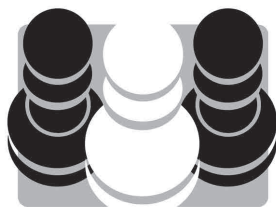


Grandmaster Repertoire

**1.e4 vs
Minor Defences**

By

Parimarjan Negi



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Contents

Key to symbols used & Bibliography	4
Preface	5
Alekhine	
1 Rare Lines	7
2 4...g6	27
3 4...♙g4	43
4 4...dxe5	63
Scandinavian	
5 2...♘f6	96
6 2...♖xd5	119
7 5...♙g4	144
8 3...♖d6	163
9 5...g6	181
10 5...c6	207
Pirc/Modern	
11 Early Deviations	244
12 Pirc with ...c6	270
13 Modern with ...c6	306
14 Pirc with ...a6	320
15 Modern with ...a6	339
16 Main Line with 6...♙b7	359
Miscellaneous	
17 1...♘c6	394
18 1...b6 and Others	409
Variation Index	426

Preface

This book took a long time to finish. Partly, it was due to my ever busier and changing professional life. But even more, it was because of the very nature of the systems covered in this book: the Alekhine, Scandinavian, Pirc/Modern and other miscellaneous replies to 1.e4.

As a young kid, I was always scared of these openings: the Pirc and Modern were endlessly confusing in move orders; the Scandinavian seemed to me to lead to depressingly dull positions; and I never prepared any serious lines against the Alekhine, so I was always a bit afraid of that too. As the years went by and my playing strength increased, fewer and fewer of my opponents played these lines, so I could essentially get away with never preparing anything deep against them. Still, my childhood uneasiness against these defences never quite left me.

When I finally started analysing these systems in earnest for this book, I realized that my uneasiness was not unfounded, as there were just so many interesting possibilities for Black hidden away in all these lines. Nowadays more than ever, with online chess events and faster time controls becoming more prevalent, it is vital to have a well-constructed repertoire against these lines.

In this book, I have endeavoured to address the very features of these defences that made me uneasy against them. If there is a simple path to an advantage, I will generally favour that over a more ambitious but intensely theoretical continuation – it does not feel worth the effort to memorize unnecessarily long lines against inferior continuations which we are never likely to face anyway. At the same time, there are plenty of cases when White simply must take a principled approach in order to prove anything – this is a *Grandmaster Repertoire* book after all. Still, I have strived to be as practical as possible. When applicable, I have pointed out how certain variations are related to one another, and have shown how you can follow similar plans against different options that Black may try. On a related note, I went to a lot of trouble to take into account the plethora of possible transpositions, especially in and between the Pirc and Modern, and have given my best efforts to make the proposed repertoire ‘move-order proof.’

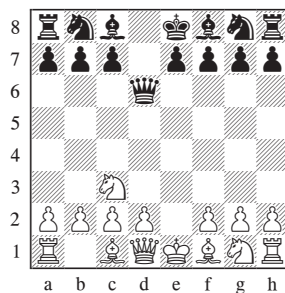
The Alekhine, Scandinavian and Pirc/Modern Defences are generally regarded as less theoretically intense than more popular openings such as 1...e5 and main-line Sicilians. But paradoxically, my relative lack of practical or theoretical experience in these lines meant that I was pushed to my analytical limits like never before. I would like to thank my many coaches who have helped me see different ways of analysing and understanding such challenges. In particular, I owe my style of chess analysis the most to Vladimir Chuchelov. In this series, I can only hope to match the kind of rigour he demands from his analysis.

Finally, I would like to thank my editor Andrew Greet, who has been a constant throughout this journey, and dealt effectively with both my writing and my procrastination.

Parimarjan Negi
Cambridge, Massachusetts, July 2020

Chapter 8

Scandinavian



3...♙d6

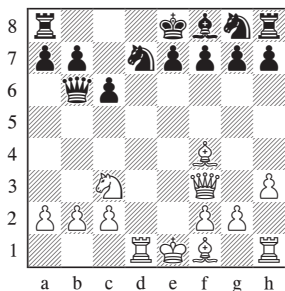
Variation Index

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 ♙xd5 3.♘c3 ♙d6

4.d4

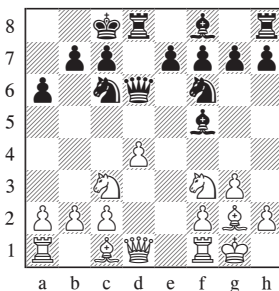
A) 4...c6	164
B) 4...♘f6 5.♘f3	166
B1) 5...♙g4 6.h3	166
B11) 6...♙xf3	166
B12) 6...♙h5	169
B2) 5...a6 6.g3 ♙g4 7.h3!	173
B21) 7...♙xf3	175
B22) 7...♙h5	177

A) note to 8...♘f6



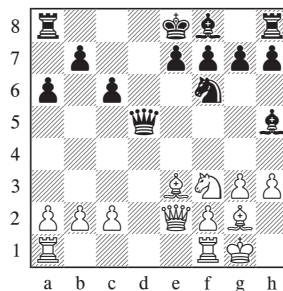
10.♙xd7!N

B2) note to 6...♙g4



9.♘g5!N

B22) after 14...c6



15.g4!N

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 ♖xd5 3.♗c3 ♜d6

It wasn't so long ago that this was considered a fringe variation, which was only really played regularly by one world-class GM – Sergey Tiviakov. Times change though, and the text move has since been played regularly by some of the strongest players in the world, including Magnus Carlsen and Fabiano Caruana. Part of the appeal of this variation is that the lines tend to be less forcing, so it is harder to prepare long, forced lines against it, thus making it less risky than a lot of other openings.

