

## The Archetypal Criticism in Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*

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### ABSTRACT

*The aim of this study is to analyze the archetypal approach of a famous American novel written by Francis Scott Fitzgerald, The Great Gatsby. The researchers' goal is to find out the archetypes of images, patterns, characters, colors and analyze them. To begin with, the archetypes of places and how they are used in the novel to represent something else are analyzed. This study also addresses several colors used in the novel. For instance, the colors green, white, yellow, grey, blue, silver and golden which give insight into the characters and their lives. Colors are used to symbolize a person's inner thoughts or feelings. Colors, such as green, white are used to find one's true feelings; while others use colors to hide their true persona. However, characters have a symbolic meaning as well. The researchers have defined the archetypal approach that sheds the light on images and colors as symbols. The researchers have used qualitative data in gathering information from books, online journal, and articles. In addition, the researchers also depend most on the quotes from The Great Gatsby. The researchers will interpret the data based on a few steps; firstly, by identifying the archetypal approach. The archetype concept as stated by Jung is "it derives from the often repeated observation that myths and universal literature stories contain well- defined themes which appear every time and everywhere. We often meet these themes in the fantasies, dreams, delirious ideas and illusions of persons living nowadays"(Jung, 2016). Finally, the researchers will be discussing and analyzing the archetypal images, patterns, characters and colors throughout the novel. The researchers have also illustrated the archetypal approach and given evidences from the novel.*

**Keywords:** The Archetypal approach. *The Great Gatsby*. Images. Symbols. Characters

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## INTRODUCTION

Archetypal Criticism is a theory which interprets literary works by focusing on symbols, images, colors, and characters. This theory is derived from Jung who believed that there is a collective unconscious that lies deep within which contains knowledge and experiences (Jung, 1978). Archetypes create a deeper meaning because these symbols and patterns are ingrained in our psyche. According to Jung, archetype means "it derives from the often repeated observation that myths and universal literature stories contain well-defined themes which appear every time and everywhere". The definition of archetypal is "being as an original model" or "constantly recurring as a symbol or a motif in literature. Further, as Fry stated that the archetypal criticism could be the characters, plots, images, and themes (2001). The archetypes are divided into the archetypes of places, images, and characters. In addition, the novel has color symbolisms that influence the novel greatly. An archetypal approach to literature assumes that there is a collection of symbols, images, characters, and motifs that evoke the same response in all people. Each character throughout that novel is associated with a specific color that manifests her or his personality.

Fitzgerald's novel has been always known for its comprehensive representation of the 1920s in the United States of America. He thought of himself as of a "speaker of his generation." (Fitzgerald, 1993) Throughout the novel, one can notice the musical influence. There is always music playing at Gatsby's parties. In the novel, we can see a song that is "One thing's sure and nothing surer. The rich get richer and the poor get-children in the meantime,in between time-"(Fitzgerald, 99). The novel is about a man on a quest and the woman he loves becomes his downfall. The novel begins with the introduction to the narrator Nick Carraway, a young man from Minnesota who after returning home from the war moves to New York in order to become a bond salesman. The west Egg is the place where Nick chooses to live. One of Nick's neighbors is a very mysterious man who gave his name to the novel- Jay Gatsby. Every Saturday he throws lavish parties in his huge mansion that even has a private beach. As Nick later finds out everybody is invited. One day he is invited to dinner from his cousin Daisy and her husband Tom Buchanan. Tom is a former college football star. He and Nick were classmates at Yale. Tom and Daisy introduce Nick to Jordan, a beautiful young woman who plays golf. As the summer progresses, Nick receives an invitation to one of Gatsby's lavish parties. Gatsby leaves a remarkable impression on Nick as he observes, "I was looking at an elegant young roughneck, a year or two over thirty, whose elaborate formality of speech just missed being absurd"(53). Nick is charmed by Gatsby's smile as he notes " he smiled understandingly- much more than understandingly. It was one of those rare smiles with a quality of eternal reassurance in it... It understands you just as far as you wanted to be understood, believed in you as you would like to believe in yourself, and assured you that it had precisely the impression of you that, at your best, you hoped to convey"(53).

All that Gatsby wants is to capture Daisy's heart. His effort wasn't fruitful so far and so he spends many nights staring across the water at the green light at the end of her dock. At first meeting of past lovers is a bit awkward but after a while, the nerves are gone and they are able to comeback. After that Gatsby sees Daisy through the green light and he hopes to be with her. Tom, who is the competitor of Gatsby, the one who has Daisy while Gatsby has not anything

even his past lover. The novel reaches its climax between characters. At the end of the novel, Gatsby loses Daisy. He dies and only a few people attend his funeral. The novel does not shed the light on Gatsby's relationship with Daisy. The story reveals many themes that are related to each other, such as the notion of capitalism, and sexism, the idea of American dream, the degradation of morals, and the differences between the elite class and the poor. In the novel, Fitzgerald employs symbolism to reflect what life in the 1920's was like, through Fitzgerald's eyes. Fitzgerald uses colors throughout the novel proved to be important to the development of the theme and to the progress and manners of the characters. Daisy is mostly associated with yellow, white and gold, as for Gatsby she is still his innocent beautiful bride. In addition to, Gatsby is mostly linked with green – the color of hope. Another color is the blue. Dr. T.J. Eckelburg is associated with blue. This paper illuminates the archetypal approach in *The Great Gatsby*. And symbolism of places, images, colors, and characters and how each of these symbols is associated with something else.

## ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

### *Archetypes of Places*

The novel is rich with symbolism that constitutes a major part of the world Fitzgerald has created. They are as important to the story as the characters. The major symbols represent so much more than what they appear to be on the surface. Fitzgerald combines real and imaginary places to create an appropriate setting for the story. There are four main locations of action in the novel. In addition, color is a powerful archetype with deep emotional associations. There is the East Egg, the symbol of the upper class with their money and the power it bestows upon its holder. It follows the rules of formality and tradition. Tom and Daisy live there. Their world is exclusive. It is as if they are part of a "secret society". The houses in East Egg are not as extravagant as Gatsby's mansion. They are more elegant and classic. People living in East Egg have so-called "old money." They inherited their money and enjoy the power it bestows upon them. The people of West Egg or the "new money" are never allowed to access this elite society. The white houses are perfect and the material aspects are there. The behaviors of people are careless and immoral as the guests at Gatsby's parties.

Further, there is the valley of Ashes which serves as a symbol of the lower middle class and the dull life of its inhabitants (Andrew, 1985). It is considered as one of the key places in the novel. Nick first mentions in chapter two:

"This is a valley of ashes – a fantastic farm where ashes grow like wheat into ridges and hills and grotesque gardens; where ashes take the forms of houses and chimneys and rising smoke and, finally, with a transcendent effort, of ash-grey men, who move dimly and already crumbling through the powdery air" (Fitzgerald, 16).

It lies between East Egg and New York. This piece of desolate land created by the industrial pollution is where the working class and unfortunate live. Compared to the elegance

and beauty of the East Egg, the craziness and decadence of the West Egg and the bustling life of the New York City, Valley of Ashes represents absolute poverty and hopelessness. People who live there try, so desperately, to get away and in most cases fail. In addition, the Valley of Ashes demonstrates the fact that the American dream is essentially unachievable. It is a haunted place, a grotesque symbol of the corruption of society and its values. The name Valley of Ashes is Nick's invention and it is reminiscent of "the valley of the shadow of death"(Justin, 2013). It lacks any bright surface and stands for absolute desolation. Everything and everyone in the Valley of Ashes are dull and grey. People come to die and so it is only fitting that it would be that Daisy so tragically kills Myrtle while driving Gatsby's car (Brlan, 2016). This place is isolated and detached from reality. Everything in this place looks overcast and gloomy. People who live there are suffering from poverty and humiliation. East Egg represents the old aristocracy as well as it is connected to the moral decay and social cynicism of New York. The valley represents the waste and inequality of opportunity that happens in America. It is literally an industrial wasteland where the less fortunate live and exists just on the edge of the area dominated by the wealthy. The sad fate of its occupants represents reality that the wealthy do not like to acknowledge - that in some way, they may be contributing to the status of the less fortunate (Brian, 1986).

Moreover, Robert claims that the Valley of Ashes plays a principal role in the structure of the story. First, there is the physical propinquity of the Dr. T. J advertising sign, with its own religious symbolism, built there by some wild wag of an oculist. Second, one relationship that precipitates a good deal of the modern life arise there: Tom Buchanan's affair with Myrtle Wilson. Third, the first death of a major character, Myrtle, takes place there under Dr. T. J's yard high line of sight (Robert, 2013). Fourth, it is the site where Tom discloses to George Wilson that it was Gatsby's yellow car that killed Myrtle, which leads, inexorably, to the novel's denouement. The valley of ashes reveals the important uses Fitzgerald made of the symbol. Chapter Two is repeated invocation of the word ashes, its variations, and similar invocations of the word dust brings to mind the Christian burial rite's language-"dust to dust, ashes to ashes". It is located midway between the fictional West Egg, Long Island and New York city, where the railroad and a roadway converge, Fitzgerald describes the area as a fantastic farm where ashes grow like wheat into ridges and hills and grotesque gardens. Also as mentioned in the novel "ash- gray men swarm with leaden spades and stir up an impenetrable cloud..., whenever a new load of ashes arrives by railcar" (Fitzgerald, 23).

