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Series Foreword

Move by Move is a series of opening books which uses a question-and-answer format. One of our main aims of the series is to replicate - as much as possible - lessons between chess teachers and students.

All the way through, readers will be challenged to answer searching questions and to complete exercises, to test their skills in chess openings and indeed in other key aspects of the game. It's our firm belief that practising your skills like this is an excellent way to study chess openings, and to study chess in general.

Many thanks go to all those who have been kind enough to offer inspiration, advice and assistance in the creation of *Move by Move*. We're really excited by this series and hope that readers will share our enthusiasm.

John Emms
Everyman Chess

Introduction

The Torre Attack in its traditional guise, **1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♗f3 e6 3 ♕g5**, is an excellent way for the d-pawn player to avoid the complexities of the Nimzo-Indian. Especially at club level White often reaches an easy-to-play position where he enjoys decent attacking prospects. In such positions, with Black generally committed to an early ...d5, knowledge of the key motifs for each side is much more important than memorizing specific theoretical sequences. That's not to say that the Torre doesn't have its sharp and quite critical lines, but there is certainly much less to know than if White ventures an early c2-c4.

Sometimes the Torre is tagged with unflattering terms like 'dull', but one will find plenty of exciting games in this work. I certainly can't believe that too dull an opening would have been used throughout his career by the strong Russian Grandmaster Alexey Dreev, nor by those two leading modern day knights of the opening, the Indian Grandmasters Pentala Harikrishna and Krishnan Sasikiran, who have built on the earlier Torre efforts by the likes of Tigran Petrosian and Boris Spassky. White's simple set-up might be quite solid, but Black underestimates it and White's chances to seize a middlegame initiative at his peril.

Notably all five of those aforementioned players have employed the Torre not just in its traditional form, but also against 2...g6. I've long felt that the Torre is underestimated by King's Indian and Grünfeld players and that White has much better chances for an edge in the main lines after 2...g6 3 ♕g5 than theory has often thought. Just like after 2...e6, Black can equalize, but he needs to know his stuff and may not find the main lines the guarantee of an easy life he had perhaps hoped.

The *Move by Move* format is ideal for explaining the intricacies of an opening like the Torre. This book is not crammed full of theory, but there should still be plenty of detail for even the stronger club player and above. The aim has been to provide a good balance between coverage of the relatively more theoretical positions and an explanation of the key manoeuvres for both sides. Unlike in many opening works, however, the notes do not begin to gradually peter out once past the opening stage of each illustrative game. Indeed, I hope that each of our 25 illustrative games will provide an instructive lesson in middlegame and sometimes even endgame play, with the Questions and Exercises often highlighting particularly important points.

Question: I understand that we'll be looking at 3 ♕g5 after both 2...e6 and 2...g6, but can we not play the opening against everything?

Answer: Unfortunately, that's a common misconception. As we'll see in our final chapter, White can most certainly meet 1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 b6 and 2...d6 with 3 ♗g5, but I do not really recommend it after 2...d5. White hopes for 3...e6, transposing to his favourite line, but unfortunately 3...♗e4! is a bit of a problem. As such, I'm afraid that after 1 d4 d5 2 ♘f3 ♗f6 White should play 3 c4 or, if he prefers a systems-based approach, 3 ♗f4 or 3 e3.

The Torre only really works with a knight on f6, so is not ideal either against the likes of the Modern (1...g6 and 2...♗g7), and 1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 c5 is another approach which casts significant doubt on the view of the Torre as a 'complete' opening. Clearly 3 ♗g5 cxd4, breaking up White's pawn centre, is not ideal and neither is the preparatory 3 c3 going to suit everyone, with 3...cxd4 4 cxd4 d5, taking play into the Exchange Slav, one problem. One really does better just to learn 3 d5, as covered in, amongst other works, Aaron Summerscale's *A Killer Chess Opening Repertoire*.

Question: It seems like we won't be getting the Torre all that often. Is it really such a good practical choice?

Answer: Don't forget that the King's Indian and the Nimzo-Indian are extremely popular at all levels of the game. In the majority of games with 1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 Black does, indeed, plump for 2...g6 or 2...e6. Meanwhile it's a rare day when he's as well-versed in terms of both theory and understanding of the typical nuances as the Torre practitioner.

Question: At club level I presume you mean?

Answer: As we'll see throughout this work, the Torre Attack has caught out even some quite experienced grandmasters over the years. The majority of our illustrative games feature two grandmasters and quite often Black will be found struggling in the middlegame stage, if not even earlier!

Question: Wow! So not even GMs know their Torre theory from the black side?

