Rodney Alcala "Dating Game Killer"



Information researched and summarized by Ashley Africa, Ariel Bobrick, and Samantha Hough

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Date	Age	Life Event	
02/13/1941		Rodney's older brother, Raoul, was born in San Antonio, TX	
1942		Rodney's older sister, Marie Therese, was born in San Antonio, TX	
08/23/1943	0	Rodrigo Jacques Alcala-Buquor was born in San Antonio, Texas to Raou Alcala-Buquor and Anna Maria Gutierrez. He lived with his parents, two sisters, one brother and maternal grandmother.	
04/24/1947	4	His youngest sister, Marie Christine, was born in San Antonio, TX	
1948	5	He attended kindergarten, first at St. Joseph Catholic Elementary and then moved to Mount Sacred Heart	
1951	8	His maternal grandmother became ill and wanted to spend her final years in Mexico. The family moved to Mexico where Rodney attended his first non-Catholic school. While living in Mexico, his grandmother passed away.	
1954	?	After three years of living in Mexico, his father left the family to return to the United States. Soon after, the family relocated to Los Angeles, California. Rodney was enrolled in St. Alphonsus in East Los Angeles where he attended for two years.	
1956	13	He finished eighth grade and then attended high school at private Cantwell-Sacred Heart of Mary. During his last semester in high school, he felt like he had enough religious education and insisted on attending public school.	
1960	17	Graduated from the public high school, Montebello High School.	
06/19/1961	18	He entered a program in North Carolina to become a paratrooper. He then enlisted in the U.S Army where he served as a clerk for four years.	
01/08/1962	19	His father unexpectedly passed away in Tulare County, California. The whole family attended the funeral.	
1963	20	Unexpectedly showed up at his mother's door. Hs said that he had hitchhiked from Fort Bragg and traveled about three thousand miles to go AWOL.	
Early 1964	21	Medically discharged from the U.S. Army after having a nervous breakdown. He was then diagnosed with an antisocial personality disorder, chronic, severe. When he was released from the hospital, he returned home where he began to feel more like himself.	
09/25/1968	25	Raped and attempted to murder an 8-year old white female in his apartment in Los Angeles, California. Managed to escape before LAPD entered apartment.	
9/1968	25	After speaking to neighbors and finding a University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) student ID in the apartment, Detective Steve Hodel determined Rodney Alcala was the main suspect in the attack of Victim 1 (WF, 8).	
9/1968	25	Accepted to New York University's School of the Arts undergraduate program under the alias, John Berger.	

