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Games

(01) Brkic,A (2580) - Stanojoski,Z (2417) [B38]
19th European Teams Warsaw POL (1),
08.11.2013 [IM Sitnikov, A]
5.c4 White chooses Maroczy option, where
black often has to defend slightly worse
position because of white superiority in
space... 5...Bg7 6.Be3 Nf6 7.Nc3 d6
8.Be2 0-0 9.0-0 Bd7 10.Nc2!?

Very logical continuation. Black has con-
strained position, so white tries to keep
more pieces in game. [The main, well-
Bc6 Earlier everybody here automatically
defended the e4-pawn by f2-f3, but re-
cently gaining popularity continue 12.Qd3!? Nd7 13.B:g7 Kg7 14.b4 white has a clear
advantage on queenside and in the center] 10...a5?! Black chose risky and aggressive
plan: trying to regain space on queenside,
but irreparably weakened point b5, where
in the near future send hooves one of the
white knights. 11.Na3 a4 12.f4 [Also well
here 12.f3! defending central pawn and
preparing jump of the knight on d5. After
rash movement pawn "a" in the black camp
became vulnerable not only field b5 but al-
so b6... 12...Qa5 13.Nd5±] 12...Qa5

13.c5? Such drastic actions white was no
need. The fact that Maroczy system is
aimed at stifling enemy, depriving him of all
sorts of counterplay. Black there need any
complications, like air. Also in this case
many variants are in favor for black. [In
case of relaxing 13.Rc1 not seen any ac-
tive game for black. Has to stay and "wait":
13...Rfd8 (13...Qb4 14.Nab5 Rfc8 15.h3
Na5 16.e5) 14.Nab5 Rac8 (14...a3
15.b:a3) 15.Bf3 a3 16.b:a3 (also good
16.b3 Nb4 17.Qe2 Bc6 18.e5 d:e5 19.f:e5
16...Be6 17.Nd5 Nd7 13...Qb4 [Worthy
alternative – tactical strike 13...Ng4! 14.B:g4 B:g4 15.Q:g4 B:c3 16.b:c3
(16.Qe2 Bg7 17.c:d6 e:d6 18.Nb5 a3
19.N:a3 Qb4!) 16...Q:c3 this whole thing –
black regains piece and has a slight ad-
antage! 17.Qe2 Q:a3 18.c:d6 Q:d6]
14.Nc2 [It is difficult to assess the position
some material, but black's pieces are very
active] 14...Q:b2 15.Bd2?

28...Nd4? Black transfers game into rook ending – in vain! It's too large drawing tendencies of these endgames. Healthy extra pawn often is not enough to succeed. [Black should go for pawn "a" undeterred loss knight: 28...Ra2 29.R:e2 R:e2+ 30.K:e2 R:a3 31.Nd4 Ra1 32.Nc2 Rh1! 33.h3 Rg1 34.Kf2 Rb1 35.Ke2 Rb3 36.Nd4 Rg3 – black, achieving field weakening g3, shattered white defense] 29.R:e8 N:f3 30.K:f3 R:d2 31.Re7+ Kh6 32.R:b7 Now black go for the a3 pawn, but he has to leave the pawn d6. Intrigue of endgame is will the black ruler get into the white camp through the point h5 and disturb enemy infantry? 32...Rd3+

33.Ke4? Blunder. White king in his old age
rushed somewhere, leaving adrift of his loyal soldiers! [Of course it was necessary to keep closely to own: 33.Ke2 R:a3 34.Rd7 Ra2+ 35.Kf3 f5 (35...Rd2 36.Ra7 Rd4 37.g4 g5 38.f5 Rf4+ 39.Kg3 Rb4=) 36.Rd6 Kh5 37.Rd7 h6 38.h3 Ra3+ 39.Kf2 Rb3 40.Ra7 a3 41.g3 g5 42.Ra5 Rb2+ 43.Kf3 a2 44.fg5 h:g5 45.Ra6 g4+ 46.h:g4+ 47.Kf4 Rf4+ 48.Ke3 Rf3+ 49.Ke2 R:g3 50.Kf2!=] 33...R:a3 34.g4 Ra1 35.h4 a3??

