

Csaba Balogh

# **Greatest 515 puzzles**

**The best OTB  
and online tactics of 2021**



Chess  
Evolution

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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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## PREFACE

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As usual, I would like to say a big thank you to my good friend GM Adam Horvath, who helps me every time to collect and select the greatest puzzles of the last period.

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 ourselves sleepless nights!

For most of the players and chess fans, the biggest pleasure in a chess game is to beat an opponent with a beautiful combination, which we can be proud of. However, to be able to use all the given opportunities and not miss any of the chances, we must stay in sharp form all the time, what we can reach only by practicing puzzle-solving.

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 the 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





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# INTRODUCTION

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## USEFUL INFORMATION FOR OUR DEAR READERS

his book is the continuation of the successful puzzle-book series that started in 2012 and — due to the numerous positive feedback that we receive from our readers — has already reached the 11<sup>th</sup> edition.

The new book contains 515 puzzles divided into three 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 over the board and online games throughout the year 2021. 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 (195 Puzzles)**
- 3. Hard (50 Puzzles)**

All in all 515 puzzles created by the greatest masters of our time, such as Carlsen, Nepomniachtchi, Caruana, Ding Liren 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!



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– EASY –

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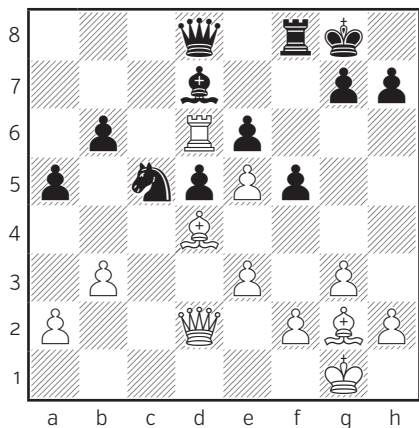


1

- ▷ **A. Zubritskiy**
- ▷ **M. Bryakin**

Internet lichess.org blitz, 02.01.2021

1.+–

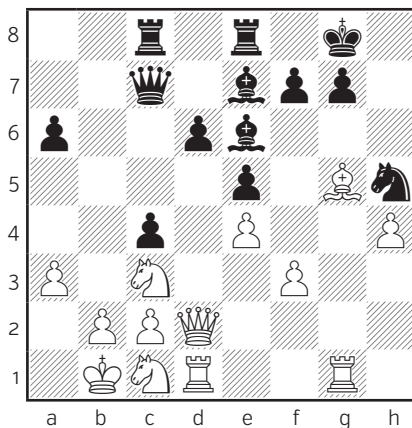


2

- ▷ **A. Sarana**
- ▷ **S. Sjugirov**

Internet lichess.org blitz, 02.01.2021

1.+–

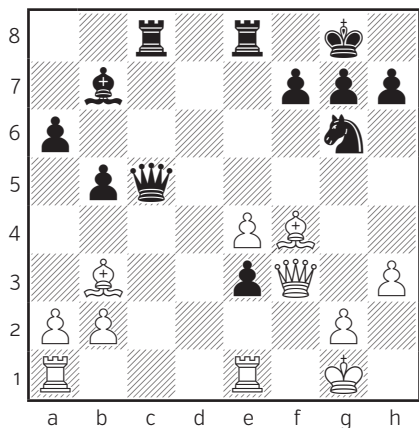


3

- ▷ **R. Vasquez Schroeder**
- ▷ **S. Ter Sahakyan**

Internet lichess.org blitz, 02.01.2021

1.+–

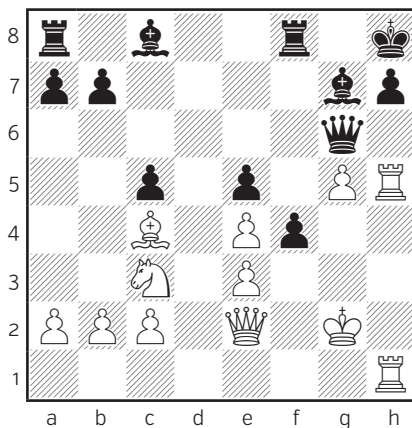


4

- ▷ **B. Savchenko**
- ▷ **D. Naroditsky**

Internet lichess.org blitz, 02.01.2021

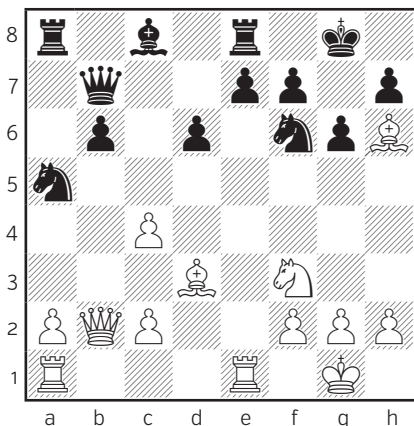
1.+–



### 5

▷ **S. Zhigalko**  
 ▶ **M. Iskandarov**  
 Internet lichess.org blitz, 02.01.2021

