

# Multimodal Representations of the American Dream Theme: A Comparative Analysis of *The Great Gatsby* in Film and Novel

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**Abstract**—This research analyzes the film adaptation of *The Great Gatsby* and its written text. It aims to examine the film adaptation through the perspective of multimodal analysis to determine how it expands or contracts the viewers' comprehension of the complex themes and characters from the source material. Another goal is to determine the effect of the use of multimodal elements in the film on viewers' engagement compared to the capacity of text to achieve the same function. According to this research hypothesis, the film adaptation of *The Great Gatsby* relies heavily on multimodal modes of communication to convey themes, character development, and emotions, influencing its viewers more than the textual descriptions do. Bateman and Schmidt's (2011) model, which includes paradigmatic and syntagmatic analysis, underpins the evaluation of the film. A thematic sample was selected for the multimodality analysis to compare the novel by F. Scott Fitzgerald to the film version directed by Baz Luhrmann in 2013, featuring Leonardo DiCaprio and Carey Mulligan. This research finds that the film adaptation presents a distinct interpretation of the American Dream compared to that of the novel. Fitzgerald's work conveys ideas through introspective narration and lush, descriptive language, allowing for a more nuanced and personal understanding of the American Dream.

**Index Terms**—different interpretations, multimodal text, multimodality, written text

## I. INTRODUCTION

The idea of multimodality permeates our entire existence. Life, communication, and society are undeniably becoming more complex every year. Our lives are increasingly multimodal as a direct outcome. While multimodal communication was evident in some classical artistic practices, the proliferation of mass media and technological advancements has made it pervasive in modern life (Constantinou, 2005). Multimodality is an interdisciplinary field that studies how meaning is produced and interpreted through various modes of communication in different contexts (Dai Sl., 2013). These modes include words, gestures, facial expressions, and more. Multimodality is a technique for constructing and integrating multiple semiotic modes when making sense of something (Kress & Leeuwen, 2001). The main point is that when we communicate, we engage with multimodal media, encompassing not only spoken words but also images and sounds. All texts can be considered multimodal structures incorporating words, images, sounds, and music. As a result, multimodality has become a crucial framework in fields concerned with textual analysis, including linguistics, semiotics, media studies, and film studies. In particular, the maximum use of semiotic modes is making them one of the most studied multimodal text types in these domains.

## II. METHODOLOGY

The data chosen for the present research analysis is collected from F. Scott Fitzgerald's (2013) novel and the film adaptation directed by Baz Luhrmann, featuring Leonardo DiCaprio and Carey Mulligan. The data is qualitative in nature. The researchers selected a depiction of the American Dream in both the film and the text to support the major themes of the novel and ideas. The model employed in this study, proposed by Bateman and Schmidt (2011), utilizes multimodal film evaluation. It examines films as multimodal texts that include visual, aural, spatial, and linguistic components rather than solely as visual narratives. The goal of this method of film analysis, based on multimodal film analysis, is to understand how films convey meaning through mediums other than language. Bateman and Schmidt (2011) propose that language and semiotic models influence films' unseen underlying structures. Thus, both language and multimodality are represented in this paradigm. This model employs various language theories to address its syntagmatic and paradigmatic components.

It has two axes: syntagmatic and paradigmatic. Layers of the syntagmatic axis include film units, modes, iconic representation, perceptual realism, layout structure, and cultural background. Shot selection, editing, visual motifs, and sound design are crucial to the paradigmatic axis. This model recommends dissecting scenes, shots, frames, and transitions

as the filmic unit. In this concept, 'filmic unit' refers to film components. To understand how visuals affect the story, the film can be broken down into scenes, shots, frames, and transitions. The arrangement and sequencing of these cinematic elements must be examined to understand the director's method and its impact on the tale. Mode identification is the second level on the syntagmatic axis and the first step in recognizing film modes. This level examines how various modes interact and contribute to meaning. Next, iconic representation can be analyzed by examining how the shot is usually portrayed. The model then advances to perceptual reality. Film analysis uses "perceptual realism" to characterize depictions of situations or people that match our perceptions. The term "layout structure" refers to placing visual and audio elements within the frame, such as performers and camera angles. Body postures affect this structure, demonstrating how visual structure creates meaning. Cultural context is essential when assessing a film's multimodality, as it must be understood within its cultural context.

