

THE GREAT GATSBY: NOVEL VS FILM PACKET

Comparing F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel with Baz Luhrmann's 2013 movie

PART I: ANALYZING THE SETTINGS:

Directions: Compare and contrast how the settings are presented in the novel with how they are presented in the film.

	How described in the novel (look in your books to find words and phrases describing each of the different settings)	How shown in the movie (Give specific examples of how the setting is depicted)
West Egg		
East Egg		
The Valley of Ashes		
Tom and Myrtle's Apartment		

Which of the settings do you think most accurately reflects the novel? How so?

PART II: ANALYZING THE CHARACTERS:

Directions: For each of the major characters listed, analyze their appearance in terms of the qualities listed below.

	Appearance (Consider costumes, personal props, looks, etc.)	Acting (How believable was the character? How would you rate their acting?)
Nick (Tobey Maguire)		
Daisy (Carey Mulligan)		
Tom (Joel Edgerton)		
Jordan (Elizabeth Debicki)		
George (Jason Clarke)		
Myrtle (Isla Fisher)		
Gatsby (Leonardo DiCaprio)		

PART III: ANALYZING THE MUSIC:

Directions: The music to this movie was talked about almost as much as the film itself. Read the lyrics to the song below, which is used when Gatsby and Daisy are reunited together again for the first time in five years. Lana Del Rey, who wrote the song, said she did so from the perspective of the character Daisy.

I've seen the world
Done it all
Had my cake now
Diamonds, brilliant
And Bel Air now
Hot summer nights, mid July
When you and I were forever wild
The crazy days, city lights
The way you'd play with me like a child
Will you still love me
When I'm no longer young and beautiful?
Will you still love me
When I got nothing but my aching soul?
I know you will, I know you will
I know that you will
Will you still love me when I'm no longer beautiful?
I've seen the world, lit it up
As my stage now
Channeling angels in the new age now
Hot summer days, rock 'n' roll
The way you play for me at your show
And all the ways I got to know
Your pretty face and electric soul

Will you still love me
When I'm no longer young and beautiful?
Will you still love me
When I got nothing but my aching soul?
I know you will, I know you will
I know that you will
Will you still love me when I'm no longer beautiful?
Dear lord, when I get to heaven
Please let me bring my man
When he comes tell me that you'll let him in
Father tell me if you can
Oh that grace, oh that body
Oh that face makes me wanna party
He's my sun, he makes me shine like diamonds
Will you still love me
When I'm no longer young and beautiful?
Will you still love me
When I got nothing but my aching soul?
I know you will, I know you will
I know that you will
Will you still love me when I'm no longer beautiful?
Will you still love me when I'm no longer beautiful?
Will you still love me when I'm not young and beautiful?

1. Annotate the lyrics, identifying any parts that specifically relate to the character Daisy and her relationship with Gatsby. Make the connection clear. For example, the phrase, "makes me wanna party" can relate to all of Gatsby's parties and why Gatsby threw the parties in the first place.

2. Why do you think Lurhman chose this song to play when Gatsby and Daisy are reunited?

PART IV: ARTISTIC DIFFERENCES:

Directions: With any adaptation, there are bound to be artistic differences. In the movie, there are several key changes from Fitzgerald’s novel. Identify three specific changes from the novel and explain why you think Lurhmann made the change for his movie.

Element changed from the novel	Why do you think the director made this change?	What effect does this have on the story overall?

PART V: REVIEW:

In his review of the new film, The New York Times movie critic A.O. Scott writes: “The best way to enjoy Baz Luhrmann’s big and noisy new version of The Great Gatsby – and despite what you may have heard, it is an eminently enjoyable movie – is to put aside whatever literary agenda you are tempted to bring with you.” What do you think about the movie? How many stars would you rate it and why? How does it stack up against the novel?