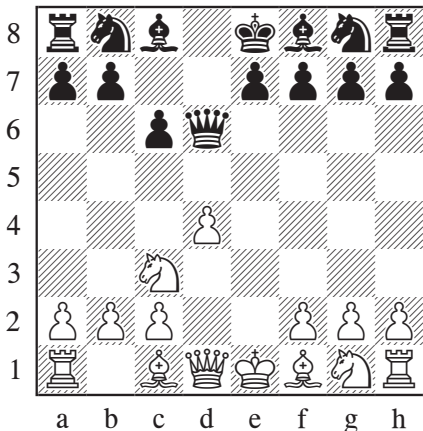
4.d4

We will start by considering **A) 4...c6**, which is sometimes connected with the scheme of leaving the knight on g8 for a while. We will then move on to the most natural and popular **B) 4...♗f6**.

4...a6 5.♗f3 ♖g4 (Black almost always prefers 5...♗f6, which transposes to variation B2) 6.h3 ♖h5 7.g4 ♖g6 8.♗e5± gives White a pleasant game.

4...g6 is played from time to time, but after 5.♗f3 ♖g7 6.♖g5! White can just continue playing in the same way as in the next chapter, and I cannot see anything better for Black than transposing to it by playing ...♗f6 at some point.

A) 4...c6



5.♗f3 ♖g4!?

If Black wants to postpone ...♗f6, this seems like the most challenging option.

5...♖f5

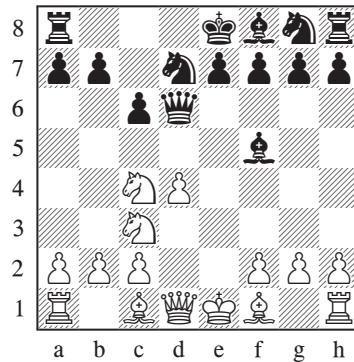
This sideline has been played by Tiviakov a few times, but it is not too difficult to handle.

6.♗e5 ♗d7

6...♗f6 leads to variation A of Chapter 10 on page 208.

6...e6? is asking for trouble. 7.g4 ♖g6 occurred in Broehl – Forchert, Germany 2013, and now 8.♖f4N ♜d8 9.h4+ would have been the easiest way to get a decisive initiative.

7.♗c4



7...♜f6!?

This was a surprising choice from Tiviakov, who is usually extremely well prepared.

7...♜g6 8.♗e3 ♗gf6 9.♗xf5 ♜xf5 10.♖d3± gave White an easy edge with the two bishops in Welling – Sant Anna, Douglas 2014.

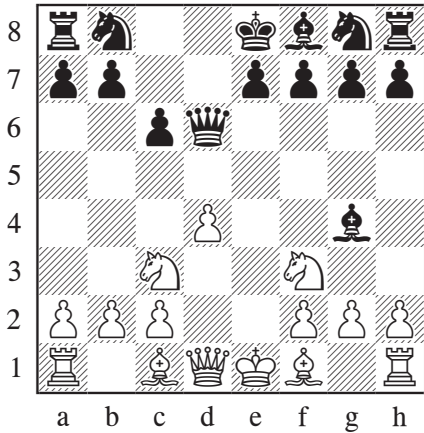
7...♜c7 8.♜f3 e6 9.♖f4 ♜d8 10.0–0–0 ♗gf6 occurred in Szamoskozi – Schmidt, Budapest 2008, when 11.♗e3N ♖g6 12.h4± seems logical.

8.d5!?

8.g4 ♖g6 9.♖e3± (or 9.h4!?) would also have been excellent for White.

8...♗e5!?

This was the dubious continuation of Sukandar – Tiviakov, Jakarta 2015. White chose a suboptimal continuation, but still went on to defeat his much higher rated opponent. However, at this point any of 9.♕e3N, 9.♕f4N or even 9.♕g5!?:N ♖xg5 10.♗xe5 would have been great for White.



6.h3!

Sacrificing the d4-pawn is clearly the most principled continuation. If something more cautious like 6.♕e3 or 6.♕e2 is played, then Black will simply play 6...♗f6 with a better version of a standard variation.

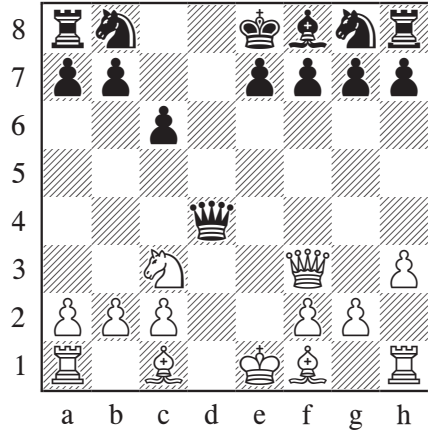
6...♕xf3

6...♕h5 7.g4 ♕g6 8.♗e5 gives White a clearly improved version of variation B12.

7.♖xf3 ♖xd4

7...♗f6 transposes to variation B11, which will be analysed shortly.

White should be doing excellently from here, but in practice he has often failed to make the most of his chances. He still needs to show some precision, while being aware of the crucial ♗b5 resource. The most accurate continuation is:



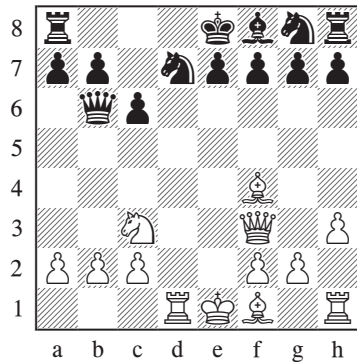
8.♕f4! ♗f6

Other moves are no better, for instance:

8...♖b6 9.0–0–0+– gives White an overwhelming advantage in development.

