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Research Question: What are some examples of literary criticism exploring the character of Jordan Baker in *The Great Gatsby*, a novel by F. Scott Fitzgerald?

Annotated Bibliography (MLA format)

Fryer, Sarah Beebe. "Beneath the Mask: The Plight of Daisy Buchanan." *Critical Essays on F. Scott Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby*. Ed. Scott Donaldson. Boston: G.K. Hall, 1984. 153-166.

This is a feminist essay that argues that Daisy is trapped in cultural constructions of Rich Wife and Pretty Girl - she chooses the "unsatisfactory stability" of her marriage because of those constructions. Fryer's only mention of Jordan is a foil to Daisy - - "Like Jordan, Daisy is affected" (156). This is a scholarly publication located by conducting a boolean search in the online catalog.

Kerr, Frances. "Feeling Half-Feminine: Modernism and the Politics of Emotion in *The Great Gatsby*." *American Literature* 68 (1996): 405-31.

A brilliant analysis of the homoerotics in the novel - Nick's attraction to McKee and to Gatsby. Kerr thinks the tennis girl with sweat on her lip is Jordan (which I think is wrong); she notes that Jordan has more control over her emotions than the other women in the novel (Daisy and Myrtle). Kerr argues that Nick's narrative about his dumping her "leads the reader to believe that it is Jordan's indifference, shallowness, and dishonesty that prompt his move. The psychological subtext of *Gatsby*, however, suggests a motivation entirely different. Nick Carraway identifies with and feels most romantically drawn not to 'masculine' women but to 'feminine' men" (418). This is a scholarly publication located by conducting a boolean search in the online catalog.

Mandel, Jerome. "The Grotesque Rose: Medieval Romance and *The Great Gatsby*." *Modern Fiction Studies* 34(1988): 541-558.

Mandel argues that *Gatsby* follows many of the conventions of medieval romance, and analyzes East and West Egg as competing courts, Buchanan as a prince/Lord with Daisy as unattainable queen/fair lady. Gatsby and Nick are both construed as knights; Jordan is only mentioned in passing as a sort of attendant figure on Queen Daisy. This whole analysis seems somewhat farfetched. This is a scholarly publication located by conducting a boolean search in the online catalog.