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蓝星双语名著导读

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了不起的盖茨比

The Great Gatsby

[美] F. Scott Fitzgerald 原著
Brian Phillips 导读
张滨江 翻译

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致读者

亲爱的读者，在这个多元文化的世界里，渴望知识，钟情文学，热爱英语的你是否想过站在巨人的肩膀上摘星呢？

你手上这本蓝色小册子正是风行全美的哈佛蓝星笔记，是哈佛学生们将名著阅读与文学学习融会贯通，编写而成的名著导读本。它们以经典性和流行性并存的名著为素材，以明晰的风格和地道的语言而著称。每一本都包括著作的创作背景，人物分析，主题解析，篇章讲解，重要引文释义，作品档案，并且附有相关的思考题，推荐的论文题，阅读后的小测验，要点注释，以及推荐阅读篇目。

这样的编排使你不仅仅停留在对名著内容上的了解，更可迅速、全面、深入地掌握著作的全部资料，同时也满足了对文化做进一步了解和研究的需求。蓝星精辟、明晰的编写风格将“半天阅读一本名著”的想法变为现实，帮你在有限的闲暇内阅读更多的书，在地道的语言环境中迅速提高英语水平，丰富文学内涵，增加谈资。

天津科技翻译出版公司精挑细选了50本蓝星笔记，由我国外语界资深专家张滨江教授、刘品义教授主持翻译和审校工作，天津外国语学院教授、副教授以及部分优秀青年教师进行翻译，陈法春教授，阎玉敏、常子霞副教授和李晓霞讲师协助部分审校，共同合作、精心制作成为“哈佛蓝星双语名著导读”，既保留了原书特点，并对文中的知识要点做了注释，更加适合你的需要。

蓝星闪耀，照你前行！

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呼啸山庄 (Wuthering Heights)

CONTENTS



CONTEXT	1
来龙 · 去脉	
PLOT OVERVIEW	7
情节 · 览	
CHARACTER LIST	13
角色 · 亮相	
ANALYSIS OF MAJOR CHARACTERS	19
主角 · 赏	
Jay Gatsby 杰伊·盖茨比	19
Nick Carraway 尼克·卡拉韦	23
Daisy Buchanan 黛西·布坎南	27
THEMES, MOTIFS & SYMBOLS	31
主题 · 主题成分 · 象征	
The Decline of the American Dream in the 1920s	31
20 年代美国梦的衰败	
The Hollowness of the Upper Class	35
上层阶级的空虚	
Geography 地理位置	37
Weather 天气	39
The Green Light 绿色灯光	41
The Valley of Ashes 灰谷	41
The Eyes of Doctor T.J. Eckleburg	41
T·J·埃可尔伯格医生的眼睛	

SUMMARY & ANALYSIS 45

断章·取义

Chapter 1	第 1 章	.....	45
Chapter 2	第 2 章	.....	51
Chapter 3	第 3 章	.....	59
Chapter 4	第 4 章	.....	69
Chapter 5	第 5 章	.....	75
Chapter 6	第 6 章	.....	83
Chapter 7	第 7 章	.....	91
Chapter 8	第 8 章	.....	97
Chapter 9	第 9 章	.....	105

IMPORTANT QUOTATIONS EXPLAINED 115

语出·有因

KEY FACTS 123

作品档案

STUDY QUESTIONS & ESSAY TOPICS 131

问题·论题

Study Questions	问·答	131
-----------------	-----	-------	-----

Suggested Essay Topics	推荐论题	141
------------------------	------	-------	-----

REVIEW & RESOURCES 143

回味·深入

Quiz	四选一	143
------	-----	-------	-----

Notes	注释	149
-------	----	-------	-----

Suggestions for Further Reading	相关链接	153
---------------------------------	------	-------	-----

CONTEXT

Francis Scott Key Fitzgerald was born on September 24, 1896, and named after his ancestor Francis Scott Key*, the author of The Star-Spangled Banner. Fitzgerald was raised in St. Paul, Minnesota*. Though an intelligent child, he did poorly in school and was sent to a New Jersey* boarding school in 1911. Despite being a mediocre student there, he managed to enroll at Princeton* in 1913. Academic troubles and apathy plagued him throughout his time at college, and he never graduated, instead enlisting in the army in 1917, as World War I neared its end.

