

## Timeline of Nazi Germany and the Holocaust—*The Book Thief*

So many of the events in Liesel's life are given specific dates and establish a timeline of her life during World War II. Plug in the plot events into the timeline as closely as possible in order to see how Liesel's life and those of the Nazis or the Holocaust intersect from time to time. Look for links and patterns in the author's use of dates.

| Date                  | Nazi Germany   | Holocaust  | Date                  | The Book Thief |
|-----------------------|--|--|-----------------------|----------------|
| <b>Sept. 1919</b>     | Adolf Hitler joins the German Worker's Party                       |  |                       |                |
| <b>Feb. 24, 1920</b>  | National Socialist German Worker's Party publishes first programme |  |                       |                |
| <b>Nov. 9, 1923</b>   | Hitler attempts Beer Hall Putsch                                   |  |                       |                |
| <b>Dec. 20, 1924</b>  | Hitler leaves Landsburg Prison                                     |  |                       |                |
| <b>Dec. 1924</b>      | Nazi Party wins 24 seats in the Reichstag                          |  |                       |                |
| <b>July, 1925</b>     | <i>Mein Kampf</i> Volume One published (Hitler's memoir)           |  |                       |                |
| <b>July 1927</b>      | Nazi Party hold first Nuremburg Rally                              |  |                       |                |
| <b>May 20, 1928</b>   | Nazi Party win 14 seats in the Reichstag                           |  |                       |                |
| <b>Nov. 1928</b>      | Joseph Gorbels takes of the propaganda unit of Nazi Party          |  |                       |                |
| <b>Dec. 1928</b>      | <i>Mein Kampf</i> Volume Two published (Hitler's memoir)           |  |                       |                |
| <b>Aug. 1929</b>      | 60,000+ members of Sturm Abteilung attend Nuremburg Rally          |  |                       |                |
| <b>Dec. 1929</b>      | Nazi Party membership of 178,000                                   |  |                       |                |
| <b>Sept. 1930</b>     | Nazi Party win 107 seats in the Reichstag                          |  |                       |                |
| <b>Dec. 1930</b>      | Unemployment in Germany reaches nearly 4 million                   |  |                       |                |
| <b>March 13, 1932</b> | Hitler defeated in presidential election                           |  |                       |                |
| <b>April 24, 1932</b> | Nazi Party largest single party in Prussia                         |  |                       |                |
| <b>July 31, 1932</b>  | Nazi Party wins 230 seats in the Reichstag                         |  |                       |                |
| <b>Aug. 13, 1932</b>  | Hitler refuses to serve as vice chancellor of Germany              |  |                       |                |
| <b>Jan. 30, 1933</b>  | Hitler becomes Chancellor of Germany                               |  |                       |                |
| <b>Feb. 27, 1933</b>  | Reichstag catches fire   | German govt. takes away freedom of speech, assembly, press, and from invasion of privacy and from house search without warrant | <b>Feb. 28, 1933</b>  |                |
| <b>March 5, 1933</b>  | Nazi Party fails to win overall majority in Reichstag              |  |                       |                |
| <b>March 20, 1933</b> | First Nazi Concentration Camp formed at Dachau                     | Dachau first concentration camp;   | <b>March 20, 1933</b> |                |

