

Chapter IX

VOCABULARY

- | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. æsthetic | 4. ejaculated | 7. scrutinized |
| 2. commensurate | 5. grotesque | 8. sullen |
| 3. complacent | 6. pandered | 9. vestibules |

QUESTIONS

1. Why did Nick take care of Gatsby's funeral?
2. How was Jay Gatz's childhood schedule consistent with the adult Gatsby's behavior?
3. Who attended Gatsby's funeral? How and why is this significant?
4. Characterize Gatsby's father. What is he like? How might Nick feel about him?
5. What is the purpose of Nick's last meeting with Jordan?
6. Why does Nick call Tom and Daisy "careless people"?
7. Explain the final passage, its meaning and significance: "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 father... And one fine morning--
So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past."

NOTES

"handed the bonds over the counter"

An indication that Gatsby was involved in handling stolen securities, as Arnold Rothstein allegedly was.

Stockbroker Edward M. Fuller and his partner William F. McGee declared bankruptcy in 1922, with \$6 million in debts. Fuller, a Great Neck resident, and McGee were indicted on twelve counts of fraud. During his four trials Fuller's close connections with Arnold Rothstein were made public.

James J. Hill

Railroad tycoon (1838-1916) who lived in St. Paul, Minnesota, Fitzgerald's hometown.

"The Swastika Holding Company"

Not an indication that Wolfshiem is a Nazi. Indeed, he is a Jew. Although Hitler took the swastika (an ancient Indian sign of good luck) as the symbol of the Nazi party as early as 1920, at the time Fitzgerald was writing the novel the swastika had no widespread exposure as the Nazis' symbol. It was simply a popular—and universal—decorative device, to be found in Roman catacombs, Incas textiles, American Indian artifacts, and Buddhist art, among other places.