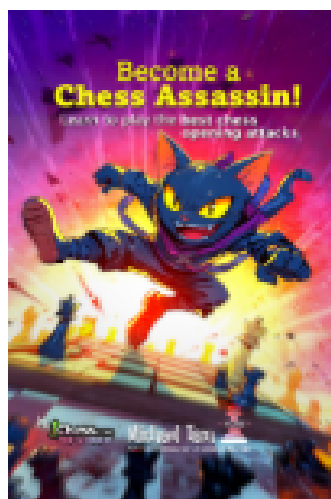


Chess Assassin

by Bill Wall



In November 2024, Dr. Michael Tam published *Become a Chess Assassin! Learn to play the best opening attacks*. The author notes that being a Chess Assassin is one of the most thrilling ways to play chess. And what is a Chess Assassin? This is a player who must explore and learn to play the best opening attacks. This type of player plays opening lines that inspire and capture the imagination. They don't have to be the most accurate opening moves, but most often, they are.

For a chess opening line to be included in this book, it must have three criteria.

- 1) The winning position must occur early in the game, during the opening stages.
- 2) The attack must be deadly, resulting in an actual win, or a practical one.

3) The attack must be beautiful. The author prioritized opening attacks that were fun and beautiful,

The book is a celebration of the Romantic style of chess played in the 19th century. Gambits were accepted, daring sacrifices were made, and aggressive attacks were common in the opening.

A neat feature of the book is that each of the 14 chapters has an introduction that describes the historical context of the opening. The example games are described move-by-move, with diagrams. Refutations (and variants) are added in each section to get a feel for both sides.

The hardcover book has 357 jam-packed pages and lots and lots of diagrams. It is available at Amazon.com. The Kindle version is \$9.99. The paperback version is \$15.99. The hardcover version is \$24.99.

The openings covered include:

Englund Gambit (1.d4 e5)

Von Henning Gambit (1.e4 c6 d4 d5 3.Nc3 dxe4 4.Bc4)

Blackburne Shilling Gambit (1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nd4 4.Nxe5 Qg5)

de L  gal Trap (1.e4 s5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 d6 4,Nc3 Bg4 5,h3 Bh5 6.Nxe5)

Stafford Gambit (1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nxe5 Nc6 4.Nxc6 dxc6)

Vienna Gambit (1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3,f4 exf4 4,e5)

Budapest Gambit (1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 w5 3.dxe5 Ng4 4.Ngf3)

Tennison Gambit (1.e4 d5 2.Nf3 de4 3,Ng5 Nf6 4.d3)

Albin Countergambit (1.d4 d5 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 d4)

Scandinavian Defense, Leonhard Gambit (1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qa5 4.b4 Qxb4 5.Nb5_

Ruy Lopez, Jaenisch Gambit (1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 f 4.Bxc6 dxc6)

Fried Liver attack (1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 d5 5.exd Nxd5 6.Nxf7)

Two Knights, Ponziani-Steinitz Gambit (1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 Nxe4 5.Nxf7 Qh4)

Two Knights, Traxler Counterattack (1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Ng5 Bc5 5.Nxf7 Bxf2+)

Dr. Michael Tam, from Australia, is a Chess.com top blogger. His first book was *50+2 Chess Quick Wins*. That book was aimed at beginning players, which introduced common chess tactics. Tam writes a chess blog on Chess.com called *Adventures of a Chess Noob*. He also has a YouTube channel on chess. Dr. Tam is an academic family physician and medical researcher.