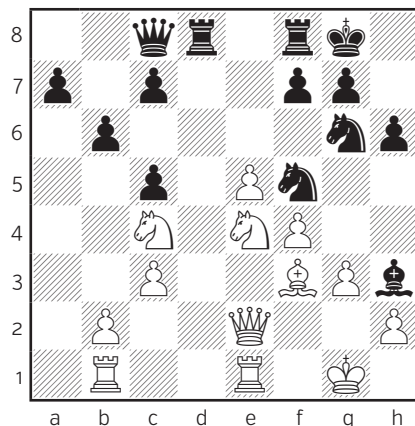
1.+–



### 6

▷ **A. Morozevich**  
 ▶ **I. Cheparinov**  
 Internet lichess.org blitz, 02.01.2021

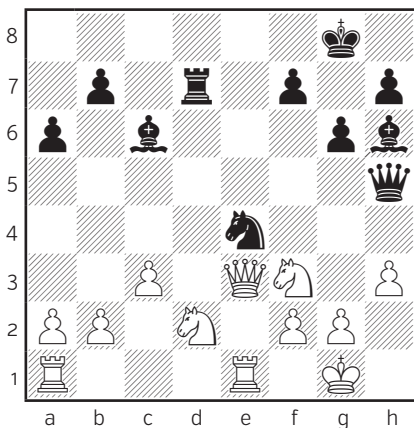
1.+–



### 7

▷ **A. Rakotomaharo**  
 ▶ **G. Bianchi**  
 Cappelle Europe-Echecs blitz, 10.01.2021

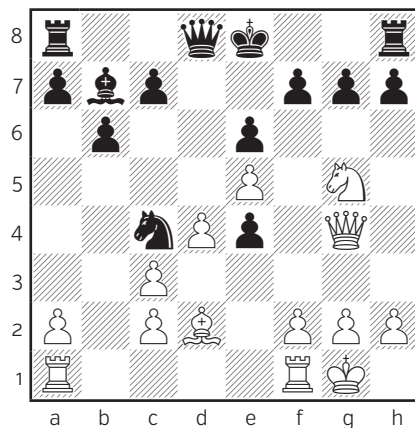
1.+–



### 8

▷ **S. Poobesh Anand**  
 ▶ **W. Aumann**  
 Internet chess.com blitz, 12.01.2021

