

Nouman
Esperanza High School
Sophomore
The Great Gatsby
F. Scott Fitzgerald
Rating: 4

The Great Gatsby takes place in the 1920s and revolves around main character Nick Carraway, a young man who becomes neighbors with mysterious millionaire Jay Gatsby upon moving to Long Island. Gatsby is well known for hosting large, lavish parties which attract people from all over—despite most knowing nothing about him. As Nick's friendship with Gatsby grows, he learns about his past and what drives his wealth and lavish lifestyle. As the novel continues, complicated relationships begin unfolding between Gatsby, another character named Daisy Buchanan, and the wealthy social world surrounding them.

I enjoyed how the novel shows how wealth and status change people's lives in ways other than an amount of material comfort. Gatsby is quite an interesting character because he still feels that his life is incomplete despite most wishing they lived like him. Fitzgerald's writing is very descriptive and paints a vivid picture of the settings and characters. In its slowly unfolding plot, deeper themes about ambition, love, and illusion emerge and make it a very thought-provoking novel. The evident difference between Gatsby's hopefulness and others' carelessness of others' was especially memorable.

I would recommend this book to readers who enjoy reading books with slow plots, as I noticed that the events in this story don't unfold too quickly like most other books do. This is because the book itself wanted to focus less on large events and consequences and more on atmosphere, character description, and especially a sense of mystery between character relations. It is especially interesting for people who enjoy reading books about personal ambition and pursuit of dreams. Readers who enjoy other classic novels about society and human behavior of people would likely appreciate *The Great Gatsby*.