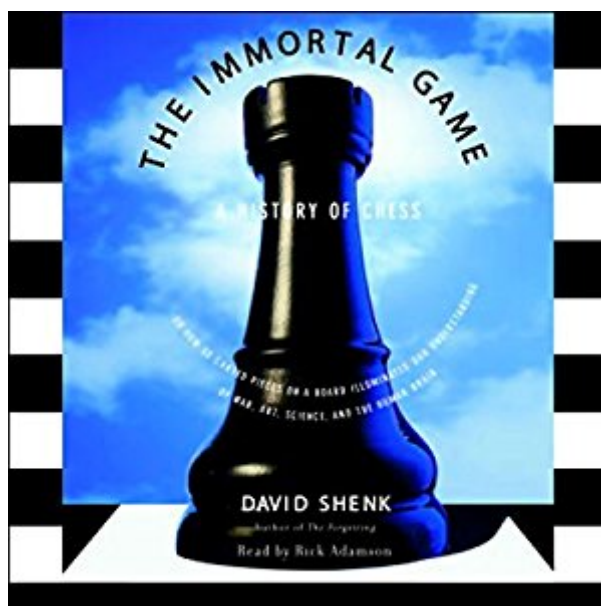


The book was found

The Immortal Game: A History Of Chess



Synopsis

A fresh, engaging look at how 32 carved pieces on a board forever changed our understanding of war, art, science, and the human brain. Chess is the most enduring and universal game in history. Here, bestselling author David Shenk chronicles its intriguing saga, from ancient Persia to medieval Europe to the dens of Benjamin Franklin and Norman Schwarzkopf. Along the way, he examines a single legendary game that took place in London in 1851 between two masters of the time, and relays his own attempts to become as skilled as his Polish ancestor Samuel Rosenthal, a nineteenth-century champion. With its blend of cultural history and Shenk's lively personal narrative, *The Immortal Game* is a compelling guide for novices and aficionados alike.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 6 hours 14 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Abridged

Publisher: Random House Audio

Audible.com Release Date: September 7, 2006

Language: English

ASIN: B000IB0EZM

Best Sellers Rank: #63 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Arts & Entertainment > Games

#111 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > History > World #113 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Puzzles & Games > Chess

Customer Reviews

Does a good job of wrapping entertaining trivia about chess around a well annotated move by move play out of the well known immortal game of Andersen. The majority of early chess - history is from Murray's History of chess. This is not a book about the history of chess play or technique, or about famous chess players per say. There are some interesting background stories about computer chess, chess and psychology and Soviet chess. It was fun to read but I learned less than expected.

I've played chess off and on in my life but never really felt confident about my chess ability. I bought this book to learn more about the history of the game and to try to gain a better understanding of the importance of chess. It surprised me that the book was so well-written and entertaining as I read it. The book gives the history of the game as far as possible and outlines the evolution of the pieces

and rules until the end of the 15th century when chess became what we know it as today. The author does a great job of telling the history of chess factually and with stories about the game in antiquity. After the solidification of chess David Shenk goes on to describe the progression of chess theory in broad strokes and outlines the different chess schools; Romantic, Scientific, and Hypermodern. As a novice, I found the descriptions of this progression to be fascinating. He did a magnificent job conveying the ideas of tactics and strategy as applied to chess games. The book also does a good job describing not only the development of chess in history, but also the development of chess games in terms of opening, middle game, and end game. The entire book contains a thread based on the Immortal Game and gives the moves and structure of that match throughout. It was amazing as a novice to catch the excitement of that game to the point where I couldn't just read the book linearly, I had to jump ahead to see how the game ended! If you have an interest in the history and importance of chess in the world, I highly recommend this book. It was fascinating throughout and makes me want to study chess a bit more seriously in the future.

You do not necessarily need to know how to play. The book is so well written that you can get caught up in the history and stories around this ancient game in spite of yourself! It is woven into world history which is brilliant!

Some parts of this book are hilarious. The history is more detailed than I ever knew. Sometimes it's like reading a telephone book. Doesn't really bother me. We are chess players anyway right?

What a pleasant surprise this book is. I read it through 2x and plan to read it annually. It covers history of the game. It covers a key (fascinating) game and is loaded with chess wisdom. If you like the game, this book may make you a raving nut for the game. If you don't play you'll wonder why it took you so long to discover the game! Wonderful.

Outstanding book and you need not be a chess player. A fascinating look into not only what chess players call "The Immortal Game" (this is a specific game that was played in the 19th century). The history of chess is here in a very readable text. Great Book!!!

Very informative and easy to read. You don't even have to be a chess player to enjoy this book. Lots of interesting historical stories and events. I highly recommend it.

Mr. Shenk pulls you into his writing and never lets go. If you are a long-time chess buff like me, this book will give you hours of enjoyment on a journey through chess time. I put Mr. Shenk's *The Immortal Game: A History of Chess* right up there with Harold Schoenberg's *Grandmasters of Chess*. Both writers have a way of captivating the reader with excellent stories and facts that pull the reader along for hours!

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