

SELF-DETERMINATION OF GATSBY'S CHARACTER IN F.S FITZGERALD'S THE GREAT GATSBY

SELF-DETERMINATION OF GATSBY'S CHARACTER IN F.S FITZGERALD'S THE GREAT GATSBY

Ines Indira Prameswari

English Literature, Faculty of Languages and Arts, Surabaya State University
inesindira9@gmail.com

Dr. Ali Mustofa, M.Pd.

English Department, Faculty of Languages and Arts, Surabaya State University
alimustofa_007@gmail.com

Abstrak

Studi ini mengacu pada penggambaran penentuan nasib sendiri yang dilakukan oleh karakter utama dan bagaimana tekadnya memberikan tingkatan dalam keberadaannya. Penentuan diri digunakan sebagai cara yg muncul dari rasa ketiadaan dalam menerima kenyataan esensi untuk menjadi sesuatu dan ada dalam kehidupan. Masalah pertama tentang bagaimana Jay Gatsby menentukan nasibnya dirinya menjadi ada. Yang kedua memaparkan bagaimana keberadaan Gatsby di dalam masyarakat. Untuk menjawab permasalahan, penelitian ini menggunakan teori eksistensialisme oleh Jean Paul Satre, terutama dalam bukunya yang berjudul *Being And Nothingness*, dan *Humanism*, dan penulis buku *The Great Gatsby*, Francis Scott Fitzgerald, yang mengacu pada keberadaan laki-laki dalam masyarakatnya. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa penentuan nasib sendiri digambarkan ketika Gatsby bersikeras untuk mempertahankan pemikirannya, perasaan dan perilaku merupakan tindak dari motivasi bawah sadar. Dia menentukan dirinya untuk menjadi seorang penulis untuk dirinya sendiri. Kemudian, berdasarkan Sartre tentang konsep kesadaran, kesepian Gatsby telah membawa dia ke dalam kondisi penderitaan, kesedihan, dan keputus asaan. Kondisi tersebut membuat kekayaan dan cinta menjadi keputusan dalam penentuan nasib di kehidupan Gatsby. Tapi, orang-orang di sekitar Gatsby berpikir bahwa dia tidak mungkin memiliki nasib yang sama, kepekaan, dan rasa seperti kekayaan yang mereka miliki. Kesimpulan di atas menyetujui bahwa konsep Sartre eksistensialisme dalam penentuan nasib sendiri sangat mendukung bahwa karakter memiliki keinginan yang kuat untuk bebas untuk menentukan cara hidupnya dimanapun dan kapanpun dia berada.

Kata kunci: Penentuan diri, ekistensialisme, Sartre, *The Great Gatsby*

Abstract

This study focuses on depicting self-determination performed by main character's act and how his self-determination gives raise to his existence. The self determination is used as the way of his nothingness in accepting the truth of his essence to be something and exist in life. The first problem talks about how Jay Gatsby determines himself to be exist. The second reveals the what society's opinion on Gatsby's existence. To answer the problems, this study uses the theory of existentialism by Jean Paul Satre, especially in his book entitled *Being And Nothingness*, and *Humanism*. And supported by Francis Scott Fitzgerald, which focus on men's existence in his society. The result of the study shows that self determination is depicted when Gatsby insists on determining his self to maintain his thought, feeling and behavior entirely by unconscious motivations. He determines himself to be an author for himself. Then, based on Sartre term of consciousness, Gatsby's loneliness brings him to the condition of anguish, forlornness, and despair. Those conditions make the wealth and love become decision in Gatsby life. But, people around Gatsby think that he cannot possibly have the same refinement, sensibility, and taste like wealth they have. The above conclusion approves that Sartre's concept of existentialism of determination strongly supports that character possesses a strong desire to be free to determine the way of his life wherever and whenever he will be.

Key words: Self-determination, existentialism, Sartre, the great Gatsby.

INTRODUCTION

Human is created differently from other God's creatures. When a man was born to the Earth, the world establishes the future for him. Man as human is given intellectual ability in facing life. Unlike animal that has no fear and worry about limitedness and lackness, human always tries to fight his lack and weakness. Animals feel sufficient as long as they fed well, find a warm shelter, and lay their eggs or give births to their babies safely. They never ask anything surrounding them that does not support or even harm them. On the other hand, human never takes anything just for granted. Human always wants to makes bad things in his life good, and makes the good things better no matter if it would make him better or even worse. All of his life is a struggle to do the best in order to find and realize his life existence. Dagun says that, "To be exist means doing action, becoming, and planning useful thing" (Dagun, 1990:17)

When God creates human, human will be growing up filling himself with knowledge and value. Later, human argues himself to search for self actualization. Before human comes to actualize himself, he seems no satisfy. This no satisfaction appears because a beyond limit desire of man exists significantly. The ego of human exists because human goes to increase his desire. Human go on striving to get something such a love and happiness. Human goes on jumping ahead of himself. Every human being becomes less than the previous conditions, human always tries to seek every kind of possibilities. Absolutely, this effort will be done in order to find a better life condition, this basic character in every human then what we call as existence.

