



America In the Early of the 1920s And Gatsby as A Symbol of American Dream

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ABSTRACT

This paper is going to follow-up the cultural studies that concentrate on cultural authority and presents the concept of the power of the main groups to dominate society. It'll also raise the question of how people lived within the 1920s in America.

The goal is to analyze how to use cultural studies, Scott Fitzgerald Gatsby's great book so on reach some conclusions about the depiction of classes and aristocratic forces to manage vulnerable groups. Specifically, this research focuses on Jay Gatsby's struggle to counter dominance of aristocratic groups, within which the rich excel.

Within the story, the rich new group, represented by Jay Gatsby, lives in West Egg, while the aristocratic group, represented by Tom Buchanan, lives in East Egg.

Analysis and discussion of the novel reveal that cash incorporates a great influence on the characters. Those that relied on it to satisfy a particular dream; Gatsby wants to reclaim Daisy with the ability of legal or illegal money.

INTRODUCTION

This research discusses the novel "The Great Gatsby", which is taken into account one in every of the symbols of "American literature". Its events are closely associated with the concepts of entertainment and money, which is that the basis of the novel. The author wanted to be money a symbol within the novel as a way to achieve a selected dream or goal. Whether or not it had been illegally, like Jay Gatsby's money he got in smuggling, he tries to cover it by claiming that he inherited

it from a wealthy family within the Midwest. And make his dream realizing to achieve his girlfriend, Daisy.

1920s was period of excess and development. Within the economic had been definitely a time for agreeable earning. Predominantly, thanks to improvements within the application of knowledge domain, total producing costs declined, and in the economy way. Those ones who had formerly worked day and night lastly obtained leisure. A figure of the main rich people made the choice to run these free times with greedy and pleasure. Most of the writers during this era agreed that the extravagance spending will surely devastation. Though many of the main characters affianced better times and joyful relinquish of the 1920s.

In his story the Great Gatsby carried his faith that fortune and a bent to material possessions corrupted American sensations, thoughts, and images.²¹ In the Great Gatsby, Fitzgerald displays his condemnation of the times by depicting most of the prominent characters trying to understand their American Dreams by any means thinkable.

Here, we've got an unlikeable example about their dreams when Myrtle, an occasional class citizen of the valley of ashes, lays her moralities aside when chasing the rich life. Even Mertle's family life couldn't prevent her desires when she saw a fashionable man like Tom who owned all the thrill of life, which Mertle thought was undoubtedly the existence of those expensive cars, beautiful clothes, leather shoes and excellent mansion owners, and she or he couldn't wear her eyes off him, and positively Tom incorporates a delightful life, it isn't a love for Tom that fascinated Myrtle, but his money that she desire.¹

During the 1920s, Fitzgerald notified his contempt for the corruption within the ambition in describing the immoral behaviors of society in his literature with a rejecting tone. Although the country was economically flourishing, people progressively wasted much needed ethics on their way of the dream. People got trapped within the depravity around them.

¹ Allen, Frederick Lewis. *Only Yesterday*. (1957), An Informal History of the Nineteen Twenties. New York: Harper & Row.

²¹ Saadi, W. F. (2021). The New Generation of American Isolationists. *Annals of the Romanian Society for Cell Biology*, 19033-19049.



The way of life has witnessed the revolution since the 1920s. In economic terms, the exchange is rising tremendously, and therefore the rich spend the shape of wealth sums on major parties and entertainment, and cars became evidence of wealth and attract women, and therefore the idea of obtaining money in any way, whether legal or illegal.

1- Prosperity in the Personality of the Great Gatsby

In this day and age culture, societies are judged by their morals or are worried to sacrifice to raise profit their existence. Persons just like the Great Gatsby, Tom, Daisy and Myrtle are revealed as a mark of greed and also the way fortune surroundings their ethics. Fitzgerald uses public observation to produce a glance of an American being within the 1920s. He wisely sets up his story into different sets, but within the top, each set has its own difficulty to affect, leaving influential concepts for readers.

