

O: During the 1920s  
→ Roaring 20s  
→ After war, bootlegging, prohibition, flappers, etc.

# The Great Gatsby

F. Scott Fitzgerald – Published 1925

Chapter 3 Excerpt (Approximately begins on page 54)

Pathos:

- Colloquialism →
  - a word or phrase that is not formal or literary; familiar conversation
- Appeals to pathos because of familiar/comfortable feeling

Sometime before he introduced himself I'd got a strong impression that he was picking his words with care.

Almost at the moment when Mr. Gatsby identified himself, a butler hurried toward him with the information that Chicago was calling him on the wire. He excused himself with a small bow that included each of us in turn.

"If you want anything just ask for it, old sport," he urged me. "Excuse me. I will rejoin you later."

When he was gone I turned immediately to Jordan—constrained to assure her of my surprise. I had expected that Mr. Gatsby would be a florid and corpulent person in his middle years.

"red"

"fat"

Word Choice

Negative connotations of Gatsby → Characterization

Ethos:

- Oxford = prestigious, expensive school.
- Lots of \$\$\$\$ MONEY!
- Appeals to ethos for credibility

"Who is he?" I demanded. "Do you know?"

"He's just a man named Gatsby."

"Where is he from, I mean? And what does he do?"

weak, strained

"Now you're started on the subject," she answered with a wan smile. "Well, he told me once he was an Oxford man."

A dim background started to take shape behind him, but at her next remark it faded away.

"However, I don't believe it."

"Why not?"

"I don't know," she insisted. "I just don't think he went there."

Something in her tone reminded me of the other girl's "I think he killed a man," and had the effect of stimulating my curiosity. I would have accepted without question the information that Gatsby sprang from the swamps of Louisiana or from the Lower East Side of New York. That was comprehensible. But young men didn't—at least in my provincial inexperience I believed they didn't—drift coolly out of nowhere and buy a palace on Long Island Sound.

"Anyhow, he gives large parties," said Jordan, changing the subject with an urban distaste for the concrete. "And I like large parties. They're so intimate. At small parties there isn't any privacy."

Visual Imagery

• Sprang = Quick!

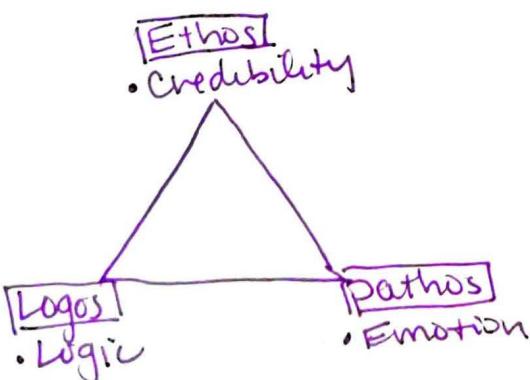
Appeals to Logos: Louisiana and lower East Side of NY are POOR. Pages Q: How did Gatsby get his money?

Irony

- Large parties are not intimate. There are too many individuals
- Intimate = private and personal

Word choice  
coolly = impressively  
drift

Ethos  
• Credibility



- OPCVL
- Language