

Chapter 1 : SparkNotes: Death of a Salesman: Themes

There are too many elements of "Jane's Promise" which are almost exactly the same as in the first book in the "American Dream" series, "Emily's Destiny". Most of the storylines started in the book are never finished, and in fact, end abruptly or are simply ignored.

Department of Labor recently announced that the unemployment rate fell to 8. That should have been a signal that jobs are coming back and that the economy is about to rebound. Because nearly one-third of the American middle class, mostly families with children, have fallen into poverty or are one paycheck away from poverty, it is paramount that we dissect the root causes of this mass disenfranchisement within the American workforce. This was the motivation behind "The Poverty Tour: A Call to Conscience," our city bus tour that traveled across the country last year. It was designed to bring more attention to the plight of impoverished Americans. The candidates who have vowed to cut government subsidies speak of the poor as if their constituents had been exempted from the millions who, despite their middle-class identification and aspirations, now fall beneath the established poverty line. We spoke with formerly middle-class parents who were thrust into poverty when one or both lost their salaries. We heard the stories of single mothers and fathers, military veterans and former high-wage employees desperately trying to re-enter a workforce that no longer pays living wages. They rely on food stamps, which, Joann says, "is depressing as hell. Joann says she has applied for at least jobs. Even though she can barely afford gas, she drives to the interviews only to learn that the employers want to hire younger candidates at low wages. The experiences have taken a toll: After a while you just give up. These frustrations reflect a reality that is unraveling the American identity. One of the most fundamental dictates in achieving the "American Dream" has always been a good job that pays wages decent enough to care for our families, buy a car and a home, and live reasonably comfortable lives. What has caused so many to quit looking for jobs and, by extension, abandon the American Dream? We argue that a covenant has been broken with the American people. We live in a society where corporations put profits over people. Unemployment has been discussed in sound bites within the framework of the Great Recession. Yet economists and politicians propose failed remedies based on rebuilding and rebooting systems that have already dashed the American Dream for many. Economist Peter Morici, for example, suggests dynamic job growth will be sparked by increasing domestic oil production, tackling the trade imbalance with China, relaxing regulations for big businesses and curbing health care mandates. Federal Election Commission decision in many ways validates a truism. The court basically ruled that corporations are people. And like all Americans, corporations have the free speech rights and can spend whatever they want on political ads without disclosing who they are or exposing their agendas. So, in a very real sense, corporations are people -- super-rich, self-serving people who can use their billions to influence elections at the expense of, well, real people. And many companies have even established "unemployed need not apply" policies. When the "need not apply" story broke late last year, more than 6 million Americans had been out of work for six months or more. During our poverty tour last year, we met countless people caught in vicious cycles of looking for nonexistent jobs because their unemployment benefits were expiring or had run out, scraping change together for gas to go on interviews that may or may not pan out, and having to swap food stamps for cash to keep the lights or gas on in the house. We attended a town hall meeting in Detroit during our poverty tour where parents complained of year-olds who came of working age before the Great Recession who have never had a job in their lives. Because of deficit budget cuts, states are either eliminating or tightening eligibility requirements for child care programs that used to serve the working poor. More cuts are on the way, but, for the moment, children of women on welfare have access to basic health care. But previously eligible low-wage-earning parents are now either denied assistance or their children are placed on interminable waiting lists. It has reached the point where struggling parents have to choose between a low-wage job and welfare so their children can receive basic medical attention. A person can survive in the jungle for only so long before his or her spirit breaks. And the spirit of the American workforce is approaching a breaking point. It is the illegitimate offspring of a long-abided system that places the profits and concerns of big business and the

mega-rich above the rest of us. The inconvenient truth is that America itself is in need of a transfusion of economic equity and radical reform. Everyday people must recognize that their lives matter just as much as the lives of the rich. A workplace rooted in fundamental fairness that provides decent living wage jobs will allow frustrated, unemployed workers like Joann Cotton to breathe again, and give them a chance to become revitalized contributing members of society.

