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The Life & Games of Akiva Rubinstein, Vol. 1: Uncrowned King



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Product description

Akiva Rubinstein occupies a unique position in chess history. One of the greatest artists ever to sit down at a chessboard, Rubinstein was also the strongest player never to get a shot at the title of World Champion.

This book focuses on the years 1882-1920, covering Rubinstein's rise from a modest upbringing to his emergence as Emanuel Lasker's chief challenger in the last years leading up to World War I. It also examines the effects this conflict had on his sensitive psyche and the way it influenced his play in the post-War years.

The most definitive work ever done on the first part of Rubinstein's career, this **revised and expanded edition** of The Life & Games of Akiva Rubinstein, Volume 1: Uncrowned King offers almost 500 games, many of them deeply annotated with notes translated from top players of the pre-World War I era, including Lasker, Tarrasch, Schlechter and Rubinstein.

The authors have also made many new annotations to the games and uncovered quite a bit of interesting material, including recent discoveries on Rubinstein's stay in Sweden after World War I.

The second edition of The Life & Games of Akiva Rubinstein, Volume 1: Uncrowned King is 20 percent larger than its predecessor and with its wealth of crosstables, archival photos, multiple indexes and through bibliography it offers a treasure trove for the Rubinstein fan.

International Master **Nikolay Minev** was three times champion of his native Bulgaria and represented his country six times in Chess Olympiads, several times on top board. An expert on endings, Minev was one of the principal contributors to Chess Informant's mammoth Encyclopedia of Chess Endings series. He served for many years as editor of the Bulgarian national chess magazine Shakhmatna misl and was a regular columnist for Inside Chess for over ten years. Since 1983 Minev has made his home in Seattle.

International Master **John Donaldson** has served nine times as Captain for the US national chess team, most recently at the Olympiad in Turin 2006 where the Americans placed third. The author of more than thirty books covering all aspects of the game, Donaldson also has two Grandmaster norms. He has served since 1998 as the Director of the Mechanics' Institute Chess Club in San Francisco and makes his home across the Bay in Berkeley.

John Watson, The Week in Chess:

"A book that belongs on the shelf of anyone interested in the all-time great players."

Paul Kane, The Compulsive Reader:

"A wonderful tribute to a sophisticated, subtle chess player. A splendid volume of record, deserving full praise and recommendation."

Dr. W. Schweitzer, Rochade Europa:

"A great achievement."

Johannes Fischer, KARL Magazine:

"Also because of the many pictures and the nicely readable lay-out this is a very good book."

British Chess Magazine:

"This is an enlarged second edition (...) and includes a number of newly-discovered games (...) Anyone who failed to get the first edition now have a quite undeserved opportunity to remedy their omission with profit."

Thomas Beherens, Chess-International:

"If you are intersted in chess history, then this book offers quite a lot of reading material on an almost academic level (...) Moreover, it also is a big training book (...) recommended to learn to play real strategic chess."