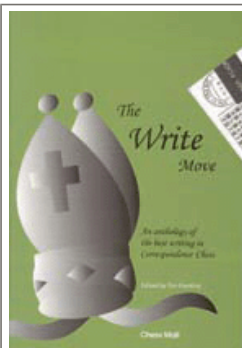




COLUMNISTS

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Bobby Fischer, R.I.P.

What do you say when a fallen idol finally gets his comeuppance? Maybe Marc Antony had the right idea (with apologies to William Shakespeare):

**Friends, Readers, chessplayers, lend me your ears;
I come to bury Fischer, not to praise him...**

Child prodigy, "commie-basher," grandmaster at fifteen, anti-semitic, youngest ever world championship candidate, raving paranoid, world record high FIDE-rated player of his day, UN sanctions-buster, world chess champion, hater of the civilisation that bred and reared him. That was Robert James Fischer, 9 March 1943-17 January 2008.

**The evil that men do lives after them,
The good is oft interred with their bones,
So let it be with Fischer ...**

In his case, actually, it will probably be the other way around. Fischer's unforgivable public statements, his psychotic disintegration over three decades (few believe he was truly 'tortured in the Pasadena jail house'), his rejoicing at the 9-11 attacks on New York... all these, except perhaps the last, will most likely be forgotten quite quickly, but as long as chess is played, his games will remain.

**Donald Byrne - R. J. Fischer**

New York Rosenwald, 1956
Grünfeld Defence [D97]

**1 Nf3 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 Bg7 4 d4 0-0 5 Bf4 d5 6 Qb3
dxc4 7 Qxc4 c6 8 e4 Nbd7 9 Rd1 Nb6 10 Qc5 Bg4 11
Bg5? Na4!! 12 Qa3**

12 Nxa4 Nxe4 also gives Black good tactical chances, e.g. 13 Qc1 (13 Qxe7!?) 13...Qa5+ 14 Nc3 Bxf3.

**12...Nxc3 13 bxc3 Nxe4! 14 Bxe7 Qb6! 15 Bc4 Nxc3 16
Bc5 Rfe8+ 17 Kf1**

Expecting 17...Nb5?? 18 Bxf7+.

**17...Be6!!**

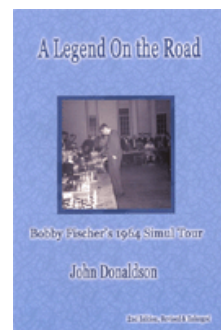
A beautiful queen sacrifice that depends on Philidor's mate in the principal variation:
18 Bxe6 Qb5+ 19 Kg1 Ne2
+ 20 Kf1 Ng3+ 21 Kg1 Qf1

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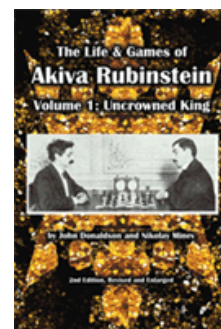
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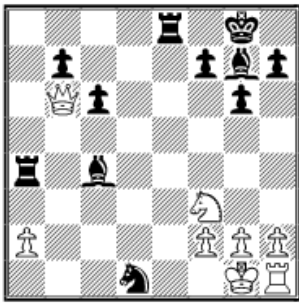
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Akiva Rubinstein*
by John Donaldson
& Nikolay Mineev



+ 22 Rxf1 Ne2#.

**18 Bxb6 Bxc4+ 19
Kg1 Ne2+! 20 Kf1 Nxd4
+ 21 Kg1 Ne2+ 22**

Kf1 Nc3+ 23 Kg1 axb6 24 Qb4 Ra4! 25 Qxb6 Nxd1



Black has a decisive material advantage.

