

# **Formation Attack Strategies**

**Joel Johnson**

**Edited by: Eric Hammond**

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Edited by: **Eric Hammond**

Cover Photography: Barry M. Evans

Cover Design: Joel Johnson

Game Searching: Joel Johnson, Richard J. Cowan,  
William Parker

Proofreading: Joel Johnson

Game Contributors: Brian Wall, Jack Young, Clyde Nakamura,  
James Rizzitano, Keith Hayward,  
Hal Terrie, Richard Cowan, Jesús Seoane,  
William Parker, Domingos Perego

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Alpine Electronics

703 Ivinson Ave.

Laramie, WY 82070

Email: Alpine Chess Fonts ([alpine@partae.com](mailto:alpine@partae.com))

Website: <http://www.partae.com/fonts/>

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## Preface

After completing my first book, a three-year project entitled, *Formation Attacks*, I was exhausted. The thought of actually repeating the process of writing another book seemed insane. But, as time went by and I started to receive all of the awesome responses from readers and I had several months to reflect on my accomplishment, I understood that writing a book is well worth the hard work.

Even though my first book *Formation Attacks* contains 435 great games, to my dismay, I was forced to cut many incredible games worthy of being published. My focus in the first book was to:

- 1) eliminate games not ending in checkmate;
- 2) keep all the “famous” games and;
- 3) showcase many of the well-known attacking players, along with several of my own games.

In this book, my search for

attacking games was far more extensive and led to the discovery of many relatively unknown attacking players. In addition, by writing the first book, I noticed that my own attacking skills improved greatly. I found myself considering and implementing several of the new attacking ideas into my games.

As in the first book, many different openings and eras have been covered. This book is organized by attack themes, including a chapter devoted entirely to the Jack Young “Fishing Pole”. Players like Jack Young, Brian Wall, Clyde Nakamura, Johnny Hector, Eric Schiller, etc. make chess fun with their unusual and unique views. Many of us in the chess world truly appreciate their efforts, as they provide us with a realistic method of taking down those seemingly invincible “Chess Goliaths”.

## Kudos

A book like this requires a great amount of time and effort from more than one person. I am grateful to all of those who helped make this dream a



reality. One of the key issues with my first book was editing and Eric Hammond has stepped forward to fill the void and done a marvelous job. I cannot thank him enough for his efforts. In addition, Richard Cowan and William Parker were extremely helpful in finding new games for the book. Their contributions can be found throughout the book. Loads of games were passed along by Brian Wall, Jack Young, Clyde Nakamura, Jesús Seoane, Domingos Perego, Hal Terrie, James Rizzitano, Keith Hayward, Richard Cowan, and William Parker. Thanks to all of you and to the many others who had a hand in creating this book, no matter how small.

**“Thanks to all of you”**

### **Purpose of the Book**

What I have attempted to accomplish with this book is:

- 1) explain the two views of the chessboard;
- 2) discuss many types of attack philosophies and provide some insight into the head of a Chess Master;

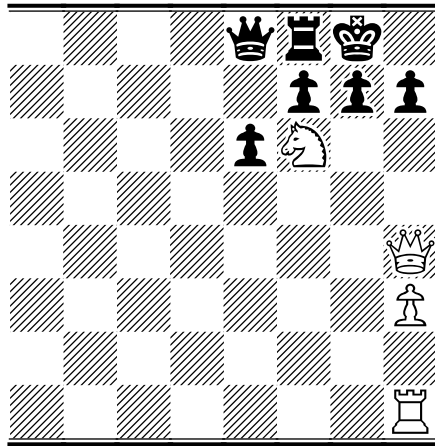
- 3) introduce attack strategy and planning;
- 4) provide more extensive information about the identification and exploitation of weaknesses;
- 5) illustrate many attack games and attack ideas by attack motif (Fishing Pole, Opposite Side Castling, Pawn Storms, etc.).

Because of the infinite number of positions in chess, it is impossible to show every possible attack. Instead, this book tackles many of the most common attacking motifs with many great unknown attack games from the past and present in one convenient source.

This book is less concerned about the early part of the game, in which some games may include unsound play, as long as the execution of the attack is relevant.

My hope is that the contents of this book educate you on the many types of attacking strategies and further inspire you to expand your attacking skills.

# Lay Down Sacrifice



Lay Down Sacrifice is one of the most dangerous attack weapons in chess. However in non-master games, this powerful maneuver is rarely seen. I must confess that prior to writing "Formation Attacks", I myself under-utilized this weapon. Since then, the Lay Down Sacrifice has become a fully integrated part of my attack arsenal.

The primary purpose of the Lay Down Sacrifice is to pry open the defensive protection in front of the enemy King. The Lay Down Sacrifice works best when the opponent is forced to accept the material. It is important to stay away from

situations where the opponent can just leave the piece hanging and simply ignore your gift. Under that scenario your move would instead most likely fall into the Hope Chess category.

The diagram at the top of the left column illustrates a basic example of a Lay Down Sacrifice. Black has no choice but to accept the Knight sacrifice because on the move ♖h8, White can either capture the Black Queen with ♗xe8 or checkmate with ♔xh7#.

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## Simple Examples

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### Game #999

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Black allows his Queen to be pushed around by White minors (all free developing moves) till he is defenseless against a Lay Down Sacrifice.

