or even 3...\(\text{dxf}4\), with a London System.

However, the Torre contains plenty of bite throughout the other video lectures. Needless to say, Williams is generally in favour of an aggressive approach, complete with hyperactive h-pawns. This gives him plenty of opportunity to call the pawn 'Harry', a concept which is wearing more than a little thin (I never even liked Rowson's 'Delroy', which is where this trend for anthropomorphism started).

Nomenclature aside, I was taken by the idea of White exchanging the Torre bishop for the knight on f6 without being prompted by ...\(\text{hxf}6\). The point is that Black could eventually choose a good moment to play either ...\(\text{Qxf}5\) or ...\(\text{Qh}5\), initiating (or is it, exchanging) exchanges of his own. This looks like a fresh and energising idea, which had hitherto escaped my attention. There must be psychological barriers standing in the way of the voluntary, impromptu capture by the Torre bishop, which means the idea could come as a big surprise to the opponent.

In fact I was surprised to see how widespread such a capture is in the Torre, even in standard positions. Here, for instance, Black may think equality is on the way after the natural 9.e5, but could be in for a big disappointment, due to 10...\(\text{dxe}5\) \(\text{fxe}5\) 11...\(\text{dxe}5\) 5 12...\(\text{f4}\) and now 12...\(\text{xf6}\) (maintaining options of breaking the pin with ...\(\text{e7}\)) runs into 13.e4 ...\(\text{dxe}4\) 14.e5!

which forces the undesirable 14...\(\text{gxf}6\), as 14...\(\text{xf}6\)? 15...\(\text{dxe}5\) \(\text{dxe}6\) \(\text{dxd}6\) 17...\(\text{xe}7\)+! is clearly intolerable.

There is a lot of material here and seven hours is certainly not a trivial time investment, but the Torre Attack would make a useful addition to any white repertoire, albeit not necessarily as the main choice.  

Sean Marsh

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Once more a great amount of material has been packed into a fairly short space and fans of solving tactics will again enjoy a field day.

2000 Chess Exercises
Part 1: Pin, Double Attack
Vsevolod Kostrov & Alexander Beliaevsky, 112 pages, paperback
RRP £10.95 SUBSCRIBERS £9.85

Leading coach Kostrov has teamed up with a famous player to present an exercise book containing a great number of positions relevant to just two themes: pin and double attack. As such, the diligent reader will certainly find their grasp of some key tactical motifs much improved and we should also note that the work is mainly aimed at 1700-2000-rated players.

Also recently released from Russian Chess House and by the same authors are 2000 Chess Exercises Part 2: Diversion, Decoy, 2000 Chess Exercises Part 3: Chess Combinations and 2000 Chess Exercises Part 4: Chess Endings. They're each available from Chess & Bridge for £10.95 (Subscribers – £9.85), of if you want all four volumes together, so some 8,000(!) positions, that is possible too for the special price of £40.00 or just £36.00 for Subscribers.

600 Combinations
Maksim Blokh, 96 pages, paperback
RRP £11.95 SUBSCRIBERS £10.75

This is another new work from Russian Chess House designed to improve combinational vision and serve as a textbook.

A Complete Guide to Defending Against 1 d4
Chris Ward & John Emms, 354 pages, paperback
RRP £17.99 SUBSCRIBERS £16.19

It’s been a number of years since GMs John Emms and Chris Ward shared a flat, but that hasn’t prevented Everyman Chess from packaging together two of their works for their latest companion volume, which includes both Starting Out: The Nimzo-Indian and Starting Out: The Queen’s Indian.

Emanuel Lasker: A Reader*
Taylor Kingston (ed.), 400 pages, paperback
RRP £34.95 SUBSCRIBERS £31.45

Only last month we brought you Sean Marsh’s thoughts on Emanuel Lasker: Volume 1 by Forster, Negele and Tischbierek and now we have a second new work on Lasker thanks to Russell Enterprises. American chess historical expert Kingston has worked his way through the great volume of Lasker’s writings and here presents some of the highlights, such as a tribute to Pillsbury, as well as coverage of his 1907 and 1908 world championship matches.

