time
  - Gatsby suggests that Nick and Daisy joined him for a tour of his mansion
- Gatsby says that it took him 3 years to earn the money to buy his mansion
  - Nick questions that he thought Gatsby had inherited his money
  - Gatsby explains that he did, but lost much of it as a result of “the panic of the war”
    - Gatsby was confused in his own excuses and decided just to end the conversation

- Gatsby thinks again and says that he had been involved in the drug and oil business but was no longer
  - He says, “Do you mean you’ve been thinking over what I proposed the other night?”
    - Before Nick can answer Daisy approaches
- Daisy is astonished by the sight of Gatsby’s home
- As they walk through Nick swears that there are other people present in the library
  - “I could have sworn I heard the owl-eyed man break into ghostly laughter”
- Nick sees a man in pajamas doing liver exercised on the floor
  - It was Mr. Klipspringer “the boarder”
- Gatsby could not keep his eyes off of Daisy
- Gatsby went from nervousness, to joyous consumption of Daisy’s presence, to running down like an unwound clock
- Gatsby has a superb closet of shirts which he claims come from a man in England
  - NOW THIS IS WEIRD
    - Daisy begins to cry:
      - “They’re such beautiful shirts. It makes me sad because I’ve never seen such -- such beautiful shirts before”
- Gatsby tells of the green light that he had been looking at across the dock
  - This light is now gone as Gatsby has Daisy in his possession, almost touching him. Nick tells us that this is what Gatsby was looking for:
    - A rekindled relationship with Daisy... he never stopped loving her
      - “His count of diminished objects had diminished by one”
- Nick walks through the room and points out of all Gatsby’s distinguished things to Daisy in an attempt to get her to like Gatsby
  - He sees a picture of a man named Mr. Dan Cody
    - Gatsby claims that this man had been his best friend years ago but was dead now
      - “I adore it” says Daisy
- Daisy is drawn to the materialistic things of Gatsby... it explains why she had only liked men for their financial security they can offer her
- A pink and golden billow of foamy clouds parted over the sea
  - Gatsby calls Klipspringer to play the piano for them but he was not able to
    - Gatsby flips a switch and the house lights up
- Gatsby gets Ewing Klipspringer to play the piano for the three of them downstairs
  - Gatsby grabs Daisy’s hand and she whispers something into his ear
    - It filled him with a rush of emotion and her voice was a “deathless song”
- Nick claims that they had forgotten him and Daisy held out her hand
  - “Gatsby did not know me at all now”

- He looked at them and they looked back at him “possessed by intense life”
- He leaves them alone, and steps into the rain to walk home

## **Chapter 6**

- Nick sees newspaper reporters show up at Gatsby’s door in regards to interviewing him
- People began suspecting that something was wrong with Gatsby’s situation
  - Living large at such a young age and throwing monstrous parties for the hell of it
  - Some even said that he did not live in a real house, but instead in a boat that looked like a house which he would ride up and down Long Island
- James Gatz
  - This is Gatsby’s real identity
  - He grew up in North Dakota on a farm
  - He had changed it at the age of seventeen at the specific moment that witnessed the beginning of his career
    - He saw Dan Cody’s anchor drop over the most insidious flat on Lake Superior
    - Gatsby was already on this pursuit to be like this man and headed out to the boat to tell the millionaire that the wind might destroy him
      - His imagination never really accepted the farm life he grew up on
    - He was a son of God
      - Meant in the way that he must be about His father’s business, the service of the vast, vulgar, and meretricious beauty
        - He invented the Jay Gatsby idea and rode it till the wheels fell off ... has not happened yet
  - Gatsby was a ladies man and took advantage of them in his youth
- Gatsby’s heart was in a constant turbulent riot
  - The most grotesque and fantastic conceits haunted him in his bed at night
- An instinct towards his future glory had led him to the small Lutheran College of St. Olaf’s in southern Minnesota
  - He dropped out after 2 weeks
- He retired back to Lake Superior where he meets Dan Cody
  - He was a fifty year-old millionaire and in expert in mining precious metals
    - He had the girls, the money, and the drive... everything that Gatsby wanted
      - Gatsby joins Cody’s boat called the Tuolomee for the West Indies and the Barbary Coast
        - Their arrangement lasted five years during which the boat went three times around the continent

