



# The Immortal Game: A History of Chess

By David Shenk

Download now

Read Online 

**The Immortal Game: A History of Chess** By David Shenk

**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.

 [Download The Immortal Game: A History of Chess ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Immortal Game: A History of Chess ...pdf](#)

# The Immortal Game: A History of Chess

By David Shenk

## The Immortal Game: A History of Chess By David Shenk

**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.

## The Immortal Game: A History of Chess By David Shenk Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #345840 in Books
- Brand: Shenk, David
- Published on: 2007-10-02
- Released on: 2007-10-02
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.99" h x .71" w x 5.17" l, .73 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 352 pages

 [Download The Immortal Game: A History of Chess ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Immortal Game: A History of Chess ...pdf](#)

## Download and Read Free Online The Immortal Game: A History of Chess By David Shenk

---

### Editorial Review

#### From Publishers Weekly

Those curious about chess and wishing to learn more about the game (but not too much more) will welcome this accessible, nontechnical introduction. Shenk (*The Forgetting*) succinctly surveys the game's history from its origins in fifth- or sixth-century Persia up to the present, touching along the way on such subjects as his own amateurish pursuit of the game, erratic geniuses like Paul Morphy and Bobby Fischer, chess in schools today, computer chess and his great-great-grandfather Samuel Rosenthal, who was an eminent player in late 19th-century Europe. To heighten the drama, Shenk intersperses the text with the moves of the so-called "immortal game," a brilliant example of "romantic" chess played between Adolf Anderssen and Lionel Kieseritzky in London in 1851. Appendixes include transcripts of five other great games, along with Benjamin Franklin's brief essay "The Morals of Chess." Readers will come away from this entertaining book with a strong sense of why chess has remained so popular over the ages and why its study still has much to tell us about the workings of the human mind. 50 b&w illus. (Sept.)

Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

#### From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

David Shenk is the author of four previous books, including *The Forgetting*, an acclaimed study of Alzheimer's, and *Data Smog*, about information overload in the Internet age. The greatest asset of *The Immortal Game* is its accessibility. Through an educated layperson's knowledge of chess, Shenk focuses on his subject's more intriguing points and leaves arcane rehashes of famous games for more technical texts. (An appendix obliges those who revel in such details.) At its most engaging, the book meditates on the ways that chess can enrich lives. Given its brevity, Shenk's overview sometimes sacrifices depth to coverage, though such an approach barely decreases the pleasure even an interested "wood-pusher"—chess slang for a weak player—might take away from this passionate and well-researched history.

Copyright © 2004 Phillips & Nelson Media, Inc.

#### From [Booklist](#)

Versatile author Shenk has conceived a bright idea for marching through the history of chess. His title a double entendre, Shenk alternates narrative passages on the ancient lineage of chess with move-by-move analysis of a spectacular 1851 contest that lore has dubbed "the immortal game." Shenk is also an Everyman-guide, and his attitude is one that many readers will share—he is attracted to the game's infinite possibilities but also intimidated by its difficult body of analytic knowledge. Trying to master chess has deranged more than a few, such as artist Marcel Duchamp and former champion Bobby Fischer, but it has also given great pleasure to others, such as Benjamin Franklin. Seeking a reason for the popularity of chess from its Persian and Indian origins 1,500 years ago to the present, Shenk decides it lies in chess' fluidity as metaphor. It was plainly conceived as a war game, but feudal European society found deeper meanings within it, as cognitive psychologists and logicians do today. Rangy, anecdotal, and nontechnical, Shenk's is popular chess history at its most readable. *Gilbert Taylor*

Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

**Terry Sugg:**

What do you in relation to book? It is not important with you? Or just adding material when you want something to explain what your own problem? How about your extra time? Or are you busy individual? If you don't have spare time to perform others business, it is make one feel bored faster. And you have time? What did you do? Every person has many questions above. They need to answer that question due to the fact just their can do which. It said that about publication. Book is familiar in each person. Yes, it is right. Because start from on pre-school until university need this particular The Immortal Game: A History of Chess to read.

**Pauline Jones:**

Your reading sixth sense will not betray a person, why because this The Immortal Game: A History of Chess reserve written by well-known writer whose to say well how to make book which might be understand by anyone who else read the book. Written with good manner for you, dripping every ideas and producing skill only for eliminate your hunger then you still skepticism The Immortal Game: A History of Chess as good book not merely by the cover but also with the content. This is one reserve that can break don't ascertain book by its protect, so do you still needing a different sixth sense to pick that!? Oh come on your examining sixth sense already told you so why you have to listening to one more sixth sense.

**Alicia Cain:**

Are you kind of hectic person, only have 10 or even 15 minute in your morning to upgrading your mind ability or thinking skill even analytical thinking? Then you are receiving problem with the book when compared with can satisfy your short period of time to read it because this time you only find guide that need more time to be go through. The Immortal Game: A History of Chess can be your answer given it can be read by a person who have those short extra time problems.

**Kurt Bohnert:**

As we know that book is essential thing to add our understanding for everything. By a book we can know everything you want. A book is a pair of written, printed, illustrated or perhaps blank sheet. Every year seemed to be exactly added. This publication The Immortal Game: A History of Chess was filled with regards to science. Spend your time to add your knowledge about your technology competence. Some people has different feel when they reading the book. If you know how big benefit from a book, you can experience enjoy to read a reserve. In the modern era like today, many ways to get book that you wanted.

**Download and Read Online The Immortal Game: A History of Chess By David Shenk #QVGDR8IH45F**

# **Read The Immortal Game: A History of Chess By David Shenk for online ebook**

The Immortal Game: A History of Chess By David Shenk Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Immortal Game: A History of Chess By David Shenk books to read online.

## **Online The Immortal Game: A History of Chess By David Shenk ebook PDF download**

**The Immortal Game: A History of Chess By David Shenk Doc**

**The Immortal Game: A History of Chess By David Shenk MobiPocket**

**The Immortal Game: A History of Chess By David Shenk EPub**

**QVGDR8IH45F: The Immortal Game: A History of Chess By David Shenk**