By forming different social classes, old money, new money, and no money, Fitzgerald directs tough messages about the Machiavellianism running through every view of humanity. Fitzgerald describes prototypes like Nick, Tom, Daisy, Jordan and Wilson/Myrtle harmfully in society and displays in what way different class method absence ethics and social ideals.

The most obvious attack of the Fitzgerald Group is these rich persons. For several of those modest means, the rich appear to be united by their money. They're essentially enclosed by a mentality of wealth. Nevertheless, Fitzgerald reveals this can be often not the event. Within the Great Gatsby, Fitzgerald offers two separate sorts of rich people. First, here are persons rather like Tom and Jordan born into wealth. Their families have had money for several generations; "old money." As shown within the novel, people "old money" which they haven't to imagine that they spent their time entertaining themselves with everything they thought. Daisy, Tom, Jordan, and thus the special class they signify the foremost elitist group within the novel. Second, West Egg is comparable to Gatsby, filled of showy luxury, representing the appearance of the different rich together with the proven of aristocracy of the 1920s and forcing differentiation on the alternative of rich people (such as Gatsby).



Daisy is defined as appreciated prosperity and hearing her opinion indicates materialism and prosperity. Gatsby understands that he desires to use money to control Daisy to affection him. Scott picked the word "clothes" to state to materialism and Daisy might be a figure of prosperity during the novel. Daisy is "safe and honored", safe from poverty, honored, because she is material in her behaviors.²

All over the story, Daisy is usually equated silver or gold, and qualities like "gloss" and "shining" are often applied to her and to features of her public world.

"Fitzgerald" focused on dream idea first arose within the Announcement of Liberation, where their Inventor "granted him some inalienable rights" comprising "life, freedom and therefore the pursuit of happiness." The dream was assumed to be the time of individual gladness and materiality leisure. However, when fetching money became easy and public worthy vanished, aspiration changed, turning into an immoral and tousled feeling. Within Jay Gatsby dedicated his life to unifying with Daisy, his dear for his life spoils, since the way he understands his dream could be a worst and corrupt feeling.

After the war, humanity confronted essential change. For the explanation that the interchange rises, it's led to an increase in national resource, making money easily.³

In this novel "The Great Gatsby" we have two different kinds of personalities in characteristics to distinguish between required illusions and actuality, affecting the ruin of every aspect that they have in the American Dreams. This novel follows the era of Jay Gatsby, a man who rearranges his life to get his single aspiration, to reunify with Daisy, his earlier darling interest who he was incapable to marry thanks to his lack of prosperity and registration into the military. Gatsby's struggles to get this aspiration led him to prosperity, and ultimately, he recouples with Daisy. But Gatsby's incapability to appreciate that she has extended moved on causes him to endlessly chase her, and in the end results in his final vanishing, one more character. They're together born into poor families, but then reject taking of their low status. Myrtle and Gatsby similarly part comparable goals, to achieve money and better status. They're trying to raise overhead their people. Scott's explanation of Jay

² Benét, William Rose. (1925), "An Admirable Novel," in Saturday Review of Literature.

³ Turnbull, Andrew. (1962), Scott Fitzgerald. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.



Gatsby however, is way different from his portrayal of Gatsby. Gatsby could be a tragic and awful ideal. He has nothing but the best intents and desires for love.⁴

As we see, *The Great Gatsby* could be a depressed passion story between a man and a woman. However, the most important and the major topic of the novel contains a bigger and fewer romantic field. In spite of the actual fact that each one of its efforts occurs through the course of only some months during the summer of 1922 and is located in a limited geographic territory nearby Long Island, New York, *The Great Gatsby* is a highly symbolic meditation on 1920s America and, particularly, the disintegration of the American dream in unprecedented prosperity and material excess.