The concept of self-determination refers to self actualization of every human to determine their own destiny. Self determination is determine our innate need to create a meaningful existence in life. In other words, the existentialism emphasize the individual in unique position as a self-determining human who responsible for his or her choices (Corey, 1996: 169).

Human existence is said to be authentic when he can determine himself to choose and to decide freely who and what he will become. Moreover, Human being form himself trough out their own act and manner. To form himself, human does not want to be determined by others, even nature and social culture. Human has his self-determination to choose the way for freedom. In this real life, as long as responsible it is free for human to takes a part on whatever human want. Human also can shows their reasons up on what he has done (Dagun, 1990: 18). Besides, the discourse of marriage as an institution of sexuality is not only centered to the normal or deviant, but also to the social relation and of course underlies the

power relations hierarchically. Then, how about prostitution?

In order to understand the current meaning of existentialism, the first step is understand the n view of existentialism which derived from the writings of three political activists, not from an intellectual purists. Sartre was involved in various wars because they believe passionately in fighting for the survival of their nations and peoples. Existentialism is not dark. It is not depressing. Existentialism is about life. Existentialists believes in living and in fighting for life. The politics of existentialists are varies, but each of existentialist seeks the most individual freedom for people within a society. (<http://www.allaboutphilosophy.org/existentialism.htm>).

Through his book, Sartre says that existentialism is a philosophical theory or approach that emphasizes the existence of the individual person as a free and responsible agent determining their own development through acts of will. Man makes for himself (Childe, 1937). Because of various existentialists view which are followed by its definition, the researcher will more focuses on Sartre's L'existentialisme est un Humanisme, and Being and Nothingness which formulated with simple statement of basic charachteristic of existentialism.

Another theory connected to Sartre's existential theory of being-with-others is Gould's. Gould in his book Diotima Platonic Love Theory which consists of the following parts: First, Diotima defines love as the desire to possess the good or the beautiful forever. Second, this desire is not only about the sexual kind, but also the desire of riches, the artist's desire of beautiful works, or the philosopher's love of wisdom. Third, all lovers desire to create either children, or an intellectual things as art works and political systems. By being creative lovers, it is easy to achieve some sort of immortality. Last, the beauty and off spring of the mind are more honorable than the body. The most admirable lovers are those who move from the love of the physical to the love of the intellectual and general. (Gould, 1963)

Based on these facts, this thesis depicted to readers that within characters of Jay Gatsby in Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby is trying to be exist. Fitzgerald expresses his ideas concern in reality, human existence, and social life. Within the novel presents the rise and fall of Jay Gatsby, as related in a first person narrative by Nick Carraway. Jay gatsby is farmer's son who turned into bootlegger for wealth. As human being, he thinks that the wealth is acquired solely to gain acceptance into the sophisticated. His romantic illusions about the power of money to buy respectability and the

love of Daisy Buchanan, the golden girl of his dreams. Based on Dagung, human existences are determined being authentic when he is able to sort and decide freely of who and what he will be. The human being construct their own act and manner. In the process of constructs himself, he do not want to be affected and convinced by others, nature and social culture. In this real life, it is free for human to take a part on whatever he want. Human may also demonstrates their reasons upon what he has done. That is what human existence means. (Dagung, 1990:18)

The Fitzgerald's novel represents literary works function as a guidance in real life. Because by reading this novel, the reader can takes what has happened as a lesson to face the real life. For instance, it can be found in Jay Gatsby's character when he determines him self for things. It strongly true that basically every human being will defend his existence where and when he is, although he must be responsible for more and more extraordinary risk that he faced. Its beliefs are centered on the idea of determining his self effort to find the existence in different choices and situations. It is proven when the main charachter, Gatsby determines to make him self in his society, by stating :

"The truth was that Jay Gatsby, of West Egg, Long Island, sprang from his Platonic conception of himself. He was a son of God—a phrase which, if it means anything, means just that—and he must be about His Father's business, the service of a vast, vulgar, and meretricious beauty. So he invented just the sort of Jay Gatsby that a seventeen year old boy would be likely to invent, and to this conception he was faithful to the end". (Fitzgerald, 1925: 76)

Then, the main reasons why the study choose The *Great Gatsby* for the object of research is concerning to many thing. First, The reputation of the author Francis Scott Key Fitzgerald was born in 24 September, 1896. He was an n author of novels and short stories. He works the paradigmatic writings of the Jazz Age, a term he coined. He is considered a member of the Lost Generation of the 1920s. In 1920s, he completed four novels, such as: *This Side of Paradise*; *The Beautiful and Damned*; *The Great Gatsby* (his most notable); and *Tender Is the Night*. However the fifth, unfinished novel, *The Love of the Last Tycoon*, was published posthumously. And *The Great Gatsby* was the most famous of Fitzgerald novels. He also writes many short stories that treat themes of the early days and hope along with age and despair.

