Child 44
Tom Rob Smith, 2008
Grand Central Publishing
400 pp.

In Brief
A gripping novel about one man's dogged pursuit of a serial killer against the opposition of Stalinist state security forces, Child 44 is at once suspenseful and provocative. Tom Rob Smith's remarkable debut thriller powerfully dramatizes the human cost of loyalty, integrity, and love in the face of totalitarian terror.

A decorated war hero driven by dedication to his country and faith in the superiority of Communist ideals, Leo Demidov has built a successful career in the Soviet security network, suppressing ideological crimes and threats against the state with unquestioning efficiency. When a fellow officer's son is killed, Leo is ordered to stop the family from spreading the notion that their child was murdered. For in the official version of Stalin's worker's paradise, such a senseless crime is impossible — an affront to the Revolution. But Leo knows better: a murderer is at large, cruelly targeting children, and the collective power of the Soviet government is denying his existence.

Leo's doubt sets in motion a chain of events that changes his understanding of everything he had previously believed. Smith's deftly crafted plot delivers twist after chilling twist, as it lays bare the deceit of the regime that enveloped an impoverished people in paranoia. In a shocking effort to test Leo's loyalty, his wife, Raisa, is accused of being a spy. Leo's refusal to denounce her costs him his rank, and the couple is banished from Moscow. Humiliated, renounced by his enemies, and deserted by everyone save Raisa, Leo realizes that his redemption rests on finding the vicious serial killer who is eviscerating innocent children and leaving them to die in the bleak Russian woods.

The narrative unfolds at a breathless pace, exposing the culture of fear that turns friends into foes and forces families to hide devastating secrets. As Leo and Raisa close in on the serial killer, desperately trying to stay a step ahead of the government's relentless operatives, the reader races with them.
• Birth—February 19, 1979
• Where—London, England
• Education—B.A., Cambridge University
• Currently—lives in London, England

After graduating from Cambridge University in 2001 and spending a year in Italy on a creative writing scholarship, Tom Rob Smith went to work writing scripts and storylines for British television. He lived for a while in Phnom Penh, working on Cambodia's first-ever soap opera and doing freelance screenwriting in his spare time.

While researching material for a film adaptation of a short story by British sci-fi writer Jeff Noon, Smith stumbled across the real-life case of "Rostov Ripper" Andrei Chikatilo, a Russian serial killer who murdered more than 60 women and children in the 1980s. Chikatilo’s killing spree went unchecked for nearly 13 years, largely because Soviet officials refused to admit that crime existed in their perfect state. Intrigued, Smith recognized the potential of this concept as a work of fiction and worked up a script "treatment." His agent, however, suggested the material would be better showcased in a novel.

The result was *Child 44*, a gripping crime thriller about a Soviet policeman determined to stop a child serial killer his superiors won't even admit exists. Smith upped the action ante by setting the story in the Stalinist era of the 1950s, a period when opposing the state could cost you your life. And, in MGB officer Leo Stepanovich Demidov, he created the most fascinating Russian detective since Martin Cruz Smith's Arkady Renko.

*Child 44* became the object of an intense bidding war at the 2007 London Book Fair. (The buzz only increased when director Ridley Scott bought the film rights.) But the book proved worthy of its hype, garnering glowing reviews on its publication in the spring of 2008. Scott Turow (no slouch in the thriller department himself) proclaimed, "*Child 44* is a remarkable debut novel -- inventive, edgy and relentlessly gripping from the first page to the last."

**Extras**

*From a Barnes and Noble 2008 interview:*

• One of my first jobs was working in a sports complex, and I had to fill up all the vending machines. It was boring work and lonely, carrying boxes of Mars Bars down very long, fluorescent-lit corridors. But a moment sticks out. I was restocking a machine when a young boy, maybe five years old, approached me and asked if he could have a chocolate bar. I told him they were for sale: he needed to buy one. He thought about this very seriously for a while, ran off, and came back five minutes later with a conker [horse chestnut]. He honestly believed this was a fair exchange. I guess it must have had some value to him.
have another place to retreat from the world. They’re not beekeepers though.

- I like running, although I suffer from a problem with my knees. They slide out of position, which has caused me some problems recently. If anyone out there can help, I’d be more than happy to hear suggestions. Hours of physiotherapy haven’t really worked."

- When asked what book that most influenced his life or career as a writer, here is what Smith said:

In terms of my career as a writer, I’m going to pick Robert Conquest’s The Harvest of Sorrow. It played a crucial part in my decision to write Child 44.

Back in August 2005, all I had was a story outline. It was set in a period I didn’t, in all honesty, know that much about. I remember walking into a bookshop in Piccadilly and browsing the Russian History section. The prologue was set in the famines of the 1930s, so Conquest’s book seemed an obvious purchase. Had the book been oblique or impenetrable, had the book not engaged me emotionally, I’m not sure I would’ve taken the plunge. As it happened, Conquest’s book provided me with a jolt of energy. It’s a remarkable read -- brilliantly lucid, yet never clinical or detached. There’s a cool-headed outrage at the events it describes.

It’s one thing to have the broad brushstrokes of a story, but it was when tiny moments started to occur to me, that’s when I knew I could write Child 44. It was while reading Conquest’s descriptions of villages where all the dogs and cats had been eaten that I began to wonder if there had been someone who loved their cat so much that they couldn’t bear to eat it -- even when they were starving to death. That was how the character of Maria (from the opening paragraph) was born. 

(Bio and interview from Barnes and Noble.)

Critics Say... Once Leo and his wife are banished to a town in the Ural Mountains, where another murder is committed, the narrative whips into action as a fugitive drama. The language becomes leaner, the style more fluid and cinematic, as Leo’s forbidden investigation causes more innocent people to suffer and transforms this onetime war hero into a criminal. In a society riven by fear and mistrust, even a serial killer seems less threatening than a man who has learned to think for himself.

