

THE GREAT GATSBY

F. SCOTT FITZGERALD

What do you think of when you
hear “Roaring Twenties”?

THIS DECADE SAW THE
RISE (AND DEMISE) OF
MANY THINGS, SUCH AS...



huge parties with big bands, lots of
alcohol and lots of love.



the influx of black artists, like singer, dancer and actress Josephine Baker.



The rise of film and movie stars.

SOCIAL INEQUALITY



It saw good times for the wealthy.

... but tough times for the poor.



Monday, January 14, 13

PROHIBITION AND GANGSTERS



The 18th Amendment, or the prohibition of alcohol, was instituted in 1920

Prohibition led to ...





speakeasies, or illegally operated bars,
which were usually run by gangsters.

crime lords, and bootlegging king pens, like Al Capone.



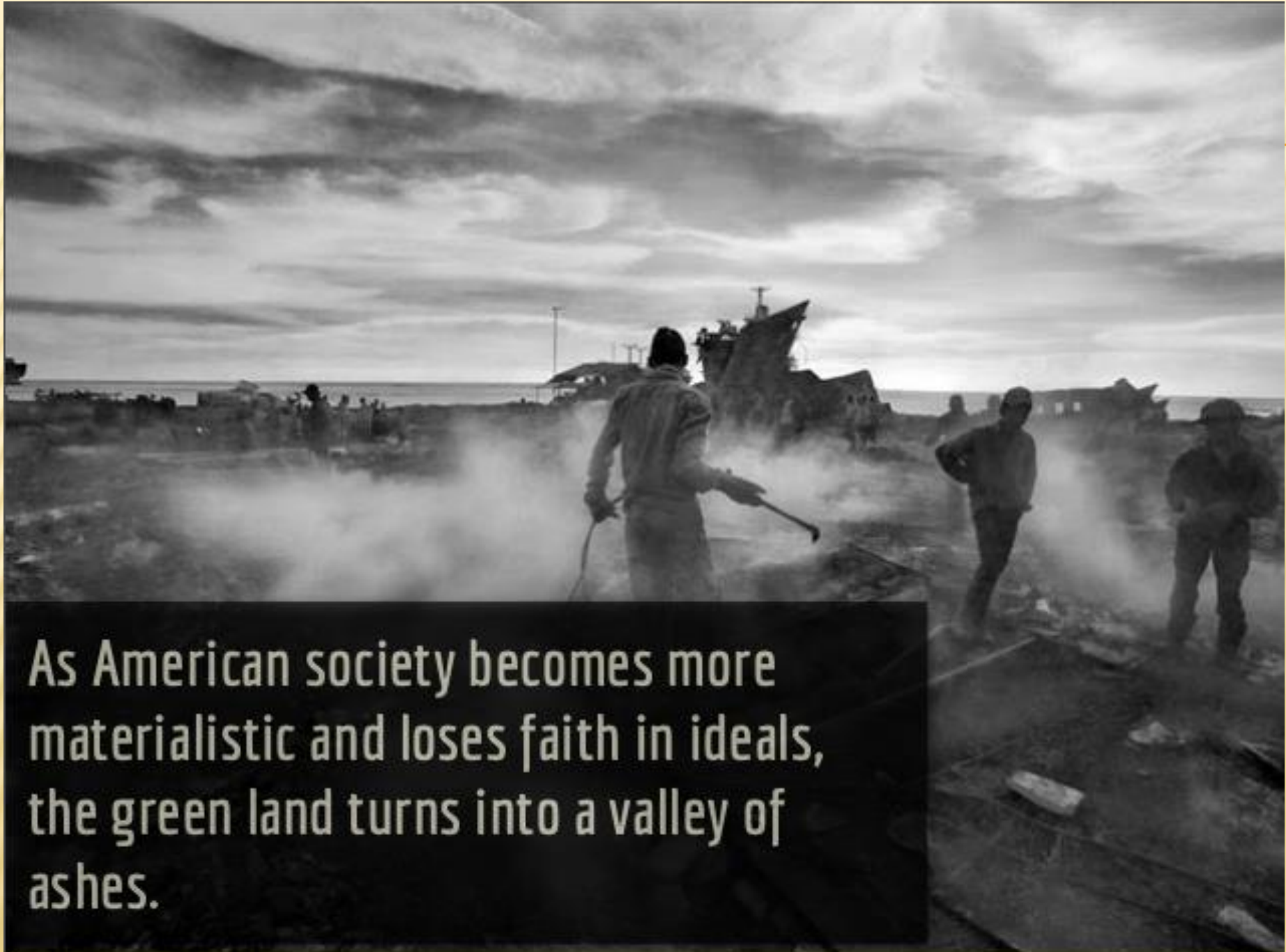


In 1919, eight members of the Chicago White Sox were accused of throwing the World Series.


Citizens lost trust in the police because of cops purchased by organized crime and lost trust in government because of several scandals.