Answer: Exactly. Admittedly plenty do know what they're doing in the opening stage against the Torre, but they can still come unstuck in the resulting manoeuvring struggle, which may be why even Magnus Carlsen has turned to the Torre on occasion. It's important too to remember that the lines which dominate at grandmaster level are not always those which the club player gets to see quite often. As such, from the well over 50,000 (!) Torre games I found, particular attention was paid to not just the most common approaches at GM level – lines which often find their way into repertoire books for Black – but also to the most common lines on the database where both players were rated below 2000.

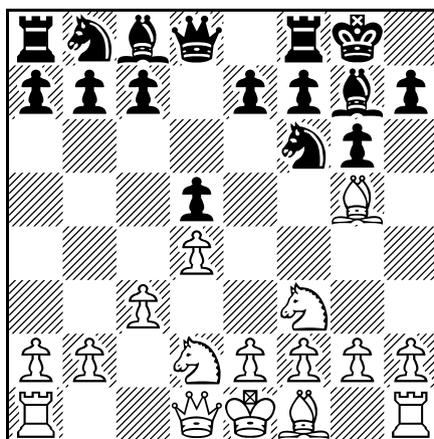
That's enough use of the *Move by Move* format for now! It's time to see why the Torre Attack still packs a certain punch in 2012, some 87 years after Carlos Torre Repetto's famous 'Windmill' victory with his opening over Emanuel Lasker. Good luck with your own adventures with the opening.

Richard Palliser,
York,
April 2012

Chapter One

The ...g6 Torre: Lines with ...d5

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♗f3 g6 3 ♙g5 ♚g7 4 ♘bd2 0-0 5 c3 d5



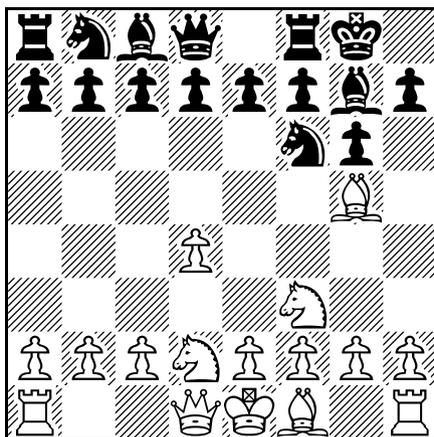
This solid-looking approach is not only employed by Grünfeld players, but also by plenty of King's Indian aficionados. That may seem surprising considering the dynamic nature of those two defences, but playing ...d7-d5 on move 4 or 5 is just the sort of 'let's be safe and avoid any early trouble' approach likely to be used by those taken aback by the Torre. Of course, such set-ups may also appeal to those with quite a classical bent to their style, as well as to players who like to go 1 d4 followed by a kingside fianchetto as White. Black will often employ an early ...c7-c5, but first we must consider a pretty important line where he aims to break instead with ...e7-e5.

Game 1

C.Bauer-I.Smirin

European Team Championship, Porto Carras 2011

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 g6 3 ♙g5 ♙g7 4 ♘bd2 0-0

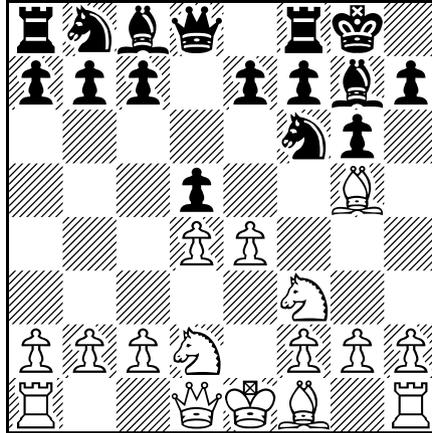


Black can also play 4...d5 without delay when one possible transposition is 5 e3 0-0 6 c3 and we're back in our main game here.

5 c3!

Question: What on earth are we moving this pawn for? Black hasn't even put d4 under any pressure yet! Surely 5 e4 should have been preferred?

Answer: The text is a crafty, prophylactic move which has become White's main choice by far these days. Sooner or later White will need to shore up the defence of d4, so he prioritizes that part of his set-up, avoiding the powerful counterstrike 5 e4 d5! at the same time.



