*The Great Gatsby* – Chapter III

Re-read pages 41-44. Analyse the significance of the following quotations in terms of style and symbolism from the opening of the chapter. Explain what is being presented and make wider links to the broader ideas and contexts of the novel.

1. p.41 “In his blue gardens men and girls came and went like moths among the whisperings and the champagne and the stars.”

2. p.41 “Every Friday five crates of oranges and lemons arrived from a fruiterer in New York – every Monday these same oranges and lemons left the back door in a pyramid of pulpless halves.”

3. p.41 “ On buffet tables, garnished with glistening hors-d’oeuvre, spiced baked hams crowded against salads of harlequin designs and pastry pigs and trkeys bewitched to a dark gold.”

4. p.42 “The bar is in full swing and floating rounds of cocktails permeate the garden outside, until the air is alive with chatter and laughter, and casual innuendo and introductions forgotten on the spot, and enthusiastic meetings between women who never knew each other’s names.”

5. p.43 “A chauffeur in a uniform of robin’s-egg blue crossed my lawn early that Saturday morning with a surprisingly formal note from his employer: the honour would be entirely Gatsby’s, it said, if I would attend his ‘little party’ that night… signed Jay Gatsby in a majestic hand.”

6. p.44 “I was on my way to getting roaring drunk from sheer embarrassment when Jordan Baker came out of the house and stood at the head of the marble steps, leaning a little backward and looking with contemptuous interest down into the garden.