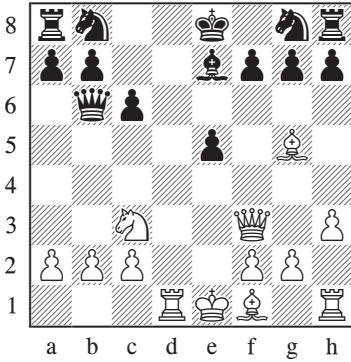
8...♖d8 9.♗b5! ♗a6 occurred in Uucu – Acar, Konya 2019, when 10.♕c4!N would have given White a huge initiative.

8...♗d7 9.♖d1 ♖b6 was seen in Krzyzanowski – Pultorak, Zalakaros 2017, when White could have won with:

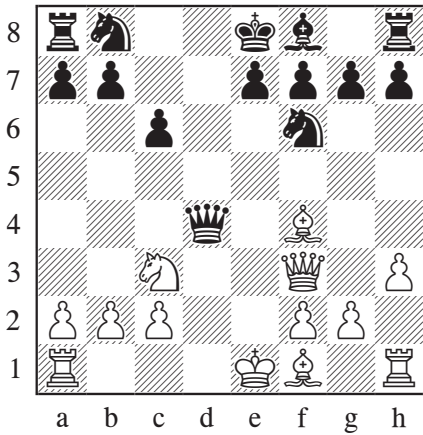


10.♖xd7!N ♗xd7 11.♕c4!+– With decisive threats.

8...e5 9.♕g5 ♕e7 10.♖d1 ♖b6 led to an eventual victory for Black in Ivanchuk – Karpov, Cap d’Agde 2013, but it was not because of the quality of his opening play.



11. ♖e4!N+- is the simplest of many possible ways to get a winning advantage.



9. ♖b5!

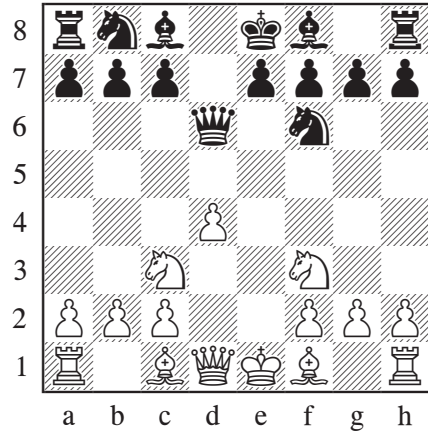
As mentioned earlier, this is a vital attacking resource. The next few moves are forced.

9...cxb5 10. ♖xb5† ♖bd7 11. ♖xb7 ♜d8 12. ♖c7 ♖e4† 13. ♖xe4 ♖xe4 14. 0-0 a6N 14... ♖xf2 15. ♖he1 ♖xd1 16. ♖xd1 g6 17. ♖xd8 ♖xd8 18. ♖xd7† ♖c8 19. ♖xa7 was close to winning for White in Fridman – S. Kasparov, Porticcio 2018. The text move is a slight improvement, but Black is still in deep trouble.

15. ♖c6 ♖ef6 16. ♖xd8 ♖xd8 17. ♖xd7† ♖xd7 18. ♖d1 ♖c7 19. ♖xd7±

White has an extra pawn and the more active pieces, so his winning chances are excellent.

B) 4... ♖f6 5. ♖f3



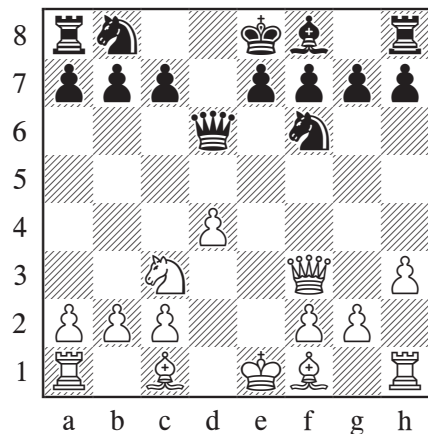
In the rest of this chapter we will analyse two important options: B1) 5... ♖g4 and B2) 5...a6.

5...g6 and 5...c6 will be examined in Chapters 9 and 10 respectively.

B1) 5... ♖g4 6.h3

Black has the usual choice between B11) 6... ♖xf3 and B12) 6... ♖h5.

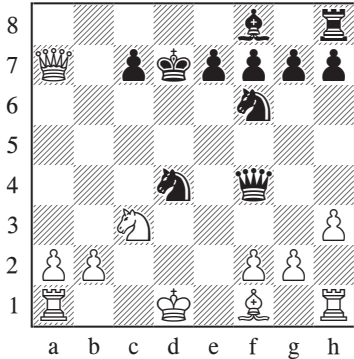
B11) 6... ♖xf3 7. ♖xf3



7...c6

7... ♖c6?! has been played in a bunch of games but 8. ♖f4!N is a powerful reply. The

critical continuation is 8...♘xd4 (8...♖e6† 9.♙e3 is also no fun for Black) 9.♗xb7 ♘xc2† 10.♔e2 ♘d4† 11.♔d1 ♗xf4 12.♗xa8† ♔d7 13.♗xa7 when Black is the exchange down and has no way to exploit White's slightly exposed king. For instance:

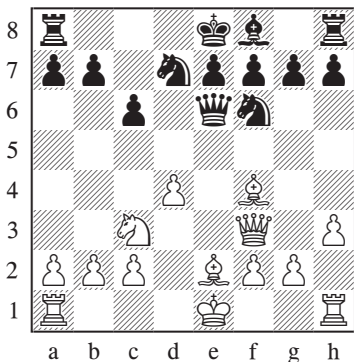


13...e6 14.♗a4† ♔d8 15.♙d3 ♗xf2 16.♗a8† ♔d7 17.♗f1 ♗e3 18.♙a6 White still has to remain vigilant with his king in the centre, but he should be able to convert his material advantage with careful play, especially since Black's king is also less than safe.

