

Csaba Balogh

Greatest 460 puzzles

**From practical
games of 2019
Part 1**



Chess
Evolution

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KEY TO SYMBOLS

=	Equality or equal chances
±	White has a slight advantage
∓	Black has a slight advantage
±	White is better
∓	Black is better
+ -	White has a decisive advantage
- +	Black has a decisive advantage
∞	unclear
∞̄	with compensation
↔	with counterplay
↑	with initiative
→	with an attack
Δ	with the idea
□	only move
N	novelty
!	a good move
!!	an excellent move
?	a weak move
??	a blunder
!?	an interesting move
?!	a dubious move
+	check
#	mate

PREFACE

First of all, I am really grateful to my good friend GM Adam Horvath, who helped me again to collect and select the greatest puzzles from the first half of 2019.

We are very happy to receive many positive feedbacks and a lot of interest in our puzzlebook-series, therefore we decided to publish the greatest puzzles on a half-yearly basis.

As a professional chess player, I know exactly how important it is to perform well in tactical calculations. We face them so often that after playing a great game, we can simply blunder something and throw away a safe point, causing ourself sleepless nights!

For most of the players and chess fans, the biggest pleasure in a chessgame is to beat an opponent with a beautiful combination, of which we can be proud at. However to live with all the given oportunities and not miss any of the chances, we must stay in sharp shape all the time, what we can reach only by practicing puzzlesolving.

Many puzzle books are based on artificial positions or selected only for their beauty. The concept of my book is different. The highest priority is to “use the practical side of the puzzles” and take the level of calculation to a completely new dimension.

All the puzzles have been selected from recent games, trying to put the reader in the shoes of “the player”. The difficulty of the different sections might also give you a right evaluation of your current tactical skills and bring them further ahead.

I tried to mix three things in my book:

1. a lot of fun in solving the puzzles,
2. a lot of different tactical ideas,
3. and of course, the direct practical use for your future games.

A very important factor to keep in mind — all the practical motifs from the book can definitely be used in your future games!

Enjoy!
Csaba Balogh

INTRODUCTION

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR OUR DEAR READERS

This book is the continuation of the successful puzzle-book series, which started with the “Greatest 365 Puzzles” and “Greatest 501 Puzzles” from the practical games of 2012. It was followed by „Tactics, Tactics, Tactics!” Volume 3 and Volume 4 which covered the best practical puzzles of 2013–2015. The next one of the series was the „Greatest 551 Puzzles” with the combinations of 2016 which was followed by the „Greatest 550 puzzles” from 2017 and the last one was the „Greatest 525 puzzles” from 2018.

The new book is already the 8th from the series and it contains 460 puzzles divided into 3 chapters. You will find a huge range of tactical ideas that you can use in your own games! All the puzzles have been collected from practical games throughout the first half of 2019. In each section, the puzzles are sorted according to the date of the game.

The book consists of three chapters:

- 1. Easy (270 Puzzles)**
- 2. Medium (135 Puzzles)**
- 3. Hard (55 Puzzles)**

All in all 460 puzzles created by the greatest masters of our time, such as Carlsen, Caruana, Ding Liren, Anand and many more.

I advise you to try to solve all the combinations in each chapter one-by-one, because a less difficult solution from the „Easy” section might be even more brilliant from the beauty point of view than a „nutcracker” from the „Hard” ones. Even if a puzzle can be easily solved, it sharpens your tactical skills and makes it so much easier to find solutions in a practical game, even under difficult circumstances.

To be tactically sharp is one of the basic requirements for a successful chess player!

