

Timeline: The Life of Joel Protagonist

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- 1921 I was born in January of 1921. ●
- 1922 Benito Mussolini appointed prime minister of Italy. ●
- 1931 Japan occupies Manchuria. ●
- 1933 Hitler comes to power in Germany. ●
- 1935 I attend a segregated high school in New York City. ●
- 1937 Japan invades China. ●
- 1939 Germany invades Poland. ● ●
- 1939 I turn 18 and join Army as truck driver.
- 1941 Manhattan Project established. ●
- 1942 Captured by Japanese. ●
- 1945 1st atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima (6 Aug.) ● ●
- 1945 I escape from POW camp near Hiroshima (6 Aug.)
- 1948 Berlin Airlift begins. ●
- 1950 Korean War begins. ●
- 1951 My son, Hiroaki Protagonist, is born to a Korean woman. ●
- 1954 Brown vs. Board of Education ●
- 1960 I learn to use my katana and wakizashi. ●

- 1964 Hiro attends a desegregated high school. •
- 1966 I meet Oppenheimer at a lecture at Princeton. •
- 1967 Oppenheimer dies of throat cancer. •
- 1970 Kent State massacre • • 1970 While on leave, I meet Allen Ginsberg.
- 1974 Nixon resigns. •
- 1975 I go to a concert by David Bromberg. •
- 1978 Andrew Young becomes first black US ambassador to UN. •
- 1979 I give my swords to Hiro for 18th birthday. • • 1979 I retire after my twice-twenty years.
- 1981 I move back to NYC from DC. •
- 1986 Chernobyl • • 1986 Challenger disaster
- 1992 Rodney King police brutality acquittal; riots •
- 1995 I move to a veterans' home in upstate NY. •

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/aso/databank/entries/baoppe.html> (oppenheimer)