

# [Comparative essay – the great gatsby and romeo and](https://assignbuster.com/comparative-essay-the-great-gatsby-and-romeo-and/)

JulietBehind every great man lies a great women. In some cases the women herself may not always be good or ideal according to society. Nevertheless it seems to add character tothe man, and also influences his actions and maybe even his morals. In Shakespearean literature, Shakespeare tends to use people to develop certain characters throughout the play. InRomeo and Juliet, Juliet is the person with the most influence on Romeo. This influence allows him to develop as a character and also helps develop the play. This is also evident in HamletAnd Ophelia. In the novel The Great Gatsby, Nick Carraway’s realization of the equality of man altered through his origin sets him up as a morally sound standard, until confronted byJordan Baker. The “ American Dream” will never be a failure if Jordan does not develop Nick into hisfinal character. In the novel Fifth Business, Jung’s theory suggests that the conscious part ofDunny’s personality is brought out by Liesl. It is Liesl that allows Dunny to understand hisfunction as “ Fifth Business.” The development of Dunny’s character in the novel begins when Dunny falls in love with Faustina. It is because of these female characters that bothprotagonists learn to accept the emotional side of their lives, which are provided by these women, who possessimmoral values that allows Nick and Dunny to develop into the final stages of their characters, essentially making them the same. Nick’s realization of the equality of man and morals change when he comes in contactwith Jordan Baker. Jordan possesses certain qualities that only benefit her. She likes to bend therules so that the positive result ends up in her favor. She has allowed herself to be wrapped in ablanket of dishonesty that Nick would not be able to live, until he realizes that he can. It isundetermined whether or not Nick chooses to ignore Jordan’s dishonesty or whether it goes bynaturally, because, in the early stages of the novel he does not seem affected by it. “ No thanks, said Miss Baker to the four cocktails just from the pantry, I’m absolutely in training.

Her host looked at her incredulously. You are!…How you get anything done is beyond me.”(pg.. 27 ln16)Now this was the first time Jordan and Nick came into contact with one another, and it is said thatthe first impressions are extremely important. However, for a strong moral person like Nick, hisreaction is surprising when he simply states, “ I enjoyed looking at her.”(pg. 27 ln 23)This is a sign of his first stages of development, which will soon result into what the authorintended. The “ American Dream” cannot be recognized as a failure if Jordan does not develop Nick into his final character. It is known that Nick, just like Dunny holds high moral values, but it is slowly beginning to be affected by Jordan Baker. Jordan has had such low moral values for quitesome time, which is evident in chapter four. “ Daisy said to Jordan Baker…While she was drunkas a monkey, she told Jordan, Here dearis. Take’em back downstairs and give’en to whoeverthey belong. Tell’em Daisy’s changed he mind!” (pg. 79 ln 5) “ But the next day she marriedTom Buchanan without as so much as a shiver…” (pg. 79 ln 19) It was evident that Daisy and Jordan were both filled with immoral value before Daisy even got married. This laterbegins to affect Nick as well when Nick later found out from Jordan that Gatsby was once in love with Tom’s wife Daisy. This shows how Nick begins to slip because he is now part of thedevelopment of the plot. It comes down to the point where a self-respected-man like himselfbegins to gossip. Nick inevitably stoops to a lower level. This may be bad in regards to hischaracter but is vital in the role of the novel. It is later that Nick realizes that he becomes twisted and that he finds no desire to associate himself with careless people like Tom, Daisy, and Jordan, thus siding with Mr. Gatsby. He comes to an understanding at the end that he could not have come forth if it were not for Jordan Baker. Nick has finally reached the final stage of his character development.