Big blunder. [Simple intermediate check destroying white design: 35...f5+ 36.g:f5 a3+!] 36.Kf3?? [Elementary 36.g5+ Kh5 37.Kf3 , weaving a checkmate "box" around the black king, led to an inevitable draw! Black must check by rook on the first line. Really white wanted to make g4–g5 with all the comforts?] 36...g5! No chance in this game will be presented for white. 37.fg5+ fg5 38.Kg2 a2 39.Ra7 gh4 40.Ra5 d5 41.g5+ Kg6 0–1

(02) Solak,D (2618) - Grischuk,A (2785) [B30]
19th European Teams Warsaw POL (2), 09.11.2013
[IM Sitnikov, A]

[The main continuation here is 6.Qe2 Ng6 7.h4 Qc7 8.h5 Nf4 9.Qd2 e5 10.Qc3 Ng2+ 11.Kf1 Nf4 12.Bf4 e:f4 13.h6 Rg8 14.e5 Ba6 15.Nbd2 0–0 16.Rg1 идёт 16...g6 with further d7–d6, c5–c4 black pieces received the necessary freedom of movement, position equalized / Leitao, R (2598) – Amura, C (2372) / American Continental 3rd 2005] 6...Qc7 7.h5 e5N In any case, without fixing the center black can not do. 8.Nbd2 f6 9.Nh4 g5 10.Nhf3 d6 11.Nf1 h6 12.Ne3 f5 13.g4!? Interesting idea blockade moving pawns...

13...f:g4 14.Nh2 Bg7 15.Ne:g4 0–0 16.Be3 Be6 17.Qd2 Kh8 18.0–0–0
18...Ng8? By itself, the move still does not spoil anything, but it is the first link of wrong plan. Instead, it looked good a7–a5 followed by redeployment queen to b4. It may be noted that in this case the initiative completely on the black side. 19.c4 Qe7 20.Qe2 d5?! So, implemented coveted jab in the centre. But in the end? Only themselves headache – both pawns e5 and c5 are irreparably weakened. 21.Bd2

21...d:c4?! Black doesn't realize his mistake, under hypnosis of notorious bishops pair, and goes for open play. But who can really expect to succeed when on hospital beds g7 and g8 vegetate two shell-shocked soldiers? 22.d:c4 Qf7 23.Bc3 B:c4 24.Qe3 Rae8 25.b3 Bb5 26.Rd6

[Deserves attention 33.Rd2 B:f3 34.N:f3 Q:g4 35.N:e5 B:e5 36.B:e5+ Kh7 37.Q:a7+ Re7 38.Qc5 – through pieces activity one white passed pawn is stronger than two black ones] 33...Nf6?? After this blunder
white wins "anyway". [After a good 33...Rf7 34.R:g7 K:g7 35.N:e5 Nf6 36.N:f7 K:f7 37.Q:a7+ Re7 38.Q:d4 Q:d4 39.B:d4 Nd5 better chances on black side, because the knight on h2 hardly satisfied with his lot] 34.N:e5 After 34. Qa7 black could immediately resign... 34...Kh7?! 35.Nhg4 B:f3 36.R:g7+ K:g7 37.Q:a7+ \text{1–0}

(03) Mamedyarov,S (2757) - Topalov,V (2774) [D31] 19th European Teams Warsaw POL (2), 09.11.2013


16.g3 [White can give up this miserable pawn: 16.0–0 Q:h4 17.d5 c:d5 18.N:d5 Ne5 19.Nf4 Qg5 20.Rfd1 - material soon to be played out, and possession of open lines give white at least an equal chance] 16...Nf6 17.a4 a6 18.Na2 Rfc8