- They would have went longer but Ella Kaye came aboard the boat one night in Boston and Dany Cody died a week later
- Gatsby inherited \$25,000 from Cody
  - He never got to touch the money
  - Gatsby never understood the legal device that left several millions to Ella Kaye
- From this point on he dedicated himself to the trick of the trade
- Gatsby disappears for a little bit but Nick takes this time to further his relationship with Jordan in NY
  - One day Gatsby invites him over and within two minutes Tom Buchanan shows up
  - Tom arrives with the Sloanes... friends of his
- Gatsby reveals to Tom that he is familiar with his wife... Daisy that is
- Gatsby invites the company to stay for dinner but they decline
  - Out of pure respect and politeness they ask the same of Gatsby but he accepts
    - Tom says to Nick on the side that he wonders where Gatsby knows his wife from
    - "...women run around too much these days to suit me. They meet all kinds of crazy fish"
- The people take off before Gatsby could come outside
- Gatsby hosts another party and Tom and Daisy come
  - Nick says that this party sticks out to him for it had a feeling of pervading harshness which he attributes to Tom's presence
- Daisy and Tom don't know many people at the party but Gatsby presents them to everybody anyway
  - Gatsby introduces Tom as a polo player and for the rest of the night this is what Gatsby calls him
- Daisy and Gatsby danced and then went to solo to Nick's house for a little while
  - At dinner Tom asks to sit with another group of people and Daisy even gives him a pen if he wants to take down any addresses
    - Nick realizes that the time spent alone from Gatsby attributed to Daisy having a bad time at the party
- Daisy sees an actress and calls her lovely
  - Daisy saw something awful in West Egg
  - She saw something awful in the very simplicity that she failed to understand
- Tom suggests that Gatsby's wealth comes from bootlegging
  - Tom says, "Well, he certainly must have strained himself to get this menagerie together."



- They say that people go to Gatsby's parties uninvited and he is too polite to turn them down
  - Daisy suggests that he made his fortune through owning some drug stores and building them up himself
- Gatsby confides in Nick later that night
  - "She didn't like it"
  - Nick tries to convince him otherwise but Gatsby is certain that Daisy did not have a good time
  - Gatsby reveals that it is hard for him to make her understand his love for her
- Nick says:
  - "I wouldn't ask too much of her. You can't repeat the past."
- Gatsby says that he will restore things to the way they were before
- Nick reveals that Gatsby spoke of his past a lot
  - He wanted to recover something, some idea of himself perhaps, that had gone into loving Daisy
- One autumn night five years before
  - Gatsby and Daisy turned towards each other on the sidewalk of a deserted street
    - Gatsby saw that the sidewalk actually formed a ladder to the trees -- he could climb to it and at the top he would be able to suck out the pap of life and gulp down the incomparable milk of wonder
  - Gatsby kisses Daisy and his dreams of success focus totally on Daisy from this point on
    - She becomes the center of his life
      - When telling this story Nick recounts hearing something else but he cannot remember
      - "But they made no sound, and what I had almost remembered was uncommunicable forever"

## Chapter 7

- On a Saturday night Nick sees no lights on at Gatsby's house which ends his string of extravagant parties
  - Most likely because he knew he wouldn't need them to attract Daisy any longer
  - His curiosity was at its highest
    - Nick relates Gatsby to Trimalchio
      - Trimalchio was the protagonist in Satyricon by Petronius. He was a freedman who gained prestige and power through sheer tenacity and hard work. Once he obtained his wealth, he enjoyed throwing lavish parties that were meant to impress his variety of guests. The comparison of Gatsby and Trimalchio is obvious.
- Nick sees cars pulling up to Gatsby's house and leaving immediately

- He gets worried and goes to see the butler
- He says he will deliver the message to Mr. Gatsby
- Nick learns that Gatsby also fired all of his servants and hired new ones
  - They wouldn't even leave the house
    - Many suspected that these servants were not actually servants at all
- Gatsby tells Nick that he fired the servants because he didn't want anybody to gossip
  - He reveals that Daisy arrives often times in the afternoon
    - He replaced the servants with Wolfshiem's men
- Nick is invited to lunch at Daisy's
  - Gatsby, Tom, and Jordan will be present
    - Nick suspected something was up
- The next day comes and it is considered the hottest day of the summer
  - Nick arrives and enters into the salon where Jordan and Daisy are sitting
- They suspect that Tom is on the phone with his side piece again but what he says throws them off
  - "Very well, then, I won't sell you the car at all..."
    - Daisy says that Tom is pretending to talk to Wilson and is actually speaking to his mistress
      - "Holding down the receiver"
    - Nick butts in and tells Daisy that he is actually aware of the deal that Tom speaks of
- Tom enters the room with well concealed dislike and shakes the hand of Gatsby
- When Tom leaves the room Daisy kisses Gatsby and tells him that she loves him
  - She also tells Jordan to kiss Nick
- When Daisy's daughter Pammy walks into the room Gatsby is shocked and Nick says that Gatsby never actually believed that she had a kid
- **Daisy calls her daughter A Dream, an Absolute Dream**
- Daisy dismisses Pammy to go with the nurse
- While on the back deck of their house Gatsby looks across the water and declares that his house is directly across
  - This represents the competition that Gatsby and Nick have for Daisy
- Nick reveals that they drank a lot on this day
- Daisy is in despair and complains about the intense heat and them having nothing to do
  - She asks what they will do with themselves for the next thirty years
    - She wants to go to the city
- "Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall"
  - Jordan says this
- Tom says to Gatsby, "I've heard of making a garage out of a stable, but I'm the first man ever who made a stable out of a garage"

