

Most love stories have a happy ending, the Great Gatsby does not. There is an appearance of romance in the Great Gatsby, but that is just the tip of the iceberg. There is more to this story than just a lover boy trying to find his long lost love. In the Great Gatsby, F. Scott Fitzgerald gives us a glimpse of the roaring twenties through the love story. It may seem that the roaring twenties must have brought an end to the romance. In this glimpse of the roaring twenties, Fitzgerald uses American morals not to embrace the love story, but rather to denounce the love story and expose the real colors of the time period.

“The parties were bigger, the morals were looser and the liquor was cheaper”, a quote from the trailer of the upcoming movie for the Great Gatsby. This quote simply sums up the roaring twenties. Fitzgerald incorporates the American morals at the time into the story. The roaring twenties were changing times, the 1920's were a time of unprecedented social and technological change in many areas such as women's rights lifestyles and prohibition. With these changing times, Fitzgerald points out its flaws and the ignorance of society. Its not much of a love story after all.

Fitzgerald uses his story to point out the flaws of the time. Some flaws or lose morals of the time involve women and their role in society. Some may think that women of the 1920's represent the new society, and for the most part this is true because women at the time were changing attitudes and they were becoming independent, dare to say they were easy. The excessive partying in Jay Gatsby's home also symbolizes the little care that society has, it seems as if there are no morals.

“You have such beautiful shirts”, is an iconic and memorable part of the story. Daisy represents the new women, and when she says this in the story, something in our heads clicks and instantly connects the shirts to money. This is another “new” American ideal that Fitzgerald incorporates, the idea that “rich girls don't marry poor boys”. Although the story is mainly known for its tragic love story, the real meaning of the story is to enlighten us about the 1920's. Just as the 1920's, the story start off all bright and prosperous, and as you get more and more into it, the story becomes dark and troublesome just as the 1920's ended with its own form of trouble, the Great Depression.

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All throughout the story, Fitzgerald engulfs us in minor or major morals of the time. With these, the reader can understand and analyze the story more in depth. Of course, Fitzgerald uses the love story to cover up the real meaning of the novel, to call attention to the roaring twenties and its downfall. We can all agree that Fitzgerald can vacuum us into his story, and show us the real meaning of his most famous work, the Great Gatsby.