

Table 1: Chronology of the Author's Life

Year(s)	Author's Age(s)	Event
1936		Birth, in New York City; parents rent cottage owned by minister in Valhalla, N.Y.
1941	5	Starts kindergarten at Valhalla Public School No. 1
1943	7	Starts trumpet lessons
1945 (approx.)	9	Loses treasured "Gadget", his electrician's knife, suffering major trauma as a result
1946 (approx.)	10	Starts summer camp
1947	11	Starts junior high school
1950	14	Father dies of liver cancer
1951 -1952	15	Attends Briarcliff High School, Briarcliff Manor, N.Y. Start of "Music Days"
1952-1954	16-17	Attends and graduates from White Plains High School, White Plains, N.Y.
1954, summer	17	Works as professional musician in a hotel band in the Catskill Mountains, N.Y.
1954-1955	18	Attends Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), Troy, N.Y., studying electrical engineering Plays in Dixieland band, "The Saints"
1955, summer	18	Spends ten days under observation in Psycho Ward in Grasslands, N.Y.
1955-1960	19-23	Attends Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pa., first as electrical engineering student, then as English major. Leads jazz group, "The Christmas City Six". Graduates with B.A. in English. End of "Music Days".
1958	21	First short story published, in Artesian magazine.
1960, summer	23	Goes to California, gets job as technical writer at Beckman Instruments in Palo Alto.
1961	24	Promoted to manager of his department.
1963	26	Second short story published, in <i>Southwest Review</i> .

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1965	29	Finishes comic novel, <i>Hooray for the Visiting Chairman</i> ; "almost" published.
1965	29	Attends after-hours seminar on symbolic logic given by his boss, Manuel Gordon; starts teaching himself the elements of mathematics.
1966	30	Marriage to Marcella.
1968	32	Birth of son, Jeff.
1968-70	32-34	Manager of technical publications dept. at Signetics, Sunnyvale, Calif.
1970	34	Joins Hewlett-Packard Co. as technical writer. Writes manual for company's (and the world's) first Fourier Analyzer.
1972	36	Becomes a computer programmer
1973	37	Starts working on Master's degree (MS) in Computer Science at San Jose State University, San Jose, Calif., doing expository thesis on Scott and Strachey's Mathematical Semantics of Programming Languages
1976	40	Earns MS in Computer Science with grade-point average of 4.0 out of possible 4.0.
1980	44	Decides to work on the hardest mathematical problems he can find, beginning with solving the Syracuse Problem and finding a proof of Fermat's Last Theorem.
1983-1988	47-52	Lives with Kathy at his townhouse in Cupertino.
1988	52	Moves to Berkeley, Calif.
1991	56	Fired from Hewlett-Packard for attempting a palace-coup in technical writing department where he is employed.
1991	56	His son graduates from UCLA and begins career as currency trader, for which he shows a gift
1992	57	Works as contract technical writer for Franz Lisp in Berkeley, Calif.
1993	56	Fired from Stat-View, Berkeley, Calif., for attempting to implement his ideas for improving documentation.

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1993-1995	56-58	Works for Sybase in Emeryville, Calif., as a technical writer. Fired for attempting a palace-coup in his department, which he undertook in hopes that the next manager would allow him to apply his ideas for improved documentation.
1995	58	His mother's lawyer almost manages to steal his inheritance
1995-1996	58-59	Works for Wink in Alameda, Calif.. Is fired for attempting to implement his ideas for improved documentation. Retires and devotes his time to completing the nine books and several mathematics papers that he regards as his life's work.
2000	64	Meets Gaby through Classical Musical Lovers Exchange
2001	65	Mother dies at the age of 96
2003	67	Almost loses his life's savings as a result of fraud and embezzlement by management of real estate loan firm he had invested in for more than 20 years
2003	67	Kay, loyal caretaker of his mother for ten years, dies of starvation in run-down hotel in San Francisco's Tenderloin District.
2003 —	67 —	Continues labor of completing his life's work
2003	67	His son (age 35) marries.
2006	70	His son (age 38) has his best year so far as a currency trader
2008	71	His grandson, Gabriel, is born.