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|                       |  | first prisoners political opponents to Nazi   |                         |  |
| <b>March 23, 1933</b> | Reichstag passes Enabling Bill                                     | Nationwide boycott of Jewish-owned businesses in Germany  | <b>April 1, 1933</b>    |  |
| <b>March 31, 1933</b> | Hitler uses Enabling Bill to exclude communists from local govt.   | Jews barred from govt. service; include teachers  | <b>April 7, 1933</b>    |  |
| <b>April 26, 1933</b> | Herman Goering forms the Gestapo from former Prussian police force | Law against "overcrowding German schools and universities" restrict Jews  | <b>April 25, 1933</b>   |  |
| <b>June 2, 1933</b>   | Hitler increases number of Nazis in government                     | Books by Jews and opponents of Nazism publically burned   | <b>May 10, 1933</b>     |  |
|                       |  | Laws passed in Germany permit sterilization of Gypsies, mentally and physically disabled, African-Germans, other considered inferior  | <b>July 14, 1933</b>    |  |
|                       |  | German school taught "non-Aryan" to be "inferior" Jewish children prohibited from "Aryan" sport clubs, school orchestras, extracurricular activities, playgrounds, pools, and parks | <b>Oct. 19, 1933-35</b> |  |
| <b>March 16, 1934</b> | Hitler announces increase in size of German army                   | First major wave of arrests homosexuals in Germany through November   | <b>Oct. 1934</b>        |  |
| <b>April 4, 1934</b>  | Heinrich Himmler appointed assistant chief of Gestapo              |   |                         |  |
| <b>June 29, 1934</b>  | Night of Long Knives   |   |                         |  |
| <b>Aug. 2, 1934</b>   | Hitler now chancellor and president of Germany                     |   |                         |  |
|                       |  | Jehovah's Witnesses banned from civil service jobs and arrested throughout Germany  | <b>April 1935</b>       |  |
|                       |  | "No Jews" signs and notices posted outside Germany towns, villages, shops, and restaurants  | <b>May 1935</b>         |  |
|                       |  | Jews prohibited from service in German military   | <b>May 21, 1935</b>     |  |
|                       |  | Nuremberg Laws deprive Jews of  | <b>Sept. 15, 1935</b>   |  |

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|                       |   | German citizenship  |                        |  |
| <b>March 7, 1936</b>  | German army enters Rhineland                                | Jewish doctors not allowed to practice in Germany   | <b>March 3, 1936</b>   |  |
|                       |   | First German Gypsies arrested and deported to Dachau  | <b>July 12, 1936</b>   |  |
| <b>Aug. 24, 1936</b>  | Hitler introduces compulsory two-year military conscription | Jews not welcome at Olympic Games in Berlin   | <b>Aug. 1-16, 1936</b> |  |
|                       |   | Ministry of Science and Education prohibits teaching by "Non-Aryan"   | <b>Oct. 15, 1936</b>   |  |
| <b>Nov. 1, 1936</b>   | Hitler and Benito Mussolini form a military alliance        |   |                        |  |
| <b>Nov. 25, 1936</b>  | Germany and Japan sign anti-Comintern pact                  |   |                        |  |
| <b>April 26, 1937</b> | Guernica, Spain bombed by Luftwaffe                         |   |                        |  |
| <b>Oct. 17, 1937</b>  | Pro-German riots take place in Sudetenland, Czechoslovakia  |   |                        |  |
| <b>Nov. 6, 1937</b>   | Italy joins Germany and Japan in Anti-Comintern Pact        |   |                        |  |
| <b>Nov. 24, 1937</b>  | Walther Funk replaces German minister economics             |   |                        |  |
| <b>Feb. 4, 1938</b>   | Hitler replaces commander of German army                    |   |                        |  |
| <b>Feb. 16, 1938</b>  | Hitler orders release of imprisoned Austrian Nazis          |   |                        |  |
| <b>March 12, 1938</b> | Hitler orders German army into Austria                      |   |                        |  |
| <b>March 13, 1938</b> | Austria declared part of German Reich                       |   |                        |  |
| <b>April 7, 1938</b>  | Francisco Franco, Spain, signs Anti-Comintern Pact          |   |                        |  |
|                       |   | German govt. passes requiring Gypsies in Austria to register; all Gypsy children above 14 fingerprinted; more to define Gypsies as "criminally asocial" | <b>May 13, 1938</b>    |  |
|                       |   | 32 country reps meet in Evian, France to discuss refugee; most refuse Jewish refugees   | <b>July 6-15, 1938</b> |  |
|                       |   | German govt. requires Jews to carry identification cards  | <b>July 23, 1938</b>   |  |
| <b>Aug. 12, 1938</b>  | Hitler orders German army mobilization                      |   |                        |  |
| <b>Sept. 29, 1938</b> | Hitler signs the Munich Agreement                           |   |                        |  |
| <b>Oct. 1, 1938</b>   | German army occupies Sudetenland                            |   |                        |  |
| <b>Nov. 9,</b>        | Crystal Night   | Night of Broken Glass   | <b>Nov. 9-</b>         |  |