- He may be trying to impress Daisy and condescend upon Gatsby at the same time
- Daisy and Gatsby lock eyes and Nick knows that they are in love
  - They know that they are in love
    - And now Tom knows that they are in love
      - He is astounded and his mouth even opened a little bit
- Daisy comments on Gatsby and says that he looks like an advertisement
  - Tom agrees to go to the city after seeing this exchange
    - Is he planning something?
- While the three men wait outside for the women to get ready Tom says,
  - “I don’t see the idea of going to town, women get these notions in their heads”
    - Gatsby reveals to Nick:
      - “I can’t say anything in this house, old sport. She’s got an indiscreet voice. It’s full of -- her voice is full of money”
        - Nick finally understands
          - “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 cymbal’s song of it... High in white palace the king’s daughter, the golden girl...”
- Gatsby suggests they take his car but Tom wants to drive it
  - Gatsby is pissed off at this but settles to drive Tom’s coupe
    - Daisy looked at Tom is disgust with a frown
  - Tom suggests Daisy hop in the car with him but she removes his arm from her and insists that she rides with Gatsby
- Nick, Jordan, and Tom take Gatsby’s car while Gatsby and Daisy follow behind
  - When in the car Tom asks Nick and Daisy if they think that he is stupid
    - He is now well aware of the Daisy and Gatsby love affair
      - Nick says that he has a “second sight” that tells him what to do
- Tom says that he has done an “investigation” on Gatsby’s past
  - He says that he never intended for Gatsby to join them on this day but Daisy invited him. He says that they knew each other before they were married
- The gas light is on so Jordan orders Tom to stop at the nearest gas station
  - It just so happened to be Mr. Wilson’s shop
- Wilson asks Tom if he is willing to sell “his car” ← even though it is Gatsby’s
  - Wilson says that he needs money to get away
    - He reveals that him and Myrtle want to move west
      - Gatsby must be shocked as his mistress is on the move
- Wilson says that he has “wised up” recently, and this has provoked him to leave
  - He had become physically sick when he realized Myrtle was living a double life

- Nick sees the look in Wilson's face and recalls the look in Tom's face when he learned that Daisy was living a double life
  - Nick says that from now on he saw no difference in man regarding race or intelligence or between the sick and the well
- Wilson does not know that Tom is the one having an affair with his wife
  - He sees Wilson as sick and Tom as healthy but yet they are identical in their circumstances
- Tom says that he will let Wilson have the car tomorrow afternoon
- Nick senses the eyes of Doctor T.J Eckleburg are watching him but he looks up and sees Myrtle Wilson watching them from the windows above
  - Nick says she was looking down in jealousy as she had mistaken Jordan Baker for Daisy, Tom's apparent wife who was fighting her for Tom's love
- Tom drove away with hot wimps of panic
  - Within an hour he had lost his mistress and his wife
- Tom drove carefully and kept his eyes on Gatsby's car
  - He was afraid that they would turn down a road and exit his life forever
- The group goes to the Plaza Hotel and they joke about renting 5 rooms and taking ice cold baths to cool off
- Tom has become angry and is displaying sass towards Daisy
- Gatsby defends Daisy and there is silence
  - Daisy brings up getting married in June and they talk about a man that fainted there
    - His name was 'Blocks' Biloxi
    - Nick says he knew the cousin of this man
      - He still uses the putter he gave him
- Tom asks Gatsby about his time at Oxford
  - He asks him what year he graduated
    - He said 1919
      - He says he only stayed for 5 months but it was the armistice that allowed the men to choose any college in England or France
        - Nick felt a sense of renewal in Gatsby and was proud of him
    - He then asks Gatsby what kind of problem he is trying to cause in his house
    - Daisy defends Gatsby and tries to calm Tom but it doesn't work
- Tom has an outburst
  - "Self-control! I suppose the latest thing is to sit back and let Mr. Nobody from Nowhere make love to your wife"

