

Beloved Timeline

(*most of it shamelessly plagiarized from AP*)

1790 Baby Suggs born (approx.)

1803 Ohio statehood

1830 Halle Suggs born; Paul D born (approx.)

1835-36 Sethe born (approx.)

1838-39 Sethe’s mother killed

1840 Baby Suggs hurts hip; is sold to Garner with Halle

1844 Halle starts working Sundays to pay for Baby Suggs’ freedom

1850 Baby Suggs to Cincinnati; Sethe arrives at Sweet Home

1851-52 Howard and Buglar born

Dec. 1854 Sethe’s first girl is born but never named

Spring 1855 Plan to escape when corn is highest

Aug. 1855 Escape; Denver born; Paul D sold to Brandywine in Pulaski Co, KY

Sept. 1855 After 28 days’ freedom, feast and infanticide

Sept-Dec 1855 Sethe jailed

Fall 1855 Paul D attempts Brandywine’s life; led off to Albert, GA, chain-gang

Dec-Jan 1855 Sethe “purchases” the “Beloved” headstone

Jan. 1856 Paul D escapes

1856 (Approx.) Ghost makes presence felt

Feb-Jul 1856 Paul D walks north

Summer 1856 Paul D and his “Delaware” woman

Late 1850’s Paul D sells labor to “Northpoint Bank”

1862-1863 Denver attends Lady Jones’ school for one year

1863-1864 Howard and Buglar run away, fight for Union Army;

Paul D enlists 44th Colored Infantry

1864 (Approx.) Baby Suggs dies

1864-1865 Paul D works for “Rebellers”

1866 Paul D heads north again

Aug. 1873 Paul D arrives at 124 Bluestone Road

Four days later (a Thursday) Carnival; the “Beloved” girl arrives

Oct. 1873 “Beloved” has been at 124 Bluestone for “five weeks”

Late Autumn Sethe has decided she wants Paul D. to remain in her life

Late 1873 Snow and “three inches of ice”

Dec. 1873 Paul D meets Sethe at restaurant, has been doing so “for four months”

Jan. 1874 “A sunny and windless day in January”

Late Mar 1874 “The end of March”

Late Mar/Apr “The thaw was complete”

April 1874 “It was April”

June 1874 “By June”

Aug 1874 A reference to the heat of summer; it’s 3 p.m. on a Friday when a man in a black hat wide-brimmed enough to hide his face comes to 124, Sethe thinks, for her “best thing” (p. 308)

Sept 1874 “Late summer,” Paul D. tries to reconcile with Sethe (pp. 3212-2))