

worse position: they are usually financially dependent and often silenced through domestic abuse.

I personally think that divorce rates are not really the best indicators of success of marriage because in order for a divorce to occur many factors besides dissatisfaction in marriage such as financial and social security, norms and parents' expectations must be considered. I believe that arranged marriage has certain advantages, specially modern arranged marriage, which is not so strict and makes parents and children work together, but certainly it is not superior to love marriage. I think that this is only one example why statistics can often be deceiving – they can show us the results but not the real causes. The fact that even nowadays, despite the influence of new technology and globalization, the majority of young Indians prefers arranged marriage over free-choice marriage is surprising to me, because I would always go for free-choice marriage: but this is just another proof that culture plays a big role in individual's beliefs.

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/the-science-behind-behavior/201511/why-are-so-many-indian-arranged-marriages-successful>

<https://www.scoopwhoop.com/india-lowest-divorce-rate-is-not-a-good-thing/>

http://factsanddetails.com/India/People_and_Life/s47_3d/entry-4172.html

<https://www.dailyo.in/variety/india-has-the-lowest-divorce-rate-in-the-world-5-reasons-why-its-not-a-good-thing/story/1/29213.html>

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completely different subjects and was probably too shocked by Tom's "speech" to participate in this conversation.

In conclusion we can see that this extract clearly separates certain people from the others and makes a background for the future events. It shows different personalities and views on one of the main themes of the novel. Though it is far from being a plot twist, it is important as foreshadowing of the future events and understanding the main message of the book.

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I think that at this point it was clear that Daisy is out of Gatsby's reach, but Gatsby, a dreamer, still couldn't accept that his love relationship with Daisy belongs to the past and is impossible to be replicated. So he got irritated by Nick's remark. He was still hoping that somehow things would change and with his respond he was trying to convince not only Nick, but himself as well.

26. Nick guesses that in pursuing Daisy, Gatsby is trying to recover something from his past (116-117). What is he trying to recover?

Some idea of himself – maybe he is trying to recover his innocence. He wants to return to where he started, before his life became full of lies, underhand dealings etc.

27. Reread page 118. What do you think Nick is reminded of? What exactly is the "elusive rhythm," the "fragment of lost words"?

I think Nick is reminded of his own past. He too once had a dream and believed in the idea of the American dream. He too had his own ambitions (that's why he even moved to the New York). An elusive rhythm is a feeling he can't really describe or exactly remember, but knows he had it before and fragment of lost words is also something connected to the past that he can't clearly recall to his mind (probably they both refer to his own youth: he also once had the American dream, but now he is not such an idealist as Gatsby, now he is very realistic and he has lost his hope in the American dream a long time ago).

28. Why does Gatsby fire his servants and quit throwing parties?

Because he was too obsessed with Daisy (though these parties were organized to attract her at the beginning). He fires his servants to prevent gossip (about him and Daisy).

29. Why don't things work out between Daisy and Gatsby? (One obvious reason is the death of Myrtle--what are the less obvious, "deeper" reasons?)

Daisy didn't want to give up her social class and marry to "new money" and I think that Tom Buchanan offered her more security. Because Tom was so aggressive she was probably also afraid to leave him for Gatsby. There is also one big difference between Gatsby and Daisy: although they both loved each other in the past, life for Daisy continued, she forgot about Gatsby and fell in love with other men (she was enjoying her life, having fun etc.), while Gatsby got stuck in the past. But even

Nick and Gatsby remain true friends from the time they first meet until Gatsby's death

In the whole novel Gatsby's story is viewed and commented through the eyes of Nick Carraway, making their relationship very important, as it influences Nick's opinion on him and therefore the story of the novel. But Nick's attitude towards Gatsby is quite complex and controversial: Gatsby represents everything that Nick hates, yet he can not help himself thinking highly about Gatsby. It seems as if Nick is trying not to become too attached to Gatsby and remain on a safe distance, but he can not control his subconscious feelings. He admits that just at the beginning of the book.

The way these two characters got to know each other is just as extraordinary as Gatsby himself. Though they had been living next to each other for quite some time, they never talked to each other and Nick was almost afraid of him and his power and wealth. Even when Gatsby invited him to one of his parties, he did not do it in person, but sent his chauffeur with an invitation. As a result, Nick did not recognize him on the party when he was talking to him. But Gatsby seemed to be very understanding and made a great impression on Nick: he immediately started admiring his gestures, smiles and his whole personality. At the same time Nick became one of the few people Gatsby really cared about and paid special attention to. But to me it seemed as if Nick was only a means to help Gatsby reach his own goal: Daisy. This can be seen when Gatsby shows up at Nick's house one day, inviting him on a lunch. He did not ask Nick when he would have time for a lunch, instead he expected him to leave just at that moment. Furthermore this lunch had a very specific purpose for Gatsby: he wanted Nick to help him get in contact with Daisy. However their friendship grew stronger when Gatsby revealed more personal information about himself to Nick and when he realized Nick brought more to his life than just the advantages connected to Daisy. The tragic events just before Gatsby's death connected them even more. The next morning, having a breakfast together, they discussed very personal details about Gatsby's death, which until then, Gatsby had kept for himself only. Also Nick showed big concern for his friend, advising him to run away before they could trace down his car and blame him for Myrtle's death. He missed more than one train before saying goodbye to Gatsby for the very last time.

In addition we could say that their friendship does not end with Gatsby's death, because Nick is expressing his loyalty even after the tragic events. Not only was he almost the only one attending the funeral, he even tried to get other people to attend it, but unsuccessfully. He also showed a lot of interest about Gatsby's mysterious past in the conversation with Gatsby's father. In contrast to other characters, who barely noticed Gatsby's death and ignored it, he was affected by it.

Though at first glance the two characters seem completely different, almost the opposites of each other: wealthy, dreamy criminal Jay Gatsby and modest, realistic, honest Nick Carraway; I would argue that they have something very important in common: a similar past. None of them was born rich and they were once both dreaming about becoming wealthy. This enabled Nick to be more understanding and to sympathise with Gatsby. They both once believed in the American dream, but Nick forgot about that idea much sooner than Gatsby, whose illusions broke apart just before his own death. The biggest difference between them, Nick being a realist and Gatsby a dreamer, actually strengthens their bond, because they admired the quality of their friend that they lacked. Gatsby also does not have any other friends and most of the time he is surrounded by crowds of dishonest and immoral rich people, who mostly do not even know him. As a consequence the bond he has with Nick is even more important to him. On the other hand Nick seems to be much more sociable but when it comes to women, he is not able to express his love like Gatsby does, and is still single.

All in all Nick and Gatsby's friendship is important for both of them and for the story itself. Although they are quite different from each other, they complement one another and admire those qualities