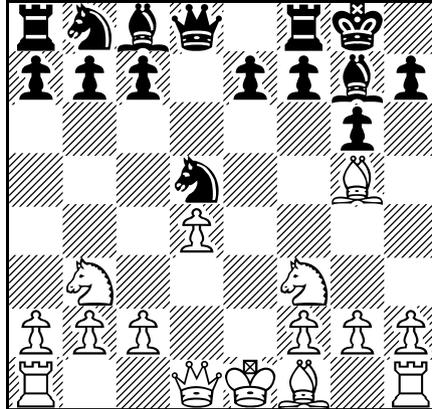
This active thrust grants Black easy counterplay and is worth avoiding. For example:

a) 6 e5 is the move that White would like to play, but asks too much of his position.

Following 6...♘e4 7 ♙d3? (better is 7 ♙e3, not that 7...c5 8 c3 ♘c6 9 ♙d3 cxd4 10 cxd4 ♙f5 followed by ...♗b6 can exactly be described as a success for White) 7...♘xg5 8 ♘xg5 c5 9 c3 (Hodgson's 9 h4!? looks rather speculative after Gallagher's counter-suggestion of 9...c4!) 9...♘c6 10 ♘gf3 ♙g4 (the immediate 10...cxd4 11 cxd4 ♗b6 would have been pretty effective too) 11 ♗a4 cxd4 12 cxd4 f6! 13 exf6 ♙xf6 White's centre collapsed in M.Jones-R.Palliser, York 1998.

b) 6 ♙xf6 ♙xf6 7 c3 dxe4 (a solid approach, but both 7...♙g7 and 7...c5!? look like better tries to exploit White's decision to give up his favourite piece) 8 ♘xe4 ♙g7 9 ♙c4 ♘d7 10 O-O ♘f6 11 ♘xf6+ ♙xf6 12 ♗e1 ♗d6 gave Black full equality in K.Sasikiran-R.Palliser, British Championship, Hove 1997.

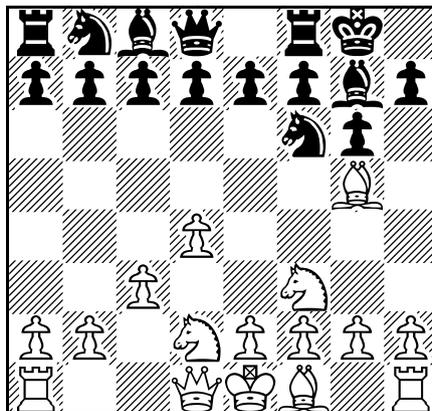
c) 6 exd5 ♘xd5 7 ♘b3 has received some high-level support, not that placing the knight on b3 is exactly ideal.



Indeed, 7...h6 (7...a5 8 a4 b6 9 c3 ♖b7 must be fine too, although after 10 ♙c4 ♚d6 11 0-0 ♜d7 12 ♜bd2! e5 13 ♚e1 the knight was back in play and Black's queen slightly misplaced, which added up to a pull for White in A.Dreev-A.Shirov, Warsaw (rapid) 2009) 8 ♙d2 (8 ♙h4? f5! leaves the bishop in some danger of being trapped) 8...♜d7 9 c4 (unpalatable the thought, but perhaps it was time to play to maintain equality with 9 ♙e2 e5 10 dxe5 ♜xe5 11 0-0) 9...♜5b6 10 ♙f4 c5! 11 d5 ♜a4 saw Black seizing the initiative in P.Harikrishna-S.Mamedyarov, Lausanne 2005.

d) 6 ♙d3 dxe4 7 ♜xe4 ♜xe4 8 ♙xe4 c5 is an easy equalizer and after 9 c3 cxd4 10 ♜xd4 ♚a5 11 ♙e3 ♚d8 12 0-0 e5 13 ♜b3 ♚c7 14 ♚f3 ♜d7 Black's central control gave him decent counterchances in C.Crouch-H.Tikkanen, London 2011.

Question: Okay, you've convinced me. We can't play the immediate 5 e4, but isn't Black able to prevent e2-e4 for good after 5 c3?

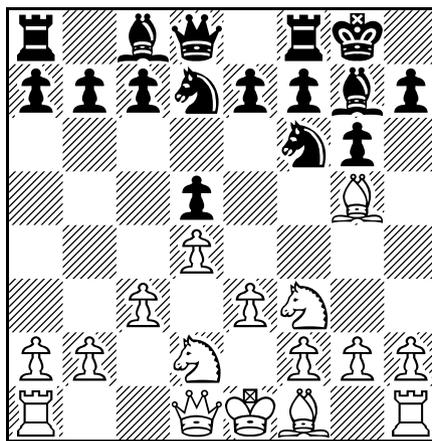


Answer: Well, yes, he can rule out 6 e4, but that doesn't mean that the pawn will never reach that square and, besides, we want to maintain control, not become too ambitious. Likewise, we'll see later on that White doesn't hurry to play e2-e4, rather than the more sensible development of the pawn to e3, in most lines of the 2...e6 Torre.

