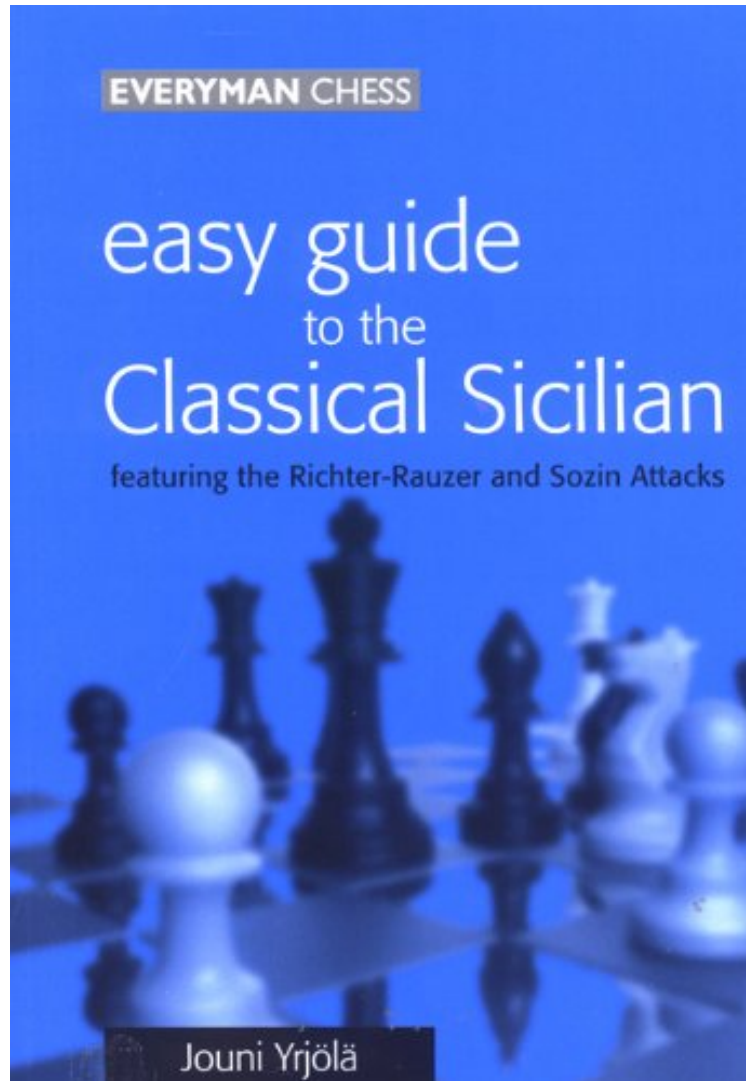


# Easy Guide to the Classical Sicilian: Including Richter-Rauzer and Sozin Attacks

Jouni Yrjola

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**Jouni Yrjola : Easy Guide to the Classical Sicilian: Including Richter-Rauzer and Sozin Attacks** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Easy Guide to the Classical Sicilian: Including Richter-Rauzer and Sozin Attacks:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Best IntroductionBy Gary BowersDespite the fact that this book was written 15 years ago, it is still the best introductory treatment of the Classical Sicilian that you will find anywhere. Major themes are covered with lots of active diagrams, and nothing major has been left out.10 of 11 people found the

following review helpful. The Best Repertoire Book I've Seen By Johannes Farr Easy Guide to the Classical Sicilian does a good job of balancing the need for general information on an opening, as well as getting into the specifics of each variation. The main strength of this book is that it does not try to take huge shortcuts that would keep you from memorizing a lot of material for the sake of being easier. The main variations are all deeply covered, up to move twenty or so in the Rauzer, which prevents doubled f pawns. Some of his suggestions are not technically the "main line," but they are all lines played by top grandmasters including Shirov, Leko, and Svidler. The variations themselves are easily understandable, even up to an advanced stage. This is because the author does a good job explaining the main ideas before each chapter, so you understand the basic early middlegame plan even if you don't know the exact move at the moment. Another plus is that while it is a repertoire book, there are about 6 different ways you could put the lines together to form a repertoire. For instance, in the Sozin you have both the 5. .. Qb6 line, forcing the knight away, but making the game less concrete, or the dangerous (for both players) early queenside activity lines in the Sozin and Velimirovic, as well as the main lines. In the Rauzer, you have the plan of h6 to kick out the bishop, or choice of several Bd7 lines, with doubled F pawns. This also isn't a book that tells you that everything you play will be able to counter white, in fact in some places the author tells you that at this point black doesn't have a foolproof answer, but it's going to be that way with every line. If you're not yet facing the open Sicilian much, concentrate on the Anti Sicilians, but if you are facing the open more and more, this is the book for you. 12 of 12 people found the following review helpful. A good "Easy Guide" By Armin Namini This is indeed a solid book. It covers the theory very well in a nice way, since he offers explanations after many moves instead of just listing the variations followed by a "with advantage to black". Regarding all major variations, he presents general themes and plans for both sides. There are many diagrams, and in some cases the positions in the diagrams are closely related which helps you understand the connection between some plans. In my opinion, these are very instructive. After each variation is covered, he starts a discussion entitled "Which line to choose in the (for example) Sozin)", where he explains firstly his own view and experience and then generally the differences, which line suits the positional player, the aggressive player, the solid player etc. From someone who has tested different lines in various variations and then read his discussion afterwards, I can say that he is right on many points. Between me and some of my friends, we own all the Easy Guides in the different Sicilian Openings and a few others as well. In my opinion, this one is the best.

The Classical Sicilian is a response to the Sicilian Defence. Black develops in a standard fashion, allowing White to attack violently or quietly, while retaining the famed Sicilian counterpunch.

From the Back Cover The Classical Sicilian is one of the most popular openings among top-class grandmasters as Black develops in straightforward and logical fashion. Whether White tries an immediate attack or chooses a quieter approach, Black retains the famed Sicilian counter-punch. The Classical is surprisingly neglected in chess literature; Grandmaster Yrjola finally reveals both the theory and concepts behind this well respected opening, making it accessible to players of all levels. This guide is written by a renowned Classical Sicilian expert, covers all of White's main replies and explains an opening played regularly by Anand, Kramnik and Shirov. (5 3/4 x 8 1/4, 128 pages, diagrams)