

THE GREAT GATSBY

Chapter 1 Vocabulary

Privy

Informed about something secret or not generally known

"The abnormal mind is quick to detect and attach itself to this quality when it appears in a normal person, and so it came about that in college I was unjustly accused of being a politician, because I was privy to the secret griefs of wild, unknown men."

Feign

Give a false appearance of

"Most of the confidences were unsought--frequently I have feigned sleep, preoccupation, or a hostile levity when I realized by some unmistakable sign that an intimate revelation was quivering on the horizon--for the intimate revelations of young men or at least the terms in which they express them are usually plagiaristic and marred by obvious suppressions."

Irrelevant

Having no bearing on or connection with the subject at issue

"I've heard it said that Daisy's murmur was only to make people lean toward her; an irrelevant criticism that made it no less charming."

Subdued

In a softened tone

"A subdued impassioned murmur was audible in the room beyond and Miss Baker leaned forward, unashamed, trying to hear."

Turbulent

Characterized by unrest or disorder or insubordination

"I saw that turbulent emotions possessed her, so I asked what I thought would be some sedative questions about her little girl."