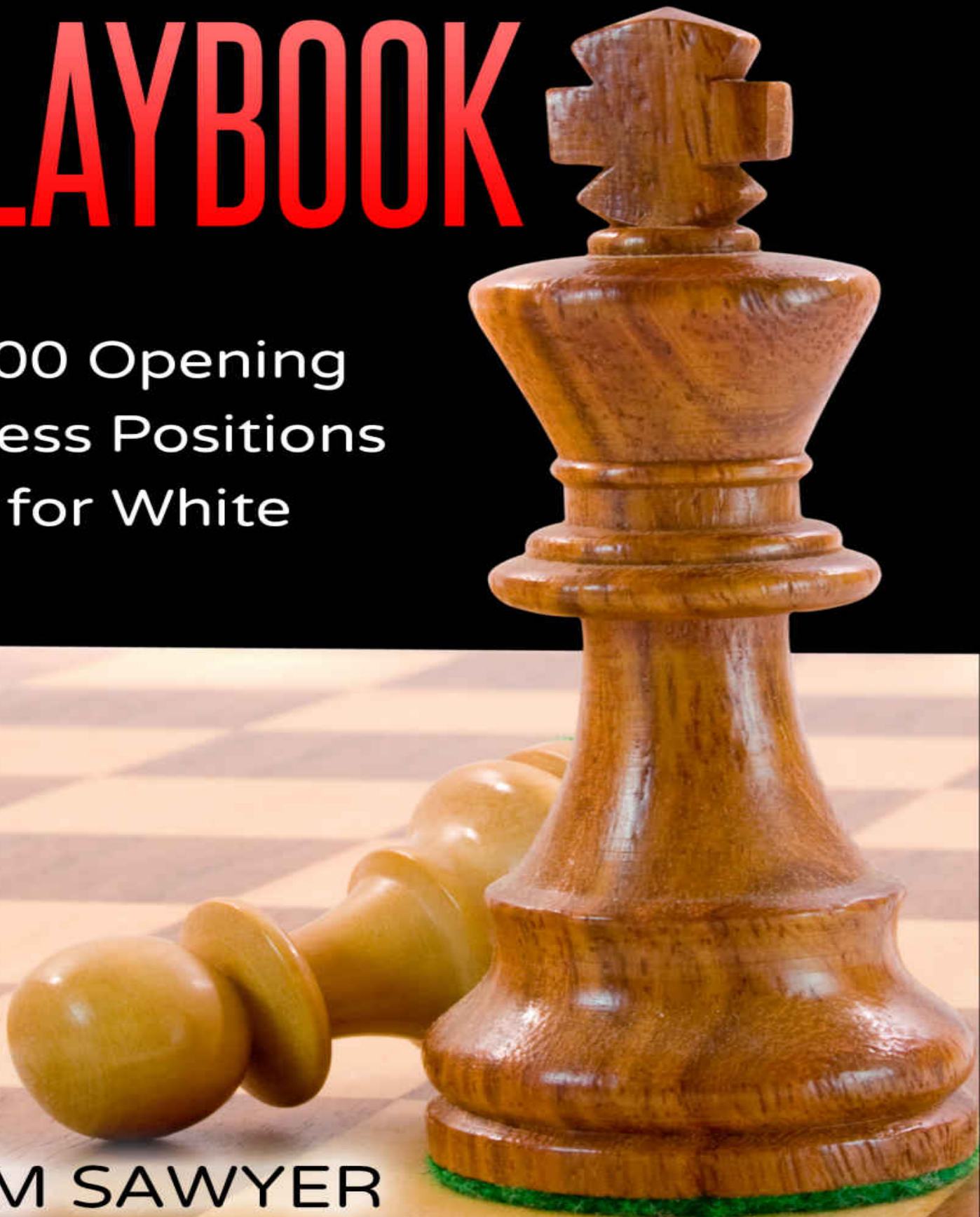


LONDON 2.Bf4 PLAYBOOK

200 Opening
Chess Positions
for White

TIM SAWYER



London 2.Bf4 Playbook

200 Opening Chess Positions for White

By Tim Sawyer

London 2.Bf4 Playbook: 200 Opening Chess Positions for White

Copyright © 2017 by Sawyer Publications

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form without permission in writing from the author. Reviewers may quote brief passages in reviews.

Disclaimer and FTC Notice

No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, mechanical or electronic, including photocopying or recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, or transmitted by email without permission in writing from the publisher.

While all attempts have been made to verify the information provided in this publication, neither the author nor the publisher assumes any responsibility for errors, omissions, or contrary interpretations of the subject matter herein.

This book is for entertainment purposes only. The views expressed are those of the author alone, and should not be taken as expert instruction or commands. The reader is responsible for his or her own actions.

Adherence to all applicable laws and regulations, including international, federal, state, and local governing professional licensing, business practices, advertising, and all other aspects of doing business in the US, Canada, or any other jurisdiction is the sole responsibility of the purchaser or reader.

Neither the author nor the publisher assumes any responsibility or liability whatsoever on the behalf of the purchaser or reader of these materials.

Any perceived slight of any individual or organization is purely unintentional.

Table of Contents

Introduction

1.d4 d5 2.Bf4

1.d4 d5 2.Bf4 Nf6 3.e3

1.d4 d5 2.Bf4 Nf6 3.e3 c5 4.c3

4.c3 Nc6 5.Nd2

4.c3 Nc6 5.Nd2 e6 6.Ngf3

6.Ngf3 Bd6 7.Bg3

6.Ngf3 Bd6 7.Bg3 0-0 8.Bd3

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 e6 3.Nf3

3.Nf3 b6 4.e3 Bb7 5.Bd3

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 g6 3.e3

2.Bf4 g6 3.e3 d5 4.Nf3

2.Bf4 g6 3.e3 Bg7 4.Nf3

4.Nf3 0-0 5.Be2 d6 6.0-0

5.Be2 d6 6.0-0 c5 7.c3

1.d4 f5 2.Bf4

Before you go

Introduction

London 2.Bf4 is a simple safe super solid solution to your chess opening repertoire for White. Your plan is to play 2.Bf4 with e3 and Nf3. The author played this for years on the Internet Chess Club using “SuperSolid” as his handle.

The London makes your opening preparation easy. You do not need to memorize thousands of variations. You don't need to play risky gambits. London System is a repeatable sound choice that allows you to quickly develop all your minor pieces and castle. It saves you time and energy.

Chess Digest, Inc. listed me as a Research Assistant in the 1993 book by Andrew Soltis on the London System. My copy has a hand written note in the front: “To Tim Sawyer, Thanks for helping make this book possible. Ken Smith.”

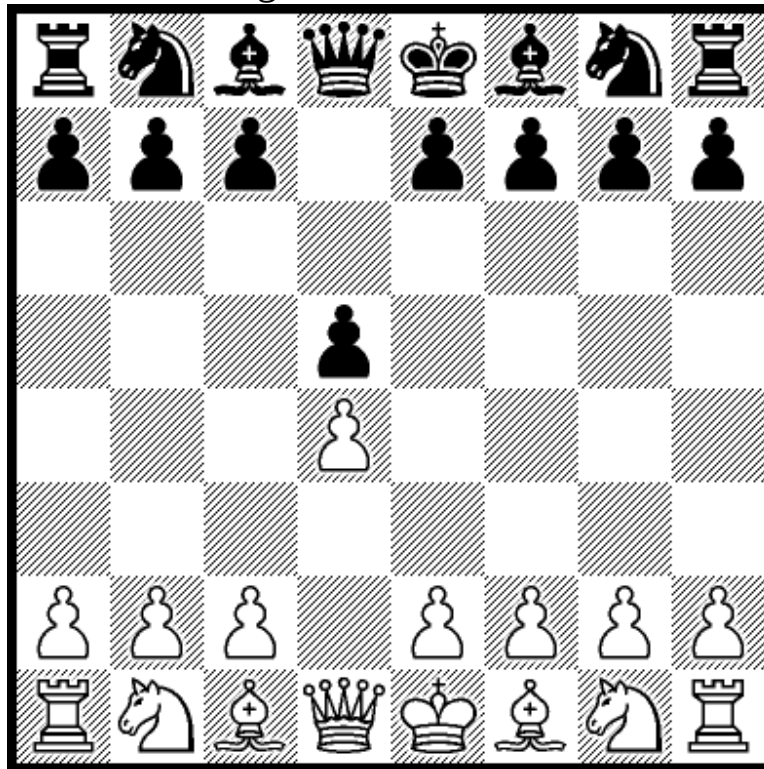
All I did was loan Ken Smith my copy of Tim Harding's book on the London and BDG. After the Soltis book came out, I added the London System to my repertoire. I had played the Caro-Kann as Black. London was a Caro-Kann Attack!

This Playbook is a tool to help you easily prepare to play your opening. The 200 diagrams in this playbook cover the variations that you are most likely to face.

It is White's move in every diagram. The author gives a reasonable move for White in each position with a brief comment as to why it is recommended. Be prepared!

1.d4 d5 2.Bf4

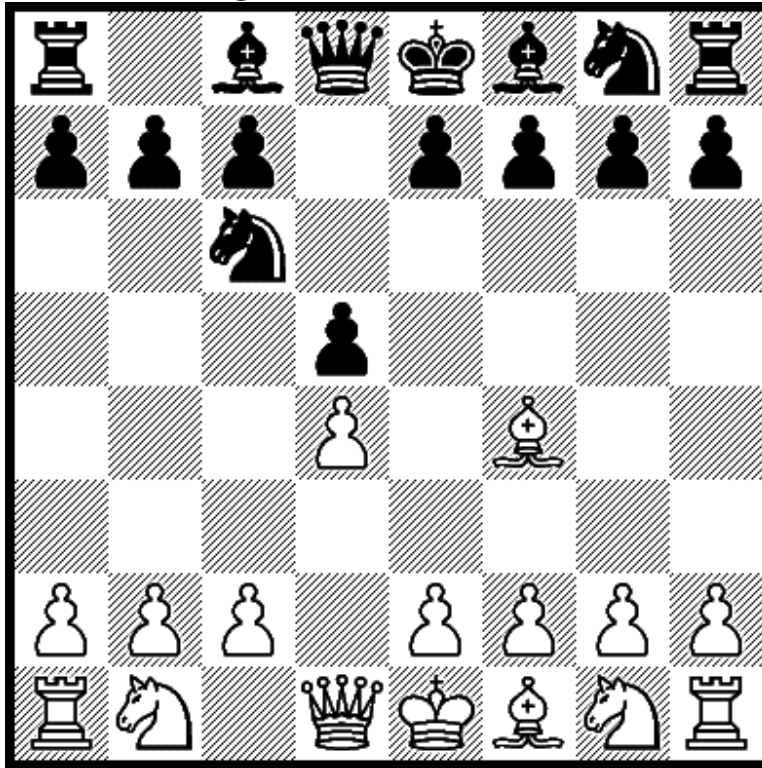
Diagram 1 after 1.d4 d5



2.Bf4

This bishop move is the key to the London System.

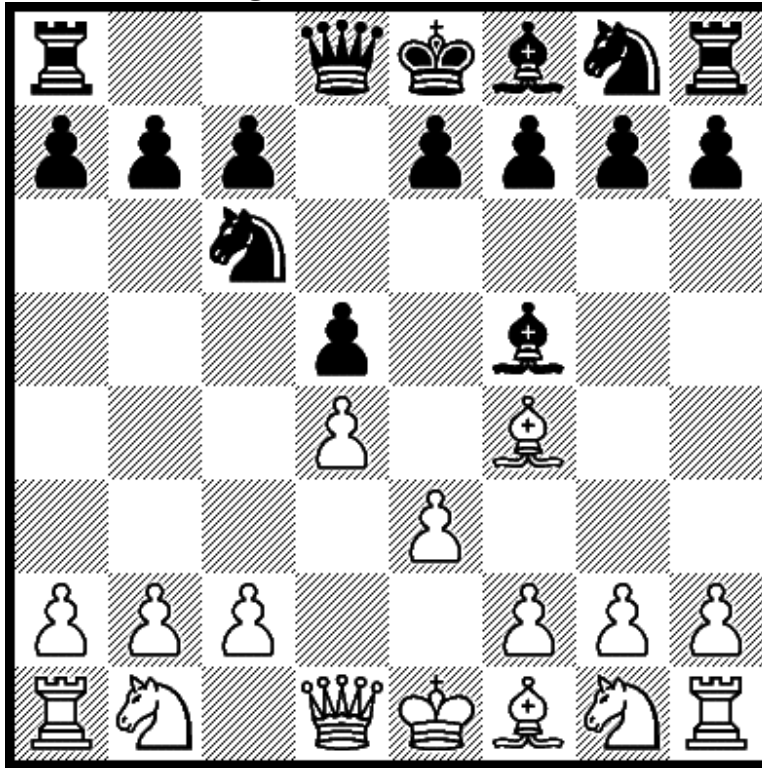
Diagram 2 after 2.Bf4 Nc6



3.e3

This supports d4 and f4 while releasing a second bishop.

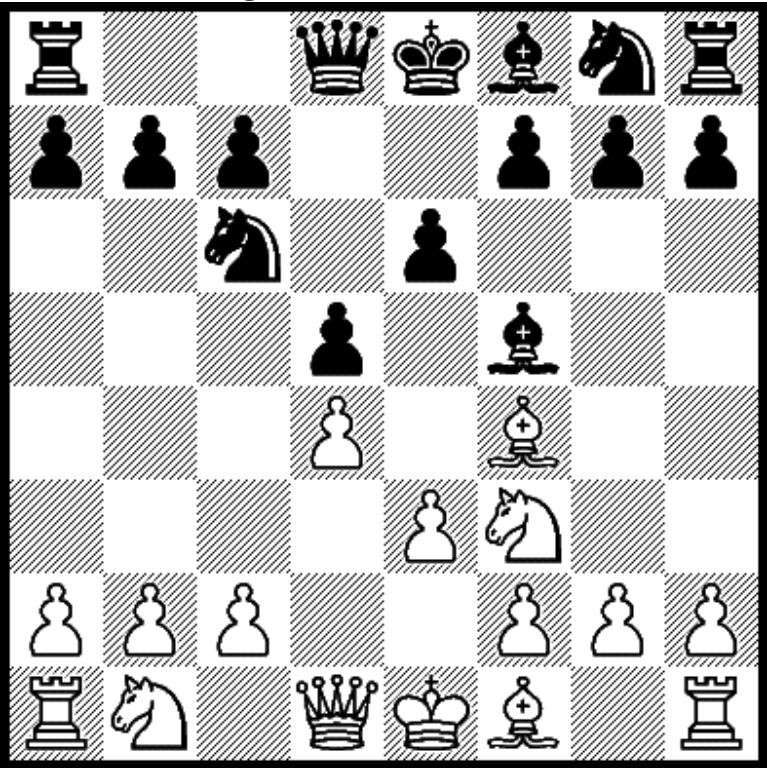
Diagram 3 after 3.e3 Bf5



4.Nf3

The Black threat of 4...Nb4 can be easily met by 5.Na3.

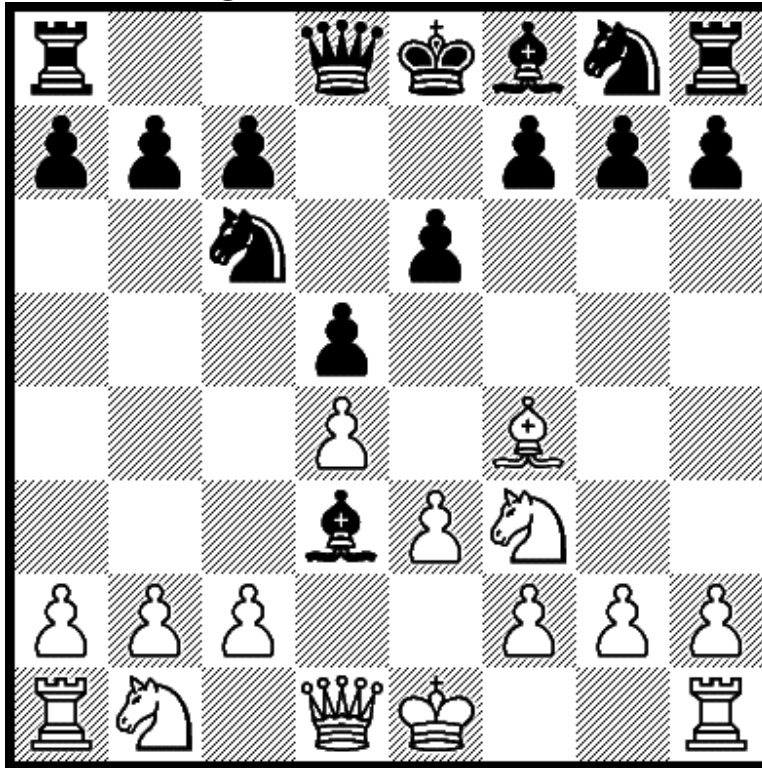
Diagram 4 after 4.Nf3 e6



5.Bd3

White challenges Black's active bishop.

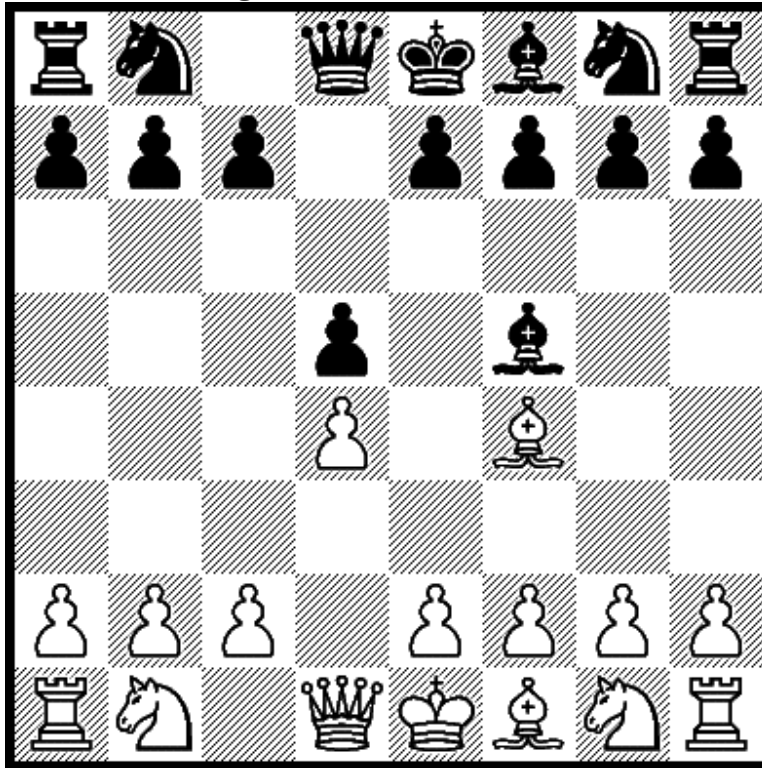
Diagram 5 after 5.Bd3 Bxd3



6.Qxd3

The queen supports future pawn advances to e4 or c4.

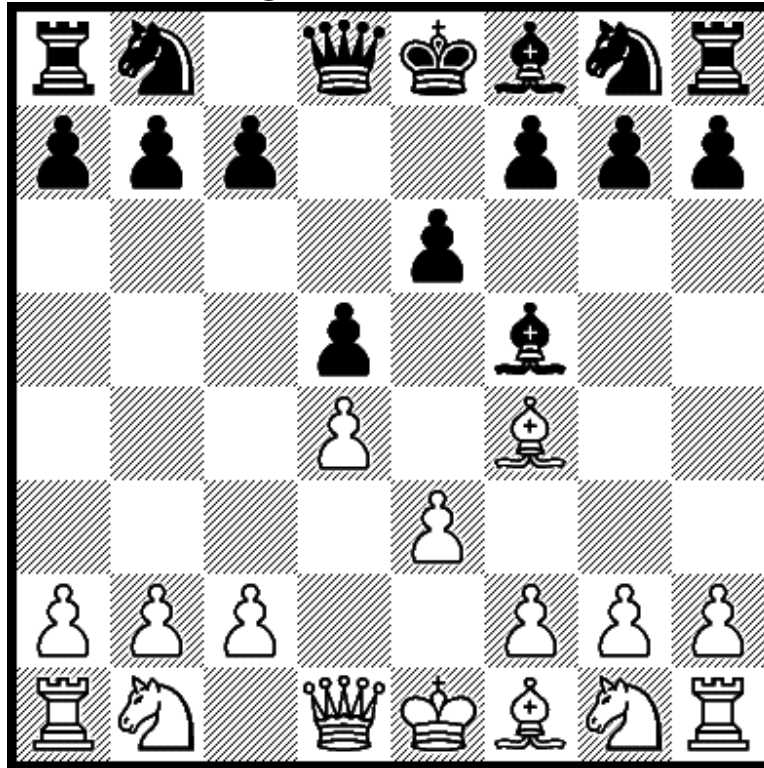
Diagram 6 after 2.Bf4 Bf5



3.e3

The standard London System continuation.

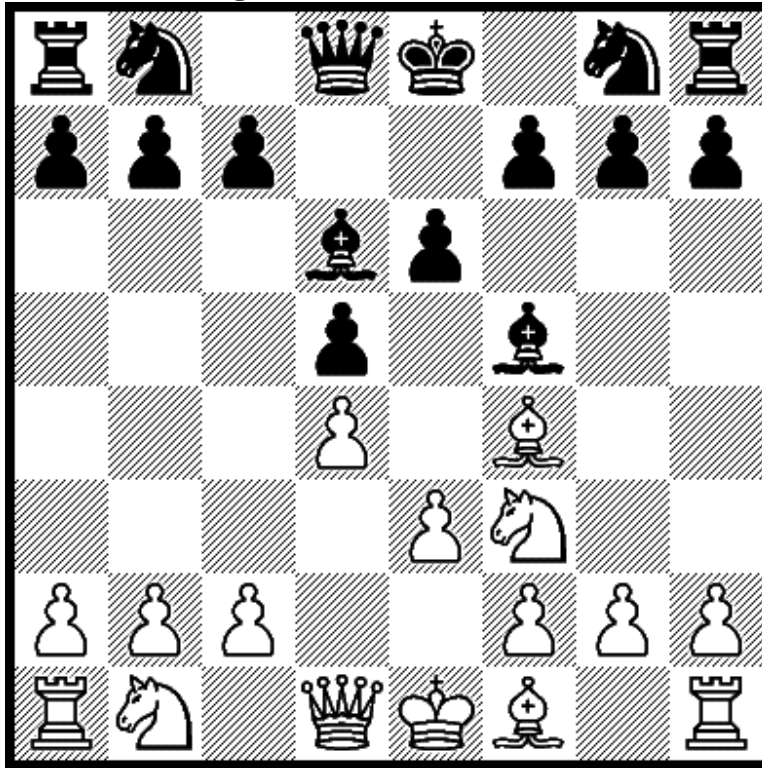
Diagram 7 after 3.e3 e6



4.Nf3

The knight follows straight forward development.

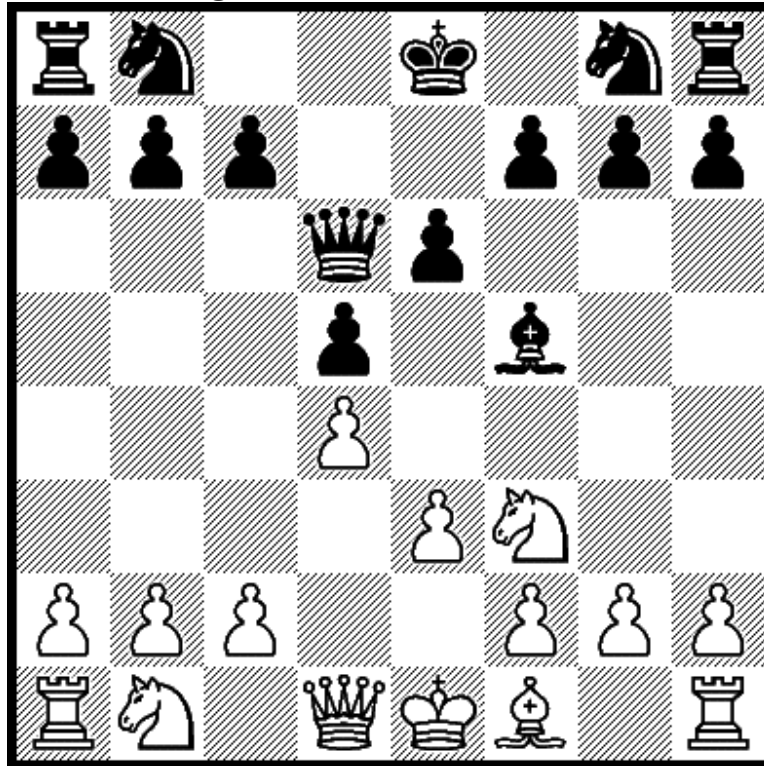
Diagram 8 after 4.Nf3 Bd6



5.Bxd6

White chops off Black's good bishop.

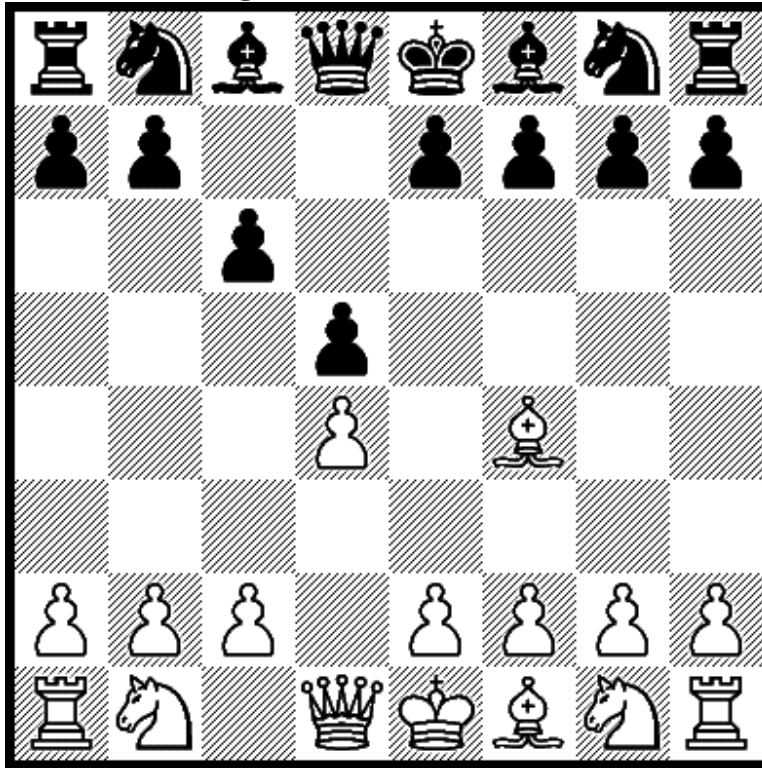
Diagram 9 after 5.Bxd6 Qxd6



6.Bd3

White can meet 6...Qb4+ with 7.Nc3 Qxb2 8.Nxd5!

