

THE GREAT GATSBY

The Great Gatsby is a novel published by F. Scott Fitzgerald. The story takes place in the USA in the 1920s. Nick Carraway the narrator of the story is a young graduate who has moved to New York to work on Wall Street. He rents a small house in the West Egg district of Long Island, a wealthy area. Nick's next-door neighbour is a mysterious man named Jay Gatsby, who lives in a gigantic luxury house and throws extravagant parties every Saturday night. Nick spends a lot of time with his cousin the beautiful Daisy Buchanan, and her husband Tom. Daisy and Tom introduce Nick to Jordan Baker, who tells Nick that Tom is cheating on Daisy. One day Nick receives an invitation to Gatsby's next party. He wants to meet Gatsby but nobody knows how he looks like. At the party he also meets Jordan Baker and later Gatsby himself, a surprisingly young and nice man who calls everyone "old sport." Gatsby asks to speak to Jordan alone, and, through Jordan, Nick later learns more about his mysterious neighbour. Gatsby tells Jordan that he knew Daisy before and is deeply in love with her. He spends many nights staring at the green light at the end of her dock. Gatsby's extravagant lifestyle and wild parties are simply an attempt to impress Daisy. Gatsby now wants Nick to arrange a reunion between himself and Daisy, but he is afraid that Daisy will refuse to see him if she knows that he still loves her. Nick invites Daisy to have tea at his house, without telling her that Gatsby will also be there. After an initially awkward reunion, Gatsby and Daisy begin an affair. After a short time, Tom gets suspicious and later finds out and because of that he announces to his wife that Gatsby is a criminal—his fortune comes from bootlegging alcohol and other illegal activities. When Nick, Jordan, and Tom drive through the valley of ashes, however, they discover that Gatsby's car has struck and killed Tom's lover. They rush back to Long Island, where Nick learns from Gatsby that Daisy was driving the car when it struck Tom's lover, but that Gatsby intends to take the blame. The next day, Tom tells Myrtle's husband, George, that Gatsby was the driver of the car. So George goes to Gatsby's and shoots him dead and then he shoots also himself. Nick stages a small funeral for Gatsby, but nobody comes, not even Daisy. So Nick moves back to the Midwest to escape the disgust he feels for the people surrounding Gatsby's life.