On the other hand, the paradigmatic axis emphasizes multiple options. It allows for various story possibilities and enables filmmakers to express concepts with the captured content. Bateman and Schmidt (2011) define the paradigmatic level in film analysis as the organizational axis that deals with alternatives. Different viewpoints or visual motifs chosen for the film sequence are examined. At the paradigmatic level, we examine filmmakers' options, which allow them to make critical decisions that shape the story and convey ideas to the viewer. The paradigmatic axis includes shot selection, editing techniques, visual motifs, and sound design. Filmmakers decide which shots to use in a sequence through shot selection. They use shot selection to choose shots for a sequence. Researchers then investigate editing techniques that involve more intricate editing and transitions (cuts, fades, dissolves). Editing combines these shots to convey story meaning and flow. Another critical aspect of the paradigmatic axis is visual motifs, which are filmic elements or patterns with symbolic or thematic significance. Motifs may include objects, colors, camera angles, or framing that convey the film's theme. The last stage of cinematic sound design integrates music, sound effects, ambient noise, and chat. Sound designers create and adjust sounds to enhance the story, evoke emotions, and immerse viewers in the film's world. The analysis aims to answer the following research questions:

1. What impact does *The Great Gatsby's* visual and auditory treatment have on the interpretation of the American Dream, compared to Fitzgerald's evocative writing in the novel?
2. How does multimodal analysis compare and contrast the depictions of the green light as a symbol of the American Dream's impossibility in the novel and film?
3. Compared to the novel's description, how does the film's use of multimodal components (such as lighting, sound, and framing) impact the viewer's perceptions of Gatsby's character and dreams?

Consequently, this research intends to analyze the film adaptation using multimodal analysis to determine whether it enhances or hinders the viewer's understanding of the complex characters and concepts from the original text. Additionally, we compare the textual version to the film adaptation to see how including multimodal features affects the viewer's investment in the plot.

### III. DATA ANALYSIS

Both *The Great Gatsby* and the film depict the American Dream, including the pursuit of material success, personal fulfillment, and creativity. The green light scene in *The Great Gatsby* illustrates this concept of the American Dream (Ismael & Sulieman, 2018). Standing between Daisy's mansion and the green light across the lake, Gatsby reflects his fantasies' elusiveness. Fitzgerald uses the novel to explore how the American Dream is corrupted. The quest for wealth and prestige leads many characters to moral deterioration, egotism, and superficiality. Gatsby's dream remains elusive because it is based on an idealized and nostalgic past (Tredell, 2011). The green light symbolizes the dream's allure and its inherent impossibility. Gatsby's inability to be with Daisy and achieve his happiness, despite his efforts, illustrates the elusive nature of the American Dream. His dream is perpetually unattainable due to its foundation in an idealized past. This scene encapsulates the novel's critique of the American Dream as an ideal that promises much but ultimately fails to provide true, long-term satisfaction. To illustrate the impact of multimodality on understanding this theme in both the film and the novel, the researchers will analyze the scene from the multimodality perspective.

The analysis of the American Dream theme will proceed as follows:

*Syntagmatic Axis:*

A. *Filmic units:* the filmic units of this scene are as follows:

(a). Scene and Shots: The scene opens with a wide shot of Gatsby's home and the bay separating it from Daisy's house. This illustration provides Gatsby with a spatial perspective on crossing a physical boundary. Next, the camera pans to Gatsby alone in the dark, facing the river with his back to the viewer. The scene emphasizes Gatsby's seclusion and the green light. To highlight the green light, the camera uses a close-up shot that sweeps across the bay, focusing on Gatsby's dream partner. The camera then pans over his shoulder to capture the green light from Gatsby's perspective. This imagery brings the viewer closer to Gatsby, increasing his sense of yearning. Nick observes Gatsby standing by the sea, illuminated by green light. Nick acts as both a viewer and a narrator in this scene. The shots are arranged logically to tell the story. Medium and close-up views of Gatsby and the green light build the mood and evoke emotion, while Nick's perspectives add a contemplative and observational layer. All the shots emphasize despair and unfulfilled dreams. The multi-view of the green light underscores its symbolic relevance. This focus and the empathy evoke intensify the viewer's sense of Gatsby's loneliness and longing, revealing his inner life.

