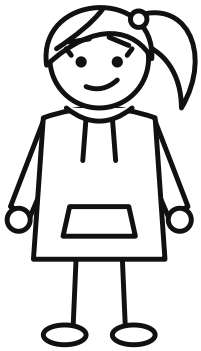
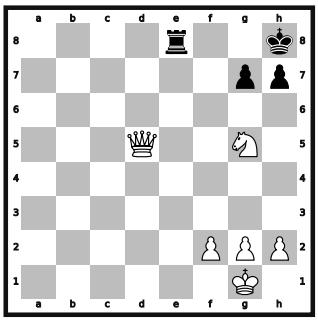
CHECKMAYA

SPECIAL EDITION: ZEKE'S TRAINING CAMP



Zeke! 1600 Elo? Respect.
But can you solve THESE?
6 real puzzles. No engine. No cap.

#1 THE SMOTHER



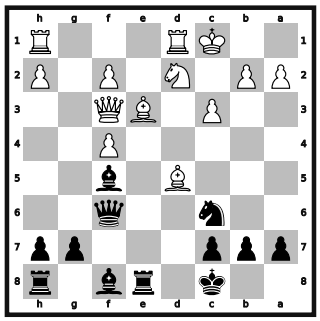
White to move
Mate in 4

★★☆☆☆

Maya says:
Your knight and queen are about to do something rude. Checks only, Zeke.

Philidor's Legacy - a classic pattern

#2 BODEN'S BOMB



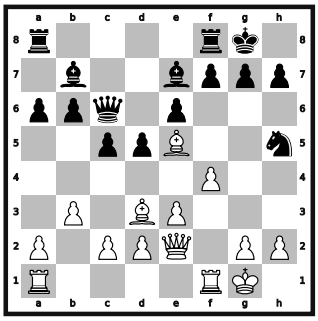
Black to move
Mate in 2

★★☆☆☆

Maya says:
Two bishops. One very sad king. Give away the biggest piece you've got.

Schulder vs Boden, London 1853

#3 DOUBLE BISHOP SAC



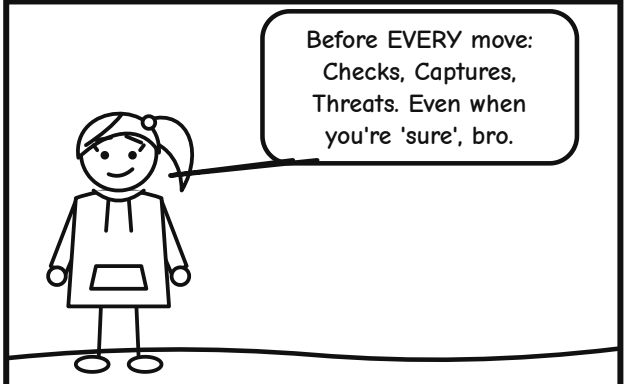
White to move
and win

★★★☆☆

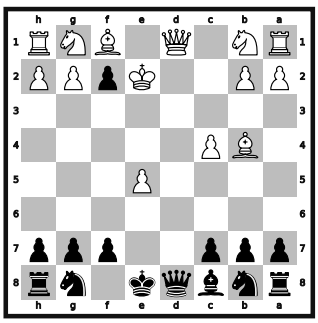
Maya says:
One bishop sac is cute. Two bishop sacs is legendary. Find both.

Lasker vs Bauer, Amsterdam 1889

MAYA'S TIP #1



#4 THE LASKER TRAP



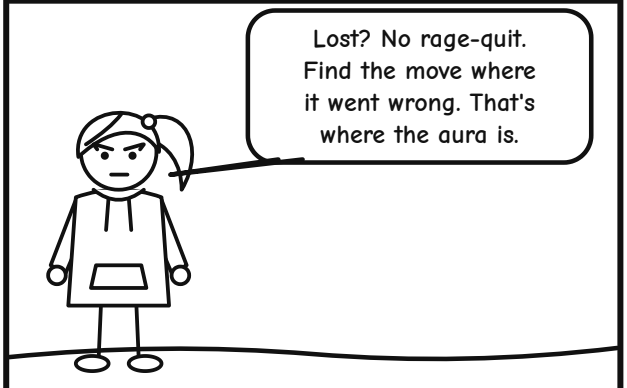
Black to move
and win

★★★☆☆

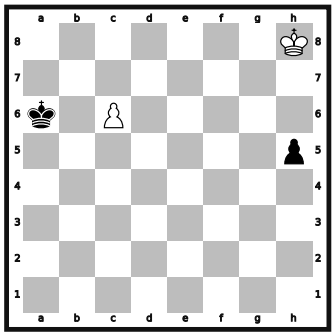
Maya says:
Promoting to a queen is so mid. Think outside the box.

Albin Countergambit trap

MAYA'S TIP #2



#5 THE IMPOSSIBLE DRAW



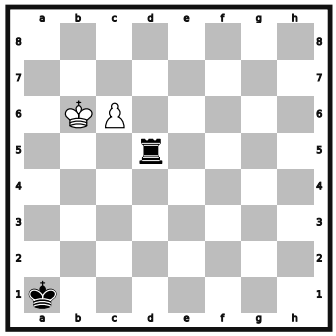
White to move and DRAW

★★★★☆

Maya says:
The h-pawn looks unstoppable. It's not. Your king can chase two things at once.

Richard Réti's study, 1921

#6 SAAVEDRA'S MIRACLE



White to move and win

★★★★★

Maya says:
Beware of stalemate. Sometimes the best piece is NOT the queen.

The Saavedra position, 1895

MAYA'S TIP #3



ZEKE'S SCORE

☐ / 6

0-2: NPC energy. Try again!
3-4: Solid. Lowkey goated.
5: Grandmaster arc unlocked.
6: Maya wants a rematch.
(Hints used? Be honest.)



SOLUTIONS (NO PEEKING, ZEKE)

1. 1.Nf7+ Kg8 2.Nh6+ (double check!) Kh8 3.Qg8+!! Rxg8 4.Nf7# - smothered mate.

2. 14...Qxc3+!! 15.bxc3 Ba3# - Boden's Mate: two bishops on criss-cross diagonals.

3. 15.Bxh7+! Kxh7 16.Qxh5+ Kg8 17.Bxg7!! Kxg7 18.Qg4+ Kh7 19.Rf3 and Rh3+ next. Black has to give up the queen. Lasker won.

4. 7...fxg1=N+!! A queen on g1 isn't check, so White just swaps queens with Qxd8+. The knight comes WITH check: 8.Rxg1 Bg4+ wins White's queen, and 8.Ke1 Qh4+ is crushing.

5. 1.Kg7! h4 2.Kf6 Kb6 3.Ke5!! Kxc6 4.Kf4 and the king catches the pawn. (2...h3 3.Ke7 h2 4.c7 - both sides queen. Draw!)

6. 1.c7 Rd6+ 2.Kb5 Rd5+ 3.Kb4 Rd4+ 4.Kb3 Rd3+ 5.Kc2 Rd4! 6.c8=R!! (6.c8=Q? Rc4+ 7.Qxc4 is stalemate) 6...Ra4 7.Kb3 - Rc1# and Kxa4 are both threatened. White wins.