

TIMELINE: Herzl Part 1 – Prologue

1860 Theodor Herzl is born in the city of Pest, later to become part of the city of Budapest, Hungary.

1878 The Herzl family suffers a family tragedy when Theodor's only sibling, his sister Pauline, dies of Typhoid fever. The family moves to Vienna shortly afterward.

1882 Herzl first encounters modern antisemitism when he reads Eugen Dühring's book *The Jewish Problem as a Problem of Race, Morals and Culture*.

1883 Herzl quits the student fraternity 'Albia' at the University of Vienna over its support of antisemitic composer Richard Wagner.

1884 Herzl enters law practice.

1885 Herzl gives up law to pursue a career as a writer.

1889 Herzl's play *Der Fluchtling* is performed at the Burgtheater.

1892 Herzl's interest in Jewish issues is reawakened by a libel trial of French antisemite Edouard Drumont and the killing of a French-Jewish captain in a duel.

1893 Herzl comes up with a surprising solution to antisemitism – the mass conversion of Jews to Catholicism. He quickly abandons this plan.

1894 Herzl writes *Das Neue Ghetto*. The main character, who resembles Herzl, starts out as an assimilated Jew and transforms by the end of the play into a man who fights and dies in a duel for Jewish honor.