For the tittle of this thesis is "Self-Determination of Gatsby's Character". Gatsby is a fictional characters. He has choices and situations that has been reduced to meaning any dilemma revealing to the true nature of a person. He determining his self in extreme effort to find existence in society wherever and whenever he will be. He must responsible in confront more and more

extraordinary risk that he faced. His effort shows that existence is very essential to human being. It can be identified as a reflection of our self as human. And discussing about self existence connect with self determination of character in *The Great Gatsby* is very interesting. Because of those reason, this study directs to examine about Gatsby's self-determination.

In accordance of background study above, it can be simplify to discuss among two problems that emerge as significant concern toward this novel.

1. How does Gatsby determine his self in Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*?
2. What are the social significances of Gatsby's self determination in Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*?

RESEARCH METHOD

The thesis is regarded as a descriptive-qualitative study library research. The methods of this study such as source of data, data collection, and data anlalysis.

This study uses Francis Scot Fitzgerald's novel, entitled *The Great Gatsby*. The writer Francis Scot Fitzgerald is regarded as one of the greatest n writers of the 20th century. The novel published in United States in 1925, as the main data during analysis. The data are in the form of quotations, dialogues that indicate existence in human being.

The method of collecting data in this thesis is the library method. Library reseacrh uses an approach in anlyzing this study. That is why it is not served in numbering or table. The kind of library research is close to search quotations phrases that support an idea of analyzing this study.

The steps of how the data analyzes are devided into six steps. First, classssification based on the statement of the problems. This classification is used to avoid the broader discussion. There are three classifications in this study. They are Jay Gatsby's self-determination, his act, and the factor which makes Jay Gatsby deals with the condition of existence. Second, describing Jay Gatsby's characterization, which is stated from the questions and statements by using the theory of Sartre. Third, describing the concept of existentialism. Quotations divided how existence that can happened by the main character in the novel. Next, showing the existence for individual without care with the objects. In this case, showing the main character's act in realizing the existentence. Then, describe the significances of Jay Gatsby's self determination in Francis Scot Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*. And the last, drawing the conclusion based on analysis.

DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

In *The Great Gatsby*, Jay Gatsby is the most interesting character, because he is a literary character steeped in mystery. Gatsby brinks of the future looking back at the innocence lost in the past. One quality of Gatsby is his complex in self-determination. Gatsby acquired his fortune through hard work and self-determination despite having to do it illegally. He was involved with underground operations of the world, with Meyer Wolfsheimer. What made him willing to take such risk was his determination to accomplish his goals. Gatsby comes to wealth to hide his past. He is forward to a materialism, born out of self-realization.

Self-determination on Jay Gatsby shows clearly on how he was insisting fighting to get confession from people. Gatsby obtained the wealth to fulfill his desire for fortune and his determination to reunite with his former love, Daisy. He spent what is essentially his entire life forging this path. This is a very powerful example of self-realization in what is possibly considered *The Great Novel*. The self-determination of Gatsby to fight for a confession has been through a lot of things, including his struggle to raise the degree of social class.

Gatsby's consciousness displays in his sole business associate, Meyer Wolfsheimer." He and this Wolfsheimer bought up a lot of side-street drug-stores here and in Chicago and sold grain alcohol over the counter." (Fitzgerald, 1925: 103) They bootleg liquor in the early twenties during prohibition. In this case, Gatsby is willing to break the values to achieve his fortune and better condition as he wishes. He is willing to relinquish being a law-abiding citizen and making his money illegally. He does not seem to get someone else in trouble with the law. But shortly, he has making consumers or people around him being an object to help him succeed and being rich.

The things around which has objected by Gatsby is his family. His parents were shiftless and unsuccessful farm people and his imagination had never really accepted them as his parents at all. Because of this, he conscious as subject, he is free to reinvent himself. His determination in how he is going successful in separating himself from his past and his ambition in how he went from being penniless to earning all his money, turning him into the successful and rich Gatsby.

became Jay Gatsby is his action in removing and break the chains of his family tree which is a lower class. A farmer family name should be removed from his life history. Impossible if an upper class has come from a family of farmers. This is because the name of the family is very important in the social class structure reflects the name of the class for which a person belongs. This is not because the class is formed by generations so it affects

the family name. So unwittingly Gatsby intention to increase the class is very strong. The existence of Gatsby's belief that he can buy his future and spoil his past innocence with unconsciousness or dream. His vision becomes a substitute for the ideal.

"James Gatz that was really, or at least legally, his name. He had changed it at the age of seventeen and at the specific moment that witnessed the beginning of his career when he saw Dan Cody's yacht drop anchor over the most insidious fat on Lake Superior. It was James Gatz who had been loafing along the beach that afternoon in a torn green jersey and a pair of canvas pants, but it was already Jay Gatsby who borrowed a row-boat, pulled out to the TUOLOMEE and informed Cody that a wind might catch him and break him up in half an hour" (Fitzgerald, 1925: 104-105).

"I suppose he'd had the name ready for a long time, even then. His parents were shiftless and unsuccessful farm people his imagination had never really accepted them as his parents at all" (Fitzgerald, 1925: 104-105).