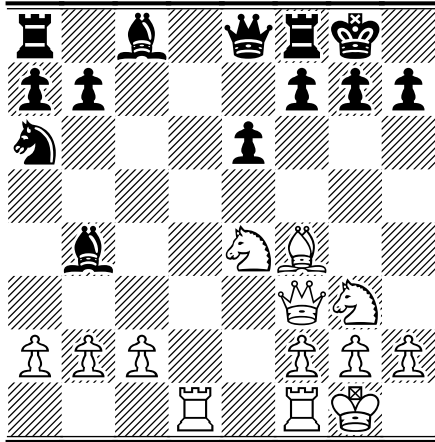
**(W) MassCarnage (2200)**

**(B) thisurthat (1654)**

[B03] ICC 15 0, 08/11/2010

1.e4 ♗f6 2.e5 ♗d5 3.d4 d6  
 4.♕c4 c6 5.♖f3 ♗a6 6.♕x d5  
 cxd5 7.♖xd5 e6 8.♖f3 dxe5  
 9.dxe5 ♖a5+ 10.♗c3 ♖xe5+

11. ♖ge2 ♗b4 12. 0-0 0-0  
 13. ♗f4 ♜f5 14. ♖g3 ♜f6  
 15. ♖ce4 ♜d8 16. ♗ad1 ♜e8



17. ♖f6+!

Generally, Lay Down Sacrifices work much better when the opponent is forced to capture, like here.

17. ... ♗xf6

Black loses his Queen after  
 17. ... ♜h8 18. ♖xe8.

18. ♖h5 ♗e7 19. ♜g3+ 1-0

----- **Game #999** -----

Black leaves his King open for a Lay Down Sacrifice because of a lack of defenders.

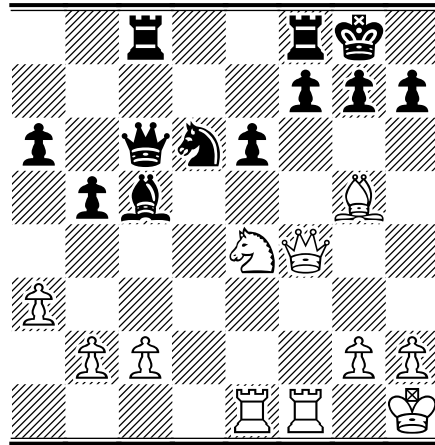
(W) MassCarnage (2200)

(B) LiberT (1997)

[B49] ICC tourney 372729

(5 0), (Round 4), 11/16/2010

1. e4 c5 2. ♖f3 e6 3. d4 cxd4  
 4. ♖xd4 ♖c6 5. ♖c3 ♜c7  
 6. ♗e3 a6 7. ♗e2 ♖f6 8. 0-0 b5  
 9. a3 ♗b7 10. f4 d6 11. ♜d2  
 ♗c8 12. ♗f3 ♗e7 13. e5 dxex5  
 14. ♖xc6 ♗xc6 15. ♗xc6+  
 ♜xc6 16. fxe5 ♖g4 17. ♗g5  
 ♗c5+ 18. ♜h1 ♖xe5 19. ♗ae1  
 ♖c4 20. ♜f4 0-0 21. ♖e4 ♖d6



22. ♖f6+! ♗xf6

Black is checkmated after declining the sacrifice with  
 22. ... ♜h8 23. ♜h4 h6 24. ♗xh6  
 ♖f5 25. ♗xf5 exf5 26. ♗g5#.

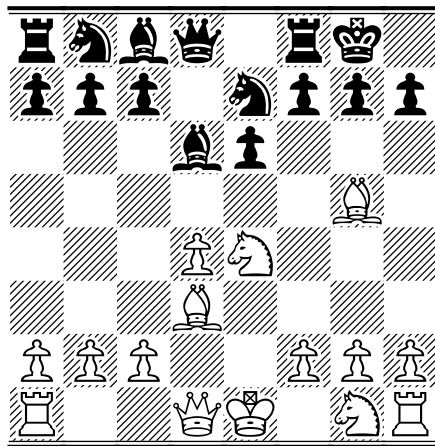
23. ♗xf6 1-0

----- Game #999 -----

A Lay Down Sacrifice followed by a timely ♖xh7+ leaves Black's kingside completely shattered and wide open for White's other attackers. The amazing part of this game is how fast this attack happens.

**(W) Kaj Blom**  
**(B) Vagn Jensen**  
 [C10] Denmark

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♘c3 dxe4  
 4.♗xe4 ♕d6 5.♕d3 ♖e7  
 6.♖g5 0-0



7.♗f6+! gxf6

Black cannot turn down the "free" White Knight because of  
 7. ... ♜h8 8. ♚h5 h6 9. ♖xh6  
 ♗g8 10. ♖g5 ♗h6 11. ♖xh6.

8.♖xf6 ♚d7?

Black needed to return the piece with 8. ... ♖b4+ 9. c3 ♚d5 to protect the h5 square from what lies ahead.

9.♖xh7+! ♜xh7 10.♚h5+  
 ♜g8 11.♚h8# 1-0

----- Game #999 -----

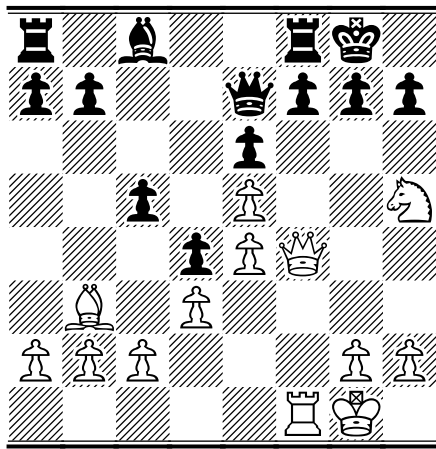
White turns a kingside space advantage and local material advantage into a Lay Down Sacrifice and a checkmate.

**(W) MassCarnage (2200)**  
**(B) ClockWatcher (1822)**

[B23] ICC tourney 371495  
 (3 0), (Round 2), 10/20/2010

1.e4 c5 2.♗c3 d6 3.f4 e6  
 4.♗f3 ♗f6 5.♕c4 ♕e7 6.d3  
 ♗c6 7.0-0 d5 8.♖b3 0-0  
 9.♗e5 d4 10.♗e2 ♗xe5  
 11.fxe5 ♗g4 12.♖f4 ♖g5  
 13.♗g3 ♗e3 14.♚f3 ♖xf4  
 15.♚xf4 ♗xf1 16.♗xf1 ♚e7  
 17.♗h5!