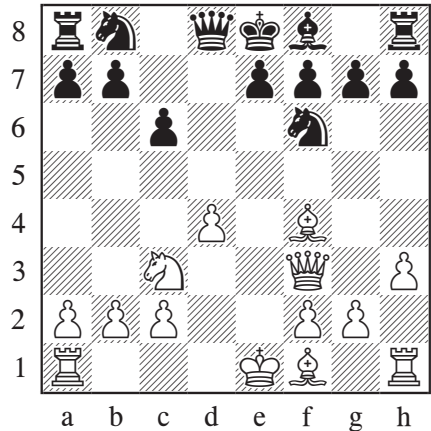
8.♙f4 ♗d8

8...♗xd4 takes us back to variation A, where we saw that 9.♘b5! is more or less winning for White.

8...♗e6† 9.♙e2 ♘bd7 occurred in Mista – Proszynski, Ustron 2008, when the most accurate continuation would have been:



10.0–0!N Queenside castling would allow some ...♘d5 ideas when the vulnerability of the a2-pawn would at least slow down White's attack. The text move avoids any such problems, and after something like 10...♘b6 11.♗fe1 ♗c8 12.♙e5+– Black will not be able to complete development without allowing something bad to happen.

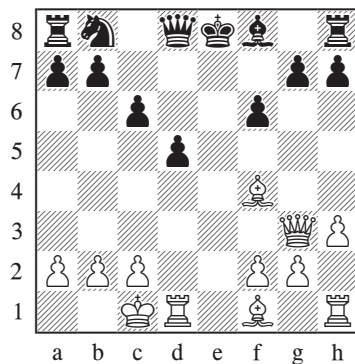


9.d5! ♘xd5

If 9...cxd5 then simply 10.♙xb8! followed by ♙b5† creates major problems for Black's king.

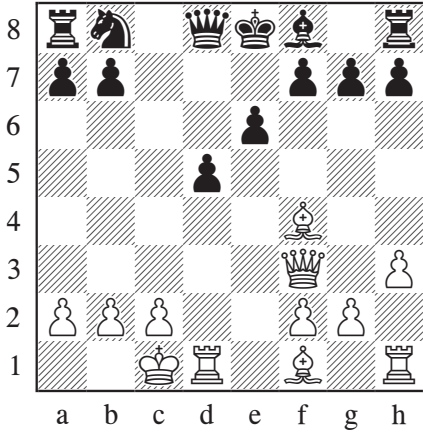
10.0–0 e6 11.♘d5 cxd5

11...exd5 was played in Dragomirescu – Spulber, Mamaia 2019. White has several strong continuations but my favourite is: 12.♗g3!N f6



13.♙c4! The flashy approach is the easiest.

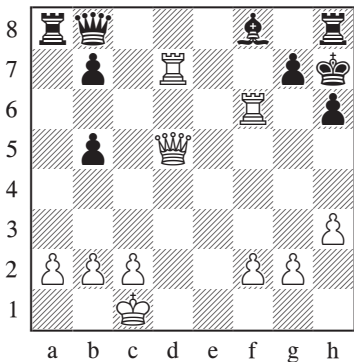
(13.c4+ is also fine) 13...♖a6 14.♞he1† ♕f7
 15.♞g4 ♞c8 16.♞xd5 ♞xg4 17.♞d7† ♕g6
 18.hxg4+–



12.♞xb8 ♞xb8 13.♞b5† ♕e7 14.♞he1 a6
 Black is unable to catch up in development.
 14...g6 15.♞xd5 ♞h6† 16.♕b1 ♞d8 is too slow
 in view of: 17.♞xd8 ♞xd8 18.♞d1+–

15.♞xd5 axb5
 15...♞f4† 16.♕b1 axb5 17.♞xb7† wins
 easily.

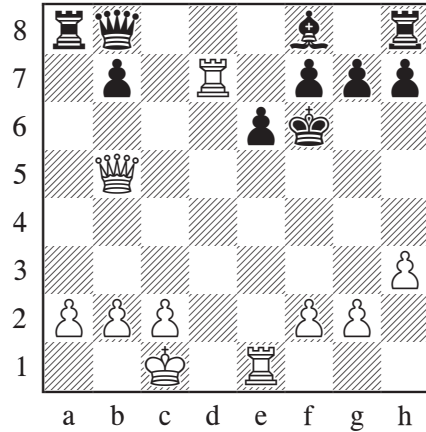
16.♞g5† ♕e8
 16...f6 allows a forced mate after: 17.♞xe6†!
 ♕f7 (17...♕xe6 18.♞d5† ♕e7 19.♞d7#)
 18.♞d7† ♕g8 19.♞d5 h6 20.♞xf6† ♕h7



21.♞e4† ♕g8 22.♞e6† ♕h7 23.♞xh6#

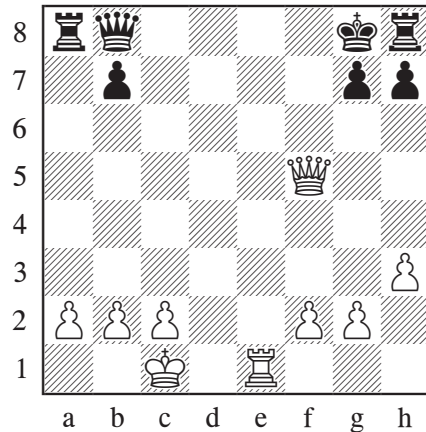
17.♞xb5† ♕e7 18.♞g5†
 We are following a game, in which White
 opted to repeat moves before proceeding with
 the winning continuation.