Marilyn Stasio - New York Times Book Review

A novel that manages the rare feat of improving after a second reading. The first time around, I admired Smith’s ability to shed...
Set in the Soviet Union in 1953, this stellar debut from British author Smith offers appealing characters, a strong plot and authentic period detail. When war hero Leo Stepanovich Demidov, a rising star in the MGB, the State Security force, is assigned to look into the death of a child, Leo is annoyed, first because this takes him away from a more important case, but, more importantly, because the parents insist the child was murdered. In Stalinist Russia, there's no such thing as murder; the only criminals are those who are enemies of the state. After attempting to curb the violent excesses of his second-in-command, Leo is forced to investigate his own wife, the beautiful Raisa, who's suspected of being an Anglo-American sympathizer. Demoted and exiled from Moscow, Leo stumbles onto more evidence of the child killer. The evocation of the deadly cloud-cuckoo-land of Russia during Stalin's final days will remind many of Gorky Park and Darkness at Noon, but the novel remains Smith's alone, completely original and absolutely satisfying.

*Publishers Weekly*

Grisly, gruesome, and gory are just three ways to describe this debut novel by young British screenwriter Smith. While adapting a short story by sf writer Jeff Noon, Smith came across the true account of Soviet serial killer Andrei Chikatilo, who after killing more than 50 women and children was executed in 1994. His story inspired Smith to write this grim, 1953-set novel, which ties together just about all of the worst aspects of the Stalinist regime. The Ukrainian famine and the unrelieved horror of the gulag, among other historical hooks, add to the saga of ex-soldier and police official Leo Demidov, who dissects the morbid clues left by the killer. The paradox of crime in a workers' paradise denies any legitimacy to Leo's investigation, since, by definition, such repellent crimes are impossible. With some 20 foreign sales to date and film rights already in Ridgely Scott's hands, this successor to Hannibal Lector's lurid mantle has nonstop plotting, a nonstop pace, and even a surprise ending. Horror genre readers will thrill to it: others may be advised to ask for a barf bag as well as their date due slip. Suspense collections in large libraries will likely need several copies to fill waiting lists.

*Barbara Conaty - Library Journal*

During the terror of Stalin's last days, a secret policeman becomes a detective stalking a serial killer in a debut novel from a shockingly talented 28-year-old Brit. Skillfully drawing on the only totalitarian milieu more frightening than the Nazis, Smith opens the book in a village of starving kulaks, where two young brothers set out in the snow to trap the last local cat that hasn't been eaten. Myopic young Andrei throws himself on the frantic feline only to have both cat and older brother Pavel snatched by a mysterious man who bags them and disappears, leaving Andrei to stumble home alone. Both Pavel and Andrei figure into the tale that shifts to the early 1950s as Father Stalin hag
the Glorious Workers' Paradise, where every citizen has everything he needs, there is no such thing as crime. There are only attacks by the corrupt outside world. Leo has another problem. His beautiful wife Raisa, whom he suspects of infidelity, has been charged by Leo's vicious rival Vasili with espionage, and Leo has been ordered to verify that claim. Learning too late that the innocent and faithful Raisa fears rather than loves him, rattled by Vasili's treachery, knowing that he is damaged goods, Leo counts himself lucky to be exiled to duty in a hick town where he discovers further murders and begins a hair-raising hunt for the perpetrator. Nerve-wracking pace and atmosphere camouflage wild coincidences.

*Kirkus Reviews*

**Book Club Discussion Questions**

1. **Leo's** character evolves over the course of the book. What do you see as the most significant catalyst for change?

2. What propels Leo to go forward in his quest for the murderer: fear, compassion, or a sense of justice?

3. The relationship between Vasili and Leo is contentious from the beginning. Does Vasili feel pure hate, contempt, or jealousy for Leo? Why?

4. When Raisa reveals the truth of their marriage to Leo, were you surprised at his reaction? Would you have made similar choices under the circumstances? When does personal conviction trump duty and loyalty?

5. Who do you think was ultimately responsible for incriminating Raisa. What would it be like to live in a society in which everyone is under suspicion of crimes against the state?

6. Does the book's portrayal of life in a totalitarian state remind you of any other books?

7. In 1953, the year of Stalin's death, there were 2,468,524 prisoners in the Gulag system. Do you think that legacy affects Russian culture today?

8. Which character's duplicity or innocence did you find most surprising, and why?

*(Questions issued by publisher.)*
Forget It, Comrade. This Is Moscow.

JANET MASLIN

On Page 275 of his tightly woven debut novel, “Child 44,” Tom Rob Smith reveals what the title means. The moment is a shocker — but its full effects can be felt only if you’ve read the 274 pages that precede it. This book is much too densely, ingeniously plotted for its secrets to be accessible via shortcut.

The idea of a Child 44 makes sense only when playing by Mr. Smith’s elaborate, period-piece rules. Most of his story is set in 1953 amid a Stalinist-Orwellian nightmare. The politics are starkly Soviet, but the atmosphere is old-school Russian. How Russian? Russian enough for an Andrei, an Arkady and an Anatoly all turn up cryptically in the book’s early stages.

Andrei appears during the book’s 1933 prologue, a vignette about the terrible disappearance of a young boy during a famine. Then 20 years later, with no explanation for such leapfrogging, Mr. Smith tells the story of another boy’s bleak fate. That victim is Arkady. And while Arkady turns up dead on Moscow railroad tracks, an adult fugitive...
Thriller conventions being what they are, thisospoof material amounts to mere vamping. Nobody whose name starts with an A will turn out to be this book’s central character. Andrei, Arkady and Anatoly merely lead the reader to Leo Stepanovich Demidov, an M.G.B. officer with relentless ambition and an unquestioning nature. Leo is busy pursuing Anatoly when he is annoyingly sidetracked by a family matter. He is begged by Fyodor, Arkady’s father, to find out how Arkady went astray.

Here comes Mr. Smith’s most marketably perverse angle: It is not morally possible for Leo to contemplate such a question. As a loyal Soviet ideologue, he must believe that violent crime is a function of capitalist decadence. In a worker’s paradise only political-thought crimes matter. So unguarded children have nothing to fear. And Arkady’s story must be forgotten.

Here are some pro forma book-group discussion questions about “Child 44,” since it is looking like this summer’s most hotly promoted thriller: Will Leo question his blind loyalty to Stalinist Russia? Will he decide that crime can happen anywhere because it is part of human nature? Will his life be at risk when he begins to question authority? Will his indifferent marriage to Raisa be strengthened or weakened as Leo becomes his own man? Will there be anything sexy about Raisa’s realization that she is not married to a ruthless automaton?

Will thugs threaten to rape Raisa at any point in this story? Will “Child 44” escalate into action sequences and violence? Will we find out why one of the book’s characters never goes anywhere without a serrated knife, which is said to be good for cutting tough salami? And will Leo turn out to have a big, murky secret lodged somewhere in his past?