Further, Fitzgerald notes that the valley is bounded on one side by a small foul river with a drawbridge that can delay trains for up to half an hour so that passengers must partake of the dismal scene. It is significant that the eyes of Doctor T.J peer down there and brood over the solemn dumping ground. The fact that a death arises in the valley of ashes naturally turns our attention to the language in Genesis 3:19:"for the dust you are, and unto dust you shall return"

(Holy Bible). The valley of ashes resembles something dark and lifeless. As a result of fire ashes stand for destruction and death. The valley of ashes is a picture of absolute misery and poverty. It lacks a glamorous surface and lays bare and gray halfway between West Egg and New York. The valley of ashes symbolizes the moral decay hidden by the attractive facades of the Eggs, and hints that beneath the decoration of West Egg and the artificial charm of East lays the same repulsiveness as in the valley. The valley was created by industrial dumping and is, therefore, a side- effect of Capitalism. It is a home to the only poor characters we meet in the novel. Furthermore, the death of Myrtle Wilson in the Valley of ashes stands for the pain associated with this valley. Also the fact that the Wilsons live in the valley shows that they are not of such high social standards as the other characters in the novel (Michaela, 2014). The valley of ashes stands for the dismal ruin of the people caught in between. The valley of ashes stands for corruption in general. Like this miserable place indicates sufferings and the impression that it creates is depressed and spiritless.

Another symbolic place is that West Egg, the less fashionable of “the Eggs” is where Nick moves to when he finds a job in New York and where he meets his neighbor Gatsby. The West Egg could be perceived as vulgar and immoral place but this is a very limited perspective. Gatsby throws parties in hope that Daisy will show up. Everybody is invited. They attract the most random group of people – artists, gangsters, politicians, salesmen, unfaithful husbands- but never the one they were designed for. When Daisy finally shows together with Nick and Tom she is appalled. She finds the whole group and Gatsby's world untasteful. It is actually the first sign of her true nature. Even before the final confrontation at the Plaza Hotel she chooses Tom's world and East Egg over Gatsby and his extravagant parties (Andrew, 1985). The mansion of Gatsby is considered as an aspect of his wealth. It represents the grandness and emptiness of the 1920s boom: Gatsby justifies living in it all alone by filling the house weekly with "celebrated people". The house of Gatsby is the symbol of his love for Daisy. Gatsby uses his "new money" to create a place that he thought rivaled the houses of the "old money" that had taken her away (Justin, 2013). As mentioned by Fitzgerald in chapter 3 "Every Saturday night, Gatsby throws incredibly luxurious parties at his mansion. Nick eventually receives an invitation" and "park. She says Gatsby never fell out of love with Daisy and bought his giant mansion in West Egg to be across the bay from her".

Furthermore, New York has a symbolic role. Although the main characters don't actually live there, most of the actions occur there. For Nick, New York is a place of constant wonder, it lures him. He enjoys its restlessness and the adventurous feel at night. The city pulses with life. The possibilities were endless. Nick loves this city but he is native (Michaela, 2014). As known that America is a land of wealth and opportunities and New York is part of this wealth and opportunities. This place is for those who are supercilious and prestigious. Further, initially New York is presented in a very positive light. On Nick's first trip there with Tom, “the city is

described as having glowing sunshine, and the air on Fifth Avenue is "warm and soft, almost pastoral" (Fitzgerald, 17). The city is again put in a positive light when he returns with Gatsby over the great bridge, with sunlight through the girders making a constant flicker upon the moving cars, with the city rising up in white heaps and sugar lumps....is always the city seen for the first time, in its first wild promise of all the beauty and mystery in the world. This changes when Tom and Gatsby arrive in New York together later in the novel. Now Daisy complains that the city is so hot and the room they are in was large and stifling, and opening the windows admitted only a gust of hot shrubbery from the park. The perception of the city changes in proportion to the amount of conflict that the characters bring with them.

### *Archetypes of Colors*

Fitzgerald makes the most use of vivid images throughout the novel. The colors have also symbolic meaning. Each color is associated with a certain aspect or a characteristic. To start with, the green light is the first color that has a symbolic meaning. The green light represents life, and it stands for hope, sensation, growth, fertility (Jung, 1959). It symbolizes the future the same way that the green light at the end of Daisy's dock equals the prospect of the bright future that waits for her and Gatsby. As stated in the novel "Gatsby believed in the green light, the orgastic future that year by year recedes before us. It eluded us then, but that's no matter- tomorrow we will run faster, stretch out our arms farther... and one fine morning"(Fitzgerald, 115). It offers a promise of "the orgastic future" that Gatsby believed in. He looks to the green light with hopeful eyes. Green brings hope. Green is also the color of nature and life itself. Green shows many thoughts, ideas, attitudes, and choices that Gatsby has throughout the novel. Another effect of the green light is the meaning "go". As in a traffic light signal, most people associate green with the word and action "go". This can be interpreted as meaning Gatsby should go for his dream without hesitation. It implies that Gatsby and Daisy are meant to be together and nothing should stop Gatsby from his destined happiness and love with Daisy. It inspires hope for Gatsby that he is on the right path, heading towards the best years of his life. He believes that things will soon be as they once were, only better (Bloom, 1986). He is going to fix everything just the way they were before, he says nodding determinedly that she'll see that he is waiting for her. Since the green light is there, it's a hope and he will never give her up. It represents Gatsby's relationship with Daisy, at the simplest level. She resides across the bay in the "old money" part of town, close enough for him to see the light on her property, but far away enough to represent Gatsby's inability to claim her. Gatsby's "nouveau riche" neighborhood does not intermingle with Daisy's, showing that a social hierarchy still exists, even for the rich. This light illustrates the "so close, yet so far" reality of the two worlds of Gatsby and Daisy.