5...d5

Shirov decides to prevent e2-e4. This solid choice is quite a popular one at club level where players are sometimes overly concerned with ceding the centre when in unfamiliar waters. Here, however, the move is a slight surprise; one would have expected such a dynamic a player as Shirov to have preferred 5...d6 in King's Indian style – a move which we will examine in the next chapter.

6 e3 ♘bd7



Black decides to play for ...e5. He can also play on the queenside with 6...c5 or first 6...b6, as we'll see later in this chapter.

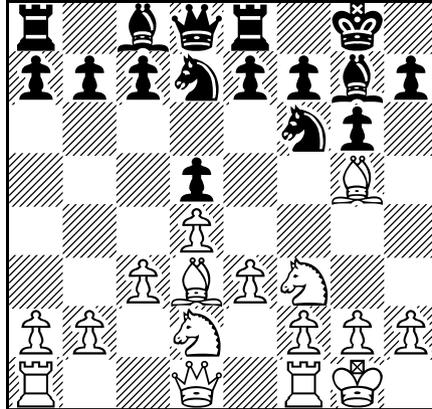
7 ♙d3!?

This trendy move is likely to surprise a booked-up opponent. For years it was thought that if White wanted to play for an advantage, he had to try 7 ♙e2 (avoiding any potential fork with ...e5-e4) 7...♖e8 8 b4!?, allowing Black to occupy the centre in return for beginning a queenside offensive. The text looks fairly harmless, but just see what follows...

7...♖e8

Black wants to strike back in the centre with ...e7-e5. Next game we examine the alternative counterstrike, 7...c5.

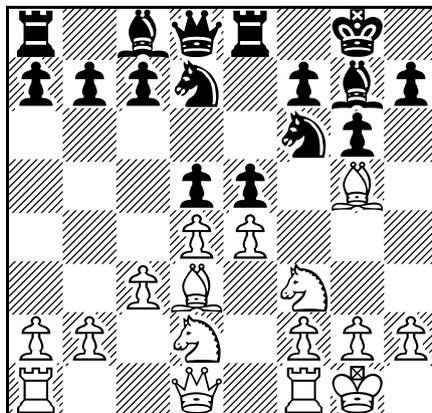
8 0-0



8...e5

Question: Why did we place the bishop on d3? I just don't get it. Not only does the bishop bite on granite down the b1-h7 diagonal, but 9 dxe5 ♖xe5 10 ♘xe5 ♗xe5 11 ♖f3 ♗e8 doesn't seem like all that much fun for us.

Answer: That position does, indeed, promise White absolutely nothing. The e3-e4 pawn break isn't happening in a hurry and going c3-c4 instead would only help that potentially powerful bishop on g7. However, who said that White had to exchange on e5?
9 e4!



White has no desire to let Black dominate the centre, so fights back with a classic counterstrike, albeit one seen more often in the likes of the Colle and the Semi-Slav. According to the database this powerful move was first played in 1963, but has only been seen on some 19 occasions since; a pretty tiny number in this theory-laden age. That said,

the move has recently attracted the attention of a few grandmasters, so don't be surprised if you see some published games from this position during the remainder of 2012.

9...exd4

This, Black's invariable choice, seems best, inflicting an IQP on White.

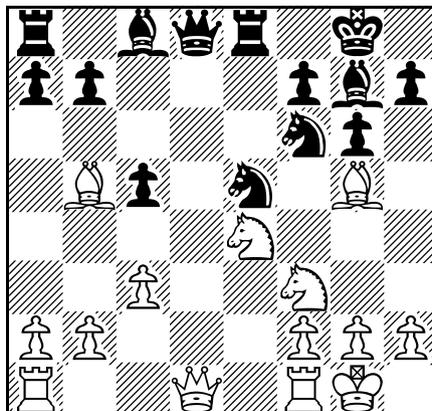
Question: But surely we don't want to be saddled with an IQP here? There's no chance of the classic queen and light-squared bishop battery obtaining much with Black having gone ...g6.

Answer: That is, indeed, White's main follow-up in many IQP positions, but don't forget that the side with the IQP wants to play actively and is trying to seize the initiative. We can very much do so here. The b1-h7 diagonal might be blocked for now, but Black's defences aren't so secure along that other light-squared diagonal, a2-g8.