In the 1920s, American territory was transformed through an alternative dream that touched its inhabitants. The dream, which is briefly to reach the perfect life and get everything you want, causes partial decadence, excess and disappointment. The immoral characters of Jay Gatsby and Tom Buchanan are immoral because of the corrupt values promoted by the American Dream.⁵

Every things take into consideration, the social sentiments of the 1920s clearly influence characters within the novel. They make unethical decisions and follow the wrong values of time. Gatsby is frantic by the consumer world and engages in criminal activities to induce a lady. On the other hand, Tom, born into the world of affluence, feels superior and pushes the idea of consumption to the limit. Tom, who certainly follows the American Dream, is described as selfish, careless, and racist. Finally, the corrupt society of the 1920s affected characters with incorrect values that were revealed.⁶

2- The Great Gatsby background

Since the beginning of the twentieth century, the course of literature in America has changed in its conception of the American dream, which calls for equality, independence, freedom, and diligence in work; to achieve happiness, money and well-being.²²

⁴ Mizener, Arthur.(1965),*The Far Side of Paradise*(biography; includes several letters to Fitzgerald). Avon, 1965.

⁵ Green, Michael. (1988), "The Great Gatsby: The structure of the Dream." *Crux* 22.2 : 50-61. Print.

⁶ Cullen, Jim.(2004), *The American Dream: An Idea that Shaped a Nation*. Oxford University Press.



Among the fundamentals on which the American dream is based as well, allow every American citizen the opportunity to achieve the wealth he dreams of his background, and his social level, he is not supposed to be an obstacle in the way of the person who chooses to pursue and reach that dream!

The twentieth century and at that particular time, reaching that dream was an obsession that preoccupied many people; As a result, many of them practiced illegal acts to fulfill their requirements, and this is specifically shown in the novel, when (Jay Gatsby) deviated from the path he had taken from the beginning in order to reach his goals, which was free of any illegal or despicable actions. At that time, the crime rate increased significantly in American society; As a result of the enormous psychological pressure formed by the wide gap between the pursuit of a dream, and the opportunities and resources actually available to reach it by legitimate means and methods; Therefore, the realization of the American dream at that time is considered nothing but a feeling of success and achievement, which in turn do not achieve any kind of spiritual and moral satisfaction, or a significant benefit to society and its members.⁷

This novel provides readers with a comprehensive overview of the American dream. When readers read the text and deal with it sensitively, they are challenged to think. The novel after World War I portrayed a reality of the United States. Post-war panic led to the development of realism, the destruction of social norms, the loss of innocence, and cultural shock.

Lifestyle had few moral or religious restrictions; some people believe that innovative, outrageous forms of music and dance prevail. It was the era of high life and luxury.

Fitzgerald states in his novel that acquiring wealth by illegal means leads to limited happiness for some time. Thus, indisputable evidence can be presented that the

⁷ Bloom, Harold, ed. F. Scott Fitzgerald's(1986), 'The Great Gatsby': Modern Critical Interpretations. Chelsea House.

²² Nithyanantham, V., Paulmony, R., & Hasan, S. R. (2019). Self-perspective of 21st century educators: a challenge in the globalised educational world. *International Journal of Educational Research Review*.



Great Gatsby is a sociological satire of the environment in which Fitzgerald lived and that it modifies the content and message of the novel.⁸

In a sense, this novel is the story of traditional notions from poverty to wealth. Therefore, it represents the original dream of the Native Americans, and also an honest picture of American society in the 1920s, and a test of the quality of life in the United States today.⁹

In fact, Fitzgerald has proven through his earlier novels that he is an innovator and not a historian because he perfected the timeless and authoritative picture of American history during this period, which is the real story.