**26 h3 Rxa2 27 Kh2
Nxf2 28 Re1 Rxe1 29
Qd8+ Bf8 30 Nxe1
Bd5 31 Nf3 Ne4 32
Qb8 b5 33 h4 h5 34
Ne5 Kg7 35 Kg1 Bc5+
36 Kf1 Ng3+ 37 Ke1
Bb4+ 38 Kd1 Bb3+
39 Kc1 Ne2+ 40 Kb1
Nc3+ 41 Kc1 Rc2# 0-1**

**The noble Brutus
Hath told you Fischer was a Fascist:
If it were so, it was a grievous fault,
And grievously hath Fischer answered it ...**

I never met Fischer or saw him play in person. He played his second match with Spassky in Sveti-Stefan (Montenegro) and Belgrade in defiance of the State Department, then took the money and ran. Denied return to his own country, under pain of likely imprisonment, he lived as a recluse in several countries. When I visited Budapest in October 2000, I was told he was living in the city somewhere. Later he went to Japan, where he was eventually arrested on a U.S. warrant and spent months in jail. Finally he was offered refuge in Iceland, scene of his greatest triumph, and there he died early this year. In moral terms, he probably did not deserve to escape justice, but what good would a show trial in the States have done? Probably he was mentally unfit to plead anyway.

It is likely that some players younger than me (and I was born five years after Fischer) under rate his achievements and do not understand what a phenomenon he was. There is no Fischer Opening or Fischer Variation; perhaps the Poisoned Pawn variation of the Sicilian Defence should be renamed for him, but it probably won't happen. Nor has he left any great master-work of chess literature (more on that later), but his tournament and match results tell the story most clearly. First, his major American successes are listed below, but we'll come to his international career later.

**Here, under leave of Brutus and the rest,
(For Brutus is an honourable man;
So are they all; all honourable men)
Come I to speak in Fischer's funeral ...**

- . Manhattan Chess Club 'A' reserves, 1956; one of his first tournament victories.
- . US Junior Champion, Philadelphia, July 1956.
- . US Junior Champion, San Francisco, July 1957.
- . 58th US Open, Cleveland, August 1957. Fischer & Bisguier win with 10/12.
- . September 1957, New York; Fischer beats Filipino master Cardoso 6-2 in a match.
- . USA Championship 1957-8, first with 10½ out of 13, unbeaten and a point ahead of Reshevsky. Bobby was not yet fifteen.
- . USA Championship 1958-9, first again with 8½ out of 11, once more unbeaten and a point ahead of Reshevsky.
- . USA Championship 1959-60, third successive win with 9 out of 11.
- . USA Championship 1960-61, fourth victory with 9 out of 11, two points clear of GM Lombardy.
- . USA Championship 1962-63, 8 out of 11, one point ahead of GM Bisguier.
- . USA Championship 1963-64, 11 out of 11, ahead of strong opposition such as Evans, Benko, Reshevsky, Robert Byrne, Bisguier and Mednis.
- . USA Championship 1965-66, 8½ out of 11, one point ahead of Reshevsky and Robert Byrne.
- . USA Championship 1966-67, 9½ out of 11, two points ahead of Evans.

**In chess he was my inspiration:
But Brutus says he was a Fascist**

And Brutus is an honourable man....

In 1958 Fischer made his first move towards the world chess crown, in the 21-player Portoroz interzonal tournament in Yugoslavia. The field, all adults of course, bar Fischer, largely consisted of seasoned grandmasters including most of the top players of the day: Gligoric, the home favourite; Bronstein, who had tied a match for the world championship; Tal and Petrosian, who were to become world champions. Of the world top, the only absentees were Botvinnik (world champion), and Keres and Smyslov who were exempt to the Candidates. The top six would join them; Fischer tied fifth and so automatically became a grandmaster. In the Bled 1959 candidates, where each played each other five times, he finished fifth and won two games from Keres, and though Tal defeated him 4-0, this wasn't half bad for a boy of sixteen. Fischer became quite a hero in Yugoslavia after these two great results and he always seems to have enjoyed playing there.

R. J. Fischer – Svetozar Gligoric

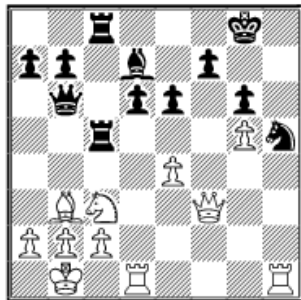
Candidates Tournament 1959

Dragon Sicilian [B57]

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 d6 6 Bc4 Bd7 7 Bb3 g6 8 f3 Na5 9 Bg5 Bg7 10 Qd2 h6 11 Be3 Rc8 12 0-0-0 Nc4 13 Qe2!?

A novelty in this game; players always exchanged the other bishop.