(b). *Frames*: Bateman and Schmidt's (2011) frame analysis examines the scene's narrative, thematic composition, and visuals. The establishing shot likely includes Gatsby on one side and the bay with the green light in the background; therefore, its placement is crucial. Lighting and color play an important role as the atmosphere is likely dreary, making the green light stand out. This contrast emphasizes the light's symbolic significance. The sharp difference between the scene's gloom and the light's brilliant green highlights its relevance and appeal. The medium shot places Gatsby in the center, facing the water. Possibly with his hands in his pockets or with slightly extended arms, Gatsby's posture conveys yearning and seclusion. The soft lighting highlights Gatsby's presence against the darkness of the night. The dark tones around him emphasize his isolation, while the distant green light draws attention. The close-up focuses on Gatsby's head and shoulders, with the green light dominating the frame. This perspective immerses viewers in Gatsby's experience. This scene's sharp focus on Gatsby and the green light connects him to his fantasy. As an observer, Nick directs the viewer's attention toward Gatsby while observing his surroundings within the frame. The contrast between Nick's dark surroundings and Gatsby's green light and figure highlights Nick's role as a reflective narrator. The medium or close-up perspective reveals Nick's thoughts, adding depth to the story. Finally, the camera focuses on Gatsby's face, capturing every detail. This personal framing enhances the emotional impact of Gatsby's desire.

(c). *Transitions*: The scene features several transitions as the following:

- The transition from establishing shot to medium shot effectively shifts the viewer's focus from the setting to Gatsby. The scene's backdrop and focus on Gatsby underscore the scene's emotional depth and his isolation. The camera gently pans or tilts over the landscape, capturing Gatsby's mansion and green light.
- A cutaway from the medium shot of Gatsby to the close-up of the green light shifts the focus from Gatsby to his desire. The scene highlights Gatsby's dreams, goals, and wishes tied to the green light. The frame either moves to show Gatsby's emotions or body language or remains still to emphasize his concentration.
- Gatsby's perspective shifts as the green light transitions from close-up to overhead, indicating its evolution from a symbol to an intrinsic part of his experience. This change deepens Gatsby's symbolic and emotional connection to the green light, drawing viewers into his worldview. By adjusting the depth of field, the frame emphasizes both Gatsby and the green light.
- Switching from the shoulder shot to Nick's observation shot introduces a new perspective, either by cutting directly to Gatsby or alternating between his viewpoints and those of the main character. This transition enhances the scene by contrasting Gatsby's internal experience with Nick's external observation, highlighting the difference between the dreamer and the observer.

B. *Identify Modes*: various modes in this scene are as follows:

(a). *Visual modes*: "Lighting" stands out in the scene's visuals. In contrast to Gatsby's melancholy, the bright green light is prominent. This emphasizes Gatsby's loneliness and desire. The green light symbolizes Gatsby's unattainable dreams and represents his aspirations and future. Gatsby must strive to reach the green light. Mystery and grief are enhanced by the darkness. Scene composition and framing are critical. Gatsby is often seen alone, silhouetted against the night, underlining his solitude and the distance between him and his ideal. The space between Gatsby and the green light indicates his inaccessibility to Daisy. Additionally, the movements of the camera and positioning reflects The American Dream in an artistic way. Long shots capture the green light in the distance, highlighting the separation and setting. Close-up shots of Gatsby's facial expressions reveal his inner emotions and states. When viewed from a low angle, Gatsby appears fragile, but from a high angle, he seems ambitious. Gatsby's eyes beam with desire as he gazes at the green light. He exudes hope and expectation while standing still and looking outside. He wears a suit to casual events to demonstrate his devotion and seriousness, always prepared to meet Daisy. Lastly, the pier and water symbolize the separation of Gatsby and Daisy, while the faint silhouette of Daisy's dock adds to the sense of longing.