3- Declining social and moral values

By the looks of it, the nice Gatsby could also be a frustrating romance between an individual and a lady. However, the foremost theme of the novel includes a much bigger and fewer romantic possibilities. Although all his activity occurs over just some months during the summer of 1922 and is found in an exceedingly limited realm near island, New York, the great Gatsby might be a really figurative meditation in America within the 1920s, explicitly the disintegration of the ambition in an age of unprecedented prosperity and material excess. Fitzgerald portrays the 1920s as an era of declining social and moral values, manifested in universal cynicism, greed and also the empty pursuit of enjoyment. The mindless jubilation that led to rotten concerts and wild jazz - summed up within the nice Gatsby by Gatsby's lavish parties every Saturday night - eventually spoiled the aspiration, surpassing the unbridled desire for money and noble pleasure Goals.¹⁰

When war I resulted in 1918, the generation of young Americans who fought the war was deeply disappointed, because the brutal carnage they faced made The Victorian social ethics of early 20th century America look like empty and suffocating hypocrisy. The stunning rise of the exchange within the aftermath of the war led to

⁸ Tunc, Tanfer E. (2009), "The Great Gatsby: The Tragedy of the American Dream on Long Island's Gold Coast." *The American Dream*. Ed. Blake Hobby. New York, NY: Bloom's Literary Criticism, 67-81.

⁹ Commager, Henry Steele. (1950), *The American Mind: An Interpretation of American Thought and Character Since the 1880s*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

¹⁰ 5. Fitezgarld, F. Scott.(1950) *The Great Gatsby*. New York: Penguin books, Print.

a sudden and sustained increase in national wealth and also the emergence of recent materialism. Anyone from any social background could probably make a fortune, but the American aristocracy - families with ancient wealth - despised new wealthy industrialists and speculators.

Additionally, the passage of the 18th Amendment in 1919, which banned the sale of alcohol, created a thriving underworld designed to satisfy the big demand for illicit liquor between rich and poor alike.

Fitzgerald puts the nice Gatsby characters as symbols of these social trends. Nick and Gatsby, both murderers in war I, showed the newly discovered cosmopolitanism and thus the irony that resulted from the war. The varied social climbers and aspiring speculators attending Gatsby concerts attest to the greedy scramble for wealth. The clash between "old money" and "new money" is reflected within the symbolic geography of the novel: East Egg represents the established aristocratic class, and West Egg represents the rich self-made. The wealth of Meyer, Wolfsheim and Gatsby symbolizes the rise of gangland and smuggling. As Fitzgerald saw it (as Nick explained in Chapter 9), ambition was originally about discovery, individuality and so the pursuit of happiness. However, within the 1920s, portrayed within the novel, easy money and comfy social values spoiled this dream, especially in the geographic area. The foremost line of the novel reflects this assessment, where Gatsby's dream of loving Daisy was destroyed by differences in their social status, and he came to crime to earn enough money to impress her, and also the rampant materialism that characterizes her lifestyle.¹¹

In addition, the places and things within the good Gatsby be only because the characters instill them in an exceedingly sense: The eyes of Dr. T. J. Eckleburg are the foremost effective example of this idea. In Nick's mind, the ability to make meaningful symbols may be a key element of the ambition, as early Americans capitalized their individual new state with their own morals and ideals. Nick compares the green an element of America that rises from the ocean to the green light at the tip of Daisy Pier.

¹¹ 5. Fitezgarld, F. Scott.(1950) *The Great Gatsby*. New York: Penguin books, Print.

Just as Americans provided America sense over their thoughts of their lives, Gatsby instilled Daisy with a type of perfect perfection that she doesn't deserve or possess. Gatsby's dream of merit destroyed his business, as the ambition of the 1920s was destroyed by the dearth of merit in its subject - money and pleasure. Similar to the Americans of the 1920s, who unsuccessfully seek a bygone era whose dreams were valuable, Gatsby longs to recreate a faded past - the time he spent in Louisville with Daisy - but is unable to do and do so. When his dream breaks down, all Gatsby has left to undertake to die; all Nick can do is return to Minnesota, where American values haven't decomposed.