The changed of original name is a consciousness manifestation of Gatsby in his class. The consciousness of name is a person's social class identity. He is not going to change his name if he came from the upper social class families. Consciousness in this renaming as well as evidence that he is indeed preparing their social mobility early mature to obtain his existence. Later, life will be helped by this new name when he became a top class. This name change is the basis for obtaining a higher grade. A person would not get confession upper class wealthy though it without having the name of a top class. Wealth became his superficial goal overshadowing him. He established his necessity to acquire wealth, which allowed him to be high grade. He created a second life for himself. This presents Sartre existential concept which is "existence precedes essence", that is, man is born with no God-given soul or human essence, so it is his job to create it for himself as he goes about existing. (Sartre, 1946: 8)

In *Being and Nothingness*, Sartre describes consciousness is the source that creates nothing. With arising consciousness, the existing is threatened by nothingness. It means being conscious of something is to negate something. Connected with gained the upper class image, Gatsby had to bring nothingness around people in West Egg. He had to do something to himself and their surrounding. He must have properties like the upper class, have the luxury homes and cars. Gatsby's luxurious house not only serves as a place to live, but it has an existence that he is a millionaire that making differences in Jazz Age era. In these cases, Gatsby try to knowing the condition of people as object by observing them, his ability appear by nothingness (Sartre, 1943: 58).

"The one on my right was a colossal affair by any standard—it was a factual imitation of some Hôtel de Ville in Normandy, with a tower on one side, spanking new under a thin beard of raw ivy, and a marble swimming pool and more than forty

acres of lawn and garden. It was Gatsby's mansion" (Fitzgerald, 1925: 7)

By this quotation, people will understand that the owners of luxury homes is the rich man. The rich must have come from the upper class. Appearance upscale existence not only through her imagery through the ownership of valuable objects, but also to socialize which is done by following the upscale lifestyle. One of them by often having a party at his home. Gatsby uses his money to throw extravagant parties, with the purpose of attracting Daisy's interest. "The parties are spectacular with orchestras and bars filled with gins, liquor and cordials, despite the Prohibition" (Fitzgerald, 1925:43).

In existence, the power of consciousness enables man to reject his self present condition (Sartre, 1943: 63). By the freedom, as a man Gatsby feel dissatisfied with his present condition which that in fact he has not been able to get back his love, Daisy. When Gatsby met Daisy at the first time, his realisation of his ideals was possible. Then, he turns away from the quest to realise his ideals to make a fortune . After he makes his fortune, he buy back the moment which has forsaken. He cannot sustain his ideals in their original, innocent form because they have been spoilt, so he dreams. (Sartre, 1943: 63)

The existence of Gatsby's belief that he can buy back the lost moment of innocence with the reality that he has spoilt his innocence can only be tolerated in a state of unconsciousness. The dream becomes a substitute for the ideal. Gatsby was focused solely on obtaining the admiration and affection of Daisy. He was a free man. He did not allow anybody else to influence him otherwise (Sartre, 1954:63). His devotion to Daisy is apparent in chapter seven, where he covers for Daisy after she kills her husband's mistress, Myrtle.

"I wouldn't ask too much of her," I ventured. "You can't repeat the past. "Can't repeat the past?" he cried incredulously. Why of course you can!" (Fitzgerald, 1925: 118)

His love for Daisy is also described in the dialogue below which tells how Gatsby feels when he kissed Daisy and that is the start of Gatsby's never ending love for that woman. Gatsby never stopped loving Daisy. He still continued to get her even though she is already married. His self determination to keep getting what he wants always grown.

Gatsby's wealth is not important to him. Wealth is nothing because he use it to get what he really wants, which is Daisy (Barbour: 69). Daisy which was placed before him as an object. Gatsby as subjective person placed his eyes and mind upon Daisy.

"He wanted to recover something, some idea of himself perhaps, that had gone into loving Daisy. His life had been confused and disordered since then, but if he could once return to a certain starting place and go over it all slowly, he could find out what that thing was." (Fitzgerald, 1925: 118)

The Green light is a symbol of Gatsby's longing for Daisy. Gatsby has spent his whole life longing for

something better: Money, success, acceptance, and Daisy. And no matter how much he has he never feels complete. Even when he has his large house full of interesting people and all of their attention, he still longs for Daisy. So the green light stands for all of Gatsby's longings and wants. Nick connects the green light to all people and to the existentialism view of people's continuing desire for meaningful existence.

Gould viewed from more distant perspectives to see Gatsby as an archetypally tragic figure, the epitome of idealism and innocence which strives for order, purpose and meaning in a chaotic and hostile world. In this sense Gatsby contains religious and metaphysical dimensions: the young man who shapes a "Platonic vision of himself" and who endows the worthless figure of Daisy with religious essence, eventually passes away into nothingness, with few at the funeral to lament the passing of his romantic dream. (Gould, 1963)

Nick returns to significance theme of the past to dreams of the future, here represented by the green light. He focuses on the struggle of human beings to achieve their goals by both transcending and re-creating the past. This shows the existential concept of facticity which can be more easily understood when considering it in relation to the temporal dimension of past. One's past is what one is in the sense that it co-constitutes them. Yet humans prove themselves unable to move beyond the past, and the present draws them backward as they row forward toward the greenlight. This past functions as the source of their ideas about the future epitomized by Gatsby's desire to re-create himself. He makes affair with Daisy and they cannot escape it as they continue to struggle to transform their dreams into reality. "So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past" (Fitzgerald 1925, 9: 193).

