

Contents

Foreword	5
1 Baku Universities	7
Childhood Years	7
First Steps	15
Entry into the all-union Arena	20
‘He attacks like Alekhine!’	28
‘Who will be the Champion after Karpov?’	38
Meetings with the Greats	49
Young Champion	59
Two-times Champion!	71
Turning Point	78
2 Adult Games	93
Master Class	93
Smile of Fortune	120
High Society Debut	142
‘This is the new Fischer!’	161
First ‘Bronze’	172
European ‘Gold’	190

Grandmaster	197
Chess Prince	217
Olympiad Debut	233
First Battle with the Champion	247
Moscow 'Tournament of Stars'	263
Audacious Challenge	276
Confirmation of Class	285
Tilburg Lessons	297
USSR Champion	324
Dress Rehearsal	348
3 Challenger	365
Decisive Finish	365
First 'Oscar'	382
Match with Beliavsky	404
Riga Novelty	421
Fairy-tale in Niksic	429
Match with Korchnoi	450
Match with Smyslov	467
'Return Match of the Century'	481
First Match with Karpov: 1984/85	487
Index of Openings	514
Index of Opponents	516
Index of Games	518