(b). *Auditory Modes*: Gatsby's disappointment and desire are heightened by the soundtrack of scene somber, which emphasizes visual loneliness and longing and sets an emotional tone. The subtle sound of water lapping on the pier, the faint rustle of trees, and the distant sound enhance the scene. The score and sound effects evoke intense emotions. The melancholy melody accentuates Gatsby's desire and sense of disappointment. Ambient noises emphasize Gatsby's quiet vigil. Nature sounds and music draw viewers into the environment and evoke emotion. Nick's narration dominates the audio, as his knowledge of Gatsby's past and emotions brings depth to the plot. Therefore, the narrator sets the tempo and tone.

(c). *Linguistic Modes*: Nick narrates and guides the language in this scene. The Nick Carraway's story provides context, deepened by his descriptive words and serious tone. He explains the green light and Gatsby's optimism, indirectly defining Gatsby's internal emotion through storytelling. Nick's acute sense and expanding understanding of Gatsby's inner world are evident in the phrase "something told me" reflecting intuition or instinct. This gut feeling adds depth to Gatsby's description of "reaching something in the dark," which is pregnant in meaning. In linguistic terms, "reaching" signifies yearning and desire, while "the dark" represents uncertainty, ambiguity and lost. These phrases illustrate Gatsby's feelings about Daisy and his challenging aim. Another key linguistic concept is "contrast". The green light at Daisy's dock symbolizes optimism, while Gatsby's ambitions are set in a dark world. This contrast highlights the disparity between Gatsby's fantasy world and his reality. Nick speaks contemplatively and lyrically throughout the piece, often referencing the complexities of the American Dream through imagery and metaphor.

(d). *Gestural Modes*: The important aspect of this situation is Gatsby's extended hand toward the green light. The hand Gatsby raises shakes slightly, emphasizing his intense longing for Daisy. By reaching for something in the dark, Gatsby is pursuing his fleeting aspirations. His dreams and uncertain future with Daisy are portrayed in shadows. Gatsby's slightly bent posture or forward lean indicates his initiative and ambitions as he tries to break through an invisible barrier between himself and Daisy. For Gatsby, placing his hand in his pocket signifies various meanings, such as control or calmness, as he grapples with his inner turmoil. He is nervous because he doesn't know how to manage his emotions. Gatsby is isolated in the darkness, reflecting his solitude and struggle. He must overcome this darkness to reach Daisy and his dreams since this darkness represents the main obstacle between them. Nick's vulnerability, optimism, and longing make Gatsby tragic and lovely, showing gestural modality.

To convey the scene's significance, these gestures must be linked to the American dream. Gatsby's hand in pocket represents a display of control, reflecting of the ideals American Dream of independence and hard work. By keeping his hand in his pocket, Gatsby aims to protect his dreams and wealth, which he believes are essential for success. Gatsby's reaching for something in the dark represents his relentless pursuit of perfection. The darkness signifies the unknown and his challenges, while his reaching out demonstrates his persistence. The darkness around Gatsby symbolizes his loneliness and the pursuit of the American Dream, highlighting the disappointment and solitude that can accompany the promise of wealth and happiness. Gatsby's fixation on the green light showcases his determination, even as he hides behind a facade. The green light symbolizes hope and the future. Like the American Dream, Gatsby's slightly leaned-over posture conveys his eagerness and belief that success is tantalizingly close despite its elusive nature. In a sense, when Nick watches Gatsby, it illustrates that the American Dream deserves scrutiny. Gatsby is often cited as a cultural symbol of the pursuit of success.