When Gatsby first met Daisy and when they are reunited, he is profoundly dishonest and manipulative. In asking Daisy to leave Tom, he is being scheming to get her to be with him. Gatsby lied to Daisy without the slightest bit of remorse because she is the idealized object of his dreams and, therefore, is not real. Daisy is considered a possession and Gatsby has to fight Tom for this possession. "Your wife doesn't love you," said Gatsby. "She's never loved you. She loves me." (Fitzgerald, 1925: 100) When Tom and Gatsby were fighting over Daisy, Daisy is the prized possession to be fought over on the basis of social and economic conventions. Daisy is a possession of material to Tom, while Daisy is an ideal possession for Gatsby. Either way, both are being manipulative and dishonest to Daisy. This shows that neither one of them truly care for or about Daisy's feelings. This presents the common concept of existentialism which is absurdity. Daisy, Tom

and Gatsby must strive to face all the hostilities and indifference of other people toward them.

Sartre (1954:63) states, the freedom is always absolute and undetermined, the decision of man does not prevent him from choice; neither does it determine his identity, national history, economical condition, addiction, or any other which automatically directs one to make his choice (Sartre, 1954:63). In being free from his past, Gatsby tries to increase his social status with lies of his own. He lies about things that could influence his social status. Belonging to an "old family" with "old money" generates a higher social status than self-earned money does (Warner, Meeker & Eells, 2006: 74). The lies that Gatsby tells about his background are related to his own view of social class. As he claims to be the heir of a San Francisco family Gatsby tries to turn his new money into old money which would increase his status. Not only that, Gatsby also confess that he come off as an Oxford man, and this confession to hide his background and to fit in to the upper class society.

"I was brought up in but educated at Oxford because all my ancestors have been educated there for many years. It is a family tradition." He looked at me sideways – and I knew why Jordan Baker had believed he was lying. He hurried the phrase "educated at Oxford" or swallowed it or choked on it as though it had bothered him before (Fitzgerald, 1925:65).

The ability to act like a gentleman may be one aspect of it, however, it is not always enough to receive a certain social status. With Gatsby's background as an officer and a student at Oxford, Fitzgerald illustrates that there are other factors than wealth and behavior included in a social status, such as heritage. Gatsby does possess the external attributes required for any social status: "In Louisville, at war, and at Oxford he is accepted as an officer and a gentleman" (Berman 81).

Gatsby's story about Oxford as the best universities in the world is a big lie. Confession of higher education background is one of Gatsby's alibi to adjust to the conditions of the upper classes. Upper class people at least have a high educational background and higher educational backgrounds were usually hereditary. So that people around Gatsby really think and believe that Gatsby is derived or indeed the upper class.

Gatsby was fight against time but the means by which he fight are inextricably of his world. Additionally Gatsby does not just want a world of eternal returns in order to add weight to life; he wants to live eternally in the one single moment of most promise, the moment of most future before the future was spoilt.

Gatsby obsessively desired to make Daisy fall for him again. Thus, Gatsby engaged in criminal activity as his only path to being rich. His need for money had become so great that he was in the drug business. Furthermore, he lied to Nick about his past and claimed to others that he has inherited his wealth in order to cover

up his criminal activity. Gatsby entered a world where money takes precedence over moral integrity. Materialism has already overshadowed a portion of his spiritual side.

Gatsby succeeds in changing his life as he goes from having nothing to being very wealthy. His success, however, comes during a corrupt time. Exactly how Gatsby made his fortune is not clear but it is clear that he is or was involved in some illegal business. In Gatsby, Fitzgerald shows that consciousness feeling is achievable but by adding the illegal aspect of Gatsby's success he also problematizes that Gatsby's success is dependent on the fact that he did not follow the rules of society. In *A Corruption of Character* (2008: 76), Michael Millgate considers Gatsby's involvement in an illegal business to be criticism of the American Dream: "In stressing the corruption at the heart of Gatsby's dream, as well as exposing, in the revelation of Daisy's character, the tawdriness of what the dream aspires to, Fitzgerald clearly intended a fundamental criticism of the determination to exist..." (Milgate, 2008: 76). As Gatsby turns to an illegal business to achieve his fortune, the fact that everyone does not have the same opportunities to succeed is demonstrated by Fitzgerald.

Jay Gatsby earned all of his money and lived his whole life, in hopes to win Daisy's affection. Gatsby's checkered past of bootlegging, shows that he would stop at nothing to have Daisy. He separated to his family and traveled away to educate himself and to enter illegal business. Gatsby became independent throughout the story. He stayed away from his only father and tried to lie in order to hide his real life. Even during parties, Gatsby can't be seen with others mingling, instead, Gatsby is alone in one room or in corner. This presents the concept of preserving separateness as an emblem of independence.

