Heavenly Creatures - Timeline of Important Events

Events in bold type are those in the film

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| **1938** | Pauline Rieper born. |
| Oct. 28 | Juliet Hulme born, Greenwich, London. |
| 1939  | World War II begins |
| 1940-1 | Juliet (aged 2) suffers 'bomb shock' [psychological trauma] during the London blitz. |
| 1943 | **Pauline (aged 5) hospitalised with osteomyelitis. Resulted in permanent physical disability.** |
| 1944 | Jonathon Hulme born (in Greenwich?) |
| 1945  | VE Day ends WW II in Europe; **Juliet (aged 6) near-fatal illness in UK** (unspecified). |
| 1946 | Juliet (aged 8) contracts pneumonia in UK, and is sent alone to NZ by her parents on medical advice, for her health. Lived with another family for 2 years. |
| 1948 | Juliet is sent to a sanatorium due to 'breakdown of health.' Hilda & Henry Hulme arrive in New Zealand, join Juliet. Henry Hulme assumes post of Vice Chancellor at Otago University, Dunedin NZ. |
| **1952 -** Sept? | Hulme family moves to Christchurch. Henry Hulme assumes post of Rector of Canterbury University College. |
| Oct 1 | **Juliet (aged 13) arrives at Christchurch GHS and joins Pauline (14) in 3A.** |
| 1953  |  |
| April  | Easter holidays: Pauline holidays with Hulmes at Port Levy  |
| April 3 | P’s diary: Pauline and Juliet find key to "Fourth World" |
| May? | **Juliet is confined to sanatorium with TB for 4 months** - will miss more than a term. In fact, it seems she did not return to school at all. |
| May? | **Henry & Hilda Hulme leave for England.** |
| May 29  | Edmund Hillary & Sherpa Tensing Norkay conquer Mount Everest. |
| July 2 | Walter (Bill) Perry arrives in NZ. |
| Aug | **Hulmes return from travels abroad.** |
| Sept | **Juliet released from sanatorium** Juliet and Pauline worry about school; are consoled and tutored by Henry Hulme |
| Dec 9  | Dr H. Hulme consults Dr Bennett about the girls' relationship. They decide Juliet will **not** be examined by Bennett. |
| Dec 14 | **Honora Parker takes Pauline to be examined by Dr Bennett.** |
| Dec | Bill Perry moves into Ilam with Hulmes – around Xmas |
| 1954 |  |
| Feb. 13 | P’s diary: wished death for Honora and herself |
| April 18 | Honora Rieper approaches Dr Hulme to break up Pauline & Juliet’s friendship. Honora learns of plans for Dr H. & Juliet to go abroad, but P & J not told |
| April 24 | Juliet’s diary: **H.M. Hulme & W. Perry caught *in flagrante*** (the account is disputed at trial). Juliet blackmails Perry |
| April 25 | **P’s diary: vows Pauline & Juliet will "stick together."** |
| April 27 | Easter holidays: does Pauline leave school now? |
| April 28 | P’s diary: desires to murder Honora |
| April 29 | P’s diary: P states J not told of Pauline's desire to murder Honora |
| June 06 | **P’s diary: P & J are 'mad.'** |
| June 12. | P & J informed that Dr Hulme would take Juliet to South Africa in 3 weeks' time. **P joins J at Hulme residence for last visit (10 days) before Juliet’s departure.** **P’s diary: mentions 'enacting making love' with Juliet.** |
| June 19 | **P’s diary: Honora’s murder planned with Juliet at Ilam** |
| June 20 | P’s diary: murder plans discussed with Juliet  |
| June 21 | **P’s diary: details of chosen murder method given. Excitement and anticipation. Murder tomorrow.** |
| June 22 | P’s diary: "day of The Happy Event."Pauline & Juliet return from Hulme home to Rieper home.**Murder of Honora Mary Rieper by Pauline and Juliet.**Pauline arrested at Hulme residence (Ilam);Pauline & Juliet interrogated by police. Juliet released.Juliet discusses Honora's death with Bill Perry at Ilam |
| June 23 | Pauline is charged with murder Juliet is interrogated again, gives 2nd statement, is arrested. |
| June 24 | Juliet is charged with the murder |
| July 3 | Planned date for Juliet’s departure for South Africa. |
| July 16 | Pauline & Juliet committed for trial at sensational arraignment where extracts from diaries read. |
| August | Dr H. Hulme and son Jonathon sail from NZ on the liner "Himalaya" bound for Marseilles by way of Cape Town |
| Aug 23 | Trial of Pauline & Juliet begins. Both plead ‘Not Guilty’. Hilda Hulme, Herbert Rieper testify. Juliet’s statements read. |
| Aug 24 | Second day of trial. Hilda Hulme recalled to testify. Bill Perry testifies. Insanity plea entered by defence. Dr Medlicott testifies for defence. |
| Aug 25 | Third day of trial. Medlicott brutally cross-examined by prosecution |
| Aug 26 | Fourth day of trial. Dr Bennett testifies for defence. His equivocal & confusing testimony eventually summarised by the judge. |
| Aug 27 | Fifth day of trial. Crown calls three expert witnesses: Dr Stallworthy, Dr Saville and Dr Hunter, who testify that Pauline and Juliet were legally sane. |
| Aug 28 | Final addresses by both counsels. Judge sums up. Jury retires for 2 h 14 min. Pauline & Juliet convicted of murder of H.M. Parker. Trial ends |
| Aug 29 | Dr Hulme and Jonathon arrive in Marseilles on the "Himalaya", disappear from view. |
| Sept 1 | Pauline & Juliet sentenced to imprisonment, to be detained “at Her Majesty's pleasure" in separate institutions. Juliet moved from Auckland gaol to Mt. Eden prison for women. Pauline moved from Paparua Prison, Christchurch, to a Borstal north of Wellington. |
| **1955** | Henry and Hilda Hulme are divorced. W. Perry and Hilda Hulme marry.Dr H. Hulme marries Margery Ducker, daughter of Sir James and Lady Cooper. |
| **1959** - Dec 4 | S.T. Barnett, NZ Secretary of Justice, announces Juliet and Pauline released from prison and given new identities. "Neither girl knows where the other is living.” Juliet goes to Sydney, Australia, & then joins Hilda and Walter Perry in U.K. Juliet assumes the name Anne Perry (revealed 1994). Pauline released on parole until 1965. Present whereabouts and identity officially unknown, but published reports of rumours put her in Auckland, working in a bookshop. |