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| <b>1938</b>           |   |   | <b>10, 1938</b>       |  |
|                       |   | German Jews order to pay \$1 billion for Night of Broken Glass  | <b>Nov. 12, 1938</b>  |  |
|                       |   | All Jewish children expelled from schools   | <b>Nov. 15, 1938</b>  |  |
|                       |   | Ban Jews from certain streets on certain days; forbidden drivers' licenses and car registrations  | <b>Dec. 2-3, 1938</b> |  |
|                       |   | Jews must sell businesses, real estate; hand over securities and jewelry  | <b>Dec. 3, 1938</b>   |  |
|                       |   | Jews no long attend universities as teachers or students  | <b>Dec. 8, 1938</b>   |  |
| <b>Jan. 21, 1939</b>  | Hitler dismisses president of Reichsbank        |   |                       |  |
| <b>March 16, 1939</b> | German army invades Czechoslovakia              |   |                       |  |
|                       |   | Cuba and US refuse to accept Jewish refugees on SS St. Louis  | <b>June, 1939</b>     |  |
|                       |   | 2,000 Gypsy males above 16 arrested in Burgenland and sent to Dachau; 1,000 females sent to Ravensbruck   | <b>June 5, 1939</b>   |  |
| <b>Aug. 23, 1939</b>  | Joseph Stalin and Hitler sign Nazi-Soviet Pact  |   |                       |  |
| <b>Sept. 1, 1939</b>  | Germany invades Poland                          |   |                       |  |
| <b>Sept. 3, 1939</b>  | Britain and France declare war on Nazi Germany  | Jews forced to turn in radios, cameras, electrical devices; do not receive coupons for milk, meat, etc.; receive fewer and limited clothing rations | <b>Sept. 23, 1939</b> |  |
|                       |   | Hitler extend powers to doctors to kill institutionalized mentally and physically disabled; euthanasia program                                      | <b>Oct. 1939</b>      |  |
| <b>Nov. 1, 1939</b>   | Germany annexes western Poland into Third Reich | German Jews wear yellow Star of David on chests or blue and white arm Star of David arm bands   | <b>Nov. 23, 1939</b>  |  |
|                       |   | First Polish ghetto established   | <b>Nov. 28, 1939</b>  |  |
| <b>April 8, 1940</b>  | Germany invades Denmark and Norway              |   |                       |  |
| <b>May 10, 1940</b>   | Hitler launches Western Offensive               | Approximately 164,000 Polish Jews   | <b>May 1-7, 1940</b>  |  |

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|                       |   | concentrated and imprisoned in Lodz ghetto   |                          |  |
| <b>May 14, 1940</b>   | Netherlands surrenders                                | Auschwitz, Poland concentration camp established   | <b>May 20, 1940</b>      |  |
| <b>May 23, 1940</b>   | Germany break France defensives                       |  |                          |  |
| <b>May 28, 1940</b>   | Belgium surrenders to Germany                         |  |                          |  |
| <b>June 14, 1940</b>  | German army enters Paris                              |  |                          |  |
| <b>June 22, 1940</b>  | France signs armistice with Nazi Germany              |  |                          |  |
| <b>Aug. 13, 1940</b>  | Luftwaffe attacking RAF airfields and installations   |  |                          |  |
| <b>Aug. 23, 1940</b>  | German Luftwaffe begins Blitz on London               |  |                          |  |
|                       |   | Anti-Jewish laws are passed by France's Vichy govt.  | <b>Oct. 3, 1940</b>      |  |
|                       |   | Warsaw Ghetto established  | <b>Oct. 1940</b>         |  |
| <b>Nov. 16, 1940</b>  | RAF bomb Hamburg, Germany                             | Warsaw Ghetto closed off with 500,00 people inside   | <b>Nov. 15, 1940</b>     |  |
|                       |   | Gypsy and African-German children expelled from schools  | <b>March 22, 1941</b>    |  |
| <b>April 17, 1941</b> | Yugoslavia surrenders to Nazi Germany                 |  |                          |  |
| <b>May 10, 1941</b>   | Luftwaffe destroys House of Commons                   | Romania passes law condemning Jews to forced labor   | <b>May 15, 1941</b>      |  |
| <b>June 22, 1941</b>  | Hitler launches Operation Barbarossa                  | France Vichy govt. revokes civil rights of French Jews in North Africa   | <b>June 1941</b>         |  |
|                       |   | Einsatzgruppen, mobile killing squads, begin mass murder of Jews, Gypsies, and Communist                               | <b>June 22, 1941</b>     |  |
| <b>Aug. 12, 1941</b>  | German army advances to Leningrad                     |  |                          |  |
| <b>Sept. 20, 1941</b> | German army captures Kiev, Ukrainian (Soviet capital) | German Jews above age six forced to wear yellow Star of David on left side of all clothes with "Jude" printed in black | <b>Sept. 1, 1941</b>     |  |
|                       |   | Soviet prisoners of war and Polish prisoners are killed in Nazi test of gas chambers at Auschwitz in occupied Poland   | <b>Sept. 23, 1941</b>    |  |
|                       |   | Nearly 34,000 Jews murdered by mobile  | <b>Sept. 28-29, 1941</b> |  |

