



Rachel Carson: Chronology of Events Leading to the Writing of Silent Spring

Author(s)

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Description

The chronology of events leading up to the writing of 'Silent Spring' by Rachel Carson.

Body

1945

- July 15 -- Wrote letter to *Reader's Digest* proposing an article about DDT's effects on nature. Letter rejected.

1957

- Adopted her grandnephew, Roger Christie, after the death of his mother.

May 1957

- Long Island case in which counties were suing to stop the government from spraying their land.

1958

- January -- Olga Huckins wrote a letter to Carson describing the detrimental effects of pesticides on her bird sanctuary.
- Stopped *Reader's Digest* from publishing pesticide article about beneficial aerial spraying.
- February 7 -- E.B. White suggested she write the magazine article about the Long Island case.
- February -- Decided to write a magazine article, possibly a brief book.
- December -- Mother died.

1959

- Hired Jeanne Davis as an assistant.

1960

- Spring -- Learned she had malignant cancer.

1962

- June 16 -- *New Yorker* publishes first of series of excerpts from *Silent Spring*.
- Fall -- *Silent Spring* published.

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Use of Materials on the OEC

Resource Type

Case Study / Scenario