Chapter 2 : SparkNotes: The Jungle: Themes

American confidence is a major theme in the book, in fact. An admired African professor tells Ifemelu, "it is the key to America's greatness, this hubris." Ifemelu's transformation mirrors that trajectory.

Nietzsche's "Genealogy of Morals" which Fitzgerald greatly admired called the transformation of class resentment into a moral system "ressentiment"; in America, it is increasingly called the failure of the American dream, a failure now mapped by the "Gatsby curve". Fitzgerald had much to say about the failure of this dream, and the fraudulences that sustain it but his insights are not all contained within the economical pages of his greatest novel. Indeed, when Fitzgerald published *The Great Gatsby* in April, the phrase "American dream" as we know it did not exist. Her Fall and Rise, which remarked that "the fashion and home magazines have prepared thousands of Americans for the possible rise of fortune that is the universal American dream and hope. That meaning is clearly emerging but only as "possible" rise of fortune; a dream, not a promise. And as of , at least some Americans were evidently beginning to recognise that consumerism and mass marketing were teaching them what to want, and that rises of fortune would be measured by the acquisition of status symbols. The phrase next appeared in print in a *Vanity Fair* article by Walter Lippmann, "Education and the White-Collar Class" which Fitzgerald probably read; it warned that widening access to education was creating untenable economic pressure, as young people graduated with degrees only to find that insufficient white-collar jobs awaited. Instead of limiting access to education in order to keep such jobs the exclusive domain of the upper classes a practice America had recently begun to justify by means of a controversial new idea called "intelligence tests", Lippmann argued that Americans must decide that skilled labour was a proper vocation for educated people. These two incipient instances of the phrase are both, in their different ways, uncannily prophetic; but as a catchphrase, the American dream did not explode into popular culture until the publication of a book called *The Epic of America* by James Truslow Adams, which spoke of "the American dream of a better, richer and happier life for all our citizens of every rank, which is the greatest contribution we have made to the thought and welfare of the world. That dream or hope has been present from the start. Ever since we became an independent nation, each generation has seen an uprising of ordinary Americans to save that dream from the forces that appear to be overwhelming it. Two years later, a *New York Times* article noted: Not only did the wage scales and our standard of living seem to promise riches to the poor immigrant, but the extent and natural wealth of the continent awaiting exploitation offered to Americans of the older stocks such opportunities for rapid fortunes that the making of money and the enjoying of what money could buy too often became our ideal of a full and satisfying life. The struggle of each against all for the dazzling prizes destroyed in some measure both our private ideals and our sense of social obligation. The phrase the American dream was first invented, in other words, to describe a failure, not a promise: The impending failure had been clear to Fitzgerald by the time he finished *Gatsby* and the fact that in most Americans were still recklessly chasing the dream had a great deal to do with the initial commercial and critical failure of *The Great Gatsby*, which would not be hailed as a masterpiece until the 50s, once hindsight had revealed its prophetic truth. On 19 October, just five days before the first stock market crash and 10 days before Black Tuesday, Scott Fitzgerald published a now-forgotten story called "The Swimmers," about an American working for the ironically named Promissory Trust Bank, and his realisation that American ideals have been corrupted by money. This corruption is emblematised by sexual infidelity: More than 15 years later, the Marxist critics Theodor Adorno and Max Horkheimer used a similar image of the typist who believed she would be a movie star to reveal the American dream as a rigged lottery that no one wins but everyone plays. More remarkable than the fact that Fitzgerald beat Adorno and Horkheimer and the Occupy movement to the punch, however, is that he saw all this before Wall Street came smashing down. Feeling increasingly alienated, the protagonist, Marston, finds himself musing on the meanings of America, and especially its eagerness to forget history: In England property begot a strong place sense, but Americans, restless and with shallow roots, needed fins and wings. There was even a recurrent idea in America about an education that would leave out history and the past, that should be a sort of equipment for aerial adventure,