13...Nxe3 14 Qxe3 0-0 15 g4 Qa5 16 h4 e6 17 Nde2! Rc6 18 g5 hxg5 19 hxg5 Nh5 20 f4 Rfc8 21 Kb1 Qb6 22 Qf3 Rc5 23 Qd3! Bxc3 24 Nxc3 Nxf4 25 Qf3 Nh5



Now comes a standard anti-Dragon h-file combination.

26 Rxh5! gxh5 27 Qxh5 Be8 28 Qh6!

See Fischer's book for full notes to this game.

28...Rxc3 29 bxc3 Rxc3 30 g6 fxg6 31 Rh1 Qd4 32 Qh7+ 1-0

**Fischer hath brought much prize money home,
Whose taxes did the general coffers fill:
Did this in Fischer seem ambitious?
When that the poor have cried, Fischer hath wept:
Ambition should be made of sterner stuff:
Yet Brutus says Fischer was a Fascist;
And Brutus is an honourable man.**

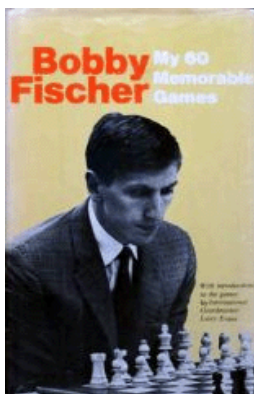
In the next world championship cycle, Fischer dominated the 1962 Stockholm interzonal tournament with an unbeaten 17½ points from 22 games. Two of the world's greatest players, Geller and Petrosian could only manage 15 with Korchnoi and Filip (a Czech GM) a further point back and the last qualifier, Benko, on 13½. Then at the Varna Olympiad, Fischer nearly beat Botvinnik. Only Geller's overnight analytical stint saved the world champion's bacon. In the intervening three years, Tal's shooting star had burned itself out; he had won the world championship and lost it, while at Bled 1961 only the Latvian finished ahead of Fischer.

Now Fischer undoubtedly believed himself to be the world's best player, but he had overdone it; he had shown too much of his hand and provoked a Soviet reaction. Unable to defeat Fischer by fair means, they chose foul and in the Curacao candidates later in 1962, they relegated Fischer to fourth place. Energy-saving draws among themselves and a concerted effort by the Soviets excluded him – at least that is the generally accepted story. Just because a man is known to be paranoid doesn't mean that people really aren't out to get him. See for example Timman's recent book on the match, which was reviewed in this column in [June 2007](#). But Fischer did not do himself any favours by losing his first two games, one of them being to the other American representative, Benko. Bobby cried foul at this point and as a result of

his complaints FIDE did abolish the eight-man candidates and replaced it by a system of knock-out matches to avoid collusion.

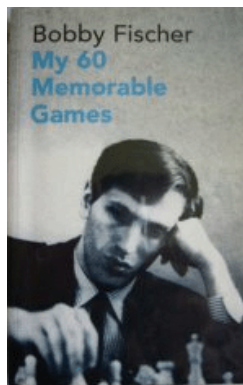
**You all did see that on the Lupercal
I thrice presented him a kingly crown,
Which he did thrice refuse: was this ambition?
Yet Brutus says he was ambitious;
And, sure, he is an honourable man.**

If Fischer was 'deprived' of the chess crown in 1962-3, or was not yet ready to take it, he certainly deprived himself of the chance to be the challenger in the 1966 and 1969 world title matches. Despite the rule being changed for the 1965 Candidates, Fischer refused to play in that cycle. Otherwise he probably would have become world champion in 1966. In the 1967 Sousse interzonal, in Tunisia, Fischer's 'difficult' attitude led to complaints over conditions and ultimately Fischer withdrew when he was in the lead. Up to now, Fischer's record in 'ordinary' international tournaments had been less impressive; he had only won minor ones, though second in Havana 1965 was excellent, considering the State Department would not let him travel to Cuba and he played all his games by radio. In 1967 he won tournaments in Monaco and Skopje; in 1968, he won in Vinkovci and Natenya. Of these four, only Monaco was really a top-drawer event. In 1969 he did not play at all. His first retirement from chess had begun.