Before answering this last question, consider Mr. Smith’s explicit gratitude to Robert Towne, who wrote the film “Chinatown.” Under Mr. Towne’s influence “Child 44” takes on a “Chinatown” whiff of long-buried, psychologically devastating menace.

Here’s a good moment to note that Mr. Smith originally conceived of “Child 44” as a
Only when the Stalinism yields a clever jolt — as, for instance, the sight of a telephone in somebody’s apartment revealing that person to be working for the state, since a telephone is such a rare and exotic perk — does Mr. Smith’s slightly ponderous style truly serve his high-voltage story.

As for its characters’ various relationships, the one between Leo and Raisa is by far the most interesting. Leo’s dealings with co-workers are rendered almost cartoonishly simple. (It’s not clear why the book’s one-note villain hates him.) And his love for his parents, while unexpectedly poignant, remains essentially unchanged.

But Leo and Raisa go through a phase of mutual mistrust, during which Leo is asked to spy on his wife and treat her as a possible enemy of the state. Here is where Richard Price, who is reportedly writing the screenplay for “Child 44,” will come in handy: The book delivers Hitchcockian moments like Leo’s secretly trying to track his wife — and, he thinks, her lover — through a crowded train station. The bold dynamics of the sequence are strong, but its turbulent inner workings are even better.

Sooner or later, though, Mr. Smith must reveal what has been at the heart of all the life-changing events in this story. And its denouement feels surprisingly phony. Motivation counts for nothing among the book’s characters; it’s just an excuse for the author to put them through the elaborate paces of a far-flung chase through Martin Cruz Smith country. This book’s version of the Rostov Ripper is a guy with ugly personal quirks, but very little imagination.

If there’s one single development in “Child 44” that has the most lingering effect, it is Leo’s choice at the end of the story. What will he do next? He needs a new career. Suffice it to say that Stalin has died during the course of the story, that Leo has traveled far and wide, that Moscow now looks like a good home base, and that it will be needing a batch of homicide cops, now that homicide officially exists. So Leo Demidov pulls what fans of this genre (and of the author Michael Connelly) will recognize as a Harry Bosch. Expect to see him again, jaded yet indefatigable, figuring out what evil lurks in the dark heart of his chosen city.

More Articles in Books »
Andrei Romanovich Chikatilo (Russian: Андрей Романович Чикатило, Ukrainian: Андрій Романович Чикатило, Andrei Romanovich Chikatilo; October 16, 1936 – February 14, 1994) was a Ukrainian-born Soviet serial killer, nicknamed the Butcher of Rostov, The Red Ripper or The Rostov Ripper who committed the murders of a minimum of 52 women and children between 1978 and 1990. He was convicted of 52 murders in October 1992 (although he did confess to a total of 56 murders and was tried for 53 of these killings) and was subsequently executed for the murders for which he was convicted in February, 1994.

Chikatilo was known by such titles as The Rostov Ripper and the Butcher of Rostov.

**Background information**

- **Birth name:** Andrei Romanovich Chikatilo
- **Also known as:** The Butcher of Rostov, The Red Ripper, The Rostov Ripper
- **Born:** October 16, 1936, Yablochnoye, Ukrainian SSR (now Ukraine)
- **Died:** February 14, 1994 (aged 57), Novocherkassk, Russia
- **Cause of death:** Executed (Gunshot to the head)
- **Conviction:** Murder
- **Sentence:** Death
majority of his murders were committed in the Rostov Oblast of the Russian SFSR.

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Biography

Early life

Andrei Chikatilo was born in the village of Yablochnoye (Yabluchne) in modern Sumy Oblast of the Ukrainian SSR. He was born soon after the famine in Ukraine caused by Joseph Stalin's forced collectivisation of agriculture.\(^3\) Ukrainian farmers were forced to hand in their entire crop for statewide distribution. Mass starvation ran rampant throughout Ukraine, and reports of cannibalism soared. Chikatilo's mother, Anna, told him that his older brother Stepan had been kidnapped and cannibalized by starving neighbors, although it has never been independently established whether this actually happened.\(^4\)

Chikatilo's parents were both farm labourers who lived in a one-room hut.\(^5\) As a child, Chikatilo slept on a single bed with his parents. He was a chronic bed wetter\(^6\) and was berated and beaten by his mother for each offense.

When the Soviet Union entered World War II, his father, Roman, was drafted into the Red Army and subsequently taken prisoner after being wounded in combat.\(^7\) During the war, Chikatilo witnessed some of the effects of Blitzkrieg, which both frightened and excited him. On one occasion, Chikatilo and his mother were forced to watch their hut burn to the ground.\(^8\) In 1943, while Chikatilo's father was at the front, Chikatilo's mother gave birth to a baby girl. In 1949, Chikatilo's father, who had been liberated by the Americans, returned home. Instead of being rewarded for his war service, he was branded a traitor for surrendering to the Germans.\(^9\)
Chikatilo was shy and studious as a child, and an avid reader of Communist literature. He was also a target for bullying by his peers. During adolescence, he discovered that he suffered from chronic impotence, worsening his social awkwardness and self-hatred. Chikatilo was shy in the company of females: his only sexual experience as a teenager was when he, aged 17, jumped on an 11-year-old friend of his younger sister and wrestled her to the ground, ejaculating as the girl struggled in his grasp.

In 1953, Chikatilo finished school and applied for a scholarship at the Moscow State University; although he passed the entrance examination, his grades were not good enough for acceptance. Between 1957 and 1960, Chikatilo performed his compulsory military service.

Marriage and teaching career

In 1963, Chikatilo married a woman to whom he was introduced by his younger sister. The couple had a son and daughter. Chikatilo later claimed that his marital sex life was minimal and that he would ejaculate on his wife and push the semen inside her vagina with his fingers. In 1965, their daughter Ludmila was born, followed by son Yuri in 1969. In 1971, Chikatilo completed a correspondence course in Russian literature and obtained his degree in the subject from Rostov University.