4- Analysis and discussions of the pleasure and money in The Great Gatsby

At the Great Gatsby, money may be a big incentive in character relationships, inspirations and effects. Most characters reveal themselves as very physical, and their motives are driven by their desire for money and pleasure: Daisy marries and stays with Tom thanks to the life-style he can provide for her, and Myrtle connects her relationship with Tom due to the privileged world she gives her. Arriving at, Gatsby even lusts after Daisy as if she were a prize to win it. Within the opening pages, Nick proves himself to be someone with many advantages in life - as a wealthy family and a league education to call some.

Although he is not as rich as Tom and Daisy, his relative, they see it as a sufficient match to ask him home. Nick's relationship with Daisy makes him attractive to Gatsby. If Nick is simply a middle-class man, the story can't spin the identical way. In Our analysis to Tom and Daisy immediately describes them as rich, bored and privileged. Tom's anxiety is perhaps one in every of the catalysts for his affairs, while Daisy is burdened with knowledge of those things.

This combination of hysteria and resentment puts them on the trail of tragedy at the tip of the book. Tom and Daisy movements are supported by their money. At the start of the novel, they move to the stylish East Egg, after navigating between "wherever people play polo and that they were rich together," and be ready to obtain and leave quickly at the top of the book after the murders, due to the protection their money provides. For her part, Daisy began her relationship with Gatsby only after a really detailed display of his wealth. She even breaks down in



tears after Gatsby displayed his ridiculously expensive colorful t-shirts, crying that she had "never seen such beautiful shirts before."¹²

This is often one in every of the foremost important topics of the novel. Of course, there are other topics, like love and hope. However, this part will mainly specialize in two topics and their important parts, money and pleasure.

Here, within the wake of the novel's massacre, Nick notes that while Myrtle, George and Gatsby died, Tom and Daisy were never punished for his or her recklessness, they may simply retreat "to their money or their massive neglect ... and permit others to scrub up the mess." therefore the money here is over just a situation - it is a shield against responsibility, which allows Tom and Daisy to act recklessly while other characters suffer and die in pursuit of their dreams.

In Myrtle's senses, money is an escape life together with her husband in valley of ashes, something that brings prestige, and something that buys the category. After all, Tom's money secures her luxury apartment and allows her to impress her guests and play sophisticatedly, as Nick looks at his nose.

There is clearly chemistry that drives her to her relationship with Tom, but she seems to enjoy the identical amount of fabric that comes with this relationship - apartment, clothes, dog, and parties. So she continues this case, despite being morally questionable and also the risks she is exposed to - in other words, her material is her primary motivation.

However, despite her ambiance, she doesn't care much about the "old money" crowd, as was cruelly proven initially when Tom broke her nose with a "short, witty move", and then, when Daisy chose to run her over rather than going in a car accident. Myrtle's character reveals how dangerous social climbing is, and the way materialism isn't really a path to happiness.¹³

Fitzgerald (Fitzgerald) holds a crucial place in American literature and contains a wealth of imagination. The fundamental concepts common to his works are money and entertainment, two of the foremost prominent sorts of Fitzgerald's life. The role

¹² Cole, Jack and Cole, Carl.(1979), *The Great Gatsby Notes*. Canada: Coles publishing company limited, print.

¹³ Person, Leland S.(2012), "Herstory and Daisy Buchanan." *American Literature: A Journal of Literary History, Criticism, and Bibliography* 50.2 (1978): 250-57.JSTOR.Web.



of cash in "The Great Gatsby" is vital thanks to achieve love and awareness. Also listen to the golden hat within the text of the good Gatsby, which may give readers a transparent understanding of the novel.

That is, if you wear a golden hat, you can impress someone and have more power and wealth enough to buy a giant palace. Besides, it can also be a golden ticket to reach and attract your girlfriend.

In The Great Gatsby, money is a great incentive in personality's relationships, motives and results. Where most of the characters reveal themselves as very physical, and motives driven by their desire to money and things: get married Daisy and stay with Tom because of the lifestyle that can provide it, and linking Myrtle her relationship with Tom because of the distinctive world granted.