1.+–

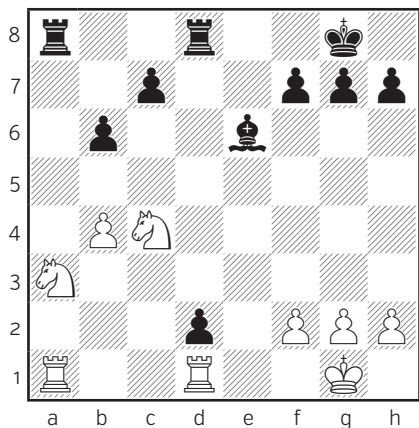


9

- ▷ V. Rasulov
- ▶ J. Martinez Alcantara

Internet chess.com blitz, 12.01.2021

1...-+

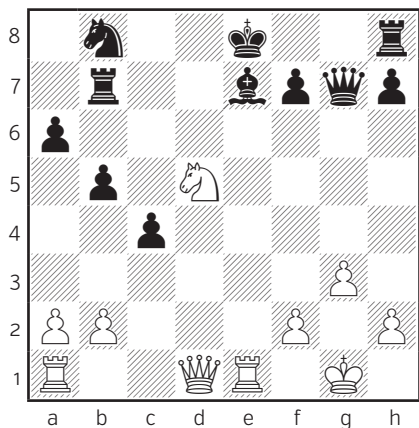


11

- ▷ V. Belous
- ▶ Z. Javakhadze

CCCSA Winter GM Charlotte, 15.01.2021

1,+-

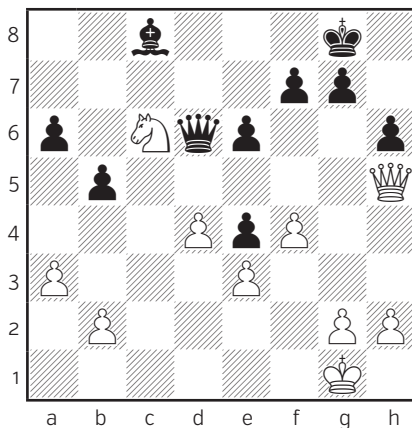


10

- ▷ M. Chigaev
- ▶ A. Isajevsky

Internet chess.com blitz, 12.01.2021

1,+-

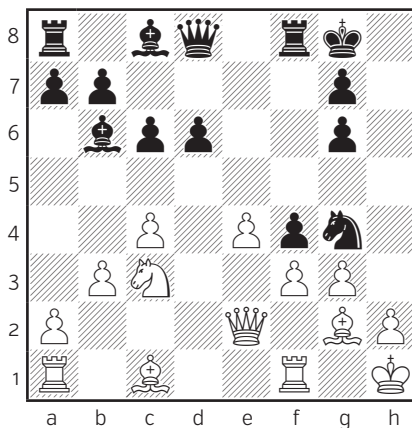


12

- ▷ A. Khruschiov
- ▶ T. Salemgareev

Lozovatsky Memorial, 16.01.2021

1...-+

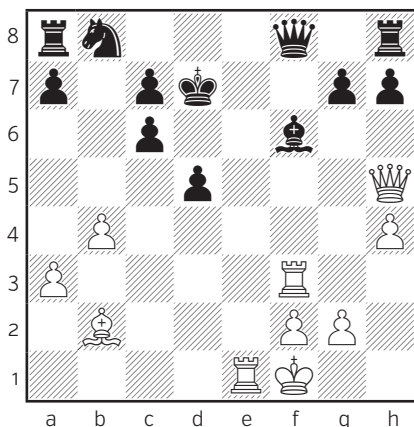


### 13

▷ **Z. Tsydypov**  
▶ **M. Petrosyan**

PNWCC Super G60 chess.com,  
16.01.2021

1.+-

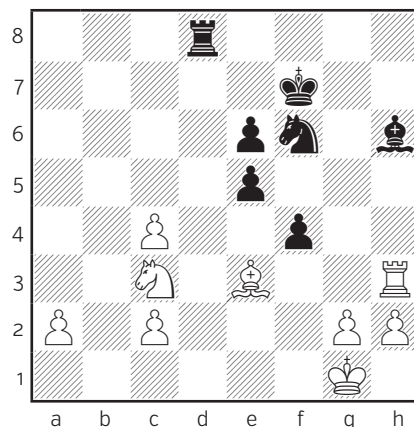


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▷ **J. Schroeder**  
▶ **L. Mons**