Chikatilo began his career as a teacher of Russian language and literature in Novoshakhtinsk. His career as a teacher ended in March 1981 after several complaints of child molestation against pupils of both sexes. Chikatilo eventually took a job as a supply clerk for a factory.
In September 1978, Chikatilo moved to Shakhty, a small coal mining town near Rostov-on-Don, where he committed his first documented murder. On December 22, he lured a 9-year-old girl named Yelena Zakotnova to an old house which he had secretly purchased and attempted to rape her, but failed to achieve an erection. When the girl struggled, he choked her to death and stabbed her body, ejaculating in the process of knifing the child. Chikatilo then dumped Zakotnova's body in a nearby river.[20] Despite evidence linking Chikatilo to the girl's death (spots of the girl's blood were found in the snow near Chikatilo's house and a witness had given police a detailed description of a man closely resembling Chikatilo who she had seen talking with Zakotnova at the bus stop where the girl was last seen alive),[21] a 25-year-old named Aleksandr Kravchenko who, as a teenager, had served a jail sentence for the rape and murder of a teenage girl, was arrested for the crime[22] and subsequently confessed to the killing. He was tried for the murder in 1979. At his trial, Kravchenko retracted his confession and maintained his innocence, stating his confession had been obtained under extreme duress. Despite his retraction, he was convicted of the murder and sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment (the maximum possible length of imprisonment at that time). Under pressure from the victim's relatives, Kravchenko was retried and eventually executed for the murder of Lena Zakotnova in July, 1983.

Following Zakotnova's murder, Chikatilo was only able to achieve sexual arousal and orgasm through stabbing and slashing women and children to death, and he later stated the urge to relive the experience overwhelmed him.[23]

Chikatilo committed his next murder in September 1981, when he tried to have sex with a 17-year-old boarding school student named Larisa Tkachenko in a forest near the Don river. When Chikatilo failed to achieve an erection, he
On June 12, 1982, Chikatilo encountered a 13-year-old girl named Lyubov Biryuk walking home from a shopping trip in the village of Donskoi. Once the path both were taking together was shielded from the view of potential witnesses by bushes, Chikatilo pounced upon Biryuk, dragged her into nearby undergrowth, tore off her blue floral dress and killed her by stabbing and slashing her to death.

Following Biryuk's murder, Chikatilo no longer attempted to resist his homicidal urges: between July and December, 1982, he killed a further six victims between the ages of nine and nineteen. He established a pattern of approaching children, runaways and young vagrants at bus or railway stations, enticing them to a nearby forest or other secluded area and killing them, usually by stabbing, slashing and eviscerating the victim with a knife; although some victims, in addition to receiving a multitude of knife wounds, were also strangled or battered to death. Many of the bodies found bore striations of the eye sockets. Pathologists concluded the injuries were caused by a knife, leading investigators to the conclusion the killer had gouged out the eyes of his victims. Chikatilo's adult female victims were often prostitutes or homeless women who could be lured to secluded areas with promises of alcohol or money. Chikatilo would typically attempt intercourse with these victims, but he would usually be unable to get an erection, which would send him into a murderous fury, particularly if the woman mocked his impotence. He would achieve orgasm only when he stabbed the victim to death. His child victims were of both sexes; Chikatilo would lure these victims to secluded areas using a variety of ruses, usually formed in the initial conversation with the victim, such as promising them assistance or company; with the offer to show the victim a shortcut; a chance to view rare stamps, films or coins or with an offer of food or candy. He would usually overpower these victims once they were alone, tie their hands behind their backs with a length of rope, and then proceed to kill them.
Chikatilo did not kill again until June 1983, but he had killed five more times before September. The accumulation of bodies and the similarities between the pattern of wounds inflicted on the victims forced the Soviet authorities to acknowledge a serial killer was on the loose: on September 6, 1983, the Public Prosecutor of the USSR formally linked six of the murders thus far committed to the same killer. A Moscow police team, headed by Major Mikhail Fetisov, was sent to Rostov-on-Don to direct the investigation. Fetisov centered the investigations around Shakhty and assigned a specialist forensic analyst, Victor Burakov, to head the investigation. Due to the sheer savagery of the murders, much of the police effort concentrated on mentally ill citizens, homosexuals, known pedophiles and sex offenders, slowly working through all that were known and eliminating them from the inquiry. A number of young men confessed to the murders, although they were usually mentally handicapped youths who had admitted to the crimes only under prolonged and often brutal interrogation. Three known homosexuals and a convicted sex offender committed suicide as a result of the investigators' heavy-handed tactics, but as police obtained confessions from suspects, bodies continued to be discovered proving the suspects who had previously confessed could not be the killer the police were seeking: in October 1983, Chikatilo killed a 19-year-old prostitute, and in December a 14-year-old schoolboy named Sergey Markov.

The killings continue

In January and February 1984, Chikatilo killed two women in Rostov's Aviators' Park. On March 24, he lured a 10-year-old boy named Dmitry Ptashnikov away from a stamp kiosk in Novoshakhtinsk. While walking with the boy, Chikatilo was seen by several witnesses who were able to give investigators a detailed description of the killer when Ptashnikov's body was found the following day. 
On May 29, Chikatilo killed a young woman, Tatjana Petrosyan and her 14-year-old daughter, Svetlana, in woodland outside Shakhty. Petrosyan had known Chikatilo for several years prior to her murder.[37] By July 19, he had killed three further young women between the ages of 19 and 22 and a 13-year-old boy.

In the summer of 1984, Chikatilo was fired from his work as a supply clerk for theft of property. The accusation had been filed against Chikatilo the previous February and he had been asked to resign quietly but had refused to do so as he had denied the charges.[38] Chikatilo found another job as a supply clerk in Rostov on August 1.[39]

On August 2, Chikatilo killed a 16-year-old girl, Natalya Golosovskaya, in Aviators' Park and on 7 August, he killed a 17-year-old girl on the banks of the Don River before flying to the Uzbekistan capital of Tashkent on a business trip. By the time Chikatilo returned to Rostov on August 15, he had killed a young woman and a 12-year-old girl. Within two weeks an 11-year-old boy had been found strangled, castrated and with his eyes gouged out in Rostov before a young librarian, Irina Luchinskaya, was killed in Rostov's Aviators' Park on September 6.

Natalya Golosovskaya, aged 16, killed in Novoshakhtinsk on August 2, 1984.