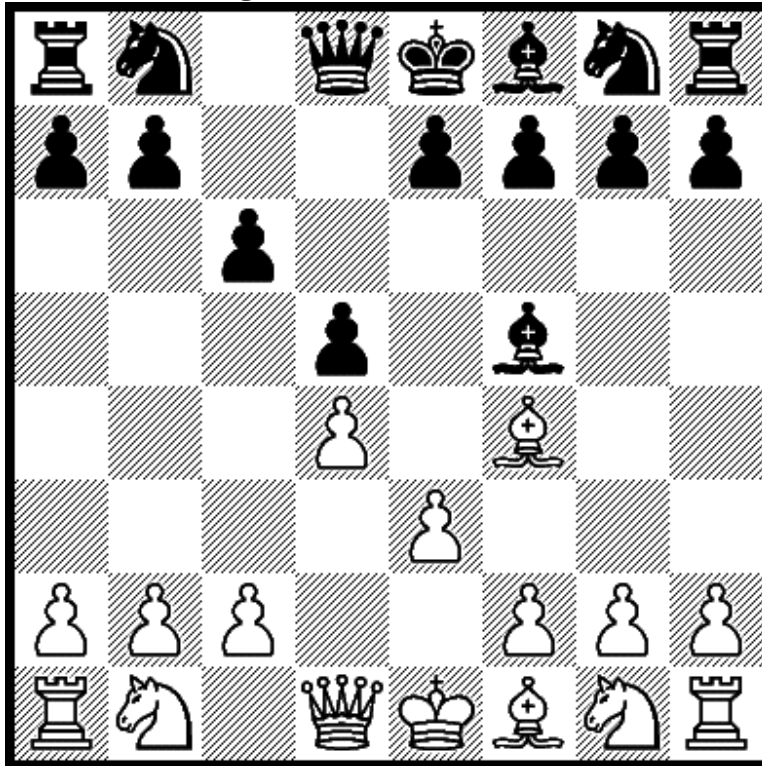
Diagram 10 after 2.Bf4 c6



3.e3

Protecting d4 with the pawn allows 3...Qb6 4.Qc1.

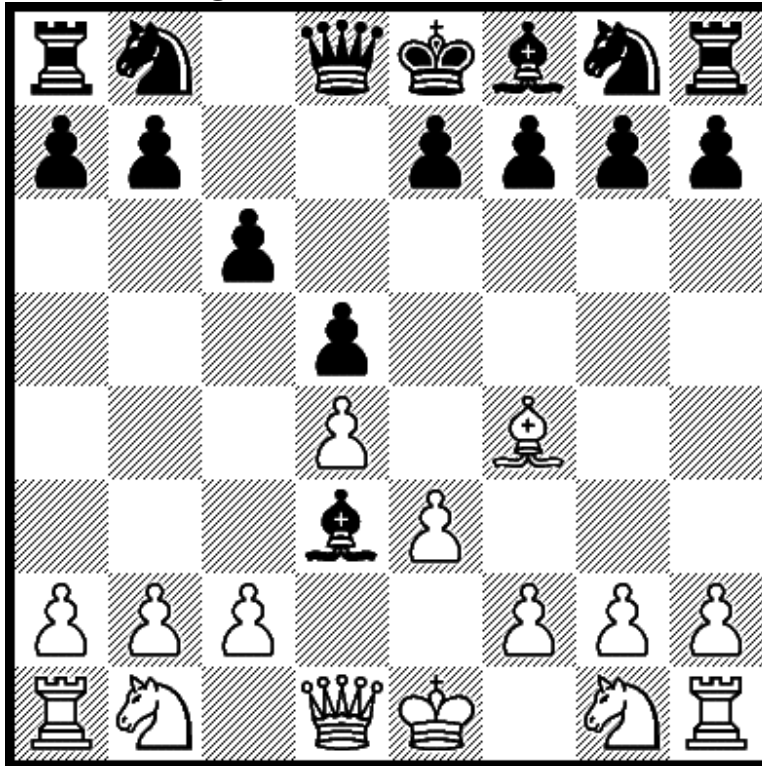
Diagram 11 after 3.e3 Bf5



4.Bd3

White challenges Black's active bishop.

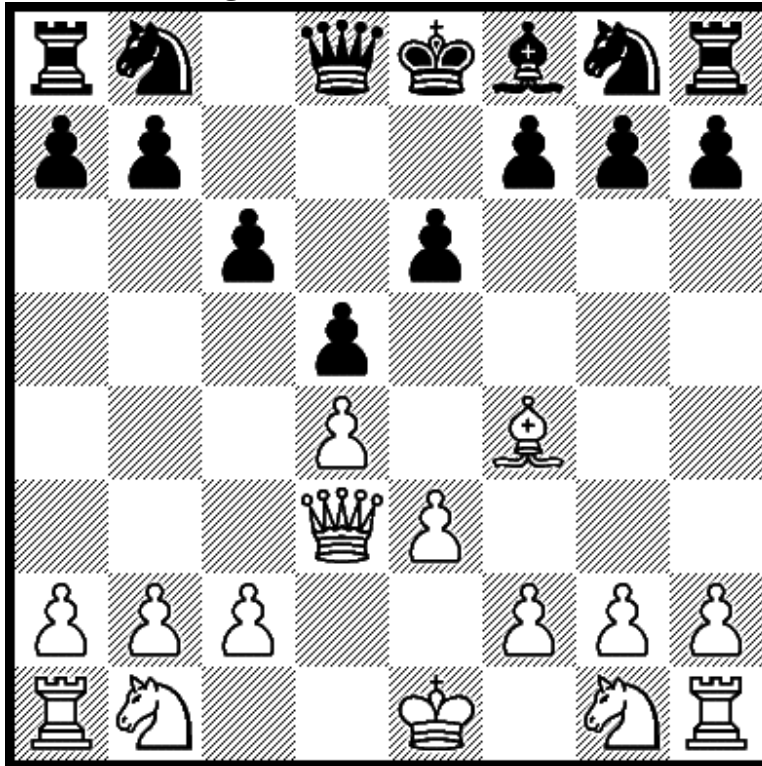
Diagram 12 after 4.Bd3 Bxd3



5.Qxd3

The queen aims at e4 and c4.

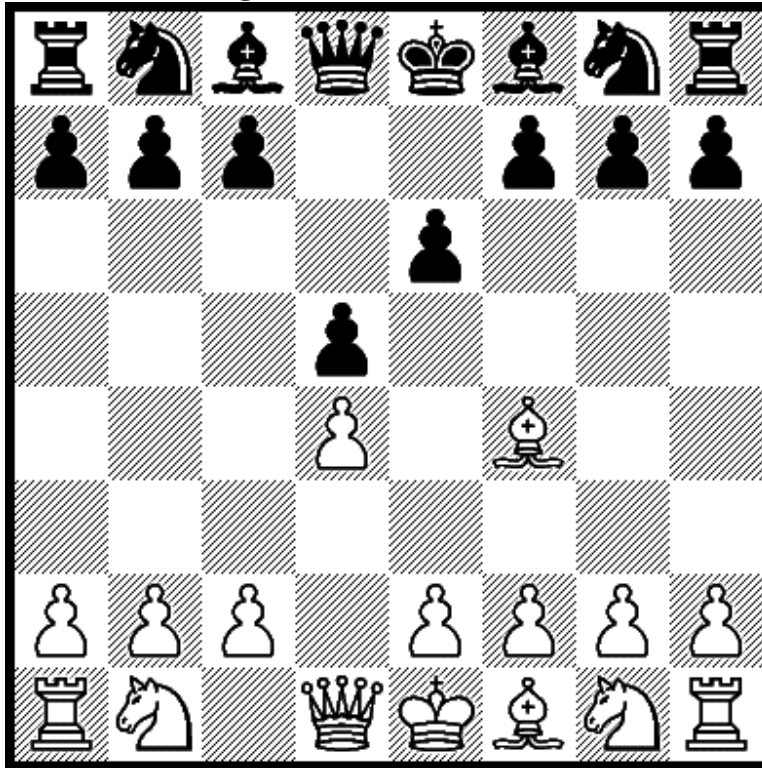
Diagram 13 after 5.Qxd3 e6



6.Nf3

White has a lead in development.

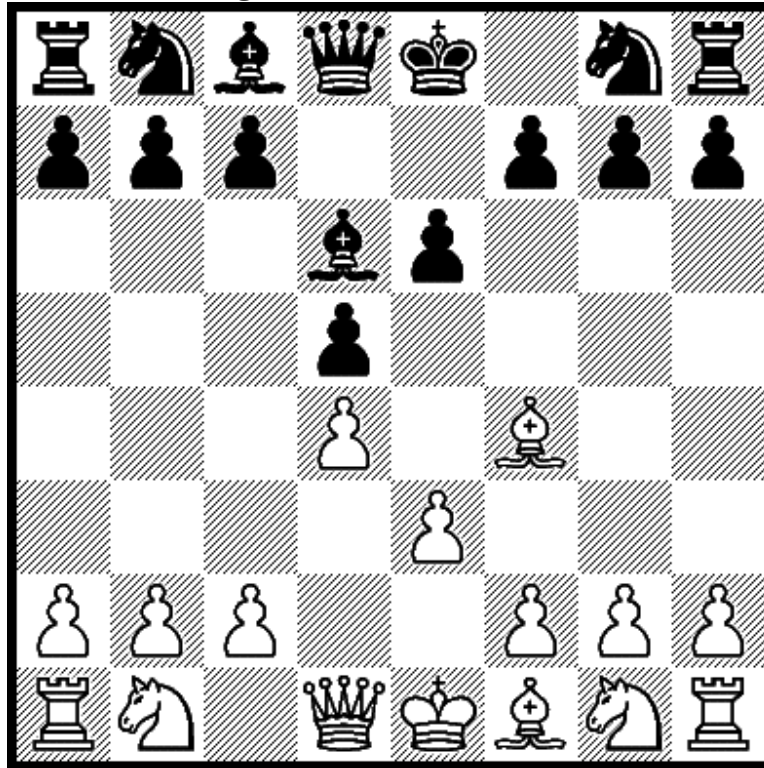
Diagram 14 after 2.Bf4 e6



3.e3

This third move always protects the Bf4.

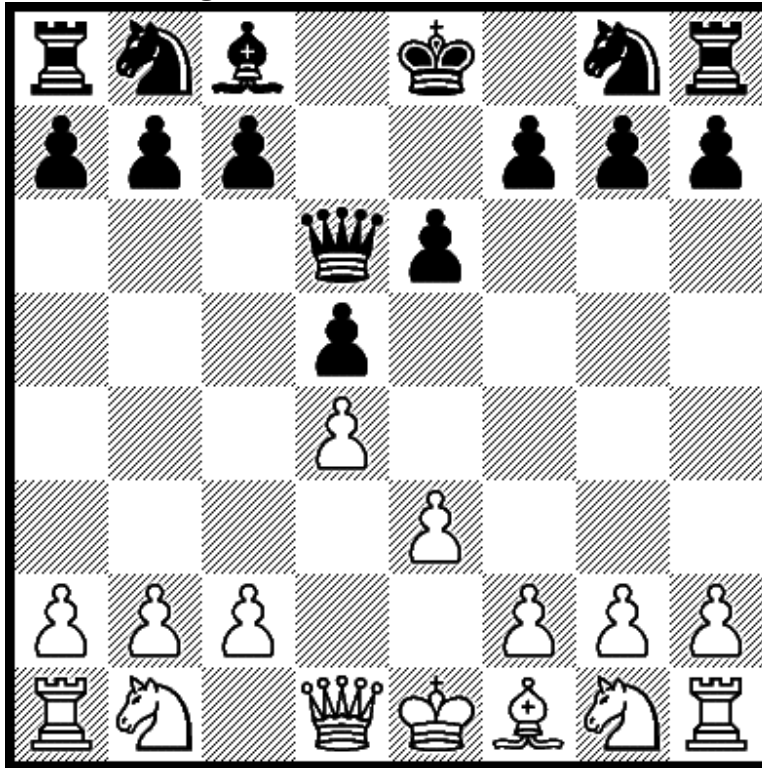
Diagram 15 after 3.e3 Bd6



4.Bxd6

White swapped off Black's good bishop.

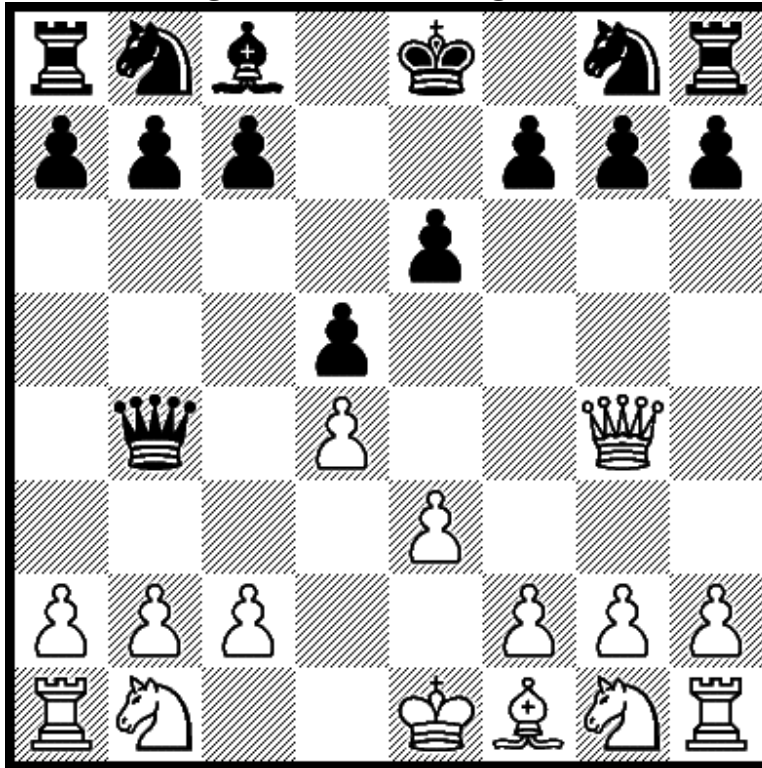
Diagram 16 after 4.Bxd6 Qxd6



5.Qg4

And now 5...g6 6.Nd2.

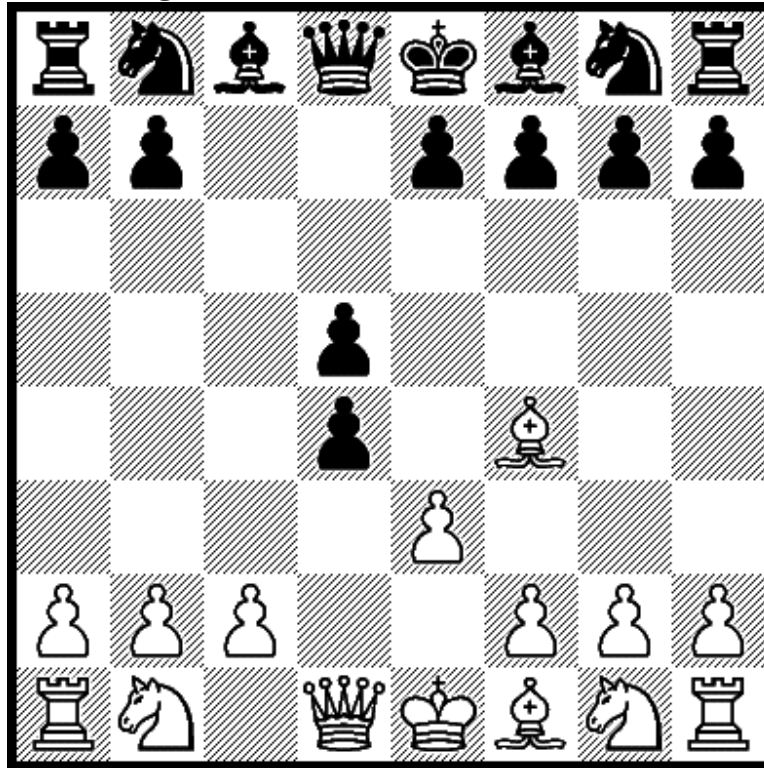
Diagram 17 after 5.Qg4 Qb4+



6.Nd2

If 6...g6 7.0-0-0. Or 6...Qxb2 7.Rb1 Qxa2 8.Qxg7.

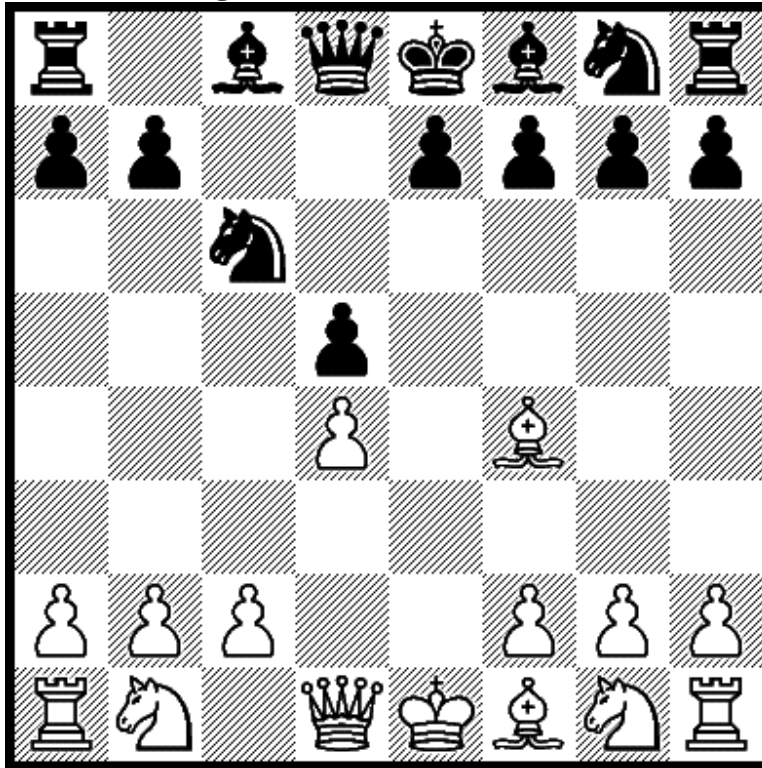
Diagram 18 after 2.Bf4 c5 3.e3 cxd4



4.exd4

White does better with a pawn on d4 than a queen.

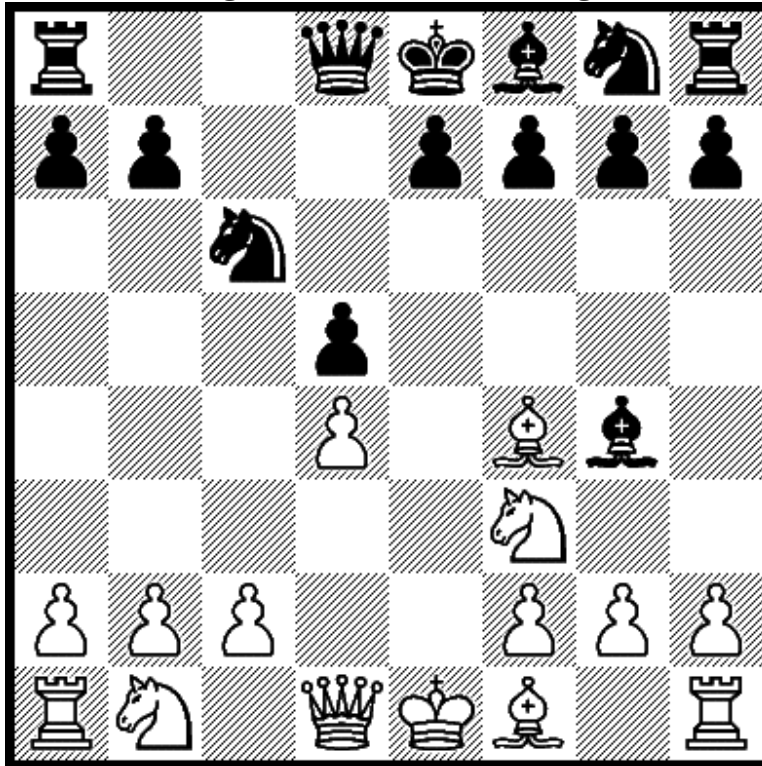
Diagram 19 after 4.exd4 Nc6



5.Nf3

White brings out a new piece when possible.

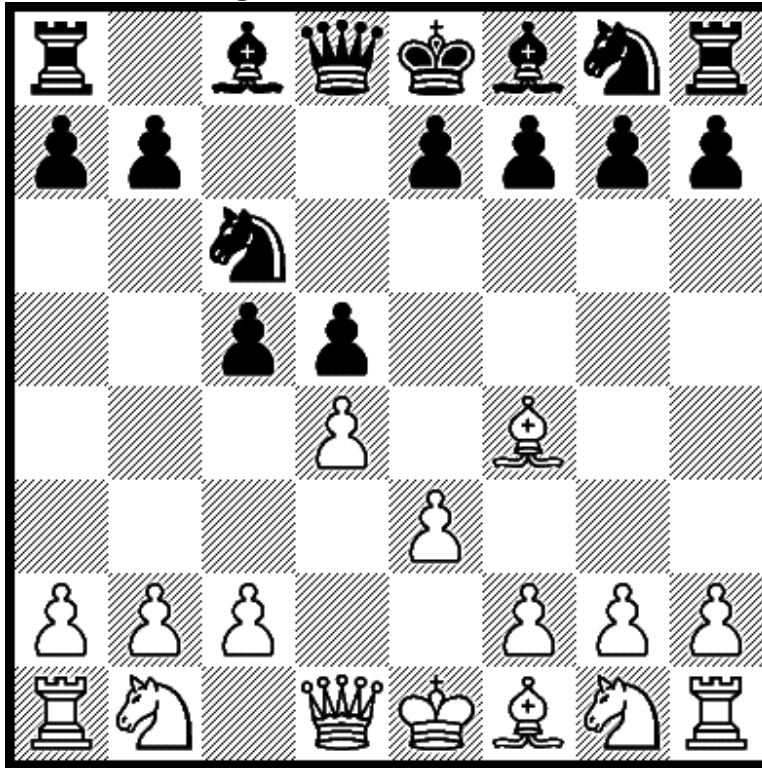
Diagram 20 after 5.Nf3 Bg4



6.c3

This pawn protects d4 since the Nf3 is pinned.

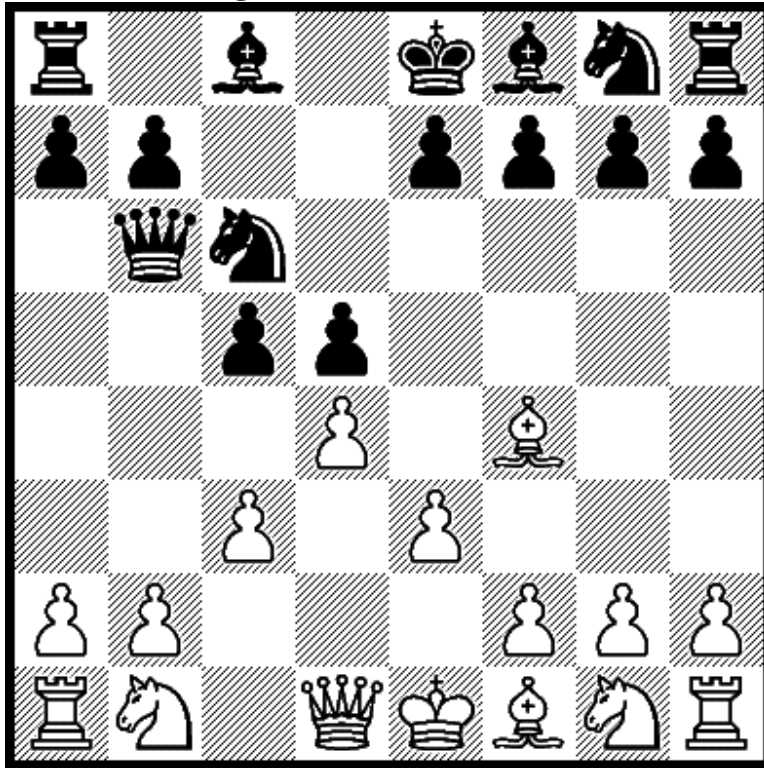
Diagram 21 after 3.e3 Nc6



4.c3

The pawn protects d4 and frees up the queen.