Actually, Gatsby commits his life to becoming a man of the sort of wealth and stature he imagines could win Daisy's love. "Her voice is full of money." (Fitzgerald, 7: 128). Gatsby knows that only the money that could win Daisy.

After the war, Gatsby made a fortune in bootlegging thanks to his association with gangsters like Meyer Wolfsheimer and set himself up in a mansion in West Egg across from East Egg, where Daisy and Tom Buchanan live. Every weekend, Gatsby hosts parties open to all comers, in the hopes that Daisy will attend and he can win her heart.

"I was immediately struck by the number of young Englishmen dotted about; all well dressed, all looking a little hungry, and all talking in low, earnest voices to solid and prosperous men. I was sure that they were selling something: bonds or insurance or automobiles. They were at least agonizingly aware of the easy money in the vicinity and convinced that it was theirs for a few words in the right key." (Fitzgerald, 1925: 46)

Work is one part of the business ways Jay Gatsby to obtain his existence in the world. Gatsby started to change his fate when he was 17 years old. When he saw a luxury boat or yacht belonging to a businessman Dan Cody gold. Then he swam toward the ship and ask for a job to Dan Cody and changed his name from James Gatz became Jay Gatsby. Gatsby gradually become right hand to Dan Cody untill Cody died. "To the young Gatz, resting on his oars and looking up at the railed deck, the yacht represented all the beauty and glamour in the world" (Fitzgerald, 2007: 104-105).

In this case Gatsby also saw an opportunity very ingenious. Gatsby's desire to become someone else, his dream in moving from the dying farm and up into the world of riches and many. He travels along Lake Superior where uhe find Dan Cody and his Yacht. "...moment that witnessed the beginning of his career, when he saw Dan Cody's yacht drop anchor over the most insidious flat on Lake Superior." (Fitzgerald, 2007: 104-105).

So basically Gatsby not only want to earn money, he also wants to gain experience in the business world. Accomplished businessman character is later reflected how Gatsby success in bootlegging business in the future. That so that will help in achieving a higher social class because success in career Gatsby becomes rich. When Gatsby become bootleggers. The illegal business is very successful and he suddenly becomes the new rich. Gatsby economic levels increased dramatically from previous jobs. This illegal business is the impact of high levels of alcohol consumption. It makes a great advantage for the illegal liquor business because commodity liquor legally prohibited. This makes Gatsby increasing social class to upper class due to rising levels of illegal business economy.

This novel also depicted is the community who concern for wealth and their existence in their society. At the turn of the twentieth century, immigrant were coming to the United States by the millions. They abandoning a past poverty and embracing the possibility of rolling in money in the land of freedom and liberty. (Canterbury, 2006:189)

According to Donaldson (1984), people experienced an unprecedented economic boom in 1920s that allowed the values of materialism and ambition to remove over the low mentality. With social mobility apparently possible for everyone during the 1920s, many ns determine themselves in "get-rich-quick" mind by determining themselves to be success. But, in fact, there is one side of the gap of social class inequalities that more severe, and sometimes included illegal activities such as gambling and bootlegging happen. (Donaldson, 1984: 106-107)

In The Great Gatsby, Jay Gatsby reflected the man who has the ambition in obtaining the freedom and wealth at society. Jazz age is a class society. There's no such thing as the Dream or the up from the bootstraps self made man. Gatsby is who he was born, It's a pretty grim picture of n society and life who lived through after the leaden, could feel pretty grim indeed. Connected with social significances, the Gatsby bears how great the effort and beliefs about himself as social beings, to be exist in society, to gain the love and happiness.

"I decided to call to him. Miss Baker had mentioned him at dinner, and that would do for an introduction. But I didn't call to him, for he gave a sudden intimation that he was content to be alone, he stretched out his arms toward the dark water in a curious way, and, far as I was from him, I could have sworn he was trembling. Involuntarily I glanced seaward, and distinguished nothing except a single green light, minute and far away, that might have been the end of a dock. When I looked once more for Gatsby he had vanished, and I was alone again in the unquiet darkness". (Fitzgerald, 1925:152)

From quotation above, exactly it is never seen Gatsby's version of directly, but it gets glimpses through Nick's narrative and through ephemera like his childhood notebook. Judging from the way he is staring across the water, Gatsby has a pretty spectacular vision as n dreamer. When Gatsby organized crimes there, it becomes intimately associated with hedonistic good times and illegal activities, such as a bootlegger and liar. It is appropriate that Fitzgerald included a Wolfshiem, for the fixing of the World Series reflected the idea that money could buy any n absolutely anything, even love and happiness. (Donaldson, 1984 p. 106 - 107)

"It was when curiosity about Gatsby was at its highest that the lights in his house failed to go on one Saturday night and, as obscurely as it had begun, his career as Trimalchio was over. Only gradually did I become aware that the automobiles which turned expectantly into his drive stayed for a minute and then drove sulkily away." (Fitzgerald, 1925: 50)

As the n society, Gatsby makes himself became the new himself, survive and learned the values of self-determination to rise, optimism and aspiration, be individuals felt that he could leave behind his pasts completely and could become anyone he wanted to be. Gatsby's parties have come to an end, and so have the expectations of the other characters. Trimalchio is a character created by the Roman Petronius in which Trimalchio rises from "rags to riches," but then fails due to the ostentation of his success. The existence in society in this novel became significant. For Gatsby, money not only makes the world go around but also make him move in right decision. He can buy a yellow roll Royce, glass blue dresses, indulgent the society, and more. So that, he finds the great confession in society and he feels like happiness on his hand, though at the end nobody cares with him. While on the other hand, there are people who have struggled to achieve the good life and luxury like

that, even though such a life is not a guarantee someone so live happily ever after. Because human nature was basically greedy, once he gets something, he always wanted more, never satisfied. Someone who pursues something bad in principle, it will end badly too.