18...♕e8 19.♞b5† ♕e7 20.♞d7† ♕f6



21.♞xf7†! ♕xf7 22.♞d7† ♕e7 23.♞xe6†
 ♕f8 24.♞xe7† ♕g8 25.♞e6† ♕f8 26.♞f5†
 ♕g8 27.♞d5† ♕f8 28.♞f5† ♕g8

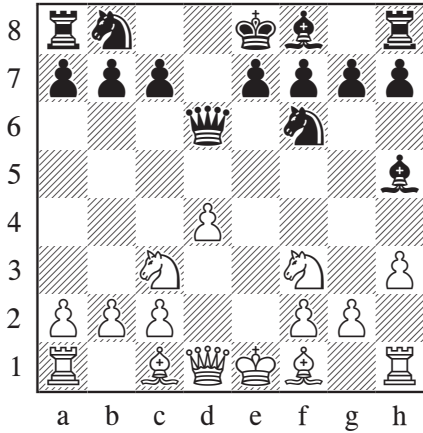
White has no immediate mate, but winning
 Black's queen is the next best thing.



29.♞e7 ♞e8 30.♞d5† ♕f8 31.♞xe8† ♞xe8
 32.♞xb7

Black soon had to resign in R. Horvath –
 Fauland, Deutschlandsberg 2018.

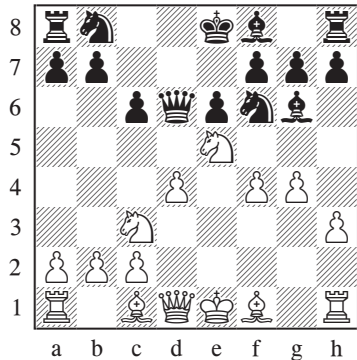
B12) 6...♗h5



7.g4 ♗g6 8.♘e5 ♘bd7

It seems advisable to challenge the strong knight.

The passive 8...c6? has been played in a surprisingly high number of games. White has several strong continuations but the rare 9.f4! seems best. Black is already in severe difficulties, as shown after: 9...e6N (9...♗e4 10.♘xe4 ♘xe4 11.♖d3 ♖d5 12.♗g2 ♗a5† 13.c3 gave White a huge advantage in Schnegg – Boric, Vienna 2013)



10.♗e2!? (if you don't feel like sacrificing a pawn then 10.♗g2± is an excellent alternative, when Black does not really have a good answer to h4-h5) 10...♗xd4 (or 10...♗e7 11.h4+ and Black will be steamrollered on the kingside) 11.♗e3 ♖d6 11.♗g2+– The game continues,

but White's massive advantage in activity should decide the game if he continues to play accurately.

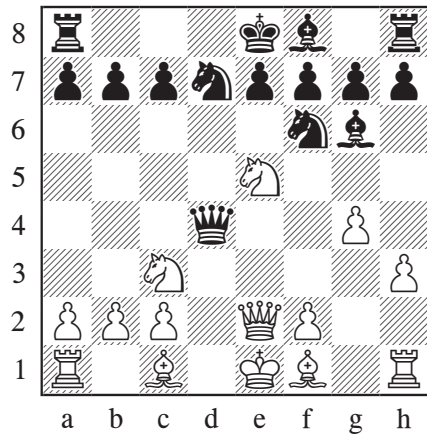
9.♗e2!

This move is virtually untested. Evidently the idea of sacrificing a pawn did not occur to many players, but it gives White superb play.

9...♗xd4

Black should accept the challenge, as 9...0–0–0 10.♗g2 e6 (or 10...♗xd4? 11.♘c6! bxc6 12.♗a6† ♘b8 13.♗e3+–) 11.h4!± gives White a serious advantage without much effort.

After the text move I found a couple of games where White exchanged on g6. However, it is much better to leave the bishop as a target for the f4-f5 advance. Thus, my improvement is:

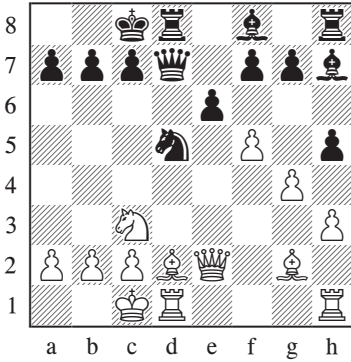


10.♘xd7!N ♗xd7

10...♘xd7 11.♗e3 ♖f6 12.0–0–0± gives White a tremendous amount of activity.