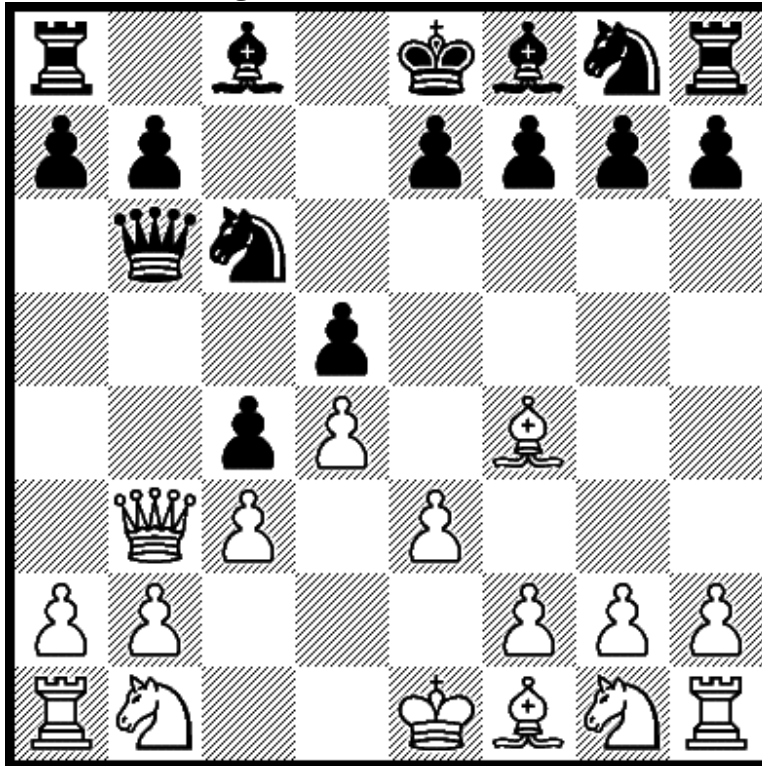
Diagram 22 after 4.c3 Qb6



5.Qb3

White's queen defends b2.

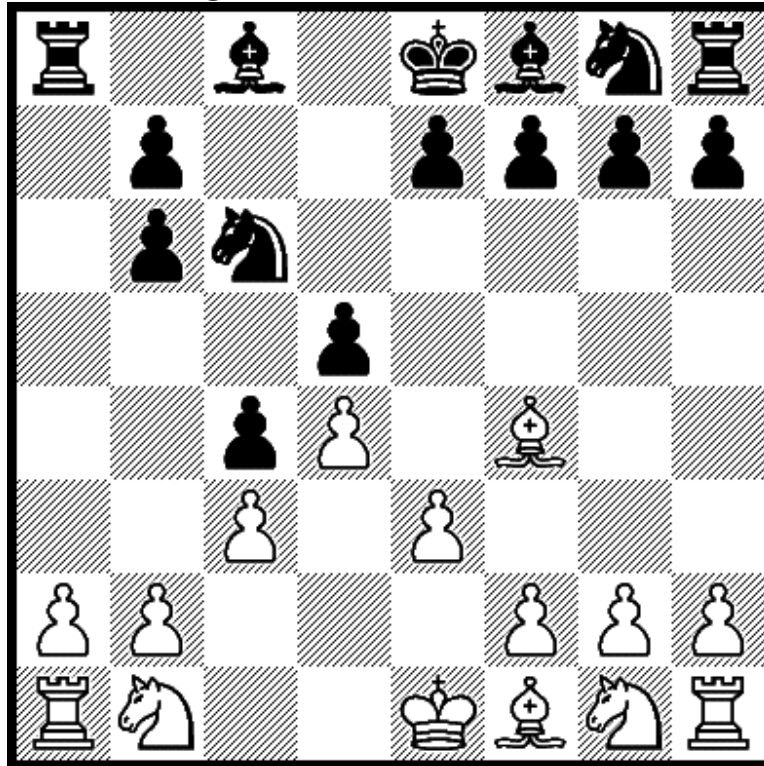
Diagram 23 after 5.Qb3 c4



6.Qxb6

This is the simplest approach.

Diagram 24 after 6.Qxb6 axb6

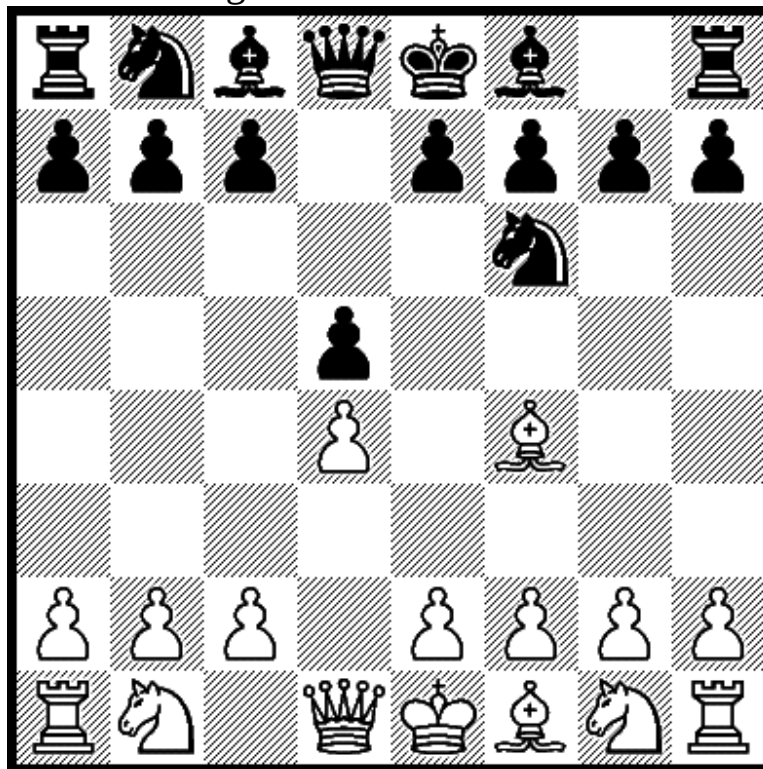


7.e4

If 7...dxe4 8.Bxc4 then White has better bishops.

1.d4 d5 2.Bf4 Nf6 3.e3

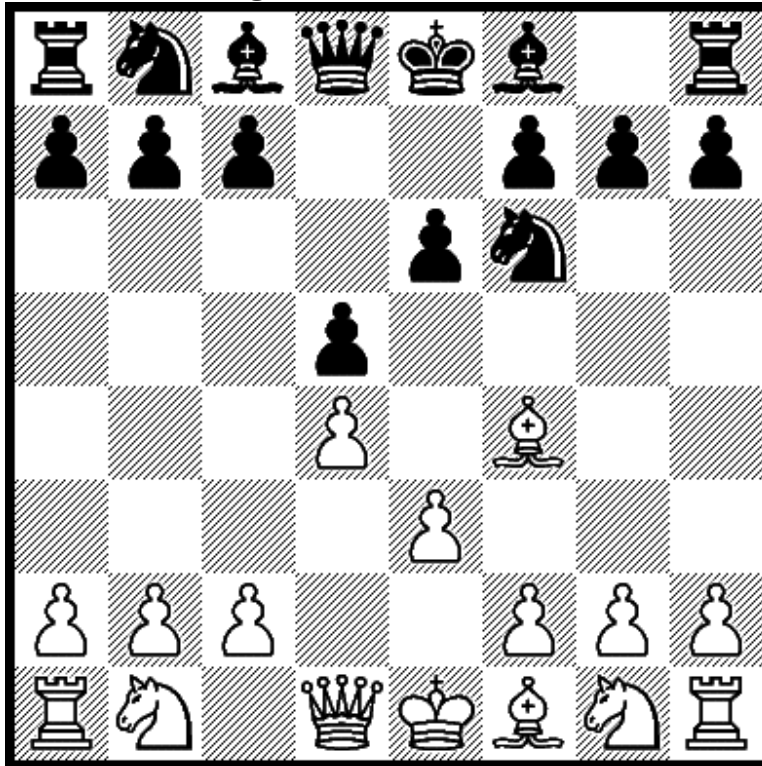
Diagram 25 after 2.Bf4 Nf6



3.e3

The White queen prevents 3...Nh5.

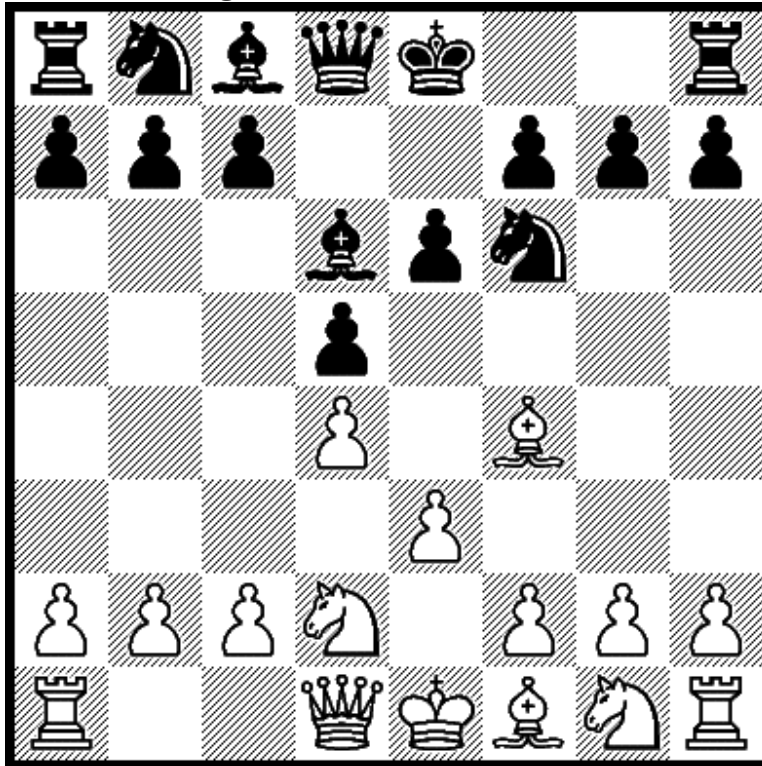
Diagram 26 after 3.e3 e6



4.Nd2

The White queen continues to cover h5.

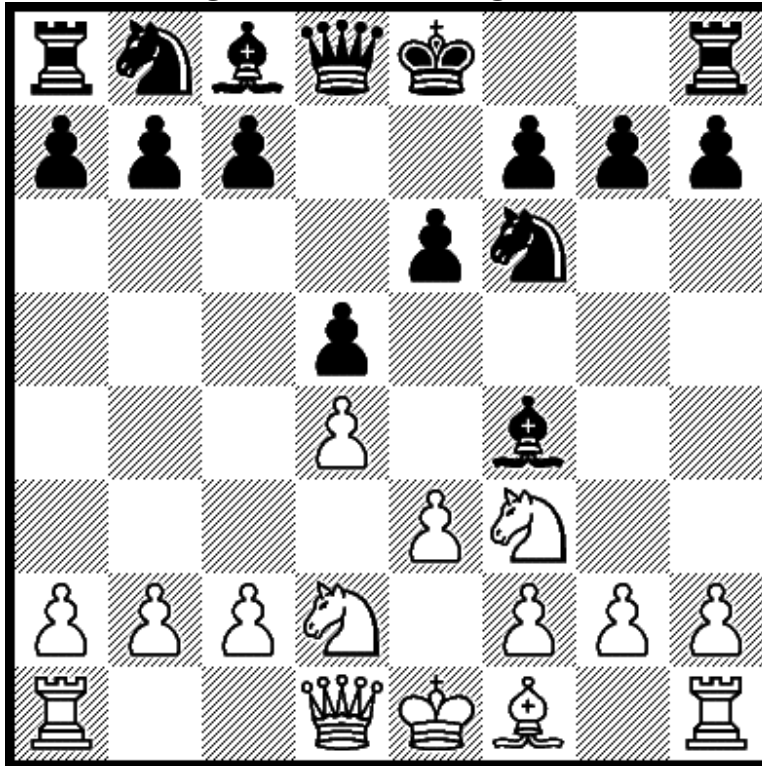
Diagram 27 after 4.Nd2 Bd6



5.Ngf3

White concentrates on e5.

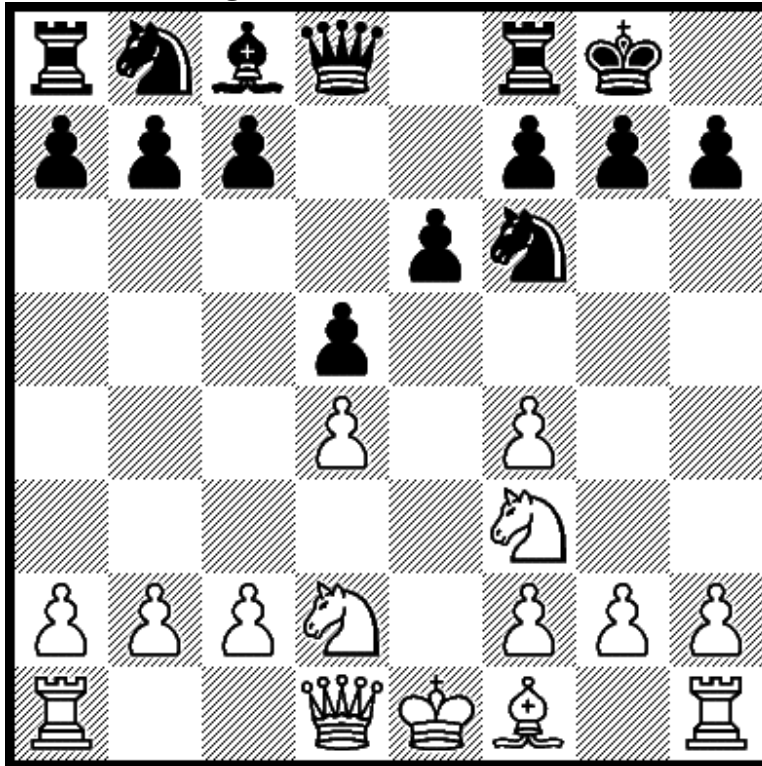
Diagram 28 after 5.Ngf3 Bxf4



6.exf4

White takes full control of e5.

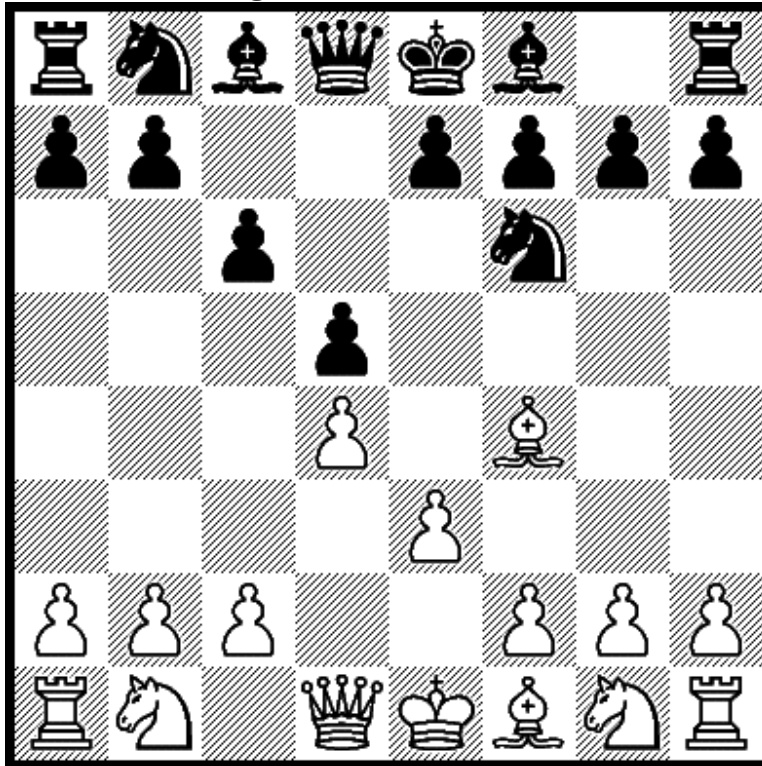
Diagram 29 after 6.exf4 0-0



7.Bd3

The bishop is most active here.

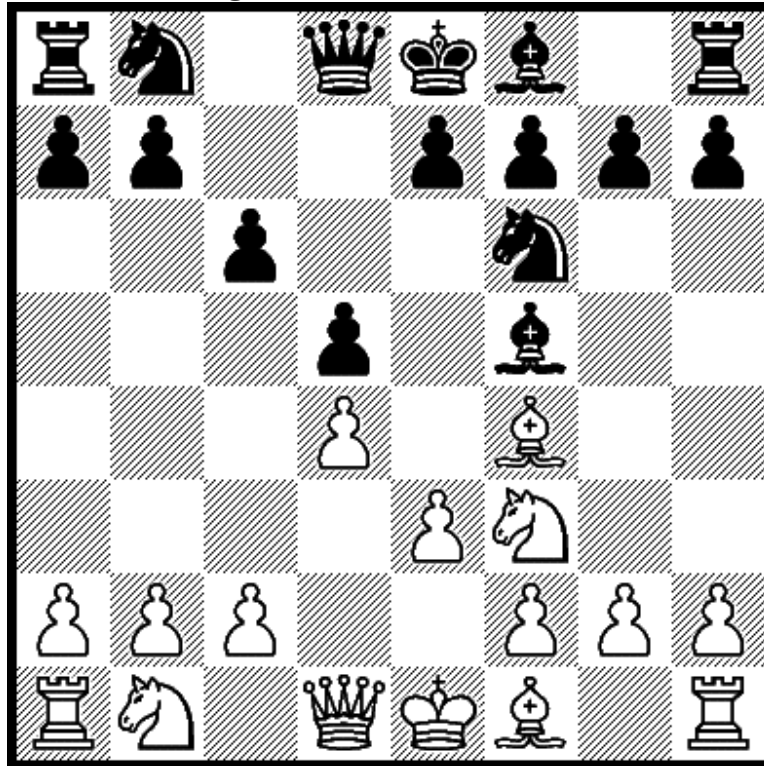
Diagram 30 after 3.e3 c6



4.Nf3

This is almost always a good opening move.

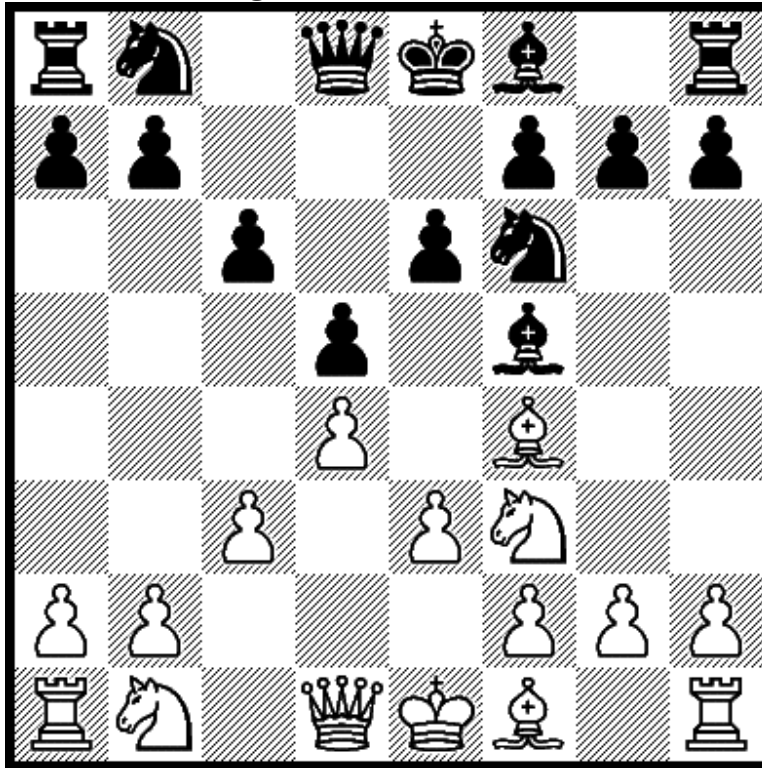
Diagram 31 after 4.Nf3 Bf5



5.c3

White sticks with the London System plan.

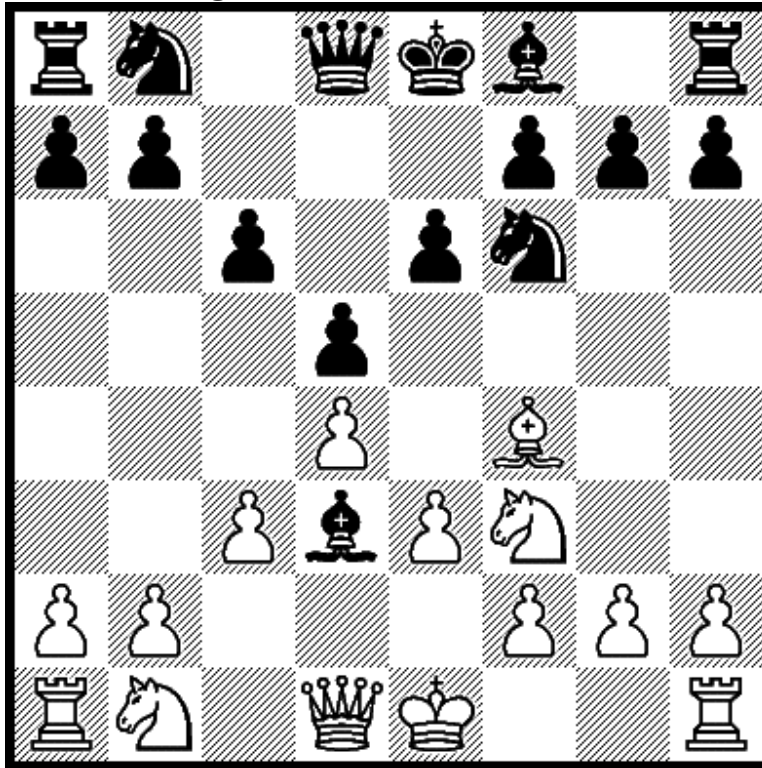
Diagram 32 after 5.c3 e6



6.Bd3

White need not allow Black to keep his active bishop.

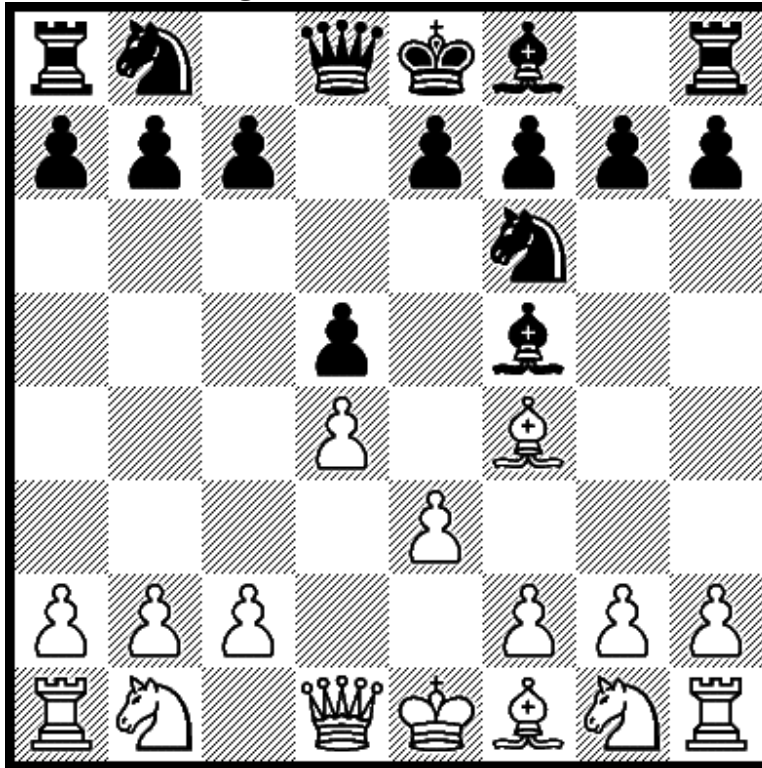
Diagram 33 after 6.Bd3 Bxd3



7.Qxd3

The obvious recapture.

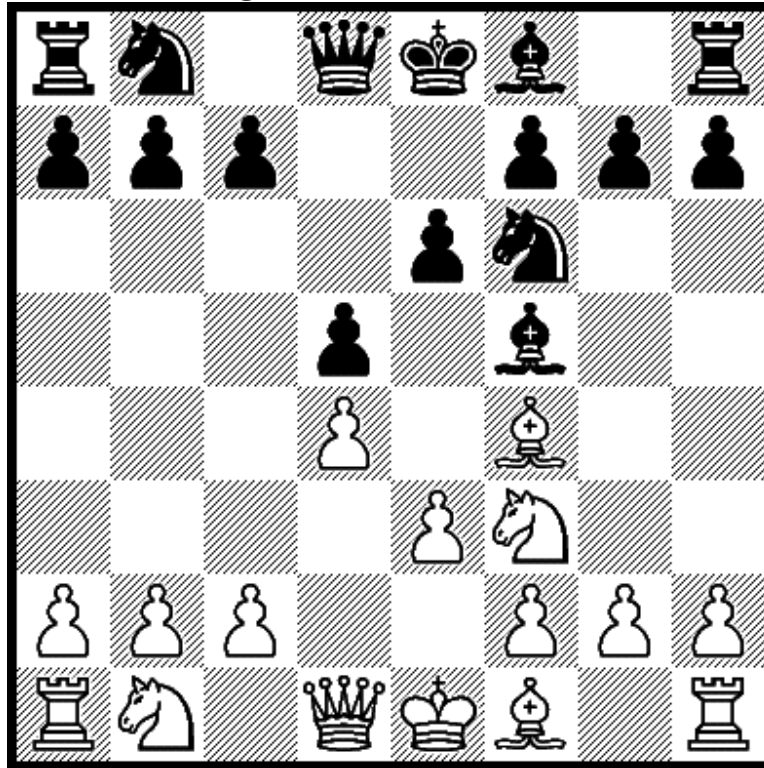
Diagram 34 after 3.e3 Bf5



4.Nf3

White retains options for c2-c3, c2-c4, or neither.