19.0–0?! Guileless castling becomes a significant inaccuracy, which at such a high level can lead to irreversible consequences... [It was necessary first to put pressure on black's weaknesses, such as 19.Nb4 Qd7 20.a:b5 a:b5 21.0–0 Bf5 22.Rc5 Bg4 23.B:g4 Q:g4 24.N:c6 Qh3 25.Rfc1! R:c6 26.R:c6 Ng4 27.Rc8+ Kh7 28.Q:f7 - perfect union of attack and protection puts the opponent on the shoulder] 19...Bf5 20.Nb4
Perhaps coming distance to this position, Mamedyarov outlined the fixing flank a4–a5, but only now noticed reply Be6–c4, exchanging bishops and revealing black pieces straight to the white monarch. However, the same scenario awaits us in the game. 22.a:b5 a:b5 23.Qc3 Bc4! 24.B:c4 b:c4 25.Kg2 Rcb8 Threatens Ra4, and again white has no choice. 26.Ra1 R:a1 27.R:a1 Nd5 28.N:d5 c:d5

The situation cleared up. Further plans are based on the classic principle of two weaknesses. Pressure along line "b" and the light-squared domination on other side (with the possibility of activating the king)

make white's position hopeless. 29.Qd2 Qg4 30.Re1 Qf3+ 31.Kh2 Kh7 32.Qe2 Kg6 Here, at the material equivalent, white conceded defeat. Not premature, because it is impossible to oppose anything to victorious march of the black king. 0-1


Home "bomb" – found a short way for rook activation. [Used previously 13.Be2 looks sluggish and can not meet the ambitious leader of the white army] 13...Nd7 14.Rb1 Bc6 15.Rh3 g6?! In such situations, concrete action is needed. Move in the game does not correspond to this principle... [The main transit points for the white pieces: f3, e4. Therefore it was necessary to control them by 15...Nc7! 16.f3 g6 17.Qh6 f6 and black seize the initiative, for example 18.h5 f:g5 19.h:g6 Rg8 20.B:g5 Qf8 21.Q:h7 Rg7 22.Bh6 R:h7 23.g:h7 Qh8 24.Bg7 Q:g7 25.h8Q+ Q:h8 26.R:h8+ Nf8 – two knights here will be stronger than rook] 16.Qe2 f6 17.Ne4
17...f:e5? It seems debut novelty caught black unawares, and the second mistake becomes fatal. [And for good reason, children are taught to castle as soon as possible! After the correct 17...0-0 18.h5 f:e5 19.h:g6 h:g6 20.Bg5 Qg7 21.Bh6 Qe7 22.Bg5 is forced draw by repetition] 18.Bg5 Nf4 19.Qf3 Qf8 20.d:e5


sault... 29...N:c4 30.Rd1+ Bd5

31.R:d5+ e:d5 32.Q:d5+ Ke7 33.Bg5+ Kf8 34.Bh6+ Ke7 35.Bg5+ Kf8 36.Qc5+ Black monarch nowhere to go. Very depressing impression from sleeping heavy-weights on the eighth row... 36...Nd6 37.N:d6 Qb1+ 38.Ke2 Qa2+ 39.Ke3 Qe6 40.Bf6 Rg8 41.Nf5+ Ke8 42.Nd4 Qd7 43.e6

43...Qb7 44.Nb5 1-0

[Often there is immediate exchange in the center: 5.e:d5 Q:d5 6.Bc4 Qd8 7.0–0 Nc6 8.Nb3 и т.д.] 5...Nc6 6.Bb5 Bd7 7.N:c6 B:c6

[To the more complex (primarily for black) play conducts taking by pawn 7...b:c6 8.Bd3 Bd6 9.Qe2 Qc7 (9...Ne7 10.e5 Bc7 11.0–0 0–0 12.Nf3 Ng6 13.c4) 10.Nf3 Ne7 11.e5 Bc5 12.0–0 h6 13.c4 as black here falls into the straits, and his light-squared bishop is clearly inferior to the activity of his white "brother"] 8.B:c6+ b:c6 9.c4 Nf6 10.Qa4 Qc7

