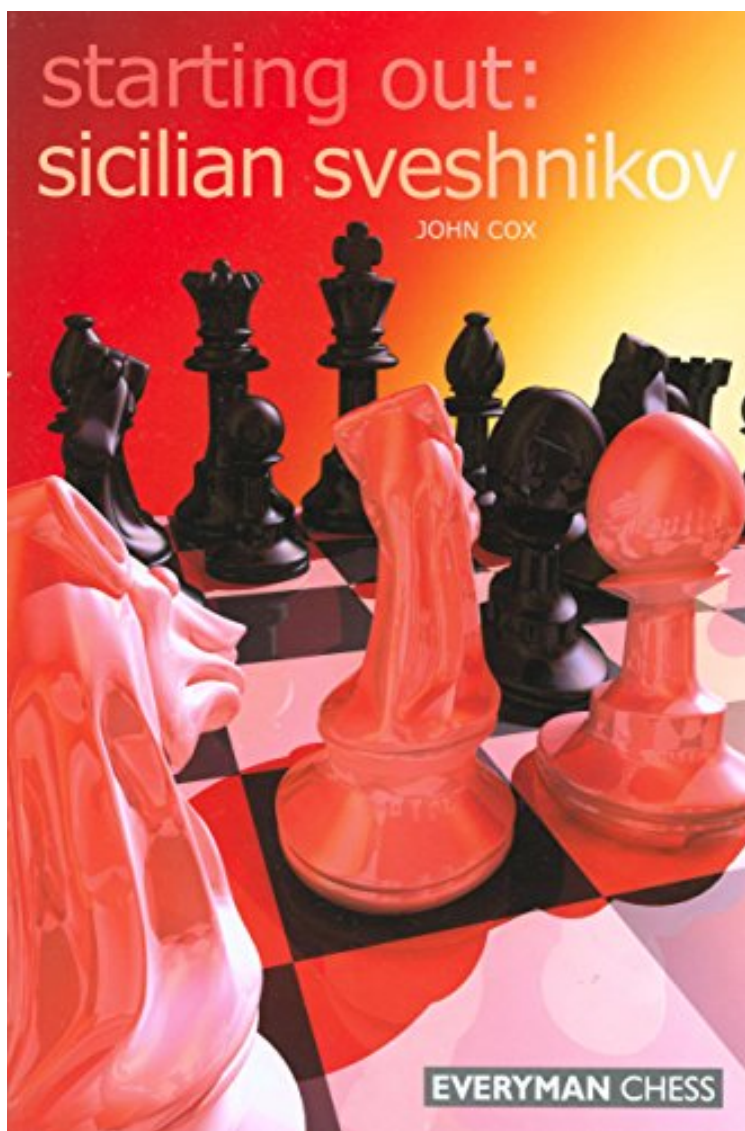


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Starting Out: Sicilian Sveshnikov

John Cox

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John Cox : Starting Out: Sicilian Sveshnikov before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Starting Out: Sicilian Sveshnikov:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Exceeds Expectations By An Ambitious Young Player In trying to complete a stable repertoire for tournament games, I came across this book. I bought the book, wondering if the "starting out" title meant the book was solely for beginners. This idea is completely incorrect, and the book gives solid coverage of all main lines. Also, there are some sharp sidelines that are possible as early as move 11, but Cox prepares