Before examining the IQP scenario, we should first make sure we are happy with our chances against the alternatives:

a) 9...c6 was a solid reaction in the stem game, where 10 ♖e1 ♜b6 11 ♙xf6 would have been okay for Black in L.Joyner-R.Hirsch, Canadian Championship 1963, had he gone in for the critical line 11...♗xf6! 12 exd5 cxd5 13 ♘xe5 ♜xb2. Instead White should maintain the tension with 11 ♖b1 or 11 ♜c2, with the slightly more pleasant position, since Black is yet to develop his queenside. For instance, after the latter, 11...exd4 12 exd5!? dxc3 13 ♖xe8+ ♗xe8 14 ♘c4 is an energetic attempt to exploit White's superior development to seize the initiative. Black is temporarily a pawn up, but after 14...♜c5 15 ♖e1 ♘ef6 16 dxc6 bxc6 17 ♙e3! (17 ♜xc3 ♘e4! isn't so effective) 17...♜d5 18 ♜xc3 White regains the pawn with a structural plus.

b) 9...c5?! asked too much of Black's position in R.Fritsch-K.Muench, German League 1975, where after 10 dxe5 dxe4?! (10...♗xe5 11 ♘xe5 dxe4! was a better try, restricting White to just a pull after 12 ♗xe4 ♖xe5 13 ♜b3!) White had a number of powerful continuations, not least 11 ♗xe4 ♗xe5 12 ♙b5!, leaving Black in serious trouble.

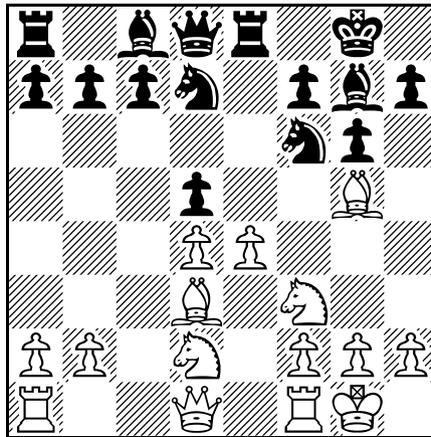


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Indeed, after 12...♖xd1 (White emerges the exchange ahead following 12...♜xf3+ 13 ♖xf3 ♜xe4 14 ♖xe4 ♗b6 15 ♖e2, while 12...♙d7? shows why White wanted to clear the central files: 13 ♜xf6+ ♙xf6 14 ♙xf6 ♖xf6 15 ♙xd7 ♜ad8 16 ♜xe5 ♜xe5 17 ♖a4 nets a clear piece) 13 ♜xf6+ ♙xf6 14 ♜axd1 Black must give up the exchange for insufficient compensation, whether he exchanges on f3 and takes the bishop on g5 or permits 14...♜e6 15 ♙xf6 ♜xf3+ 16 gxf3 ♜xf6 17 ♜d8+ ♔g7 18 ♙d7.

c) 9...dxe4 10 ♜xe4 exd4 11 cxd4 transposes to the game. Here Black might consider 10...h6?! when 11 ♖b3!? would echo Bauer's play, but even stronger is the simple 11 ♙xf6! ♙xf6 (11...♜xf6 12 ♜xe5 costs Black a pawn unless he wants to go in for 12...♜xe4 13 ♙xe4 ♙xe5 14 dxe5 ♖xd1 15 ♜fxd1 ♜xe5 16 ♜d8+ with a powerful pin along the back rank) 12 ♜xf6+ ♖xf6 13 ♜e1 (Van Delft and Ris) when Black will be hard pushed not to drop his e-pawn.

10 cxd4

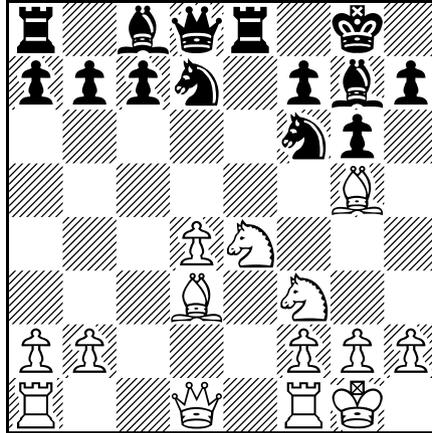


10...dxe4

The English Grandmaster, William Watson, once preferred 10...h6!? and this is quite a sneaky defensive try. After 11 ♙h4 g5! I'm not convinced by either piece sacrifice and neither does 12 e5 gxh4 13 exf6 ♜xf6 trouble Black, since 14 ♜xh4 is well met by 14...♜e4. Thus White should give up the bishop-pair and after 11 ♙xf6! ♜xf6 12 e5 ♜d7 13 ♜c1!? (13 b4 a5 14 a3 is a sensible alternative, keeping Black restricted) 13...c5 14 ♙b5 cxd4 15 ♖a4 a6 16 ♙xd7 (and not the too clever by half 16 ♜fe1?? on account of 16...♜b6!) 16...♙xd7 17 ♖xd4 ♙c6 18 ♜b3 he has good chances to gradually increase his grip over the position.