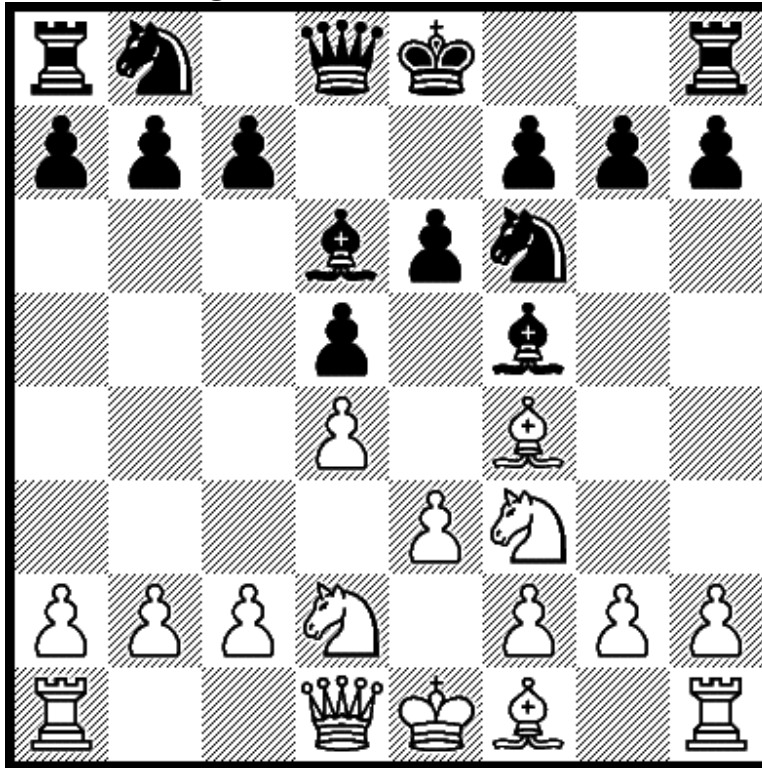
Diagram 35 after 4.Nf3 e6



5.Nbd2

This is one of many good moves for White.

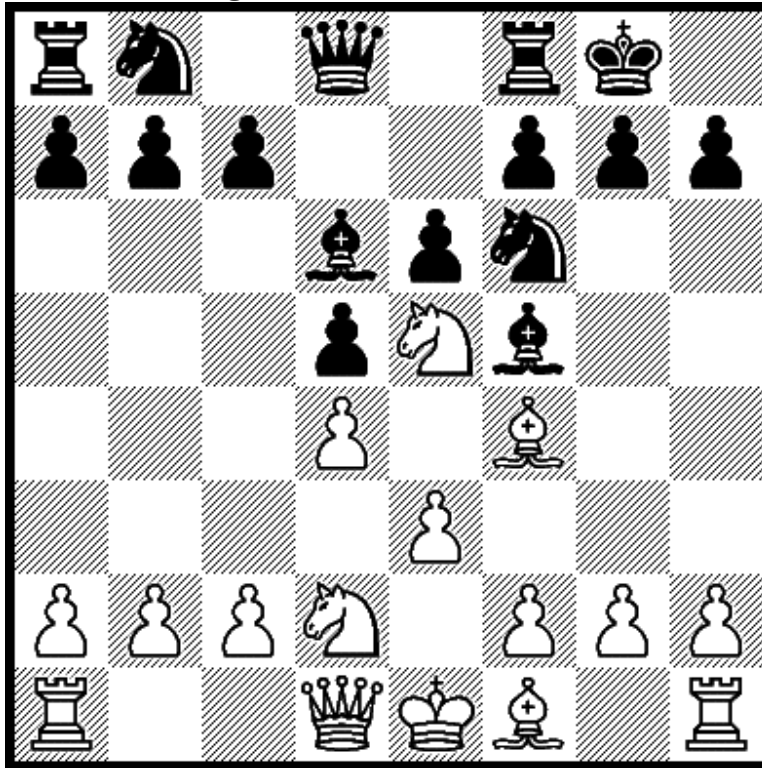
Diagram 36 after 5.Nbd2 Bd6



6.Ne5

The knight is well place here.

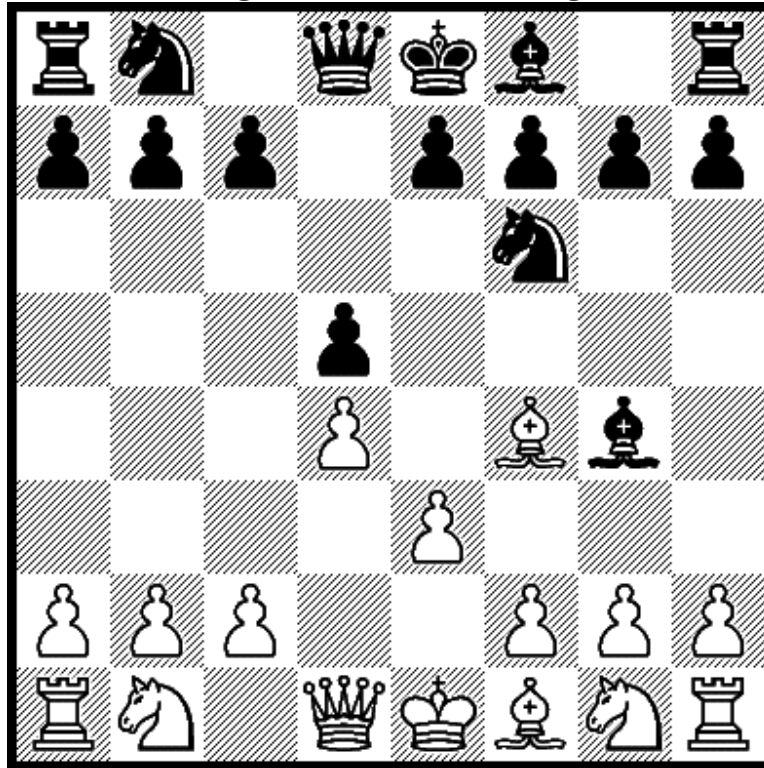
Diagram 37 after 6.Ne5 0-0



7.Be2

All the White pieces are now in play.

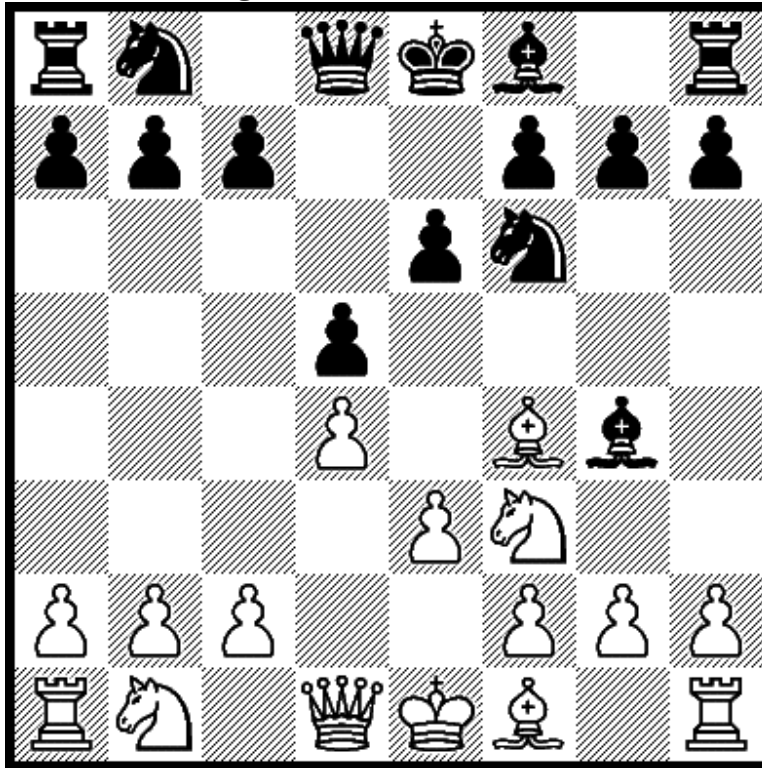
Diagram 38 after 3.e3 Bg4



4.Nf3

The knight chooses to pin itself.

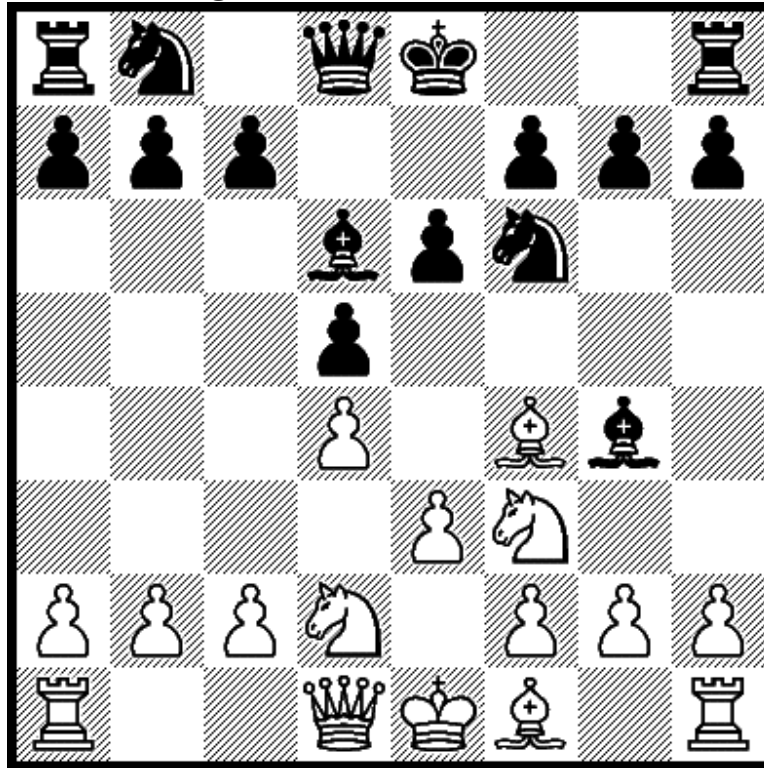
Diagram 39 after 4.Nf3 e6



5.Nbd2

One knight protects the other.

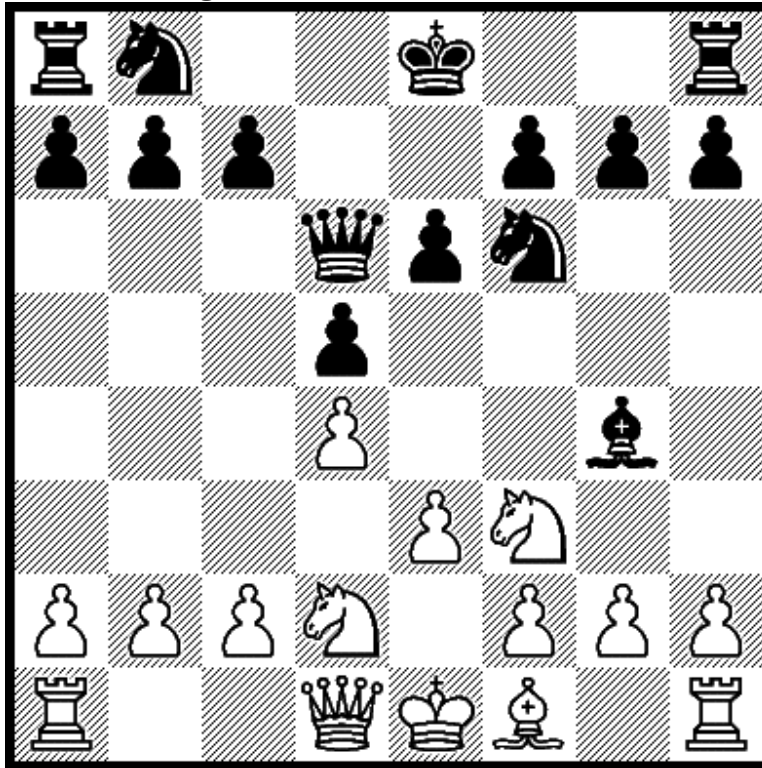
Diagram 40 after 5.Nbd2 Bd6



6.Bxd6

Since 6.Ne5 is not playable, this move works fine.

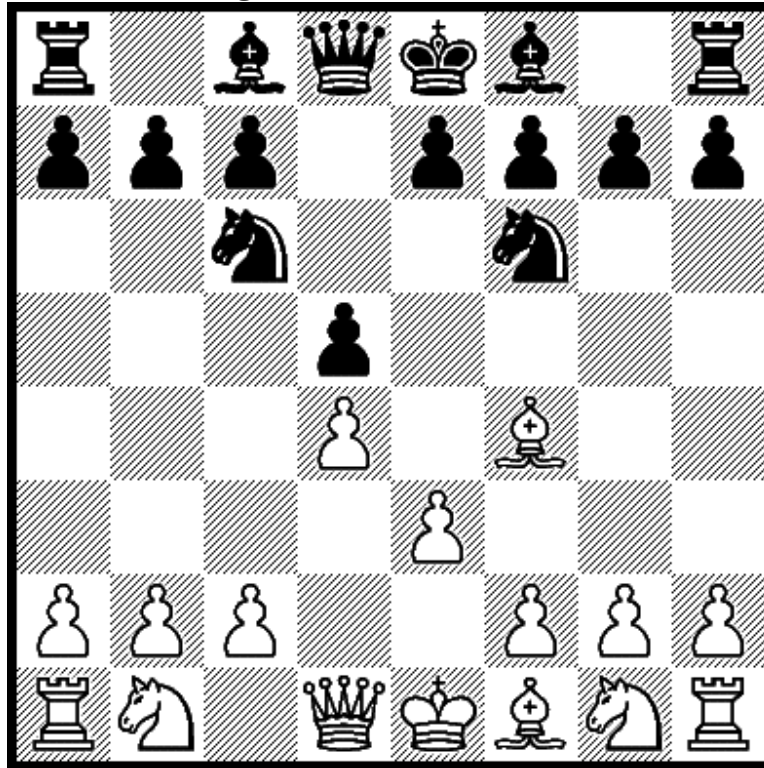
Diagram 41 after 6.Bxd6 Qxd6



7.c3

This prevents 7...Bxf3 8.Nxf3 Qb4+ 9.c3 Qxb2.

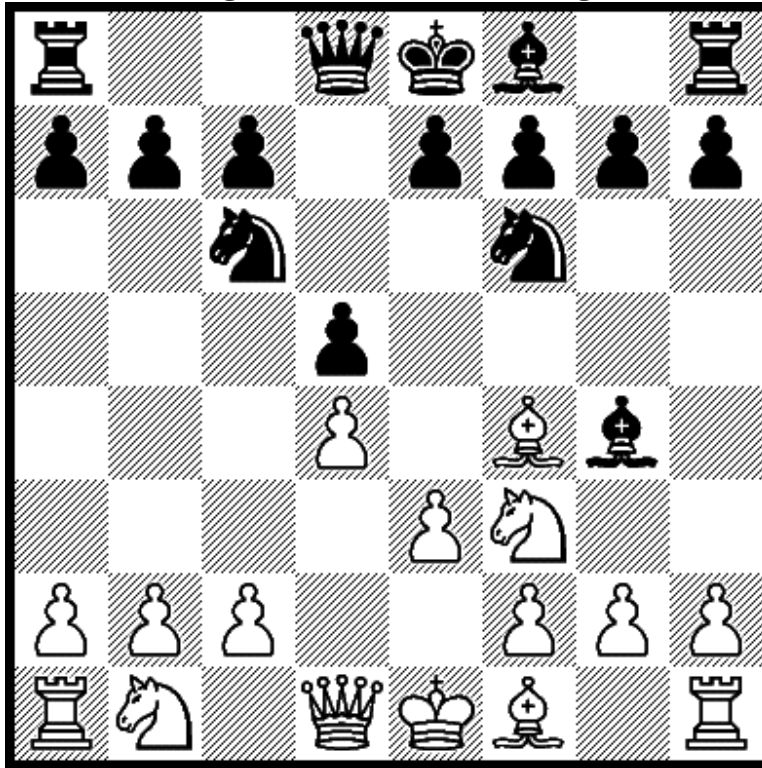
Diagram 42 after 3.e3 Nc6



4.Nf3

The knight brings more pressure on e5.

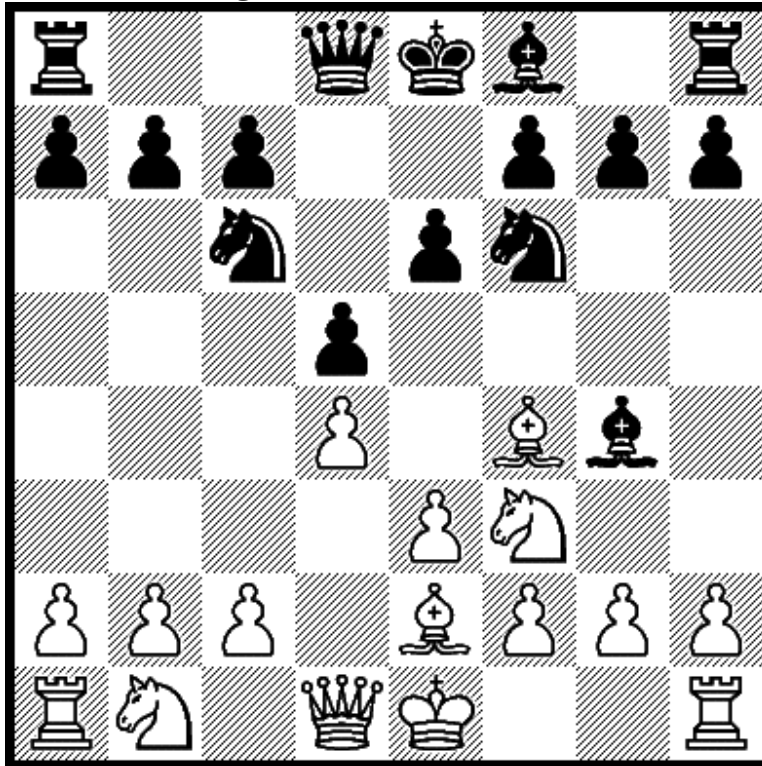
Diagram 43 after 4.Nf3 Bg4



5.Be2

The bishop breaks the pin and protects the knight.

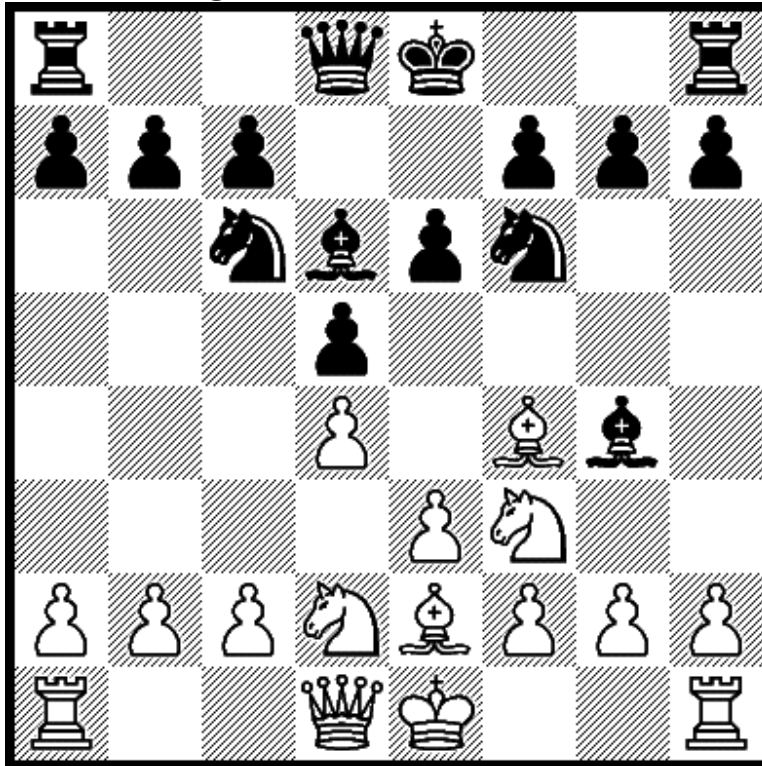
Diagram 44 after 5.Be2 e6



6.Nbd2

White brings up reinforcements.

Diagram 45 after 6.Nbd2 Bd6

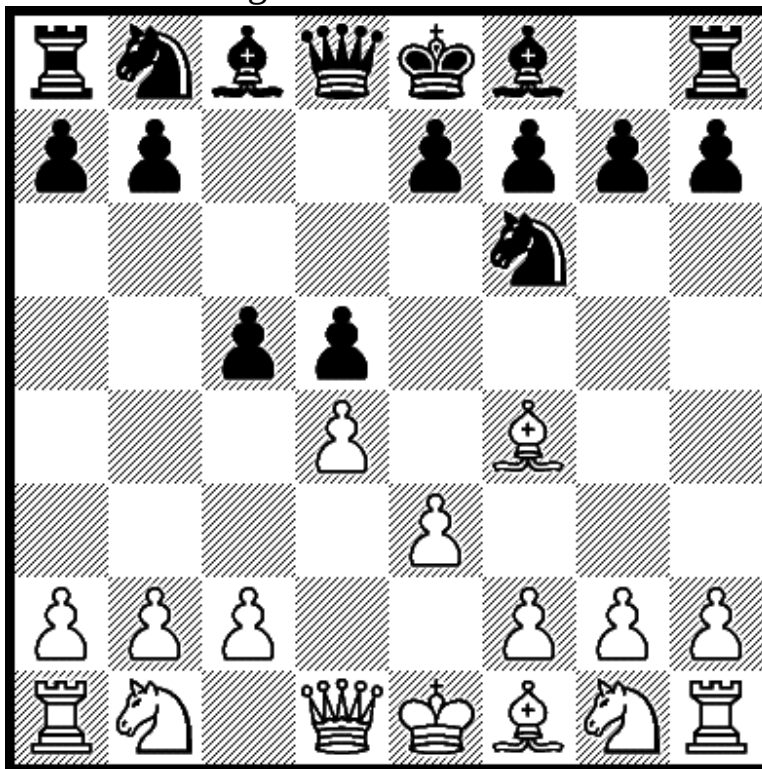


7.Bg3

The eyes e5 from a distance.

1.d4 d5 2.Bf4 Nf6 3.e3 c5 4.c3

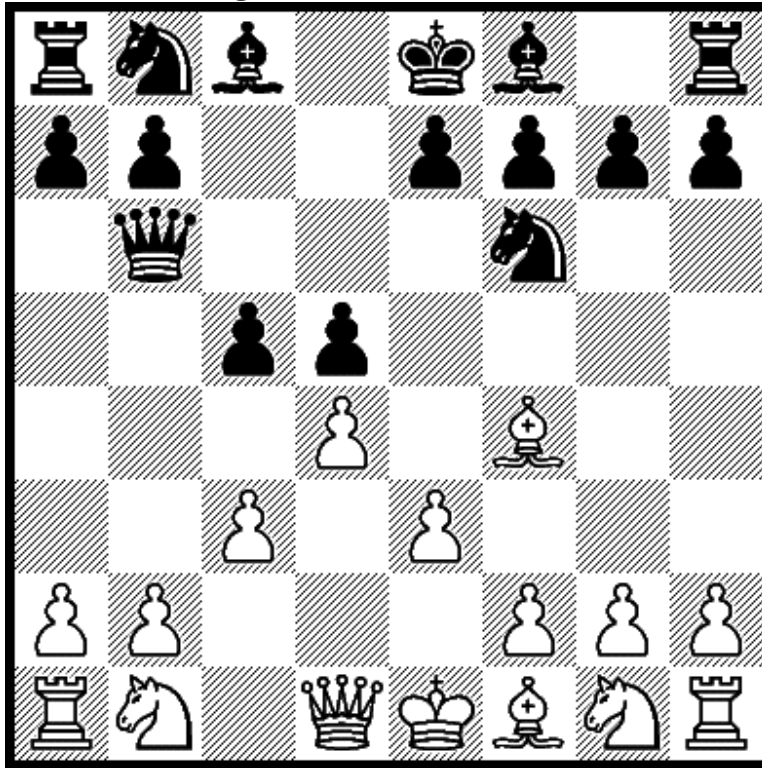
Diagram 46 after 3.e3 c5



4.c3

White completes the pawn triangle with e3-d4-c3.

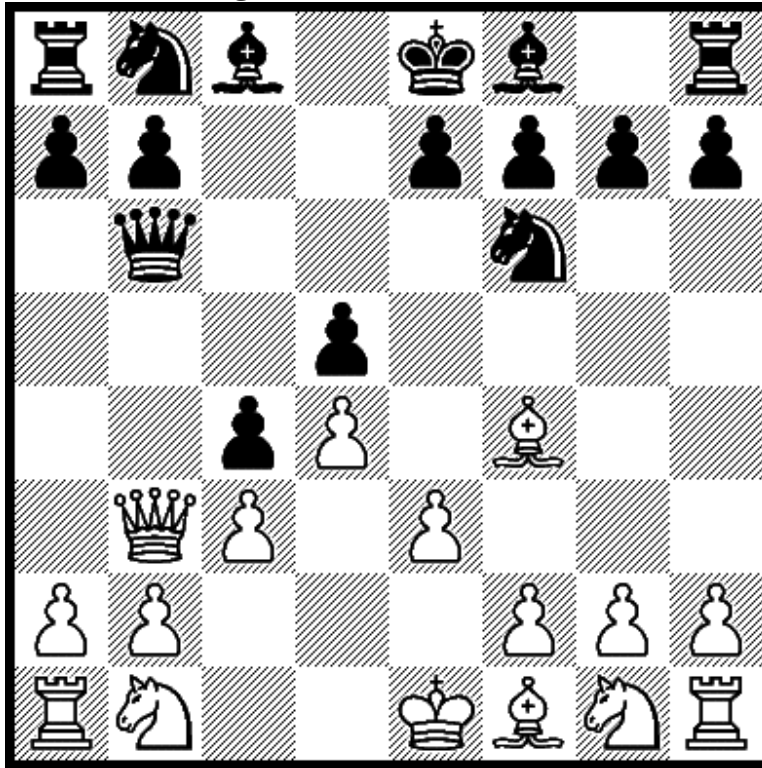
Diagram 47 after 4.c3 Qb6



5.Qb3

The actively defends b2.

