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## CHAPTER 1

### THE BEAUTIFUL DANUBE

Born in 1890 in Tulln on the Danube, where his father is a station master, Egon Schiele decides to become a painter. At the age of nineteen, having earned his diploma at the Vienna Academy of Fine Arts, he meets one of the leading representatives of Viennese Art Nouveau, Gustav Klimt.

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## CHAPTER 2

### ME, ME, ME

From 1910 on, one of his recurrent motifs is the self-portrait. Fascinated by the dual role of model and painter, "which moves in turn through genius, narcissism, dance and grimace," Schiele devotes himself to a "pantomime of the self" that is unique of its kind.

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## CHAPTER 3

### FROM PARADISE TO PRISON

In 1911 Schiele moves to Krumau, in southern Bohemia. He produces a number of erotic drawings, and at the same time paints symbolic compositions on the theme of death. Faced by the hostility of the inhabitants to this "painter-voyeur" who likes to sketch nude young children, he seeks refuge in Neulengbach near Vienna.

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## CHAPTER 4

### RESURRECTION

At the end of 1912, living in Vienna and bemoaning his lot as a misunderstood genius, Schiele paints large allegorical canvases such as *Hermis*, where he shows himself with Klimt, and *Cardinal and Nun*, a satirical vision of the sins of the flesh.

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## CHAPTER 5

### A RECOGNIZED ARTIST

With marriage and war, adolescence is now in the past. Schiele receives commissions for portraits and plans to found an artists' community. No longer "the terror of the bourgeois," by the age of twenty-eight he is a pillar of artistic life in Vienna.

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