

MAPPING THE LIFE OF CAMUS

Authorial intent is the idea that we can find greater meaning in a book by considering what the author intended when writing it. Consider how Camus' life would have helped shape *The Plague*.

1913
DRÉAN
Camus is born to working-class French Algerian parents.

1914
MARNE RIVER NEAR BRASLES
His father was drafted into the army and dies in a World War I battle against Germany.

1930
L'ÉCOLE NORMALE SUPÉRIEURE, ALGIERS
He catches tuberculosis and is forced to take a year away from school.

1914
BELCOURT, ALGIERS
His now fatherless family moves in with his maternal grandmother.

1933 TO 1936
UNIVERSITY OF ALGIERS
Camus studies philosophy and spends two years as a member of the communist party.

1940
PARIS
He begins work at a newspaper while writing plays, fiction, and philosophy on the side.

1940
LYON
Nazis invade France. His health keeps him from joining the army so Camus moves to Lyon.

1942
ORAN
Back in Algeria, he rises to fame with the release of *The Stranger* and *The Myth of Sisyphus*.

1943
NEAR LE CHAMON
He begins writing *The Plague* while living by a hotbed of Resistance.

1943
PARIS
Camus begins work for the underground Resistance newspaper *Combat*.

1943
SWITZERLAND
An early chapter of *The Plague* is smuggled out of France and published.

1947
PARIS
The Plague is published, cementing Camus as a celebrity in France and beyond.

1951
PARIS
The Rebel is published, its critique of communism costing him many friendships.

1960
NEAR VILLEBLEVIN
Camus dies in a car crash. In the car's trunk was a draft of his unfinished biography, *The First Man*.

1957
STOCKHOLM
He receives the Nobel Prize for Literature. He feared the prize signalled a career near its end.