11.f4 h6

11...h5 is hardly an improvement, and after 12.f5 ♗h7 13.♗d2 0–0–0 14.0–0–0 Black is likely to be murdered on the queenside before he can get his kingside pieces into the game. For instance: 14...e6 15.♗g2 ♘d5 (15...exf5 16.♗f4 gives White a deadly attack)

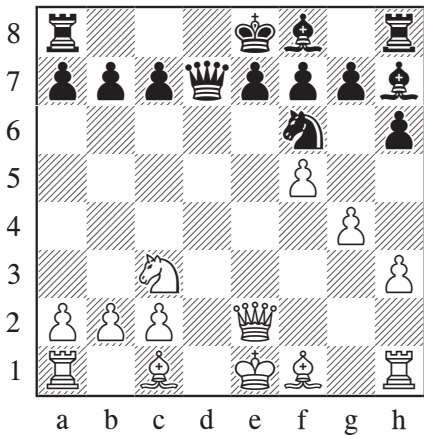


16. ♖xd5 exd5 17. ♙xd5! ♚xd5 18. ♙g5!+-
Black is busted.

12.f5

White could also start with 12. ♙g2, but it feels more natural to drive the bishop back before anything else.

12... ♙h7



13. ♙g2

This is the most accurate move order, forcing Black to defend b7 in one way or another.

Instead, 13. ♙d2 e6 14. 0-0-0 ♙d6 15. ♙g2 allows 15...0-0! (rather than 15...c6 16.h4↑) 16. ♙xb7 ♚ab8 17.fxe6 fxe6 18. ♙g2 ♙a3!?: when the outcome is uncertain.

13...0-0-0

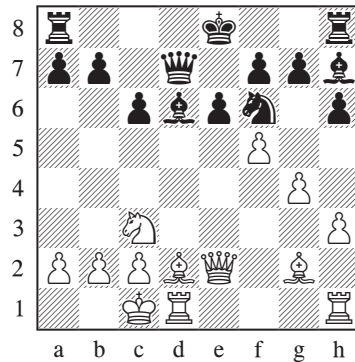
This seems like Black's best try.

13...c6

This feels a little slow, although White still has to play accurately to exploit his dynamic advantage.

14. ♙d2 e6 15. 0-0-0 ♙d6

15...0-0-0 16. ♚f2!? b6 17. ♙g5 ♚c7 18. ♚xd8† ♖xd8 19. ♚d4† ♖c8 20. ♙f4 gives White a decisive attack.



16.h4! 0-0-0

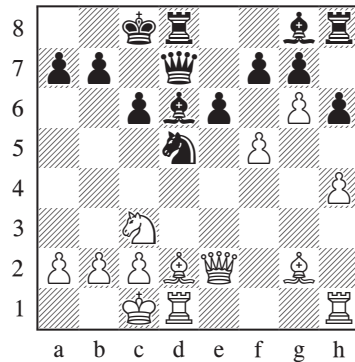
16... ♚e7 17.g5 ♖d5 18. ♖xd5 cxd5 19.g6 fxg6 20.fxe6± is highly unpleasant for Black.

17.g5 ♖d5

17... ♖e8 18.g6 fxg6 19.fxe6 ♚e7 20. ♖e4↑ is also good for White.

18.g6 ♙g8

Black must avoid 18...fxg6? 19.fxe6+- when his position collapses.

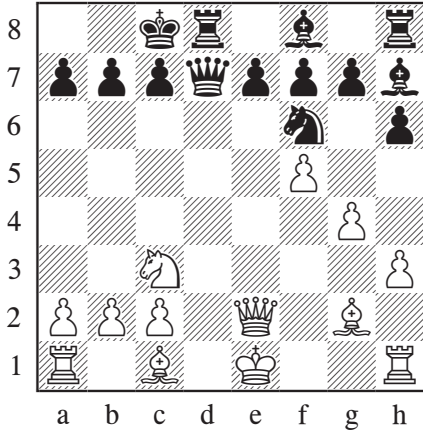


19.fxe6 fxe6

19... ♚xe6? is worse: 20. ♙h3 f5 21. ♚f2!+-

20.♘e4±

White's initiative is definitely worth more than a pawn.

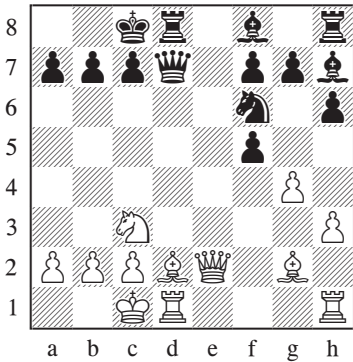


14.♙d2 e6 15.0-0-0 ♘d5

15...c6 16.♖f2 b6 17.♙g5± keeps Black under unpleasant pressure.

15...exf5?!

This move is as risky as it looks, and we can refute it with some attractive tactics:

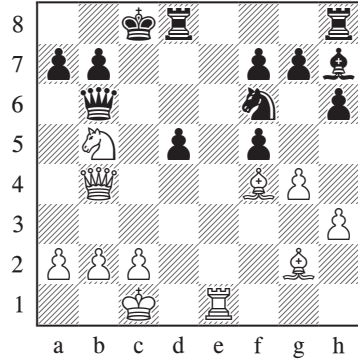


16.♙f4! ♙d6

16...♖e6 allows 17.♙xb7†! ♖xb7 18.♖b5† ♖c8 19.♙xd8† ♖xd8 20.♖b8†+- and the king is caught.

17.♙xd6! cxd6 18.♘b5 ♖e6 19.♖d2 d5 20.♖b4 ♖b6 21.♙e1!

Tightening the noose.