**Arrest and release**

On September 13, 1984, exactly one week after his fifteenth killing of the year, Chikatilo was observed by an undercover detective attempting to lure young women away from a Rostov bus station.[40] He was arrested and held. A search of his belongings revealed a knife and rope.[41] He was also discovered to be under investigation for minor theft at one of his former employers, which gave the investigators the legal right to hold him for a prolonged period of time. Chikatilo's dubious background was uncovered, and...
him of the murders, however. He was found guilty of the theft of the property from his previous employer[^42] and sentenced to one year in prison. He was freed on December 12, 1984, after serving three months[^43].

On October 8, 1984, the head of the Russian Public Prosecutors Office formally linked 23 of Chikatilo's murders into one case, and dropped all charges against the mentally handicapped youths who had previously confessed to the murders[^44].

Following the September 6 murder of Irina Luchinskaya, no further bodies were found bearing the trademark mutilation of Chikatilo's murders and investigators in Rostov theorized that the unknown killer may have moved to another part of the Soviet Union and had continued killing there. The Rostov police sent bulletins to all forces throughout the Soviet Union, describing the network of wounds their unknown killer inflicted upon his victims and requesting feedback from any police force who had discovered murder victims with wounds matching those upon the victims found in the Rostov Oblast. The response was negative: no other police force had found murder victims with wounds matching those upon the description within the bulletin[^45].

Later murders and the manhunt

Upon his release from jail, Chikatilo found new work in Novocherkassk and kept a low profile. He did not kill again until July 31, 1985, when he murdered a young woman near Domodedovo Airport, near Moscow. One month later, Chikatilo killed another woman in Shakhty. Both victims were linked to the hunt for the killer[^46].

In November 1985, a special procurator named Issa Kostoyev was appointed to supervise the investigation[^47]. The known murders around Rostov were carefully re-investigated and police began another round of questioning of known sex offenders. The following month, the militsiya and Voluntary People's Druzhina renewed the patrolling of railway stations around Rostov. The police also took the step of consulting a psychiatrist, Dr. Alexander
between 15 and 30 years old who was of average intelligence, had likely never been married or had previously been married, but who was also a sadist who could only achieve sexual arousal by seeing his victims suffer.\[49\] Bukhanovsky also argued that because many of the killings had occurred on weekdays near mass transportation and across the entire Rostov Oblast, that the killer's work required him to travel regularly, and based upon the actual days of the week when the killings had occurred, the killer was most likely tied to a production schedule.\[50\]

Chikatilo followed the investigation carefully, reading newspaper reports about the manhunt for the killer\[51\] and keeping his homicidal urges under control; throughout 1986 he is not known to have committed any murders. In 1987 Chikatilo killed three times; on each occasion he killed while on a business trip far away from the Rostov Oblast and none of these murders were linked to the manhunt in Rostov.\[52\] Chikatilo's first murder in 1987 was committed in May, when he killed a 13-year-old boy named Oleg Makarenkov in Revda. In July, he killed another boy in Zaporozhye and a third in Leningrad in September.

In 1988, Chikatilo killed three times, murdering an unidentified woman in Krasny-Sulin in April and two boys in May and July. His first killing bore wounds similar to those inflicted on the victims linked to the manhunt killed between 1982 and 1985, but as the woman had been killed with a slab of concrete, investigators were unsure whether to link the murder to the investigation.\[53\] In May Chikatilo killed a 9-year-old boy in Ilovaisk, Ukraine. The boy's wounds left no doubt the killer had struck again, and this murder was linked to the manhunt.\[54\] On July 14, Chikatilo killed a 15-year-old boy named Yevgeny Muratov at Donleskhoz station near Shakhty. Muratov's murder was also linked to the investigation, although his body was not found until April 1989.\[55\]

Chikatilo did not kill again until March 8, 1989, when he killed a 16-year-old girl in his daughter's vacant apartment. He dismembered her body and hid the remains in a sewer. As the victim had been dismembered, police did not link
On March 7, he killed a 10-year-old boy named Yaroslav Makarov in Rostov Botanical Gardens. The eviscerated body was found the following day.\textsuperscript{[57]} On March 11, the leaders of the investigation, headed by Mikhail Fetisov, held a meeting to discuss progress made in the hunt for the killer.\textsuperscript{[58]} Fetisov was under intense pressure from the public, the press and the Ministry of the Interior in Moscow to solve the case: the intensity of the manhunt in the years up to 1984 had receded to a degree between 1985 and 1987, when Chikatilo had killed only two victims conclusively linked to the killer — both of them in 1985. By March 1990, six further victims had been linked to the killer. Fetisov had noted laxity in some areas of the investigation, and warned people would be fired if the killer was not caught soon.\textsuperscript{[59]}

Chikatilo had killed three further victims by August 1990: On April 4, he killed a 31-year-old woman in woodland near Donleskhoz station,\textsuperscript{[60]} on July 28, he lured a 13-year-old boy away from a Rostov train station and killed him in Rostov Botanical Gardens\textsuperscript{[61]} and on August 14, he killed an 11-year-old boy in the reeds near Novocherkassk beach.

The snare

The discovery of more victims sparked a massive operation by the police; as several victims had been found at stations on one rail route through the Rostov Oblast,\textsuperscript{[62]} Viktor Burakov — who had been involved in the hunt for the killer since 1982 — suggested a plan to saturate all larger stations in the Rostov Oblast with an obvious uniformed police presence the killer could not fail to notice, with the intention to discourage the killer from attempting to strike at any of these locations, and with smaller and less busy stations patrolled by undercover agents, where his activities would be more likely to be noticed.
route through the oblast where the killer had struck most frequently, in an effort to force the killer to strike at one of these three stations. The operation was implemented on October 27, 1990.

On October 30, police found the body of a 16-year-old boy named Vadim Gromov at Donleskhoz Station. Gromov had been killed on October 17, 10 days prior to the implementation of the initiative. The same day Gromov's body was found, Chikatilo lured another 16-year-old boy, Viktor Tishchenko, off a train at Kirpichnaya Station, another station under surveillance from undercover police and killed him in a nearby forest.

**Surveillance**

On November 6, 1990, Chikatilo killed and mutilated a 22-year-old woman named Sveta Korostik in woodland near Donleskhoz Station. While leaving the crime scene, he was seen by an undercover officer. The policeman observed Chikatilo approach a well and wash his hands and face. When he approached the station, the undercover officer noted his coat had grass and soil stains at the elbows. Chikatilo also had a small red smear on his cheek. To the officer, he looked suspicious. The only reason people entered woodland near the station at that time of year was to gather wild mushrooms (a popular pastime in Russia). Chikatilo, however, was not dressed like a typical forest hiker; he was wearing more formal attire. Moreover, he had a nylon sports bag, which was not suitable for carrying mushrooms.