weighed down by none of the stowaways of inheritance or tradition. Historical amnesia is certainly liberating – so liberating that America is once again diving into free fall, unmoored by any critical or intellectual insight into its own myths, or even into the histories of the debates that we think define our moment. Marston eventually decides that there is no place for him in the crass society symbolised by his rival, but he will not relinquish his faith in the ideals that America can represent. As Marston sails for Europe, watching America recede into his past, Fitzgerald offers a closing meditation nearly as incantatory as the famous conclusion of *Gatsby*: There was a lost generation in the saddle at the moment, but it seemed to him that the men coming on, the men of the war, were better; and all his old feeling that America was a bizarre accident, a sort of historical sport, had gone forever. The best of America was the best of the world – France was a land, England was a people, but America, having about it still that quality of the idea, was harder to utter – it was the graves at Shiloh and the tired, drawn, nervous faces of its great men, and the country boys dying in the Argonne for a phrase that was empty before their bodies withered. It was a willingness of the heart. Meeting "the voice and embodiment of the jazz age, its product and its beneficiary, a popular novelist, a movie scenarist, a dweller in the gilded palaces", the reporter found instead, to his distinct hilarity, that Fitzgerald was "forecasting doom, death and damnation to his generation". Wait until this wave of prosperity is over! Wait ten or fifteen years! Wait until the next war on the Pacific, or against some European combination! The reporter was vastly amused.

Chapter 3 : The Great Gatsby and the Corrupted American Dream by Jacob Hicks on Prezi

Knocking down barriers to the American Dream is the best thing we can do to build a stronger country and a more just society. Doing it requires a dedicated national effort and, as Ben shows, it.

Great Valley High School. Download The American dream is something common to all people, but it is something that everyone views in different ways. The American dream is different for everyone, but they share some of the same aspects of it. For example, The Declaration of Independence was by Thomas Jefferson, who was an upper class white male. He wanted freedom, but freedom for people like himself that were white landowning males. Scott Fitzgerald wrote in his book *The Great Gatsby*, that he would have liked to eliminate the idle rich, which he was a part of. Every American dream is somewhat different, but they all relate to the times that one lives in. His American dream was to be free from Britain and to be treated equally. This dream only included people like himself, that were white men who owned land. The people that signed the document were all part of that class. They were the people leading the revolution, so Jefferson thought they should be the ones reaping the benefits. This also shows how his dream was for all men to be treated equally. Both want equality for their people, the people that are in the same class and race they are in. Their dreams also focused on the social class they belonged to. They were isolated and it was hard for them to live comfortably when all the families with white males could have high paying jobs and affords the comforts of life. It is obvious today that America has defaulted on this promissory note insofar as her citizens of color are concerned. Colored citizens were not included in it, and this was wrong. King was saying how the document was supposed to promise freedom for all people, but that this was not true at all. African Americans were not free, and they had to live a hard life full of segregation and discrimination. He did not really ask for equality of all people though, like Asian or Hispanic people, but mainly black people like himself. In *The Great Gatsby*, Fitzgerald showed his distaste for them. One character, Tom, had an affair with another women. Tom brushed it off as nothing when talking about it. He lied to his wife Daisy quite often, so he could get away from her for a weekend. Fitzgerald showed how this was wrong, and that it should be stopped. Gatsby, another character, would throw parties all of the time. The partiers made a lot of noise at late hours of the night and left big messes for the maids to clean up in the morning. Fitzgerald was showing how the rich are careless. They have no respect for anyone and only think of themselves. Also, when Gatsby died, no one attended his funeral. Fitzgerald was a part of the idle rich. He had a good amount of money, drank a lot, partied often, and had affairs. His American dream related to the class that he was a part of, just like Jefferson and King. All of their dreams dealt with the part of society they belonged to. Fitzgerald wanted change like the others too, but he wanted to change who he was. All of their dreams had to deal with the social class they belonged to. All of their dreams also dealt with change for the better. My American dream is to go to college, have an enjoyable job, get married, have kids, and have a nice house. My dream is probably what most upper-middle class people aspire for. This makes my dream similar in that it deals with my social class. It is also a change for the better. The American dream is universal in that everyone hopes for positive change and that the change deals with their place in society. The American dream something that everyone aspires for, even if it is hard to accomplish. It is the thing that keeps people going. This academia was first published 28 Mar and last revised 15 Feb He scrapbooks yonder every minute or three. Next 17 Mar

Chapter 4 : Popular American Dream Books

Dream" characterizes the unique promise that Embedded Assessment 2: Synthesizing the American Dream advice on which books or articles to read?