Fitzgerald became a second lieutenant, and was stationed at Camp Sheridan, in Montgomery, Alabama*. There he met and fell in love with a wild seventeen-year-old beauty named Zelda Sayre. Zelda finally agreed to marry him, but her overpowering desire for wealth, fun, and leisure led her to delay their wedding until he could prove a success. With the publication of *This Side of Paradise* in 1920, Fitzgerald became a literary sensation, earning enough money and fame to convince Zelda to marry him.

Many of these events from Fitzgerald's early life appear in his most famous novel, *The Great Gatsby*, published in 1925. Like Fitzgerald, Nick Carraway is a thoughtful young man from Minnesota, educated at an Ivy League* school (in Nick's case, Yale*), who moves to New York after the war. Also similar to Fitzgerald is Jay Gatsby, a sensitive young man who idolizes wealth and luxury and who falls in love with a beautiful young woman while stationed at a military camp in the South.

来龙·去脉

弗朗西斯·斯科特基·菲茨杰拉德生于1896年9月24日，他的名字源自他的祖先，美国国歌“星条旗”的作者弗朗西斯·斯科特基。菲茨杰拉德在明尼苏达州的圣保罗长大成人。他虽然聪明，但在学校却成绩不佳，于1911年被送到了新泽西州的一所寄宿学校就读。尽管他是个平庸的学生，但还是设法于1913年进入了普林斯顿大学。他的整个大学时光都被学业上的困难和冷漠所困扰，他也一直未毕业，在1917年入伍，当时第一次世界大战已接近尾声。

菲茨杰拉德成为一名少尉，驻防在亚拉巴马州蒙哥马利的谢里登兵营。在那里他结识并爱上了一位叫泽尔妲·塞耶的17岁任性的美女。泽尔妲终于同意嫁给他，但是她那对财富、享乐与安逸的极强的欲望使他们的婚礼一直推迟到他能够证明自己是成功者时才举行。随着小说《这一半天堂》于1920年出版，菲茨杰拉德成了文学界的轰动人物，赚到了足以说服泽尔妲嫁给他的金钱和名誉。


菲茨杰拉德早年的许多事件都在他最著名的小说，1925年出版的《了不起的盖茨比》中有所体现。正像菲茨杰拉德一样，尼克·卡拉韦也是个富有思想的年轻人。尼克是明尼苏达州人，就读于一所常春藤联合会大学（照他自己的话说是耶鲁大学），战后移居纽约。和菲茨杰拉德一样，杰伊·盖茨比也是个崇拜财富和奢华的敏感的年轻人，也是在驻防在南方的一个兵营时爱上了一位漂亮的年轻女子。


Having become a celebrity, Fitzgerald fell into a wild, reckless lifestyle of parties and decadence, while desperately trying to please Zelda by writing to earn money. Similarly, Gatsby amasses a great deal of wealth at a relatively young age, and devotes himself to acquiring possessions and throwing parties that he believes will enable him to win Daisy's love. As the giddiness of the Roaring Twenties* dissolved into the bleakness of the Great Depression*, however, Zelda suffered a nervous breakdown and Fitzgerald battled alcoholism, which hampered his writing. He published *Tender Is the Night* in 1934, and sold short stories to *The Saturday Evening Post* to support his lavish lifestyle. In 1937, he left for Hollywood* to write screenplays, and in 1940, while working on his novel *The Love of the Last Tycoon*, died of a heart attack at the age of forty-four.

Fitzgerald was the most famous chronicler of 1920s America, an era that he dubbed “the Jazz Age.” * Written in 1925, *The Great Gatsby* is one of the greatest literary documents of this period, in which the American economy soared, bringing unprecedented levels of prosperity to the nation. Prohibition*, the ban on the sale and consumption of alcohol mandated by the Eighteenth Amendment to the Constitution (1919)*, made millionaires out of bootleggers*, and an underground culture of revelry sprang up. Sprawling private parties managed to elude police notice, and “speakeasies”—secret clubs that sold liquor—thrived. The chaos and violence of World War I left America in a state of shock, and the generation that fought the war turned to wild and extravagant living to compensate. The staid conservatism and timeworn values of the previous decade were turned on their ear, as money, opulence, and exuberance became the order of the day.

