

# F. Scott Fitzgerald

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## Born

in St. Paul, Minnesota  
September 24, 1896

## Died

December 21, 1940

## Genre

Fiction, Short Stories

## Influences

John Keats, Sherwood Anderson, Edith Wharton

**Francis Scott Key Fitzgerald** was an American writer of novels and short stories, whose works have been seen as evocative of the Jazz Age, a term he himself allegedly coined. He is regarded as one of the greatest twentieth century writers. Fitzgerald was of the self-styled "Lost Generation," Americans born in the 1890s who came of age during World War I. He finished four novels, left a fifth unfinished, and wrote dozens of short stories that treat themes of youth, despair, and age. He was married to Zelda Fitzgerald.

## Major Works\*

### Novels.

#### *This Side of Paradise* (1920)

*This Side of Paradise*, F. Scott Fitzgerald's romantic and witty first novel, was written when the author was only twenty-three years old. This semiautobiographical story of the handsome, indulged, and idealistic Princeton student Amory Blaine received critical raves and catapulted Fitzgerald to instant fame.

#### *The Beautiful and Damned* (1922)

*The Beautiful and the Damned* is the story of Harvard-educated, aspiring aesthete Anthony Patch and his beautiful wife, Gloria. As they await the inheritance of his grandfather's fortune, their reckless marriage sways under the influence of alcohol and avarice. A devastating look at the nouveau riche and New York nightlife, as well as the ruinous effects of wild ambition, *The Beautiful and the Damned* achieved stature as one of Fitzgerald's most accomplished novels.

### *The Great Gatsby* (1925)

*The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald's third book, stands as the supreme achievement of his career. This exemplary novel of the Jazz Age has been acclaimed by generations of readers. The story of the fabulously wealthy Jay Gatsby and his love for the beautiful Daisy Buchanan, of lavish parties on Long Island at a time when The New York Times noted "gin was the national drink and sex the national obsession," it is an exquisitely crafted tale of America in the 1920s

### *Tender Is the Night* (1934)

Set on the French Riviera in the late 1920s, *Tender Is the Night* is the tragic romance of the young actress Rosemary Hoyt and the stylish American couple Dick and Nicole Diver. A brilliant young psychiatrist at the time of his marriage, Dick is both husband and doctor to Nicole, whose wealth goads him into a lifestyle not his own, and whose growing strength highlights Dick's harrowing demise. A profound study of the romantic concept of character, *Tender Is the Night* is lyrical, expansive, and hauntingly evocative.

### *The Last Tycoon*, unfinished (1941)

*The Last Tycoon* was first published a year after Fitzgerald's death and includes the author's notes and outline for his unfinished literary masterpiece. It is the story of the young Hollywood mogul Monroe Stahr, a character inspired by the life of boy-genius Irving Thalberg, and is an exposé of the studio system in its heyday.

### **Short stories.**

*Flappers and Philosophers* (1920); *Tales of the Jazz Age* (1922); *All the Sad Young Men* (1926), includes "The Rich Boy" and "Absolution"; *Taps at Reveille* (1935).

### **Notebooks and Letters.**

*The Crack-up*, ed. by Edmund Wilson (1945); *Letters*, ed. by Andrew Turnbull (1963).

*\*All summaries based on synopses published on [www.goodreads.com](http://www.goodreads.com)*