1869  Reverend E. John Ipe born
      “In 1876, when Baby Kochamma’s father was seven years old…” (23).

1909  Baby Kochamma born
      “She was eighty-three” when the twins return to Ayemenem in 1992 (21).

1938  Chacko born
      “He was four years older than Ammu” (37).

1942  Ammu born
      “She was twenty-seven that year” (in 1969) (38).

1945  Velutha born
      “Velutha was … about three years younger than Ammu” (71).

1958  Pappachi retired and moved from Delhi to Ayemenem
      “Ammu finished her schooling the same year that her father retired...Two years
      went by. Her eighteenth birthday came and went” (38).

1960  Mammachi’s pickle factory started
      “It was only in 1967 … Paradise Pickles was seven years old” (65).

1961  Sophie Mol born
      “Estha and Rahel were seven years old when she died. Sophie Mol was almost
      nine” (6).

      Chacko and Margaret divorced
      “By the time Sophie Mol was born … [Margaret] asked him for a divorce”.

Nov 1962  Rahel and Estha born
      “It was … 1962 … In November … Estha and Rahel were born” (40).

1965  Ammu’s divorce and return to Ayemenem (with Rahel and Estha)
      “When … the war with Pakistan began, Ammu left her husband” (42).

1967  Pappachi’s death
      “1967 … Pappachi was dead by then” (68).

Early 1969  Joe’s death
      “Earlier that year … Joe, had been killed in a car accident” (36).

Dec 1969  NARRATIVE PAST
      • the drive to Cochin (to visit the cinema, stay overnight in a hotel, and meet
        Sophie Mol and Margaret at the airport the next day)
      • the Communist march
      • the visit to the cinema (Abhilash Talkies – to see The Sound of Music)
      • Estha and the Orangedrink Lemondrink Man incident
      • overnight stay at the Hotel Sea Queen
• the Cochin Airport visit to collect Sophie Mol and Margaret
• Sophie Mol and Margaret’s arrival and visit
• Sophie Mol’s death (by drowning 2 weeks after her arrival) and her funeral
• Ammu and Velutha’s affair (started on the day of Sophie Mol’s arrival and ended 2 weeks later – after Sophie Mol and Velutha’s deaths)
• Velutha’s death (after a severe beating by the police)
• Estha ‘Returned’ – sent to live with his and Rahel’s father

1992

NARRATIVE PRESENT

• Estha ‘re-Returned’ – sent back to Ayemenem
• Rahel, now divorced, returns to Ayemenem from America
• Baby Kochamma and Kochu Maria sole inhabitants of the Ipe family home in Ayemenem
• Chacko now living in Canada
• Ammu and Mammachi now dead