


# CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

A timeline of events from the Lehmans' lives side by side with historical events throughout the play's 164 years.

Based on the work of Carla Steen, Resident Dramaturg, The Guthrie Theatre

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- 1844 | September 11:** 22 year old Henry Lehman arrives in New York from Rimparr, Bavaria.
  - 1844 |** Samuel Morse sends the first successful telegraph message.
  - 1850 |** Brothers Emanuel and Mayer join Henry in Alabama, and Lehman Brothers is founded.
  - 1850 |** U.S. population reaches 23 million people, including 3.2 million enslaved people. The Fugitive Slave act is passed.
  - 1854 |** Lehman Brothers focus has shifted to brokering cotton. They purchase a 14 year old enslaved girl named Martha.
  - 1856 |** The Treaty of Paris ends the Crimean War. Oscar Wilde is born.
  - 1855 |** Henry Lehman dies of yellow fever at age 33.
  - 1855 |** The first bridge spanning the Mississippi River is opened. The North Carolina General Assembly incorporates the Western North Carolina Railroad to open a line from Sailsbury to the Western part of the state.
  - 1858 |** Emanuel establishes an office in New York, Mayer marries Babette Newgass and in 1859, Emanuel marries Pauline Sondheim.
  - 1861 |** Emanuel's son Philip is born. Blockades severely restrict the movement of cotton during the Civil War. Mayer and Emanuel keep their business alive with cotton smuggled through the blockade.
  - 1861 |** Abraham Lincoln is inaugurated as president of the U.S. Within months, 11 slave states will secede and form the Confederate States of America. the Civil War begins in April.
  - 1868 |** Mayer moves to New York, as does the Lehman Brothers main office. In 1870, they will help found the New York Cotton Exchange.
  - 1865 |** The Civil War ends. Lincoln is assassinated.
  - 1873 | September 13:** "Black Friday" marks the end of a global expansion and triggers a years-long depression.
  - 1878 |** Mayer's son Herbert is born. He will go on to become a U.S. Senator and Governor of New York from 1933-1942.
  - 1878 |** Thomas Edison receives a patent for his phonograph.

<b>1880</b>   Philip joins the company. Lehman Brothers transitions to investment banking.	<b>1880</b>   The Brooklyn Bridge is completed and opens in New York.
<b>1887</b>   Lehman Brothers joins the New York Stock Exchange.	<b>1892</b>   Ellis Island opens an immigration reception center.
	<b>1917</b>   The U.S. enters World War I.
<b>1924</b>   The first non-Lehman becomes a partner in the firm.	<b>1921</b>   The Tulsa Race Massacre occurs and is believed to be the worst single incident of racial violence in modern American history.
<b>1929</b>   Lehman Brothers begins investments in aviation and radio. The company loses \$8 million in the market crash.	<b>1929</b>   In October, the stock market crashes. The Great Depression begins.
<b>1947</b>   Philip Lehman dies at age 85.	<b>1939</b>   World War II begins when Germany invades Poland. By the end of the war, over 6 million Jewish people and millions of others will have been killed.
<b>1949</b>   Herbert is elected to the U.S. Senate.	<b>1947</b>   <i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> opens on Broadway with Bobby Lehman as an investor.
<b>1957</b>   Investments in the Digital Equipment Corporation takes Lehman Brothers into the computer age.	<b>1954</b>   The U.S. Supreme Court rules that segregation in schools is illegal.
<b>1969</b>   Bobby Lehman dies at age 77.	<b>1969</b>   Neil Armstrong becomes the first person to walk on the moon.
<b>1973</b>   Pete Peterson joins Lehman Brothers. Ten years later, he leaves Lew Glucksman in charge.	<b>1970</b>   The first Earth Day is observed.
<b>1984</b>   Lew Glucksman sells Lehman Brothers to American Express.	<b>1985</b>   Live Aid concerts raise over £50 million for famine relief in Ethiopia.
	<b>1989</b>   The fall of the Berlin Wall.
<b>1994</b>   The repeal of the Glass-Steagall Act enabled Lehman Brothers to expand greatly by offering both investment and commercial banking services, a move that would ultimately lead to its downfall.	<b>1994</b>   The North American Free Trade Agreement goes into effect.
<b>2008</b>   September 15: Lehman Brothers declares bankruptcy. It will take 14 years to liquidate the company.	<b>2001</b>   The September 11 attacks occur killing nearly 3,000 people and severely damaging Lehman Brothers headquarters.
	<b>2008</b>   Barack Obama is elected as the 44th President of the United States.