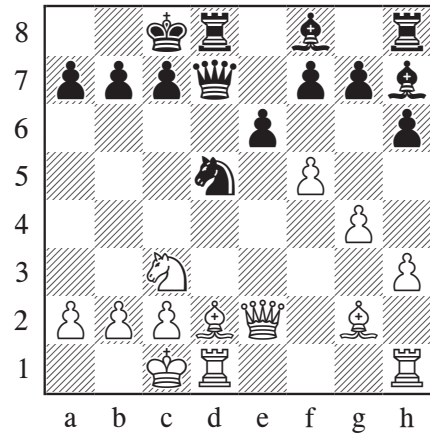


21...♙d7

21...♙he8 allows White to execute the threat created by his previous move: 22.♘a7†!

♖xa7 23.♖c3†! ♖d7 24.♖c7 mate!
22.♖c3† ♖d8 23.♖e5 ♘e4 24.♙xe4 dxe4 25.gxf5 ♙e8 26.♖b8† ♖e7 27.♙xe4†+-

Finally, it's all over.



16.♖f2!

16.♘d5 exd5 17.♙e3 c6 18.♙xa7 ♙d6∞ sees Black return the extra pawn and stay in the game.

16...b6

16...♖b8 17.♘d5 exd5 18.♙e3± wins back the pawn in a much more favourable way than the line above.

16...♖c6 17.♖xa7 ♙c5 18.♖a5 ♖b8 19.♘d5 exd5 20.♙f4± is also excellent for White.

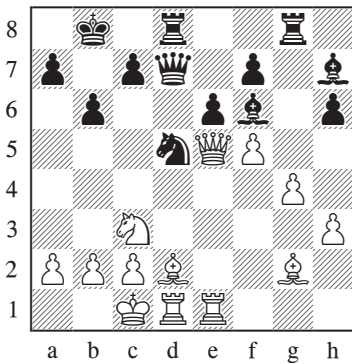
17. ♖d4!

This does not threaten anything immediately, but the queen eyes a range of targets across the board, and White is ready to bring his one inactive piece into play. Black is still a pawn up for now, but he has a hard time coordinating his pieces or doing anything useful.

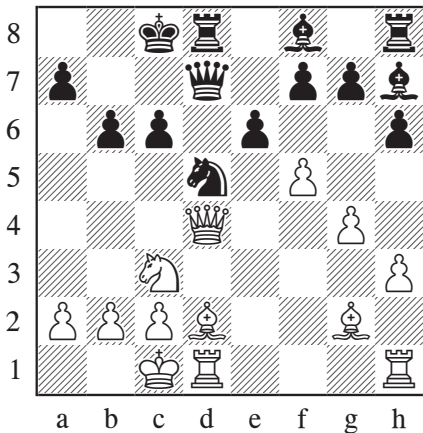
17...c6

17... ♘xc3? 18. ♖xc3+- only helps White.

17... ♘b8 is more sensible but 18. ♖he1 leaves Black stuck for a good move, for instance: 18... ♗e7 (18... ♖g8 19. ♗f4 ♗c5 20. ♖c4+-; 18... ♘xc3 19. ♖xc3 ♗d6 20. ♖f3±) 19. ♖xg7 ♖hg8 20. ♖e5 ♗f6



21. fxe6 fxe6 22. ♖xe6 ♘xc3 23. bxc3± No fancy mating combination this time, but an extra pawn will do nicely.



18. ♖he1 ♖g8

18... ♘xc3 19. ♖xc3 ♗d6 20. fxe6 fxe6 21. ♖xe6± regains the pawn while keeping a big initiative.

18... ♗d6 19. ♖xg7 exf5 20. ♘xd5 cxd5 21. ♗xd5 fxg4 22. hxg4± is also great for White.

18...♗b7

If Black maintains the tension in this way, White increases the pressure as follows.

19. ♗f4 ♖c8 20. ♘xd5 cxd5 21. a3!?

We can afford to spend a tempo on a small improving move.

21. ♗b1 ♖c5 gives Black a marginally improved version of the note below.

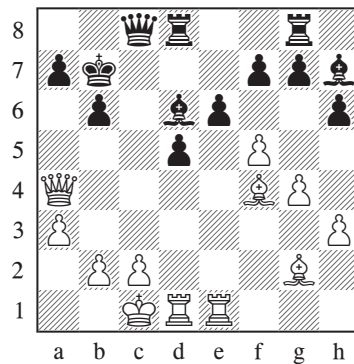
21. ♖a4!?! is a tempting alternative though.

21...♖g8

21... ♖c5 is the lesser evil although it leads to a clearly better endgame for White after: 22. ♖xc5 ♗xc5 23. fxe6 fxe6 24. ♖xe6 ♖hf8 25. ♗xd5† ♖xd5 26. ♖xd5 ♗g8 27. ♖d7† ♗c8 28. ♖c7† ♗d8 29. ♖ec6 ♖xf4 30. ♖c8† ♗d7 31. ♖xc5 bxc5 32. ♖xg8±

22. ♖a4 ♗d6

22... ♗c5 23. c4+- and White will soon break through.



23. ♗xd6 ♖xd6 24. ♖xd5! exd5 25. ♖e7†+-

19. ♖a4! ♗d6

19... ♗b7 20. ♘e2! creates a horrible threat of c2-c4.

20. ♖e4!?

20. ♖e2!? is a promising alternative.