11.c:d5! [Like the white of such way: 11.e:d5!? e:d5 12.0–0 Be7 13.b3 0–0 14.Bb2 maintaining tension and slowly with the exchange on d5, not to intensify the enemy knight and not to simplify his task... Чёрным приходится часто ей бороться против центра 14...Rab8 (14...Rac8 15.Rac1 Qb7 16.Rfd1 Rfd8 17.Nf1!? Ne4 18.c:d5 c:d5 19.R:c8 Q:c8 20.Ne3 Bc5 21.Bd4 B:d4 22.Q:d4 Nc3 23.Rd2) 15.c:d5 N:d5 16.Nf3 Rb4 17.Qa6, and white has a small but sustainable advantage through c6 pawn]

15.Bd2 Here bishop is more passive than b2... 15...Qb6 16.Qc2 f5 17.Nc3 f4 18.Rae1 Bf6 19.Re6 B:c3 20.b:c3 f3 21.g3 Qd8 [Queen wants to get to the field h3! But who let queen go?] 22.Rfe1 [More precisely, it seems to me, 22.c4! once and for all expelling the black knight]
from important outpost d5: 22...Nc7 23.Re4 Qd7 24.Rh4 Qf5 (24...h6 25.Bc3! Ne6 26.Qg6 Rf7 27.Re1 Nf8 28.Qe4±) 25.Q:f5 R:f5 26.Rd4 and despite the apparent equality, a white bishop is clearly stronger than knight ongoing endgame] 22...Nc7 [22...Qd7 faces a multi-faceted move 23.Qd3 it is unclear how black to attack, and exchanges only bring him closer to the hard endgame] 23.Re7 Nd5 24.R7e6 Nc7 25.R6e4!? White is not going to repeat the moves. Courageous decision, but dangerous, because white has not set a pawn on c4 – and field d5, as a staging for the black pieces, will play a fatal role in the game... 25...Qd7 26.Rh4 h6! No exchange queens! 27.h3 [27.c4 Ne6 28.Be3 Rad8 29.h3 Rf8 30.Kh2=] 27...Rae8 28.R:e8 R:e8 29.Be3 [29.B:h6 g:h6 30.Qg6+ Qg7 31.Q:c6 Re1+ 32.Kh2 Re6 33.Q:f3 Rf6 34.Rf4=} 29...Nd5 30.Bd4?? A desperate attempt to counter-attack. What else to do? Had to leave own king in trouble... 34...Rh1+ It is clear that black wins here "anyway". He even calculated a long option winning the queen! Instead, there was fantastic checkmate in 2 moves: [34...Q:h3+!! 35.R:h3 Ng4#] 35.K:h1 Qd1+ 36.Kh2 Nf1+ 37.Kh1 Ng3+ 38.Kh2 Qh1+ 39.K:g3 Qg2+ 40.Kf4 Qh2+ 41.K:f3 Qb8 0–1

(06) Salgado Lopez, I (2610) - Balogh, C (2630) [D15]
19th European Teams Warsaw POL (3), 10.11.2013
[IM Sitnikov, A]
1.c4 Nf6 2.Nf3 c6 3.Nc3 d5 4.e3 a6 5.d4
After some "tricks" rivals have come on territory of Chebanenko option in Slavic defense, very popular recently, thanks to their reliability and durability... 5...b5 6.c5