The conscious part of Dunny’s personality is brought out by Liesl. Jung states that,” Ones self is composed of a group of several different kinds of psychic energy, each componentof which has a different function in balancing the total self.” Liesl has a small part in Fifth Business yet play a vital role in the novel. It could be argued that the end of the novel is a result of what she says toDunny. This would not be so if she did not play a vital role in the developing of Dunny’s character. “ You underestimate yourself Ramsay. Are you not the writer of A Hundred SaintsFor Travelers? And Forgotten Saints of the Tyrol? And Celtic Saints of Britain and Europe? When Eisengrim mentioned last night that you were in the audience…I wanted to meet you atonce. A distinguished hagiographer does not often come our way.”(pg. 212 ln 12) Dunny’s reaction wasmuch like Nick’s, but nevertheless, would be deeply affected. “ Many people when they are flattered seek immediately to show that themselves as being very hard-headed, to concealthe fact they have taken the bait. I am one of them.” (pg. 212 ln 31) At the end of the chapterDunny will find his morals and spiritual value in the clutches of Liesl. Liesl confronts Dunny with the truth about life and about his function as “ Fifth Business”, and she also leads him to his conscious and recognition of his spiritual life. Theseactions cause Dunny to fill his “ spiritual and emotional void,” and as a result he brings Boy and Paul together to finish unfinished business, causing the book to unfold and end. These are one of the confirming reasons why Liesl plays such an important role in the novel because without her, Dunnywould have not developed into his final character and there would have no reason for the novelto be written. Dunny leads a double life that seems to be outwardly ordinary and normal. What he symbolizes is the journey that one sometimes takes in order to find ones inner self. Itis Liesl that makes Dunny realize his flaws, and it is Liesl that gives him the initial push which ultimately helpsfinally complete his journey. The difference between Jordan and Liesl’s approach are that Jordan does it naturally and Liesl just comes out in the open and splurges it out. As a resultDunny was quickly pointed out to his problems, and given a little nudge in the right direction of his fate as hischaracter, and becomes “ Fifth Business”. “ I wanted to tell you that you are human, like otherpeople…You make yourself responsible for other peoples troubles.” (pg. 229 ln 11) “ But every man has a devil, and a man of unusual quality, like yourself, Ramsay, has an unusualdevil. You must get to know your personal devil.” (pg. 230 ln 10) Thus making Liesl’s job complete because as a result of Liesl bringing forth these truth’s about life, it brought Dunny to thelast stage of his characters development. Even though Dunny’s character development bean with Faustina, thisalso shows that Dunny plays a vital role in bringing forth the characters repressed guilt that brings Boy’s death as well as the end of the novel. Dunny’s character development begins when he falls in love with Faustina. Dunny is first shocked when he encounters Faustina and Liesl in the dressing room. “ I saw Faustina naked– shewas always changing her clothes – in the arms of Liesl, who held her close and kissedherpassionately;” (pg. 224 ln1) Dunny was devastated by this and went almost into a shockand ragebecause he believed that he was in love with Faustina. It was this that began Dunny’scharacterdevelopment. He first begins to feel for what he has just seen, “ I never knew such acollapse ofthe spirit even in the worst of the war. And this time there was no Little Madonna tooffer meCourage or ease me into oblivion.” (pg. 224 ln 7) Dunny finds himself upset because hismoralsand values came crashing down when he saw Faustina and Liesl, but he quickly and bluntlyconfronted by Liesl. “ That is you privilege, watching life from the sidelines and knowingwere allthe players go wrong. Life is a spectator sport to you. Now you have taken a tumble andfoundyourself in the middle of the fight, and you are whimpering because it is rough.” (pg.

225 ln 25)This quote helps strengthens Dunny and also gives him that initial push towards his wayondeveloping his character into the vital role, otherwise the novel would not have endedthe waythat it did. Throughout The Great Gatsby the characters values are exposed for the reader andbecause of this, the readers are hence allowed a great insight into what a true nature ofthecharacter really is. At this point of the novel Jordan seems to be growing on Nick, andNick isstill not bothered by Jordan’s dishonesty. It is important to know that Jordan is notdishonest inthe sense that she sleeps around and is immoral in regards to her sex-life. This isimportantbecause Nick begins to feel tender towards Jordan’s behaviour, but he comes to discoverthat heraffections are a result to conceal her dishonesty. “ At her first big golf tournamentthere was arow that nearly reached the newspapers – a suggestion that she had moved her ball from abad liein the semi-final round.” (pg. 65 ln 33) “ Jordan Baker instinctively avoided clever, shrewd men.”(pg. 65 ln 3) Jordan avoided clever men because it made here secure and she could notstand itwhen she was at a disadvantage. Nonetheless, assumptions can be made that she was taughtthisat a very young age in order to keep or maintain her image. Unlike Dunny, Nick take alittlelonger to develop, and unfortunately realizes in an inopportune moment. This results inNick stillnot being bothered by Jordan’s morals because he is approaching a state where he isalmost fallingin love with Jordan. “ Dishonesty in a women is a thing you never blame deeply – I wascasuallysorry, and then I forgot.” (pg. 65 ln 12) Nick seems to be going through a gradualprocess ofmoral decay, because in the later stages of the novel, Daisy begins to have an affairwith Mr.

