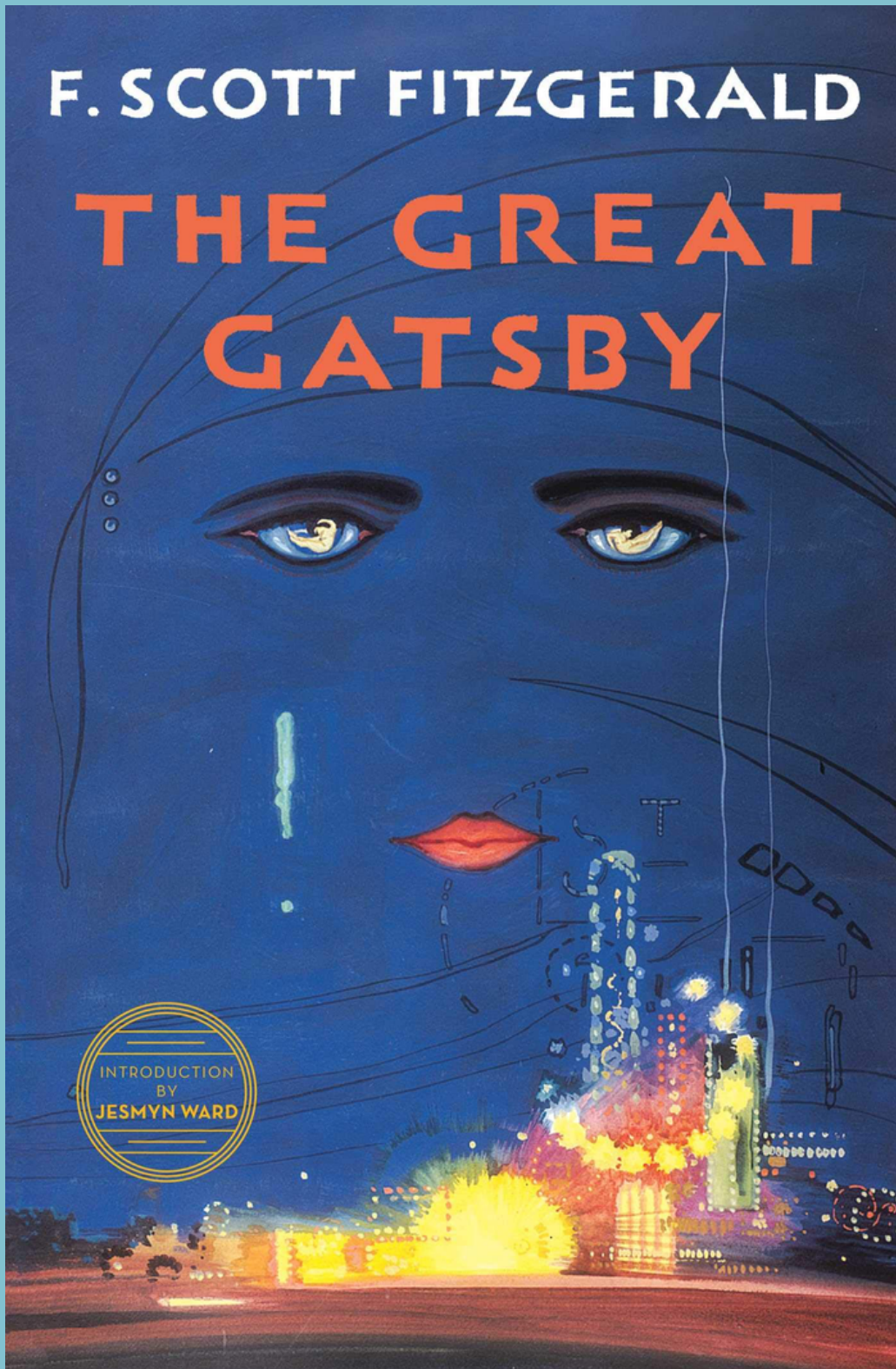
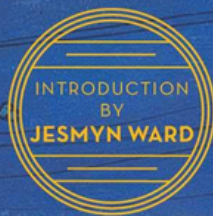


F. SCOTT FITZGERALD

# THE GREAT GATSBY



# INTRODUCTION

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F. Scott Fitzgerald

1896-1940

F. Scott Fitzgerald was born in Minnesota, but most of his schooling was in New Jersey. He dropped out of Princeton University, and served in the US army. He is most known for his early fame, at 24 he became known for his novel *This Side of Paradise*. He became involved with and later married Zelda Sayre.

Fitzgerald also famously had problems with drinking, and Zelda with mental health. At the end of his life, Fitzgerald moved to Hollywood to be a scriptwriter, where he died of a heart attack at age 44. Fitzgerald is one of the most famous and influential authors in American Literature.

## Characters:

Jay Gatsby

Nick Carraway

Daisy Buchanan

Tom Buchanan

Jordan Baker

Myrtle Wilson

George B. Wilson

Meyer Wolfsheim

# CHAPTERS 1 & 2

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- 1) Who is Nick? Why is he in New York?
- 2) Where does Nick live? What is it like?
- 3) The story starts in the future, and reflects to the past. Why do you think that is?
- 4) What do you make of the eyes of Dr. T.J. Eckleburg?

# CHAPTERS 3 & 4

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- 1) What do you make of Gatsby? Why is he important?
- 2) How would you describe the tone of the party in Chapter 3?
- 3) What do you make of the green light?

# CHAPTERS 5 & 6

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1) What is Gatsby's response when Nick warns him that "You can't repeat the past?"

2) When Gatsby explains himself to Nick, what do you make of the conversation? Do you believe it is authentic?

3) What do you make of the characters so far, and how they interact with each other?

# CHAPTERS 7 & 8

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- 1) Nick describes the accident with the yellow car. What happened?
- 2) How does Nick's view of the characters change during these chapters?
- 3) Why are the eyes of Dr. T.J. Eckleburg mentioned again?

# CHAPTER 9

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1) What do you think of Nick's perception of all that has happened. Should he have intervened more? Or less?

2) Analyze this quote:

"I couldn't forgive [Tom] or like him, but I saw that what he had done was, to him, entirely justified. It was all very careless and confused. 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. . . ."

3. What do you think of the ending?

4. Why does no one come to Gatsby's funeral?

5. Why is Nick struggling so much in the beginning and end of the novel?



# FINAL THOUGHTS

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- 1) What do you make of Nick's idealization of Gatsby?
- 2) What do you think of the depiction of minorities in this novel?
- 3) What messages did Fitzgerald mean to convey in his book (given what you know about him)?
- 4) Discuss the role of romanticism in this book.
- 5) Discuss the role of symbolism in the Great Gatsby.