[Position was still suitable for life, and after 30.Qd3 Qe7 31.Bd4 Qe2 32.Qb1 c5 33.B:c5 N:c3 34.Qb4! Rd8 35.Kh2 white kept the dynamic balance] 30...c5! That's all, the bishop in a trap! 31.B:g7 [The fact that ingenuous 31.B:c5 32.Re1+ 32.Kh2 Qb5 with the threat of a forced checkmate, besides quite inappropriately the bishop under attack] 31...Re1+ 32.Kh2 Ne3! The shortest way to the goal! 33.Qb3+ K:g7 34.Qb8
6...g6 Theory says such development most appropriate in this position. [At first glance, the most logical in this position would bring bishop: 6...Bg4 but the same "Mrs. Theory" promises white indisputable advantage after a violent maneuver 7.Qb3 Nbd7 8.a4 e5 9.Qa3 White obtains certain benefits: black or forced to give up the line "a" or sacrifice a pawn: 9...b4 10.Q:b4 Rb8 11.Qa3 a5 12.Nd2 g6 13.h3 Bf5 14.Be2 Bg7 but I don't share the optimism of analysts concerning the position of white. His Queen is on the outskirts of the city, the knights have no reference point. In my opinion, black has full compensation for the pawn] 7.Ne5 Bg7 8.Be2 [More active 8.f4 encountered in a theoretically important game Caruana–Giri, 2012, black in the opening has a good balance of forces: 8...a5 9.Be2 Qc7 10.0-0 h5! 11.h3 Bf5 12.Bd2 Nbd7 e4 under the control of black and white only active piece – knight e5 – will be exchanged soon] 8...0-0 9.0-0 Nfd7?! Artsy maneuver. Knight on d7 takes bread from his "colleague" who is forced to stand idle at home (on b8). It was logical to protect c6–pawn by queen, and then exit other knight on d7. 10.f4 N:e5 11.f:e5 f6


[It would be inaccurate 14...e6?! 15.Be3
Bb7 where after consolidating black starts eating: pawn e5 ready to dinner. But in this option black embarrass quite pitiable position of the bishop on b7.] 15.Q:d4 Nd7 16.Bd1?! Is too slow. White has not so good position for a relaxing maneuvering on the first horizontal. [Better 16.Be3 N:e5 17.Rf1 Qe8 18.Qd2 Bg4 but here the advantage on the black side – thanks largely to excellent knight location on e5.]


To all the woes of white added "deserters" a4 and a2. Army Commander even went to g1, to cover king! Wins for black virtually any smart move. Looks good, for example, the approach of queen – Qg3! But black choose the combination way: 31...B:h3! 32.Qh2 [After 32.g:h3 Q:e4+! 33.Qg2 Rf3 34.Be6 g5 the inevitable g5–g4 and the emergence of black rook on h3 – white, despite the extra knight, can only resign] 32...Q:h2+ 33.K:h2 Bg4 34.Rd3 Rf1 35.g3 Bf3 0–1

Black has achieved the benefits of two bishops, especially strong dark–squared one, deprived opponent. Besides, the white c5 pawn is weak. Reached a stage of advantage implementation. 21.Rf1 Qe5! [Second relaxed – the enemy on fun: 21...Qd4?? 22.Rf8+ , black loses Queen and checkmated!] 22.h3 a5! 23.Rd1 Ba6 That's the second bishop attached. Black steadily increasing pressure on both flanks. White can not create a threat to the black monarch. They are forced to "mark time" on the ground and wait for visit "black landing". 24.a3 Rf8 25.Kh1 h5! 26.Bc2 Kh7 27.Bb1 Bc8 28.Ba2 Bh6 29.Qg1 b4 30.a:b4 a:b4 31.Na4

And now a little about sad things. Many chess battles at the highest level are now in a similar scenario: the opening is a rivalry teams and home computer analyzes. Global revaluation of opening variations and significant strengthening of old steel samples relative rarity. Basically now little strengthening appear in the opening – small refinements, leading eventually the beginning of the game – passing the middlegame – straight to the endgame, often also about equal. That's where the real game begins! With continuous study of debut books, professional chess player sometimes isn't able to solve even the simplest problems: for example, to save slightly worse rook endgame! On this sad
occasion tells the game presented below.
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.c:d5 N:d5
5.e4 N:c3 6.b:c3 Bg7 7.Nf3 c5 8.Rb1 0-0
12.0–0 Bg4