Gatsby behind her husbands back. Yet with such high morals Nick avoids telling Tom andbecomes part of the cause, when he helps organize meetings between Daisy and Mr. Gatsby, andhe and Jordan are the only ones who know about the affair.

The women in Fifth Business and The Great Gatsby both shape Dunny Ramsayand Nick Carraway into the same person. In the novel Fifth Business, the development ofDunny’s character begins when Dunny falls in love with Faustina. It is Liesl that allowsDunny tounderstand his function as “ Fifth Business.” Jung’s theory suggests that the consciouspart ofDunny’s personality is brought out by Liesl. In the novel The Great Gatsby, the“ AmericanDream” will never be a failure if Jordan does not develop Nick into his final character.

NickCarraway’s realization of the equality of man altered through his origin sets him up as amorallysound standard, until confronted by Jordan Baker. Men and Women seem to be in constantbattlefor certain right but in the end, it is obvious that society has a real difficult timedealing with suchissues. It is the job of society to understand this, and come to a realization aboutthemselves.“ She lived by a light that arose from within; I could not comprehend it.” Fifth Business(pg. 52)BibliographyBehind every great man lies a great women. In some cases the women herself may notalways be good or ideal according to society. Nevertheless it seems to add character tothe man, and also influences his actions and maybe even his morals. In Shakespearean literature, Shakespeare tends to use people to develop certain characters throughout the play. InRomeoand Juliet, Juliet is the person with the most influence on Romeo. This influence allowshim todevelop as a character and also helps develop the play. This is also evident in HamletandOphelia. In the novel The Great Gatsby, Nick Carraway’s realization of the equality ofmanaltered through his origin sets him up as a morally sound standard, until confronted byJordanBaker. The “ American Dream” will never be a failure if Jordan does not develop Nick intohisfinal character. In the novel Fifth Business, Jung’s theory suggests that the consciouspart ofDunny’s personality is brought out by Liesl. It is Liesl that allows Dunny to understandhisfunction as “ Fifth Business.” The development of Dunny’s character in the novel beginswhenDunny falls in love with Faustina. It is because of these female characters that bothprotagonistslearn to accept the emotional side of their lives, which are provided by these women, whopossessimmoral values that allows Nick and Dunny to develop into the final stages of theircharacters, essentially making them the same.

Nick’s realization of the equality of man and morals change when he comes in contactwith Jordan Baker. Jordan possesses certain qualities that only benefit her. She likes tobend therules so that the positive result ends up in her favor. She has allowed herself to bewrapped in ablanket of dishonesty that Nick would not be able to live, until he realizes that he can.

It isundetermined whether or not Nick chooses to ignore Jordan’s dishonesty or whether it goesbynaturally, because, in the early stages of the novel he does not seem affected by it. “ Nothanks, said Miss Baker to the four cocktails just from the pantry, I’m absolutely in training.

Her hostlooked at her incredulously. You are!…How you get anything done is beyond me.”(pg.. 27ln16)Now this was the first time Jordan and Nick came into contact with one another, and it issaid thatthe first impressions are extremely important. However, for a strong moral person likeNick, hisreaction is surprising when he simply states, “ I enjoyed looking at her.”(pg. 27 ln 23)This is asign of his first stages of development, which will soon result into what the authorintended.