- He explains that people nowadays begin by mocking at family life and next thing you know they throw everything overboard and have intermarriage between black and white
      - Reveals Tom’s racism
    - Tom continues to insult Gatsby by saying that he has to wreck his house in order to have any friends
- Gatsby makes an announcement in the confusion of everyone wanting to leave
  - “Your wife doesn’t love you. She’s never loved you. She loved me”
  - Gatsby then says that Daisy only married Tom because he was broke at the time and Daisy could not wait for him to get his stuff together
- Gatsby reveals to Tom that him and Daisy have had an affair for 5 years
- Tom says that Daisy loved him when they married and that she still does now
  - Tom says that every so often he would make a fool of himself and have an affair but he always loved Daisy
- Daisy agrees with Gatsby and says that she never loved Tom
- Gatsby says she wants too much from him and that he cannot help what is in the past
  - She begins to sob and states that she did in fact love Tom but at the same time she loved Gatsby too
    - Gatsby’s eyes opened and closed in disbelief
- Gatsby says that she wants to talk to Daisy alone
  - She says that she wouldn’t even speak different then
    - “Even alone I can’t say I never loved Tom, it wouldn’t be true”
- Tom says that he will take better care of Daisy now
  - Gatsby says that this is false as Daisy is leaving Tom
  - Daisy agrees with Gatsby
- Tom takes this time to reveal everything he knows about Gatsby
  - He calls him a stealer and that he would have to steal the ring to put on Daisy’s finger
    - Tom explains that he has found out about Gatsby’s ‘drug stores’
      - Turns out, he and Wolfshiem bought up a lot of side-street drug-stores here and in Chicago and sold grain alcohol over the counter
        - He explains that he always knew Gatsby was a bootlegger but now he is sure of it
- Tom speaks of Gatsby’s friend Walter Chase who had been in on his and Wolfshiem’s plan
  - Apparently Gatsby threw him under the bus and sent him to jail in NJ for a month
    - Tom says that Walter won’t reveal anything to him which leads him to believe that Gatsby is currently scheming something much greater

- Daisy is terrified and Gatsby's face reminds him of a description he had heard in the garden one time... as if he had "killed a man"
  - Daisy is upset and Tom suggests she just leave with Gatsby
  - He says that once she leaves, Gatsby won't annoy her just as Tom has apparently annoyed her
    - The two took off before the other three could blink an eye
- Nick realizes that today is actually his 30th birthday
  - "Before me stretched the portentous, menacing road of a new decade"
- Nick describes thirty
  - The promise of a decade of loneliness
  - A thinning list of single men to know
  - A thinning brief-case of enthusiasm
  - Thinning hair
    - He explains that Jordan was beside him, who, unlike Daisy, was too wise ever to carry well-forgotten dreams from age to age
- Jordan rests on Nick in the car and he explains that the formidable stroke of thirty died away with the reassuring pressure of her hand
  - "So we drove on toward death through the cooling twilight"
- The POV shifts to the young Greek, Michaelis
  - He owned the coffee shop next to the ashheaps, who was the principal witness at the inquest
  - One night he saw Mr. Wilson up very late and acting very sick
  - He advises him to just go to sleep but Wilson says that he has business to tend to
    - Michaelis hears a racket upstairs
    - He then tells Michaelis that he has Myrtle locked upstairs and that she would stay there for another day and then they would move west
      - "He was his wife's man and not his own"
- One night Myrtle screams at Wilson saying "beat me" and calling him a coward
  - She sprints out of the house and before Wilson can reach her she is hit by a car
  - Michaelis told the police officer that the car was light green
    - They describe her body and it seems as if her mouth was wide open and ripped at the corners
      - "She had choked a little in giving up the tremendous vitality she had stored so long"
- The POV is back to Tom and Nick
  - Tom and Nick arrive to the crowded scene
  - Wilson is depicted shaking and screaming out "Oh, my Ga-od!"
- The policeman is taking notes on the situation and asks Michaelis what happened
  - He claims that a car going 30-40mph killed her on contact and took off

- A “well-dressed negro” stepped near
  - He claims that the car was yellow and it was large and new
  - The car was going 50-60mph he claims
- The men depart and Tom even cries on the way home
  - “The god-damn coward! He didn’t even stop his car.”
- They get back to Tom’s house and notices Daisy is inside
- Tom invites him and Jordan into his home but Nick stays positioned on his choice to stay outside
  - Tom phones a taxi for him to go home
  - Nick gets about 20 feet from the house when he hears his name being called
    - He looks into the darkness and sees Gatsby emerge from a bush
- Gatsby admits that him and Daisy killed Myrtle
  - Nick says that he disliked him so much at this time that he didn’t even tell him that people were fully aware of the car who killed her
- It turns out Daisy had been driving
  - “... and this woman rushed out at us just as we were passing a car coming the other way. It all happened in a minute, but it seemed to me that she wanted to speak to us, thought we were somebody she knew”
    - It is likely that Myrtle recognized Daisy... the actual wife of the man she had been fooling around with
  - He reveals that first Daisy turned away from her but “lost her nerve” and turned back
- He says that he will take the blame for the incident
  - He explains that Daisy drove full speed ahead and would not stop
    - Gatsby eventually pulled the emergency break and kept driving
- Gatsby explains that Daisy has locked herself in her room and will flicker the lights on and off if Tom tries to hurt her
- Nick goes to check for commotion inside of the house
  - Nick enters the house to see Tom and Daisy eating fried chicken at the dinner table
  - Nick says that neither of them were happy, yet neither of them were unhappy either
- Anyone would have said that they were conspiring together
  - He leaves the house to get his taxi and Gatsby asks him what is occurring in their
    - Nick tells him that it’s all quiet but Gatsby still will not leave to go home until Daisy is asleep
    - Nick explains that he left and him standing there in the moonlight-- “watching over nothing”