In *The Great Gatsby*, Fitzgerald presents two distinct types of wealthy people. First, there are people like the Buchanans and Jordan Baker who were born into wealth. Their families have had money for many generations, hence they are "old money." As portrayed in the novel, the "old money" people don't have to work. They spend their time amusing themselves with whatever takes their fancy. Daisy, Tom, Jordan, and the distinct social class represent the story of elitist group. According to them, Gatsby has imposing distinctions on the other people's wealth. Even the fact, the elit group doesn't based on how much money one has, but where that money came from and when it was acquired. For the old money people, Gatsby has acquired his money just recently. That was reason enough to dislike him. In their way of thinking, Gatsby can not possibly have the same refinement, sensibility, and taste likes they have. Not only does, but he also work for a living because he comes from a low class background. In their opinion, means he can't possibly be like them.

In many ways, the social elite are right. The new money people cannot be like them, and in many ways old money people works for their favor. In society's highest echelon are not nice people at all. They are judgmental and superficial, failing to look at the essence of the people around them. Instead, they live in such a way as to perpetuate their sense of superiority. Think of Gatsby's partygoers, they attend his parties, drink his liquor, and eat his food, never once taking the time to even meet their host. They even bother to wait for an invitation, they just show up. When Gatsby dies, all the people who frequented his house every week mysteriously became busy elsewhere, abandoning Gatsby when he could no longer do anything for them. One would like to think the newly wealthy would be more sensitive to the world around them. After all, it was only recently they were without money, doors were closed to them.

Fitzgerald shows, Old money peoples are concerns largely living for the moment, steeped in partying and other forms of excess. They have assumed by skewed worldviews. They believing mistakenly that their survival lies in stratification and reinforcing social boundaries. They erroneously place their faith in money and materialism. While they was neglecting to cultivate the compassion and sensitivity that human is does not like animals.

In Daisy opinion, She does not like Gatsby's party too. It is too much like an amusement park. At the party Daisy seems to be very disgusted with the events.

"She didn't like it," he said immediately.

"Of course she did."

"She didn't like it," he insisted. "She didn't have a good time."

He was silent, and I guessed at his unutterable depression.

"I feel far away from her," he said. "It's hard to make her understand."

"You mean (Fitzgerald, 1925: 84)

This of course puts Gatsby down since in a way those parties had always been for Daisy. Gatsby had always thrown these parties in hope that maybe some day Daisy would waltz in. What Gatsby most wants is to impress Daisy, he wants her to want him. She thought the party was tasteless and classless. Because all of the people there are not even friends of Gatsby's. They are just there to take advantage of the party

"He had one of those rare smiles with a quality of eternal reassurance in it, that you may come across four or five times in life. It faced, or seemed to face, the whole external world for an instant and then concentrated on you with an irresistible prejudice in your favor. It understood you just as far as you wanted to be understood, believed in you as you would like to believe in yourself." (Fitzgerald, 1925: 39)

This passage occurs in Chapter 3 as part of Nick's first close examination of Gatsby's character and appearance. This description of Gatsby's smile captures both the theatrical quality of Gatsby's character and his charisma. Additionally, it encapsulates the manner in which Gatsby appears to the outside world. An image Fitzgerald slowly deconstructs as the novel progresses toward Gatsby's death in Chapter 8. One of the main facets of Gatsby's persona is that he acts out a role that he defined for himself when he was seventeen years old. His smile seems to be both an important part of the role and a result of the singular combination of hope and imagination that enables him to play it so effectively. Here, Nick describes Gatsby's rare focus. He has the ability to make anyone feel as though he has chosen that person out of "the whole external world," reflecting that person's most optimistic conception of him or herself.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Based on the recent analysis of the data, the result can be concluded that Jay Gatsby obsessed with two things, those are wealth and love. He is a person who has re-made himself and who has hacked out his own essence. Through self-determination, Gatsby comes to wealth and embodies the n dream. But this embodiment is superficial, because superior morality is part of the dream, it is something Gatsby lacks. Much of his wealth is achieved by the illegal sale of alcohol in a time of prohibition He established his necessity to acquire wealth, which allowed him to be high grade. He created a second life for himself. This presents Sartre existential

concept which is "existence precedes essence", that is, man is born with no God-given soul or human essence, so it's his job to create it for himself as he goes about existing. But he never enjoys himself, because his true goal is for his life long love.