成为名人之后，菲茨杰拉德堕入了一种放荡不羁、不计后果、花天酒地、充满颓废的生活方式，与此同时，他竭力写作赚钱以此来取悦泽尔妲。盖茨比同样也在尚年轻之时便聚敛了大量财富。他一心聚财，醉心于举行宴会，深信这些能够使他赢得黛西的爱。不过，随着“繁荣的20年代”的灿烂淡入大萧条的黑暗，泽尔妲患上精神崩溃症，菲茨杰拉德则酗酒难以自拔，这妨碍了他的写作。他于1934年出版了《夜色温柔》，并向《星期六晚间邮报》出售短篇小说，以便维持他奢侈的生活。1937年，他来到好莱坞撰写脚本，1940年死于心脏病，年仅44岁，当时他正在创作小说《末位巨头之爱》。

菲茨杰拉德是美国最著名的20世纪20年代编年史家。那个时代由他命名为“爵士乐时代”。《了不起的盖茨比》写于1925年，是那个时期最伟大的文学性文献之一。在那个时期，美国的经济蓬勃发展，给美国带来了空前的繁荣。禁酒令，即由宪法第十八项修正案（1919）所规定的禁止酒的销售与消费的法令，使非法酿、贩酒者中的一些人变成了百万富翁，一股狂欢作乐的地下文化也随之崛起。私下举行的宴会四处蔓延并得以巧妙地避开了警察的注意，“非法酒店”，即售酒的秘密会所兴旺了起来。第一次世界大战的混乱与暴力使美国陷入震惊状态，于是参战的一代人转向了放荡不羁、浮华奢侈的生活方式，以求从中得到补偿。一成不变的保守主义和上一个年代陈腐的价值观使他们反感，而金钱、浮华和奢侈却蔚然成风。

Like Nick in *The Great Gatsby*, Fitzgerald found this new lifestyle seductive and exciting, and, like Gatsby, he had always idolized the very rich. Now he found himself in an era in which unrestrained materialism set the tone of society, particularly in the large cities of the East. Even so, like Nick, Fitzgerald saw through the glitter of the Jazz Age to the moral emptiness and hypocrisy beneath, and part of him longed for this absent moral center. In many ways, *The Great Gatsby* represents Fitzgerald's attempt to confront his conflicting feelings about the Jazz Age. Like Gatsby, Fitzgerald was driven by his love for a woman who symbolized everything he wanted, even as she led him toward everything he despised. 

正像《了不起的盖茨比》中的尼克一样，菲茨杰拉德发觉这种新的生活方式具有诱惑力，使人感到兴奋，同时也像盖茨比一样，他总是崇拜那些特别富有的人。现在他发现自己处于一个毫无节制的物质主义为社会主旋律的时代，特别是东部大城市。尽管如此，正如尼克，菲茨杰拉德也透过爵士乐时代的光华看到了隐藏在下面的道德空虚与虚伪，所以他的部分自我渴望得到缺失的道德核心。《了不起的盖茨比》在许多方面都表明，菲茨杰拉德试图直面自己对于爵士乐时代的矛盾情感。就像盖茨比，菲茨杰拉德一直被那个象征他所有愿望的女人的爱所左右，即使这个女人要他做的一切都是他所唾弃的。

PLOT OVERVIEW

Nick Carraway, a young man from Minnesota, moves to New York in the summer of 1922 to learn about the bond business. He rents a house in the West Egg district of Long Island*, a wealthy but unfashionable area populated by the new rich, a group who have made their fortunes too recently to have established social connections and who are prone to garish displays of wealth. Nick's next-door neighbor in West Egg is a mysterious man named Jay Gatsby, who lives in a gigantic Gothic mansion and throws extravagant parties every Saturday night.