First Steps: The King’s Indian Defence
Andrew Martin, 336 pages, paperback
RRP £17.99 SUBSCRIBERS £16.19

Andrew Martin is not only a popular presenter and highly experienced coach, but has also been a lifelong fan of the King’s Indian. The opening does, of course, contain some very theoretical lines, but Martin’s job is to map out the essential theory while highlighting the key strategic and tactical ideas for both sides, enabling even a fairly inexperienced club player to be able to take up the opening.
Queen's Indian Defence: The Modern Approach
Sergei Tiviakov, PC-DVD; running time: 9 hours
RRP £26.95 SUBSCRIBERS £24.25
It's been 8 years since the acclaimed first volume of No Fear of 1.d4! appeared. Now Tiviakov has returned to the ChessBase studio to update his earlier coverage of the Queen's Indian for Black. Once again he presents the key concepts in clear fashion, while presenting plenty of theory, not least on demonstrating how Black can solidly counter 1.d4 0f6 2.c4 e6 3.0-0 f3 b6 4.g3 with both 4...b4+ and 4...d5 5.g2 a6.

The Modern Scotch
Alexander Khalifman & Sergei Soloviov, 524 pages, paperback
RRP £19.99 SUBSCRIBERS £17.99
Chess Stars have done well to attract no less a theoretician than Alexander Khalifman and their latest repertoire work advocates 1.e4 e5 2.0-0 f3 0xc6 3.d4 exd4 4.0xd4, which can, of course, quickly lead to some rather unbalanced positions. The step-by-step approach will help the club player, but it should be said that this work contains a great amount of theory, much of it quite cutting-edge.

The Nemesis: Geller's Greatest Games
Efim Geller, 480 pages, hardback
RRP £26.50 SUBSCRIBERS £23.85
This work is only available in hardback from Quality Chess, a fitting tribute to the legendary Soviet GM Efim Geller (1925-1998). Geller deserves to be known as 'The Nemesis' due to his plus scores over such illusionaries as Mikhail Botvinnik and Bobby Fischer. En route to winning two USSR Championships and seven Olympiad team golds he played a number of deeply impressive games. As one would expect from someone who trained Anatoly Karpov, Geller produced many a positional masterpiece, although he could also play quite dynamically at times, as shown by his profound understanding of the King's Indian and Sicilian. Geller was also an excellent annotator, so kudos to Quality for commissioning this translation meaning that English-speaking readers can enjoy 135 of his best games along with his own notes.

The King's Indian According to Tigran Petrosian*
Igor Yanvarjov, 424 pages, paperback
RRP £34.95 SUBSCRIBERS £31.45
Russell Enterprises deserve praise for wearing their creative hat of late. Here 300 of Petrosian's games in the King's Indian - from both sides of the board - are well annotated. Unsurprisingly this cannot fail to improve the reader's understanding of the King's Indian, as well as their strategic play, but the main feature which many may take away is an appreciation of just how rich and creative Petrosian's play often was.

The Royal Chess Couple in Action
Hans Bohn & Yochanan Afek, 384 pages, paperback
RRP £30.95 SUBSCRIBERS £27.85
The concept behind this work is an unusual but fairly grand one: 240 positions are presented in which either the king or the queen plays an important offensive or defensive role. Readers can, of course, use each position to test their tactical skills and creativity or they may just enjoy playing through the well-explained explanations to some quite remarkable positions. Throughout publishers Thinkers have made use of a number of photographs of some of the players and composers whose work features within.

Understanding Maroczy Structures
Adrian Mikhalchishin & Georg Mohr, 296 pages, paperback
RRP £26.95 SUBSCRIBERS £24.25
If you deploy a Maroczy Bind fairly often as White or look forward to seeing one when wheeling out the Accelerated Dragon or Hedgehog, this new work from Thinkers Publishing should help to improve your knowledge of this famous structure. The experienced authors present a number of highly instructive Maroczy battles, grouped by theme, if with the occasional interesting diversion as when 1.e4 c5 2.0-0 0xc6 3.d4 exd4 4.0xd4 g6 5.c4.1616 is discussed.

* - If interested in purchasing a copy of this work, please be aware that stock is limited, so do contact Chess & Bridge (email info@chess.co.uk or call 0207 486 7015) in advance of placing your order.