

Contents

Acknowledgments	7
Introduction: A Hesitation before Birth	9

PART I: 1883–1906

1. Birth	21
2. The First Mistakes of Life	31
3. The World Without	44
4. Diversions, or Proof That It's Possible to Live	58
5. Vor dem Gesetz	73
6. Tentative Words, Dubious Embraces	83

PART II: 1906–1912

7. False Starts	105
8. A Bureaucrat in Bohemia	117
9. At Home, Away from Home	129
10. Investigations of an Introvert	144
11. The Cares of a Harried Man	158
12. The Yiddish Theater	174
13. Beginning Again	192
14. On the Verge	229

PART III: 1912–1917

15. Felice	245
16. Attempts to Escape Father	261
17. A Modest Proposal	279
18. An Engaged Couple	294
19. The Tribunal in the Hotel	312
20. A Description of Struggles	325
21. <i>The Trial</i>	342
22. Unhappiness	359
23. Continuing Felice	372
24. <i>A Country Doctor</i>	385

PART IV: 1917–1924

25. Zürau	403
26. Julie	421

27. Milena	434
28. Reminders of Things Past	454
29. To Matliary	468
30. "A Hunger Artist"	487
31. Last Sorrows	503
32. <i>The Castle</i>	515
33. Dora	531
34. Death	549
Epilogue: Life after Death	561
Notes	573
Select Bibliography	611
Index	615