#### C. *Analyze Iconic Representation*

Undoubtedly, this scene depicts the American Dream emphasizing the green light and Gatsby's gestures which symbolize his desire for success and happiness. The surroundings and Gatsby's behavior highlight individuality and the merit of hard work (Smith, 2020). However, the critique of the assumption that anyone can achieve their goals through sufficient effort underscores the elusiveness and isolation that can accompany these desires. This imagery reflects the Roaring Twenties, a period marked by social upheaval and disappointment amidst the U.S. economic boom. Gatsby's desires and failures mirror his sadness and doubt about the American Dream, emotions shared by many during that era. The light at Daisy's dock symbolizes the American Dream, representing Gatsby's aspiration, hope, and uncertain future. It embodies the cultural yearning for happiness and success. Gatsby's reaching for the green light signifies the relentless pursuit of the American Dream. It represents the desire to achieve seemingly attainable goals, though it remains challenging. This practice reflects the widespread belief in perseverance and hard work as the keys to success. As Gatsby stands before the green light, the darkness surrounding him symbolizes the struggles and uncertainties one must face to achieve their goals. This image highlights the challenges and unknowns inherent in the American Dream. Lastly, Gatsby's hand in his pocket symbolizes the American Dream of freedom and self-sufficiency. It signifies that Gatsby is a self-made man, striving to reach his goals through his efforts.

#### D. *Perceptual Realism*

Lighting and color play a crucial role in the scene. The darkness adds a sense of time and locale authenticity. The strong contrast between the black surroundings and the distant green light creates a focal point. The color and lighting add artistic touches to the realism of the scene, making the green light seem as a symbol of hope amid the darkness. The slight sound of water lapping, distant sounds from Daisy's home, and nocturnal ambient noises further immerse viewers, adding more sense of realism. These sound effects make the characters more lifelike and relatable. Viewers can recognize the pier, lake, and distant green light, allowing them to empathize with Gatsby and understand his choices. Camera angles and movements are carefully selected to convey Gatsby's perspective, creating a sense of intimacy. The camera steadily captures Gatsby alone or gently zooms on the green light, emphasizing the emotional connection. The scene composition, with Gatsby, the dock, and the green light, tells a cohesive visual story. The juxtaposition of Gatsby in the foreground with the green light in the background underscores the gap between his ambitions and reality.

The scene pacing, along with Gatsby's gaze and movements, creates a genuine sense of time. This timing allows viewers to feel the emotion, enhancing their overall impression. The combination of movement, music, and lighting creates a compelling and fluid scene. Integrating visual, audio, and gestural elements creates an emotional experience that keeps viewers grounded in reality. Viewers sympathize with Gatsby as he reaches for the green light, heightening the emotional impact of the scene.

#### E. *Layout Structure*

Gatsby's placement in the foreground creates a visual hierarchy, making him the focal point and highlighting his loneliness and emotional state. The background green light is always visible when Gatsby appears, emphasizing his distance from his dream. This placement underscores his isolation and longing. The contrast between Gatsby's presence and the distant green light emphasizes his sense of unrealized dreams. The order of shots creates a logical and emotional narrative, with establishing shots and close-ups of Gatsby's gestures building an emotional story. The visual-auditory coherence of the scene, with ambient sounds and consistent lighting, makes it immersive. The combination of Gatsby's gesture and the green light crafts a multimodal narrative, shedding light on Gatsby's aspirations and the American Dream.

#### F. *Cultural Context*

Amid darkness, Gatsby reaches for the green light, a symbol with different meanings across cultures. The green light is a cultural icon essential to the plot, representing Gatsby's future goals, including reconciling with Daisy. It symbolizes The American Dream, which is achieved through perseverance and success. This imagery also reflects the cultural context of the Nineteen-twenties, highlighting poverty and the pursuit of The American Dream. The green light at Daisy's dock across the bay from Gatsby's mansion signifies a physical and social barrier. Despite his wealth and efforts, it emphasizes the class division and seemingly unattainable nature of Gatsby's aspirations. This illustrates how class and social status can render the American Dream elusive. The stark contrast between the green light (hope) and the blackness (reality) reflects cultural disillusionment with material success.

