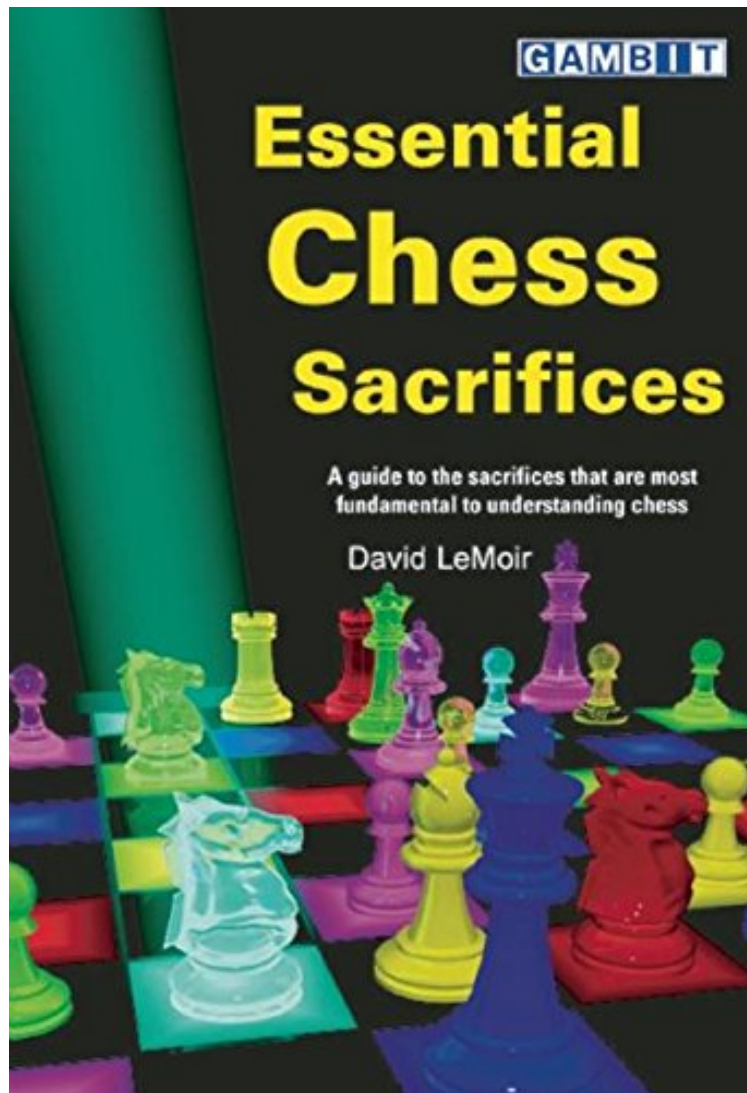


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Essential Chess Sacrifices

David Lemoir

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#2385276 in Books The House of Staunton, Inc. 2004-09-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.98 x .71 x 6.621, 2.00 #File Name: 1904600034256 pages Author: David Lemoir Pages: 224 Pages Publication Years: 2004 | File size: 56.Mb

David Lemoir : Essential Chess Sacrifices before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Essential Chess Sacrifices:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Essential sac book By A. Ali The book could almost have been titled "Essential Sacrifices in the Sicilian," since the first half of the book (up to page 93) deals with Sicilian sacs. This is essential material for anyone who plays the Sicilian on either the white or black side. This first half should be used in conjunction with Levy's earlier book, "Sacrifices in the Sicilian." There's an overlap in sacs covered but Levy covers

the exchange sac on c3, which LeMoir doesn't. Goes without saying that for the examples in both books, use a decent chess engine to test the analysis. The second half of LeMoir's book covers a random collection of sacs, including the Bxh7 sac (Greek Gift). This is also essential material, but should be supplemented with the revised edition of Spielman's "The Art of Sacrifice in Chess" (the second half of which is now by Muller, and covers many of the same sacrificial themes) and Edwards' "Sacking the Citadel," which is devoted to the Bxh7 sac. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Another mistitled chess book (should be: "For White only") By Jurgen Lawrenz I suppose we have to get used to finding false promises on the covers of chess books! This one sins on two fronts simultaneously. First, because the essential words "FOR WHITE" are missing. The title does not inform you that there are no sacrifices for the black player which the author considers essential. I can think of Rxc3 in the Sicilian as an essential sacrifice. Second, there are only 15 of these, and somewhere in the order of 50% from the Sicilian Defence. Does that mean essential sacrifices are not frequent enough in other openings to bother with? Indeed LeMoir confesses in his preface that he selected these 15 from about 40 essential sacrifices. Altogether this is inadequate if you are looking for a book that informs you on the matter which the title of the book states as its promised content. As far as the actual content is concerned, it is well written, well presented and useful for tactical training. But on account of its limited survey, it is difficult to give this more than a lukewarm welcome. Chess players like good books, but there is no shortage of books on tactics, sacrifices and combinations that offer better value (because they are more comprehensive). This is quite apart from the fact that - as a student - you are ill-served by the undue stress on the white side of things. I would guess that about half of all games are played with black. Studying this in depth (and I think you have to be 1600+ to be equipped for study of this book) is likely to breed a prejudice for white in you and make you are ONE-SIDED tactician. 20 of 20 people found the following review helpful. Thematic sacrifices By Murtuza Hashim This book picks up where Lemoir's earlier book left off. The author categorizes thematic sacrifices based on the squares they occur. He starts off on the left side of the board with Nxb5 and Bxb5 sacrifices which occur in the Sicilian. Then he moves on to d5 and f5 sacrifices of the knight in the Sicilian, then to Bishop or Knight sacrifices on e6 in the Sicilian. Then the author moves onto Nxf7 and Nxg7 sacrifices. The book ends with Ng5 and Bg5 silent sacrifices on g5 and the Greek gift sacrifice that we have all seen Bxh7 check and the double bishop sacrifice. This book sums up all the standard sacrifices and the setup positions leading up to them that produce the sacrifices. It is a good book to read, so that you don't get caught on the wrong end of one of these setup positions. However, even Grandmasters have fallen for these standard sacrifices so you might be able to try it on your next opponent. Since this is a tactics book, most of the positions are do or die for the sacrificer instead of the positional rxc3 sacrifices you see in the Sicilian.

Sacrifices are an essential part of chess. Those who never consider sacrificing will miss countless opportunities and find that promising positions repeatedly slip away. Players who do not appreciate their opponents' sacrificial possibilities will be unable to see danger signs, and find themselves on the wrong end of too many king-hunts. Rather than merely cataloguing the various possibilities and providing examples, LeMoir discusses the possible follow-ups to the sacrifices, the defensive options against them, and the positional factors that might suggest whether the sacrifice will be sound or unsound. There are many important types of chess positions that can only be played well by those who understand the thematic sacrifices that are possible.

About the Author David LeMoir is an experienced chess-player and writer. He twice won the championship of the West of England and was runner-up on four occasions. In 2000, he was champion of the English county of Norfolk. In a successful career as a business strategy consultant, he has made good use of the strategic and decision-making skills that are developed by playing chess. He has earned a reputation for writing chess books that discuss important practical chess topics with great clarity.