The purpose of this move is twofold. First, it prevents a defensive move like f5 or f6, which would enable Black to reinforce his kingside along his second rank. Second, it prepares the upcoming Lay Down Sacrifice.



17. ... ♖h8 18. ♖f3

The White Rook is required for attacking the weak h7 square.

18. ... b5

Another deadly aspect related to Lay Down Sacrifices is the fact that defenders frequently fluff off the move as nothing to worry about.

19. ♖f6!! ♔d7 20. ♖h3 1-0

Black is checkmated on all replies, such as:

20...gxf6 21. ♖h6 fxe5 22. ♖xh7#;  
or

20...h6 21. ♖xh6+ g×h6  
22. ♖xh6#; or

20...♖xf6 21. exf6 ♖fe8 22. ♖g5  
gxf6 23. ♖h6 ♖g8 24. ♖g3+ ♖h8  
25. ♖g7#.

----- Game #999 -----

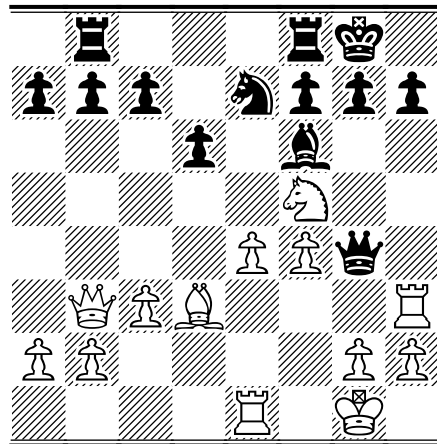
White forces open the Black kingside with a Lay Down Sacrifice and as a result wins the Black Queen.

(W) Von Der Lasa

(B) Adolf Anderssen

[C21] Breslau, Germany, 1845

1. e4 e5 2. d4 exd4 3. ♖c4 ♗c6  
4. ♗f3 ♖f6 5. 0-0 d6 6. c3 d3  
7. ♗g5 ♖g6 8. ♗xd3 ♗g4  
9. ♗bd2 ♗e7 10. ♗f4 ♗h6  
11. ♖b3 ♗xf3 12. ♗xf3 ♖b8  
13. ♖ae1 ♖h5 14. ♗d4 0-0  
15. ♗xh6 ♖xh6 16. f4 ♗f6  
17. ♗f5 ♖h5 18. ♖f3 ♗e7  
19. ♖h3 ♖g4



20. ♗h6+! g×h6 21. ♖g3 1-0

-----  
**Featured Game**  
-----

----- **Game #999** -----

One slight opening error by White, leads to a punishing Black attack. Of course, the key move that ignites the furious Black attack is a Lay Down Sacrifice.

**(W) Mikael Sixtensson (2245)**

**(B) Guy West (2270)**

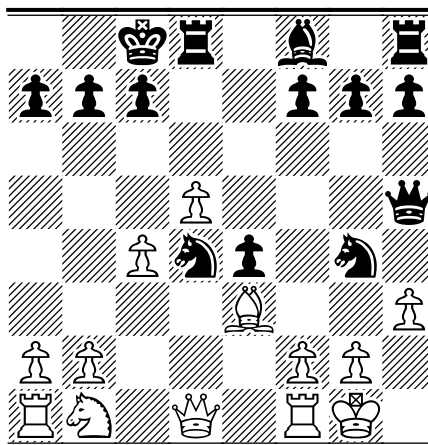
[B00] Biel MTO Open, Biel, Switzerland, 1986

**1.e4 ♞c6 2.d4 d5 3.e×d5 ♞×d5 4.♞f3 ♞g4 5.♞e2 0-0-0 6.c4 ♞h5 7.0-0 ♞f6 8.♞e3 e5 9.d5?**

White had to play h3 here as all other moves lose.

**9. ... e4! 10.♞d4 ♞×d4 11.♞×g4+ ♞×g4 12.h3**

At this point in the game, you might think that White has everything under control and is about to repel Black's aggressive forward advances. However, nothing could be further from the reality of the situation.



**12. ... ♞f3+!! 13.g×f3**

White cannot turn down the Lay Down Sacrifice because of 13. ♞h1 ♞e5 14. g3 ♞×e3 15. f×e3 ♞×g3 with a dominating position for Black.

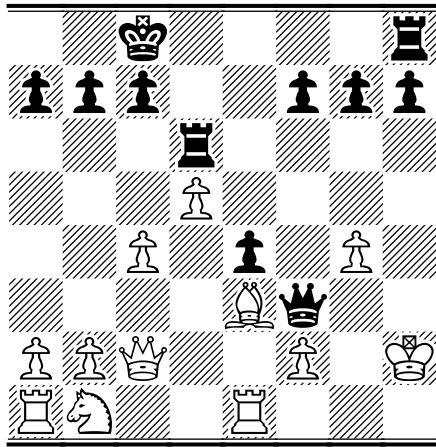
**13. ... ♞×h3!!**

Many players would wimp out here and play either 13. ... ♞×e3 or 13. ... ♞e5 with a winning edge for Black.

**14.f×g4 ♞d6 15.♞e1 ♞h2+ 16.♞h1 ♞d6 17.♞c2 ♞f3+**

17. ... ♞g6 was crushing for Black. But Black has many winning moves including:

**18.♞×h2**



Black is down two pieces but has winning position because White has two pieces that are undeveloped, White's King is naked, and there is no way for White to prevent a Black Rook from becoming involved in the attack.