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|                      |                                | killing squads at Babi Yar, Ukraine  |                         |  |
| <b>Oct. 6, 1941</b>  | German army advances on Moscow | Construction of Birkenau, an addition to Auschwitz   | <b>Oct. 1941</b>        |  |
| <b>Oct. 13, 1941</b> | RAF bombs Nuremberg, Germany   | First group of German and Austrian Jews deported to ghettos  | <b>Oct.-Nov. 1941</b>   |  |
|                      |                                | 5,000 Gypsies deported from labor and internment camps to Austria, Lodz ghetto in Poland   | <b>Nov. 5-9, 1941</b>   |  |
|                      |                                | Chelmno concentration camp opens; first gassing of victims   | <b>Dec. 8, 1941</b>     |  |
| <b>Dec. 11, 1941</b> | Germany declares war on US     | 5,000 Austrian Gypsies from Lodz ghetto deported to Chelmno; all killed in mobile gas vans   | <b>Dec.-Jan. 1941</b>   |  |
|                      |                                | "extermination" camps located and occupied at Auschwitz, Birkenau, Treblinka, Sobibor, Belzee, Majdanek-Ludlin; begin gassing                                  | <b>1942</b>             |  |
|                      |                                | Jews in Lodz ghetto deport to Chelmno  | <b>Jan. 16, 1942</b>    |  |
|                      |                                | Nazi leaders meet in at Wannsee in Berlin to discuss "final solution to the Jewish problem"  | <b>Jan. 20, 1942</b>    |  |
|                      |                                | 10,000 Jews deported to Chelmno  | <b>May 4-12, 1942</b>   |  |
|                      |                                | German govt. closes all Jewish schools   | <b>June 1942</b>        |  |
|                      |                                | Treblinka concentration camp opens   | <b>June 1, 1942</b>     |  |
|                      |                                | Jews in France and Netherlands required to wear Star of David  | <b>June 1, 1942</b>     |  |
|                      |                                | Jewish fighting organization established in Warsaw ghetto  | <b>July 28, 1942</b>    |  |
|                      |                                | 15,000 Jews in Lodz ghetto deported to Chelmno, mostly children under 10 and adults over 65, weak and ill as well; by Sept. 16 55,000 Jews deported to Chelmno | <b>Sept. 5-12, 1942</b> |  |
| <b>Aug. 24, 1942</b> | Germany army enters Stalingrad |  |                         |  |