Accordingly, the green light is a hint to strive ahead in life, to do better and succeed. Gatsby is constantly striving to be a more successful figure in society. Ever since he was a boy he put himself on a schedule with hopes of becoming a highly respected, well-known person. He knew he had a big future in front of him and his head says about him, "Jimmy was bound to get ahead. He always had some resolves like this"(Fitzgerald, 182). This bright color indicates Gatsby's expectancy and prospect to fulfill his dream. In fact, the color green shows up

everywhere in *The Great Gatsby*. Long Island sound is "green"; George Wilson's haggard tired face is "green" in the sunlight; Michaelis describes the car that kills Myrtle Wilson as "light green"; Gatsby's perfect lawn is green; and the New World that Nick images Dutch explorers first stumbling upon is a "fresh, green breast". The symbolism of green throughout the novel is as variable and contradictory as the many definitions of "green" and the many uses of money—"new", "natural", "innocent", "naïve", and "uncorrupted"; but also "rotten", "gullible", and "sickly". The light is symbolic of Gatsby's American dream; his pursuit to "change the past" and regain Daisy's love. The green light gives Gatsby something to reach for. Fitzgerald highlights that Gatsby's dream is artificial and unrealistic. Gatsby believes that his dream is "so close he could hardly fail to grasp it," however because the light is artificial we understand that he undoubtedly will fail (2014).

One more possible meaning of green may be jealousy. Gatsby can be seen as jealous person. He is jealous of Daisy's husband Tom. He once has the love of his life, Daisy, but now she is married to another man. He spends all of his time and effort in an attempt to win Daisy back. It is also possible that Fitzgerald utilizes the color green, to symbolize money and its power in society. The use of a green light at the end of a landing stage to a signal romantic reunion, is intriguingly similar to the green light at the end of Daisy's Buchanan's dock, which becomes a key image in *The Great Gatsby* (Maia, 2013). This light is nothing more but the hope for the bright future they will have together; it is Gatsby's personal dream and at the same time it is the American dream of everyone. It is owing to this light Gatsby achieves his aim and becomes rich. He thinks that wealth is just a step towards a happy future with Daisy. The green light inspires him but he never reaches it.

Other prominent colors which are used to symbolize preciousness, value and wealth are yellow and gold. Daisy is the "golden girl" in a white castle and Gatsby in an attempt to impress her is wearing a gold tie for their first meeting after so many years of separation. Yellow is presented only as some kind of imitation of gold. It lacks any substance. They are those two girls in yellow dresses that just seem so unnatural and compared to Jordan's sun kissed golden skin they seem fake (Zhang, 2015). There is also Gatsby's car as stated in the novel "circus wagon" as Tom calls it. Cars symbolize recklessness as evidenced by Gatsby's recklessness with money and the mortal recklessness of Daisy as she barrels into Myrtle Wilson, killing her (Michaela, 2014). It is an extravagant car bought with every intention to impress. But like many things in Gatsby's life Daisy is more appalled than impressed by his clear show of his money. Gatsby is so hopeless to please her and show her that he is not that poor man anymore. His house, his lavish parties, his luxurious shirts and his superficial car are all attempts to be like her world. The yellow car becomes synonymous with death when it kills Myrtle Wilson and shatters Gatsby's dream as well. Fitzgerald uses yellow in opposite sense of brightness and harmony. He transforms it into a symbol of death and hopeless (Riley V. 1976).

Yellow means corruption and things that go bad. Yellow leaves represent decay, it also represents deception. Golden stands for richness, happy or prosperous: golden days, golden age, successful and extremely valuable. At Gatsby's parties the turkeys turn to gold turkeys bewitched to a dark gold. Jordan Baker is associated with that color, "with Jordan's slender golden arm resting in mine". (Fitzgerald, 44). Sometimes the gold at Gatsby's house turns to yellow. Thus the richness is only a cover, a short sensation, like the yellow press for the more offensively sensational press. The orchestra is also playing yellow cocktail music. In contrast to the golden girl Jordan, she only admires yellow. Yellow is the color of the gold that Gatsby thought he needed to conceive his dream. Moreover, "cream"- the adjective that discriminates Nick uses to describe the car, and a color that the dictionary defines as " pale yellow to yellowish white"- is a blend of the two colors most frequently associated with the lovers, Daisy's white and Gatsby's gold or yellow (Maia,2013). The symbol of the two women dressed identically in yellow at Gatsby's party depicts the values of the people of the 20's. The two women in yellow meet Jordan and Nick at one of Gatsby's party and are entirely self- involved. Gold has earned its place among the all times symbols of corruption and greed, although most wouldn't mind having more of it.