The incredibly money and pleasure situation is shown at the beginning of chapter 3 Gatsby calls Nick and goes to the party. Then he was completely stunned by the neighbor's wealth. Money and fun then became touted as an important way to bring attention to different places in New York City.

Gatsby wanted to do Daisy even after a long absence. Due to war and poverty, she cannot return in time to marry Daisy. She waited patiently and unfortunately he did not marry her. Here the author points out that Gatsby has become quite wealthy and has been waiting for a while to get to know his girlfriend, Daisy, who is money and pleasure.²³

But from my perspective, I see that money and fun, here gives him hope of getting Daisy in five years. In a way, Gatsby takes a step towards his girlfriend with money that makes him believe and hopes for the next few days that he will have to wait a moment for him to give her back. In this class, money plays an important role, which is to attract the attention of a loved one by throwing extravagant parties at unknown guests in the hopes that someone will attend a party with someone he or she knows Daisy.¹⁴

¹⁴ Person, Leland S.(2012), "Herstory and Daisy Buchanan." *American Literature: A Journal of Literary History, Criticism, and Bibliography* 50.2 (1978): 250-57.JSTOR.Web.

²³ Muhammed, A. K., & Goran, H. O. M. (2019). *The English Syllable Structure within Optimality Theory*.



Swimming in the Golden River is not always lucky. Money can be a catalyst for reconciling with a specific class in society, or it can be a bridge to achieving love and repeating the past.

Most of the characters in the novel are not materialistic as money is not their ultimate goal. It could be about achieving a certain goal that the past could repeat to love Gatsby Daisy again.

As deliberated about above, money - specifically the inheritance money - not only guarantees a specific socio-economic class, but also guarantees security and privilege: Tom and Daisy can literally live by different rules than other less affluent people. While Gatsby, Myrtle and George find all end up dead, Tom and Daisy skip the town and avoid any consequences, despite their direct involvement.

Conclusions

This paper discusses the Fitzgerald Novel The Great Gatsby, which discusses the conflict between the rich group represented by "Jay Gatsby" and the noble group represented by "Tom Buchanan". Tom is always a winner because he comes from the aristocracy family. That's why "Gatsby" always loses to Tom, no matter what Gatsby tries. Most importantly, we learned from this story how the ruling group lived in the 1920s. They lived a good and happy life because industry and commerce were booming at that time.

While most of the happenings within the novel finish with Gatsby's passing and George's suicide, the Great Gatsby achieves with a part in which Nick imitates on the result of Gatsby's passing. This latest chapter provides Nick with more evidence about the shadowy Gatsby and his fight to climb the social matter.

The study also discusses money and joy and their role in the novel for each of the characters in the novel and how the fantasy presented them that money buys everything, including love and happiness, but soon they are disappointed in the end.

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پوخته:

بابه تی ئەم توێژینه وهیه به دواداچوونه بۆ لیکۆلینه وه کولتوورییه کان که ئامانجیان زالبوونی کولتوورییه و چه مکی توانای گرووپه زاله کان بۆ زالبوونی کۆمه لگا پێشکەش ده کات. ههروه ها ئەو پرسپاره دروست ده کات که چینه زاله کان چۆن له دهیه ی 1920 دا ژباون.