The “ American Dream” cannot be recognized as a failure if Jordan does not develop Nickinto his final character. It is known that Nick, just like Dunny holds high moral values, but it isslowly beginning to be affected by Jordan Baker. Jordan has had such low moral values forquitesome time, which is evident in chapter four. “ Daisy said to Jordan Baker…While she wasdrunkas a monkey, she told Jordan, Here dearis. Take’em back downstairs and give’en towhoeverthey belong. Tell’em Daisy’s changed he mind!” (pg. 79 ln 5) “ But the next day shemarriedTom Buchanan without as so much as a shiver…” (pg. 79 ln 19) It was evident that DaisyandJordan were both filled with immoral value before Daisy even got married. This laterbegins toaffect Nick as well when Nick later found out from Jordan that Gatsby was once in lovewithTom’s wife Daisy. This shows how Nick begins to slip because he is now part of thedevelopment of the plot. It comes down to the point where a self-respected-man likehimselfbegins to gossip. Nick inevitably stoops to a lower level. This may be bad in regards tohischaracter but is vital in the role of the novel. It is later that Nick realizes that hebecomes twistedand that he finds no desire to associate himself with careless people like Tom, Daisy, and Jordan, thus siding with Mr. Gatsby. He comes to an understanding at the end that he could nothavecome forth if it were not for Jordan Baker. Nick has finally reached the final stage ofhischaracter development.

The conscious part of Dunny’s personality is brought out by Liesl. Jung states that,“ Onesself is composed of a group of several different kinds of psychic energy, each componentof whichhas a different function in balancing the total self.” Liesl has a small part in FifthBusiness yet playa vital role in the novel. It could be argued that the end of the novel is a result ofwhat she says toDunny. This would not be so if she did not play a vital role in the developing ofDunny’scharacter. “ You underestimate yourself Ramsay. Are you not the writer of A Hundred SaintsforTravelers? And Forgotten Saints of the Tyrol? And Celtic Saints of Britain and Europe? WhenEisengrim mentioned last night that you were in the audience…I wanted to meet you atonce. Adistinguished hagiographer does not often come our way.”(pg. 212 ln 12) Dunny’s reactionwasmuch like Nick’s, but nevertheless, would be deeply affected. “ Many people when they areflattered seek immediately to show that themselves as being very hard-headed, to concealthe factthey have taken the bait. I am one of them.” (pg. 212 ln 31) At the end of the chapterDunny willfind his morals and spiritual value in the clutches of Liesl.

Liesl confronts Dunny with the truth about life and about his function as “ FifthBusiness”, and she also leads him to his conscious and recognition of his spiritual life. Theseactions causeDunny to fill his “ spiritual and emotional void,” and as a result he brings Boy and Paultogether tofinish unfinished business, causing the book to unfold and end. These are one of theconfirmingreasons why Liesl plays such an important role in the novel because without her, Dunnywouldhave not developed into his final character and there would have no reason for the novelto bewritten. Dunny leads a double life that seems to be outwardly ordinary and normal. Whathesymbolizes is the journey that one sometimes takes in order to find ones inner self. Itis Liesl thatmakes Dunny realize his flaws, and it is Liesl that gives him the initial push whichultimately helpsfinally complete his journey. The difference between Jordan and Liesl’s approach are thatJordandoes it naturally and Liesl just comes out in the open and splurges it out. As a resultDunny wasquickly pointed out to his problems, and given a little nudge in the right direction ofhis fate as hischaracter, and becomes “ Fifth Business”. “ I wanted to tell you that you are human, likeotherpeople…You make yourself responsible for other peoples troubles.” (pg. 229 ln 11) “ Buteveryman has a devil, and a man of unusual quality, like yourself, Ramsay, has an unusualdevil. Youmust get to know your personal devil.” (pg. 230 ln 10) Thus making Liesl’s job completebecauseas a result of Liesl bringing forth these truth’s about life, it brought Dunny to thelast stage of hischaracters development. Even though Dunny’s character development bean with Faustina, thisalso shows that Dunny plays a vital role in bringing forth the characters repressed guiltthat bringsBoy’s death as well as the end of the novel.