In 1969 Fischer's book **My 60 Memorable Games** appeared, though how much of this was down to GM Larry Evans is perhaps unclear. Published by Simon and Schuster in the USA and in Britain by Faber & Faber, this was a long-awaited book. It contains many fine games and undoubtedly mostly Fischer's thoughts about them, but the original descriptive notation is outdated. Moreover, while the book is a classic, it is not Fischer's Greatest Games. It was written before his own greatest achievements, the contests of 1970-2 (as well as before the 1992 swansong match). Maybe something will turn up in manuscript? I expect there will now be major legal wrangling over who has the right to publish a definitive and non-pirate edition of the original text transposed to algebraic notation. For the story of what actually happened when one publishing company in England attempted this, with less than full devotion to the task, I direct you to Edward Winter's 1999 article, 'Fischer's Fury', available [here](#).

To summarise briefly, Batsford's 1995 edition was denounced in 1996 by Fischer in a Buenos Aires press conference, on a number of grounds, some of which were legitimate and some were not. I do not know the exact terms of the contract, but Batsford (no longer under the same proprietorship today) had either bought or licensed the British and Commonwealth paperback rights from Faber & Faber, a common arrangement in the publishing business.



To my mind there is no doubt that Batsford, at that time, had the right to produce a new edition in algebraic notation for the traditional British market. They were also 'algebraicising' many other classics to make them accessible to a new generation, especially since FIDE has now officially banned the use of descriptive notation. Batsford also denied Fischer's claim that he had not been paid royalties; they claimed they had offered Fischer money but he would not take it. This was not a pirate edition, as Fischer, and those who wanted to get on the anti-Batsford bandwagon, claimed. On the other hand, Batsford afterwards went into receivership, was bought by Chrysalis, who have since apparently sold it on. So although books still appear under the Batsford imprint, the people doing that would be on extremely shaky ground if they were to try to reissue Fischer's book.

Probably the British rights have reverted to Faber & Faber, or more likely have lapsed altogether by this stage. On the other hand Simon and Schuster (which I gather is now a division of CBS) should be getting their lawyers to look very closely at the wording of their contract for the book and, if they can get agreement from Fischer's executors and heirs, they might be legally entitled to produce a new edition. Rights generally only revert to the author after a long gap in publication, with the author requesting reversion if the publisher does not produce a new edition in a specified time, but that can depend on the particular contract, and laws can differ from one state to another. For the heirs to the estate of Bobby Fischer (and I gather he left a widow and child in Japan), the copyright to this book is a valuable asset that they can hardly afford not to exploit. And the world is waiting for the authorised corrected algebraic edition of this book.

Whichever publisher takes the job on would have to outlay quite a lot of money but could expect a good return in the long run. They would need an experienced and reputable chess editor to do the job properly and in a few months yours truly might be available to do so, for a suitably gigantic fee. (But I am not sure it would be worth the flak!)

The main problem was that the editor or editors and typesetter employed by Batsford for the purpose in 1995 botched the job, introducing errors never in the original. Some of these are serious; others to my mind quite trivial (and were exaggerated by those who wished to have a stick with which to beat the publisher and its chief chess adviser of the time, GM Ray Keene) and of the sort to which some say only pedants would take exception, although the need to change Fischer's text at all can be questioned.

The chief Batsford editor of the time, Graham Burgess, defended Batsford by saying that 'it is standard in the typesetting process to make minor adjustments in the wording to improve the appearance of the text on the page in terms of spacing, line breaks, column breaks and page breaks'. That is true, up to a point, especially as diagrams can cause chess typesetting problems, and text that fills one page exactly in descriptive is liable to fall differently in algebraic. However, speaking as somebody who has edited more than a hundred magazines and books, I can tell you that a skilled typesetter dealing with a text where every word must be reproduced exactly (e.g. an academic publisher) has various professional skills that should enable him or her to avoid those problems without changing one syllable.

A few of the changes in the 1995 Batsford edition were quite legitimate corrections of misprints in the original;

for example Yugoslav names usually end in “-ic” with an accent on the ć, which in the Simon and Schuster/ Faber and Faber edition were changed to the Russian style “-ich” ending. In my view it is entirely legitimate to fix things like that so that people’s names appear in the form they use themselves. On the other hand, several changes were indeed major distortions.

In an article for **Chess** magazine (January 1997 pages 45-8), Edward Winter listed many of the over 570 changes he detected had been made by Batsford when ‘algebraicising’ **My Sixty Memorable Games**. (The truly paranoid Fischer then attacked his best defender, Winter, for underestimating the number of errors, as he saw it.) Some of these errors are really stupid and show that not even the most basic proof-reading exercise was done. The page numbers in the Contents table, for example, are those of the original descriptive edition; they were not updated to match the algebraic edition, so they are all wrong!

