

CSABA BALOGH

# Greatest 501 Puzzles



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## KEY TO SYMBOLS

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=	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



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## EDITORIAL PREFACE

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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!





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# INTRODUCTION

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## Useful information for the dear readers

The book contains 501 puzzles of different level with a huge range of tactical ideas. All the puzzles have been collected from practical games from May to December of the year 2012.

The book consists of five chapters:

1. **Easy** (201 Puzzles)
2. **Medium** (167 Puzzles)
3. **Hard** (73 Puzzles)
4. **Tests** (50 Puzzles)
5. **Top 10** (10 Puzzles)

All in all 501 puzzles.

In the “**Easy**”, “**Medium**” and “**Hard**” sections, the puzzles are sorted according to the date of the game. The “**Top 10**” is based on the level of beauty of the puzzles.

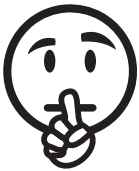
I advice you to finish the first three chapters of the book before going to the “**Tests**” section.

The “**Easy**” section is a good warm-up, but even here you might find some examples that could be a hard nut to crack. In the “**Medium**” section, you will need to find a silent place to concentrate better, some of the puzzles are already as hard as a walnut. For the “**Hard**” section you must be... hard! Some positions are very tough. Here, you should definitely pay more attention to the “**smiley**” helpers, which might lead you in the right path.

## Here are your four biggest helpers



- if you see this face, then there are two ways to victory.



- try to find a silent move, which is usually based on a tactical idea



- Your intuition is requested now. When it is impossible to calculate the lines until the end, you should try to feel that things will work out well for you.



- it is really the time to have a deep thought. It might be that the most obvious move is not the right one or the “main” move of the line is not the first one.

In case You see a puzzle without a “smiley”, you need to find the right moves on your own.

Each chapter has its own solution part.

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**– EASY –**

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(1)

▷ G. Borgo (2397)  
 ▶ F. Bindrich (2542)  
 Suisse league  
 29.04.2012

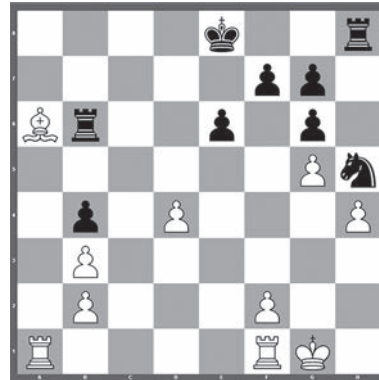
1. -+



(2)

▷ G. Miralles (2471)  
 ▶ E. Schiendorfer (2349)  
 Suisse league  
 29.04.2012

1. +-



(3)

▷ D. Popovic (2561)  
 ▶ D. Milanovic (2520)  
 Serbian Championship  
 04.05.2012

1. +-



(4)

▷ M. Antipov (2433)  
 ▶ A. Jankovic (2564)  
 Sarajevo  
 07.05.2012

1. +-



(5)

- ▷ E. Cordova (2566)  
 ▶ V. Papin (2570)  
 Capablanca memorial B  
 07.05.2012

1. +-



(7)

- ▷ Wen Yang (2550)  
 ▶ Dao Thien Hai (2514)  
 Asian Continental Championship  
 11.05.2012

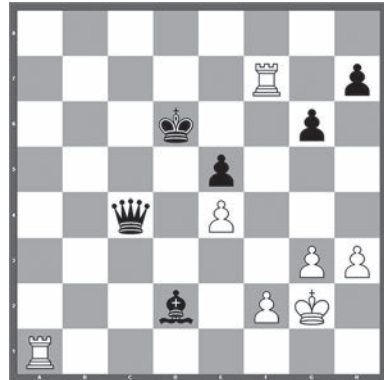
1. +-



(6)

- ▷ B. Predojevic (2637)  
 ▶ A. Kovacevic (2557)  
 Sarajevo  
 10.05.2012

1. +-



(8)

- ▷ B. Jobava (2721)  
 ▶ K. Shanava (2589)  
 Georgian Championship  
 13.05.2012

1. +-



(9)

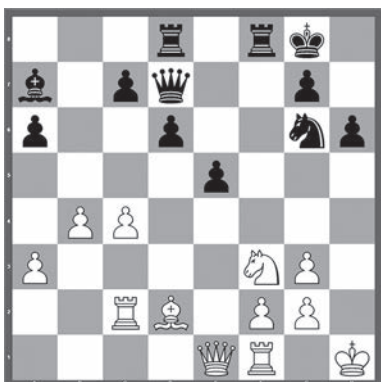
▷ I. Dimitrijevic (2125)

▶ D. Milanovic (2532)

Serbian Cup

14.05.2012

1... -+



(11)

▷ S. Ovsejevitsch (2572)

▶ R. Kuijf (2419)

Liechtenstein Open

18.05.2012

1. +-



(10)

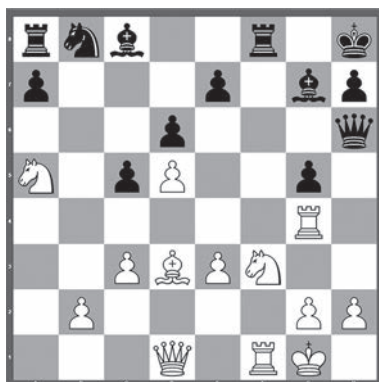
▷ V. Akobian (2625)

▶ A. Ramirez (2593)

USA Championship

16.05.2012

1. +-



(12)

▷ A. Hagen (2445)

▶ A. Maksimenko (2554)

Odense

19.05.2012

1. +-



**(13)**

▷ M. Bosiocic (2555)  
 ▶ A. Jankovic (2564)  
 Croatian Cup  
 20.05.2012

1. +/-

**(14)**

▷ H. Danielsen (2498)  
 ▶ K. Rusev (2525)  
 Odense  
 20.05.2012

1. +/-

**(15)**

▷ K. Szabo (2540)  
 ▶ T. Fodor (2502)  
 Baia Mare  
 21.05.2012

1. +/-

**(16)**

▷ Zhou Jianchao (2609)  
 ▶ M. Kazhgaleyev (2595)  
 Asian Nations Cup  
 24.05.2012

1. +/-

