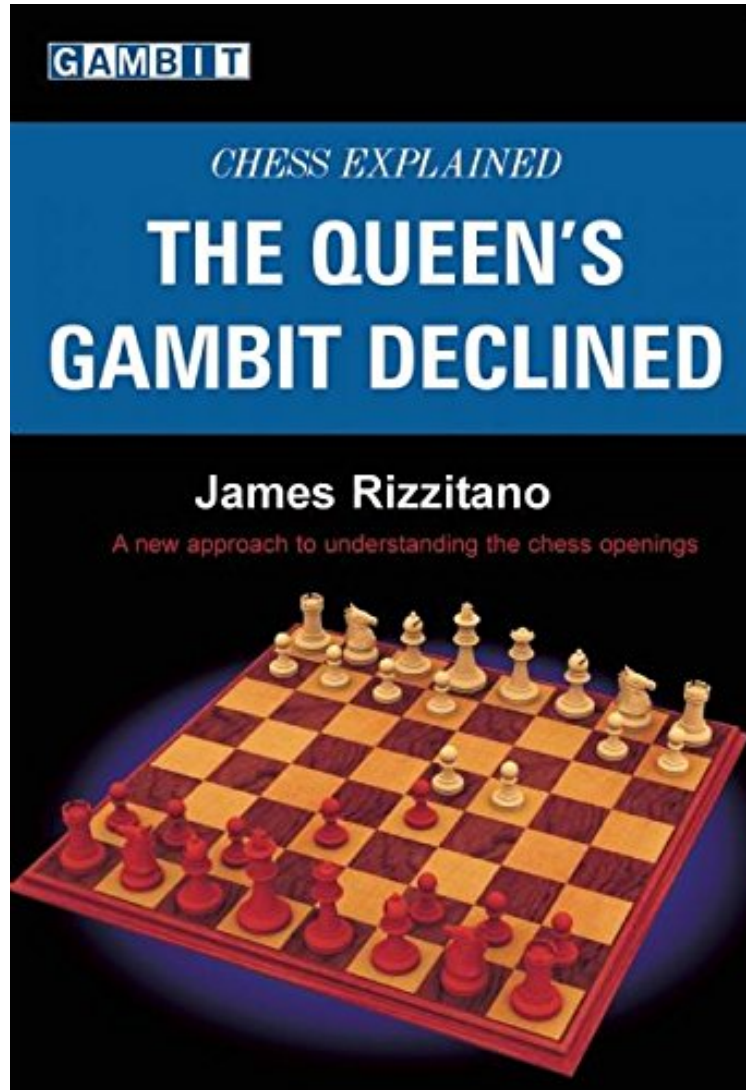


[Download] Chess Explained: The Queen's Gambit Declined

Chess Explained: The Queen's Gambit Declined

James Rizzitano

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James Rizzitano : Chess Explained: The Queen's Gambit Declined before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Chess Explained: The Queen's Gambit Declined:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good bookBy CustomerGood book19 of 20 people found the following review helpful. A Succinct Summary Emphasizing IdeasBy Robert J. NewellThis is a relatively short book with a page count of 128 (including title page, contents, etc., and advertising at the back!) but it is filled with useful information that emphasizes ideas more than an endless list of variations. It is probably the best overall QGD survey book in my sizeable (550 volume) chess library. The book presents 25 complete games. This is a great approach for the class player (compared to a variations tree) because you see the middle games and even endgames that arise. The

games are spread over 8 chapters which cover the Alatorsev variation, Tarrasch Defense, Exchange and Blackburne, Ragozin and Vienna, Semi-Tarrasch, Cambridge Springs and Laskers, Tartakower, and Classical. As you see the coverage is wide, treating to at least some degree (one or more games) the major variants which are in play. The notes also treat (briefly) many other options including oddities such as the Dutch-Peruvian Gambit. Games are from modern practice. While plenty of variants are presented in the notes (certainly enough to cover the ground and be useful) the book is really on the "chatty" side and there is plenty of text which explains concepts and ideas. This is all made to fit in a low page count by means of slightly oversized pages and a rather small font size. However, the diagrams are large, clear, and copious. Even though I can't play blindfold, I am able to read a lot of the book without the aid of a chess set and board. There is no real white/black bias. Ideas for both sides are discussed making this book suitable for basic repertoire development for either color. I say "basic" repertoire development and what I mean is that there is more than enough here for the class player, but at a high level of play (perhaps expert and up) you will want specialist books which cover your favorite lines in more detail. Overall: a very nice effort and well worth the cost. Don't be put off by the low page count. More is not always better. 10 of 16 people found the following review helpful. OkayBy Fredrik Josefsson I must say I didn't like this book very much and I don't think I will buy another book from Rizzitano again. For one thing, he should have cut down on the variations. All side lines that go on for 10 moves with "and white is better" is not that helpful for a Chess Explained book (many such side lines are just database/computer dumps and are wrong anyways). There is no need to give several "interesting ideas" followed by ten moves, there are lots of interesting ideas in any database. Secondly I don't know why he was asked to write it, since there is no games from the author and doesn't seem to be much of original thought in there. Now to the good things. The book covers all main variations well and has decent explanations. And that's it basically. A good book but could be better.

Chess Explained books are not theoretical works in the traditional sense, but more a series of lessons from a chess expert with extensive over-the-board experience with an opening. You will gain an understanding of the opening and the middlegames to which it leads, enabling you to find the right moves and plans in your own games. It is as if you were sitting at the board with a chess coach answering your questions about the plans for both sides, the ideas behind particular moves, and what specific knowledge you need to have. The Queen's Gambit Declined is one of the most important and popular of chess openings. While an immensely solid and classical choice for Black, it has remained highly topical for more than a century. Both sides have ways to create imbalance and test their opponent's skills and knowledge in a full-blooded struggle. Most of the World Champions have taken both sides of the QGD, with Spassky and Karpov especially notable defenders of Black's cause. In addition to the traditional main lines with Bg5, White has at his disposal the Exchange Variation, and the Bf4 system, both of which can be handled in highly aggressive style if he wishes. Rizzitano covers all these lines and a plethora of other important lines, focusing on the fundamental ideas on which they are based.

About the Author James Rizzitano is a strong international master who dominated chess in the New England region during a 14-year period from 1976 to 1989 - he won 157 out of 336 events in which he competed. His career highlights include victories over Alburt, Benjamin, Benko, Christiansen, Dlugy, I.Gurevich, and Wolff.