In front of us set theoretical discussion in
Gruenfeld. As we know, in all lines black
confidently keeps balance! 13.Be3 Nc6
17.h3 Bd7! Right, to save the bishop. However, all this has long been known.
23.Rd1 central white pawn can put oppo-
nent into trouble] 19.d6 a5

Perhaps here is out of analyzes of both
players, and independent game begins!
Both sides have achieved what they want-
ed: white – position with an extra pawn
without any risk of losing and opportunity to
rack the enemy for at least 100 moves;
black, in turn, is expected to gently equal-
ize and make draw. Let's see who is more
successful in carrying out his task. 29.Qd2
Qb6+ 30.Kh1 Rd8 31.Qg5 Kg7 32.h4 Qf6
33.Q:f6+ K:f6

Queens disappeared from the board, and
we see a hundred times painted in manu–
als draw endgame! But the game continued – it is necessary to check the opponent! 34.Rc1 h5 35.Kh2 Rd2 36.Kg3 Ke6 37.Rf1 Ra2 38.Rf2 Ra1 39.Kf4 Kf6 40.Rd2 Ra5 41.Rd7 Ra2 42.g3 Ra3 43.Rb7 Kg7 44.Rb6 Rc3 45.Ra6 Rb3 46.Ra5 Rc3 47.Rg5 Ra3 48.Rd5 Rb3 49.g4 h:g4 50.K:g4 Kf6 51.h5 g:h5+ 52.R:h5

Here is second inattention! Or simple ignorance. How many times in articles and books considered tragicomic game Capablanca vs Menchik where errors of world champions followed one after another... Just in case, let me remind that both 65...Rb8! ; and 65...Kh6! 66.Re2 Ra7+ 67.Re7 Ra8 68.Rd7 Kh7 led to a simple draw... 66.Kf8! Now white is easy to promote his passed into queen! 66...Ra8+ 67.Re8 Ra6 68.f7 Ra7 69.Re1 Ra8+ 70.Ke7 Ra7+ 71.Kf6 Ra6+ 72.Re6 Ra8 73.Re8 Ra6+ 74.Ke5 1-0

(08) Gunina,V (2509) - Lagno,K (2542) [D85]
19th European Teams Women Warsaw POL (9), 17.11.2013
[IM Sitnikov, A]
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.c:d5 N:d5 5.Bd2 Nb6 6.e3 Bg7 7.f4
A recent novelty – the first time played by Peter Svidler against Boris Gelfand this spring. We must play tribute to the ingenuity of Boris who was able to understand the situation and passed the test well. Subsequent practice also didn't reveal a significant advantage for white. Of the six games only one victory by Vitaliy Bernadskiy – he sent the horse to e4–f2 and attacked the opponent at the appropriate time... 7...c5N
But this sudden attempt to "get the horns" is hardly commendable. However, at this moment the Ukraine team has already
been guaranteed the gold medals, so Katerina Lagno allows herself such liberties. 8.d:c5 N6d7 9.Ne4 Could even play on material keeping by Na4 or b2–b4, as a direct refutation is not visible... 9...B:b2 10.Rb1 Bg7 11.Nf3 0–0 12.Bc4 Qc7 13.Qb3 e6


18...f6?! Black expected to finally drop the enemy pieces, but didn’t notice response tactical shot. [Better was 18...B:c3 19.N:c3 Qd8 – for a pawn white has obvious initiative, but there is still a long struggle] 19.N:f6+ B:f6 20.B:f6 R:f6 21.Rbd1 Qf5 22.e4

(09) Vishnu,P (2505) - Popov,I (2652) [D85]
Chennai Grand Master International Open Nehru Stadium, Chennai (8), 20.11.2013
[IM Sitnikov, A]
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.c:d5 N:d5
5.e4 N:c3 6.b:c3 Bg7 7.Qa4+ Qd7 8.Qa3
Only black bishop gone to g7, the white Queen occupies a convenient field on the edge of the board. Here she performs several functions: temporarily difficult opponent undermining c7-c5, binds enemy pieces to pawns a7 and e7, covers weak pawns a2 and c3. Let's see how the rest of the comrades will support such an employment initiative...
8...b6 9.Nf3 Bb7
10.Bd3 0–0 11.0–0 c5