7/1968	25	Hired as an arts and drama counselor at a summer camp in George Mills, New Hampshire under the alias John Berger	
6/1971	28	Graduated from NYU and began his third summer working at the arts and drama camp in George Mills, New Hampshire.	
6/1971	28	Began working as a photographer, primarily focusing on young women, in Manhattan under the alias John Berger.	
6/24/1971	28	The body of Cornelia "Michael" Crilley (WF, 23), was found in her apartment in the Yorkville area of Manhattan, New York.	
7/1971	28	After a meeting between the FBI and Detective Hodel, Alcala was added to the FBI's Ten Most Wanted Fugitives List in an attempt to locate him three years after the attack on Victim 1.	
8/1971	28	Two George Mills' campers recognize their counselor, John Berger, on the FBI's Ten Most Wanted Fugitives List while at the local post office. The camp director confirms the man listed as Rodney Alcala is his employee, John Berger, and calls the FBI.	
08/11/1971	28	FBI agents arrive to the camp in George Mills, NH and arrest Alcala with the help of fingerprint evidence. Alcala was extradited back to Los Angeles, CA.	
8/1971- 5/1972	28-29	A plea agreement is reached between the prosecution and the defense in which Alcala pleaded guilty to child molestation of Victim 1.	
05/19/1972	29	For the crime of child molestation on Victim 1, Alcala received an indeterminate sentencing—which allowed the judge to set a range of time instead of a specified time frame to be served—of one to ten years, with the option of parole.	
8/1974	31	Alcala was determined, by a state prison psychiatrist, to have considerably improved during his time incarcerated and was released on parole in Los Angeles, CA under the stipulation that he register as a sex offender with the Monterey Park Police Department.	
8/1974- 9/1974	31	Hired by a photography company to take photos in stores throughout Los Angeles County.	
10/13/1974	31	Kidnapped a 13-year old white, female in Huntington Beach, California and forced her to smoke marijuana with him before being arrested by a park ranger who smelled the marijuana and decided to investigate.	
Fall 1974	31	Charged with selling marijuana, kidnapping Victim 2 (WF, 13), and violating parole, and was taken to jail to await his trial	
10/26/1974	31	Convicted of violating parole and providing drugs to a minor, Victim 2, and was sent to prison.	
12/1974- 6/1977	31-34	Served sentence for charges against Victim 2 at the Southern California reception center for new California Department of Corrections inmates and parole violators in Chino, CA and at California's Men's Colony in San Luis Obispo, CA.	
06/16/1977	34	Released on parole after being pronounced "re-reformed" due to the self-improvement programs completed while in prison, under the condition that he report to a parole officer weekly.	
Summer 1977	34	Parole officer approved request made by Alcala, allowing him to travel to New York to visit relatives.	
07/16/1977	34	Ellen Jane Hover (WF, 23) is considered a missing person after last being seen with a photographer named John Berger in New York City, NY.	
9/1977	34	Alcala returned to Los Angeles from New York and was hired as a typesetter at the <i>Los Angeles Times</i> .	
11/10/1977	34	The body of Jill Barcomb, 18-year old white female, was found in the Hollywood Hills area of West Los Angeles, California. She had been sexually assaulted, bludgeoned and strangled with a pair of blue pants.	
12/14/1977	34	After receiving a call from the FBI pertaining to the disappearance of Ellen Hoover and the man she was last seen with, John Berger, the LAPD determined John Berger was an alias used by Rodney Alcala and brought him in for questioning. However, without a body or any evidence directly linking Alcala and Hoover, he was released from custody.	
12/16/1977	34	The body of Georgia Witxed, 27-year old white female, was found in her apartment in Malibu after she did not pick up a co-worker, as she routinely did. She had been sexually assaulted and strangled.	
3/1978	35	Spent a brief period of time in jail when marijuana was found in his home while being interviewed by the Hillside Strangler Task Force due to his classification as a sex offender.	
06/24/1978	35	The body of an unidentified white female, Jane Doe, was found in the laundry room of the Illinois	