Moreover, the color white is generally associated with innocence. In the novel white is mostly connected to women and especially to Daisy. But she was no angel and far from innocent. She wears white dresses but her innocence is long gone. Fitzgerald used white color as an overall symbol for women for their femininity. Further, Guerin (1979), mentions that white color is highly multivalent, signifying, in its positive aspects, light, purity, innocence, and timelessness; in its negative aspects, death, terror, the supernatural, and the blending truth of an inscrutable cosmic mystery. Daisy and Jordan wear white dresses the first time Nick meets them and they appear almost to be floating in the wind. White then serves here as a kind of a camouflage to hide the true nature of not Daisy or Jordan but a woman of the 1920's in general (David, 1998). It is the color that had deeper meaning of false purity or goodness. Daisy is always seen wearing white, which gives her an innocent and naive appearance, it is as though she uses that as an excuse for when she does something ridiculous or childish, making it seem like she does not know any better. In reality, she knows exactly what she does but just doesn't care. She uses this little princess image and her money to hide her biased, snobbish, and conceited view of herself and her lifestyle. As stated by Fitzgerald they were careless people, Tom and Daisy- they smashed up things and creatures and then retreated back into their money or their vast carelessness or whatever it was that kept them together.

Another character that hides behind the white color is Jordan Baker. She also wears white quite often. She acts as though she is superior to everyone around her. Her posture, her attitude, and even the things she says imply this arrogance. As Fitzgerald says,



"she was extended full length at her end of the divan, completely motionless and with her chin raised a little as if she were balancing something on it which was quite likely to fall. If she saw me she me out of the corner of her eyes she gave no hint of it- indeed I was almost surprised into murmuring an apology for having disturbed her by coming in"(Fitzgerald,13).

She portrays a bored and apathetic attitude about everything, which is part of her "I am too good for you" appearance. In reality, she just wants to be as respected and socially accepted as Gatsby. She is not willing to take responsibility for her actions and uses her image as a guard implying that she could not have possibly done anything immoral, much like Daisy. White normally symbolizes purity. In the novel, it represents false purity. Jordan and Daisy, not exactly moral pillars, often wear white. Gatsby wears white when meeting Daisy for the first time in five years to give the impression that he has been pure and good, doubtfully considering his life of organized crime. In addition, White represents the stereotypical face that every character is hiding behind (Arthur, 1963).

Moreover, blue is the color of being depressed, moody, or unhappy. As Jung described it, as a color of highly positive, associated with truth, security, and spiritual purity (1959). A lot of things around Gatsby are blue. For instance, his blue gardens men. Although a lot of people are in and around his house, his gardens are blue, ghostly birds began to sing among the blue leaves and the blue smoke of brittle leaves. After Myrtle's death George Wilson and Mr. Michaelis are in a blue mood."... a blue quickening by the window, and realized that dawn wasn't far off. About five o'clock it was blue enough outside to snap off the light"(Fitzgerald, 151). The unhappiest place is the graveyard:" He had come a long way to this blue lawn at Gatsby's house. The lawn at Gatsby's house is an unhappy place as well. Blue represents illusions. The first suit Gatsby wears is blue. His gardens are blue. He is separated from Daisy by blue and even his chauffeur wears blue. The eyes of Dr. T.J. Eckelburg are also blue, Fitzgerald's allusion to the illusion that there was an almighty being watching over everyone.

The last important color used as a symbol in *The Great Gatsby* deserved to be mentioned is grey. Grey is only mentioned with connection to one place- the valley of Ashes. It means dull, lifeless, average, and confusion. It is an interesting color. Grey, as mentioned by Jung, is associated with aging. It is all the more fitting that Fitzgerald would use grey for the Valley of Ashes where Wilson's garage is because his life is dull. Life in the valley drained him, his vivacious wife sucked the life out of him. He is as good as dead. Fitzgerald has mentioned the grey color in describing the valley of ashes "... with a transcendent effort, of ash- grey men who move dimly and already crumbling through the powdery air"(Fitzgerald, 16). It is the color of darkness. It symbolizes the lack of life. Grey is often used for neutral, dull, not important. For instance, the grey little villages in France, the grey windows disappeared, and the grey, flordid man with a hard, empty face. Gatsby's ideal is grey and empty. The Wilsons, living in the valley of ashes, appear in grey, except for Myrtle, when she enjoys the company of Tom Buchanan. A

white ashen dust veiled his dark suit and his pale hair and as it veiled everything in the vicinity-except his wife, who moved close to Tom. The grey color symbolizes facelessness, melancholy and low class. However, changing the gloomy dark blue dress for a crème one, Myrtle Wilson changes as well, as the color of the dress symbolizes the social class: "with the influence of the dress her personality had also under gone a change (Maia, 2013).