Hobbits Invitational lichess.org blitz,  
17.01.2021

1...-+

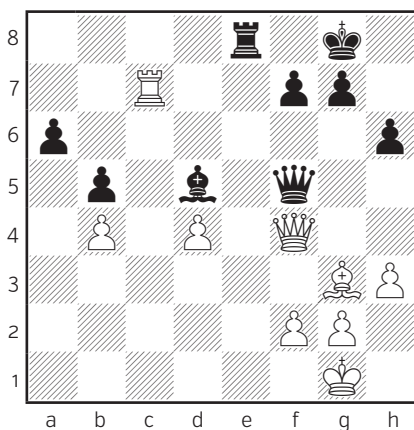


### 15

▷ **T. Tvarijonas**  
▶ **I. Ivanisevic**

Internet chess.com blitz, 19.01.2021

1...-+

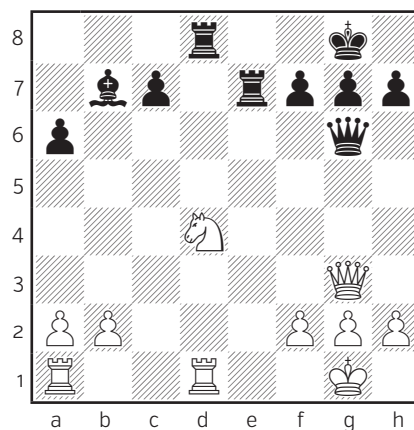


### 16

▷ **D. Kollars**  
▶ **R. Pert**

Internet chess.com blitz, 19.01.2021

1.+-

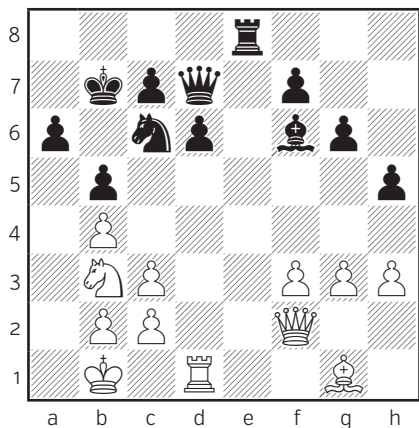


## 17

- ▷ **R. Garcia Pantoja**  
 ▶ **Y. Gatineau**

Internet chess.com blitz, 19.01.2021

1.+-

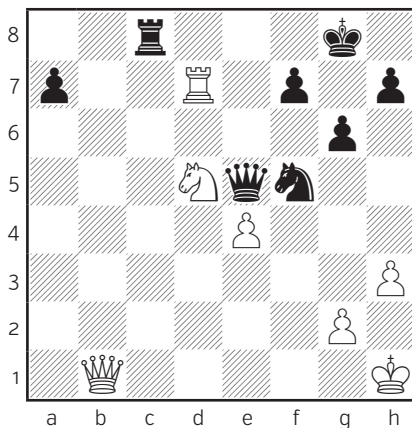


## 18

- ▷ **A. Nesterov**  
 ▶ **P. Ponkratov**

Lozovsky Memorial Chelyabinsk,  
 20.01.2021

1...-+

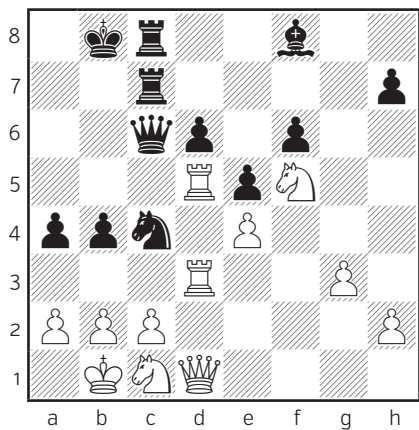


## 19

- ▷ **N. Georgiadis**  
 ▶ **L. Engel**

Hobbits Invitational lichess.org blitz,  
 20.01.2021

1...-+

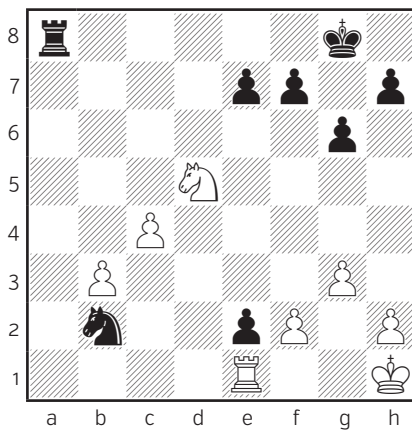


## 20

- ▷ **M. Seidel**  
 ▶ **P. Doberitz**

German League playchess.com rapid,  
 25.01.2021

1...-+





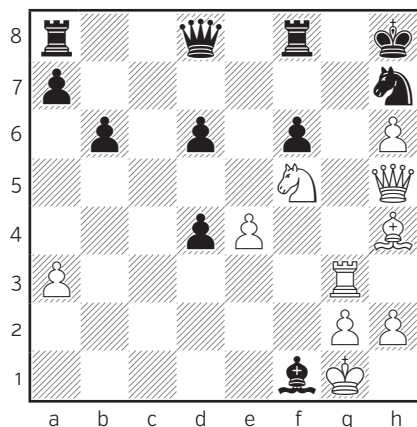
## 21

▷ **M. Ezat**

▶ **K. Jakubowski**

Internet chess.com blitz, 26.01.2021

1.+-



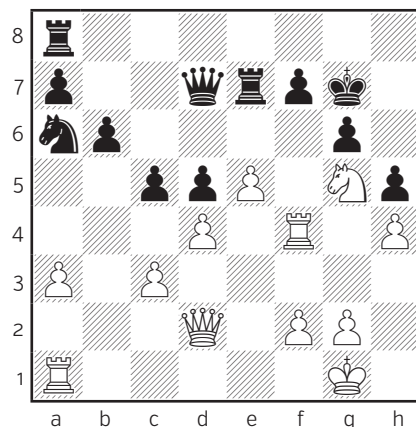
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▷ **D. Kryakvin**