		Court apartment complex in El Segundo, CA.	
06/20/1070	25	Richard Plasse, a homicide police officer for Santa Monica, CA, received a call reporting a	
06/28/1978 35		missing woman, Charlotte Lamb.	
6/1978		The remains of Ellen Hoover were found in North Tarrytown in Westchester County, New York	
	35	after the NYPD Missing Person Squad interviewed people who knew Alcala and determined he	
		often took women to that area to take photographs of them	
0/1079	25	The body of the Jane Doe found in El Segundo, CA was identified as the missing woman,	
9/1978	35	Charlotte Lamb.	
00/12/1079	25	Alcala appeared on <i>The Dating Game</i> show as Bachelor number one and was chosen by the	
09/13/1978	35	woman contestant, Cheryl Bradshaw, to go on a date.	
02/13/1979	36	Alcala offered a ride to a 15-year old white female who was hitchhiking and persuaded her by	
02/13/1979	30	asking to take pictures of her for a contest.	
		After spending the night together, Alcala drove Victim 3 (WF, 15) to a secluded area, took naked	
02/14/1979	36	photos of her, then raped her. Victim 3 gained trust from Alcala by being as friendly as possible	
		and then escaped when he went into a gas station bathroom	
02/14/1979	36	After being immediately identified by Victim 3 in a photographic lineup, Alcala was arrested and	
02/14/19/9	30	admitted to choking and raping the young woman.	
4/1979	36	Alcala gave his two weeks' notice to the Los Angeles Times.	
05/12/1979	36	Last day of work at the Los Angeles Times.	
6/1979	36	Photographs 17 year old Monterrey Park neighbor, Linda L., whose pictures are in his 2010 photo	
0/1979	30	release, and shows her pictures of naked women and children. Claims to be a member of Mensa	
06/14/1979	36	The body of Jill Parenteau, 21-year old white female, was found in her apartment in Burbank	
00/14/19/9	30	located in Los Angeles, CA.	
06/20/1979	36	12 year old Robin Samsoe, white female, and her friend were approached by a curly-haired man	
00/20/1979	30	asking to take their photographs.	
		Dana Crappa, a 20-year old firefighter, saw a strange dark haired man dragging a young blond	
06/20/1979	36	female into the woods while she was driving to work, yet decided to keep her observation to	
		herself.	
06/20/1979	36	At 11:05 p.m., a nationwide broadcast on the missing 12-year old, Robin, was released asking for	
00/20/17/7	50	any information on her whereabouts.	
06/21/1979	36	Forensic artist, Marilyn Droz, composed a sketch of the man last seen with Robin based off of	
		Robin's friends description of him.	
06/21/1979	36	Alcala changed the carpet in his car; claiming he spilled gasoline on it.	
06/22/1979	The composite developed between Marilyn Droz and Robin's friend of the man last seen with		
		Robin was shown on the 5 p.m. news broadcast, showing a young man with dark, curly hair.	
06/24/1979	36	Alcala chemically straightened his naturally curly hair.	
06/25/1979	36	Dana Crappa returns to site where she saw the man dragging a young girl into the woods and	
		finds human remains, she once again keeps this observation to herself.	
06/26/1979	36	Once his curls start to grow back, Alcala decides to cut his hair short.	
0.6/0.6/1.070	26	After receiving several convincing tips about a man who raped and attempted to murder an 8-year	
06/26/1979	36	old girl, Detective Craig Robinson furthers his research on Rodney Alcala as a possible suspect in	
		the Samsoe case and decides to drive to Riverside, CA to obtain his mug shot.	
0.6/2.6/1.070	2.6	After comparing Alcala's mug shot and the composite sketch developed by Marilyn Droz,	
06/26/1979	36	Detective Robinson officially announces Alcala as a person of interest in the case of missing	
		Robin Samsoe.	
0.6/07/1070	26	After coincidentally watching Alcala's episode of <i>The Dating Game</i> the night before, Detective	
06/27/1979	36	Art Droz, Marilyn Droz's husband, sends someone to pick up a copy of Alcala's episode from	
		Chuck Barris Productions.	
6/1979		Detectives investigating the disappearance of Robin Samsoe, compiled six photos of similar	
	36	looking men and showed them to people who claimed to have seen Robin Samsoe at the beach the	
		day she disappeared. All of the witnesses shown the lineup identified Alcala as the man seen with	
		Samsoe.	
06/29/1070	26	Detectives were sent to Alcala's address to look for vehicles used during the kidnapping being investigated; brief observations were made of Alcala in a blue station weren before be made at I	
06/28/1979	36	investigated; brief observations were made of Alcala in a blue station wagon before he made a U-	
		turn abruptly and lost the detectives.	

same area carfier that day with a fellow fireman. William Poepke, where she became visibly upset to confirm her hunch that the bones found were those of a human and not an animal, she was correct, and once again did not share her findings with anyone. William Poepke discovers human remains while reworking the area him and Crappa had been at three days carfier and immediately understands Crappa's odd reaction to his prank. Unlike his coworker, Poepke reports his lindings of the dead body to the authorities. 707.08/1979 36 Actopsy on remains found by Poepke determined they were of a young girl around 12 years of age; dental records confirmed they were the remains of Robin Samsoc. 707.08/1979 36 Actala reliance and the firm of Cecil Lockrem and her husband, who own the storage facility in Seattle. Washington. 707.12/1979 36 Actala rents a storage unit from Cecil Lockrem and her husband, who own the storage facility in Seattle. Washington. 707.24/1979 36 Actala returns to Los Angeles to see Kelleher and informs her he will be moving to Texas permanently only July 24, 1979, yet does not mention his trip to Seattle to her or anyone else. 8 Based on the strong evidence against Actala. Sergeant Ron Jenkins, Detective Robinson, and other members of the Huntington Beach Police Department arrived at Alcala's house with a warrant allowing them to search his car and house, as well as obtain certain evidence they believed would connect him to the murder of Robin Samsoe. 707.25/1979 36 After obtaining necessary evidence from their search of Aclala's home, Alcala was booked on suspicion of the murder of Robin Samsoe at the Huntington Beach jail and had a bail set at \$250,000. 707.26/1979 36 Several HBPD detective Robinson obtained a warrant for the storage locker rented hy Alcala in Seattle, WA and flew there to search hie unit. After a three hours search, the officers collected several pieces of evidence, including over 1,700 photos and negatives in boxes, one of which was labeled "Ode to New York by John Berger." 70			Dana Crappa returns to site where she discovered human remains once again, after working in the
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			Alcala's second trial for the murder of 12-year old Robin Samsoe began. The state Supreme Court reversed Alcala's murder conviction in connection with Samsoe, ruling that the jury was	
	05/25/1986	43	The trial ended and the jury began their deliberations.	