### *Archetype of Images*

The sun image stands for the giver of life as well as the destroyer of life. Jung described the hidden meaning of the sun as creative energy; law in nature; consciousness (thinking, enlightenment, wisdom, spiritual vision); father principle (moon and earth tend to be associated with female or mother principle); passage of time and life (2016). Fitzgerald states that in the early morning the sun throws his shadow westward as he hurries down the white chasms. Another image which is the moon image, Fitzgerald uses the moon as a symbol for romance and for the light as well. As he shown in the novel that "the moon soaked with wet light his tangled clothes upon the floor. Each night he added to the pattern of his fancies until drowsiness closed down upon some vivid scene with an oblivious embrace"(Fitzgerald, 63). The moon light is associated with what we call the imagination. For Gatsby, every night he stands on the porch of his mansion and looks up to the moon. In the novel, the moon light appears as a wafer of a moon was shining over Gatsby's house. In *The Great Gatsby* the moon or moonlight or the stars are often silver. In addition, silver represents jewelry and richness (Maia, 2013). The moonlight and the sun light are natural and aren't artificial lights. The moon image stands for romance and for the rest of Gatsby's feeling towards Daisy. There is a relation between the love and the moon. We see that lovers are always personifying their beloveds with the moon.

The garden is associated with paradise, innocence; unspoiled beauty and fertility." a wafer of a moon was shining over Gatsby's house, making the night fine as before, and surviving the laughter and the second of his still glowing garden"(Fitzgerald,37). The Gatsby's garden is shining and it is full of vivid images. In one of his night parties, his blue garden men and girl came and went like moths among the whisperings and the champagne and the stars. Flowers also have a symbolic meaning. For example, Daisy's name is the main example of Fitzgerald's use of flower imagery. Fresh and delightful, this fragile white flower is associated with childhood innocence. The descriptions of her romance with Gatsby build on his idea: "at his lips' touch, she blossomed for him like a flower". However, Daisy ultimately undermines this image by her corruption. Another reference to flowers in the novel is that the Orchid, particularly in the context of wealth and luxury. In chapter 6 Daisy admires an elusive celebrity described as "a gorgeous, scarcely human orchid of a woman who sat in state under a white plum tree". Roses are mentioned as well in the novel. Tom's property contains," a half-acre of deep, pungent roses", whilst inside, Nick "walked through a high hallway into a rose-color space". Daisy even

describes Nick as "a rose, an absolute rose" which he flatly denies while still finding her words "stirring and thrilling". As mentioned by Fitzgerald that rose as an indication to the feminine. "He must have looked up at an unfamiliar sky through frightening leaves and shivered as he found what a grotesque thing a rose is and how raw the sunlight was upon the scarcely created grass". The rose seems to have a broader value of humanity and integrity. The ideas of "scarcely created grass" can be seen as a reference to the fresh world of Eden which is lost to Adam and Eve following their Fall from innocence and betrayal of one another (Justin, 2013).

The seasonal setting of the novel has a symbolic interpretation. The novel is set in the summer of 1922. The summer in New York is hot and humid. This is reflected as the novel reaches its climax. When the main characters take their trip to New York it is one of the hottest days of the summer. This illustrates the tension building between Tom and Gatsby which reaches a boiling point in the hotel room when Gatsby suggests it is time for Daisy to tell Tom she never loves him. The two, fighting for Daisy's affections, come to blows over their love for her. Tom, fighting to hold onto the last shred of Daisy's love he has, and Gatsby, clinging to his "no longer tangible" (Andrew, 1985). The summer time is significant in the novel. "There was music from my neighbor's house through the summer nights". Also, Nick starts to tell the story of that one fateful summer he spent in West Egg. To create an interesting atmosphere, the novel's main events occur between the early summer and autumn of 1922. Nick notes that it was a warm season. As Fitzgerald stated "and so with the sunshine and the great bursts of leaves growing on the trees...I had that familiar conviction that life was beginning over again with the summer"(Fitzgerald, 17). In addition to, the next day is broiling, almost the last, certainly the warmest day of the summer. It means that summer symbolizes the coming conflict and foreshadows the climax of emotion to come, Daisy's rejection and Myrtle's death. The heat also depicts the mix and confusion of emotions, and Daisy recognizes that it's so hot and everything is confused. The summer stands for Daisy and Gatsby's relationship. Another season that has a symbolic reference which is Autumn. "A fog-horn" as a reference to decay in Gatsby's house, and the parallel narrative of "one still October night" and the "cold fall day" in 1917. Gatsby's conversation with the gardener confirms the onset of autumn, anticipating falling leaves in the pool. The last we see of Gatsby alive is under "yellowing trees" and his death the leaves have indeed fallen, to simultaneously caress him and create a funeral wreath "the touch of a cluster of leaves revolved [the laden mattress] slowly". (Justin, 2013).