The policeman stopped Chikatilo and checked his papers. Having no formal reason for arrest, Chikatilo was not held. When the policeman came back to his office, he filed a formal routine report, indicating the name of the person he stopped at the train station.

On November 13, Korostik's body was found. Police summoned the officer in charge of surveillance at Donleskhoz Station and examined the reports of all
when several victims linked to the investigation had been killed.\(^{[73]}\) Former colleagues from Chikatilo's teaching days informed investigators Chikatilo had been forced to resign from his teaching position due to complaints of sexual assault from several pupils.\(^{[74]}\)

Police placed Chikatilo under surveillance on November 14. In several instances, particularly on trains or buses, he was observed to approach lone young women or children and engage them in conversation; if the woman or child broke off the conversation, Chikatilo would wait a few minutes then seek another conversation partner.\(^{[75]}\) On November 20, after six days of surveillance, Chikatilo left his house with a one gallon flask for beer, then wandered around Novocherkassk, attempting to make contact with children he met on his way. Upon exiting a cafe, Chikatilo was arrested by four plainclothes police officers.\(^{[76]}\)

**Final arrest and Chikatilo's confession**

Upon arrest, Chikatilo gave a statement claiming the suspicion against him was a mistake, and complained he had also been arrested in 1984 for the same series of murders.\(^{[77]}\) A strip-search of the suspect revealed a further piece of evidence: one of Chikatilo's fingers had a flesh wound. Medical examiners concluded the wound was, in fact, from a human bite. Chikatilo's penultimate victim was a physically strong 16-year-old youth. At the crime scene, the police had found numerous signs of a ferocious physical struggle between the victim and his murderer. Although a finger bone was later found to be broken and his fingernail had been bitten off, Chikatilo had never sought medical attention for the wound.\(^{[78]}\)
In custody, Chikatilo would not be prosecuted by reason of insanity. Nine days went by without a true confession of his crimes, only vague hints and evasions. Finally, at the request of Burakov and Fetisov, Dr. Aleksandr Bukhanovsky, the psychiatrist who had written the 1985 psychological profile then-unknown killer for the investigators, was invited to assist in the questioning of the suspect. Bukhanovsky read extracts from his 65-page psychological profile to Chikatilo.\[^{79}\] Within two hours, Chikatilo confessed to the 36 murders police had linked to the killer. On November 30, he was formally charged with each of these 36 murders.\[^{80}\]

Chikatilo confessed to a further 20 killings which had not been connected to the case, either because the murders had been committed outside the Rostov Oblast,\[^{81}\] or because the bodies had not been found. In December 1990, Chikatilo led police to the body of Alexey Khobotov,\[^{82}\] a boy he had confessed to killing in 1989 and whom he had buried in woodland near a Shakhty cemetery, proving unequivocally he was the killer.\[^{83}\] He later led investigators to the bodies of two other victims he had confessed to killing. Three of the 56 victims Chikatilo confessed to killing could not be found or identified, but Chikatilo was charged with killing 53 women and children between 1978 and 1990.

**Imprisonment and psychiatric evaluation**

Special precautions had to be taken while keeping Chikatilo in prison; violent and especially sexual crimes against children are taboo in Russia. Prisoners accused of raping or killing children in Russian prisons are usually "cast down" (опущены) to "untouchable" (опущенный) status, sexually abused, and sometimes killed by their cell mates. The problem was complicated by the fact that some of the relatives of Chikatilo's victims worked in the prison system.
Chikatilo also spent a lot of time writing letters and complaints to his family, government officials, and the mass media.

The Soviet Union collapsed on August 18, 1991. On August 20,[84] after completing the interrogation of Chikatilo and having completed a re-enactment of all the murders at each crime scene,[85] Chikatilo was transferred to the Serbsky Institute in Moscow for a six-day psychiatric evaluation to determine whether he was mentally competent to stand trial. Chikatilo was analysed by a senior psychiatrist, Dr. Andrei Tkachenko, who declared him legally sane on October 18.[86] In December 1991, details of Chikatilo's arrest and a brief summary of his crimes was released to the newly-liberated media by police.[87]

**Trial and execution**

The trial of Andrei Chikatilo was the first major event of post-Soviet Russia. Chikatilo stood trial in Rostov on April 14, 1992.[88] During the trial, he was kept in an iron cage in a corner of the courtroom to protect him from attack by the many hysterical relatives of his victims. Chikatilo's head had been shaven — a standard prison precaution against lice — which had the effect of making him look evil.[89] Relatives of victims regularly shouted threats and insults to Chikatilo throughout the trial, demanding that authorities release him so that they could kill him themselves. Each murder was discussed individually, and on several occasions, relatives broke down in tears when details of their relatives' murder were revealed; some even fainted.[90]

Chikatilo regularly interrupted the trial, exposing himself, singing, and refusing to answer questions put to him by the judge. He was regularly removed from the courtroom for interrupting the proceedings.[91] On May 13,
many rash remarks about his guilt. His defense counsel backed the claim. The judge looked to the prosecutor and even the prosecutor backed the defense's judgment, stating the judge had indeed made too many such remarks.\[93\] The judge ruled the prosecutor be replaced instead.

On August 9, both prosecution and defense delivered their final arguments before the judge. Chikatilo again attempted to interrupt the proceedings and had to be removed from the courtroom. Final sentence was postponed until October 14.\[94\] As the final deliberations began, the brother of Lyudmila Alekseyeva, a 17-year-old girl killed by Chikatilo in August 1984, threw a heavy chunk of metal at Chikatilo, hitting him in the chest.\[95\] When security tried to arrest the young man, other victims' relatives shielded him, preventing him from being arrested.

On October 14, the court reconvened and the judge read the list of murders again, not finishing until the following day.\[96\] On October 15, Chikatilo was found guilty of 52 of the 53 murders and sentenced to death for each offense. Chikatilo kicked his bench across his cage when he heard the verdict, and began shouting abuse. He was offered a final chance to make a speech in response to the verdict, but remained silent.\[97\] Upon passing final sentence, Judge Leonid Akhobzyanov made the following speech:

"Taking into consideration the monstrous crimes he committed, this court has no alternative but to impose the only sentence that he deserves. I therefore sentence him to death."