- EASY -



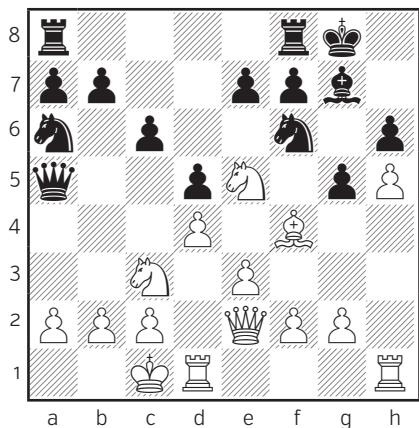
1

▷ C. Bauer

▶ S. Charmeteau

Vandoeuvre open, 02.01.2019

1.+–

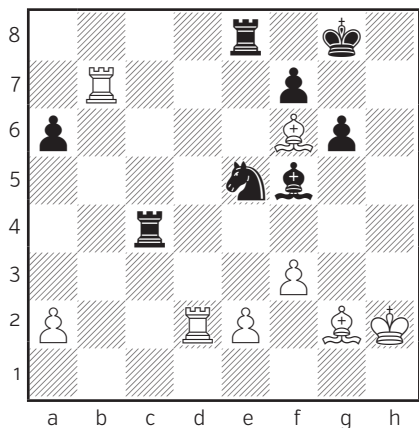
**3**

▷ I. Khmelniker

▶ E. Shvidler

Israeli league, 04.01.2019

1.+–

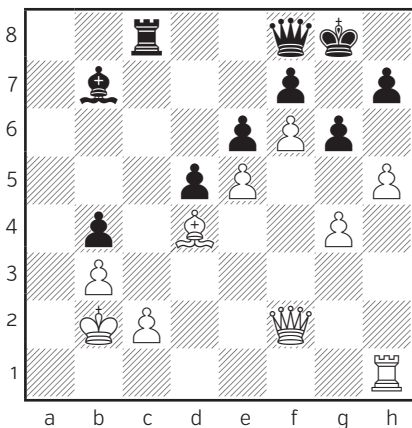
**2**

▷ A. Shirov

▶ A. Marechal

Roquetas de Mar open, 03.01.2019

1.+–

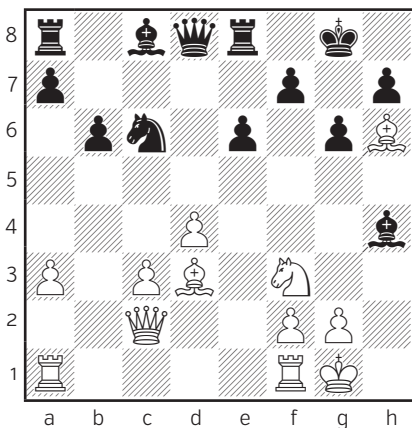
**4**

▷ D. Malek

▶ A. Ornstein

Rilton Cup Stockholm, 04.01.2019

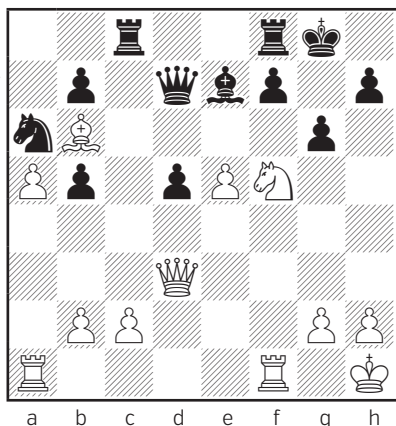
1.+–



5

▷ **D. Sengupta**
 ▶ **L. Hauge**
 Rilton Cup Stockholm, 04.01.2019

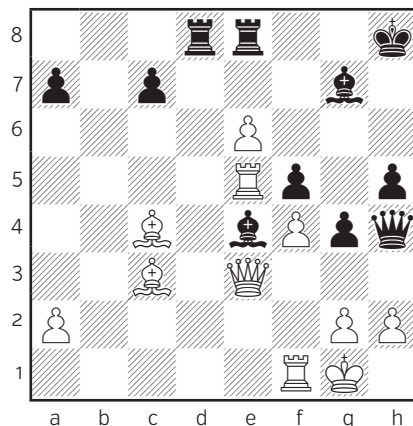
1.+–



6

▷ **E. Zanan**
 ▶ **I. Caspi**
 Israeli league, 05.01.2019