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|                       |   | All Jews in concentration camps in Germany sent to Auschwitz   | <b>Oct. 4, 1942</b>         |  |
| <b>Nov. 4, 1942</b>   | German army defeated at El Alamein                        |  |                             |  |
| <b>Nov. 11, 1942</b>  | Hitler orders occupation of Vichy, France                 |  |                             |  |
|                       |   | Special interment camp in Lodz ghetto for non-Jewish Polish youth  | <b>Dec. 1, 1942</b>         |  |
| <b>Jan. 18, 1943</b>  | Luftwaffe renews Blitz on London                          |  |                             |  |
| <b>Feb. 8, 1943</b>   | Red Army recaptures Kursk in Soviet Union                 |  |                             |  |
| <b>Feb. 25, 1943</b>  | Britain and US begin constant air bombing of Nazi Germany |  |                             |  |
|                       |   | All Gypsies in German and occupied countries arrested and deported to Auschwitz-Birkenau                 | <b>March 1943</b>           |  |
|                       |   | 16 Jews in Warsaw ghetto initiate resistance to deportation to concentration camps                       | <b>April 19-May, 1943</b>   |  |
| <b>May 16, 1943</b>   | RAF carryout Dambusters Raid in Ruhr                      |  |                             |  |
|                       |   | Nazis order all ghettos in Poland and Soviet Union destroyed   | <b>June 1943</b>            |  |
|                       |   | Inmates in Treblinka rebel   | <b>Aug. 2, 1943</b>         |  |
| <b>Nov. 18, 1943</b>  | RAF intensively bombs Berlin                              | Danish citizens smuggle most of nation's Jews to Sweden  | <b>Fall 1943</b>            |  |
|                       |   | Inmates at Sobibor rebel   | <b>Oct. 14, 1943</b>        |  |
|                       |   | War Refugee Board established by President Franklin D. Roosevelt   | <b>Jan. 1944</b>            |  |
| <b>Feb. 19, 1944</b>  | Luftwaffe heaviest air raids on London                    |  |                             |  |
| <b>March 30, 1944</b> | Allies bomb Nuremburg Raid                                |  |                             |  |
|                       |   | Nazis begin deportation of Hungarian Jews; over 430,000 sent to Auschwitz-Birkenau where most are gassed | <b>May 15, 1944</b>         |  |
| <b>June 6, 1944</b>   | Second front open with Allies landing Normandy, France    | 7,196 Jews deported from Lodz ghetto to Chelmno and killed   | <b>June 23-Jul 14, 1944</b> |  |
| <b>July 20,</b>       | Jul Plot against Hitler fails                             | Soviet army liberates  | <b>July 24,</b>             |  |

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| <b>1944</b>           |   | Majdanek concentration camp   | <b>1944</b>          |  |
| <b>Sept. 11, 1944</b> | Allies land in Nazi Germany                                     |   |                      |  |
| <b>Sept. 25, 1944</b> | Hitler calls up all males 16-60 for service in German army      |   |                      |  |
| <b>Oct. 2, 1944</b>   | German army crushes Warsaw Uprising; kill 250,000 people        | Prisoners at Auschwitz rebel and blow up one crematorium                | <b>Oct. 7, 1944</b>  |  |
|                       |   | Nazis empty Auschwitz and start prisoners on "death marches" to Germany | <b>Jan. 17, 1945</b> |  |
|                       |   | Soviet army liberates Auschwitz   | <b>Jan. 27, 1945</b> |  |
| <b>Feb. 13, 1945</b>  | Bombing of Dresden  |   |                      |  |
| <b>March 22, 1945</b> | US army cross Rhine River                                       |   |                      |  |
| <b>April 13, 1945</b> | Liberation of Belsen and Buchenwald                             | US troops liberate Buchenwald and Dachau                                | <b>April 1945</b>    |  |
| <b>April 25, 1945</b> | Liberation of Dachau  |   |                      |  |
| <b>April 30, 1945</b> | Hitler commits suicide  |   |                      |  |
| <b>May 2, 1945</b>    | Commander of German troops in Berlin surrenders                 |   |                      |  |
| <b>May 4, 1945</b>    | All German military forces surrender                            | US troops liberate Mauthausen concentration camp                        | <b>May 5, 1945</b>   |  |
| <b>May 8, 1945</b>    | Gen. Alfred Jodi sign official surrender of Germany to Red Army |   |                      |  |
| <b>May 9, 1945</b>    | German army in Czechoslovakia surrender to Red Army             |   |                      |  |
|                       |   | War crimes tribunal convenes at Nuremburg, Germany                      | <b>Nov. 1945</b>     |  |
| <b>Oct. 1, 1946</b>   | International War Tribunal at Nuremburg announces verdict       |   |                      |  |