#### *Paradigmatic Axis*

##### A. *Shot Selection*

One of the most important aspects of filmmaking is shot selection, which involves choosing specific frames to convey emotions and build a narrative. Different camera angles can evoke unique feelings and reactions in viewers. The process and outcomes of shot selection are described as follows:

*Firstly*, Wide-angle shots cover a large area, often used to establish the scene and show how characters interact with their surroundings. In *The Great Gatsby*, the wide-angle shot of Gatsby alone by the water emphasizes his isolation and the vast distance to the green light, symbolizing his unattainable goals. *Secondly*, close-up shots focusing on a character's facial expressions convey more dramatic and emotional effects in the viewers. A close-up of Gatsby's face gazing at the green light can effectively show his yearning and commitment. *Thirdly*, a medium shot at the waist level shows Gatsby reaching for the green light, capturing both his mental state and physical action (stretching out). This shot balances his environment with his struggle, focusing more on his longing than the wide-angle view. *Fourthly*, a tracking or dolly shot that progressively moves closer to Gatsby or the green light can immerse viewers in his world, making them more emotionally invested in his pursuit and conveying a sense of movement towards his goal. *Fifthly*, a static shot emphasizes Gatsby's stillness against the vast distance. The immobility of this shot highlights how Gatsby's dreams remain steadfast despite the ever-changing reality around him.

##### B. *Editing Techniques*: Editor's choices shape the scene in several ways:

Shifting from a broad view of Gatsby at the pier to a close-up of his face and then to the green light, the editor uses straight cuts. Straight cuts advance the narrative and focus on the viewer's emotions. This editing method emphasizes Gatsby's desire and the object he seeks, keeping the sequence simple. The camera cross-cuts between Gatsby and the green light, creating a visual dialogue between his longing and distant ideals. This strategy builds suspense and emotion by reminding viewers of Gatsby's distance, reflecting his inner anguish. The dissolve technique suggests a union of thoughts and ambitions, accentuating Gatsby's yearning by smoothing the transition from him to the green light. Finally, slow motion enhances the scene and Gatsby's emotions as he reaches for the light, elongating the moment to make it more dramatic and helping viewers understand Gatsby's deep emotions and longing.

##### C. *Visual Motifs*

Visual motifs provide narrative connections, emotions, and themes like the American Dream. Gatsby's dreams, particularly his quest for Daisy, are symbolized by the green light. It powerfully represents aspiration and the American Dream (Smith, 2020). Its pervasiveness underscores Gatsby's preoccupation and the gap between his dreams and reality. Green means "go," reflecting Gatsby's determination to achieve his goals, and symbolizes renewal or regeneration. The contrast between Gatsby's darkness and the distant green light highlights hope versus despair and truth versus illusion. The juxtaposition of light and dark illustrates how far Gatsby's desires are from his reality, yet how enticing they are. The water separating Gatsby from the green light symbolizes his struggles to reach his goals and evolving objectives. The recurring visual element of water emphasizes Gatsby's solitude and the obstacles he faces, highlighting his longing and unattainability of his dreams. This scene also uses visual cues to show the class division between Gatsby's world and Daisy's, with his mansion and her house representing different social strata. This motif underscores Gatsby's pursuit of wealth, the foundation of his American Dream.

##### D. *Sound Design*: Several components make up the sound design of the scene:

- E. - A lot of real-life noises are utilized. Soft sounds, like water lapping or the rustling of the forest, may be included. These sounds immerse Gatsby in his environment and emphasize his loneliness by establishing time and place.
- Auditory components are essential. Amplification of Gatsby's breath or the dock's creaking can underscore his isolation and the night silence. Isolating small noises enhances the personal and emotional impact. Conversation—or lack thereof—is critical. The sound design is highlighted because Gatsby is calm in this scene. The quiet sounds and melodies reveal his sorrow and desire, while his silence reveals much.
- The scene is not complete without the score, which usually has a somber, introspective soundtrack. The music accentuates Gatsby's yearning and the emotional distance between him and the green light, symbolizing his unattainable dreams.

The following excerpt analyzes how the written word differs from the film in its depiction of the American Dream:

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.

