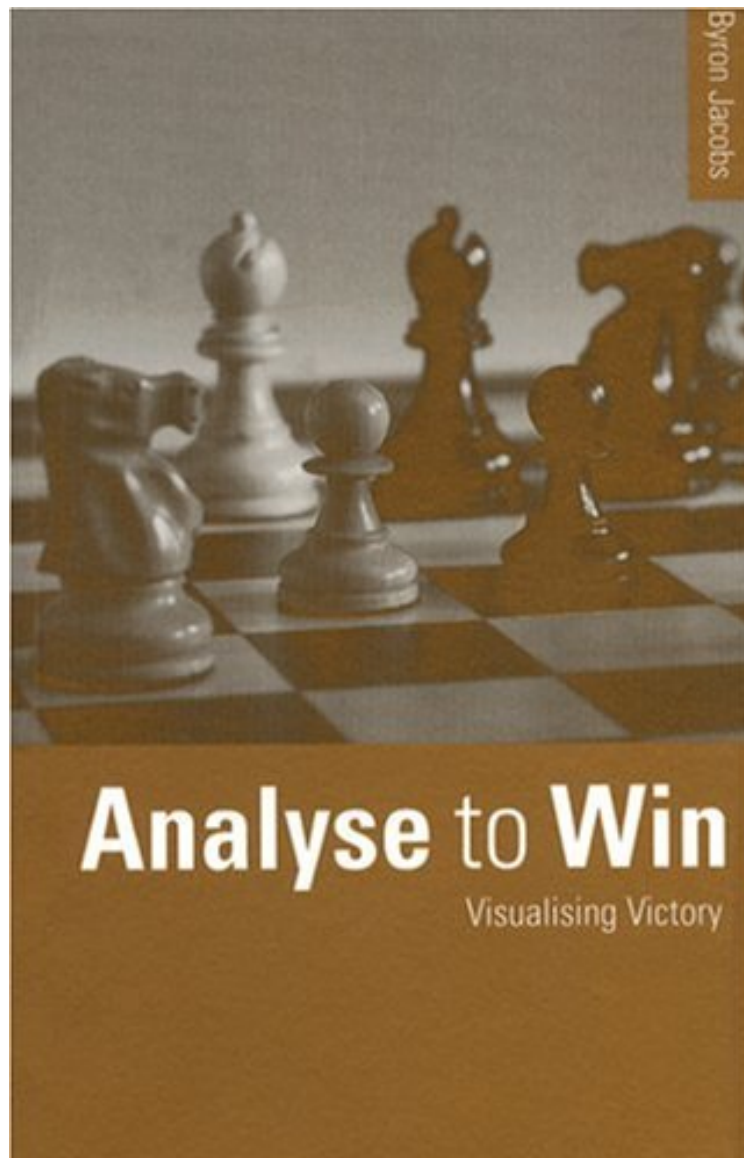


(Download free pdf) Analyse To Win: Visualising Victory

## Analyse To Win: Visualising Victory

*Byron Jacobs*

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**Byron Jacobs : Analyse To Win: Visualising Victory** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Analyse To Win: Visualising Victory:

7 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Well-made, but not very instructiveBy A CustomerJacobs is a good writer and the examples in the book are interesting. However, the book fails in its goal, assuming that goal is to instruct you how to analyse. Like many mediocre books, this one states its conclusions without showing how it got

there. For instance, Jacobs will show you how a player picked the wrong move, but if he had analysed more, he would have found the right move, x. He does not, however, explain why x is a better move, except to show that it would have won, etc. Not recommended. 3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Want to improve? Consider this book ... here's why ...

**By Igelfeld**The most natural question for any chess player to ask is "How do I improve (and win more games)?". Too often the answer is that an inadequate or incomplete knowledge on opening theory is the reason for poor play. Chess authors often write "don't bother with the opening until you have a solid (if not good) endgame and middlegame capability", but poor and timid opening play puts the average player into a poor position to win games. So the precondition for this book is that you have a decent ability in the opening and middlegame and can put yourself in a position to "Analyze to Win" and "Visual Victory". So if you find yourself often in poor middlegame positions, you really should first start with one of the many great books on the middlegame and only attempt this book when you are in a position of trying to find the win. So assume for the moment that you have get into good middlegame (and sometimes endgame positions) and find yourself in positions where you just don't know how to continue but you "feel" that a win should be in your sights. This book WILL help build the skills to find victory in what I'll call developed positions. The improvement in ability to 1) identify candidate moves and 2) analyze critical lines is the core benefit of this working through this book. I agree with one review that the author could have done a better job of guiding the less experienced player on the thought process on how to improve on rejected variations to find the correct line. But this is part of the necessary self-discovery that one should find in systematically going through this book. I do have one a few suggestions that may or may not help the reader going through this book. The author usually provides a list of candidate moves and a one sentence outline of a plan to go with that move. Before you read ahead to the author's candidate moves, just use the diagram to come up with your own candidate moves and work out as many variations as possible to expand your list of candidate moves. In a very twisted and convoluted way this is what Think Like a Grandmaster was trying to do. But the net effect was over-complicated what should be an over-the-board process. When I did this with the book, I found the answers and explanations much more meaningful and even found additional candidate moves (that I checked out with Fritz) that should have gotten some consideration from the author (part of the reason the book only got four stars). In the end, I highly recommend this book to the aspiring player who wants to improve his ability to ASSESS and analyze with the clear intention of transforming himself into a good finisher. (One more note: a reoccurring theme in the book is that certain moves aren't bad and probably are good for eventual victory but eventually is the key word. Allowing counterplay is a good way to throw away won games or at least a winning advantage).

9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. An Excellent, and Unique Book!

**By Damon Slye**I have found that puzzle and problem-solving books are the most practical way to improve my actual playing strength. Theory is fine, but the critical skill in chess is to examine an actual position, and try to find the best move. There are hundreds of tactics books, and dozens of positional puzzle books, but as far as I know this book is the only one specifically designed to improve your ability to calculate variations in complex positions (though there is one similar book-- Excelling at Chess Calculation by Aagaard; but it's a bit of a hybrid, containing both tactical and calculation exercises). This book contains five tests of 12 problems each. Each test is designed around a theme: Attack, Defense, the Endgame, Material versus the Initiative, and Tough Decisions. To get the most from the test, you will want to set up each position on a chess board, and then begin to analyze the position in your head without moving the pieces. I spend about 20 minutes to an hour on each position! (Yes, they are that complex). When I either believe I have the solution, or I give up, then I allow myself to move the pieces around to check the ideas I worked out in my head. After this, I actually look up the solution. After working through the book, my ability to visualize positions in my head, and to calculate variations definitely improved. I recommend this book to any serious chess player that wants to improve his or her playing strength. My only complaint is that there is no sequel-- I'm ready for more! A great book-- Nice work, Mr. Jacobs!

Inspired by Alexander Kotov's Think Like a Grandmaster, chess columnist and international master Byron Jacobs has created a system that trains players to think methodically in typical over-the-board situations. He focuses specifically on helping them to analyze accurately and make sense of complex positions--precisely those aspects of chess where games are won or lost.