11 ♜xe4

White may have an IQP, but his pieces are actively placed and his position will prove easy to improve with simple moves, such as ♜e1 and ♖b3. Hence Smirin's decision to break the pin.



11...h6

Question: Are you sure this is what White should be doing? I see the line 12 ♖h4 ♜xe4 13 ♙xe4 g5 14 ♙xg5 hxg5 15 ♘xg5 when it's not at all clear what's going on. Black has two minor pieces for the rook and two pawns and it's surely not definite that White can break through on the kingside?

Answer: This variation has long been known to be acceptable enough for Black, but White can do much better with Werner Hug's 2010 discovery:

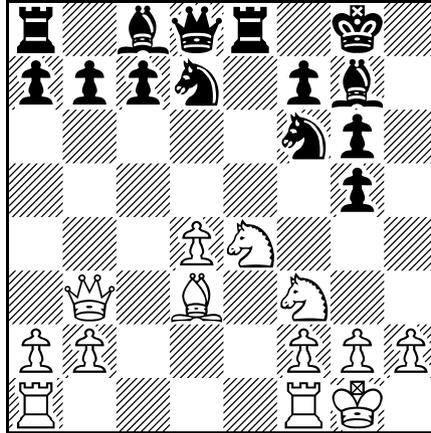
12 ♗b3!

A powerful piece sacrifice to highlight the main weakness in the black camp, the vulnerable f7-point.

12...♜e6?!

This attempt to block the diagonal with the rook is rather unnatural and ugly.

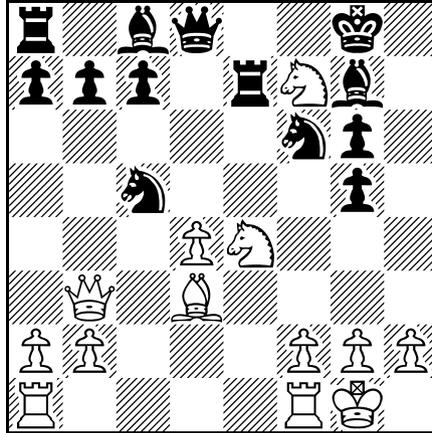
Exercise: Analyse your way to a promising position after 12...hxg5.



Answer: After 12...hxg5? 13 ♖exg5 ♗f8 (13...♗e7 14 ♕xg6 ♜f8 15 ♗fe1! exchanges off one defender of f7 with a quick kill in the offing) I hope you spotted that White can do even better than capture on f7: 14 ♕xg6! ♕e6 (or 14...♗xg6 15 ♜xf7+ ♖h8 16 ♜xg6 ♕e6 17 ♗fe1 ♕d5 18 ♗e5 with a huge attack; 19 ♗e3 being next up should Black save his queen) 15 ♕xf7+ ♕xf7 16 ♜xf7+ ♖h8 17 ♗ac1 and with three pawns for the piece and an ongoing initiative, White has far too much for the piece.

In the stem game, W.Hug-O.Cvitan, Swiss League 2010, the Swiss Grandmaster had to face 12...♗e7 which may well be Black's defence, although after 13 ♗e5 (White can also keep the tension here and 13 ♗fe1!? was tried in the later S.B.Hansen-Zhao Jun, Queenstown 2012; perhaps this is even stronger, since 13...hxg5 14 ♗exg5 ♗f8 15 ♗xf7! ♗xf7 16 ♕c4 ♕e6 17 ♗xe6! b5 18 ♜xb5 ♗xe6 19 ♕xe6 ♜e8 20 ♜b3 ♖f8 21 ♕xf7 ♜xf7 22 ♜b7 ♜d5 23 ♜xc7 saw the Danish Grandmaster emerge from a long, fairly forced sequence with four good pawns for the piece) 13...♗xe5?! 14 ♗xf6+ ♖h8 (14...♕xf6? 15 ♕xf6 costs Black the exchange) 15 dxex5 hxg5 16 ♜c3 White had taken control of the position and with such a vulnerable kingside, Black soon found himself having to give up the exchange for clearly insufficient compensation.