Understanding how this excerpt embodies the American Dream, it is significant to dissect it: The use of descriptive words, such as "Stretched Out Arms" to convey a feeling of desire and longing, "Trembling" to indicate a profound emotional reaction, and "Green Light" to represent Gatsby's hopes and dreams, especially his future with Daisy, demonstrates the intensity of his aspirations. It stands for the American Dream, a goal people always strive for but seldom achieve. This highlights that Nick Carraway narrates this excerpt offer an outside perspective on Gatsby's inner conflict. Such technique of external narration made by Nick, makes the situation more conducive to contemplation and evaluation. The theme of this passage is that the light depiction as "minute and far away" highlights the difficulty and distance involved in realizing one's ambitions. Gatsby's shakiness and outstretched arms convey optimism, and the crushing disappointment of knowing hope is elusive. Much like the American Dream, Gatsby's quest for the green light represents the unattainable potential for joy and prosperity that is always out of reach. The calm at the end of the dock represents this never-ending push. Gatsby's idealism and devotion are hinted at by his actions and feelings in this scene. His nearly frantic grasp of the light shows how he will not give up on his aspirations, no matter how unlikely his success may seem.

It is now possible to compare the film and the written text to demonstrate how multimodality impacts the comprehension of the American Dream concept, as explained in Table 1:

TABLE 1  
A COMPARISON BETWEEN FILM AND NOVEL

No.	Film	Written Text
1	<b>Visual &amp; Aural Elements</b>	<b>Descriptive Language</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The film depicts green light as a bright beacon in the dark. This visual cue grabs attention and highlights its importance. The contrast between the darkness and the green represents hope and longing.</li> <li>Gatsby's constant motion toward the light symbolizes his yearning and hopelessness throughout the film. His nonverbal cues and behavior are more expressive and suggestive than words could ever be.</li> <li>The scene soundtrack can enhance emotion. A poignant or dramatic musical score induces longing, despair, or hope, further emphasizing Gatsby's actions.</li> <li>The midnight sounds of water lapping or faraway sounds might immerse the observer in Gatsby's world and his yearning.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fitzgerald describes the scene in the novel with exquisite words. "He stretched out his arms toward the dark water" and "a single green light, minute and far away," create powerful mental images but still require the reader to visualize the scene.</li> </ul>
2	<b>Techniques</b>	<b>Narrative Insights</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The scene's shot can convey meaning. A close-up of Gatsby's face can depict his intense focus and emotions, while a wide shot of him alone in the darkness can illustrate his loneliness and his dreams.</li> <li>Shots tempo and transitions can generate tension and emphasize the effect of the green light. Slow cuts can accentuate Gatsby's heavy dreams and prolonged gaze.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through Nick's narrative, Gatsby's thoughts and feelings are revealed. This introspective method allows readers to grasp Gatsby's dreams more deeply.</li> </ul>
3	<b>Symbolism &amp; Theme</b>	<b>Symbolic Ambiguity</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The green light throughout the film can emphasize its symbolism. Each appearance reinforces its significance, strengthening the viewer's awareness of Gatsby's infatuation.</li> <li>Gatsby's dreams can be visually grounded in a specific time and place through the film setting, costumes, and production design.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fitzgerald's language is often vague and ambiguous. As a result, readers can interpret the green light in various ways based on their analysis.</li> </ul>

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS

- The Great Gatsby as a film offers a different take on the American Dream compared to the novel due to its use of multimodality. The film creates a more immersive, sensual, and emotionally intense experience by integrating visual components, sound design, cinematography, and symbolic motifs.
- The green light glows in the darkness as a visual representation, highlighting its allure and unattainability. Gatsby's body language, captured in close-ups and meticulous camera movements, conveys his overwhelming desire for solitude better than words. The scene music and ambient sounds add much dramatic effects to the melancholy and hope within Gatsby's experience.
- Fitzgerald's novel uses rich, descriptive language and introspective narrative to communicate the same concepts. The abstract and symbolic prose allows for a more nuanced and personal interpretation of the American Dream, delving into Gatsby's mind and societal critique. The story shows Gatsby's idealism and the American Dream's weaknesses, demonstrating its eternal but elusive promise.



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