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Rossolimo and Friends: A Complete Repertoire vs. the Sicilian

Alexei Kornev

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#830269 in Books The House of Staunton, Inc. 2015-03-23 8.46 x .63 x 5.711, #File Name: 6197188031348 pagesAuthor: Alexei KornevPages: 348Publication Years: 2015 | File size: 50.Mb

Alexei Kornev : Rossolimo and Friends: A Complete Repertoire vs. the Sicilian before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rossolimo and Friends: A Complete Repertoire vs. the Sicilian:

6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A Well Crafted Repertoire Book for White against the Sicilian DefenseBy M. AraratThe Sicilian defense is the most popular response to 1.e4 for several reasons. First, the pawn structure is unbalanced from the beginning of the game. After 3.d4 cxd4 black gets a central pawn majority duo versus a white pawn on e4. Second, in the open Sicilian white has to take risk to win the game and every move in the opening and middle game are critical. In other words, White has to learn a lot of theory to avoid losing a miniature. Third, the sharp Sicilian middle games from the open Sicilian are a paradox. White may claim a theoretical edge after burning the midnight oil studying theory, but white can no claim that the game is fully under his control. If White lacks a full grip on the actions that means that Black can generate play on his own and create winning chances. Many white players avoid the problems posed by the Sicilian defense by switching to 1.d4. A second group of players sticks with the open Sicilian and use a tactical, sharp approach against the combative Sicilian defense. A third group of players decide to meet the Sicilian half way, with a positional and active repertoire. If you prefer the third approach against the Sicilian defense, please keep reading on.Alexei Kornev is the author of the book, Rossolimo and Friends. This book is a repertoire book for White against the Sicilian defense and the recommendations have a solid positional foundation. The author databases and his own analysis to illustrate his recommendations. The books is composed with hundreds of

game fragments of games in contrast to the complete game format favored by Gawain Jones in his repertoire book versus the Sicilian (2011). The format selected by Kornev to write this book provides the reader with the right mix of old and recent games, more content than the complete game format and more references to continue his own studies. Every chapter ends with a summary. I recommend the reader to read the summary first to get a better idea of what the chapter is about and what are the better lines for White or the lines that are really bad for black. I found Kornev's explanations clear, concise and to the point, but the reader will need a good positional background to get the best of the book. Rossolimo and Friends is an advance book suitable for players looking to improve his/her chances against the Sicilian using a solid, positional method. Disclaimer This a fragment of the original review. The publisher provided a review copy. My chess skill level is around 1850 USCF and I hold a FIDE National Instructor certification. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book. By G. Tabach I thought this was an excellent book. I am about 2150 USCF and I wanted to study something to combat the sicilian played at many tournaments, and this is the book to go. (my results have been excellent against the sicilian using this book) the first half of each chapter covers the sub-par moves black can employ before heading into more solid and concrete lines. Which is excellent because Kornev offers refutations for certain lines, and explains why some moves are simply unplayable for black. Kornev offers a b3! recommendation for 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 e6 4.Bxc6 bxc6 5.b3! which is an excellent way to go against the e6 setup. The Second half of the book is on the Moscow variation. And what I love about the format is that Kornev writes out variations and gives an example of how a game continued in that specific line. Kornev almost never misses a spot- he covers almost every move black can try and explains a way to play against it. Another excellent thing is that each chapter focuses on about 2-4 individual motifs that are seen in almost every variation of the chapter- Allowing the reader to learn the lines with ease from pattern recognition. I do however recommend a software to read this with to gather in as much of the book as you can (use chessable, chessbase, or SCIDvsPC). The author does not treat you like an amateur, and you have to take your time absorbing all the information and all the ideas presented to fully understand the opening (which isn't hard, there are very common motifs with each chapter). Note: There are also a few typos (not too many to distract the reader) that may catch your eye. But otherwise, it is a well written book and every player who studies the sicilian should have this in their catalog. As a side note: he also recommends the g3 system against the Kan, and offers about 40 pages of explanation for that part of the opening. So if you need something to combat the Kan, Kornev offers a great recommendation. 1 of 25 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By GNG Excellent

Every chess player, who begins his games with the move 1.e2-e4, should be perfectly prepared to encounter the move 1...c7-c5. Why is this opening so dangerous for White? The point is that in all the basic variations of the Sicilian Defence the fight is double-edged and often White risks at least as much as Black does. White is practically deprived of the possibility to simplify the position by numerous exchanges.