

Chapter 3

1. What arrives at Gatsby's house every Friday? What leaves on Monday? What does this tell you about the parties Gatsby hosts?

On Fridays, 5 crates of oranges and lemons arrive. By Monday, they leave, just peels and pulp. This implies that Gatsby's parties ~~go through a lot of citrus-juice~~ are very lavish and have a lot of money put into their setup.

2. How does Nick receive his invitation to Gatsby's party?

A chauffeur brought a fairly formal letter of invitation from Gatsby to Nick. This was unusual, as most people simply showed up at Gatsby's parties rather than actually being invited.

3. What illegal activity takes place at Gatsby's party?

Consumption of alcoholic beverages.

4. What kind of relationship has Jordan developed with the other guests at the party?

Jordan has a very surface relationship with the others at the party. They converse, but they do not say much.

5. What discovery has the Owl-Eyed man made in Gatsby's library? What symbolic meaning could this reference have about society in the 1920's?

Gatsby's library has genuine books, but the pages haven't been cut (as was the way to deal with books printed at the time.) This points to the extent people were willing to go to pretend things in the 20s, and how fake the sophistication of the rich really was.

6. What is ironic about Jordan's statement comparing large and small parties?

Jordan speaks of large parties as having intimacy and privacy compared to small parties when in reality the opposite is usually the case. In a sense, though, she is right, as people tend to focus more on each person at a small party while at a large party things are less harshly scrutinized.

7. On what does Owl-Eyes blame the accident after Gatsby's party? What is ironic about his claim?

The fact he knows very little about driving and mechanics and wasn't trying. This is ironic because these are reasons one shouldn't drive, not reasons one should.

8. How does Nick describe Jordan at the end of the chapter? What do we learn about her that would support this statement?

He describes her face as concealing something. We learn she is dishonest and unable to deal with being at a disadvantage.

9. Why does Jordan say, "I hate careless people. That's why I like you"?

Nick is careful, and a bit reserved, and this differentiates him from the majority of the people in his surroundings. She is afraid to meet someone as careless as she is because she knows it would be a problem.

10. What unique quality do we learn that Nick possesses?

Nick feels he is one of the few honest people he has ever known.