The self-determination of Gatsby to fight for a confession has been through a lot of things. Not only fight for his love for Desy but also struggled to defending the degree of social class. He is changing his name from James Gatz became Jay Gatsby is his action in remove and break the chains of his family tree which is included as lower class. He made a second life for himself in order to win Daisy's love; and he preserved his separateness as an allegory of his independence. When he became a rich person, it is done by Gatsby showing his existence of social class to the all people around. Existence in society is very important because as upscale Gatsby must immediately gained confession of its society. There are some efforts of Jay Gatsby improving their class to obtain some confession in society. Consciousness in this efforts are an evidence which is indeed preparing their new life early mature to obtain his existence.

And the last, the social significances is about love and happiness. The obtaining existence in society on this novel became important because there are emphasise some great effort and belief of Great Gatsby as n to gain love and happiness. Love and happines are the vission of his changes. He can buy a yellow roll Royce, glass blue dresses, indulgent the society, and more. So that, he finds the great confession in society and he feels like happiness on his hand, but his idealistic faith in money and life's possibility twist his dreams and life into worthless existences based on falsehoods. But, all the wealth and fame he has make people around Gatsby really that Gatsby cannot possibly have the same refinement, sensibility, and taste likes they have. Not only does, but he also work for a living because he comes from a low class background. In their opinion, means he can't possibly be like them. That was reason enough to dislike him, but like him for a while.

REFERENCES

Beerling, D.F. 1988. *Filsafat Dewasa ini*. Trans. Hasan Amin, Jakarta: Balai Pustaka.
 Berlian, Maria. 2007. *Eksistensialime Isabel Archer dalam Novel Potret of Lady karya Henry James*. Jakarta: Universitas Indonesia
 Boeree, C. G. 2005. Victor Frankl: 1905 – 1997. Available at:
<http://www.ship.edu/~cgboeree/frankl.html>
 Canterbury, Ray. 2006. *F. Scott Fitzgerald: Under the Influence*, St. Paul: Paragon House, p. 189

Childe, V. Gordon. 1937. *Man Makes Himself Vol 27*. USA: University of Chicago.press
 Corey, G. 1996. *Theory and Practice of Counseling and Psychotherapy* 5th ed. Ca:Brooks/Coles Publishing. pp. 167-195.
 Descartes, René. 1998. *Meditations on First Philosophy*, tr. Donald A. Cress Hackett Publishing.
 Darma, Budi. 2007. *Sastra, Moral, dan Kreatifitas*. Surabaya: Unesa University Press.
 Donaldson, Scott. 1984. *Critical Essays on F. Scott Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby*, Boston, MA: G.K. Hall, p. 106 – 107; p. 105
 Dostoevsky, Fyodor. 1880. *The Brothers Karamazov*. Bantam classic
 Fackenheim, E., 1961. *Metaphysics and Historicity*. Milwaukee: Marquette University Press.
 Flynn, Thomas. 2003. *Sartre, Foucault, and Historical Reason, volume 2: A post-structuralist mapping of history*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
 Frankl, V. 1959. *Man's Search for Meaning*. Boston: Beacon Press.
 Gould, Thomas. 1963. *Diotima Platonic Love Theory*. USA: Greenwood Publishing Group, Inc.
 Guppy, Shusha. 1987. *Anita Brookner :The Art of Fiction XCVIII*. New York: Paris Review;Fall87. Available at:
<http://www.theparisreview.org/interviews/2630/the-art-of-fiction-no-98-anita-brookner>
 Hannay, Alastair and Gordon Marino. 1997. *The Cambridge Companion to Kierkegaard*. Cambridge University Press
 Hasan, Fuad. 2000. *Berkenalan dengan Eksistensialism*. Jakarta: Pustaka Jaya
 Heidegger, Martin. 1982. *The Basic Problems of Phenomenology*. Trans. Albert Hofstadter. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
 Helberg, S.Estling. 2012. *Otherness and Identity: An Existential Analysis of Harry Potter in J.K Rowling's Harry Potter*. Sweden: Mid Sweden University
 Kaufman, Walter. 1975. *Existentialism from Dostoevsky to Sartre*. USA: New n Library; Revised & enlarged edition.
 Lavine, Emmanuel. 1931. *The Theory of Intuition in Husserl's Phenomenology*. United States: Northwestern University Press.
 Fanon, Frantz. 1986. *Black skin white masks: the experiences of a black Man in a white worl*.Trans.Charles L.Markmann. United Kingdom: Pluto Press.
 Sartre, J.Paul. 1946. *Existentialism is A Humanism*. Trans. Carol Macomber. New Heaven : Yale University Press.
 ----- . 1956. *Being and Nothingness:An Essay on Phenomenological Ontology*.Trans.Hazel Barnes. London; Newyork: Routledge Classics.
 Stumpf, S.Enoch. 1966. *A History of Philosophy Book 1 Ch. 24*. New York:The McGraw-Hill Companies.
 Wellek, and Warren. 1963. *Theory of Literature*. New York: Harcourt, Brace, and Co.