Winter listed various categories of mistakes and gave examples of each: “Omission of entire notes of Fischer’s” (clearly serious, in my opinion); “Omission of certain words of Fischer’s” (usually a minor misdemeanour); “Additions to Fischer’s words” (a misdemeanour, serious in some cases); “Other changes to Fischer’s phraseology” (the largest category of errors, mostly venial sins); “Inconsistency” (venial); “Mistakes [in the original edition] not corrected” (i.e. Fischer’s own mistakes); and finally ten examples of “Mistakes added by Batsford” (the most serious kind of all, if true).

For what it’s worth, I think at least one of Winter’s corrections is itself wrong; I have been too busy to check them all, though I may do it someday. In that final category, referring to Fischer-Benko, 1959 (note b to Black’s 14th move, page 48 in the Batsford edition) Winter wrote that they made:

“the Russian ‘Udovich’ (also known as ‘Yudovich’) into a non-existent Yugoslav ‘Udović’.”

Possibly the suggestion referred to was by Yudovich (though I doubt if he was ever referred to as ‘Udovich’) but since the game in question was played in Yugoslavia, it is quite possible that the suggested improvement was made by a local player, a Yugoslav international master called Mijo Udovčić (who is in Gaige’s Chess Personalia). So while this is a detail Batsford ought to have checked, it is probably one of the much less serious errors; anyone hoping to produce an error-free edition in future may find it one of the harder ones to sort out.

The most notorious ‘chess’ mistake was in the game Fischer-Bolbochan, 1962, (page 135) where Batsford thought Fischer had overlooked a mate in four, and so changed one of his notes. Their editors Nunn and Burgess overlooked that Black’s second move in their variation was check, thus refuting their ‘combination’.

Winter’s article concluded by asking: where is the publishing house that Fischer could trust to do a new edition that would make no changes unauthorised by him. Perhaps the real question is: knowing what Fischer was like, what publishing house would have been crazy enough to offer to do it; but now he is dead, it is a possible the job could be done, especially if his heirs need the money. The final irony, of course, is that the individuals most responsible for the mistakes became the directors of a rival publishing house, while the firm whose reputation they damaged received all the odium and soon went bankrupt.

**I speak not to disprove what Brutus spoke,
But here I am to speak what I do know.**

In 1970 Fischer came back, and with unusual humility he allowed Larsen to take top board for the Rest of the World against the USSR in the Belgrade ‘match of the century’. Thus he avoided Spassky, whom he had never beaten, and administered a 3-1 thrashing to Petrosian. The Palma interzonal of 1970, in which Fischer only had a place because Benko gave up one of the American nominations in his favour (a most generous gesture and amends for Curacao), became a procession: 18½ out of 23. Larsen beat Fischer but still finished three and a half points adrift in second place. Then came the Candidates massacres of 1971. Larsen and Taimanov downed by 6-0 and Petrosian humbled too, although

he did win one game.

In 1972 the Reykjavik saga is too well known to need repeating in detail; despite giving odds of the draw (because Spassky would keep his title if it ended 12-12), then blundering a bishop in game one and conceding game two unplayed, Fischer ultimately won in a canter. In his [book](#) on Fischer, Kasparov argues plausibly that it was precisely at this point, when Fischer demanded to play game three in a closed room without cameras, and this was conceded, that Spassky lost the psychological battle. He could have gone home and remained world champion but he felt the need to prove himself better than Fischer, because in his heart he doubted this, although at that point Fischer had never beaten the Russian. Fischer won that third game and even more crucially Spassky missed a win in Game Four. Then Fischer took the lead with Game Six.

R. J. Fischer - Boris Spassky

Reykjavik (6), 1972

Queen's Gambit Declined (D59)

**1 c4 e6 2 Nf3 d5 3 d4 Nf6 4 Nc3 Be7 5 Bg5 0-0 6 e3 h6
7 Bh4 b6 8 cxd5 Nxd5 9 Bxe7 Qxe7 10 Nxd5 exd5 11
Rc1 Be6 12 Qa4 c5 13 Qa3 Rc8 14 Bb5!? a6**

The pawn offer 14...Qb7! was suggested afterwards by Averbakh and soon caused White's last move to be abandoned.