On January 4, 1994, Russian President Boris Yeltsin refused a last-ditch appeal for clemency. On February 14, Chikatilo was taken to a soundproofed room in Novocherkassk prison and executed by a single gunshot behind the right ear.\[98\][99]
List of victims
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Date of Murder</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lena Zakotnova</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>December 22, 1978</td>
<td>Chikatilo's first victim. Accosted by Chikatilo while walking home from an ice-skating rink.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Larisa Tkachenko</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>September 3, 1981</td>
<td>Approached by Chikatilo while waiting for a bus back to her boarding school. [24]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Lyubov Biryuk</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>June 12, 1982</td>
<td>Biryuk was abducted while returning from a shopping trip in the village of Donskoi. [102]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Lyubov Volobuyeva</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>July 25, 1982</td>
<td>Killed in an orchard near Krasnodar Airport. [83] Her body was found August 7.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Oleg Pozhidayev</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>August 13, 1982</td>
<td>Chikatilo's first male victim. Pozhidayev was killed in Adygea. His body was never found. [103]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Olga Kuprina</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>August 16, 1982</td>
<td>Killed in Kazachi Lagerya. Her body was found October 27. [104]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Irina Karabelnikova</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>September 8, 1982</td>
<td>Lured away from Shakhty station by Chikatilo. Her body was found September 20.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Location Details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Sergey Kuzmin</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>September 15, 1982</td>
<td>Kuzmin's body was found at Shakhty station in January, 1983.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Olga Stalmachenok</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>December 11, 1982</td>
<td>Olga was lured off a bus while riding home from her piano lessons in Novoshakhtinsk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Laura Sarkisyan</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>After June 18, 1983</td>
<td>Sarkisyan was from Armenia. Her body was never found.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Irina Dunenkova</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>July 1983</td>
<td>Dunenkova's body was found in Aviators' Park, Rostov, on August 8, 1983.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Lyudmila Kushuba</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>July 1983</td>
<td>Killed in woodland near a Shakhty bus station. Her body was found March 12, 1984.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Igor Gudkov</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>August 9, 1983</td>
<td>Gudkov — from Bataisk — was Chikatilo's youngest victim. He was the first male victim linked to the manhunt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Valentina Chuchulina</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>After September 19, 1983</td>
<td>Chuchulina's body was found November 27, 1983 in woodland near Kirpichnaya station.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| 15  | Summer                |        |     |                | Chikatilo claimed he encountered this victim                                                                                                   |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
<th>Date of Death</th>
<th>Additional Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Vera Shevkun</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>October 27, 1983</td>
<td>October 30, 1983</td>
<td>village near Shakhty. Her body was found October 30.\textsuperscript{[109]}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Sergey Markov</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>December 27, 1983</td>
<td></td>
<td>Disappeared while returning home from work experience. His body was found January 4, 1984.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Natalya Shalapinina</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>January 9, 1984</td>
<td></td>
<td>Shalapinina had been a close friend of Olga Kuprina, killed by Chikatilo in 1982.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Marta Ryabenko</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>February 21, 1984</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chikatilo's oldest victim. She was killed in Aviators' Park, Rostov.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Dmitriy Ptashnikov</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>March 24, 1984</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lured from a stamp kiosk by Chikatilo, who pretended to be a fellow collector.\textsuperscript{[32]}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Tatyana Petrosyan</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>May 25, 1984</td>
<td></td>
<td>Murdered together with her daughter outside Shakhty. She had known Chikatilo since 1978.\textsuperscript{[110]}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Svetlana Petrosyan</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>May 25, 1984</td>
<td></td>
<td>Svetlana saw Chikatilo murder her mother before he chased her and killed her with a hammer. Bakulina's body was</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Cause of Death</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Dmitriy Illarionov</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>July 10, 1984</td>
<td>while on his way to get a health certificate for summer camp.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Anna Lemesheva</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>July 19, 1984</td>
<td>A student who disappeared on her way to visit a dentist. She was killed in Shakhty.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Svetlana Tsana</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>July 1984</td>
<td>Originally from Riga. Her body was found September 9 in Aviators' Park, Rostov.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Natalya Golosovskaya</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>August 2, 1984</td>
<td>Vanished on a visit to Novoshakhtinsk, where she was to visit her sister.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Lyudmila Alekseyeva</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>August 7, 1984</td>
<td>A student lured from a bus stop by Chikatilo, who offered to direct her to Rostov's bus terminal.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Unknown woman</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>20–25</td>
<td>August 8–11, 1984</td>
<td>Killed in Tashkent by Chikatilo while on a business trip to the Uzbek SSR city.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Akmaral Seydaliyeva</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>August 13, 1984</td>
<td>A runaway from Alma-Ata, Kazakhstan, also killed by Chikatilo in Tashkent.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Alexander</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>August 28, 1984</td>
<td>Chepel was killed on the banks of the Don river,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Location and Details</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Irina Luchinskaya</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>September 6, 1984</td>
<td>Killed by Chikatilo in Aviators' Park, Rostov. [116]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Natalya Pokhlistova</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>July 31, 1985</td>
<td>Lured off a train by Chikatilo near Domodedovo Airport, Moscow Oblast. Her body was found August 3. [117]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Irina Gulyayeva</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>August 27, 1985</td>
<td>Killed in a grove of trees near Shakhty bus station. Her body was found the following day. [118]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Oleg Makarenkov</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>May 16, 1987</td>
<td>Killed in Sverdlovsk, Ukraine, Chikatilo led police to his remains after his arrest. [119]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Ivan Bilovetskiy</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>July 29, 1987</td>
<td>Killed by Chikatilo on a business trip to Zaporizhya, Ukrainian SSR. His body was found July 30. [120]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Yuri Tereshonok</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>September 15, 1987</td>
<td>Lured off a train in Leningrad Oblast. Chikatilo led police to his remains after his arrest. [100]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Unknown woman</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>18–25</td>
<td>April 1–4, 1988</td>
<td>Killed near Krasny Sulin train station. Her body was found April 6.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td></td>
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<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Yevgeniy Muratov</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>July 14, 1988</td>
<td>The first victim killed near Rostov since 1985. Muratov's body was found on April 10, 1989.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Tatyana Ryzhova</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>March 8, 1989</td>
<td>A runaway from Krasny Sulin, she was killed in Chikatilo's own daughter's apartment.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Alexander Dyakonov</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>May 11, 1989</td>
<td>Killed in Rostov city centre the day after his 8th birthday. His body was found July 14.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Alexey Moiseyev</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>June 20, 1989</td>
<td>Killed in the Vladimir region, east of Moscow. Chikatilo confessed to this murder after his arrest.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Helena Varga</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>August 19, 1989</td>
<td>A student from Hungary who had a child. She was lured off a bus and killed in a village near Rostov.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Alexey Khobotov</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>August 28, 1989</td>
<td>Vanished from outside a theater in Shakhty. Chikatilo led police to...</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Andrei Kravchenko</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>January 14, 1990</td>
<td>Chikatilo. He was killed in Shakhty. Kravchenko's body was found February 19.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Yaroslav Makarov</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>March 7, 1990</td>
<td>Lured from a Rostov train station by Chikatilo. He was killed in Rostov botanical gardens.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Lyubov Zuyeva</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>April 4, 1990</td>
<td>Lured off a train near the Donleskhoz station near Shakhty. Her body was found August 24.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Viktor Petrov</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>July 28, 1990</td>
<td>Killed in Rostov botanical gardens; a few yards from where Makarov had been murdered.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Ivan Fomin</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>August 14, 1990</td>
<td>Killed at Novocherkassk municipal beach. His body was found August 17.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Vadim Gromov</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>October 17, 1990</td>
<td>A student from Shakhty. Gromov vanished while riding the train to Taganrog.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Viktor Tishchenko</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>October 30, 1990</td>
<td>Killed in Shakhty. Tishchenko fought hard for his life; he was the victim who bit Chikatilo.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chikatilo in Media