Everyone has their own definition of success and prosperity, and although there are stereotypes, everyone interprets it differently; therefore, there is no unanimous "American Dream" because of the different opinions. They want to ask the American government for the American dream, without trying anything. Chasing the American Dream for a person is good because it provides a goal for American citizens. On the contrary, it can still make people work for money for their whole life. People should feel full of satisfaction and happiness when they made this dream come true. It is a kind of trend. Before, it represented the great economic success, however, it means just a stable and comfortable life in general. Today, there are lots of things that are about economic success or owning property, however, the American dream is that people in the US can succeed through hard work and have the potential to lead a happy, successful life. But the American Dream is also the things that each generation needs to work on. It will make our families happier. I think the American Dream in that time just wants to encourage people to face the life, keep working and try their best. So I agree with your criticisms. When I got older I thought it was like a word that governors in U. After I read it I exactly knew where this American Dream word came from and most people think same dream. Like it said in the stereotypical dream. But you also need to work to achieve it everyday and meanwhile enjoy little moments in life. Even though every person has different dreams, all US citizens should follow the same dream, that is try your best and get a better life! It has positive aspects and also negative aspects. The American Dream makes people work harder than before, and contribute to the society. But the target may be too difficult to accomplish, and people always think about it instead of doing the real action in life. Although they have everything in the States, they might move to another region to get more happiness. I guess the American dream is perfect life plan for all kinds of humans. DM anon Post I believe that in times of difficulty we dream to help us escape and overcome those times. Moreover, the reason why the interpretations for American Dream differ is that each person has different perspective on happiness. Some believe that materialistic happiness is true happiness. On the other hand, psychological or mental happiness is true happiness. Since the American Dream is focused around the idea of complete happiness, it is impossible to attain the American with solely material possessions because human nature makes us selfish and makes us desire for more than we have. In Europe, we are taught that we should get what we aim for, and be happy. However, in the States, they always want more. They have poor living conditions compared to what we have in Europe, but they only care about becoming millionaires instead of fixing their more immediate problem. The American Dream has become less of getting up and working hard for yourself, and more of just being greedy and aiming for the highest goal, and then getting angry with society and keep going, instead of lowering their standards. In Europe, we have nothing like this. We are taught to set realistic goals, and be content with that. Also, it is true that not everyone can achieve the American Dream. When people picture a family living the American Dream, they usually picture a stereotypical white family, and do not open up the idea of the American Dream to different races or ethnicities. He put his family first, worked hard and got us a home. Something that would always be ours and no one could take that away from us. He knew what hard times were. It was hard for families to buy that "American Dream" during those hard times, but they all wanted it. Everyone wants their own home, not for material reasons, but for security and to feel safe. We had a modest home when I was a little girl, but I remember feeling safe. Today people still want their "American Dream", but most want fancy and expensive houses and that is materialism. I am 61 and want my "American Dream" like my Daddy told me about. Home is safe and security, not a mansion. American is all wrapped up in careers, fancy cars, and homes. Fathers and Mothers are both working to have all these things and their children are wondering what love, safety, security, and family is. I remember what all those things are because I lived in a simpler time when what was suppose to be important was. I know what love is and the true "American Dream" my Daddy worked so hard to give us. My Daddy taught me what love was by loving me. Daddy died when I was 16 years

old, but he made sure we had a love, security, and was safe in our home. And I also think that this is something that everyone will strive for. Yes it is true that you can have happiness in poverty but the American Dream is what everyone strives for. The American Dream is living in a nice large home, having a loving and caring family and a successful job. I also believe that not everyone can acquire the American Dream. I think the American Dream can discriminate against other people of race, color, and gender which inhibit his or her ability to achieve specific goals. For some, it may be having a family and a steady job. For others, however, it may be accomplishing certain goals they set out for themselves. It is up to them to decide if they reach it. The American dream has to be about doing good things and having a nice life. I think the American dream is not only about material things! No wonder I never fit in. Sounds like a statement made up by people that glorified the thought of slavery, and owning people in general.

