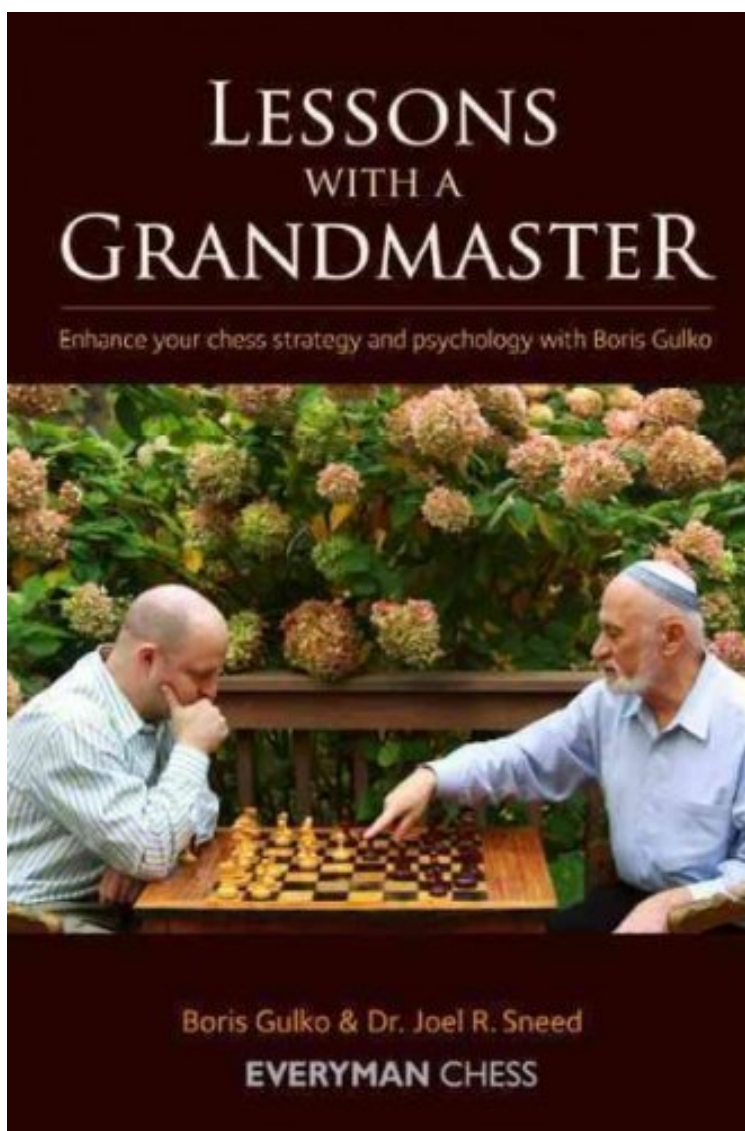


[Mobile book] Lessons with a Grandmaster: Enhance Your Chess Strategy And Psychology With Boris Gulko (Everyman Chess)

Lessons with a Grandmaster: Enhance Your Chess Strategy And Psychology With Boris Gulko (Everyman Chess)

Boris Gulko, Joel Sneed
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Boris Gulko, Joel Sneed : Lessons with a Grandmaster: Enhance Your Chess Strategy And Psychology With Boris Gulko (Everyman Chess) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lessons with a Grandmaster: Enhance Your Chess Strategy And Psychology With Boris Gulko (Everyman Chess):

55 of 55 people found the following review helpful. A Grandmaster's words of wisdom
By J. Ryan
I am really enjoying this unique and instructive book. GM Gulko makes so many pithy and wise statements, that I am writing them down in a notebook as I go through the book. For example, "There are no equal exchanges; each exchange improves or worsens your position." That is the kind of instruction that can really help your thinking during a game. This particular statement will make me evaluate an exchange before making it to make sure it helps my position. I have seen very few chess books which are this heavily directed toward the narrative description of what is going on in the game. Sneed is about a class B player (you can look up his rating history at uschess.org) who has gone up sharply in rating points, which may be a result of his sessions with GM Gulko. It is a nice format to have someone asking about the type of plans that you would see and have a GM tell why that is right or wrong. In so many books the GM analysis doesn't even consider some of the dumb moves we class players think about. There are 25 games in the book which cover many pages each. The format includes a number of diagrams where you are supposed to stop and evaluate the position before moving on. If you put some time into this book, stop and think about your plans and calculate them out, I think you will learn something. I am a USCF rated 2000 player and am getting a lot out of this, so I would recommend it to anyone under 2000.
20 of 20 people found the following review helpful. Gulko's way of thinking is enlightening
By RTFI
I am 2300 rated player and found this book quite beneficial. I originally purchased this book as a recommendation for a student (class A player), but found myself learning much more than I expected. Although Dr. Sneed's questions and analyses are clearly intended to help the strong club player improve, I believe that master level players can also benefit from this book by focusing on Gulko's analyses. The games chosen for inclusion in this book are both complex and nonstandard (Gulko-Shabalov is one of many such examples). The combination of these attributes makes this games collection similar in quality to Dvoretsky's training series. The fact that Dvoretsky includes Gulko's games in his acclaimed 'Positional Play' adds credence to the insights gained by studying Gulko's play.
4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Really enjoyed this book!
By LV
The authors had a very interesting approach to the presentation of material, and is exemplary from the pedagogical perspective. In a sense it is similar to Michel Thomas language courses constructed based on the live interaction of student with a mentor, but I never saw a chess book with a similar way of teaching. The student gives his viewpoint on key positions, so it becomes in a sense a triple exercise of coming up with your own evaluation of that position, correlating it with the student's, and getting a sense of whether he is right or wrong, and then checking out the professional evaluation from the coach. The content is well selected, and made digestible to even the relatively weak, but chess-loving and wanting to improve players. Games with numerous teaching points chosen for the volume, with good explanations of critical points. Most problems (except for a few super-tough ones) are quite doable. Although not a designated endgame book, some interesting endgames analysis were explained in it as well. Very good resource for positional play.

Imagine you are a club player who has been given the opportunity to talk at length with a famous grandmaster. How would you make the most of this opportunity? Club players are unaware of the subtleties that exist in grandmaster chess. Great players can analyse chess at a depth that is unfathomable to amateurs. However, having reached such a high level can make it difficult to understand what is lacking in the mind of the amateur. Lessons with a Grandmaster bridges this gap between grandmaster and amateur through a series of conversations between teacher, the renowned Grandmaster Boris Gulko, and student Dr. Joel R. Sneed, a professor of psychology and amateur chess player. The lessons are based on Gulko's own battles against fellow grandmasters, and there is particular focus on strategy, tactics and the role of psychology in chess competition.
Learn from the chess games of Boris Gulko

This book is an outstanding contribution to instructional chess...This title is destined to be a classic... Lessons with a Grandmaster might just be the finest treatise ever written on the nuances and dynamics of positional play. This is learning at its best. John Warth, ChessCafe.com
About the Author
Boris Gulko is one of the most distinguished grandmasters in the chess world. He's a former Soviet Champion and has also won the US Championship twice since his immigration in 1986, making him the only chess player ever to have held both the American and Soviet championship titles. Dr. Joel R. Sneed is a professor of psychology at Queens College of the City University of New York, and an amateur chess enthusiast and a student of Boris Gulko's.