In film

- The film, *Citizen X*, based on Robert Cullen's book *The Killer Department*, was made in 1995 about the investigation of the "Rostov Ripper" murders. Citizen X starred Jeffrey DeMunn as Chikatilo, with Stephen Rea as Viktor Burakov, Donald Sutherland as Mikhail Fetisov, and Max von Sydow as Dr. Alexandr Bukhanovsky.

- The 2004 film *Evilenko*, starring Malcolm McDowell and Marton Csokas, was loosely based on Chikatilo's murders.

Factual books

Four books have been written about the case of Andrei Chikatilo:

- *The Killer Department*, written by Robert Cullen (ISBN 1-85797-210-4)


Fictional books
See also

- List of murderers by number of victims

Footnotes

1. ^ The Killer Department
2. ^ The Red Ripper
5. ^ The Killer Department, p. 213.
7. ^ The Killer Department, p. 263
8. ^ The Killer Department, p. 262
9. ^a b Andrei Chikatilo: The Rostov Ripper - Famous Criminal - Homepage - Crime And Investigation Network (http://www.crimeandinvestigation.co.uk/famous_criminal/5/home/1/andrei_chika
10. ^ The Killer Department, p. 214-215
11. ^ The Killer Department, p. 264
12. ^ Profile of Chikatilo (http://www.truelifecrimes.com/andrei_chikatilo.html) at True Life Crimes
13. ^ The Killer Department, p. 217
14. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 20
15. ^ The Killer Department, p. 219
16. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 29
17. ^ The Killer Department, p. 221
18. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 252
20. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 43
21. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 44
21. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 60.
29. ^ The Killer Department p. 30
30. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 178
31. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 98
32. ^a b The Killer Department, p. 202.
33. ^a b The Red Ripper, p. 253.
34. ^ The Killer Department, p. 251.
35. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 76.
36. ^
37. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 85-87
38. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 79
39. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 254
41. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 8.
42. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 118
43. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 118.
44. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 112-113
45. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 115
46. ^ The Killer Department p. 111
47. ^ The Killer Department p. 118-119
48. ^ The Killer Department.
49. ^ The Killer Department, p. 126–129.
50. ^ The Killer Department, p. 129.
51. ^ The Killer Department p. 233
52. ^ The Red Ripper p. 133
53. ^ The Killer Department, p. 146.</here
54. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 256-257
55. ^ The Killer Department, p. 152
56. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 256-257
57. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 257
58. ^ The Killer Department, p. 159
59. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 158-159
60. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 157
61. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 167
62. ^ The Killer Department p. 164
63. ^ The Red Ripper p. 187
68. ^"^ " The Killer Department p. 171
69. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 186.
70. ^ The Killer Department p. 170
71. ^ The Killer Department p. 170-171
72. ^ The Killer Department p. 251
73. ^ The Killer Department p.207
74. ^ The Killer Department p.172
75. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 192
76. ^ The Red Ripper, p.193
77. ^ The Killer Department, p. 181
78. ^ The Killer Department, p. 177.
79. ^ The Killer Department, p. 193-196
80. ^ The Red Ripper, p.258
81. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 95
82. ^ The Killer Department, p. 204
83. ^a b The Killer Department, p. 205.
84. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 214
85. ^ The Killer Department, p. 210
86. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 216
87. ^ The Killer Department, p. 235
88. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 229
89. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 230
90. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 231
91. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 234
92. ^ The Killer Department, p. 243
93. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 236
94. ^ The Killer Department, p. 245-246
95. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 241
96. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 247-248
97. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 249
id=iu8VAAAAIAIBAJ&sjid=1xMEAAAAIAIBAJ&pg=5278,1621788&dq
100. ^a b http://vitaextend.narod.ru/chikatilo_victims.htm
101. ^ The Red Ripper, p. 252-257.
102. ^ The Killer Department, p. 3-5.
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- Chikatilo's sentence (http://www.serial-killers.ru/materials/prigovor-chikatilo.htm)
- Andrei Chikatilo profile from Crime and Investigation Network (http://www.crimeandinvestigation.co.uk/famous_criminal/5/home/1/And)
- List of Chikatilo's victims with photos (http://vitaextensa.narod.ru/chikatilo_victims.htm)
- Son of Andrei Chikatilo tries to follow in dad's footsteps (http://mosnews.com/weird/2009/04/23/chikatiloson/)
- Tchikatilo's Calvary by Mikhail Volokhov (http://volokhov.ru/site/?page_id=555)

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