

## Chapter III

### VOCABULARY

- |                       |                         |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. affectation        | 21. gaudy               | 41. permeate      |
| 2. apparition         | 22. harlequin           | 42. poignant      |
| 3. aquaplanes         | 23. hastily             | 43. prodigality   |
| 4. asunder            | 24. haughty             | 44. rivulets      |
| 5. cataracts          | 25. homogeneity         | 45. row           |
| 6. caterwauling       | 26. hors d'œuvre        | 46. sauntered     |
| 7. condescension      | 27. impetuously         | 47. shorn         |
| 8. contemptuous       | 28. incessant           | 48. spectroscopic |
| 9. convivial          | 29. indignant           | 49. speculation   |
| 10. cordial           | 30. ineptly             | 50. staid         |
| 11. corpulent         | 31. innuendo            | 51. stout         |
| 12. credulity         | 32. insolent            | 52. subterfuges   |
| 13. cynical           | 33. jauntiness (jaunty) | 53. tactfully     |
| 14. deplorable        | 34. jovial              | 54. tantalizing   |
| 15. din               | 35. loitered            | 55. traps (n)     |
| 16. duster (clothing) | 36. malevolence         | 56. tumultuous    |
| 17. echololia         | 37. melancholy          | 57. vehemently    |
| 18. erroneous         | 38. obstetrical         | 58. veranda       |
| 19. florid            | 39. omnibus             | 59. vinous        |
| 20. fortnight         | 40. opal                | 60. wan           |

### QUESTIONS

61. Pay attention to Nick's judgments. What do they reveal about his character that he does this (especially in relation to his opening comments)?
62. Describe Gatsby the first time Nick sees him.
63. What rumors have been told about Gatsby? Why does Fitzgerald reveal rumors rather than fact?
64. Let's log a number of the attendees and their descriptions (some pop up more than once):

Name of "guests"	Description from text (page no. citation)
Girls in yellow	
The "undergraduate"	
Owl Eyes	
Wives of the sober husbands	

Red-haired lady from a famous chorus	
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65. Why is Owl Eyes so amazed? (See note on *didn't cut the pages*) What does it mean when Owl Eyes assumed that the books were fake to begin with?
66. How does Nick meet Gatsby? What does Nick think of Gatsby after meeting him?
67. How is Gatsby different from his guests?
68. What happens in Gatsby's driveway when the guests leave? Why is the situation both funny and frightening?
69. Why does Nick choose to share his thoughts and feelings with Jordan?
70. After a section break, Nick begins a description of his other summer activities. Characterize his language, descriptions,
71. What are the rumors concerning Jordan? Could they be true? How is she described like Gatsby?
72. Nick thinks he's one of the few honest people he knows, why? Do you think he is honest? Why?

## NOTES

### *Gilda Grey's*

(1901-1959), star of the *Ziegfried Follies* who introduced the dance called the "shimmy."

### *Belasco*

David Belasco (1854-1931) was a Broadway producer known for the realism of his sets.

### *...didn't cut the pages*

When printing a book, printers use a broad sheet that they fold in 2, 4, 8 or 16 sections to create their edition. As a broad sheet pages are printed on both sides (say 4 on each side), and then folded over in preparation for binding. When the folded pages have been sewn together, the "uncut" pages will not open properly (because they are folded either on the top, side, or bottom. Traditionally, books were shipped this way and the owner was given the privilege of cutting the pages. Gatsby are uncut and, therefore, unreadable. If you're interested there are many electronic versions of bookbinding books (with pictures) available on the web at <http://www.aboutbookbinding.com/index.html>.

### *Third Division, Ninth Machine-Gun Battalion, Seventh Infantry*

The Ninth Machine-Gun Battalion (Sixth Infantry Brigade) and the Seventh Infantry Regiment (Fifth Infantry Brigade) were both in the Third Division. On June 6, 1918 the Ninth Machine-Gun Battalion (Nick) was at Chateau-Thierry, and the Seventh Infantry (Gatsby) was brought up to defend the town.

### *...right side up, but violently shorn of one wheel...*

The wheel-wells were exterior to the main body of the vehicle, unlike today's automobiles whose wheels are within the body shell, and, therefore, protected. Here are some pictures of cars that might lose a wheel if someone drove them recklessly.



### *...the white chasms of lower New York*

Lower Manhattan is south end of Manhattan Island, the downtown area, the heart of the old colonial settlement. It is the government and financial center of New York City. It is characterized by massive buildings, narrow streets, and multitudes of denizens scurrying about the city sidewalks.



### *Fifth Avenue*

You can see what Nick is visualizing when he speaks of the “flicker of men and women and machines” on Fifth Avenue and “the Forties were five deep with throbbing taxi cabs” (here “Forties” means the 40th to 49th street—including the famous 42nd St.—which run East-West crossing the North-South Avenues, like 5th). Below is a photograph from 1924 of taxis lined up on Fifth Avenue awaiting passengers, probably during rush hour when all the markets closed for the day.



For more information on Fifth Avenue, you can try the Wikipedia entry: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fifth\\_Avenue](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fifth_Avenue)