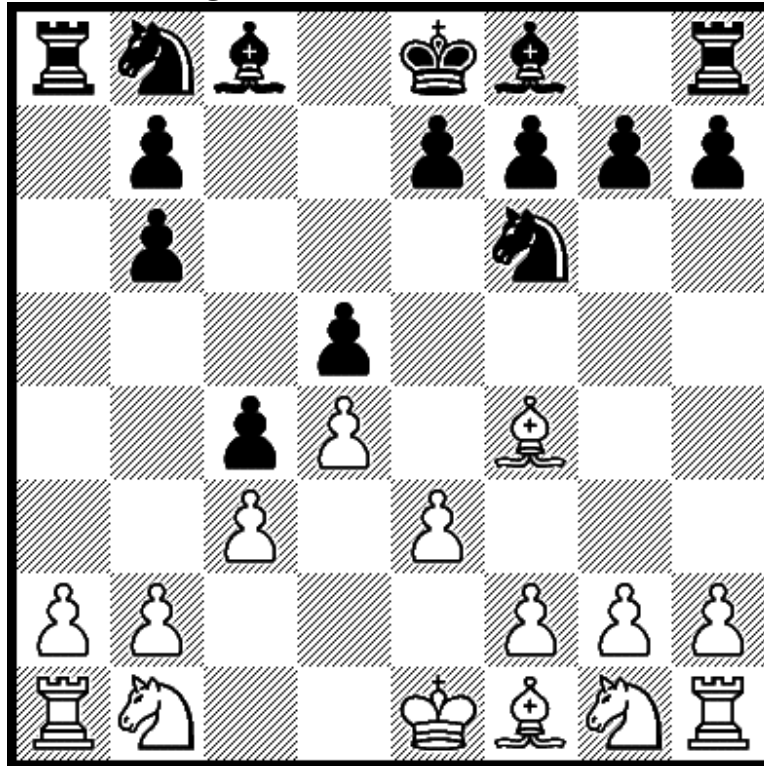
Diagram 48 after 5.Qb3 c4



6.Qxb6

This capture leaves Black with doubled b-pawns.

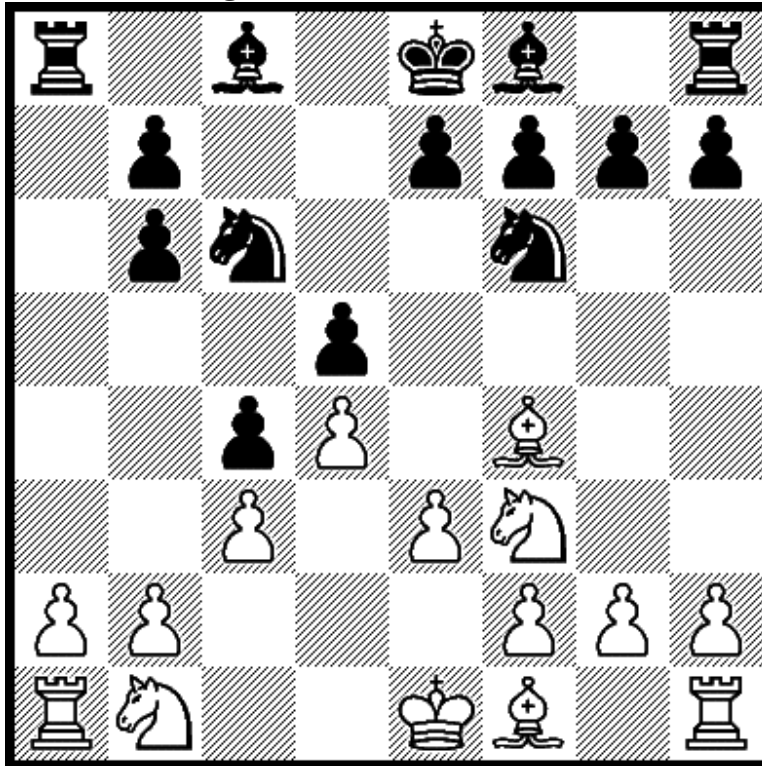
Diagram 49 after 6.Qxb6 axb6



7.Nf3

It's time to get pieces moving on the kingside.

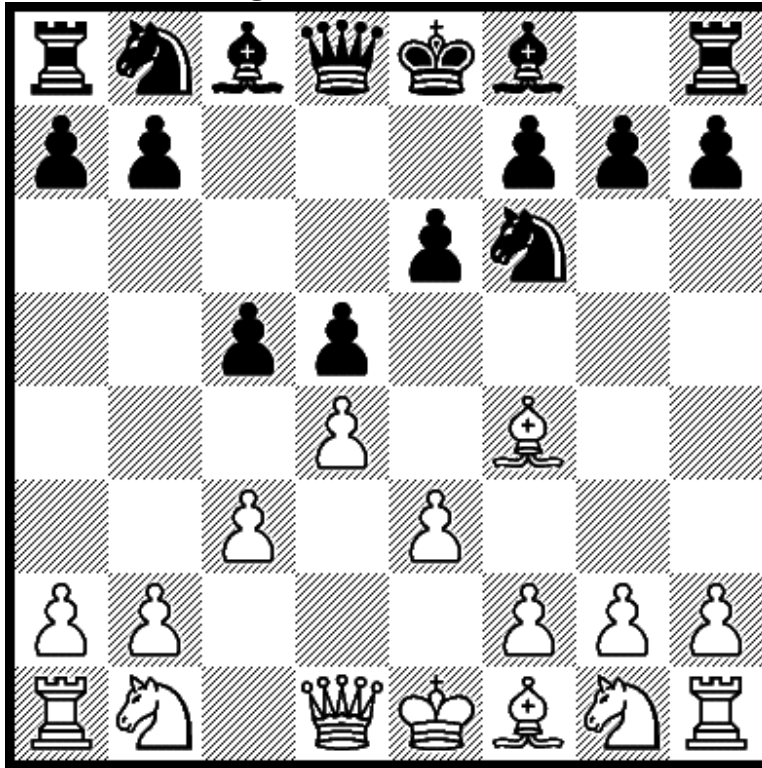
Diagram 50 after 7.Nf3 Nc6



8.Na3

This knight may continue 9.Nb5 or retreat to Nc2.

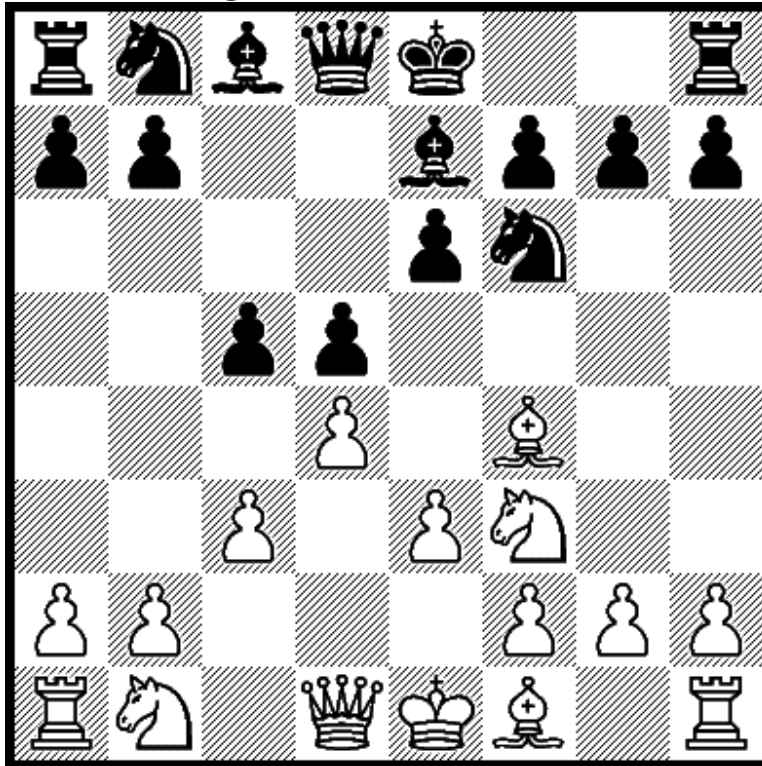
Diagram 51 after 4.c3 e6



5.Nf3

This is the most popular continuation.

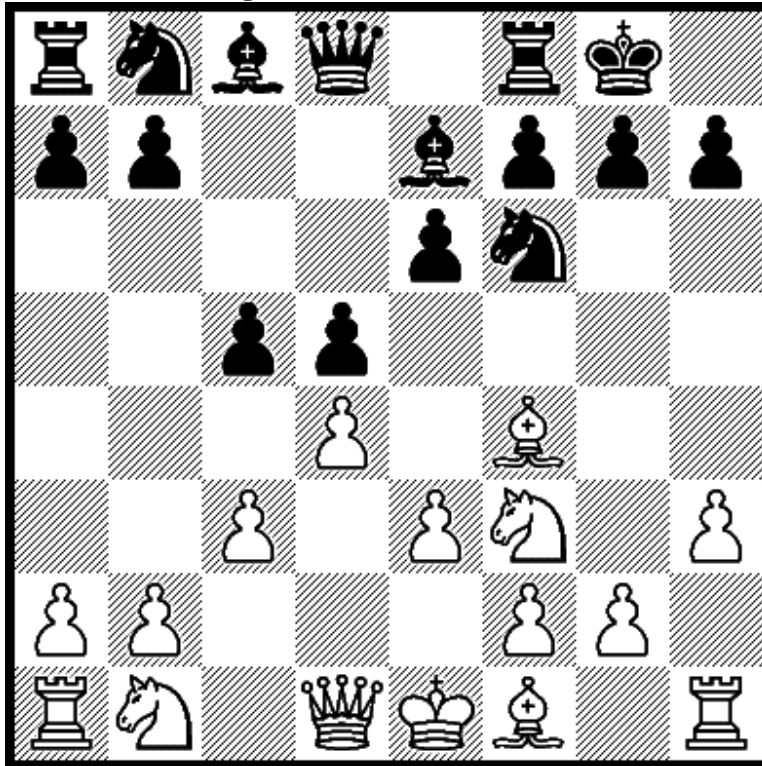
Diagram 52 after 5.Nf3 Be7



6.h3

White creates a hole for a possible Bh2.

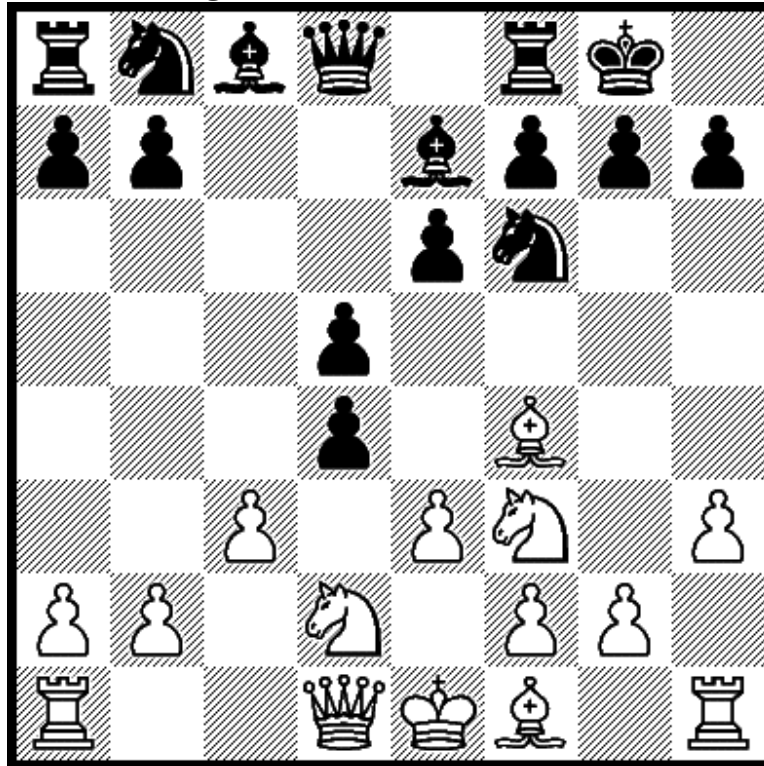
Diagram 53 after 6.h3 0-0



7.Nbd2

This knight moves according to plan.

Diagram 54 after 7.Nbd2 cxd4

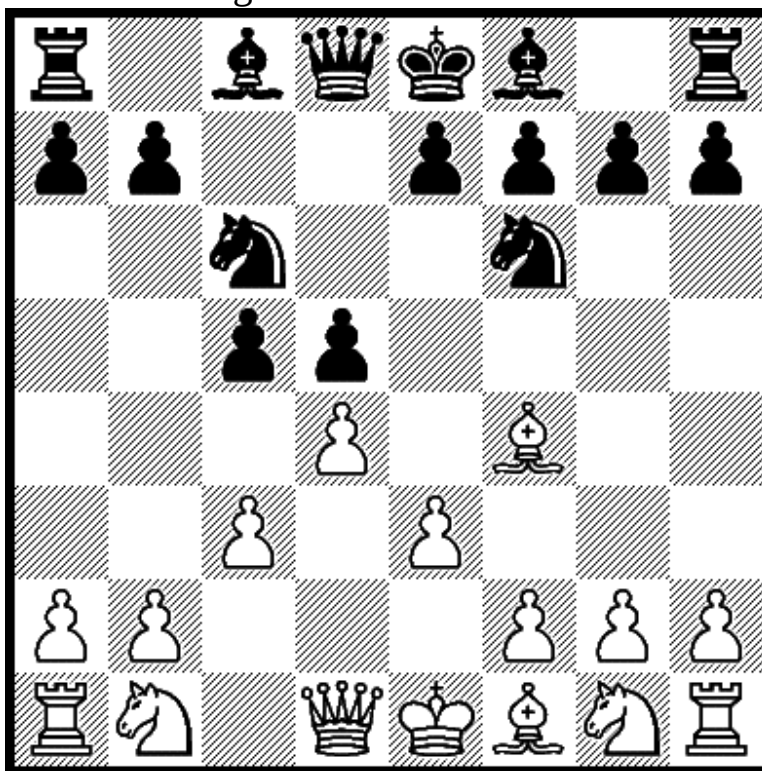


8.exd4

White avoids the drawish symmetry of 8.cxd4.

4.c3 Nc6 5.Nd2

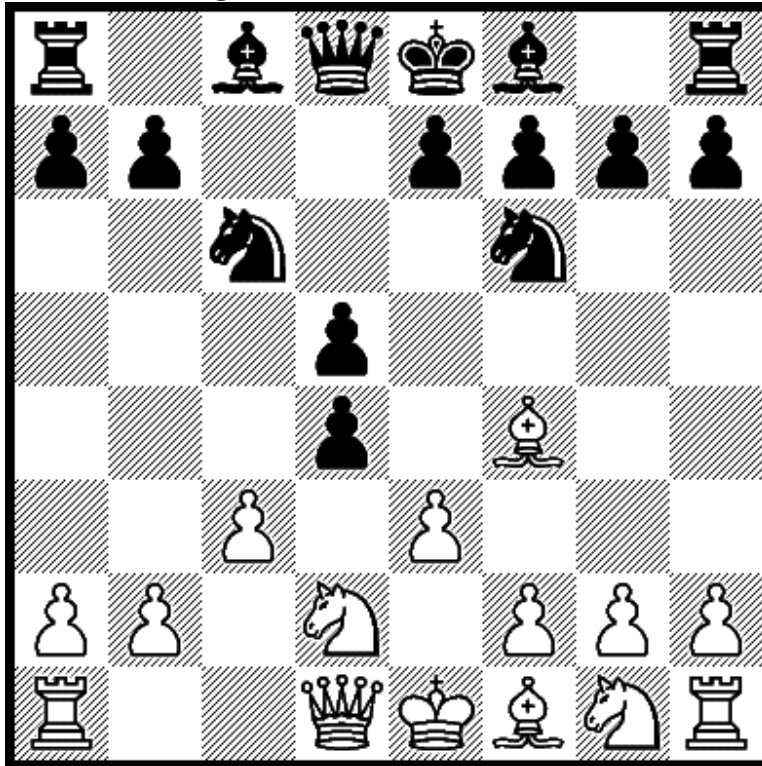
Diagram 55 after 4.c3 Nc6



5.Nd2

The point of this to prevent Black's move 5...Nh5.

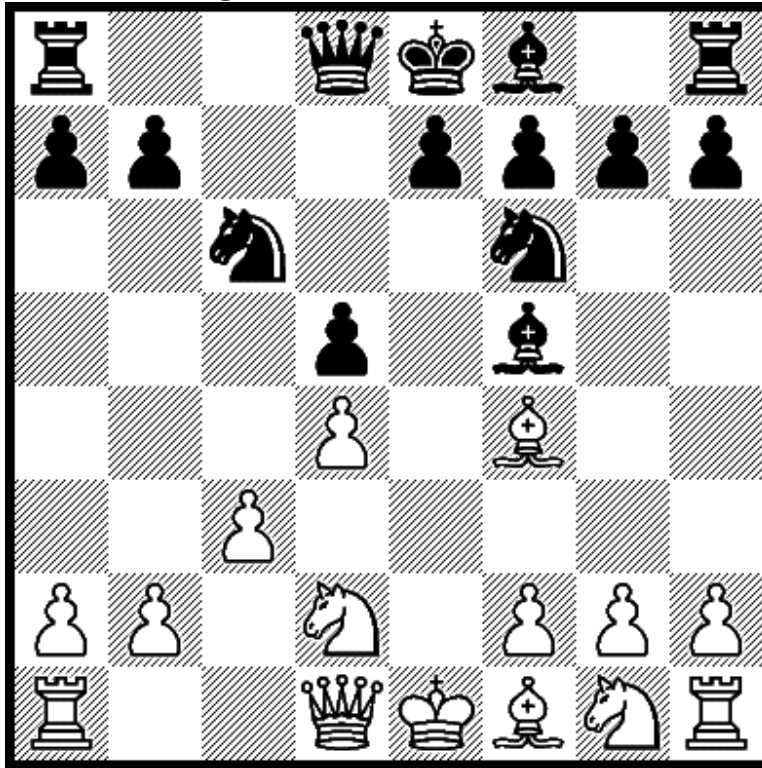
Diagram 56 after 5.Nd2 cxd4



6.exd4

White chooses the more dynamic pawn structure.

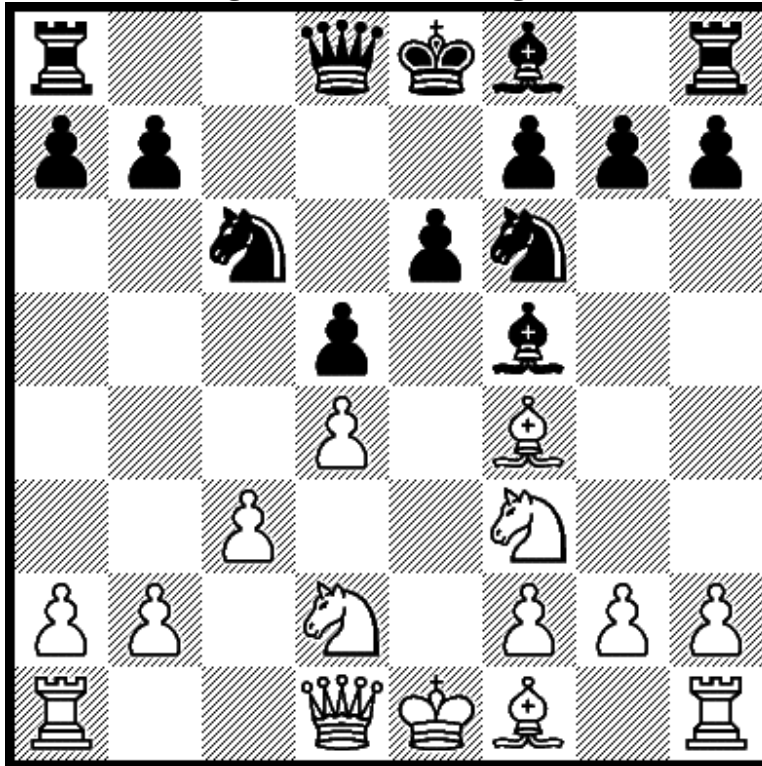
Diagram 57 after 6.exd4 Bf5



7.Ngf3

Now it's time to bring out the knight.

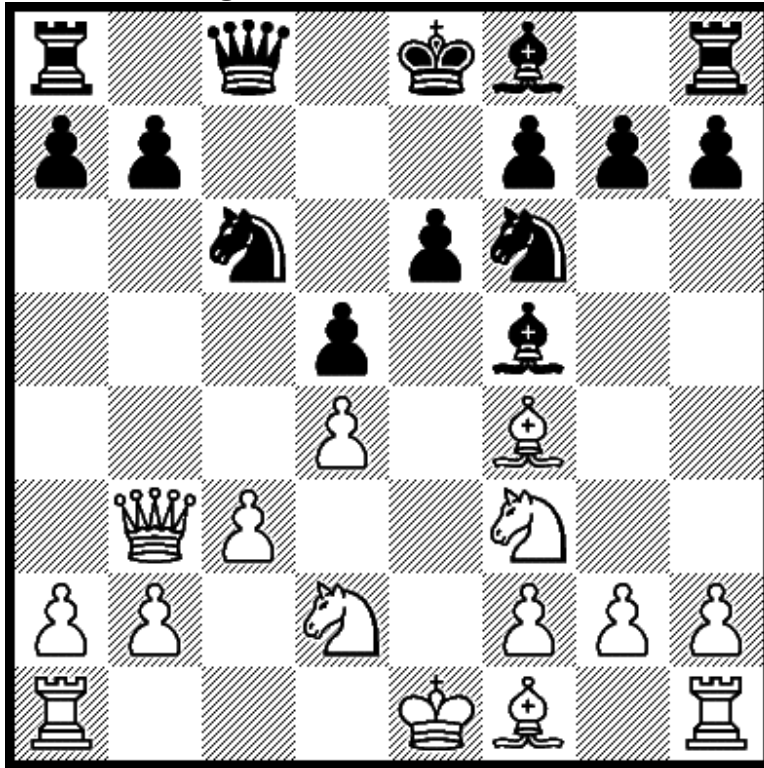
Diagram 58 after 7.Ngf3 e6



8.Qb3

White attacks b7 since Black played 6...Bf5.

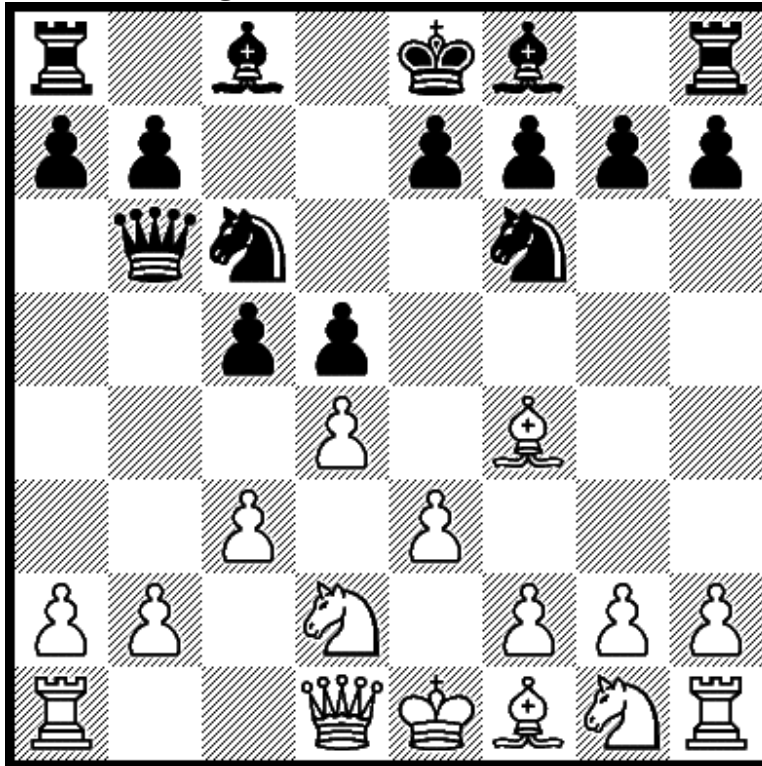
Diagram 59 after 8.Qb3 Qc8



9.Nh4

White attacks the Black bishop.

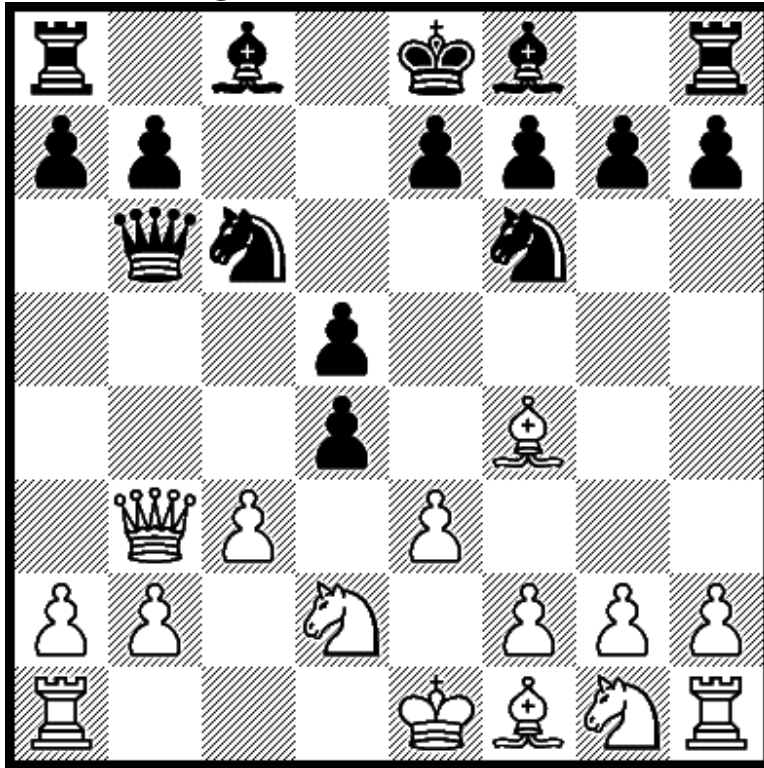
Diagram 60 after 5.Nd2 Qb6



6.Qb3

Note that White's knight protects this queen.