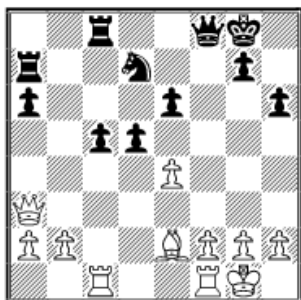
15 dxc5 bxc5 16 0-0 Ra7 17 Be2 Nd7

Spassky apparently thought this up at the board; he varies at last from the game Furman-Geller, Moscow 1970.

18 Nd4! Qf8?!

18...Nf6 is correct, according to Kasparov.

19 Nxe6 fxe6 20 e4!



The classic formula, to open the position with bishop against knight, although it concedes a passed pawn. Spassky now made the fatal error.

20...d4?

20...c4 21 Qh3 Rc6 is defensible, says Kasparov.

21 f4 Qe7 22 e5 Rb8

Kasparov analyses the critical alternative 22...Nb6 in detail. He refutes some published analysis and suggests 23 Qd3! would be a good way to keep winning chances. For the full analysis to this game, see volume four of his [My Great Predecessors](#).

23 Bc4 Kh8 24 Qh3! Nf8 25 b3 a5



For Fischer, the rest is straightforward.

**26 f5! exf5 27 Rxf5
Nh7 28 Rcf1 Qd8 29
Qg3 Re7 30 h4 Rbb7
31 e6! Rbc7 32 Qe5
Qe8 33 a4 Qd8 34
R1f2 Qe8 35 R2f3 Qd8
36 Bd3**

36 Rf7 is even stronger, as Kasparov says, and could have been played also at move 34 or move 37, but White still has complete control with his chosen method of exploitation.

36...Qe8 37 Qe4 Nf6

37...Rxe6 of course gets mated by 38 Rf8+ Nxf8 (38...Qxf8 39 Qxh7#) 39 Rxf8+ etc.

38 Rxf6 gxf6 39 Rxf6 Kg8 40 Bc4 Kh8 41 Qf4 1–0

The interest created by this match and Fischer's success in it did more than anything else to popularise chess in the West in the latter half of the twentieth century; indeed no single event ever had such impact on the chess world. After Reykjavik, Fischer never played a FIDE-rated game again. I said in a recent column that he was stripped of his title in 1975 and a reader pointed out that he actually resigned before that could happen; a fair point, but it's only a minor technicality.

To those who tell me that Karpov would have beaten Fischer in 1975, I have no particular argument to offer except a blunt denial. In 1975 Fischer had not played for three years and his mental breakdown was perhaps under way, chiefly as the result of achieving his ambition and being unsure what to do next. So he was 'over the hill' but much higher up the slope than the still ascending Karpov, whose physical frailty if nothing else would have prevented him lasting the course if Fischer had agreed to play under the rules FIDE proposed, of first to win six games. In the 1974 Candidates final, restricted to 24 games, Karpov took a 3-0 lead but then Korchnoi pegged two games back and if they had been playing under the rules for the 1975 title match, Korchnoi would probably have been the one due to face Fischer. Had Fischer been able to get into training, as he did for the 1972 match, motivated by the desire to beat the "commies" again, Karpov would probably not have been ready for him.

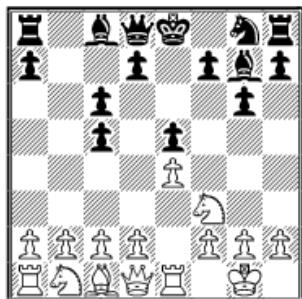
**You all did love him once, not without cause:
What cause withholds you then to mourn for him?**

The "illegal" 1992 comeback match with Spassky was played under the rules Fischer had wanted in 1975: a gruelling contest for the first to win ten games, which Fischer ultimately won 10-5 although Spassky had a brief lead at an early stage. It is generally accepted that this was not a world championship quality match, but Fischer did play one fine attacking game, with which we shall close. It is rumoured that in later years he sometimes played on the Internet under pseudonyms (of course) and the proof is that he was crushing grandmasters with openings like 1 Nh3, but will we ever know the truth?

