

Plath Poetry Timeline

Poem titles indicate date of writing, as precisely as possible. This is not the complete list of her works

Date	Event	Work
27 th October 1932	Sylvia Plath is born to Otto Plath (German) and Aurelia Plath (Austrian)	
12 th October 1940	Otto Plath's leg is amputated as a result of advanced diabetes: this could have been prevented but he refused to see a doctor until it was too late because he was afraid that he had cancer.	
5 th November 1940	Otto Plath dies as a result of complications arising from the amputation	
1950 . 1953	Attends Smith College, a private girls' college in Massachusetts	Mad Girl's Love Song (1953)
Summer of 1953	Works as a Guest Editor for Mademoiselle magazine in New York. First suicide attempt and subsequent treatment at McLean Hospital	
1955	Graduates from Smith College	
October 1955	Plath starts at Cambridge (Newnham College) as a Fulbright Scholar	
25 th February 1956	Plath meets Hughes at a party (and bites his cheek)	Pursuit
16 th June 1956	Plath and Hughes marry	
Sept 1957 . May 1958	Plath goes back to US to teach at Smith College	
June 1959	Plath becomes pregnant with Frieda	
December 1959	Plath & Hughes return to England and live in London	
Nov 1959 - April 1960		You're
1 st April 1960	Frieda is born	
27 th June 1960		The Hanging Man
October 1960	Colossus (her first poetry collection) is published	
Jan . August 1961	She writes The Bell Jar	
6 th February 1961	Plath miscarries	
11 th . 26 th February 1961		Morning Song
28 th February 1961	Plath has an appendectomy	
18 th March 1961		Tulips
July 1961		The Rival
August 1961	Plath & Hughes move to Devon	
October 1961		Moon and the Yew Tree
January 1962	Nicholas is born	
19 th April 1962		Elm
April 1962		Little Fugue
June 1962	Plath drives her car off the road (and later says this was a suicide attempt)	
30 th June 1962		Berck-Plage
Late June . August 1962	Aurelia Plath (her mother) visits	
July 1962	Plath learns of Hughes's affair with Assia Wevill	Poppies in July
September 1962	Plath & Hughes go to Ireland to find a place for Plath to rest. Plath & Hughes separate	
30 th September 1962		A Birthday Present
October 1962		Fever 103
3 rd . 10 th October 1962		The Bee Meeting; The Arrival of the Bee Box; Stings; Wintering
11 th October 1962		The Applicant
12 th October 1962		Daddy
16 th October 1962		Medusa
24 th October 1962		Cut
27 th October 1962		Poppies in October; Ariel
28 th October 1962		Lady Lazarus; Nick and the Candlestick
4 th November 1962		The Couriers
6 th November 1962		The Night Dances; Gulliver
11 th November 1962		Letter in November
14 th November 1962		Death & Co
December 1962	Plath moves from Devon to London and puts Ariel together (41 poems)	
January 1963	The Bell Jar is published under a pseudonym	
28 th January 1963		Sheep in Fog; The Munich Mannequins; Totem
29 th January 1963		Paralytic
1 st February 1963		Kindness; Words
4 th February 1963		Balloons; Contusion; Edge
11 th February 1963	Plath's suicide	