

Name: _____

The Great Gatsby
Chapter 8: Study Guide

1. Notice the foghorn and the kind of dreams Nick is having in the first paragraph of chapter 8 (147). What kind of mood do the two create for Chapter 8? (Remember mood is the feeling or emotional atmosphere of the writing.)

2. Gatsby tells Nick he left Daisy's house at four in the morning after she turned off the light. What could turning off the light symbolize? (147)

3. Gatsby reveals the truth of his and Daisy's earlier relationship. He says he feels guilty because he rekindled their relationship under false pretenses. What does he mean by this?

4. "But he didn't despise himself and it didn't turn out as he had imagined. He had intended, probably, to take what he could and go – but now he found that he had committed himself to the following of a grail. He knew that Daisy was extraordinary, but he didn't realize just how extraordinary a 'nice' girl could be. She vanished into her house, into her rich, full life, leaving Gatsby – nothing. He felt married to her, that was all (149).
 - a. What does Fitzgerald mean by "the following of a grail?"

 - b. What does Fitzgerald mean by "He felt married to her, that was all?"

5. Why didn't Daisy wait for Gatsby when he went overseas for the war? What is "artificial" about her life? (151) How does this connect to other things we've seen?

6. George Wilson has no church, no God, no friends, “There wasn’t enough of him for his wife” (159). Explain what that quote means and why where George lives (the Valley of Ashes) is so appropriate for him. (158-160)
7. What does George mean that “God sees everything”? How is his thinking about an advertisement in this way significant?
8. How does George find out whose car hit Myrtle?
9. Wilson explains to Michaelis what he and Myrtle were talking about before she ran out. What was he saying to her? (p. 160)
10. What phone call is Gatsby waiting for on 161-162? Why does Nick say that “Gatsby himself didn’t believe it would come, and perhaps no longer cared” (161)?
11. Why does Fitzgerald describe George as an “ashen, fantastic figure gliding toward him through the amorphous trees” (161) figure right before he kills Gatsby?