R. J. Fischer – Boris Spassky

Sveti Stefan (11) 1992
Sicilian Defence [B31]

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 g6 4 Bxc6 bxc6 5 0–0 Bg7 6 Re1 e5



7 b4!?

A novelty at the time.

7...cxb4 8 a3 c5

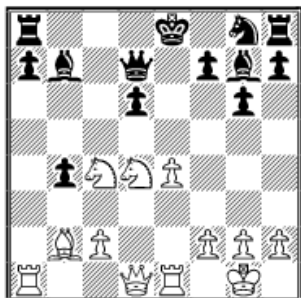
8...bxa3 could be met by either 9 Bxa3 or 9 Nxa3!?. If 8...b3 9 Bb2! d6 10 d4!.

9 axb4 cxb4 10 d4 exd4 11 Bb2 d6 12

Nxd4! Qd7?!

Now Black will find it hard to develop his knight and castle.

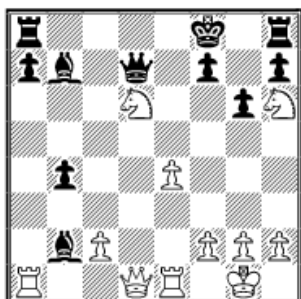
13 Nd2 Bb7 14 Nc4



**14...Nh6 15 Nf5! Bxb2
16 Ncxd6+ Kf8**

Or 16...Kd8 17 Nxh6!
Bxa1 18 Qxa1±.

17 Nxh6



17...f6

A pretty variation was
17...Bxa1 18 Qxa1 Qxd6!?
19 Qxh8+ Ke7 20 Qxh7
Rf8 21 Qg7 Qd2 22
Qa1! Qxh6 23 Qxa7 and wins.

**18 Ndf7! Qxd1 19
Raxd1 Ke7 20 Nxh8 Rxh8**

Despite the advantage of the exchange, White's task appears tricky because the two bishops could be strong and Black has a passed pawn. Fischer however finds a way to preserve his initiative.

21 Nf5+! gxf5

In effect this exchanges bishop for knight, but if 21...Ke6 22 Rd6 + Ke5 23 Rd7 Bc6 24 Re7+ Kf4 25 Ne3 and the black king is in mortal danger.

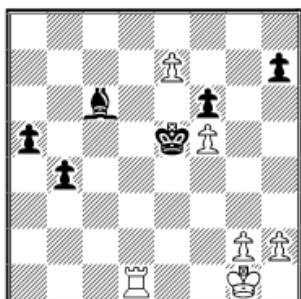
22 exf5+ Be5 23 f4 Rc8 24 fxe5 Rxc2 25 e6

White's task is easier now he has a strong passed pawn. It doesn't matter that Black can take the g-pawn with check.

25...Bc6 26 Rc1! Rxc1

If 26...b3 27 Rxc2 bxc2 28 Rc1 Be4 29 g4 h5 30 h3 hxg4 31 hxg4 threatening Kf2-e3, and if 31...Bf3 32 Rxc2 Bxg4 33 Rc5+—.

27 Rxc1 Kd6 28 Rd1+ Ke5 29 e7 a5



30 Rc1!

Good technique.
Fischer avoids the trap
30 e8Q+? Bxe8 31 Re1+
Kd4 32 Rxe8 b3 33 Rb8
Kc3 34 Rc8+ when Black
can draw.

**30...Bd7 31 Rc5+ Kd4
32 Rxa5 b3 33 Ra7
Be8 34 Rb7 Kc3 35 Kf2
b2 36 Ke3 Bf7**

If 36...h5 37 Rb8 Bd7 (37...Kc2 38 Rxe8 b1Q 39 Rc8+ Kd1 40 e8Q) 38 e8Q Bxe8 39 Rxe8 b1Q 40 Rc8+ wins.

**37 g4! Kc2 38 Kd4 b1Q 39 Rxb1 Kxb1 40 Kc5 Kc2 41 Kd6
1-0**

Black resigns for if 41...Kd3 42 Kd7 Ke4 43 e8Q+ Bxe8+ 44 Kxe8 Kf4 45 Kf7 Kg5 46 Ke6 wins the king and pawn ending.

**O judgement! thou art fled to brutish beasts,
And men have lost their reason....
Bear with me; My heart is in the coffin there with Fischer,
And I must pause till it come back to me.**



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