## Chapter 8

- The chapter begins with Nick arising from his sleep to the sound of Gatsby's taxi rolling up
- Nick explains that he felt he had something to tell him or something to warn him about
- Nick wanders over to Gatsby's house
  - Gatsby explains to him that nothing happened but at around 4am she looked out to him and then shut the shades to go to sleep
- They search the house for cigarettes and Nick notices that the house is significantly more dirty and dusty than it had been previously
- Nick tells Gatsby that he must leave, for they will trace his car
  - He suggests he go to Atlantic City or Montreal
    - Gatsby wouldn't leave until things were situated with Daisy
- Nick explains that Gatsby wanted to talk about Daisy now
  - She was the first "nice" girl he had ever known
  - He found her excitingly desirable
  - He had first went to her house with other officers but then found himself there alone
  - He was impressed by how beautiful her house was
  - Gatsby explains that it wasn't the house that made it spectacular, but the presence of Daisy
  - Gatsby was excited by the fact that many men had already loved Daisy
    - "It increased her value in his eyes"
    - "He felt their presence all about the house, pervading the air with the shades and echoes of still vibrant emotions"
- He knew he was in Daisy's house by a colossal mistake
  - James Gatz had no past and he knew his invisible cloak could be pulled
    - He made the most of his time and eventually on an October night, he took Daisy because he had no real right to touch her hand
- Gatsby may have despised himself
  - He had deliberately given Daisy a sense of security; he let her believe that he was a person from much the same strata as herself -- that he was fully able to take care of her
    - This was in fact false
- Gatsby intended to take what he could and go but he found that he had committed himself to the following of a grail
  - She vanished into her monstrous home and Gatsby felt that he felt married to her... that was all
- Gatsby explains to Nick how surprised he was when he found out that Daisy loved him
  - He explains that one day he just stopped caring



- “What was the use of doing great things if I could have a better time telling her what I was going to do?”
- On the night before he departed for war him and Daisy shared a moment of intimacy
  - “They had never been closer in their month of love, nor communicated more profoundly one with another, than when she brushed silent lips against his coat’s shoulder or when he touched the end of her finger, gently, as though she were asleep”
- Nick explains that Gatsby did very well in the war
  - He was a captain before he went to the front, and following the Argonne battles he got his majority and the command of the divisional machine guns.
- After the war, Gatsby tried to get home but some complications led him to Oxford
  - Gatsby and Daisy started to drift apart
- Daisy was young and the snobbish and artificial world around her kept her from seeing the end function of her and Gatsby’s relationship
  - She found herself sleeping around again and dating a plethora of men
    - She then decided that she wanted her life shaped now and the decision would be sealed with a force of money and love that was nearby
- She meets Tom Buchanan and is flattered by his person and position
  - They get married for the security that Tom has to offer her
  - The letter reached Gatsby while he was still at Oxford
- It was dusk now and the peasant movement in the air led them to believe that it was a promising and lovely day
- Gatsby explains to Nick that he still believes Daisy never loved Tom
  - He explains that she was frazzled and still could have loved Tom for a minute when they were initially married but even then he thinks that she still loved him more
    - Gatsby claims, “It was just personal”
- Gatsby returned from France while Daisy and Nick were still on their honeymoon
  - Gatsby returns to Louisville to walk the streets that they once walked together and to see Daisy’s house which still possessed a melancholy beauty
- He departs from the town feeling that he had left a piece of her behind
  - He knew that he had lost part of her... the freshest and best, forever
- They finish breakfast and the air had turned chilly
  - Gatsby’s servant says that he is going to drain the pool but Gatsby tells him not to
  - He hasn’t used it all summer
- Nick says that he delayed his train ride home because he didn’t want to leave Gatsby
- He missed 2 trains before he was able to get himself away
- On the way to the car, Nick yells to Gatsby, “They’re a rotten crowd, you’re worth the whole damn bunch put together.”