Nick is unlike the other inhabitants of West Egg—he was educated at Yale and has social connections in East Egg, a fashionable area of Long Island home to the established upper class. Nick drives out to East Egg one evening for dinner with his cousin, Daisy Buchanan, and her husband, Tom, an erstwhile classmate of Nick's at Yale. Daisy and Tom introduce Nick to Jordan Baker, a beautiful, cynical young woman with whom Nick begins a romantic relationship. Nick also learns a bit about Daisy and Tom's marriage: Jordan tells him that Tom has a lover, Myrtle Wilson, who lives in the valley of ashes, a gray industrial dumping ground between West Egg and New York City. Not long after this revelation, Nick travels to New York City with Tom and Myrtle. At a vulgar, gaudy party in the apartment that Tom keeps for the affair, Myrtle begins to taunt Tom about Daisy, and Tom responds by breaking her nose.

情节·览

尼克·卡拉韦，一个来自明尼苏达州的年轻人，于1922年夏移居纽约学习债券生意。他在长岛的西卵区租了一幢房子。这是一个富裕但并不时髦的街区，住着一群新富，他们发财的时间不长，还未来得及建立起社会关系，喜欢动辄大肆地显富。尼克在西卵区的邻居是个名叫杰伊·盖茨比的神秘男人，他住在一所偌大的哥特式公馆里，每周六晚上都举行奢华的宴会。

尼克有别于西卵区的其他居民，他曾就读于耶鲁大学，在东卵区有社会关系，该区是长岛上的一个时髦街区，住的都是有名望的上流阶层。一天傍晚，尼克驱车去东卵区与他的表妹黛西及其丈夫，也是他先前在耶鲁时的同学汤姆共进晚餐。黛西和汤姆把尼克介绍给了乔丹·贝克，她是个漂亮的、玩世不恭的年轻女子，尼克后来与她开始了一段浪漫关系。尼克还获悉了一点有关黛西和汤姆的婚姻情况：乔丹告诉他说，汤姆有一个情人，叫梅特尔·威尔逊，她住在一个叫做灰谷的地方，那是位于西卵区与纽约市之间的一片灰色的工业垃圾场。在这个情况披露后不久，尼克与汤姆和梅特尔一起去纽约。在汤姆为偷情而备下的公寓套房内举行的粗俗而华丽的宴会上，梅特尔开始拿黛西来奚落汤姆，汤姆回敬了她，打破了她的鼻子。

As the summer progresses, Nick eventually garners an invitation to one of Gatsby's legendary parties. He encounters Jordan Baker at the party, and they meet Gatsby himself, a surprisingly young man who affects an English accent, has a remarkable smile, and calls everyone "old sport." Gatsby asks to speak to Jordan alone, and, through Jordan, Nick later learns more about his mysterious neighbor. Gatsby tells Jordan that he knew Daisy in Louisville* in 1917 and is deeply in love with her. He spends many nights staring at the green light at the end of her dock, across the bay from his mansion. Gatsby's extravagant lifestyle and wild parties are simply an attempt to impress Daisy. Gatsby now wants Nick to arrange a reunion between himself and Daisy, but he is afraid that Daisy will refuse to see him if she knows that he still loves her. Nick invites Daisy to have tea at his house, without telling her that Gatsby will also be there. After an initially awkward reunion, Gatsby and Daisy reestablish their connection. Their love rekindled, they begin an affair.

After a short time, Tom grows increasingly suspicious of his wife's relationship with Gatsby. At a luncheon at the Buchanans' house, Gatsby stares at Daisy with such undisguised passion that Tom realizes Gatsby is in love with her. Though Tom is himself involved in an extramarital affair, he is deeply outraged by the thought that his wife could be unfaithful to him. He forces the group to drive into New York City, where he confronts Gatsby in a suite at the Plaza Hotel. Tom asserts that he and Daisy have a history that Gatsby could never understand, and he announces to his wife that Gatsby is a criminal—his fortune comes from bootlegging alcohol and other illegal activities. Daisy realizes that her allegiance is to Tom, and Tom