### *Archetypes of Characters*

Moreover, each character in the novel has a symbolic interpretation. The symbolism of the eyes of Doctor T.J Eckleburg is essential for the message of F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*. The eyes have a symbolic meaning. The eyes of Dr. T are a pair of fading, bespectacled eyes painted on an old advertising billboard looking over the valley of ashes. The eyes of Doctor T. J are blue and gigantic. His eyes are blue and the blue color refers to allusion Fitzgerald's allusion

to the illusion that there was an almighty watching over everyone. He has good qualities like 'knowledge, reflection, insight, wisdom, cleverness, and intuition on one hand, and on the other, moral qualities such as goodwill and readiness to help the hopeless hero (Guerin, 1979). He stands for observation. "A stout, middle-aged man, with enormous owl-eyed spectacles, was sitting somewhat drunk on the edge of a great table, staring with unsteady concentration at the shelves of books" (Fitzgerald, 30). The meaning of Doctor T.J.'s eyes is mysterious. The most believable understanding of the eyes at this point in the novel is that they stand for the eyes of God, staring down at the moral decay of the 1920's. The faded paint could symbolize the degree to which humanity has lost its connection to God (Riley, 1976). To Nick the eyes seem to symbolize the haunting waste of the past, which lingers on though it is irretrievably vanished, much like Dr. Eckleburg's medical practice. The eyes can also be linked to Gatsby, whose own eyes, once described as "vacant", often stare out, blankly keeping "vigil" over Long Island sound and green light (Jessica, 1929).

Another character is Daisy. The archetype of Daisy is the mixture of Eve and Judas. (Bloom, 1986). Fitzgerald uses Daisy to highlight the moral corruption of characters. Nick's cousin and the woman Gatsby loves. As a young woman in Louisville before the war, Daisy courts by a number of officers, including Gatsby. She falls in love with Gatsby and promises to wait for him. Daisy lives with Tom across from Gatsby in the fashionable East Egg district of Long Island. She is sardonic and somewhat cynical, and behaves superficially to mask her pain at her husband's. Daisy she is described as a silver idol weighing down her white dress against the singing breeze of fans. White is a color associated with purity and innocence. We realize throughout the novel that Daisy is far away from innocence. She is a morally corrupt character who lets Gatsby believe she will leave Tom for him, but in the end chooses Tom's money over Gatsby's love. Daisy embodies a fragile flower because she is a fragile person who can't make up her own mind. The golden girl is Daisy. Daisy is the white flower with golden center. Daisy's character is enhanced by Fitzgerald's use of white to indicate Daisy's alleged freshness and innocence. He notes the gleaming white house, the airy, white rooms, and Daisy lounging in a white dress. Daisy also talks of her white girlhood. Fitzgerald evokes two meanings of white: one is the traditional meaning of purity; the second is the empowerment of whiteness. Daisy represents both privilege and purity. The use of white helps to characterize her as the enchanted princess who becomes incarnate as Gatsby's dream. However, the different shades of white indicate that Daisy may not be an embodiment of purity and that privilege may have corresponded precisely to the presentation of Daisy's character through color symbolism. The white color could be interpreted as: beauty, cleanliness, wealth, innocence, virginity, and also laziness (Maia, 2013). The white Daisy embodies the vision which Gatsby seeks to embrace- but which Nick, who discovers the corrupt admixture of dream and reality, rejects in rejecting Jordan. For, except in Gatsby's extravagant imagination, the white does not exist pure; it is invariably stained by the money, the yellow.

Another trait that describes Daisy is the white flower- with golden center. Her voice is full of money; she carries a little gold pencil; when she visits Gatsby there are two rows of brass buttons on her dress. She shows a slender golden arm and a golden shoulder; however, her fingers are powdered white over their tan, which signifies feigned innocence. When she enters the hotel with Daisy, both are wearing small tight hats of metallic cloth; and when Nick sees them both lying on the couch a second time, they are like silver idols weighing down their own white dresses against the singing breeze of the fans. Else, the green light is related to Daisy.

Gatsby is described in the novel as "only Gatsby, the man who gives his name to this book, was exempt from my reaction- Gatsby, who represented everything for which I have an unaffected scorn"(Fitzgerald, 3). By comparing Jesus Christ and Gatsby, it's easy to find some similarities. Jesus is the son of God. Gatsby changes his name and treats himself as the son of God. In addition, both of them are innocent and become the scapegoat for others, but they hold the view that their death is great. Therefore, both of them could sacrifice themselves when they are needed. Gatsby is great because he has the same spirit of self- sacrifice as Jesus Christ. In the Bible, Jesus gives his bread as his body to others for the purpose of remembering him."It naturally reminds us of Christ and his last dinner. Gatsby also extends feast to his guests and provides good wine. The devouring guest in his dinner drink wine, but no one pays tribute. He is deserted by his guests and betrayed by them" (Guo, 2004).

