

Detailed Timeline of Aundria Bowman (born Alexis Miranda Badger) - and the Criminal Behavior of Dennis Bowman

Aundria (Alexis) was the victim of a long-unsolved 1989 murder by her adoptive father. Below is a chronological timeline of her life, disappearance, the discovery of her remains, legal outcomes, and her adoptive father Dennis Lee Bowman's relevant crimes. Dates are drawn from court records, police reports, and verified sources. Dennis Bowman (born March 14, 1949, in Muskegon, Michigan) had a documented history of sexual violence.

June 23, 1974: Aundria is born as Alexis Miranda Badger in New Orleans, Louisiana, to 16 year-old Cathy Terkanian.

Dennis Bowman was sexually assaulting family members (admitted).

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January 1975: Aundria is approximately 7 months old and placed in foster care.

Dennis Bowman was sexually assaulting family members and sexually assaulted three women while stationed in the Navy in San Diego.

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March 1976: Aundria is approximately 21 months old.

Formally adopted in Virginia by Dennis Lee Bowman and his wife Brenda. Her name is changed to Aundria Michelle Bowman. The family later settles in Michigan.

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October 1979: Aundria is approximately 5 years old.

Dennis Bowman rapes a 27-year-old woman in Holland, Michigan (admitted).

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May 23, 1980: Aundria is approximately 6 years old.

Dennis Bowman attempts to rape an 18-year-old woman (Karen) near Holland, Michigan; shoots near her foot to force her into woods. Convicted; sentenced February 2, 1981, to 5–10 years in prison (served at Kinross Correctional Facility until parole in February 1986).

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September 9, 1980: Aundria is approximately 6 years old.

Dennis Bowman, while on Navy Reserve drill in Virginia, raped, tortured, beat, bound, gagged and murdered 25-year-old Kathleen Doyle in Norfolk, Virginia. Her body is found September 11, 1980. (This crime occurs after Aundria's adoption but while Dennis is in/out of prison and the family is relocating.

Late 1980s:

Aundria is approximately 13 years old.

The family lives in Allegan County, Michigan. Aundria (then a teenager) reports physical abuse, starvation, and molestation by Dennis to friends, school staff, and Brenda (who allegedly dismisses it).

In late 1988, Aundria tells school officials she fears going home and accuses Dennis of molesting her. A social worker investigates but returns her home after the Bowmans deny the claims and blame “rebelliousness” over learning she was adopted.

The family moves to a rural mobile home on 136th Avenue / Lincoln Road area in Hamilton, Michigan.

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March 11, 1989:

Aundria is approximately 14 years old.

Aundria disappears from the family’s rural Hamilton, Michigan, property.

Dennis Bowman reports her as a runaway, claiming she stole \$150 and a purple coat. She had reportedly packed a bag and threatened to report the molestation to police.

Dennis Bowman later admits he struck her during an argument (causing a fatal head injury after she fell down stairs), then dismembered her body with an axe and machete on or around March 13. He initially buries her nearby, then moves the remains to his property.

The case is classified as an “endangered runaway.”
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1989:

Aundria is missing.

Dennis commits additional crimes, including kidnapping and sexually assaulting a 6-year-old girl in September 1989 (admitted later).
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1993:

Aundria’s photo appears in the music video for Soul Asylum’s “Runaway Train” as one of several missing children.
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1998:

Dennis Bowman is arrested for breaking and entering a coworker’s home to steal women’s lingerie.
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2010 onward:

Biological mother Cathy Terkanian learns of the cold case, begins a decade-long search with amateur sleuths and authorities, and provides DNA that later helps identify remains.
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November 2019:

Dennis Bowman is arrested in Michigan for the 1980 murder of Kathleen Doyle after forensic evidence links him. He is extradited to Virginia.

February 2020: While jailed awaiting trial for Doyle’s murder, Dennis Bowman confesses to killing Aundria.

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February 4, 2020: Skeletal remains (confirmed via DNA from Cathy Terkanian) are found buried under cement in Dennis Bowman’s backyard in Allegan County, Michigan.

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May 15, 2020: Dennis Bowman is charged in Michigan with Aundria’s murder (open murder, felony murder, first-degree child abuse, mutilation of a body).

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June 2020: Dennis Bowman pleads guilty in Virginia to the 1980 rape and murder of Kathleen Doyle and receives two life sentences.

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December 22, 2021: In Allegan County Circuit Court, Dennis Bowman pleads no contest to second-degree murder in Aundria’s death.

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February 7, 2022: Dennis Bowman is sentenced to 35–50 years in Michigan (concurrent with his Virginia life sentences).

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September 2024: Netflix releases the two-part documentary Into the Fire: The Lost Daughter, detailing Cathy Terkanian’s search and the case.

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Aundria’s case remained unsolved for over 30 years until her biological mother’s advocacy and Dennis Bowman’s arrest for the earlier murder prompted his confession.

Dennis Bowman is serving life sentences plus the additional term and has admitted to multiple sexual assaults and at least two murders.