

**Richard Shorman****Chess**

**A TRIUMPH OF FEMALE LOGIC** by International Grandmaster Andre Lilienthal (translated from "64," No. 10, March 10-16, 1972, pg. 16)

My title heading contains no irony. I would like to compare the logical thought processes in a chess contest that took place between members of the stronger and weaker sex. Frankly speaking, moreover, the comparison does not flatter a gallant knight. And this is definitely not because the over-the-board struggle was handled by a man inexperienced in the subtleties of the game, while his female opponent happened to be some famous chess celebrity. On the contrary, the commander of the white pieces possessed the coveted grandmaster title, and it is well known that no woman has ever achieved so high a rank.

I invite the reader, therefore, to examine this game lost by grandmaster "X" . . . Not that the name of the winner should be withheld. Black was played by many-time Hungarian women's champion, International master Maria Ivanka.

White: Grandmaster "X."

Black: Maria Ivanka.

**Caro-Kann Defense**

1 P-Q4	P-QB3	21 Q-B3	BxN
2 P-K4	P-Q4	22 PxB	N-Q4!(e)
3 N-QB3	PxP	23 B-Q4	P-KN4
4 NxP	B-B4	24 PxP	PxP
5 N-N3	B-N3	25 P-KN3	Q-N2
6 P-KR4	P-KR3	26 RxR	RxR
7 N-B3	N-Q2	27 R-R1	P-N5
8 B-Q3(a)	BxB	28 RxRch	QxR(f)
9 QxB	KN-B3	29 Q-B2	Q-R8ch
10 B-Q2	Q-B2	30 K-B2	P-N3
11 O-O-O	P-K3	31 P-B4	N-N5ch
12 Q-K2 (b)	O-O-O	32 K-N3	N-B3
13 N-K5	N-N3	33 B-B3	Q-Q8ch
14 P-QB3	B-Q3	34 K-R3(g)	Q-Q6
15 P-KB4	P-B4!(c)	35 Q-Q2	QxBP
16 K-N1	K-N1	36 Q-Q7	P-N4!
17 PxP	BxP	37 Q-Q6ch	K-N2
18 N-K4	NxN	38 P-N3!(h)	PN5ch!!(i)
19 QxN	B-Q3	39 Resigns (j)	
20 B-K3	P-B4(d)		

(a) Modern opening theory prefers 8 P-R5 to restrict the mobility of Black's K-side pawns.

(b) White reached nearly the same position in the 13th match game for the world championship between Spassky and Petrosian.

(c) This active move equalizes for Black.

(d) The grandmaster's face flushed at the sight of such an unaesthetic pawn push. "She can't get away with that," he thought to himself. He even began to feel sorry for his lovely protagonist, who had evidently overlooked the powerful pin on the black-squared diagonal. The grandmaster swiftly retired his queen. Of course, 21 Q-Q4? is no good because of 21 . . . B-K2!

(e) Only now did the grandmaster realize how naive his thinking had been. Clearly it was necessary to have traded off this insidious black knight two moves earlier, e.g. 21 BxN PxB 22 Q-K2 BxN with about equal chances.

(f) Women are usually vulnerable in the endgame (true, so are men!). White relied on his grandmaster technique, but . . .

(g) On 34 Q-B2 very strong is 34 . . . Q-B6!

(h) The grandmaster already believed that he, like a chivalrous knight, was "presenting" the charming damsel an effective draw. Really, how could she resist the free piece! After the natural 38 . . . QxB would follow 39 Q-B7ch! with a problem-like stalemate position. However, the grandmaster had quite a surprise in store.

(i) Female logic was here demonstrated to be the more precise and forceful. Our grandmaster bowed to the inevitable and congratulated his opponent with her well deserved victory. After 39 BxP QxBch 40 QxQch NxQ 41 KxN P-B5! the king and pawn ending offers White no hope whatever.

(j) By this time the reader has already guessed the identity of grandmaster "X." He was, of course, your humbled servant. The drama unfolded during a simultaneous exhibition on 14 boards, one of which was manned by a ruthless female foe.