**18. ... g5!!**

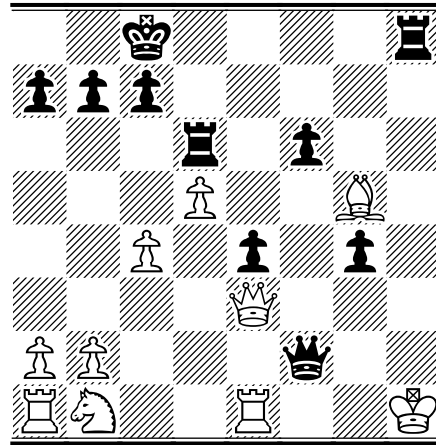
This move guarantees an open file for one of the Black Rooks. The direct threat for Black is  $\text{R}h6+$ . In order for White to stop  $\text{R}h6+$  White must play  $\text{Q}xg5$ .

**19.  $\text{Q}xg5$**

However, the move  $\text{Q}xg5$  locks in White's g-pawn to the g4 square so that the move h5 by Black guarantees an open h-file

for the Black Rook on h8.

**19. ... h5! 20.  $\text{Q}c3$   $\text{Q}xf2+$   
21.  $\text{Q}h1$  f6 22.  $\text{Q}e3$  h $\times$ g4+ 0-1**



Black wins easily after 23.  $\text{Q}h6$   
 $\text{R}xh6+$  24.  $\text{Q}xh6$   $\text{Q}xe1+$  25.  $\text{Q}g2$   
 $\text{Q}e2+$  26.  $\text{Q}g1$   $\text{Q}xb2$  27.  $\text{Q}g7$   
 $\text{Q}xa1$  28.  $\text{Q}xg4+$   $\text{R}d7$  29.  $\text{Q}g8+$   
 $\text{R}d8$  30.  $\text{Q}e6+$   $\text{Q}b8$  31.  $\text{Q}xe3$   
 $\text{Q}xa1$  32.  $\text{Q}d3$   $\text{Q}e5$  0-1.

## Formation Attacks Examples

### ----- Game #999 -----

**(W) Loek Van Wely (2681)**

**(B) Peter Acs (2591)**

[E48] Essent Crown,  
Hoogeveen, Netherlands,  
(Round 6), 10/19/2002

**1. d4  $\text{Q}f6$  2. c4 e6 3.  $\text{Q}c3$   $\text{Q}b4$   
4. e3 0-0 5.  $\text{Q}d3$  d5 6. c $\times$ d5**

e×d5 7.♗ge2 ♖e8 8.0-0 ♗d6  
 9.a3 ♗g4 10.h3 ♗h2 11.♖e1  
 ♗f3+ 12.g×f3 ♜g5+ 13.♞h1  
 ♞h4 14.♗f4 ♗×h3 15.♗c×d5  
 ♖e6 16.♗×e6 ♗f5+ 17.♞g1  
 ♞h2+ 18.♞f1 ♗g3 0-1

----- Game #999 -----

(W) Aron Nimzowitsch  
 (B) Bjorn Nielsen  
 [B17] Simul, Copenhagen,  
 Denmark, 1930

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.♗c3 d×e4  
 4.♗×e4 ♗d7 5.♗f3 ♗gf6  
 6.♗g3 e6 7.♗d3 c5 8.0-0 ♗e7  
 9.c3 0-0 10.♖e1 b6 11.h3 ♗b7  
 12.♗f4 ♗×f3 13.♞×f3 c×d4  
 14.c×d4 ♗d5 15.♗e4 ♗7f6  
 16.♗e5 ♗×e4 17.♗×e4 ♗f6  
 18.♖ac1 ♗×e4 19.♖×e4 ♞d5  
 20.♖c7 ♗d6 21.♖d7 ♖ad8  
 22.♖×d6 ♖×d6 23.♞f6 1-0

-----  
**Model Games**  
 -----

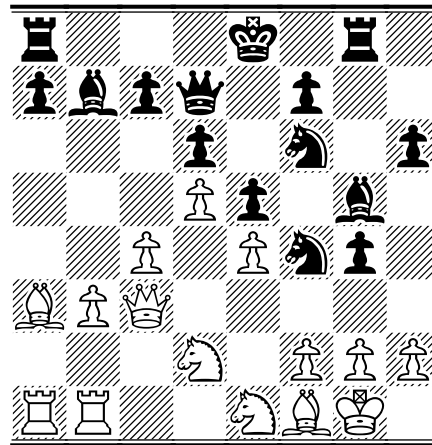
In the first set of games  
 (Games #000 to #000), a Lay  
 Down Sacrifice is used to bust  
 open the defender's kingside.

----- Game #999 -----

White has no choice but to  
 accept the Lay Down Sacrifice  
 which opens up the g-file in  
 front of his King.

(W) KarloTurk (1970)  
 (B) FearNoEvil (2225)  
 [A40] ICC 15 0, 02/26/2007

1.d4 b5 2.e4 ♗b7 3.♗d3 a6  
 4.♗f3 ♗f6 5.♗bd2 e6 6.0-0  
 d6 7.b3 ♗bd7 8.♗b2 ♗e7  
 9.♞e2 h6 10.♖ac1 g5 11.c4  
 b4 12.a3 b×a3 13.♗×a3 ♗h5  
 14.d5 e5 15.♖a1 ♗f4 16.♞e3  
 ♖g8 17.♖fb1 g4 18.♗e1 ♗g5  
 19.♞g3 ♗f6 20.♗f1 ♞d7  
 21.♞c3



21. ... ♗h3+! 22.g×h3 ♗×d2  
 23.♞×d2 g×h3+ 24.♞h1?

White had to play 24. ♗g2.