(10) Anand, V (2775) - Carlsen, M (2870) [E25]

World Ch Chennai (9), 21.11.2013
[IM Sitnikov, A]

Let’s see a fantastic battle of the world championship match, which had a huge sporting value! 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3

The game is "race"! Black is noticeably succeeded! He is only to protect the rook a8 and "push" b5-b4. 15.g5 [Looks tempting 15.e4 but after 15...d:e4 16.Bg5 h6 17.B:f6 Q:f6 18.f:e4 Qb6 black has excellent counterplay, clearly ahead of the opponent] 15...Ne8 16.e4 N:c1 Hurry in this exchanging black easier opponent play. In this case, the knight b3 is more important piece than the bishop c1 : [16...Nc7 17.Be3 Ra6 18.Qe1 b4 19.c:b4 Qe7!? 17.Q:c1 Ra6 18.e5 Nc7 Fearless move! Black "plays with tiger", allowing the opponent to advance infantryman 'f' as far as possible! [Black had worthy alternatives: 18...b4!? 19.a:b4 a:b4 20.R:a6 B:a6 21.c:b4 Qb6 22.Qc3 Nc7 23.f4 Rb8; and 18...g6!? 19.f4 Ng7 20.Rb2 Rb6 21.Qb1 Qd7 22.f5 N:f5 23.Bh3 Qe7 24.B:f5 B:f5 25.N:f5 g:f5 in both cases black has no problems] 19.f4 b4

Three white pawns on the fifth row – the terrible phenomenon, so black "pulled out of the sleeve" his trump card and advanced, protected passed pawn! 23.Qf4 Anand thought for a long time and decided to bring the queen closer to future events. But it wasn't necessary. Pawn b3 now cracked open the road to a fantastic career! [In my opinion, there was more strong to send another pawn 'h' to the fifth row: 23.h4!? Nc7 24.h5 Here black easily frightened armada and mistake, practically no counterplay. This was a good practical chance for Anand... 24...g6!? 25.f:g6 h:g6 26.Rf6 with unclear play] 23...Nc7 24.f6 g6 25.Qh4 Ne8 Strictly only move! [Neglect 25...Be6?? 26.Qh6 Ne8 27.Rf4 met severe punishment: black received checkmate] 26.Qh6 [Many commentators have pointed out that 26.Ne2 gave white advantage. This is not entirely true. Thanks b3 pawn black has counterplay enough for a draw, but the practical chances there were a lot for white... 26...Be6 27.Nf4 Qa5 28.Bh3 B:h3 29.Q:h3 b2 30.e6 Nd6 31.N:g6 h:g6 32.Qh6 Nf5 33.R:f5 b1Q+ 34.Rf1 Q:f1+ 35.K:f1 Qa1+ 36.Kg2 Qb2+ 37.Kg1=] 26...b2

22...b3!
And again, the only sequel! Black went on the edge! 27.Rf4 White allows the enemy to freely promote the queen, even with check! I do not know whether that occurred earlier in the world championships? 27...b1Q+ 28.Nf1?? A terrible blunder! Champion calculated a long effective option, but didn’t notice the knockout denial at the first move! [Close by bishop, Anand could count on salvation in this puzzling game: 28.Bf1 Qd1 29.Rh4 Qh5 30.N:h5 g:h5 31.R:h5 Bf5 32.g6! B:g6 33.Rg5! N:f6 34.e:f6 Q:f6 35.R:d5 Qf3 36.Rc5 Q:c3 37.R:c4=] 28...Qe1! [But not 28...Qd1? 29.Rh4 Qh5 30.R:h5 g:h5 31.Ne3 Be6 32.B:d5 B:d5 33.Nf5 – this option calculated ed Anand!] 0-1

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