*The Great Gatsby* – Study Guide #7-9

**Chapter Seven**

**Directions:** To give you a comprehensive understanding of all aspects of the novel, answer the following questions.

1. Why did Gatsby fire all of his servants?
2. What does Daisy do while Tom is on the phone in the other room?
3. What does she tell Jordan to do? Why do you think she does this?
4. What kind of relationship does Daisy have with her daughter?
5. Why is Gatsby surprised by the child’s “existence”?
6. What does Gatsby say that Daisy’s voice is “full of”? Why?
7. Why does Wilson suddenly need money from Tom?
8. How does the weather contribute to the mood of this chapter? What could the weather symbolize?
9. What does Daisy tell Gatsby that catches him off guard?
10. What was he expecting to hear?
11. As they are leaving the hotel, what milestone does Nick remember that he had forgotten in all the excitement? What is the significance of this?
12. Who does Tom believe killed Myrtle? What really happened?
13. Who is “watching” over the incidents in the valley of ashes? Of whom is this symbolic?
14. 11. As Gatsby and Nick arrive at the Buchanan’s house, the scene is nearly identical to a much earlier scene in the novel. Daisy and Jordan are sitting on the couch in their white dresses and Tom is on the hall telephone talking with “his girl.” What does the repetition of this scene suggest?

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**Chapter Eight**

**Directions:** To give you a comprehensive understanding of all aspects of the novel, answer the following questions.

1. Why does Nick suggest that Gatsby go away even though he knows that it was Daisy who killed Myrtle?
2. Why does Gatsby refuse?
3. What is Gatbsy holding on to? What do you think of his behavior?
4. How did Daisy and Gatsby meet?
5. How did Gatsby deceive Daisy from the beginning?
6. How did Daisy go on living her life while Gatsby fought in the war?
7. Where did Gatsby go with the last of his army pay? Why?
8. Why does Nick insist Gatsby is “worth the whole damn bunch put together”?
9. What does he mean by this? Why is he still glad he said it?
10. What does Wilson firmly believe happened to Myrtle? What clue(s) lead him to believe this?
11. What does Wilson imagine about the eyes of Dr. T.J. Eckleburg?
12. Define the word “holocaust.” What does Nick mean when he says, “the holocaust was complete”?

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**Chapter Nine**

**Directions:** To give you a comprehensive understanding of all aspects of the novel, answer the following questions.

1. Why is Nick in charge of arranging Gatsby’s funeral? Why is this surprising?
2. How does Henry Gatz hear about the funeral?
3. Why does Klipspringer call Gatsby’s house?
4. Why does Mr. Gatz show Nick Gatsby’s schedule from his youth? What does this show you about the kind of person Gatsby was meant to be?
5. Why do you think Fitzgerald included that the owl-eyed man came to Gatsby’s funeral? Why do you think the owl-eyed man might have come?
6. What happens to Nick and Jordan’s relationship?
7. What had Tom told George about the car the afternoon of the shooting?
8. Why did Tom feel justified?
9. Do you agree with Nick’s statement “They were careless people, Tom and Daisy—they smashed up things and creatures and then retreated back into their money or their vast carelessness or whatever it was that kept them together, and let other people clean up the mess they had made...”? Justify your response.
10. In his final comment, Nick says: “*Gatsby believed in the green light, the orgastic future that year by year recedes before us. It eluded us then, but that’s no matter—tomorrow we will run faster, stretch out our arms farther... And one fine morning— So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past.”*
	1. What does this quote mean?
	2. Why is this quote significant to the theme of the American Dream in the novel?