24. ... ♞g4 0-1

----- Game #999 -----

Black finishes off White with a  
 pair of sacrifices leading to a



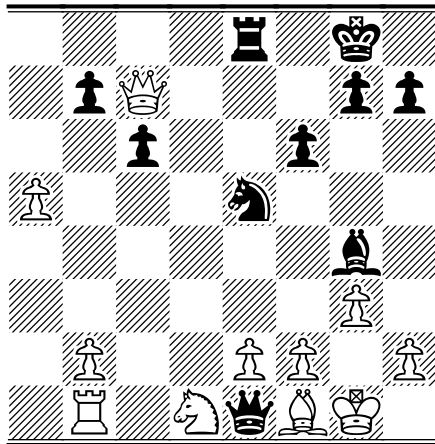
back rank checkmate.

(W) Eugenio Torre

(B) Jan Timman

[D17] Hamburg-TV (1 h), 1982

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘c3 ♘f6  
4.♗f3 dxc4 5.a4 ♗f5 6.♗e5  
♗bd7 7.♗xc4 ♖c7 8.g3 e5  
9.dxe5 ♗xe5 10.♗f4 ♞d8  
11.♖c1 ♗d6 12.♗xd6+ ♖xd6  
13.♗g2 0-0 14.0-0 a5 15.♖e3  
♗fd7 16.♞ad1 ♖e6 17.♖a7  
♗c2 18.♞d2 ♖b3 19.♞c1  
♗f5 20.♗xe5 ♗xe5 21.♞xd8  
♞xd8 22.♖xa5 ♞e8 23.♗d1  
♗g4 24.♗f1 f6 25.♖c7 ♖b4  
26.a5 ♖e1 27.♞b1



27. ... ♗f3+! 28.♖g2

On 28. exf3, Black mates after  
28. ... ♖xf1+ 29. ♖xf1 ♗h3+  
30. ♖g1 ♞e1#.

28. ... ♖xf1+! 0-1

It is mate after 29. ♖xf1 ♗h3#.

----- Game #999 -----

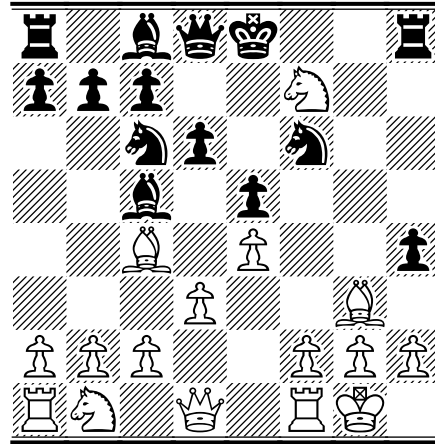
Black has so much confidence  
in his Lay Down Sacrifice that  
he gives up his Queen to reach  
the position.

(W) Serafino Dubois

(B) Wilhelm Steinitz

[C55] London, England, 1862

1.e4 e5 2.♗f3 ♗c6 3.♗c4  
♗f6 4.d3 ♗c5 5.0-0 d6 6.♗g5  
h6 7.♗h4 g5 8.♗g3 h5  
9.♗xg5 h4 10.♗xf7



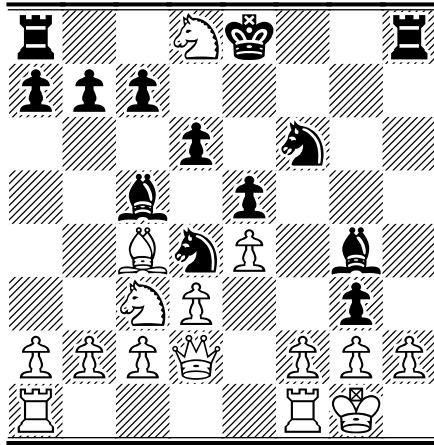
10. ... hxg3!?

Black has loads of  
compensation for his Queen in  
terms of highly active minor  
pieces and a pesky pawn on  
g3.

11.♗xd8 ♗g4 12.♖d2 ♗d4

**13. ♖c3?**

White's only chance for survival rested in the line starting with the move 13. h3. For example, 13. h3 ♖e2+ 14. ♖xe2 (Not 14. ♖h1?? ♜xh3+ 15. gxh3 ♜f3#.) ♖e6 with a slight advantage for White.



**13. ... ♖f3+! 14.gxf3 ♜xf3 15.hxg3 ♜h1# 0-1**

The next group of games (Games #999 to #999) are all Queen Lay Down Sacrifices.

----- **Game #999** -----

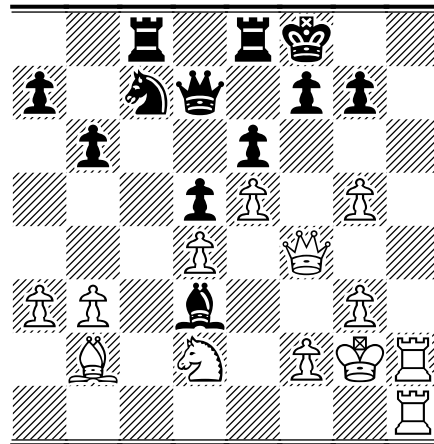
White utilizes his Queen as a Lay Down gift to prevent the Black King from escaping.

**(W) Igor Zakharevich**

**(B) Jakov Geller**

[E09] Russia Cup Open, Tula, Russia, (Round 4), 2001

**1.d4 d5 2.♖f3 c6 3.c4 e6 4.♖bd2 ♖f6 5.♖c2 ♜e7 6.g3 0-0 7.♜g2 ♖bd7 8.0-0 b6 9.e4 ♜b7 10.e5 ♖e8 11.cxd5 cxd5 12.♞e1 ♖c7 13.♖b3 ♞c8 14.♜f1 ♖c2 15.♖e3 ♖c7 16.♜d3 ♖a4 17.b3 ♖a5 18.a3 ♜a6 19.♜b1 ♖b5 20.♜b2 ♖c7 21.h4 ♞fe8 22.♖f4 ♖f8 23.♖g5 ♜xg5 24.hxg5 ♖b5 25.♖g2 ♖d7 26.♞h1 ♞e7 27.♜xh7+ ♖xh7 28.♞xh7 ♜d3 29.♞h2 ♞ee8 30.♞ah1 ♖f8**



**31. ♖f6! 1-0**

White blocks the Black King from escaping checkmate via the e7 square.