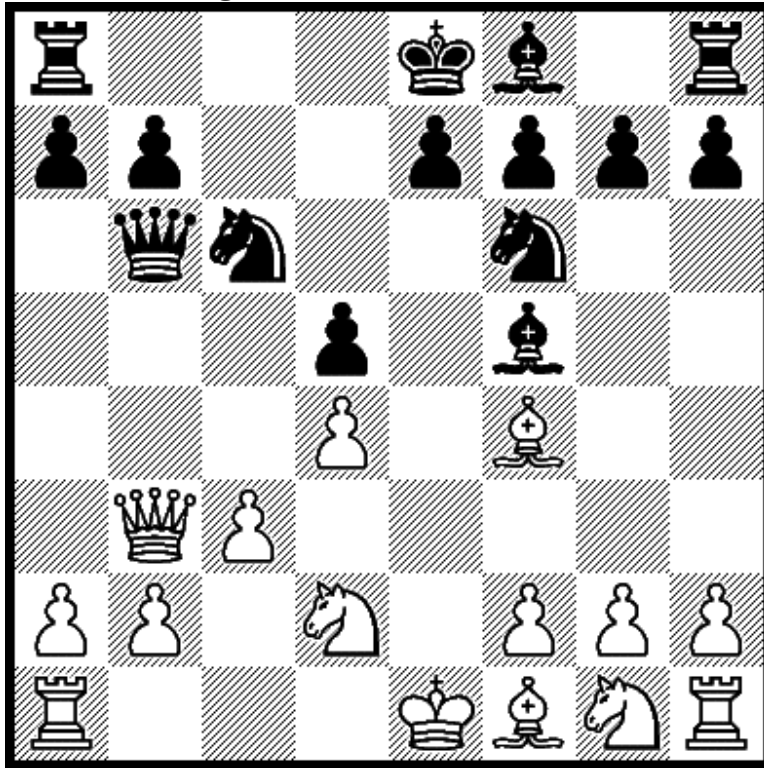
Diagram 61 after 6.Qb3 cxd4



7.exd4

The standard pawn recapture.

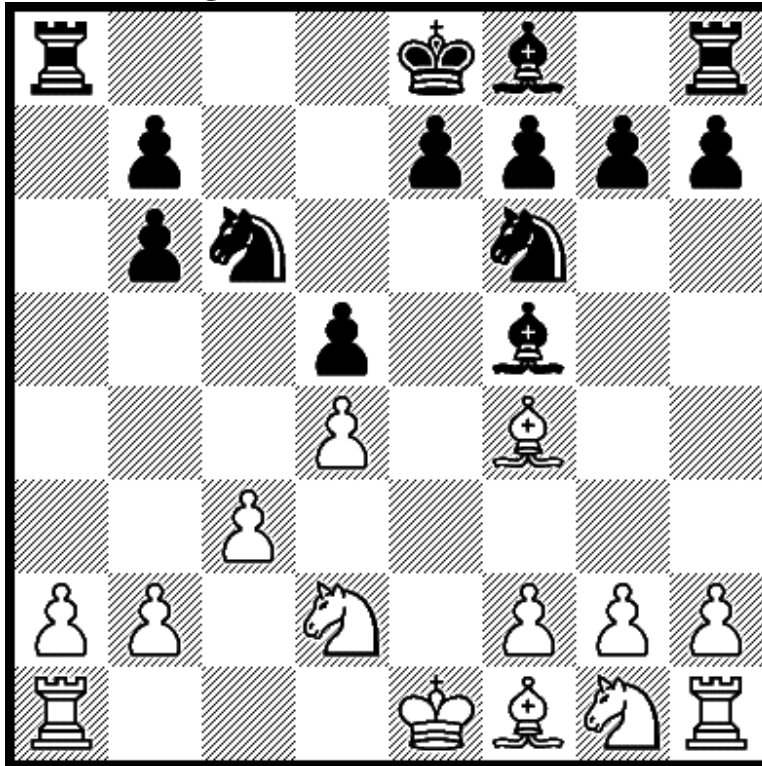
Diagram 62 after 7.exd4 Bf5



8.Qxb6

White saddles Black with doubled pawns.

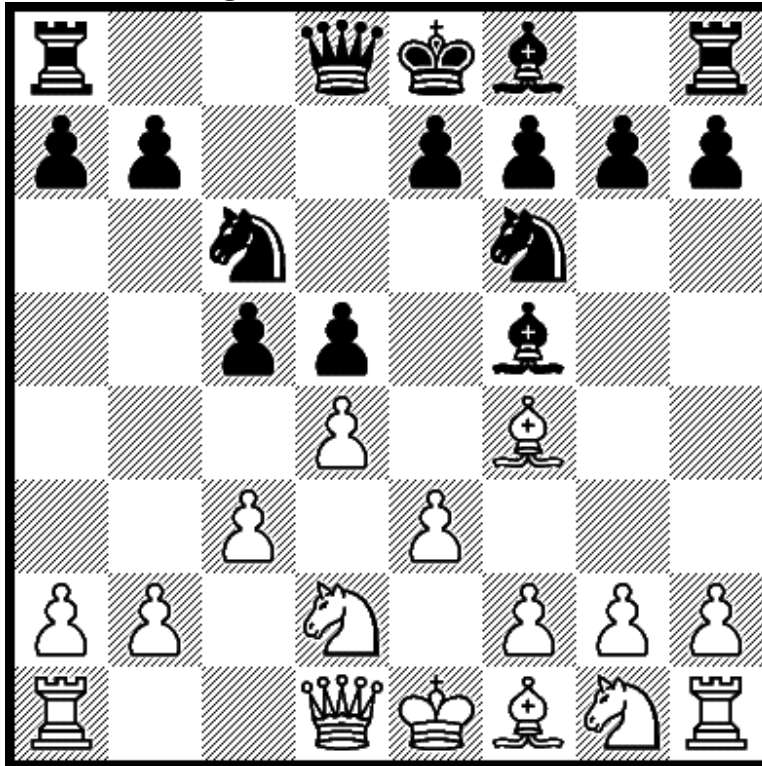
Diagram 63 after 8.Qxb6 axb6



9.Ngf3

The e5 square remains under White control.

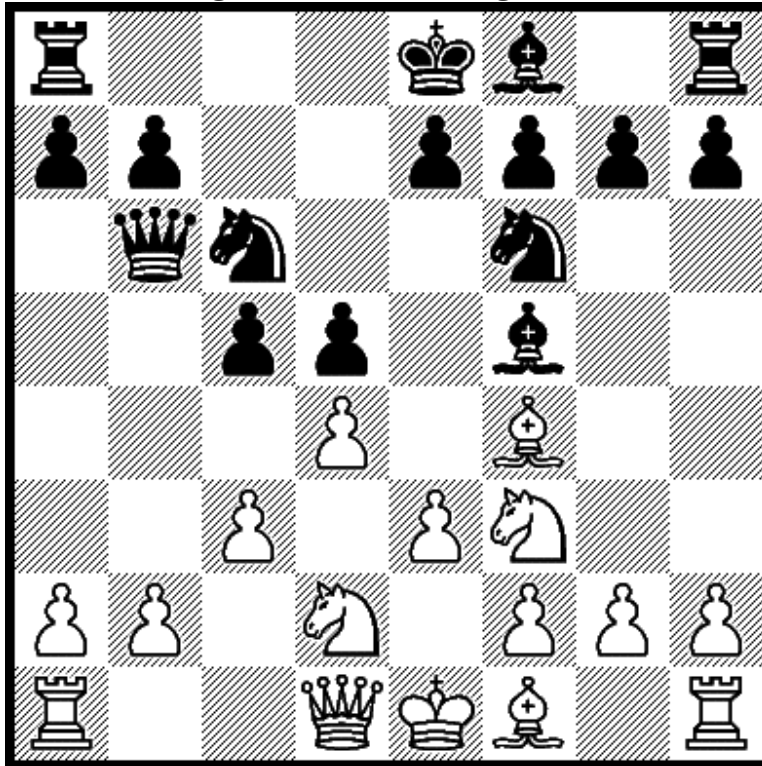
Diagram 64 after 5.Nd2 Bf5



6.Ngf3

The kingside knight develops before the bishop.

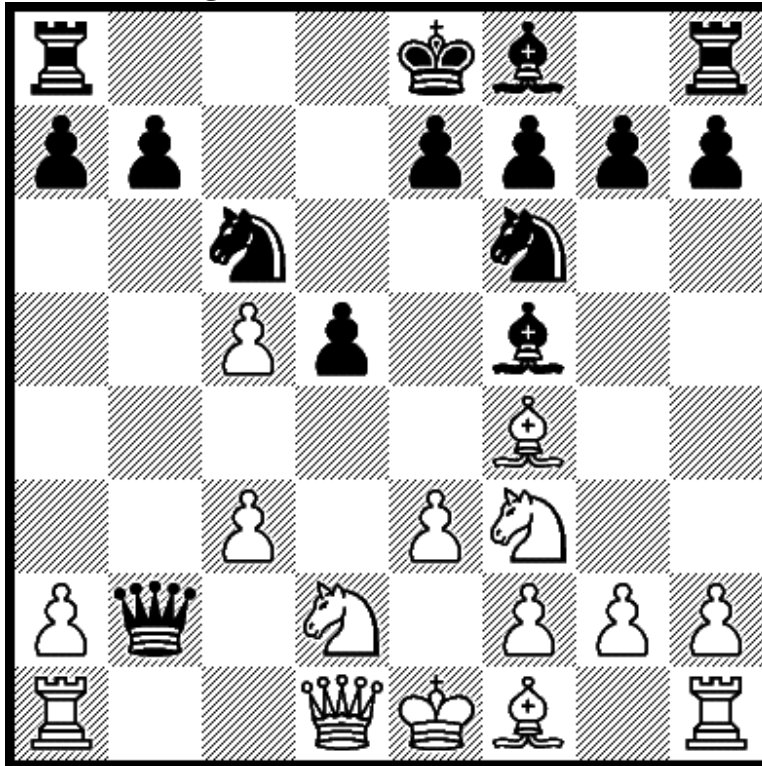
Diagram 65 after 6.Ngf3 Qb6



7.dxc5

This is playable because the Bf5 is unprotected.

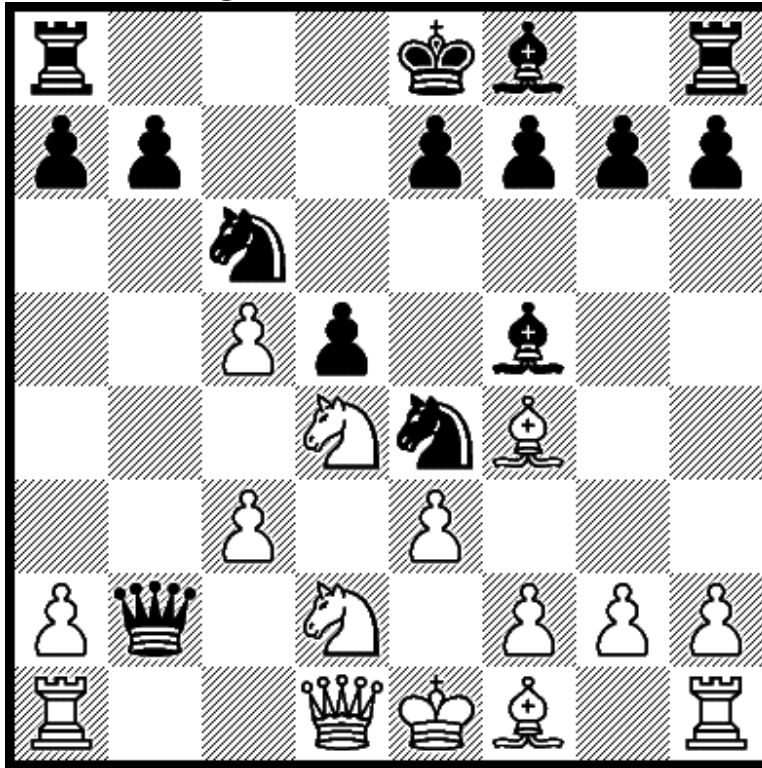
Diagram 66 after 7.dxc5 Qxb2



8.Nd4

Now if 8...Bg6 9.Bb5 White stands well.

Diagram 67 after 8.Nd4 Ne4

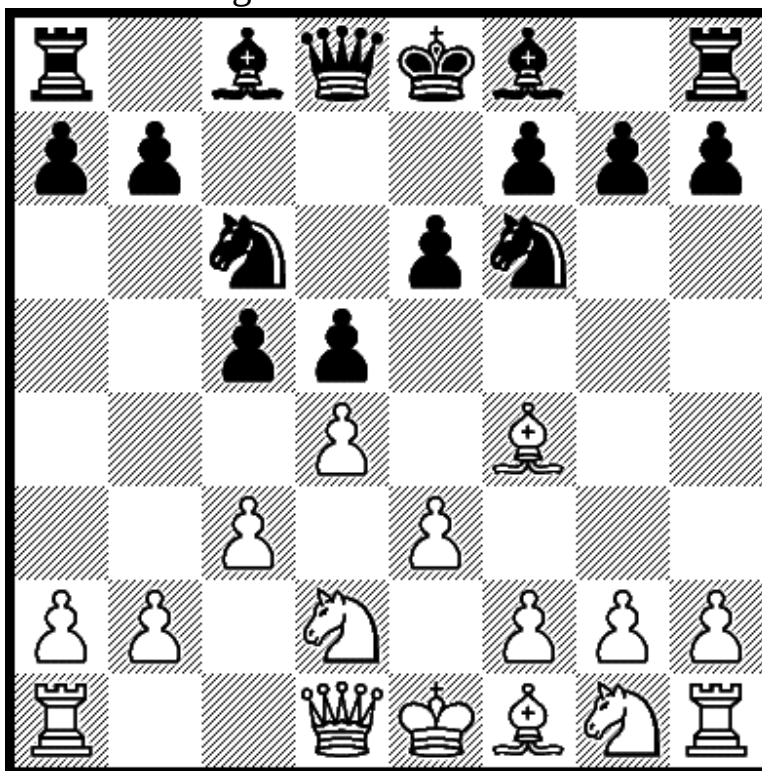


9.Qc1

The hanging Bf5 gives White time to handle everything.

4.c3 Nc6 5.Nd2 e6 6.Ngf3

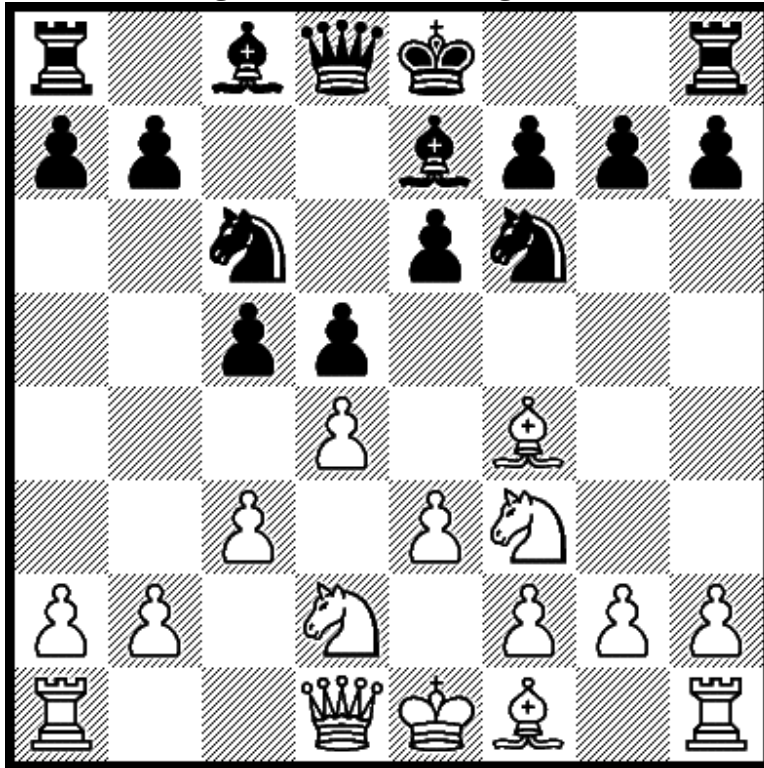
Diagram 68 after 5.Nd2 e6



6.Ngf3

Now if 6...Nh5 7.Bg5 f6 8.Bh4 g5 9.Nxg5 fxg5 10.Qxh5+.

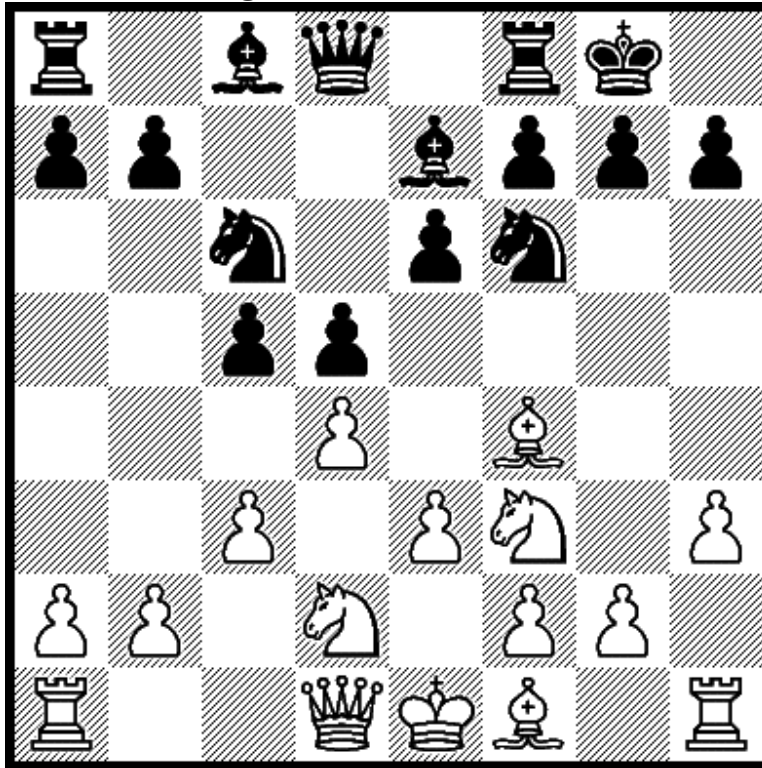
Diagram 69 after 6.Ngf3 Be7



7.h3

It's wise to allow for a Bh2 retreat.

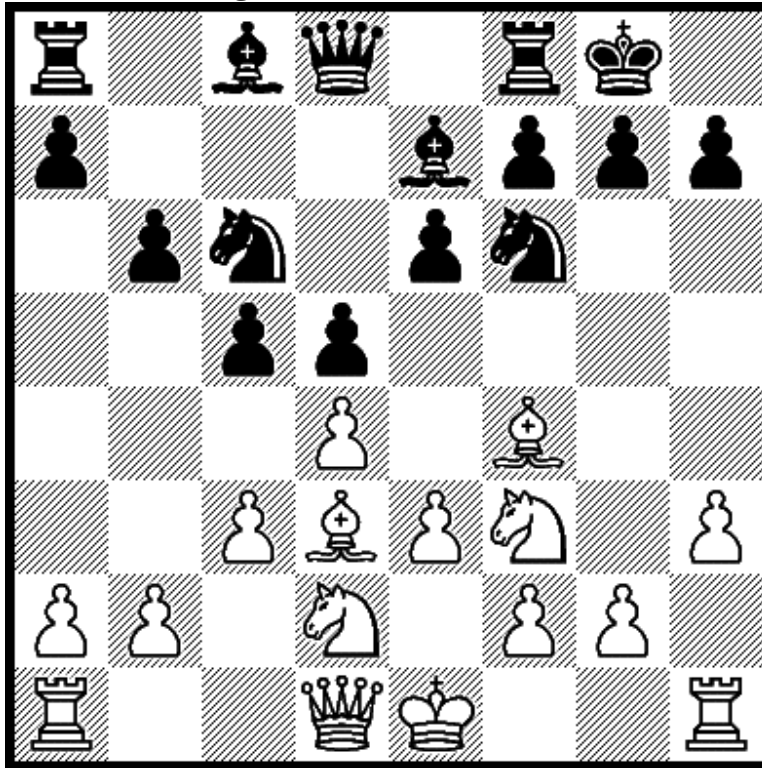
Diagram 70 after 7.h3 0-0



8.Bd3

The bishop takes aim at h7.

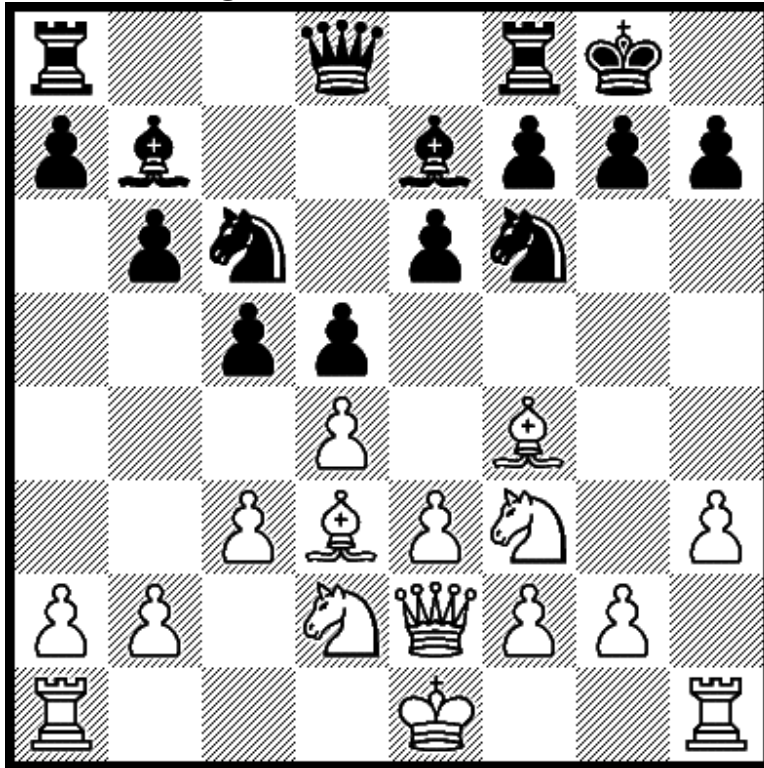
Diagram 71 after 8.Bd3 b6



9.Qe2

White can castle either side and push e3-e4.

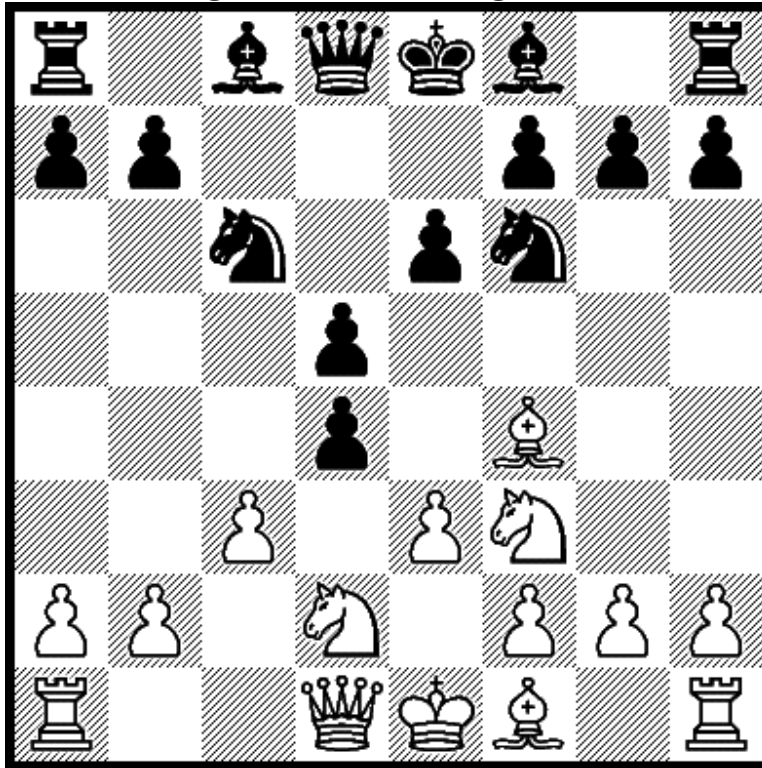
Diagram 72 after 9.Qe2 Bb7



10.0-0

The king is safe. White's army is ready for action.

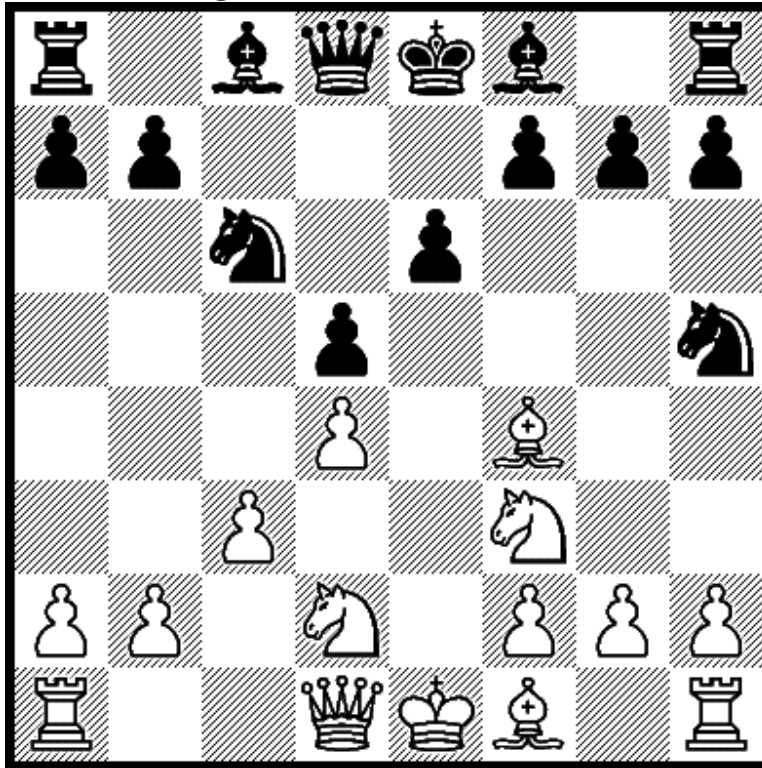
Diagram 73 after 6.Ngf3 cxd4



7.exd4

There will be no need to push e3-e4 in this game.