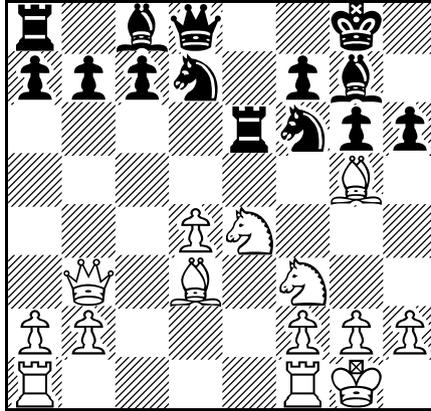
While one can understand Black's reluctance to become involved in it, the critical line here would have been 13...hxg5! 14 ♗xf7 ♗c5! (a key intermezzo and significant improvement over 14...♗xf7? 15 ♗xg5 ♗e5 16 dxex5 ♗d5 17 ♗xf7 ♖xf7 18 ♗ad1 c6 19 ♕e4 ♜e7 20 f4 when White dominates) and now:



a) My initial analysis ran 15 dxc5 ♖xf7 16 ♜xg5 ♚d5 17 ♙c4 ♗xg5 18 ♙xf7+ ♜h7 19 ♖fe1 when the position remains pretty unclear; White has a rook and two pawns for the minor pieces and must aim to make active use of his rook down the e-file in a bid not to lose control of the initiative.

b) However, just as this book was nearing completion, this position occurred in no lesser game than A.Yusupov-A.Shirov, Gibraltar 2012, where the grandmaster of Dvoretsky fame preferred 15 ♜xf6+!? ♙xf6 16 dxc5 ♖xf7 17 ♙xg6, which looks like an improvement over 15 dxc5. Shirov did his best to keep lines closed and to develop his queenside with 17...♗f8 18 f4! g4! 19 f5 ♙d7 and after 20 ♖f4? ♙c6 21 ♜h1 ♖d8 22 ♖xg4 ♙d5 Black found himself right back in the game, even going on to win. However, I can't believe that White shouldn't be better here, especially as he can play à la Hansen with 20 ♙xf7+! ♗xf7 21 ♗xb7 ♖e8 22 ♗xc7. One must never underestimate two such unopposed bishops, but White does have a rook and four pawns for them here and with care should be able to retain some advantage, such as with 22...♙d4+ 23 ♜h1 ♙b5 24 ♗f4!?, returning the piece to reach a favourable endgame after 24...♙xf1 25 ♖xf1 ♙xb2 26 ♗xg4+ ♗g7 27 ♗a4.

Returning to Smirin's 12...♖e6:



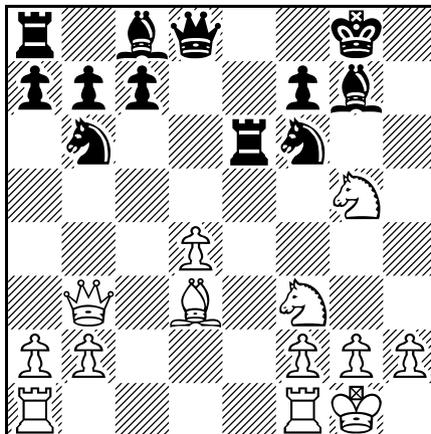
13 ♖h4!

Thanks to the awkward position of Black's rook, the retreat becomes strong. Another grandmaster had previously preferred 13 ♖xf6 ♜xf6 14 ♜c5, but without obtaining much after 14...♖b6 15 ♛c4 ♛d5 16 ♜fe1 ♕f5! 17 ♛xd5 ♜xd5 18 ♖xf5 gxf5 19 b3 ♜d8 in V.Malaniuk-O.Wieczorek, Marianske Lazne 2011.

13...g5 14 ♖xg5!

The French Grandmaster still wants to attack! One can certainly appreciate why, although a solid edge was on offer with 14 ♜xf6+ ♜xf6 15 ♖g3, in view of Black's overextended kingside and White's central possibilities (even ♖c4 and d4-d5 might occur).

14...hxg5 15 ♜exg5 ♜b6?



Preventing ♖c4, but Black has missed a tactic.

Exercise: What blow had escaped Smirin's attention?