05/28/1986	05/28/1986 43 The jury reached their verdideadly weapon, and kidnapp		ict finding Alcala guilty of the murder, false imprisonment—using a
060/9/1986	43	The penalty phase of the trial began.	
000/9/1900	15		with a request for his case to be dismissed because he felt his attorneys
06/09/1986	43		g enough to provide him with a fair trial; Judge Schwab denied this
		request.	
6/1986	43		fied for the prosecution recounting the attacks on them by Alcala.
06/19/1986	43		ration on life in prison or the death penalty for Alcala.
06/20/1986	43	For the second time, Alcala	is convicted for Samsoe's murder and sentenced to death in Orange
00/20/1980	43	County Superior Court.	
			lowing the judge to agree with or reverse the jury's verdict. The judge
08/20/1986	43		mally sentenced Alcala to death for the murder and kidnapping of
		Robin Samsoe.	
12/21/1992	49		urt unanimously upholds Alcala's death sentence
			verturns Alcala's death sentence in the Samsoe case, ruling that the
04/02/2001	58		ided the defense from presenting evidence 'material to significant
		issues.'	
06/05/2003	60		strict attorney's office files murder charges against Alcala alleging that
		he killed Wixted during a b	
09/19/2005	62		are filed against Alcala in connection to the deaths of Barcomb,
01/11/2010	66	Wixted and Lamb.	andons having II a nonneganta himself
2011	66		urders begins. He represents himself. Ellen Hover and Cornelia Crilley
12/14/2012	68 69		rk murders of Ellen Hover and Cornelia Crilley.
			rk murders of Enen Hover and Cornena Criney.
General Info	rmation	ı	
Sex			Male
Race			White
Number of	victims		8
Country w	here kill	ing occurred	United States
States whe	re killin	g occurred	California, New York
Cities whe	re killin	g occurred	Los Angeles, New York City – Manhattan, San Francisco
Counties v	vhere kil	ling occurred	Los Angeles, Orange, New York, San Francisco
Type of ki	ller		Serial Killer
Height			N/A
Childhood Ir	formati	ion	
Date of bir	th		8-23-1943
Location			San Antonio, Texas
Birth order	•		Third child
Number of siblings			3
XYY?			N/A
Raised by			Anna Maria Gutierrez, Mother
Birth category			Middle child
Parent's marital status			Divorced
		end time in an orphanage?	No
		end time in a foster home?	No
		ver raised by a relative?	No
		er live with adopted family?	No
		er live with a step-parent?	No
Family event			Grandmother passed away around 1951 and around the same time
··· y - ·			his father abandoned family
Age of fan	nily ever	nt	8
Problems i			No. According to those who knew him, he had many friends, many
			dates, enjoyed the piano. He was on the yearbook planning
			1 jujua p p