the reader adequately. It is interesting that the author devotes a chapter in the book for 6th move deviations for White, just giving the reader comfort of not yet being in the "unknown zone". Overall, I had a good time studying the Sveshnikov and completing my repertoire with this book as my main source.² of 3 people found the following review helpful. Excellent introduction to the Sveshnikov Sicilian By Somnath Excellent introduction to start the Sveshnikov journey. I was no different and underestimated this dynamic sicilian. After some study through this book I have a different opinion altogether.⁵³ of 56 people found the following review helpful. Much, Much more than just merely "Starting Out" By top opening reviewer I haven't really been a big fan of the "Starting Out" books. Why? I feel that although the true intentions of these type of books are good, I ended up deciding after each one I've read that I needed something more advanced and complete (since I am a generally strong club player with a rating of about 1700 USCF). I've tried such works as the Caro-Kan, Grunfeld, Kings Indian, Nimzo, ect... but eventually decided to invest in more complete works. Also, I've never been a big fan of the sicilian. I found that almost every variation was eathier to theoretically dense, but the simple fact that white has Anti-Sicilians up his sleeve like the Morra Gambit, c3 Sicilian ect... Not to mention that fact the 1.e4 players devote more time to studying the sicilian defense than any other mainstream opening. So why in the world would I get a book on the Sicilian, especially a series that I didn't really prefer? The fact is the after having been unsuccessful after having tried virtually every response to 1.e4, I decided the the sicilian should be investigated a little bit more. BTW, when I mention "unsuccessful" I mean that I was unhappy with my results with black. I wanted something a little more exciting than the French, which was my main defence against 1.e4 for quite awhile. I even had John Watson's famous Play the French that the theoretical land-mines in the Winawer were just too much, especially in a book where the explanations were rather light. Also, I hated playing the lifeless positions in the exchange french. I needed something with a clear-cut imbalance, thus giving rise to the Sicilian. Naturally the Nadjorf, and Sveshnikov immediately caught my attention. But something sparked when I began looking at the Sveshnikov in detail- the fact that it leads to fascinating and at the same time sound positions. But I knew that taking up such a compicated theoretical opening would not be an easy task. I couldn't just "jump into it." That's why I decided to get the Starting Out book before I did anything else. Needless to say my expecations were blown away. First of all... I would like to some up a few points about the sveshnikov in generally before talking about the book: 1) You can win games just by knowing the book, thus you gain an immediate reward for your effort. 2) The sveshnikov can help you win games against higher rated opponents 3) It's has a perfect combination of positional and attacking elements, that your chess in generally will increase significantly Now that we got that out of the way, let's discuss this excellent book. The first thing I looked for is if the author would be able to explain the ideas behind an incredibly complicated opening, and he does. In fact, he not only explains the sveshnikov, but dissects the entire opening allowing to see it for what it truly is. The notes, tips, warnings are incedibly useful and not just unintelligent rehashes of something obvious. The second thing I looked for was how complete this book was in terms of theoretical depth. Well at over 200+ pages, this is one of the longest in the series and I found that every intelligent sideline recieved coverage. He even devotes a chapter to Anti-Sveshnikov lines! As far as I could tell, nothing was left out. Also in terms of anaylsis, I dare say this is more up to date than quality chess's mammoth book with 44 model games all from the 2005-2006 range (the book was written in 2007). After googling some extra reviews of this book, I found that I wasn't alone on this and actually some people prefered this book to quality chess's Sveshnikov Reloaded! The last thing that I will mention is that the introduction is probably the most down to earth and inspiring intro to a chess opening that I have ever read (and I've read plenty). I don't want to spoil it for you so you are just going to have to get this book and find out. Needless to say, my results have significantly improved by playing this uncompromising opening and I believe that it can do the same for you if you are willing to put in the work. I would appreciate it if you would rate if this review was helpful or not. I spent quite awhile preparing what was hopefully an intelligent, honest review. Thanks

No opening in recent times has captured the imagination of the chess public more than the Sicilian Sveshnikov. Initially popularized in the 1970s, the Sveshnikov has exploded onto the chess scene at the highest levels and is now regarded by many experts as one of Black's most promising answers to 1 e4. One of its major attractions is that more often than not the opening leads to incredibly sharp and complex play. In such situations both sides must play with extreme accuracy just to stay on the board as a single slip may lead to disaster!

The ideal opening training manuals.'Grandmaster Glenn Flear reviewing the Starting Out series in New In Chess. The first books I browse when I go to the bookstore.'Chess Cafe reviewing the Starting Out series. Cox's presentation is refreshing. One of the few authors who makes his writing accessible to the average player.'Award-winning author John Watson reviewing Starting Out: Alekhine's Defence.