Instead 15...♖e7? would have failed to 16 ♖xf7 ♜xf7 17 ♘g5 ♜f8 18 ♙c4 ♜b6 19 ♙xf7+ ♜h8 20 ♜ae1 with an overwhelming position, but 15...♜f8! 16 ♙c4 c6 would have kept the struggle very much alive. After 17 ♖xf7! ♜b6 (or 17...♙xf7 18 ♘g5+ ♙e7 19 ♙xe6 ♜xe6 20 ♜fe1 when Black might have three pieces for the rook and three pawns, but White's rampant initiative is surely going to pick off at least one of them) 18 ♜7g5 ♜xb3 19 ♙xb3 ♜d5 20 ♜xe6 ♙xe6 21 ♜fe1 Black limps into an endgame where it will take White some time to put his three connected kingside passed pawns to good use, albeit one where the first player must have pretty decent winning chances.

Answer: 16 ♙g6!

It turns out that f7 can be attacked from a second direction. Had Black still a pawn on g6 I'm sure Smirin would have seen the idea, but such silent sacrifices are pretty easy to miss.

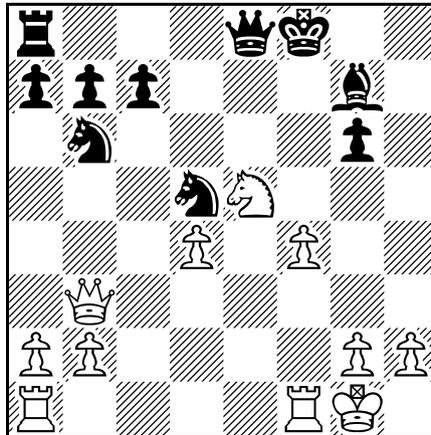
16...fxg6

Allowing the rook to be undermined, but there was nothing better.

17 ♜xe6 ♙xe6 18 ♜xe6+ ♙f8 19 ♜e5 ♜e8

Staving off the immediate threats, but White was hardly now going to oblige and take the queens off.

20 ♜b3 ♜fd5 21 f4!



Bauer still wants to attack and by preparing to open the f-file doesn't give Smirin time to coordinate his pieces.

21...♙xe5?

Avoiding any notion of f4-f5, but Black's knights won't be able to hold his position together after this. Necessary was 21...♜e6 22 ♜ae1 ♙g8, maintaining something of a blockade for the time being.

22 fxe5+ ♙g7 23 ♜f2!

Simple chess. White prepares to double on the f-file and, importantly, doesn't obstruct

The Torre Attack: Move by Move

the queen's path across the third rank in the process.

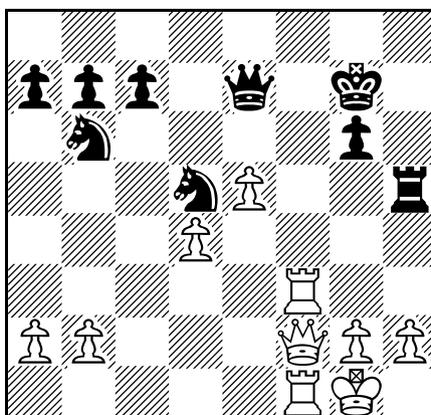
23... ♖e7 24 ♜af1 ♜h8 25 ♜g3 ♜h5

As good as anything. Black would like to improve his knights, but they lack squares: for instance, 25... ♘c4 doesn't really threaten anything and can be met by the forceful 26 ♜f7+! ♜xf7 27 ♜xf7+ ♙xf7 28 ♜f3+ ♙e6 29 ♜d3 when the queen is far too powerful.

26 ♜f6

Forcing Black's queen back with a little tactic and so buying time to treble on the f-file and with a rook in front of the queen.

26... ♜e8 27 ♜f3 ♜e7 28 ♜f6 ♜e8 29 ♜f3 ♜e7 30 ♜f2



After repeating to gain time on the clock and/or emphasize just who is in control of the position, Bauer hits on the winning idea. Such a battery led by a rook is often very strong. Black is able to flee the fork on f7, but isn't long for this world in any case.

30... ♜h4 31 ♜g3 ♜e4

31... ♜g4 would have avoided what follows, but after 32 ♜f7+ ♙h6 (32... ♙h8 33 ♜f8+ ♙g7 34 ♜g8+! leads to mate) White has a number of strong ideas, including 33 h4!?, threatening to check on d2 and meeting 33... ♜xh4 with the tempo-gaining 34 ♜f8.

32 ♜g4! 1-0

32 ♜f7+ ♙h8 33 ♜e1 ♜g4 34 e6 would have done the job too, but it's nice to finish in style and after 32... ♜xg4+ 33 ♜g3 Black finds himself helpless against the threats down the f-file.

Game 2 K.Georgiev-S.Phadke Barbera del Valles 2011

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 ♘g6 3 ♘g5 ♘g7

I must confess I have fiddled with the move order here to be consistent with Black's