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**A Practical White Repertoire
with 1.d4 and 2.c4**

Volume 1: The Complete Queen's Gambit

Chess Stars

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Contents

Preface	7
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Part 1. Black avoids the main lines

1.d4 d5 2.c4

1	2...c5	10
2	2...♗f5	16
3	The Chigorin Defence 2...♘c6	22
4	The Albin Counter-gambit 2...e5	36

Part 2. The Queen's Gambit Accepted

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.e3

5	3...c5; 3...e5	53
6	3...♘f6 4.♗xc4 e6	63
7	3...e6 4.♗xc4 ♘f6 5.♘f3 c5 6.0-0 a6	74

Part 3. Black avoids the QGD

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3

8	3...♗b4	88
9	3...dxc4	92
10	The Schara-Hennig Gambit 3...c5 4.cxd5 cxd4	96
11	The Tarrasch Defence 3...c5 4.cxd5 exd5	108
12	The Semi-Tarrasch Defence 3...♘f6 4.cxd5 ♘xd5	122

Part 4. The Queen's Gambit Declined

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3

13	3...♗e7 4.cxd5 exd5 5.♗f4 c6	136
14	3...♗e7 4.cxd5 exd5 5.♗f4 ♘f6	149
15	3...♘f6 4.cxd5 5.♗g5 c6 6.e3 ♗f5; 6...♘bd7; 6...♗e7	162
16	3...♘f6 4.cxd5 5.♗g5 ♗e7 6.e3 0-0 7.♗d3 ♘bd7 8.♖c2 ♖e8 9.♘f3 ♘f8 10.0-0 c6 11.h3 ♖e3 11...♗e6	176
17	3...♘f6 4.cxd5 5.♗g5 ♗e7 6.e3 0-0 7.♗d3 ♘bd7 8.♖c2 ♖e8 9.♘f3 ♘f8 10.0-0 c6 11.h3 ♗e6	195

Part 5. Slav Defence

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘c3

18	The Winawer Counter-gambit 3...e5	202
19	3...dxc4	206
20	3...♘f6 4.e3 ♘f5; 4...♘g4	219
21	The Chebanenko variation 3...♘f6 4.e3 a6	224
22	The Schlechter variation 3...♘f6 4.e3 g6	235
23	3...♘f6 4.e3 e6 5.♘f3 a6	254
24	Black avoids the main lines of the Meran variation 3...♘f6 4.e3 e6 5.♘f3 ♘bd7 6.♘d3 ♘b4; 6...♘d6	272
25	The Meran variation 3...♘f6 4.e3 e6 5.♘f3 ♘bd7 6.♘d3 dxc4 7.♘xc4 b5	279
Index of Variations		299

PREFACE

Sooner or later every chess player faces the problem of building his or her opening repertoire. This is particularly difficult when you play with White, since you need to be well prepared against all of Black's possible responses. However, most players, including the author, have no inclination to devote all their time to studying opening variations. Therefore, we have decided not to cover the favourite opening move of Ostap Bender * – 1.e2-e4.

As our main opening weapon for White we have chosen the closed openings arising after 1.d2-d4, in which an understanding of chess and a knowledge of the typical resources in the middle game and the endgame are often much more important than a detailed knowledge of a large number of variations. We have analysed the most straightforward possibilities for White, generally based on the development of the knight to c3 and the fastest possible occupation of the centre with pawns.

Unfortunately it is impossible to cover all the possible theory after 1.d2-d4 for White within a single book, so the author plans to publish two further volumes.

The first book is devoted to the move 1...d7-d5 for Black. I believe that the most challenging defences for White to face are the Queen's Gambit Accepted (Part 2), the Queen's Gambit Declined (Part 4) and the Slav Defence (Part 5). A few less popular options for Black are covered in Parts 1 and 3.

* *Ostap Bender is the picaresque hero of the hugely popular Russian comic novel "The Twelve Chairs" (1928) by Ilf and Petrov. It is still not widely known in the West, despite the efforts of, for instance, Mel Brooks, who made a film adaptation of it in 1970.*

In the second book we shall deal with the openings in which Black fianchettoes his dark-squared bishop. These are first and foremost the Gruenfeld and the King's Indian Defence.

In book three we shall analyse in detail the Nimzo-Indian Defence and a few other defences not covered in our first two books.

This series has been written for players of all levels. The author hopes that it will be useful for grandmasters as well as for amateur players.

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Alexei Kornev