▶ **I. Bulmaga**

Internet chess.com blitz, 26.01.2021

1.+-



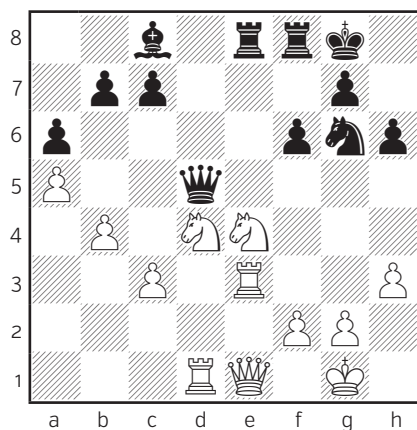
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▷ **V. Fedoseev**

▶ **V. Sanal**

Internet chess.com blitz, 26.01.2021

1.+-



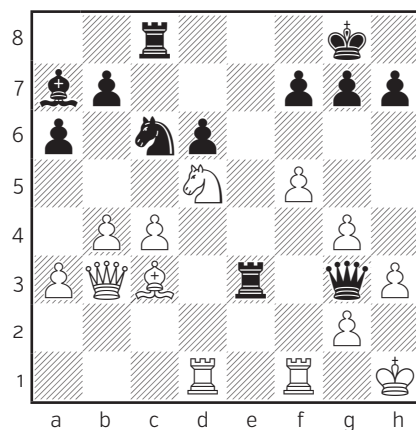
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▷ **V. Seliverstov**

▶ **O. Bortnyk**

Internet chess.com blitz, 26.01.2021

1...-+

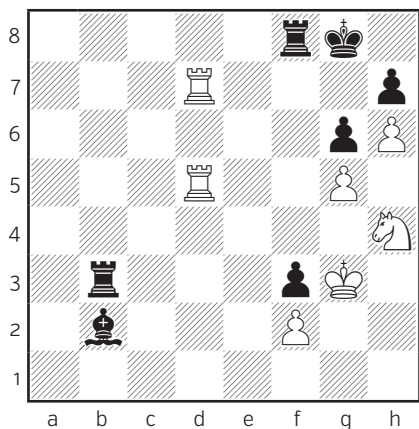


## 25

- ▷ **A. Giri**  
▶ **R. Wojtaszek**

Wijk aan Zee, 27.01.2021

1.+-

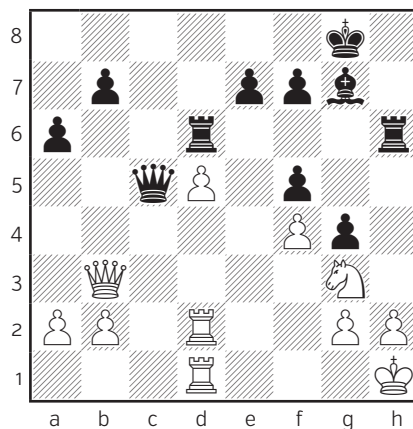


## 26

- ▷ **A. Fier**  
▶ **N. Studer**

Internet chess.com blitz, 02.02.2021

1...-+

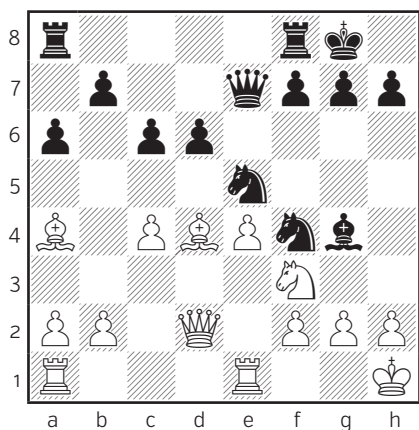


## 27

- ▷ **M. Kobalia**  
▶ **K. Alekseenko**

Internet chess.com blitz, 02.02.2021

1...-+



## 28

- ▷ **S. Sevian**  
▶ **W. Przybylski**

Internet chess.com blitz, 02.02.2021

1.+-