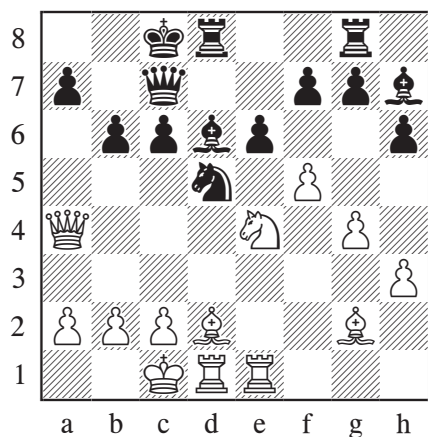
20... ♗c7

Other moves are no better, for instance:

20... ♖b7 and 20... ♖b8 fail to address the main threat: 21.c4+–

20... exf5 21. ♖xd6† ♗xd6 22. ♗xa7 ♗c7
23. ♗a8† ♖d7 24. ♗a4± leaves Black's king vulnerable.

20... ♖h2 is the computer's initial suggestion, but it soon becomes clear that 21.c4 exf5 22.gxf5 ♖xf5 23.cxd5 cxd5 24. ♗xd7† ♖xd7 25. ♖c3± reaches a position where White's extra piece is worth more than Black's three pawns.

**21.c4 ♖e7 22. ♖xd6† ♖xd6 23.c5! bxc5**

After 23... ♖d7 24. ♖f4 the defence comes unglued. For instance: 24... b5 25. ♖xd7 ♗xd7
26. ♗a5 ♖d8 27.fxe6 fxe6 28. ♖d6+–

**24. ♖f4 ♖xd1† 25. ♖xd1 ♗b6 26.fxe6 fxe6
27. ♖e4!±**

Ironically, after the bishop on h7 was Black's problem piece for such a long time, White makes sure to exchange it at the first opportunity! In this way, he gets closer to Black's numerous pawn weaknesses, and Black has a difficult road ahead.

Abridged Variation Index

The Variation Index in the book is 7 pages long. Below is an abridged version giving just the main variations, not the sub-variations.

Chapter 1

1.e4 ♘f6 2.e5 ♘d5 3.d4 d6 4.♘f3

- A) 4...♙f5!? 9
- B) 4...c6 10
- C) 4...♘b6!? 11
- D) 4...♘c6!? 17

Chapter 2

1.e4 ♘f6 2.e5 ♘d5 3.d4 d6 4.♘f3 g6
5.♙c4 ♘b6 6.♙b3

- A) 6...♘c6 28
- B) 6...♙g7 30

Chapter 3

1.e4 ♘f6 2.e5 ♘d5 3.d4 d6 4.♘f3 ♙g4
5.♙e2

- A) 5...c6 44
- B) 5...e6 46

Chapter 4

1.e4 ♘f6 2.e5 ♘d5 3.d4 d6 4.♘f3 dxе5
5.♘xe5

- A) 5...♘d7? 64
- B) 5...g6 69
- C) 5...c6 77

Chapter 5

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 ♘f6 3.d4

- A) 3...♘xd5 97
- B) 3...♙g4 4.♙b5+!? 105

Chapter 6

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 ♙xd5 3.♘c3

- A) 3...♙d8 120
- B) 3...♙a5 123

Chapter 7

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 ♙xd5 3.♘c3 ♙a5 4.d4
♘f6 5.♙d2 ♙g4 6.f3

- A) 6...♙f5 145
- B) 6...♙d7 147

Chapter 8

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 ♙xd5 3.♘c3 ♙d6 4.d4

- A) 4...c6 164
- B) 4...♘f6 166

Chapter 9

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 ♙xd5 3.♘c3 ♙d6 4.d4
♘f6 5.♘f3 g6 6.♙g5!? ♙g7 7.♙d2

- A) 7...a6!? 183
- B) 7...0-0 191

Variation Index

Chapter 10

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 ♖xd5 3.♗c3 ♖d6 4.d4
♗f6 5.♗f3 c6 6.♗e5

- A) 6...♗f5 208
- B) 6...♗e6!? 209
- C) 6...♗bd7 216

Chapter 11

1.e4

- A) 1...d6 2.d4 ♗f6 3.♗c3 c6 4.♗f3 245
 - A1) 4...♗g4!? 245
 - A2) 4...♖a5 247
- B) 1...g6 2.d4 249
 - B1) 2...♗f6 250
 - B2) 2...d6 252
 - B3) 2...♗g7 253

Chapter 12

1.e4 d6 2.d4 ♗f6 3.♗c3 g6 4.♗e3 ♗g7
5.♖d2 c6 6.♗f3

- A) 6...♗g4 275
- B) 6...♖a5 277
- C) 6...0-0 279
- D) 6...b5 288

Chapter 13

1.e4 g6 2.d4 ♗g7 3.♗c3 d6 4.♗e3 c6
5.♖d2

- A) 5...♗d7 308
- B) 5...b5 312

Chapter 14

1.e4 d6 2.d4 ♗f6 3.♗c3 g6 4.♗e3 ♗g7
5.♖d2 a6 6.♗f3

- A) 6...0-0 321
- B) 6...b5 324

Chapter 15

1.e4 g6 2.d4 ♗g7 3.♗c3 d6 4.♗e3 a6
5.♗f3

- A) 5...♗d7!? 340
- B) 5...b5 344

Chapter 16

1.e4 g6 2.d4 ♗g7 3.♗c3 d6 4.♗e3 a6
5.♗f3 b5 6.♗d3 ♗b7

- A) 7.e5 360
- B) 7.h4! 365

Chapter 17

1.e4 ♗c6 2.♗f3!

- A) 2...f5?! 395
- B) 2...g6 397
- C) 2...♗f6 398
- D) 2...d5 399
- E) 2...d6 403

Chapter 18

1.e4

- A) 1...b6 410
- B) 1...a6?! 421
- C) 1...h6?! 424