THEMES

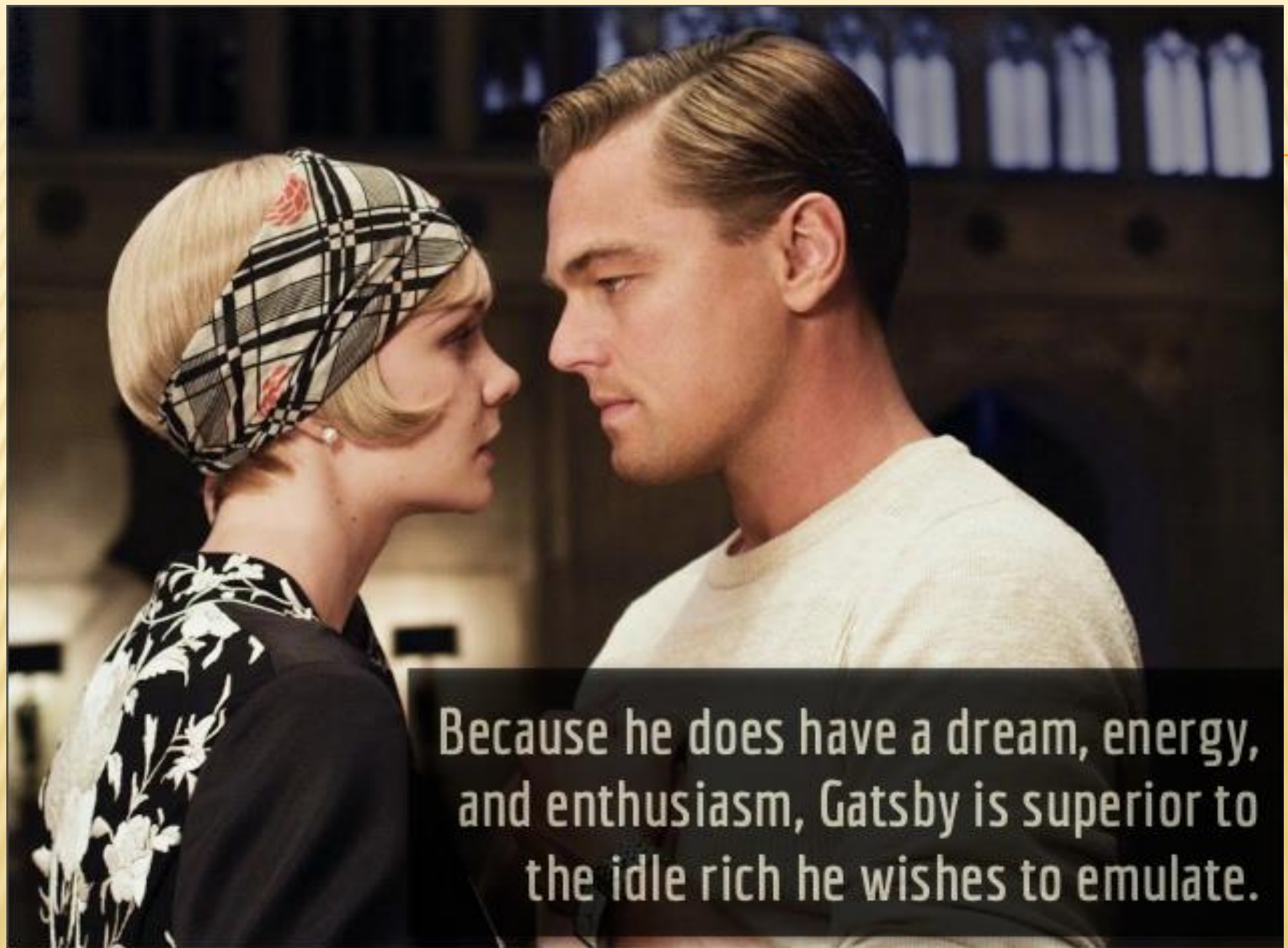
THE HISTORY OF THE
ERA CONTRIBUTES TO
MANY OF THE NOVEL'S
THEMES.



As American society becomes more materialistic and loses faith in ideals, the green land turns into a valley of ashes.




The very wealthy are insensitive to
others and exhibit a moral laxness
because of their riches.



Because he does have a dream, energy,
and enthusiasm, Gatsby is superior to
the idle rich he wishes to emulate.

About the author

F. Scott Fitzgerald
(1896-1940)

A black and white photograph of a young man with dark, wavy hair, wearing a suit and tie. He is looking down and to the left with a slight smile. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a bookshelf.

Many of the events that happen in *The Great Gatsby* closely resemble those that occurred in Fitzgerald's life.

Quick Facts

1. Born and raised in St. Paul, Minnesota
2. Went to Princeton and then went off to join the army*
3. He is part of The Lost Generation of writers who moved to Europe following the war.
4. While at Princeton, he fell in love with the young socialite, Ginevra King. When Fitzgerald is overseas, she informs him that she's marrying someone of her social class.**

* Nick Carraway does the same in *Gatsby*

** Daisy Buchanan, *Gatsby's* love, is modeled on this character



Fitzgerald's wife , Zelda, suffered from
alcoholism and schizophrenia.

LOOK FOR IN THE FILM:

- ✗ Rich characters complaining
- ✗ Poor characters enduring
- ✗ Rich becoming richer & poor becoming poorer
- ✗ Lack of fairness or equality
- ✗ The green light at the end of Gatsby's dock

LOOK FOR IN THE FILM:

- ✕ THE COLOR YELLOW: gold, but also decay
- ✕ The eyes of T.J. Ekelberg
- ✕ West Egg v. East Egg
- ✕ Dreams
- ✕ Delusions and obsessions