- Relates to the fact that Gatsby lost Daisy due to his weak social status
- He is telling him that regardless of the wealth he has now or the wealth he didn't have then, he himself is worth much more than material wealth
- Gatsby smiles
- Nick says that he was always glad that he said this
  - It was the only compliment that Nick ever gave him because he disapproved of him from the beginning to the end
- Nick returns to the city for work the next day and gets a call from Jordan Baker
  - He says that she would always call up at this time due to her snobbish and wealth filled schedule
- Usually when she called her voice was fresh and cool but this morning it was harsh and dry
  - "You weren't so nice to me last night" Jordan says
    - "However --- I want to see you" She then says
    - Nick responds saying that he would like to see her as well
    - They argue over why they cannot meet on this day and Nick finds that they conversation has ended
- He explains that he doesn't know hung up because he truly did not care
  - "I couldn't have talked to her across a tea-table that day if I never talked to her again in this world"
- Nick passes the ash heaps where he notices word of Myrtle's death has come and gone
  - He wants to go back a little and tell what happened at the garage after Nick and them left there the night before
- They had a hard time trying to locate Catherine, Myrtle's sister
  - She arrived extremely drunk
  - When she finally realized what had happened she fainted and was driven in the wake of her sister's body
- Michaelis stayed with Wilson all night
  - Wilson realized who had killed Myrtle
  - He thought of the time a few months back that Myrtle came back with a bruised face and her nose swollen
- Michaelis did not like to go into the garage because the work bench was stained where the body had been laying
- Michaelis asks Wilson a plethora of questions
  - How long have you been married?
  - Ever had any children?
  - Do you belong to a church?
- Wilson pulls out a dog leash from the dresser... the dog leash that Tom had bought Myrtle

- Wilson jumps to conclusions and thinks that the man who had been sleeping around with Myrtle is the one who killed her
- “She ran out to speak to him and he didn’t stop”
  - Wilson is confused but certain that Tom had murdered Myrtle but he doesn’t actually know that Myrtle’s side-piece was Tom
- Michaelis asks Wilson how she could have been like that and he responds by saying, “she’s a deep one”
- Wilson tells what happened before the incident... he walks to the window
  - “I spoke to her. I told her she might fool me but she couldn’t fool God”
  - “I took her to the window and I said, God knows what you’ve been doing, everything you’ve been doing. You may fool me, but you can’t fool God!”
- Michaelis sees Wilson staring into the eyes of Doctor T.J. Eckleburg
  - Wilson says, “God sees everything”
  - Wilson is seen nodding into the twilight
- Michaelis went home to sleep and when he returned to the garage the next morning Wilson was gone
- Wilson was on foot
  - He went to Port Roosevelt and then to Gad’s Hill, where he bought a sandwich that he didn’t eat and coffee
- Young boys saw a man “acting sort of crazy”
  - Police reports guess that he was going from garage to garage inquiring about a big yellow car
  - Michaelis told the police that Wilson “had a way of finding out”
- No one ever stepped forward to say that Wilson visited their shop
  - Wilson eventually learned about Gatsby and was in West Egg on the way to his house
- At two o’clock Gatsby got into the pool
  - He had an inflatable floaty pumped and told his servants to leave the destroyed car alone and to not bring it into the shop
- Gatsby told the servants to wait for a phone call but that phone call never came
  - In a way he probably knew it would never come and he was ok with that
- At this point, if Gatsby truly did not care, he must have acknowledged that the old warm world had to pay a price for living too long with a single dream
  - There was a new world now
  - A world with breathing dreams like air
  - A fantastic figure gliding toward him through the trees
- Wolfsheim’s servant told people and Nick rushed to the house and found a pool of blood
  - They searched and found Gatsby and later found Wilson’s body nearby
  - “... and the holocaust was complete.”