----- Game #999 -----

Lay Down Sacrifice or Qishing Pole? You make the call!

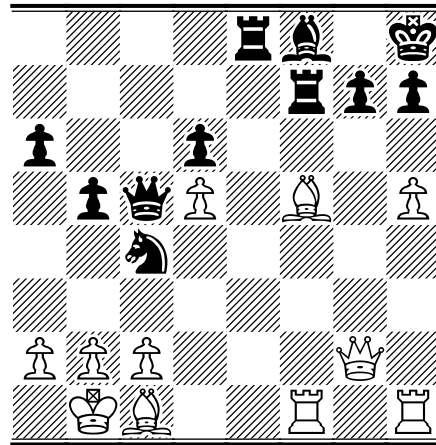
**(W) Jolanta Zawadzka (2404)**

**(B) Lisa Schut (2224)**

[B90] European Individual  
Championships (Women),  
Rijeka, Croatia, (Round 1),  
03/06/2010

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4  
4.♗xd4 ♗f6 5.♗c3 a6 6.♕e3  
e5 7.♗b3 ♕e7 8.h3 ♕e6 9.f4  
exf4 10.♕xf4 ♗c6 11.♖e2  
♗e5 12.0-0-0 ♖c7 13.g4 ♗c8  
14.g5 ♗fd7 15.♖g2 b5  
16.♖b1 0-0 17.♗d5 ♕xd5  
18.exd5 ♗g6 19.♕c1 ♗h4  
20.♖e4 ♗fe8 21.♕d3 ♗g6  
22.♖g2 ♗c5 23.♗xc5 ♖xc5  
24.h4 ♕f8 25.h5 ♗e5 26.♕f5  
♗c7 27.g6 ♖h8 28.♗df1 ♗c4  
29.gxf7 ♗xf7

“Lay Down Sacrifice or  
Qishing Pole?”



30.♖g6!!

Some kind of a cross between  
a Fishing Pole move and a Lay  
Down Sacrifice. Either way, the  
move is highly effective.

30. ... h×g6 31.h×g6+ ♖g8  
32.g×f7+ ♖×f7 33.♕e6+ ♖g6  
34.♕f7# 1-0

----- Game #999 -----

Black ignores the White Bishop  
Lay Down Sacrifice so White  
adds his Queen to the mix.

**(W) Dragoljub Velimirovic**

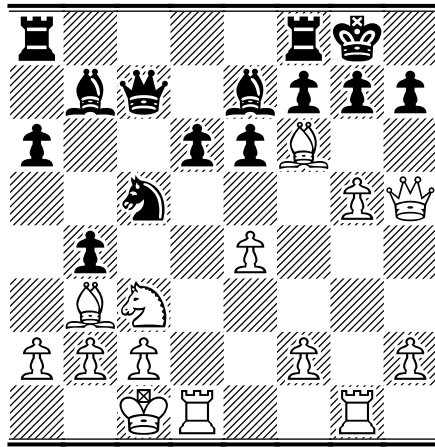
**(B) Galjovic**

[B89] Belgrade, Yugoslavia,  
1966

1.e4 c5 2.♗f3 ♗c6 3.d4 cxd4  
4.♗xd4 ♗f6 5.♗c3 d6 6.♕c4  
e6 7.♕e3 ♕e7 8.♖e2 0-0

9.0-0-0 ♖c7 10.♗b3 a6 11.g4  
 ♘×d4 12.♗×d4 b5 13.g5 ♘d7  
 14.♞h5 ♘c5 15.♞hg1 ♗b7  
 16.♗f6 b4?

Black could not accept the Bishop sacrifice without causing major defensive issues for his g7 and h7 squares, for example, 16. ... gxf6? 17. gxf6+ ♖h8 18. ♞g7. However, Black had to move his kingside Rook to provide an escape square for his King, thus avoiding ...



17.♞h6! 1-0

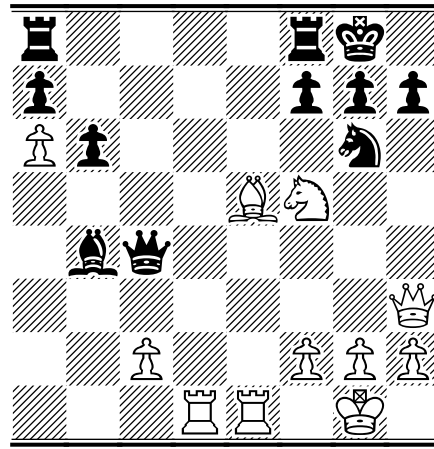
----- Game #999 -----

A well positioned Knight and Bishop can work wonders for a Queen Lay Down Sacrifice.