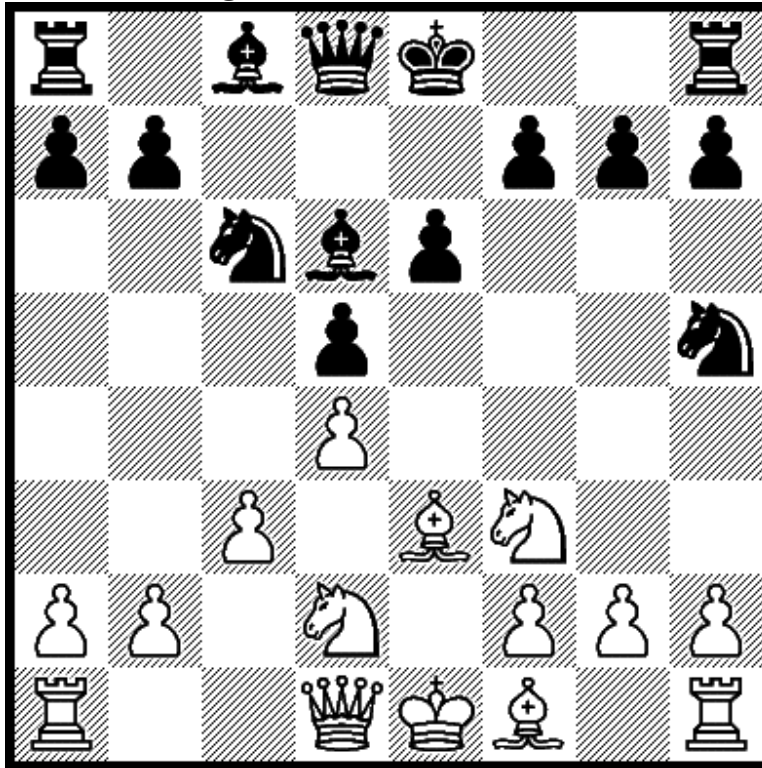
Diagram 74 after 7.exd4 Nh5



8.Be3

This retreat square is another advantage of exd4.

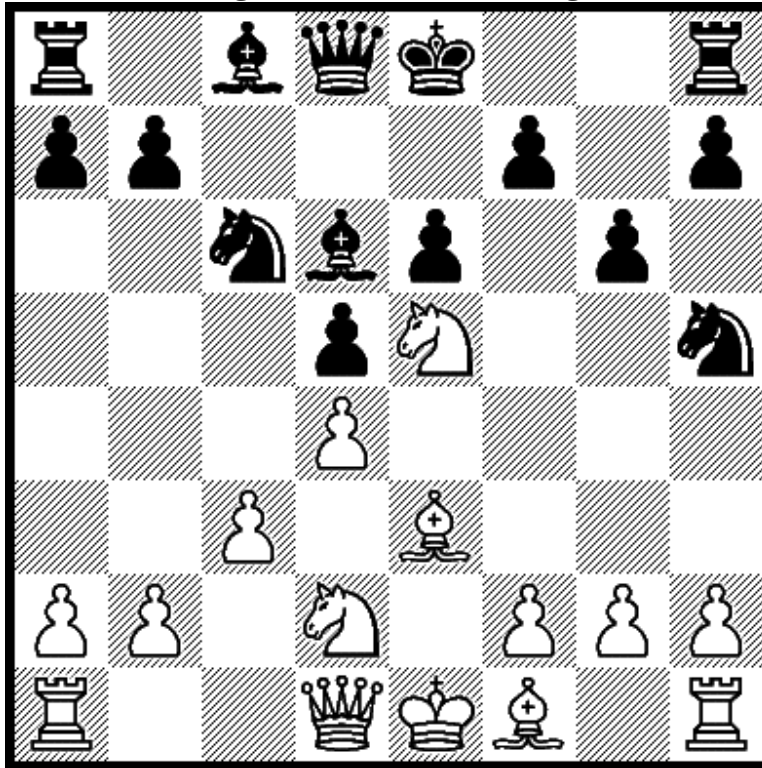
Diagram 75 after 8.Be3 Bd6



9.Ne5

White uncovers an attack on the Nh5.

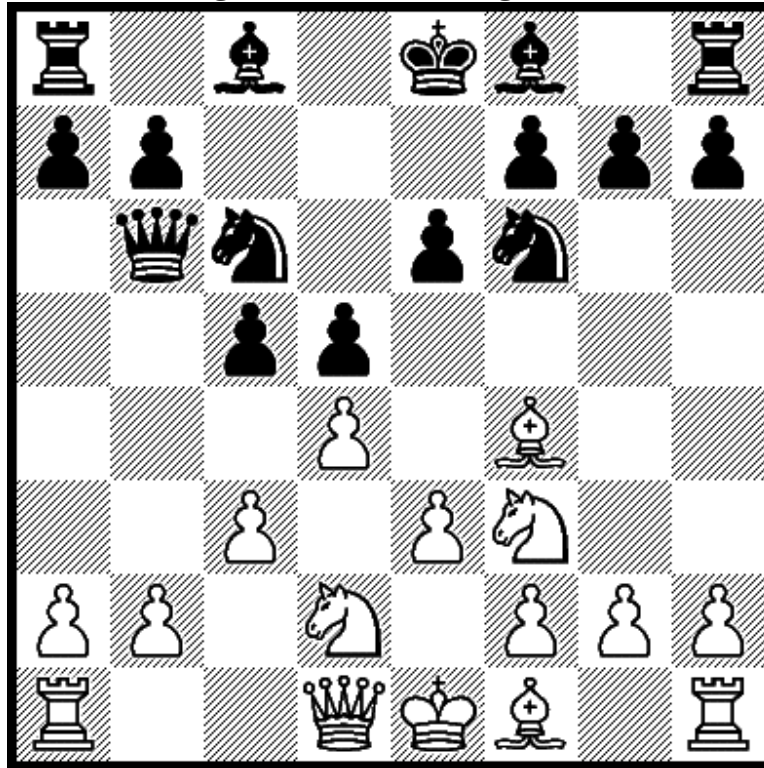
Diagram 76 after 9.Ne5 g6



10.Be2

White threatens to damage Black pawn structure.

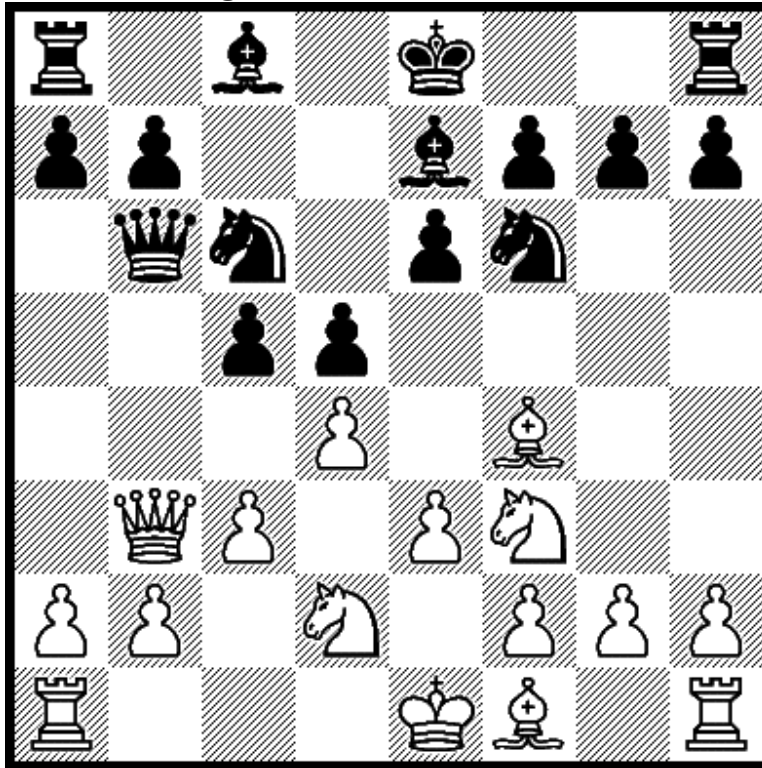
Diagram 77 after 6.Ngf3 Qb6



7.Qb3

This is the most active move.

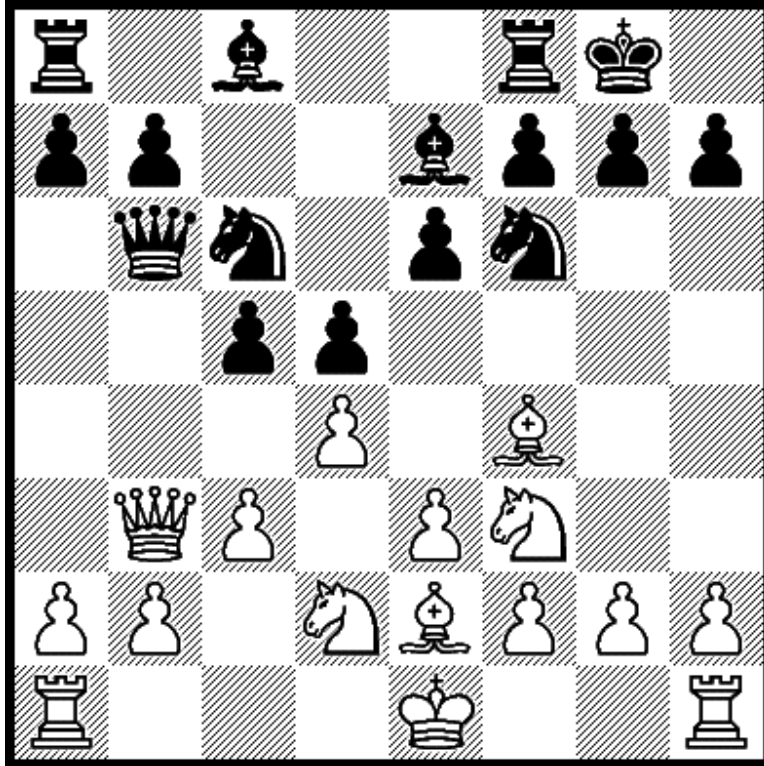
Diagram 78 after 7.Qb3 Be7



8.Be2

Note that Black threatens a possible c5-c4.

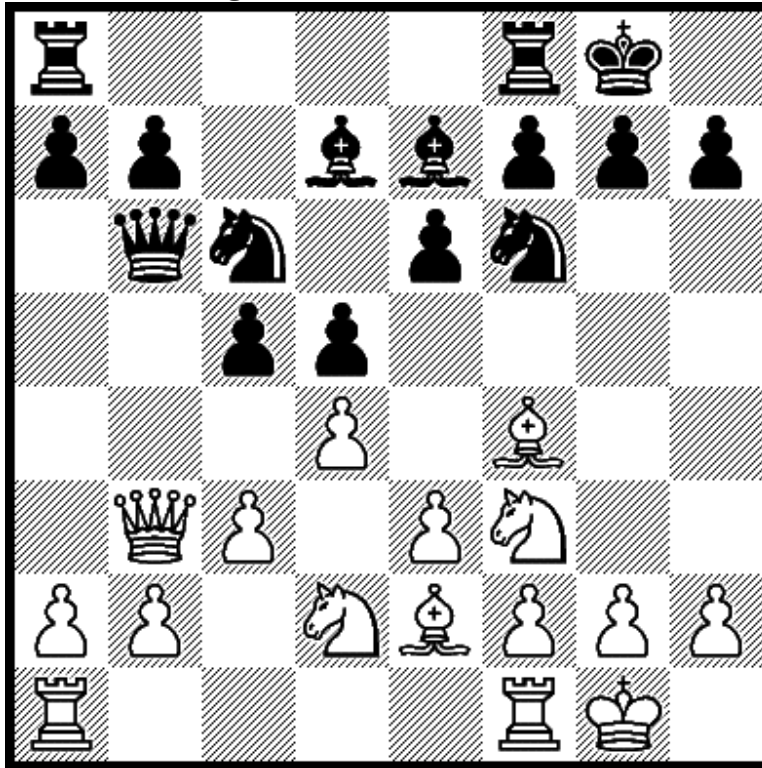
Diagram 79 after 8.Be2 0-0



9.0-0

Castling should not be delayed.

Diagram 80 after 9.0-0 Bd7

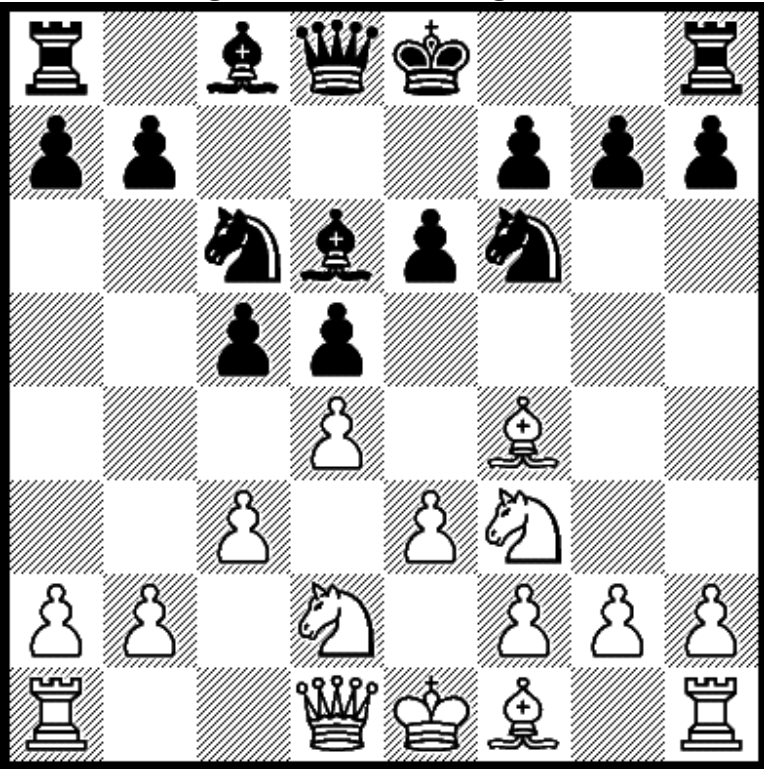


10.h3

The empty square on h2 might come in handy.

6.Ngf3 Bd6 7.Bg3

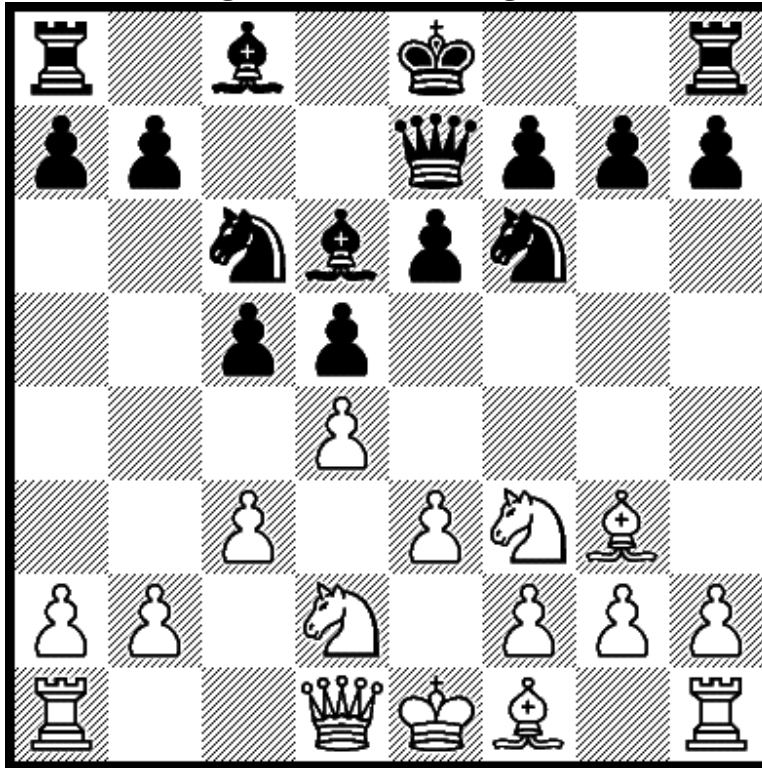
Diagram 81 after 6.Ngf3 Bd6



7.Bg3

This retreat works best when White has not castled.

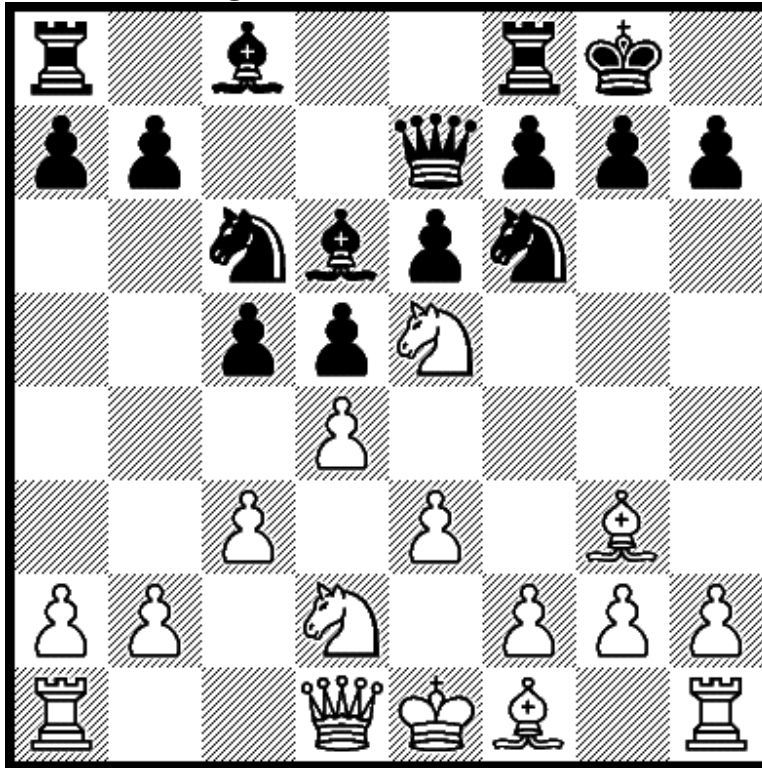
Diagram 82 after 7.Bg3 Qe7



8.Ne5

White must stop e6-e5.

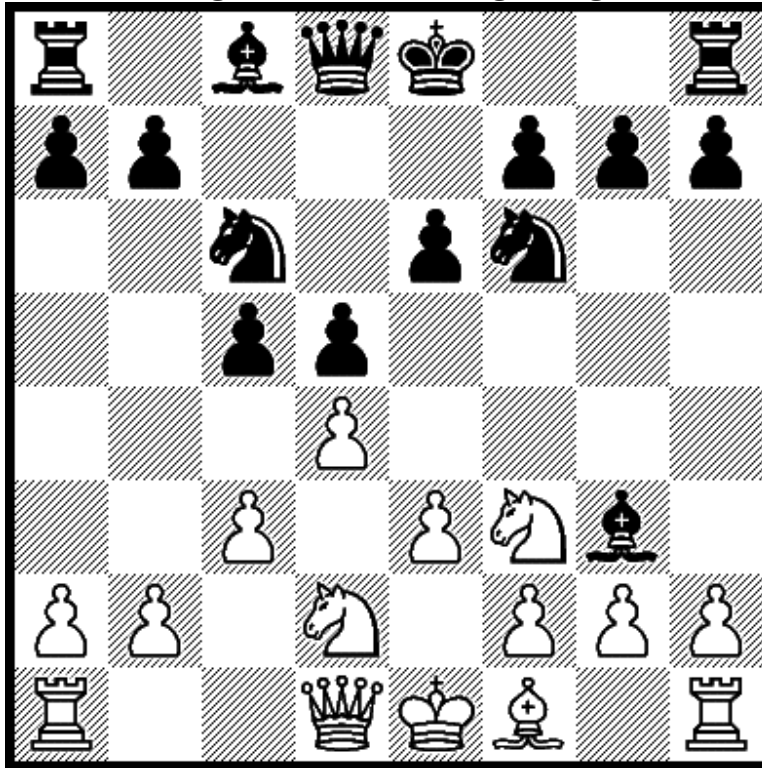
Diagram 83 after 8.Ne5 0-0



9.Bd3

White's development is ideal.

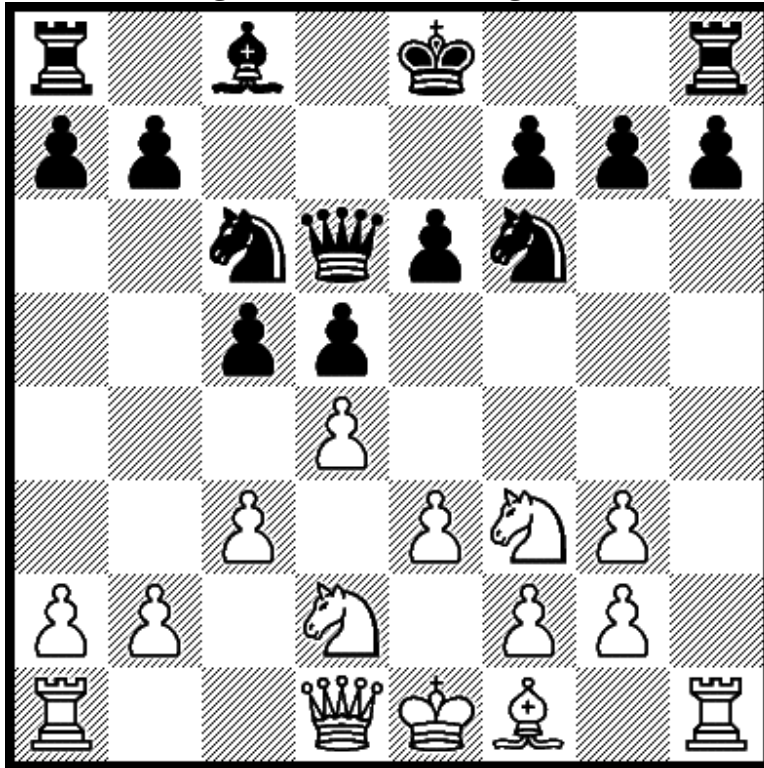
Diagram 84 after 7.Bg3 Bxg3



8.hxg3

Capture toward the center. Now c5 is unprotected.

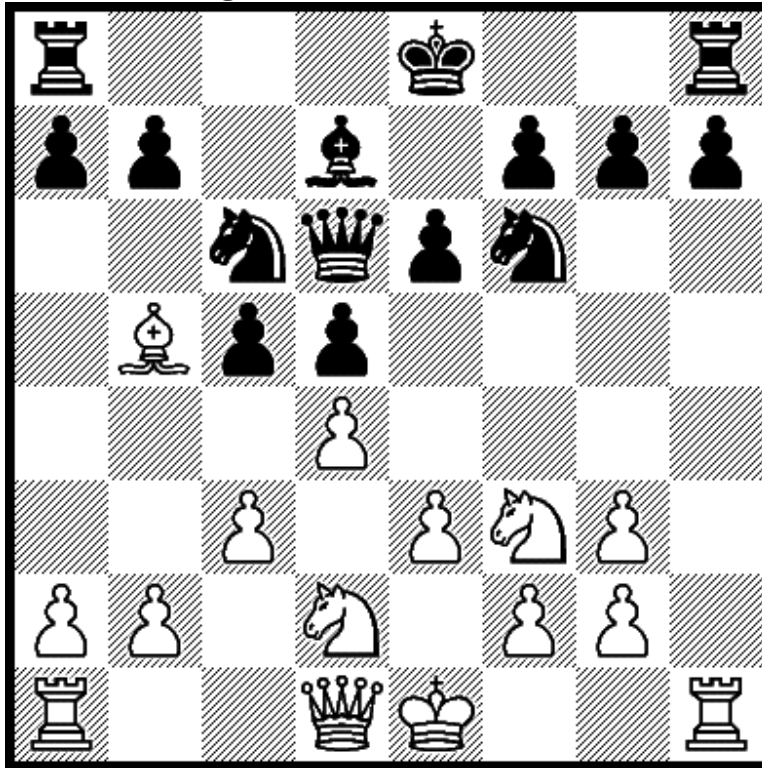
Diagram 85 after 8.hxg3 Qd6



9.Bb5

White pins the Black knight.

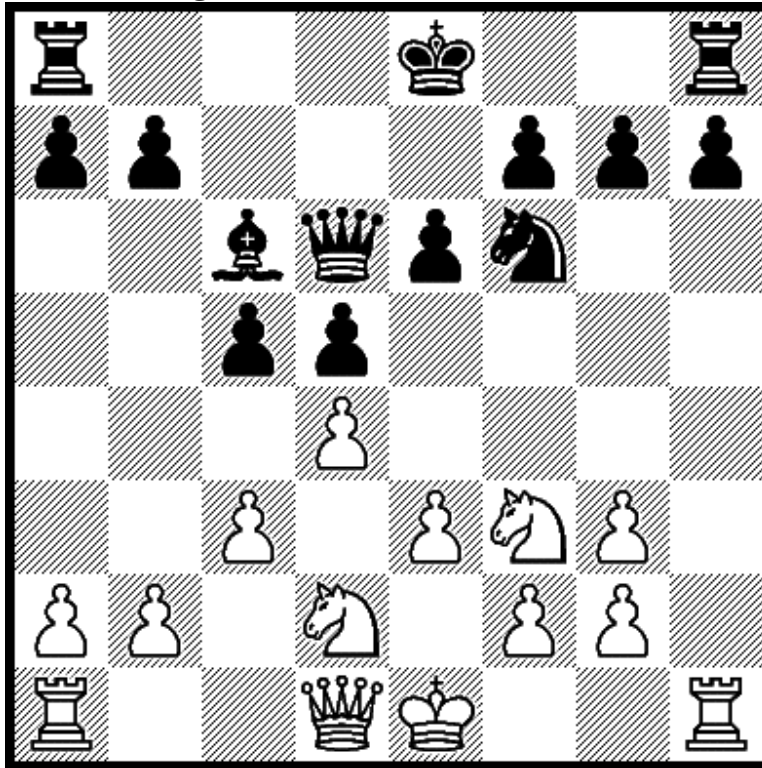
Diagram 86 after 9.Bb5 Bd7



10.Bxc6

White eliminates Black's important Nc6.