## Chapter 9

- Two years later Nick recounts the rest of this day, and that night, and the next day
  - He also mentions the endless drill of police and photographers and newspaper men in an out of Gatsby's front door
- Most of the reports of Wilson's death were "grotesque, circumstantial, eager, and untrue"
- Michaelis's testimony at the inquest brought to light Wilson's suspicions of his wife and Nick thought the whole story would be finished quickly
  - Catherine said that Wilson had never seen Gatsby and that her sister was happy with her husband and that she had been into no mischief whatsoever
- Catherine could not bring herself to believe that Myrtle had cheated on Wilson
  - To let the case rest, Wilson was deemed a man "deranged by grief"
  - This allowed the case to remain in its simplest form
- Nick found himself on Gatsby's side... alone
  - He realized that he was now responsible for the body of Gatsby
  - No one else was interested
- He first called Daisy half an hour after he found Gatsby
  - Her and Tom had gone away that afternoon even taking baggage with them
    - They left no address
- Nick says that in the moments of Gatsby lying dead in the mansion he wanted to help him
  - "I'll get somebody for you, Gatsby. Don't worry. Just trust me and I'll get somebody for you ----"
- Nick constantly thinks that Gatsby's dead soul is speaking to him
  - "I can't go through this alone"
- Nick runs up the stairs and goes through Gatsby's death
  - He finds nothing but a picture of Dan Cody
    - It was nothing but a token of forgotten violence
- Nick feels that it is wrong for him to let Gatsby go alone so he calls some of his friends to attend his funeral
- Nick pens a letter to Wolfsheimer and has a messenger deliver it to him
  - When the butler brought back Wolfsheimer's answer Nick began to have a feeling of defiance, of scornful solidarity between Gatsby and him against them all
- Wolfsheimer's Letter
  - He explains that this has been one of the greatest shocks of his life
  - He claims that he cannot come down due to his entanglement in very important business
  - "... am completely knocked down and out"
  - He also states at the bottom to let him know about a funeral and do not meet Gatsby's family at all
- The phone rings that afternoon and the long distance line says that it is from Chicago

- Nick gets excited and thinks that it possibly could be Daisy
- A man named Slagle picks up and thinks that he is speaking to Gatsby
  - He says that Young Parke's in trouble and that they picked him up when he handed the bonds over the counter
    - Apparently they got a circular from NY giving them the numbers just five minutes before
    - Nick tells this man that Gatsby is dead
    - The phone is hung up abruptly
- 3 days later a telegram arrives from Henry C. Gatz
  - He tells that he is on his way and to postpone the funeral
- Gatsby's father arrives and is a very old man
  - He looked helpless and dismayed and was bundled up in a long cheap ulster against the war September day
  - His eyes leaked continuously with excitement and he was barely able to sit down
  - He did not eat and he spilled the milk all over himself
- Mr. Gatz says that the man that killed him must have been a "madman"
  - I wonder why they keep referring to Wilson in this way
- Mr. Gatz wants to see Gatsby's body so he brings him
  - Some boys look and see Mr. Gatz in there and run away reluctantly
- He removes himself from the room and his old wrinkled face has tears streaming from his eyes
  - Death no longer came as a surprise to a man of the age of Mr. Gatz but the splendor of Gatsby's home must have made him feel as if Gatsby was gone too soon
- Nick tells Mr. Gatz that him and Gatsby were "close friends"
- Mr. Gatz tells about what Gatsby could have been
  - He had a big future before him
  - He had a lot of brain power
  - He would have been a great man
  - A man like James J. Hill
  - He would have helped to build up the country
- Nick agrees with Mr. Gatz uncomfortably
- Mr. Klipspringer calls Nick
  - Nick was excited because this promised another man at Gatsby's grave
  - Klipspringer says that he is in Greenwich, Connecticut and cannot attend the funeral because he has a picnic there
  - Klipspringer asks for Nick to send him his tennis shoes that he left at the house but Nick hangs up on him before he can even read out his address
- Nick recounts that he called a man who said that Gatsby got what he deserved

- Nick felt a sense of shame for Gatsby
- The morning of the funeral Nick travels to NY to see Meyer Wolfsheimer
  - The door that he pushed open was marked, “The Swastika Holding Company”
  - When Nick first arrives, Stella, Wolfsheimer’s wife, tries to convince Nick that Wolfsheimer has gone to Chicago
    - Nick hears rustling in the back and knows Wolfsheimer is there
    - Stella still tries to cover for Wolfsheimer fearing that Nick is an authority looking to get him in trouble
    - Nick mentions Gatsby
    - He appears from the back
- Wolfsheimer thinks back to the first time that he met Gatsby
  - Gatsby had been a young man out of the army and was covered with medals
  - Gatsby at this point was extremely broke
  - He had no money
    - One day Wolfsheimer took him to lunch and he ate \$4 worth of food in half an hour
  - Wolfsheimer also stands by the fact that he raised Gatsby out of the gutters
  - “Start him! I made him.”
- He heard Gatsby was an Oxford man and knew that he could get good use of him
  - He had him sign up for the American Legion and he used to stand high there
    - He says that him and Gatsby were stuck to each other like the pointer and middle fingers
- Nick wonders if Gatsby was involved in the 1919 World Series Rig
- Nick asks Wolfsheimer to attend the funeral but he declines
  - He doesn’t want to get mixed up in the confusion of murders and such
    - Wolfsheimer says that when he was younger he stuck with his companions to the bitter end
    - It is different now
- **Wolfsheimer concludes their conversation by saying that they should show their friendship for a man when he is alive and not dead.**
  - **“After that my own rule is to let everything alone.” ~ Wolfsheimer**
- Nick goes back to Gatsby’s house
  - He sees Mr. Gatz who has grown in his pride after going through the halls of his sons home
  - He shows Nick a photograph of the house excitedly
  - He explains that Gatsby had sent it to him
- Gatz also explains that Gatsby bought him the house that he lives in now and has been very generous to him since he struck the lottery
- Mr. Gatz then shows Nick a copy of a book called “Hopalong Cassidy”