ئامانجی لیکۆلینه وهیه، به کارهینانی خویندنی که لتووری، له کتیبه مهزنه که ی سکۆت فیتزگێرال د گاتسبی تا ئەو کاته ی سه رکه وتوو ده بیته له چه ند ئەنجامیک سه باره ت به ویناکردنی چین و توێژه کان و هیزه ئه رستۆکراته کان بۆ به رپوه بردنی گروپه زیانلیکه وتوووه کان. به دیاریکراوی توێژینه وه که تیشک ده خاته سه ر خه باتی جه ی گتسبی بۆ به رنه نگاربوونه وه ی زالبوونی گروپه ئه رستۆکراته کان، که تیبیدا بالاده ستی ده وله مه ند له ناو چیرۆکه که دا، ئەو کۆکراوه نوێیه ده وله مه ند، که جه ی گاتسبی نوێنه رایه تی ده کات، له ویست ئیکس ده ژێ، له کاتیکدا گروپی ئه رستۆکرات، که تۆم بیوکانن نوێنه رایه تی ده کات، له هیلکه ی پۆژه لات ده ژێ. تۆم زۆربه ی کات براوه یه چونکه ئەو له گرووپه ئه رستۆکراته کانی سه ر به بنه ماله باوه که ی دیت.

ئەم چیرۆکه تیشک ده خاته سه ر ئەم بیرۆکه یه مۆدیرنه ی خه ونی ئەمیریکی و چۆن خاوه نداریتی پاره ده بیته هۆی ده ستکه وت و خۆشگوزهرانی ماددی. زۆربه ی کاراکته ره سه ره کیه کانی رۆمانه که ی فیتزگه رالد ده جو لینه وه بۆ چه مکی به کارهینه ری دیار. ریکلام و مادده و به کارهینانی نایاب بیرۆکه یه کی نوێیان پیکهینا له سه ر خه ونی ئەمیریکی له هه ولێکی سه خت و ئەخلاق و ئەخلاقه که ده بیته هۆی سه رکه وتن بۆ که له که بوونی جه ستیه یی که ده بیته هۆی سه رکه وتن. له سالانی 1920 دا

گۆرانکاری رېشه یی له کۆمه لگای ئه مریکیدا روویدا له رۆمانه که ی فیتزجرالد کاراکتهر هه یه که ئه و بنه مایه ی هه یه که به خته وه ری له خاوه نی پاره که وه هاتوو ه.

المخلص:

موضوع هذا البحث هو متابعة الدراسات الثقافية التي تستهدف الهيمنة الثقافية وتعرض مفهوم قدرة المجموعات المسيطرة على الهيمنة على المجتمع. كما أنه سيثير تساؤلاً حول كيفية عيش الطبقات المهيمنة في عشرينيات القرن الماضي.

الهدف هو التحقيق، باستخدام الدراسات الثقافية، في الكتاب العظيم لسكوت فيتزجيرالد جاتسبي حتى تنجح في بعض الاستنتاجات حول تصوير الطبقات والقوى الأرستقراطية من أجل إدارة المجموعات الضعيفة. على وجه التحديد، يركز البحث على كفاح جاي غاتسبي لمواجهة هيمنة الجماعات الأرستقراطية، التي يتفوق فيها الأثرياء. ضمن القصة، تعيش المجموعة الجديدة الغنية، التي يمثلها جاي غاتسبي، في ويست إيغ، بينما تعيش المجموعة الأرستقراطية، التي يمثلها توم بوكانان، في إيست إيغ. عادة ما يكون توم هو الفائز لأنه ينحدر من مجموعات أرستقراطية تنتمي إلى عائلتها المرموقة.

تركز هذه القصة على هذه الفكرة الحديثة للحلم الأمريكي وكيف أن امتلاك المال سيفقد إلى الكسب المادي والازدهار. تتحرك معظم الشخصيات الرئيسية في رواية فيتزجيرالد إلى أسفل لمفهوم الاستهلاك المتميز. شكلت الإعلانات والمواد والاستهلاك المتميز فكرة جديدة عن الحلم الأمريكي من وجود جهد شاق وأخلاق وأخلاق ستودي إلى النصر إلى التراكم المادي المؤدي إلى النجاح. في العشرينات من القرن الماضي، حدثت تغييرات جذرية في المجتمع الأمريكي. هناك شخصيات في رواية فيتزجيرالد لديها مبدأ أن السعادة تأتي من صاحب المال.