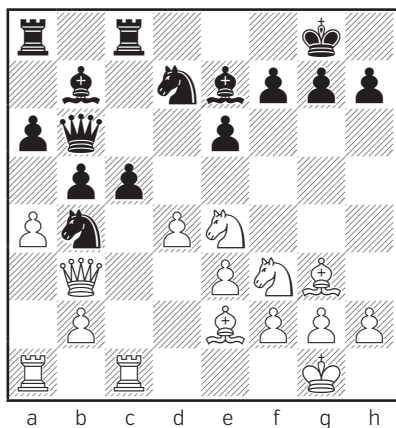
1.+–



7

▷ **S. Mamedyarov**
 ▶ **V. Bhat**
 Internet rapid, 08.01.2019

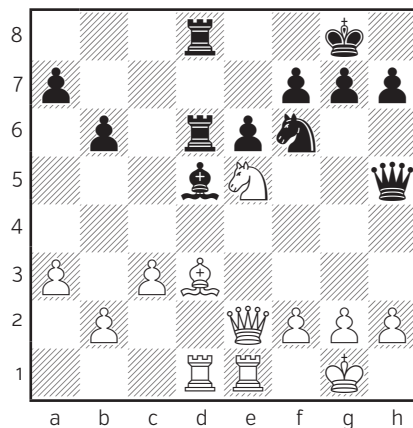
1.+–



8

▷ **A. Demchenko**
 ▶ **A. Lenderman**
 Internet rapid, 08.01.2019

1.+–



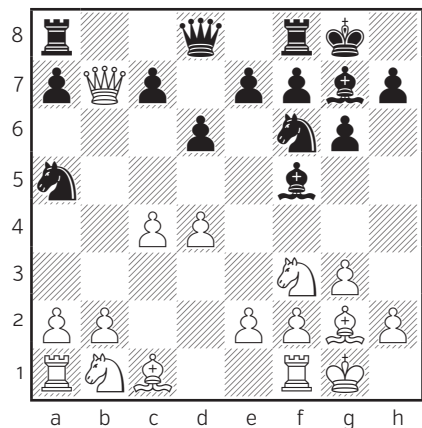
9

▷ J. Martinez Alcantara

▶ F. Perez Ponsa

Zicosur open Antofagasta, 08.01.2019

1.+–



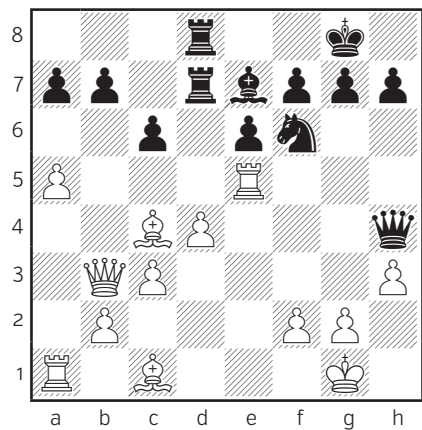
11

▷ M. Vachier-Lagrave

▶ Q. Ducarmon

Internet rapid, 10.01.2019

1.+–



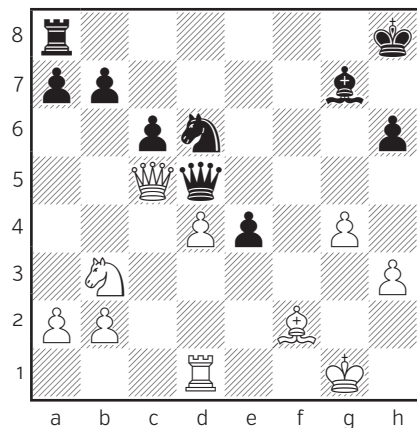
10

▷ S. Sale

▶ M. Zufic

Bosnjaci open, 09.01.2019

1...–+



12

▷ M. Simantsev

▶ A. Gadimbayli

Fuad Jafarov Mem. Masters, 10.01.2019

1.+–