(W) Vasilios Kotronias  
 (B) Daniel King

[B12] New York WFW, 1990

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 ♗f5  
 4.♘c3 ♞b6 5.♗d3 ♗×d3  
 6.♞×d3 e6 7.♘ge2 ♘d7 8.0-0  
 ♘e7 9.a4 c5 10.a5 ♞c6  
 11.d×c5 ♘×e5 12.♞g3 ♘5g6  
 13.♘d4 ♞×c5 14.♗e3 e5  
 15.♘db5 ♞c6 16.a6 b6  
 17.♞ad1 d4 18.♞h3 ♘c8  
 19.♗×d4 ♘d6 20.♞fe1 ♘×b5  
 21.♗×e5 ♗e7 22.♘×b5 0-0  
 23.♘d4 ♞c5 24.b4 ♞c4  
 25.♘f5 ♗×b4



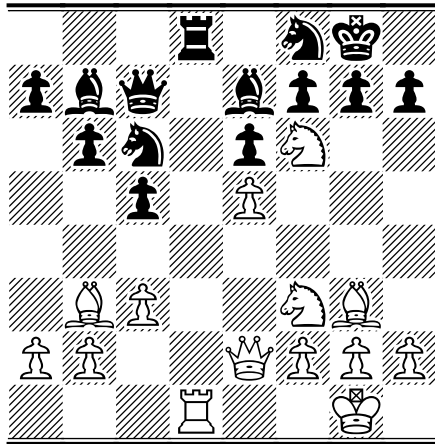
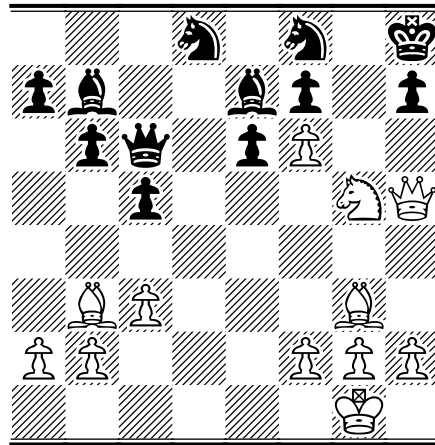
26.♞h6! 1-0

----- Game #999 -----

This Lay Down Sacrifice is fueled by a subsequent discovery attack on the Black Queen and some very interesting tactics.

**(W) Baira Kovanova (2380)**  
**(B) Natalia Pogonina (2472)**  
 [B50] Women's World Chess  
 Championship, Antakya,  
 Turkey, (Round 1), 12/04/2010

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.♙c4 ♘c6  
 4.0-0 ♗f6 5.♚e2 e6 6.c3 ♙e7  
 7.♙b3 0-0 8.d4 ♚c7 9.dxc5  
 dxc5 10.e5 ♘d7 11.♙f4 ♖d8  
 12.♘bd2 ♗f8 13.♗ad1 b6  
 14.♙g3 ♙b7 15.♘e4 ♗x d1  
 16.♗x d1 ♖d8 17.♘f6+



17. ... ♙h8 18.♘g5 ♗x d1+  
 19.♚x d1 ♘d8 20.♚h5 gxf6?  
 21.exf6 ♚c6

22.♙d5!!

White finds an amazing  
 Invisible Defender defensive  
 resource!

22. ... ♚e8

White wins after 22. ... ♚x d5  
 23.♘xf7+ ♘xf7 24.♚x d5 ♙x d5  
 25.fxe7 where Black cannot  
 prevent the White passed  
 pawn from queening.

23.♚h6 ♙xf6 24.♚xf6+ ♙g8  
 25.♙e5 1-0

----- Game #999 -----

White plays a Lay Down  
 Bishop Sacrifice to prevent the  
 Black King from escaping a  
 mating net.

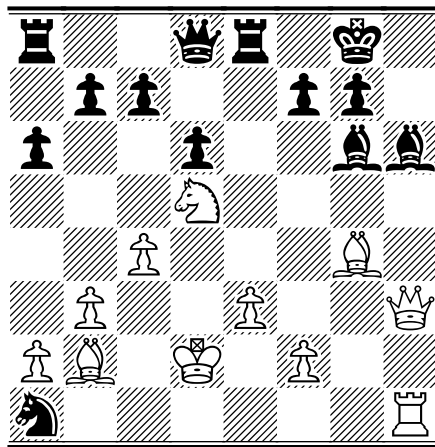
(W) Alan Goldsmith

(B) Arvids Prods

[A01] Australian

Championship, Melbourne,  
Australia, 1982

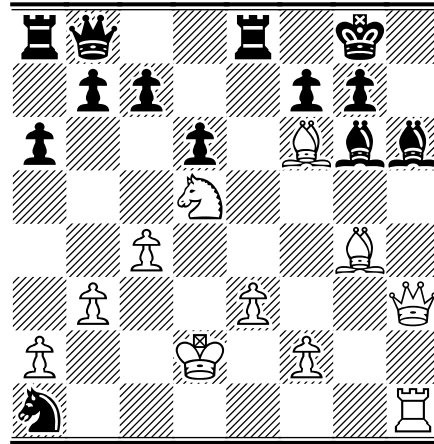
1. b3 e5 2. ♖b2 ♜c6 3. e3 ♞f6  
4. ♗b5 d6 5. ♞f3 a6 6. ♗e2  
♗e7 7. d4 e4 8. ♞fd2 0-0 9. c4  
♗f5 10. ♜c3 ♝c8 11. h3 ♗g6  
12. g4 h6 13. h4 ♞e8 14. g5  
h×g5 15. h×g5 ♞h7 16. ♗g4  
♝d8 17. ♞d×e4 ♞×g5  
18. ♞×g5 ♗×g5 19. ♝f3 ♞×d4  
20. ♝h3 ♞c2+ 21. ♞d2 ♗h6  
22. ♞d5 ♞×a1



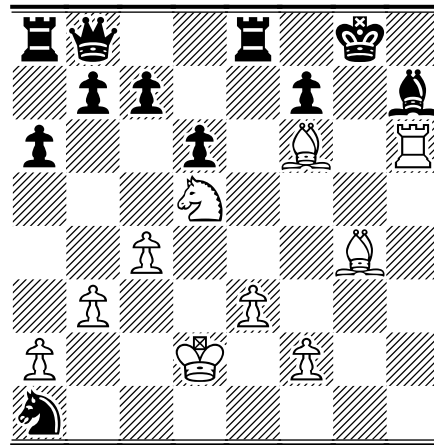
23. ♗f6!