- At the back of the book is a schedule that Gatsby would follow when he was a boy
  - He would rise from bed at 6:00 am, workout, study electricity, work, play sports, practice elocution and how to attain, and study needed inventions.
    - He also had a list of General Resolved
      - No wasting time, No smoking or Chewing, Bath every other day, Read one improving book, save \$3.00 a week, and to be better to his parents
  - These things demonstrate that Gatsby was always trying to get ahead
  - He was destined for greatness
  - He always wanted to improve his mind
- Mr. Gatz has a hard time closing the things of Gatsby for he does not want to shut out the existence of his son
- Nobody came to Gatsby's funeral
  - The Owl Eyed man appears at the funeral
  - Daisy didn't even send a message or a flower
    - The Owl Eyes man pities Gatsby and calls him a "poor son of a bitch"
- Nick recalls the time when him and his buddies would return to the west from prep school and later college at Christmas time
  - They boys would stand with their green tickets in their hands as they waited for the railroad
    - Nick explains that this is his definition of the Middle West
      - The thrilling returning trains of his youth, and the street lamps and sleigh bells in the frosty dark and the shadows of holly wreaths thrown by lighted windows on the snow
        - "I see now that this has been a story of the West, after all -- Tom and Gatsby, Daisy and Jordan and I, were all westerners, and perhaps we possessed some deficiency in common which made us subtly unadaptable to Eastern life
- Nick reveals that the East Egg always possessed for him a quality of distortion
- West Egg still figures in his more fantastic dreams
  - He sees West Egg as a night seen from El Greco:
    - "A hundred houses, at once conventional and grotesque, crouching under a sullen, overhanging sky and a lustreless moon. In the foreground four solemn men in dress suits are walking along the sidewalk with a stretcher on which lies a drunken woman in a white evening dress. Her hand, which dangles over the side, sparkles cold with jewels. Gravely the men turn in at the house -- the wrong house. But no one knows the woman's name and no one cares"

- After Gatsby's death the East was haunted for Nick
- Nick feels the need to leave things in order and settle things with Jordan
  - He goes to her house one day
  - She is described as a perfect illustration
  - She says that she was engaged to another man
  - Nick doubted this but pretended to be surprised
  - Jordan says that she does not give a damn about Nick anymore
  - Jordan brings up the time that Nick said a bad driver was only safe until she met another bad driver
    - Jordan says that she has met another bad driver by being in a relationship with Nick
    - She mistook him for an honest person with a secret pride
- Nick leaves angrily, half in love with this woman and very sorry
- One late October afternoon Nick saw Tom Buchanan
  - Tom holds out his hand to Nick but Nick declines
    - "You know what I think of you"
- Nick asks Tom what he had said to Wilson on that afternoon of the crash
  - Based on Tom's look Nick was certain that his assumption was correct
- Tom says that he told Wilson the truth
  - Apparently Wilson was going to kill Tom if Tom did not tell him who owned the car
  - His hand was on a revolver the whole time in the house
- Tom explains that Gatsby ran over Myrtle like one would run over a dog and he didn't even stop
  - Nick was at a loss for words because he knew that this was so wrong
- Tom reveals that he cried when he had to get rid of the apartment that him and Myrtle had
  - Nick could not like Tom but could understand how Tom thought his actions were justified
    - Nick calls Tom and Daisy careless people
      - They smashed up things and retreated back to their money or whatever wealth and comfort they had and let others clean up their mess for them
      - Nick shakes his hand and feels as if he is talking to a child
        - Nick then went into a jewelry store to buy a pearl necklace or perhaps a cuff button but out of his life forever
- On his last day in NY, Nick takes a stroll to the incoherent failure of a house one more time
- Nick wandered to the beach and sprawled in the sand



- Nick thinks of the Dutch sailors who came to America
  - The great feeling of happiness and triumph they must have felt when they saw the land
- Nick compares this feeling to the feeling of Gatsby when he first picked out the green light at Daisy's dock
  - Gatsby had come a long way and he must have thought his dream was so close he could grasp it
    - Gatsby was unaware that his dream was already behind in
- Gatsby believed in the green light, the orgastic future that year by year recedes before us
  - We all move forward with our arms outstretched like Gatsby on the shore looking at the green light, like boats beating upstream against the current
    - They all look for the future, but find themselves on a search for a lost past