	committee and part of the gross country team
Tagad while in sales 19	committee and part of the cross-country team.
Teased while in school?	No
Physically attractive?	Yes
Physical defect?	No
Speech defect?	No
Head injury?	No
Physically abused?	No
Psychologically abused?	No
Sexually abused?	No
Father's occupation	Spanish-language instructor
Mother's occupation	N/A
Father abused drugs/alcohol	N/A
Mother abused drugs/alcohol	N/A
Cognitive Ability	
Highest grade in school	16 - Graduated UCLA School of Fine Arts
Highest degree	Bachelor of Fine Arts
Grades in school	Top of his class.
IQ	Genius level IQ, 160
Source of IQ information	The Dating Game Killer by Stella Sands
Work History	
Served in the military?	Yes
Branch	Army
Type of discharge	Medically, he was diagnosed with anti-social personality
Saw combat duty	No
Killed enemy during service?	No
Applied for job as a cop?	No
Worked in law enforcement?	No
Fired from jobs?	No
Types of jobs worked	Security guard so he could afford tuition, Counselor as an arts counselor at a drama camp for children in New Hampshire and photographer
Employment status during series	Employed
Relationships	
	Hatanagannal
Sexual preference Marital status	Heterosexual
	Single
Number of children	0
Lives with his children	Mother girlfriend
Living with	Mother, girlfriend
Triad	
Animal torture	No
Fire setting	No
Bed wetting	No
Killer Psychological Information	
Abused drugs?	Yes
Abused alcohol?	N/A
Been to a psychologist (prior to killing)?	Yes, while he was in the Army he began to experience nervous breakdowns and was unable to perform his duties.
Time in forensic hospital (prior to killing)?	Yes, He was taken to a hospital in San Francisco then transferred to one on the Marine Corps base in El Toro.
Diagnosis	Antisocial personality disorder, chronic, severe
Killer Criminal History (Prior to the series)	

Spent time in jail? Spent time in prison? Killed prior to series? Age? No—attempted killing at age 25 Serial Killing Number of victims (suspected of) Number of victims (suspected of) Number of victims (convicted of) Victim type Young women Killer age at start of series Safe Killer age at start of series Safe Killer age at start of series Safe Subate of first kill in series Safe Date of first kill in series Safe Subate of first contact Safe Subate of series Safe Safe Safe Safe Safe Safe Safe Safe	Committed previous crimes?	Yes
Spent time in prison? Yes No—attempted killing at age 25		
Killed prior to series? Age? Serial Killing Number of victims (suspected of) Number of victims (confessed to) Victim type Young women Killer age at start of series Z5-34 Killer age at start of series 36 Date of first kill in series Date of first kill in series O6/20/1979 Gender of victims Race of victims Race of victims Type of victims Age of victims Type of victim Age of victims Type of victim Method of killing Strangulation, bludgeon Weapon Hands, Miscellaneous objects Was gun used? No Type N/A Did killer have a partner? No Name of partner Sex of partner Relationship of partner Relationship of partner Relationship of fartner Location of first contact Location of first contact Location of first contact Public locations and victim's homes Killing occurred in home of victim? Yes Behavior During Crimes Rape? Yes Tortured victims? Yes Intentionally went out that day to kill? Yes Behavior During Crimes Yes After Death Behavior Sex with the body? No No No No No Disposal of Body No No No Disposal of Body No No No No No No Disposal of Body No No No No No No No No No N	1 3	
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Bound the victims? After Death Behavior Sex with the body? Mutilated body? Ate part of the body? Drank victim's blood? Posed the body? Took totem – body part Took totem – personal item Robbed victim or location Disposal of Body Yes Yes No Yes No Yes No No No Disposal of Body		
After Death Behavior Sex with the body? Mutilated body? Ate part of the body? Drank victim's blood? Posed the body? Took totem – body part Took totem – personal item Robbed victim or location Disposal of Body No No No Posed the body? Yes No Took totem – personal item Yes Robbed victim or location No		
Mutilated body? Ate part of the body? No Drank victim's blood? Posed the body? Took totem – body part Took totem – personal item Robbed victim or location No Disposal of Body		
Mutilated body? Ate part of the body? No Drank victim's blood? Posed the body? Took totem – body part Took totem – personal item Robbed victim or location No Disposal of Body	Sex with the body?	No
Ate part of the body? Drank victim's blood? No Posed the body? Took totem – body part Took totem – personal item Robbed victim or location Disposal of Body No No No No No		
Drank victim's blood? Posed the body? Took totem – body part Took totem – personal item Robbed victim or location Disposal of Body No No No No		
Posed the body? Took totem – body part Took totem – personal item No Took totem – personal item Yes Robbed victim or location No Disposal of Body		
Took totem – body part No Took totem – personal item Yes Robbed victim or location No Disposal of Body	Posed the body?	
Took totem – personal item Yes Robbed victim or location No Disposal of Body		
Robbed victim or location No Disposal of Body	Took totem – personal item	Yes
	Robbed victim or location	No
	Disposal of Body	
Left at scene, no attempt to hide Yes	Left at scene, no attempt to hide	Yes
Left at scene, hidden No	Left at scene, hidden	No
Left at scene, buried No	Left at scene, buried	No