Jay Gatsby is an archetypal hero "I don't think she ever loved him." Gatsby turned around from a window and looked at me challengingly. "You must remember, old sport, she was very excited this afternoon. He told her those things in a way that frightened her that made it look as if I was some kind of cheap sharper. And the result was she hardly knew what she was saying" (Fitzgerald, 22). Gatsby actually rewrites the past to make it look like his version of events. This is—we hate to say it—basically the equivalent of saying that "no" means "yes." In fact, for Daisy, no really does mean no this time. "This New America may not have room for pure-hearted dreamers like Gatsby, but it certainly does have room for corrupt, smarty-pants criminals like Meyer Wolfsheim". (Justin, 2013). Jay Gatsby is the hero in the novel. Before he is even introduced in the novel Gatsby is accompanied by a certain persona that radiates richness, fame, popularity, and that he is larger than life. Like any hero, Gatsby's quest for fulfillment also ends in his demise. Jay Gatsby is also the scapegoat in the novel. When Wilson shoots Gatsby he believes that it was Gatsby driving the yellow car when Myrtle was killed. However, Gatsby's innocence and Daisy being the one to blame for Myrtle's death makes Gatsby the perfect scapegoat. Gatsby's desire to achieve his dream leads him to West Egg Island. He purchased a mansion across the bay from Daisy's home. There is a green light at the end of Daisy's dock that is visible at night from the windows and lawn of Gatsby's house. This green light is one of the central symbols of the novel. In chapter one, Nick observes Gatsby in the dark as he looks longingly across the bay with arms stretched outward toward the green light. It becomes

apparent, as the story progresses that "the whole being of Gatsby exists only in relation to what the green light symbolizes. This first sight, that we have of Gatsby, is a ritualistic tableau that literally contains the meaning of the completed book". (Bewley, 1959).

Tom is one of the main characters in the novel who represents power and arrogance. Daisy's wealthy husband, once a member of Nick's social club at Yale as Fitzgerald described him. Powerfully built and hails from a socially solid old family, Tom is an arrogant, hypocritical bully. His social attitudes are local with racism and sexism, and he never even considers trying to live up to the moral standard he demands from those around him. He has no moral qualms about his own extramarital affair with Myrtle but suspects Daisy and Gatsby of having an affair (Arthur, 1963). He is described in the novel as a :

Sturdy, straw-haired man of thirty with a rather hard mouth and a supercilious manner. Two shining, arrogant eyes had established dominance over his face, and gave him the appearance of always leaning aggressively forward ... you could see a great pack of muscle shifting when his shoulder moved under his thin coat. It was a body capable of enormous leverage—a cruel body. (Fitzgerald, 24).

The shadow archetype is basically the villain or the enemy that the hero (or antihero) has to overcome to achieve their overall goal as Jung stated. Tom stands for shadow. He plays the role of evil and enemy and he puts schemes to get Daisy's love. Tom is a sexist, racist, arrogant, and hypocrite. His actions are clearly villainous because he never contributes positively towards anything. His adulterous acts further prove his villainous characteristics and when told about his wife's affair with Gatsby, he becomes outraged even though he himself is having an affair with Myrtle, who is married to George (Arthur, 1963). At the end of the novel, Tom tells George that Gatsby is the one who was driving the car that killed Myrtle when in fact it had been Daisy who is driving. Tom knew very well what the consequence would be for Gatsby, making him an instigator of George and Gatsby's confrontation that leads to the deaths of both of them.

## CONCLUSION

To conclude, colors are a way characters use to express what they want to be seen as. We see one character acting the way she/he puts herself/himself out in society, however each person has a deeper meaning for how she/he is acting, just like a color. Color symbolism is used to give a deeper understanding of the characters in the novel. *The Great Gatsby* is one of the most colorful and visual works in literature. Almost each time colors symbolize different human values. In the novel, Fitzgerald uses symbolism to reflect what life in the 1920's was like, through Fitzgerald's eyes. For instance, Daisy is mostly associated with yellow, white and gold, as for Gatsby she is still his innocent beautiful bride. In addition to, Gatsby is mostly linked with green – the color of hope. Another symbol of F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* is the Green Light. It is the green light at Daisy's dock Jay Gatsby stares at for five years hoping one day to get closer to her

and to be back together with his beloved woman. This light is nothing more but the hope for the bright future they will have together; it is Gatsby's personal dream and at the same time it is the American dream of everyone. It is owing to this light Gatsby achieves his aim and becomes rich. He thinks that wealth is just a step towards a happy future with Daisy. The green light inspires him but he never reaches it each place in the novel is associated with a specific color in order to give a clear image. The archetypal approach is applied on the characters of the novel. For example, Gatsby is the archetypal hero, Daisy is a mixture of Eve and Judas and the Owl eyes who is the wise man. *The Great Gatsby* is the novel that has variety of images, colors, and characters that draws a picture of archetype. The American Dream is originally about the discovery of happiness, but by the 1920s, this dream has become perverted into this desire for wealth by whatever means; mistaken that money will bring happiness. F. Scott Fitzgerald does not use the words "American Dream" in the novel, *The Great Gatsby*, but it is evident that he shows the impossibility of achieving happiness through the American Dream. Fitzgerald demonstrates through symbols and motifs the impossibility of the American Dream.

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