

# Alice's Restaurant Massacree

## Arlo Guthrie

This song is called Alice's Restaurant, and it's about Alice, and the Restaurant, but Alice's Restaurant is not the name of the restaurant, That's just the name of the song, and that's why I called the song Alice's Restaurant. You can get anything you want at Alice's Restaurant  
You can get anything you want at Alice's Restaurant  
Walk right in it's around the back  
Just a half a mile from the railroad track  
You can get anything you want at Alice's Restaurant Now it all started two Thanksgivings ago, was on, two years ago on  
Thanksgiving, when my friend and I went up to visit Alice at the Restaurant, but Alice doesn't live in the restaurant, she lives in the Church nearby the restaurant, in the bell-tower, with her husband Ray and Fasha the dog. And livin' in the bell tower like that, they got a lot of Room downstairs where the pews used to be in. Havin' all that room, Seein' as how they took out all the pews, they decided that they didn't Have to take out their garbage for a long time. We got up there, we found all the garbage in there, and we decided it'd be  
A friendly gesture for us to take the garbage down to the city dump. So  
We took the half a ton of garbage, put it in the back of a red VW Microbus, took shovels and rakes and implements of destruction and headed On toward the city dump. Well we got there and there was a big sign and a chain across across the Dump saying, "Closed on Thanksgiving." And we had never heard of a dump Closed on Thanksgiving before, and with tears in our eyes we drove off Into the sunset looking for another place to put the garbage. We didn't find one. Until we came to a side road, and off the side of the  
Side road there was another fifteen foot cliff and at the bottom of the Cliff there was another pile of garbage. And we decided that one big pile Is better than two little piles, and rather than bring that one up we Decided to throw our's down. That's what we did, and drove back to the church, had a thanksgiving Dinner that couldn't be beat, went to sleep and didn't get up until the Next morning, when we got a phone call from officer Obie. He said, "Kid, We found your name on an envelope at the bottom of a half a ton of Garbage, and just wanted to know if you had any information about it." And I said, "Yes, sir, Officer Obie, I cannot tell a lie, I put that envelope Under that garbage." After speaking to Obie for about fourty-five minutes on the telephone we Finally arrived at the truth of the matter and said that we had to go down And pick up the garbage, and also had to go down and speak to him at the Police officer's station. So we got in the red VW microbus with the Shovels and rakes and implements of destruction and headed on toward the

Police officer's station. Now friends, there was only one or two things that Obie coulda done at

The police station, and the first was he could have given us a medal for  
Being so brave and honest on the telephone, which wasn't very likely, and  
We didn't expect it, and the other thing was he could have bawled us out  
And told us never to be see driving garbage around the vicinity again,  
Which is what we expected, but when we got to the police officer's station  
There was a third possibility that we hadn't even counted upon, and we was  
Both immediately arrested. Handcuffed. And I said "Obie, I don't think I  
Can pick up the garbage with these handcuffs on." He said, "Shut up, kid.

Get in the back of the patrol car." And that's what we did, sat in the back of the patrol car and drove to the

Quote Scene of the Crime unquote. I want tell you about the town of  
Stockbridge, Massachusets, where this happened here, they got three stop  
Signs, two police officers, and one police car, but when we got to the  
Scene of the Crime there was five police officers and three police cars,  
Being the biggest crime of the last fifty years, and everybody wanted to  
Get in the newspaper story about it. And they was using up all kinds of  
Cop equipment that they had hanging around the police officer's station.

They was taking plaster tire tracks, foot prints, dog smelling prints, and  
They took twenty seven eight-by-ten colour glossy photographs with circles  
And arrows and a paragraph on the back of each one explaining what each  
One was to be used as evidence against us. Took pictures of the approach,  
The getaway, the northwest corner the southwest corner and that's not to

Mention the aerial photography. After the ordeal, we went back to the jail. Obie said he was going to put

Us in the cell. Said, "Kid, I'm going to put you in the cell, I want your  
Wallet and your belt." And I said, "Obie, I can understand you wanting my  
Wallet so I don't have any money to spend in the cell, but what do you  
Want my belt for?" And he said, "Kid, we don't want any hangings." I  
Said, "Obie, did you think I was going to hang myself for littering?"

Obie said he was making sure, and friends Obie was, cause he took out the  
Toilet seat so I couldn't hit myself over the head and drown, and he took

Out the toilet paper so I couldn't bend the bars roll out the - roll the  
Toilet paper out the window, slide down the roll and have an escape. Obie

Was making sure, and it was about four or five hours later that Alice  
(remember Alice? It's a song about Alice), Alice came by and with a few  
Nasty words to Obie on the side, bailed us out of jail, and we went back

To the church, had a another thanksgiving dinner that couldn't be beat,

And didn't get up until the next morning, when we all had to go to court. We walked in, sat down, Obie came in  
with the twenty seven eight-by-ten

Colour glossy pictures with circles and arrows and a paragraph on the back

Of each one, sat down. Man came in said, "All rise." We all stood up,

And Obie stood up with the twenty seven eight-by-ten colour glossy  
Pictures, and the judge walked in sat down with a seeing eye dog, and he  
Sat down, we sat down. Obie looked at the seeing eye dog, and then at the  
Twenty seven eight-by-ten colour glossy pictures with circles and arrows  
And a paragraph on the back of each one, and looked at the seeing eye dog.

And then at twenty seven eight-by-ten colour glossy pictures with circles  
And arrows and a paragraph on the back of each one and began to cry,  
'cause Obie came to the realization that it was a typical case of American  
Blind justice, and there wasn't nothing he could do about it, and the  
Judge wasn't going to look at the twenty seven eight-by-ten colour glossy  
Pictures with the circles and arrows and a paragraph on the back of each  
One explaining what each one was to be used as evidence against us. And  
We was fined \$50 and had to pick up the garbage in the snow, but thats not  
What I came to tell you about.Came to talk about the draft.They got a building down New York City, it's called  
Whitehall Street,

Where you walk in, you get injected, inspected, detected, infected,  
Neglected and selected. I went down to get my physical examination one  
Day, and I walked in, I sat down, got good and drunk the night before, so  
I looked and felt my best when I went in that morning. `Cause I wanted to  
Look like the all-American kid from New York City, man I wanted, I wanted  
To feel like the all-, I wanted to be the all American kid from New York,  
And I walked in, sat down, I was hung down, brung down, hung up, and all  
Kinds o' mean nasty ugly things. And I waked in and sat down and they gave  
Me a piece of paper, said, "Kid, see the phsychiatrist, room 604."And I went up there, I said, "Shrink, I want to  
kill. I mean, I wanna, I  
Wanna kill. Kill. I wanna, I wanna see, I wanna see blood and gore and  
Guts and veins in my teeth. Eat dead burnt bodies. I mean kill, Kill,  
KILL, KILL." And I started jumpin up and down yelling, "KILL, KILL," and  
He started jumpin up and down with me and we was both jumping up and down  
Yelling, "KILL, KI

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