In addition to threatening the  
Black Queen, White is actually  
closing the door on the Black  
King. As a result, the Black  
King will not be subsequently  
fleeing the White attack via the  
e7 square.

23. ... ♝b8



24. ♝×h6!! g×h6 25. ♞×h6  
♗h7



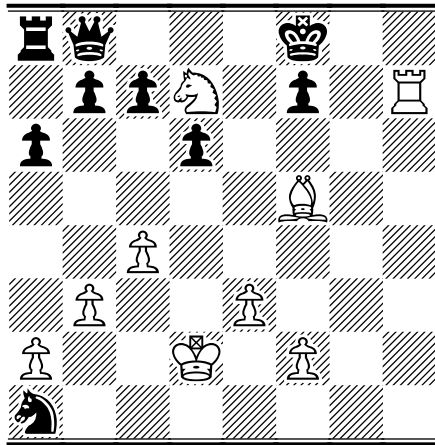
White proceeds toward his goal  
of checkmating the Black King.

26. ♗f5!!

Black can only avoid mate by

losing his Queen like in the game.

26. ... ♖e6 27. ♖xh7 ♖xf6  
28. ♗xf6+ ♜f8 29. ♗d7+ 1-0



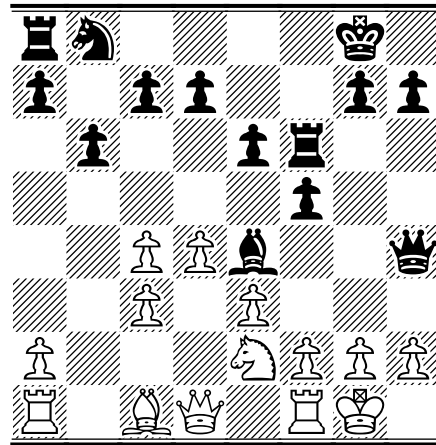
Final Position

----- **Game #999** -----

A Bishop Lay Down Sacrifice exposes the weak squares around the White King.

(W) Evgeny Bareev (2663)  
(B) Laszlo Zsinka (2293)  
[E44] Naestved Open,  
Naestved, Denmark, 1988

1.d4 ♗f6 2.c4 e6 3.♗c3 ♖b4  
4.e3 b6 5.♗ge2 ♗e4 6.♜c2  
♗b7 7.♗g3 ♜h4 8.♗d3 f5  
9.0-0 ♗xc3 10.bxc3 0-0  
11.♗e2 ♖f6 12.♗xe4 ♗xe4  
13.♜d1



13. ... ♗f3!! 0-1

White faces a checkmate on accepting the Lay Down Bishop Sacrifice after 14.gxf3 ♖h6 15.♖e1 ♜xh2+ 16.♜f1 ♜h3+ 17.♜g1 ♜h1#.

White's best defense is no help either after 14.♜e1 ♖h6 15.h3 ♗xg2 16.♗f4 ♗xh3 17.f3 ♜g5+ 18.♜f2 ♗xf1.

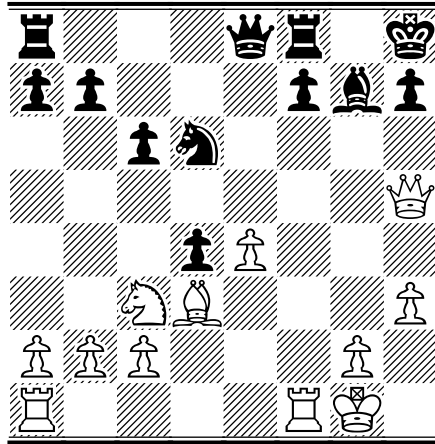
----- **Game #999** -----

Another Lay Down Sacrifice designed to expose the weak h7 square next to the Black King. White places his Rook on f6 to prevent Black's best defensive try, f5.

(W) Robert Fischer  
(B) Pal Benko

[B09] US Championship, New York, NY, (Round 10), 12/30/1963

1.e4 g6 2.d4 ♘g7 3.♗c3 d6  
 4.f4 ♗f6 5.♗f3 0-0 6.♙d3  
 ♘g4 7.h3 ♙xh3 8.♚xf3 ♗c6  
 9.♙e3 e5 10.dxe5 dxe5 11.f5  
 gxf5 12.♚xf5 ♗d4 13.♚f2  
 ♗e8 14.0-0 ♗d6 15.♚g3 ♖h8  
 16.♚g4 c6 17.♚h5 ♚e8  
 18.♙xd4 exd4



19. ♖f6!!

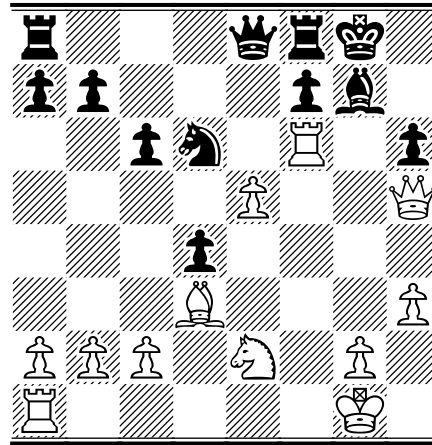
The key to this offensive move by White is blocking the Black f-pawn and eliminating the move f5 as a defensive attempt to protect the h7 square along the b1-h7 diagonal.

19. ... ♚g8

Black is checkmated after

19. ... ♙xf6 20. e5 with ♚xh7# to follow.

20.e5 h6 21.♗e2 1-0



Black resigned because his Knight on d6 cannot move in view of White's reply, ♚f5.

Refer to Games #999 to #999 for additional Bishop Lay Down Sacrifices (with ♙xh7).