

Chapter 8

1. Do you think Gatsby and Daisy truly loved each other when they were younger? Explain.
2. What ultimately kept Gatsby and Daisy apart? Explain
3. What was the “only compliment” that Nick ever gave Gatsby?
4. Explain why Nick’s feelings about Gatsby are complicated.
5. What does Michaelis believe caused Myrtle to run?
6. Why did she really run?
7. Why does Wilson believe that Gatsby killed Myrtle?
8. What does Wilson do?
9. Why does the chapter end the way it ends for Gatsby? (Hint- What is this character about and what has happened to this character recently?)

Summary

from *The Great Gatsby*
Chapter 9

Author's Purpose:

And as I sat there brooding on the old, unknown world, I thought of Gatsby's wonder when he first picked out the green light at the end of Daisy's dock. He had come a long way to this blue lawn, and his dream must have seemed so close that he could hardly fail to grasp it. He did not know that it was already behind him, somewhere back in that vast obscurity beyond the city, where the dark fields of the republic rolled on under the night.

Fitzgerald uses the image of the green light at the end of Daisy's dock as a metaphor for Gatsby's

- a. Determination
- b. Wealth
- c. Past

Underline 3 examples of imagery in lines 1-8. What tone do these images set for the end of the novel?

5

10

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 — to-morrow we will run faster, stretch out our arms farther. . . . And one fine morning —

Fitzgerald writes *The Great Gatsby* at a time when young adults were disillusioned by a long world conflict. What similarities can you draw between young adults then and now?

So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past.

PREDICT: What do you think Nick was going to say before he stopped his train of thought in line 12?

"And one fine morning— --"

In line 9, *orgastic* could be defined as:

- a. Affluent
- b. Desirable
- c. Forbidden

INFER: Look at lines 13-14. What is Nick referring to when he says, "So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past...?"
