

***The Great Gatsby* Quotation bank**

GATSBY

'This fella's a regular Belasco'

'You Know I've never used that swimming pool'

'Better than all of them put together'

Rolls Royce became an omnibus 'of monstrous length', 'terraced with a labyrinth of windshields, having many layers of glass

Guests 'came and went like moths'

'Introductions forgotten on the spot'

'Extraordinary gift for hope'

'Romantic readiness'

'pale as death .. glaring tragically.

Nick says 'Your'e acting like a little boy'

'colossal vitality of his illusion'

Nick says : 'He was a son of God ... and he must be about his father's business.'

'foul dust floated in the wake of his dreams'

'Mr Nobody from Nowhere'

'Old Sport, I'm not a very good host'

Nick says he 'represented everything for which I have an unaffected scorn'

'heightened sensitivity to the promises of life'

'quality of eternal reassurance'

'believed in you as you would like to believe in yourself'

'what's your opinion of me anyhow'

'Gatsby's very clever about women – he would no never so much as look at a friend's wife.'

'He took what he could get ravenously and unscrupulously'

'Jay Gatsby had broken up like glass against Tom's hard malice'

TOM

'reached such an acute excellence at 21, everything afterward savours of anti-climax'

'enormously wealthy'

'would drift on forever seeking' ... 'dramatic turbulence of some irrevocable football game.'

'supercilious manner'

'leaning aggressively forward'

'enormous power of that body'

'cruel body'

'I'm stronger and more of a man than you are'

'Tom Buchanan broke her nose with his open hand'

'They were careless people, Tom and Daisy'

'I saw the wad of muscle back of his shoulder tighten under his coat'

'He had some woman in New York'

'sturdy physical egotism'

'effeminate clothes'

Tom's presence gave the 'evening a peculiar quality of oppressiveness'

Fist kiss with Daisy ; 'blossomed like a flower and the incarnation was complete'

'the whole caravansary had fallen in like a card house at the disapproval in her eyes.'

NICK

'I have been drunk just twice in my life'
'reserving judgement is a matter of hope.'
'Nick, you remind me of a rose, an absolute rose' (Daisy)
'I had to get myself out of that tangle back home'
'I thought I loved her' (about Jordan)
'I was on my way to get roaring drunk from sheer embarrassment'
'I am one of the few honest people that I have ever known'
He says of himself that he possesses 'a sense of the fundamental decencies'
'Gatsby and me against them all'

MYRTLE

'I thought he knew something about breeding but he wasn't fit to lick my shoe'
'her face contained no facet or gleam of beauty but there was a perceptible vitality about her as if the nerves of her body were continually smouldering'
'her life violently extinguished'
'mingled her thick dark blood with the dust'
'as though she had choked a little in giving up the tremendous vitality she had stored so long'

GEORGE

'He's so dumb he doesn't know he's alive'
'mingling immediately with the cement colour of the walls'
'A white ashen dust veiled his dark suit and his pale hair as it veiled everything in the vicinity- except his wife, who moved close to Tom.'

DAISY

'bright ecstatic smile'
'exhilarating ripple of her voice'
'bright passionate mouth'
'an absurd charming little laugh'
'low thrilling voice ...singing compulsion'
I'm glad it's a girl...that's the best thing a girl can be in this world, a beautiful little fool.'
Nick says, 'I felt the basic insincerity what she had said'
Her voice is full of money'
'Oh you want too much! I love you now – isn't that enough!'
'with every word she was drawing further and further into herself so that he gave up and only the dead dream fought on as the afternoon slipped away..'

JORDAN

'wan discontented face'
'I like large parties they are so intimate, at small parties there isn't any privacy'
She was incurably dishonest'
'It takes two to make an accident'
'I hate careless people, that's why I like you'
'Clean hard limited person who dealt in universal scepticism.'

SETTING

Talks about the Eggs as 'that slender, riotous island'
The fashionable side has 'palaces and 'glittered'

'valley of ashes' road 'shrinks away' peopled by 'ash grey men who move dimly and already crumbling through the powdery air'

'The eyes of Doctor T.J. Eckleburg are blue and gigantic... They look out of no face... his eyes dimmed a little by many pointless days, under sun and rain, brood on over the solemn dumping ground.'

Party: 'the sea change of faces and voices and colour under the constantly changing light'

'spilled with prodigality, tipped out at a cheerful world'

'bewitched'

'People were not invited, they went there'

'now having fights with men said to be their husbands'

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