

0	1935, Jan 31	born in Ôse-mura 大瀬村 the third son of seven children. The official web site of the Nobel Laureates writes: "... in a village hemmed in by the forests of Shikoku, one of the four main islands of Japan. His family had lived in the village tradition for several hundred years, and no one in the Oe clan had ever left the village in the valley. ... Maps no longer show the small hamlet by name because it was annexed by a neighbouring town."
6	1941	Pearl Harbor and the declaration of war between Japan and the U.S.
9	1944	grandfather and father dies, two brothers leave, mother takes over as educator
10	1945, Aug 15	Japan surrenders ending WWII and the emperor's status as divine
	1951	Already writing in high school
19	1954, April	begins study at Tokyo University, medical dept.
	1956, April	Now French literature at University of Tokyo. Studies under Watanabe Kazuo 渡辺一夫, who specializes on French humanism and Francois Rabelais and his grotesque realism (as labeled by Mikhail Bakhtin).
22	1957	began publishing while a student 死者の奢り Shisha no ogori (Lavish are the Dead) 飼育 Shiiku (Prize Stock, The Catch)
23	1958	sleeping medication <yoku wakarū, 259>
	1958	Shiiku wins Akutagawa Prize 芽むしり仔撃ち Memushiri Kouchi (Nip the Buds, Shoot the Kids)
	1959, March	graduates French dept., Tokyo University with thesis titled on Jean-Paul Sartre
25	1960	marries Itami Yukari 伊丹ゆかり, sister of Itami Jûzô 伊丹十三, film director and friend from his high school days in Shikoku. She is daughter of the famous film director Itami Mansaku 伊丹万作.
	1960, May	travels to China, meets Mao Zedong as a representative of young Japanese writers
25	1960, 1st half	Widespread demonstrations protesting the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty
	1960, Oct	Asanuma Iejirô 浅沼, head of Socialist Party, assassinated by Yamaguchi Otoyô, a 17-yr old right-winger, who then hangs himself in a juvenile penitentiary three weeks later
	1961	セブンティーン Seventeen
	1962, Aug-Dec	travels to Eastern and Western Europe and Soviet Russia, participates in 反OAS demonstration in Paris, meets Sartre
28	1963, June	Eldest son Hikari 光 born with cranial deformity
	1963, summ	first trip to Hiroshima
29	1964, March	visits hometown
29	1964, Aug	A Personal Matter 個人的な体験, Shinchosha Literary Prize 空の怪物アグイー Sora no kaibutô Aguii (Aghwee the Sky Monster)
	1964, Oct	Hiroshima Notes ヒロシマ・ノート
	1965, spring	travels to Okinawa
30	1965, summ-early winter	Kissinger International Seminar at Harvard
32	1967, Jan-Jul	A Silent Cry 万延元年のフットボール, Tanizaki Prize
	1967, July	eldest daughter born Natsumiko 菜採子
	1967, Oct	travel to Okinawa again
	1968, March	travel to Australia
	1968, Oct	Kawabata Yasunari wins Nobel Prize
	1968, Nov	Hikari second surgery
	1970, Nov 25	Mishima kills himself; Oe overseas Nov to Dec, hears news in Asia
	1972?	Begins swimming regularly
	1975, May	Watanabe Kazuo 渡辺一夫 dies

- 41 1976, March visiting professor in Mexico
 1977, May attends seminar at University of Hawaii
 1983, autumn at UC-Berkeley as special faculty, lectures widely in the Bay Area, including Stanford University. Also gives a talk at University of Chicago
 1984, Oct lectures at University of Texas
 1984, Nov travel to China
 1985, May lectures at UC-Santa Cruz; Sept. Toronto Harbor Front Literary Festival
 1987, Feb in Moscow at invitation of Gorbachov
 1987, May travels to Paris for symposium
 1988, Oct travels to Belgium
- 54 1989, April 人生の親戚 Jinsei no Shinseki (An Echo of Heaven)
 1989, Oct travels to Moscow for a symposium
 1990, Jan participates in symposium at UC-San Diego
 1990, Oct symposium in Frankfurt
 1991, May UC-Irvine, then San Francisco
 1991, Oct Paris
 1992 Music of Hikari Oe (first CD) goes on sale
 1994 documentary film of Oe
- 59 1994, Oct 13 Nobel Prize in Literature
 1993-95 Moeagaru midori no ki ... after completion says he will not write anymore
 1994 second Hikari disc: 大江光ふたたび
 1996 “when friend Takemitsu died, Oe decided to take back his earlier decision to break the pencil and leap into another phase of his writing”
 1996 Visiting Fellow at Princeton University