Chapter 5 : City Schools and the American Dream: Reclaiming the Promise of Public Education by Pedro A

The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald. One of the quintessential American novels, *The Great Gatsby* uses the veneer of the Jazz Age and its titular character, Jay Gatsby, to comment on the changing reality of the American Dream.

Tap here to turn on desktop notifications to get the news sent straight to you. We are at a crucial moment, a moment that makes us ask what kind of country we want to be. You will be able to provide for your family, own a decent home, afford quality health care, and enjoy a secure retirement. It is that promise that built a thriving middle class. It is the American Dream, and it has inspired generations of women and men who helped make this country great. Today we are living through a period of profound economic change. We have new ways of communicating, new methods of production, new means of generating wealth, new global competition. And while many of the ways we used to do business have changed, the American Dream has not. Today, in , that dream is at risk. We stand at a moment of unprecedented economic opportunity, but that opportunity is not being extended to all. Tens of millions of Americans are working harder than ever just to stay afloat. The latest Census Bureau report shows that wages are dropping and more people lack health insurance. On the other hand, a handful of incredibly wealthy people are prospering beyond all comprehension. Put another way, it takes the average American worker one full year to make what a wealthy buyout CEO makes in only ten minutes. The buyout industry and the big banks are cutting the heart out of the American economy. Even worse, ManorCare will pay no corporate taxes while it is owned by Carlyle. The lost federal, state and local tax revenues over the next five years? This Labor Day, a greater percentage of the economy is going to profits than to wages, and a majority of parents believe their children will be worse off economically. Tens of millions of people in the U. The answer to that question must include more workers uniting in unions -- the labor movement. Unions have always been the best anti-poverty, best pro-health care, best pro-family program around. Unions have done more to help working people experience economic success than any other program. This week, a new report by the Center for Economic and Policy Research and Inclusion showed that workers in the lowest-paying jobs make about 16 percent more when they are members of a union, and they are 25 percent more likely to have health insurance or a pension plan. Now, more than ever, as new technologies and new ways of thinking about efficiency have reduced workers to a line item on a balance sheet, unions are not only relevant -- we are indispensable. As the economic landscape has shifted, the labor movement has needed to adapt to these new realities. I am proud to report that the 1. In recent years we have pioneered new models of organizing, like uniting workers in nontraditional employment situations. Since , , home care workers have changed state laws throughout the country to give them the freedom to unite in a union. We have established new relationships with employers who are willing to reward work, while continuing to hold accountable those who are not. We are acting on new ways to secure health care and retirement security that reflect rather than deny the new economic reality. The bottom line is this: There is no good moral or economic reason why all workers cannot or should not share in the success and prosperity they helped create. We need to restore the promise of the American Dream. And that means choosing what kind of country we want to be. Do you have information you want to share with HuffPost?

Chapter 6 : Jane's Promise (The American Dream Book 2): blog.quintoapp.com: Whitney Faulkner: Books

GROWING UP WITH DICK AND JANE: Learning and Living the American Dream by Carole Kismaric and Marvin Heiferman with preface by Bob Keeshan, creator of Captain Kangaroo PLUS a 24 page Sampler of Original Stories and Cut-Out Paper Dolls of Dick and Jane (Large format hardcover pages Harper Collins) on blog.quintoapp.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers.

Chapter 7 : The Great Gatsby and the American dream | Books | The Guardian

Books shelved as american-dream: The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald, *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller, *Of*

Mice and Men by John Steinbeck, The Gr.

Chapter 8 : Promise of the American Dream is broken - CNN

Restoring the Promise of the American Dream. By Andy Stern. The promise of America is that if you work hard, you will be rewarded. You will be able to provide for your family, own a decent.

Chapter 9 : The American Dream Essay

Tavis Smiley, Cornel West say that as the middle class slips into poverty, the needs of the rich take priority over those of ordinary Americans.