Dunny’s character development begins when he falls in love with Faustina. Dunny is firstshocked when he encounters Faustina and Liesl in the dressing room. “ I saw Faustina naked– shewas always changing her clothes – in the arms of Liesl, who held her close and kissedherpassionately;” (pg. 224 ln1) Dunny was devastated by this and went almost into a shockand ragebecause he believed that he was in love with Faustina. It was this that began Dunny’scharacterdevelopment. He first begins to feel for what he has just seen, “ I never knew such acollapse ofthe spirit even in the worst of the war. And this time there was no Little Madonna tooffer meCourage or ease me into oblivion.” (pg. 224 ln 7) Dunny finds himself upset because hismoralsand values came crashing down when he saw Faustina and Liesl, but he quickly and bluntlyconfronted by Liesl. “ That is you privilege, watching life from the sidelines and knowingwere allthe players go wrong. Life is a spectator sport to you. Now you have taken a tumble andfoundyourself in the middle of the fight, and you are whimpering because it is rough.” (pg.

225 ln 25)This quote helps strengthens Dunny and also gives him that initial push towards his wayondeveloping his character into the vital role, otherwise the novel would not have endedthe waythat it did. Throughout The Great Gatsby the characters values are exposed for the reader andbecause of this, the readers are hence allowed a great insight into what a true nature ofthecharacter really is. At this point of the novel Jordan seems to be growing on Nick, andNick isstill not bothered by Jordan’s dishonesty. It is important to know that Jordan is notdishonest inthe sense that she sleeps around and is immoral in regards to her sex-life. This isimportantbecause Nick begins to feel tender towards Jordan’s behaviour, but he comes to discoverthat heraffections are a result to conceal her dishonesty. “ At her first big golf tournamentthere was arow that nearly reached the newspapers – a suggestion that she had moved her ball from abad liein the semi-final round.” (pg. 65 ln 33) “ Jordan Baker instinctively avoided clever, shrewd men.”(pg. 65 ln 3) Jordan avoided clever men because it made here secure and she could notstand itwhen she was at a disadvantage. Nonetheless, assumptions can be made that she was taughtthisat a very young age in order to keep or maintain her image. Unlike Dunny, Nick take alittlelonger to develop, and unfortunately realizes in an inopportune moment. This results inNick stillnot being bothered by Jordan’s morals because he is approaching a state where he isalmost fallingin love with Jordan. “ Dishonesty in a women is a thing you never blame deeply – I wascasuallysorry, and then I forgot.” (pg. 65 ln 12) Nick seems to be going through a gradualprocess ofmoral decay, because in the later stages of the novel, Daisy begins to have an affairwith Mr.

Gatsby behind her husbands back. Yet with such high morals Nick avoids telling Tom andbecomes part of the cause, when he helps organize meetings between Daisy and Mr. Gatsby, andhe and Jordan are the only ones who know about the affair.

The women in Fifth Business and The Great Gatsby both shape Dunny Ramsayand Nick Carraway into the same person. In the novel Fifth Business, the development ofDunny’s character begins when Dunny falls in love with Faustina. It is Liesl that allowsDunny tounderstand his function as “ Fifth Business.” Jung’s theory suggests that the consciouspart ofDunny’s personality is brought out by Liesl. In the novel The Great Gatsby, the“ AmericanDream” will never be a failure if Jordan does not develop Nick into his final character.

NickCarraway’s realization of the equality of man altered through his origin sets him up as amorallysound standard, until confronted by Jordan Baker. Men and Women seem to be in constantbattlefor certain right but in the end, it is obvious that society has a real difficult timedealing with suchissues. It is the job of society to understand this, and come to a realization aboutthemselves.“ She lived by a light that arose from within; I could not comprehend it.” Fifth Business(pg. 52)Bibliography1)Bevington, David. Hamlet Bantam Books New York, New York 19882)Davies, Robertson. Fifth Business Penguin Book 19963)Fitzgerald, F. Scott. The Great Gatsby The Bodley Head 1975(All the following quotation will be taken from these texts)\*Note: Jung Theories and themes taken from class notes