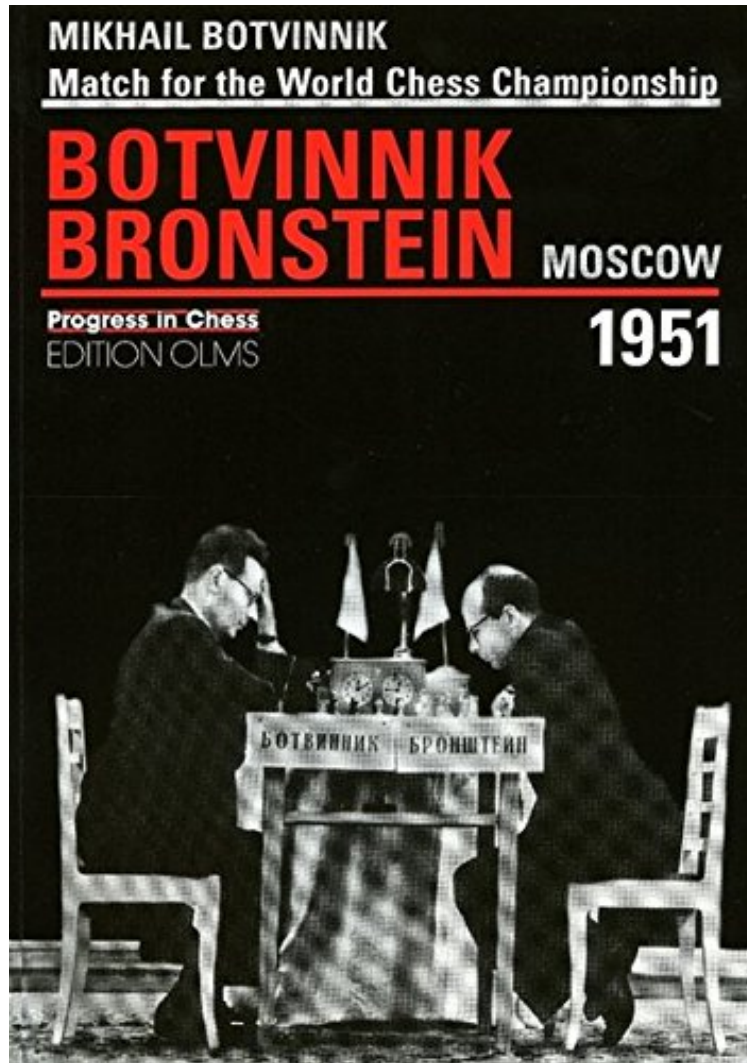


(Mobile book) Botvinnik - Bronstein Moscow 1951: Match for the World Chess Championship

# Botvinnik - Bronstein Moscow 1951: Match for the World Chess Championship

*Mikhail Botvinnik*

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**Mikhail Botvinnik : Botvinnik - Bronstein Moscow 1951: Match for the World Chess Championship** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Botvinnik - Bronstein Moscow 1951: Match for the World Chess Championship:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Robert D. Great game collection! 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful Book By From\_Plano\_TXI enjoy playing through the games and reading the commentary. Botvinnik and Bronstein are giants in the history of chess and this is an interesting match. This book has a wonderful organization. It has a preface by Vladimir Kramnik, a note from the editor (Igor Botvinnik), and a 2 page

assessment of the historical context of the match. After this you begin to see the mind of Mikhail Botvinnik at work. (When I refer to Botvinnik, I mean Mikhail.) There is a 2 page assessment of Bronstein by Botvinnik. Most of the 24 games are annotated by Botvinnik. Each game includes a note at the beginning that Botvinnik wrote for himself before the game, then concludes with a short note by Botvinnik about the game. A couple of games are annotated by Evgeny Sveshnikov. One game is annotated by Salo Flohr. One game is annotated by Pyotr Romanovsky. After the 24 games is an appendix item that has notes Botvinnik wrote in one of his notebooks. The notes are from a variety of other tournaments. They are interesting. Next is an appendix article of notes Botvinnik wrote in preparation for the tournament. Next is an appendix article that is Botvinnik's assessment of the match, organized by chess opening variation. Finally, there is an appendix article of notes by the translator. A lot of thought went into organizing this book. (There is also a match table.) Three cheers for the editor and publisher! 11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Botvinnik: A glimpse into the Champion's mind! By G. A. Dean First, the review by mianfei is about another book on the 1951 World Championship. Golombek wrote many such books published by Hardinge Simpole (the World Chess Championship 1948 by Golombek is another such book and it is very good), but this book is by the World Champion himself. The notes are pure Botvinnik : frank evaluations of the position and the games. Botvinnik was not one to mince words and he is as hard on himself as he is on anyone. However, he is not the only contributor: to fill out the book, other GMs wrote some of the notes, including the 21st game by Evgeny Sveshnikov. The 18th move in Game 21 referenced by mianfei here does get a ?! with the explanation from Sveshnikov that the white bishop was better on e3, operating on two flanks. I am not a strong enough player to evaluate the games, but they are fun to play through. This was a very close battle for the World Championship; the defending champ, Botvinnik had not played for some time (finishing his doctoral thesis), and Bronstein was the new kid on the block. Botvinnik losses the 21st and 22nd games, but wins the 23rd and the 24th is drawn, as is the match. Botvinnik keeps the title because of the draw. Add to the mix that the two players did not care for one another (especially after the match) and the fact that Bronstein was one of the champions of the King's Indian Defense, a style of play that Botvinnik questioned ("a pure sham"), makes this book all the more interesting, although the KID only makes one appearance here. This was before the 1953 Zurich Tournament where the King's Indian had a great coming out party, and many classical players did not think much of the defense. Anyway, this is a fun book to play through and you get a glimpse into the World Champion's mind. Well worth reading and playing through!

Three years after winning the world championship, Mikhail Botvinnik had to defend his title against the challenge of David Bronstein. Though out of practice and largely outplayed by his brilliant young opponent, Botvinnik ably demonstrated his fighting abilities and ultimately retained his title. All 24 games are deeply annotated.