Moved, no attempt to hide	No
Moved, hidden	No
Moved, hidden Moved, buried	No
Cut-op and disposed of	No
Burned body	No
	No
Dumped body in lake, river, etc.	
Moved, took home	No
Sentencing	07/07/1070 (1 CD 1: C
Date killer arrested	07/26/1979 for murder of Robin Samsoe
Date convicted	06/20/1986
Sentence	Death
Killer executed?	Currently on Death Row
Did killer plead NGRI?	No
Was the NGRI plea successful?	N/A
Did serial killer confess?	Confessed after conviction, confessed & recanted
Name and state of prison	San Quentin Prison in California
Killer committed suicide?	Attempted suicide but was not successful
Killer killed in prison?	No, yes, attempted
Date of death	N/A
Cause of death	N/A
Victim 1	
Name	Jill Barcomb
Date killed	11-09-1977
Date body was found	11-10-1977
Gender	Female
Race	White
Age	18
How killed	Blunt force trauma to head and neck, strangulation
State killed	California
City killed	Hollywood Hills
County killed	Los Angeles
Type of target	Random
Did killer confess to this murder?	No
Was killer convicted of this murder?	Yes
Victim 2	100
Name	Georgia Wixted
Date killed	N/A
Date body was found	12-16-1977
Gender Gender	Female
Race	White
Age	27
How killed	Bludgeoned by hammer, strangulation
State killed	California
City killed	Malibu
City killed County killed	Los Angeles
Type of target Did killer confess to this murder?	Home Invasion
Was killer convicted of this murder?	No Voc
	Yes
Victim 3	Charlette Laurh
Name	Charlotte Lamb
Date killed	N/A
Date body was found	06-24-1978
Gender	Female

Race	White
Age	32
How killed	Strangulation Strangulation
State killed	California
City killed	El Segundo
County killed	Los Angeles
	Home invasion
Type of target Did killer confess to this murder?	
	No Y
Was killer convicted of this murder? Victim 4	Yes
Name	Jill Parenteau
Date killed	
	N/A
Date body was found	06-14-1979
Gender	Female
Race	White
Age	21
How killed	Strangulation
State killed	California
City killed	Burbank
County killed	Los Angeles
Type of target	Home Invasion
Did killer confess to this murder?	No
Was killer convicted of this murder?	Yes
Victim 5	
Name	Robin Samsoe
Date killed	06/20/1979
Date body was found	
Gender	Female
Race	White
Age	12
How killed	
State killed	California
City killed	Huntington Beach
County killed	Orange
Type of target	
Did killer confess to this murder?	No
Was killer convicted of this murder?	Yes
Victim 6	
Name	Cornelia Michel Crilley
Date killed	06/12/1971
Date body was found	
Gender	Female
Race	White
Age	23
How killed	Strangled
State killed	New York
City killed	NYC – Manhattan
County killed	New York
Type of target	
Did killer confess to this murder?	No
Was killer convicted of this murder?	No (as of November, 2012)
Victim 7	1.5 (40 011101011001, 2012)
Name	Ellen Jane Hover
Traffic	Lifen Jane Hovel

Date killed	07/15/1977
Date body was found	
Gender	Female
Race	White
Age	23
How killed	
State killed	New York
City killed	NYC – Manhattan
County killed	New York
Type of target	
Did killer confess to this murder?	No
Was killer convicted of this murder?	No (as of November, 2012)
Victim 8	
Name	Pamela Jean Lambson
Date killed	10/08/1977
Date body was found	
Gender	Female
Race	White
Age	19
How killed	Bludgeoned
State killed	California
City killed	San Francisco
County killed	San Francisco
Type of target	Asked to pose as a model
Did killer confess to this murder?	No
Was killer convicted of this murder?	No (as of November, 2012)

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