Diagram 87 after 10.Bxc6 Bxc6

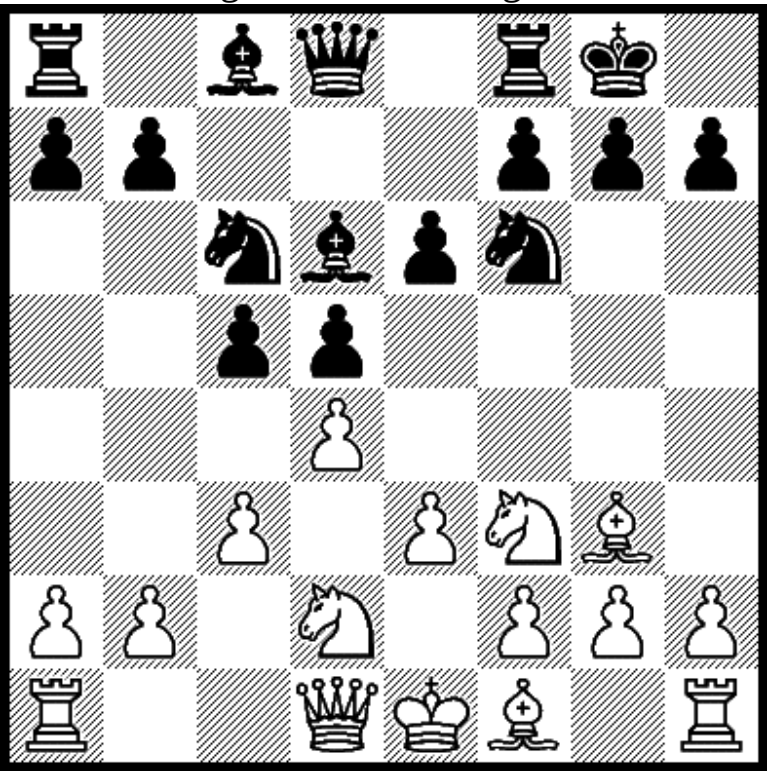


11.Ne5

If 11...Bb5 12.Qb3.

6.Ngf3 Bd6 7.Bg3 0-0 8.Bd3

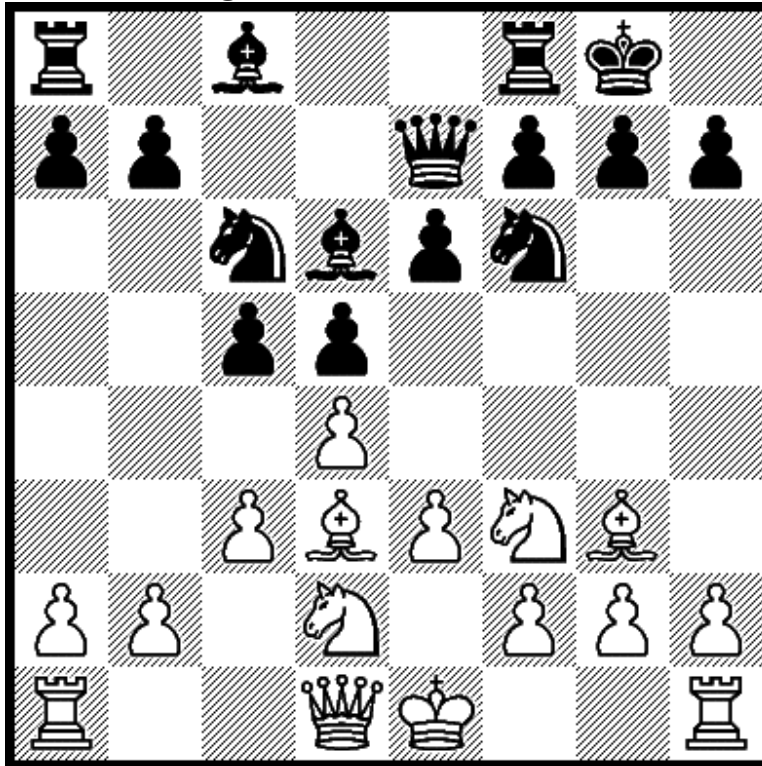
Diagram 88 after 7.Bg3 0-0



8.Bd3

White bishop occupies the best diagonal.

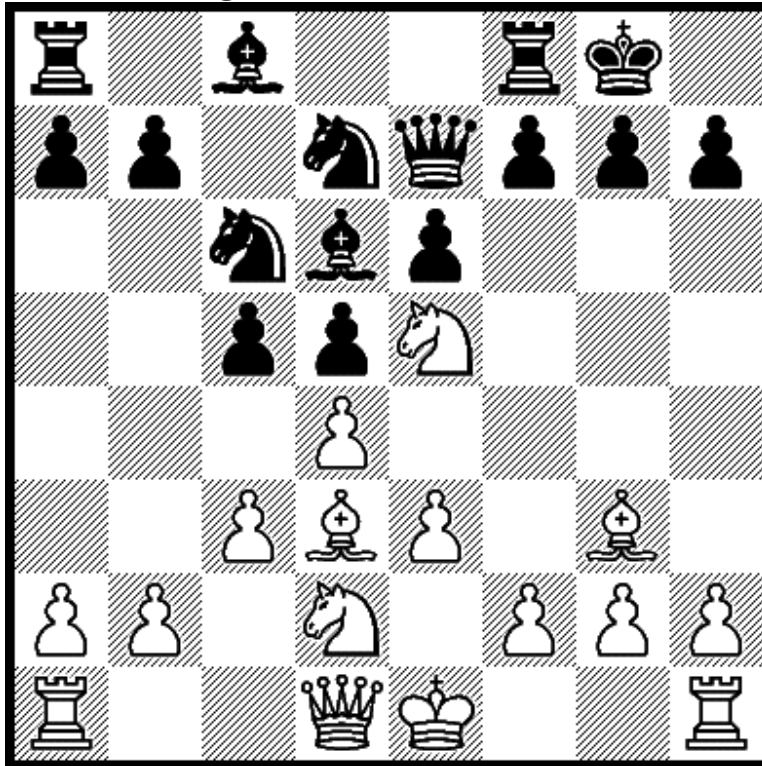
Diagram 89 after 8.Bd3 Qe7



9.Ne5

The knight prevents the pawn push e6-e5.

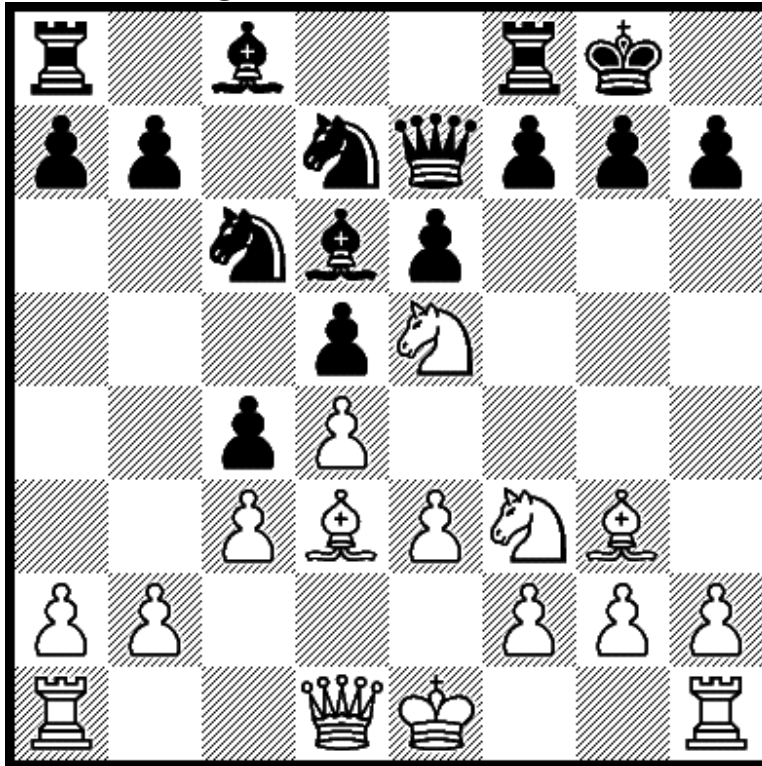
Diagram 90 after 9.Ne5 Nd7



10.Ndf3

One White knight protects the other.

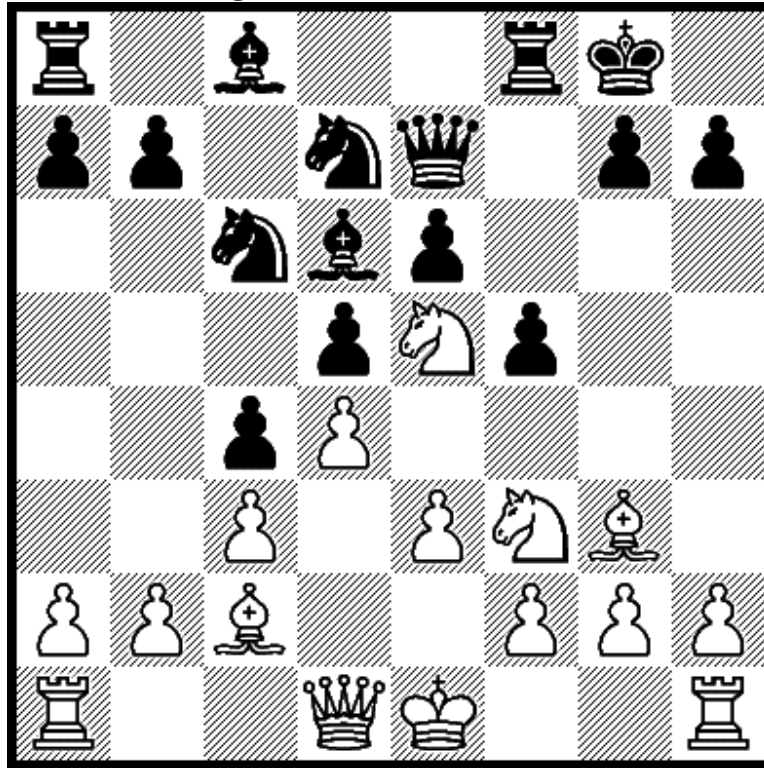
Diagram 91 after 10.Ndf3 c4



11.Bc2

White remains in line with h7 and e4.

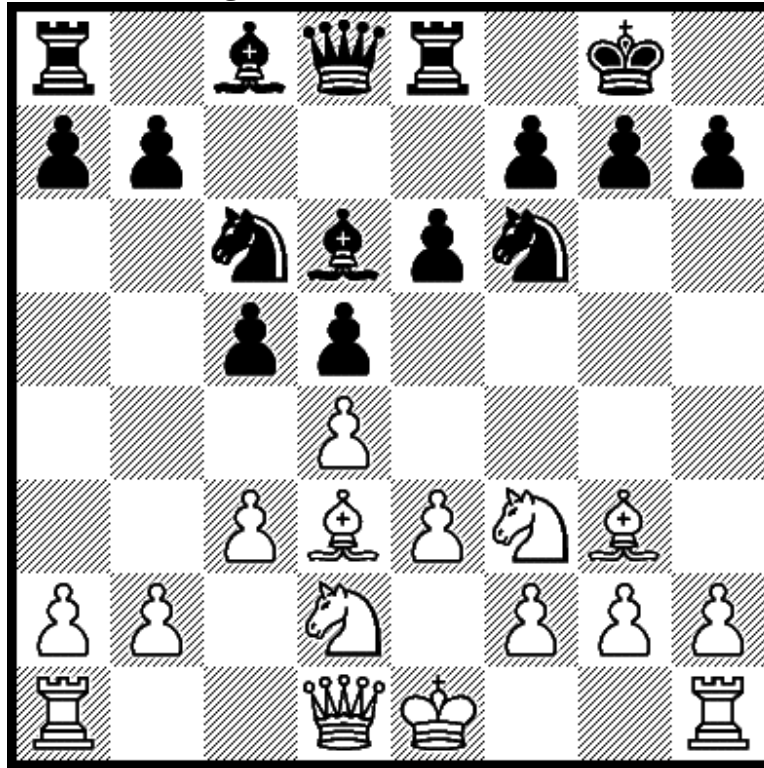
Diagram 92 after 11.Bc2 f5



12.Nxc6

Now if 12...bxc6 13.b3. White has queenside chances.

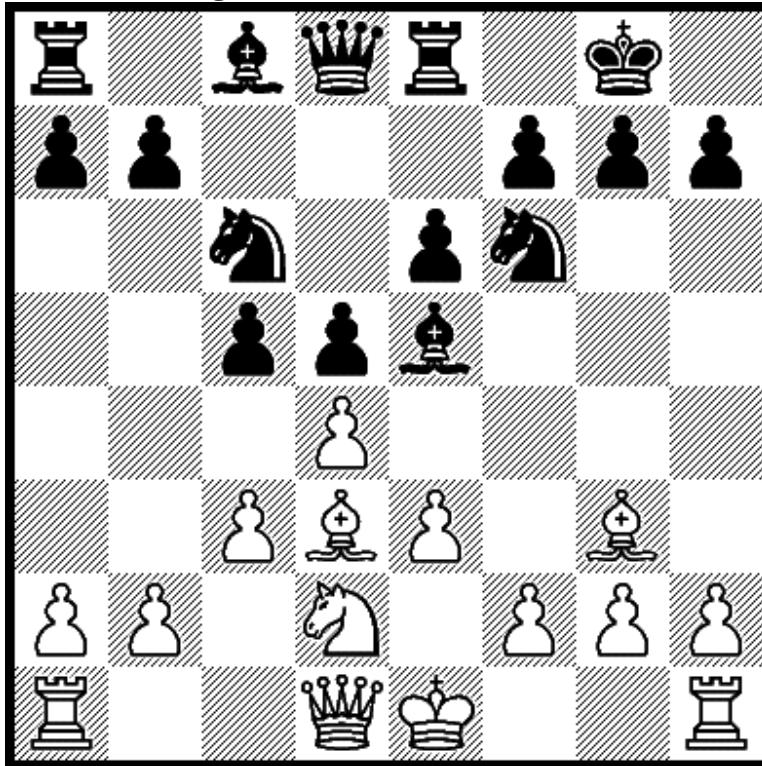
Diagram 93 after 8.Bd3 Re8



9.Ne5

White routinely prevents the e6-e5 pawn advance.

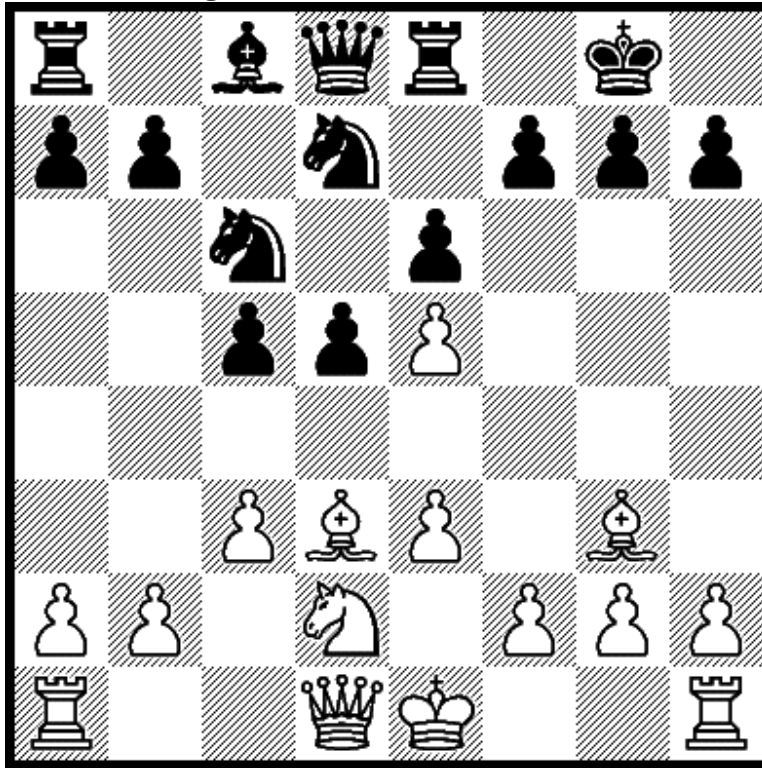
Diagram 94 after 9.Ne5 Bxe5



10.dxe5

White keeps the two bishops.

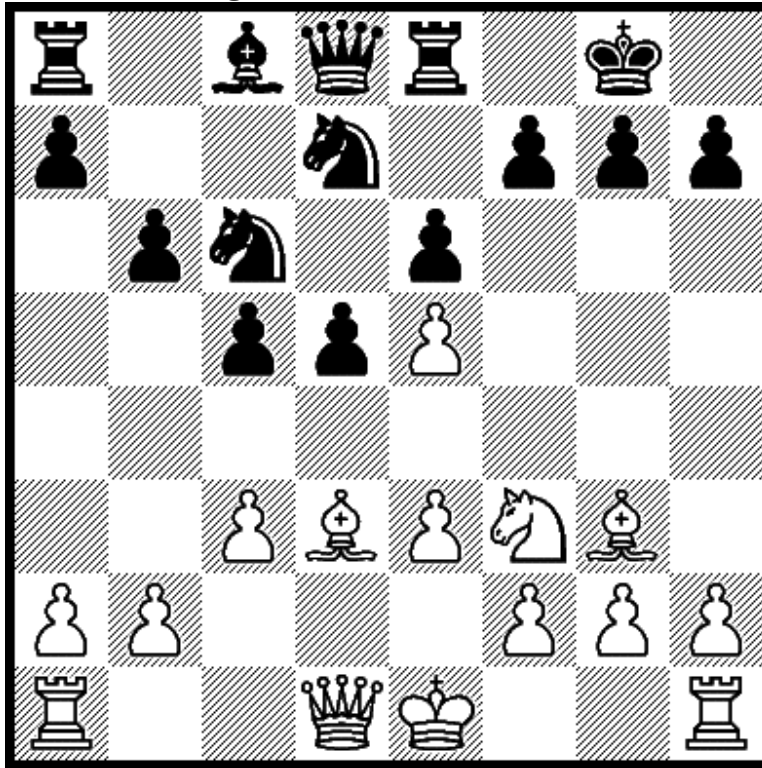
Diagram 95 after 10.dxe5 Nd7



11.Nf3

If 11...Qc7 12.0-0 Ndxе5 13.Nxe5 Nxe5 14.Qh5 wins.

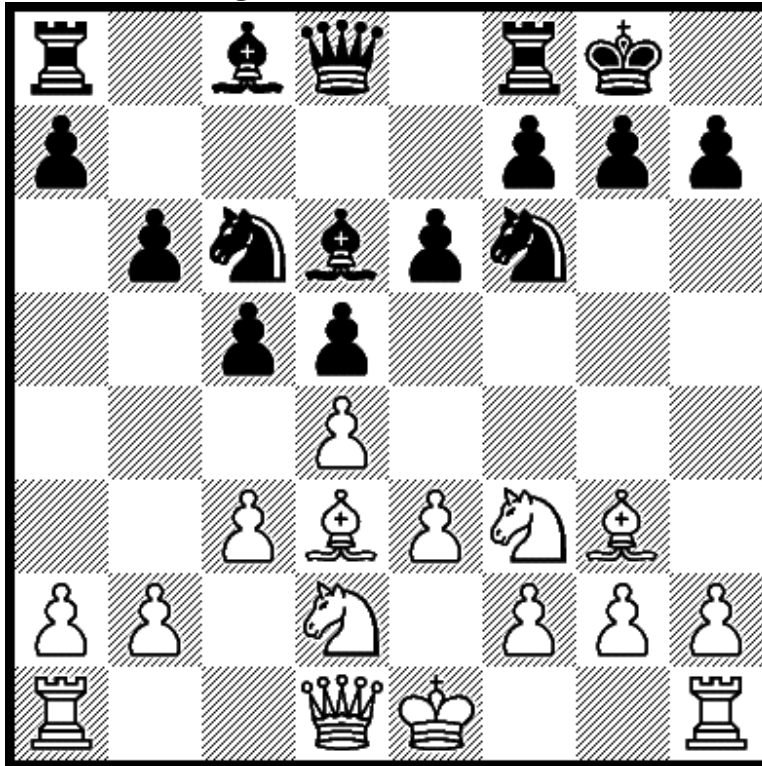
Diagram 96 after 11.Nf3 b6



12.0-0

The king castle before White instigates more tactics.

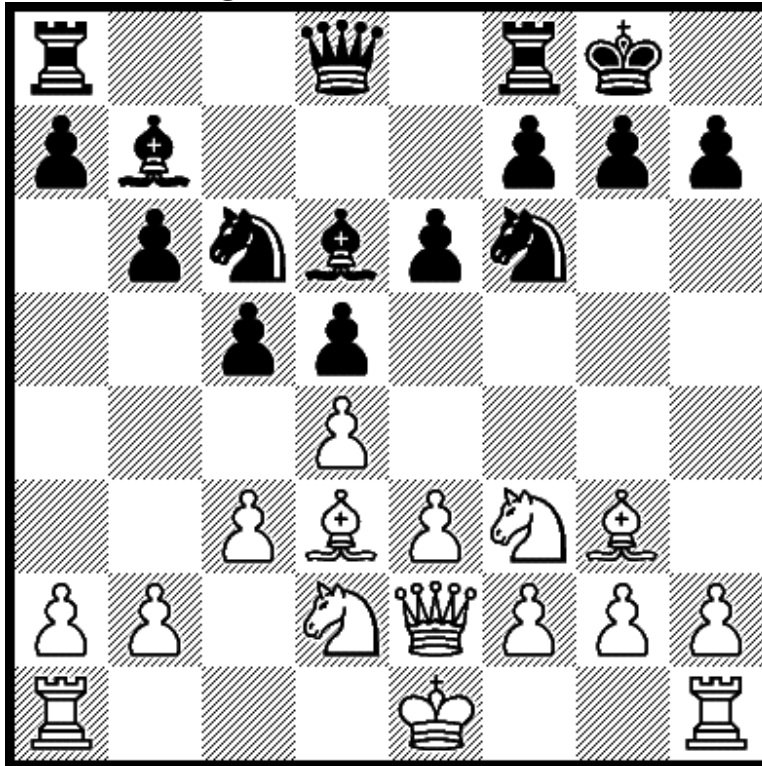
Diagram 97 after 8.Bd3 b6



9.Qe2

White prepares to eventually push e3-e4.

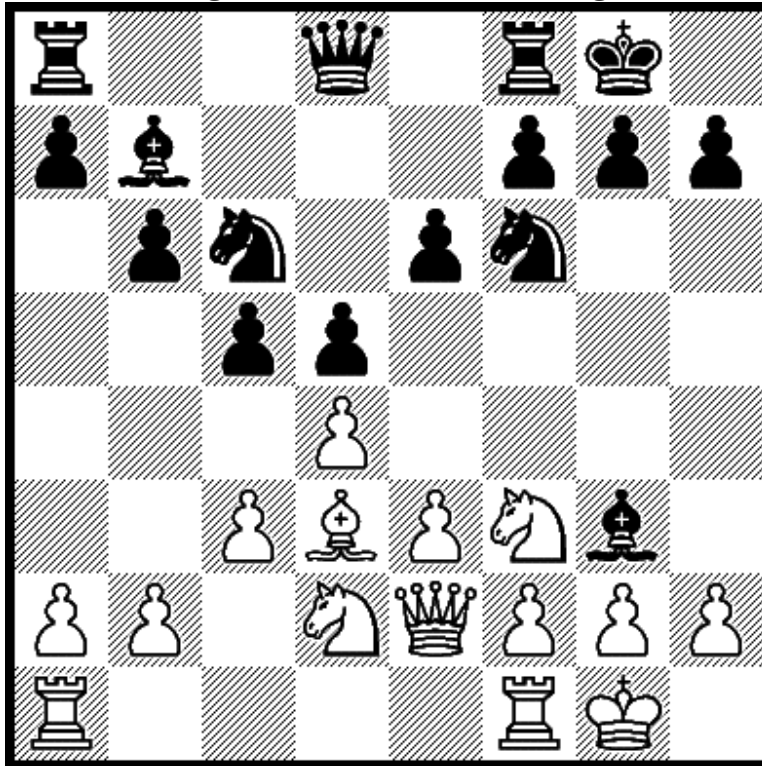
Diagram 98 after 9.Qe2 Bb7



10.0-0

The king gets off the e-file line of fire.

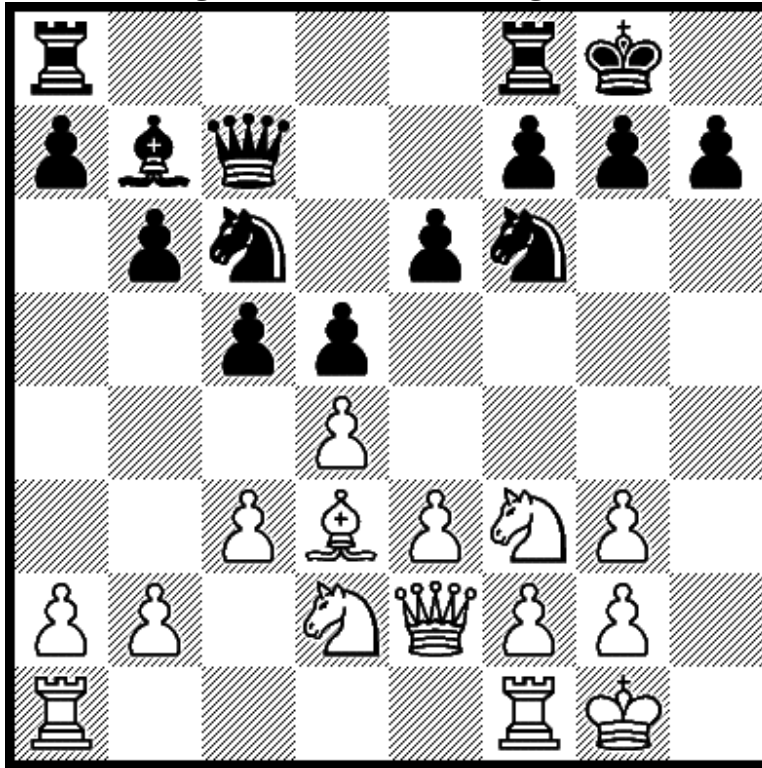
Diagram 99 after 10.0-0 Bxg3



11.hxg3

The natural capture is toward the center.

Diagram 100 after 11.hxg3 Qc7

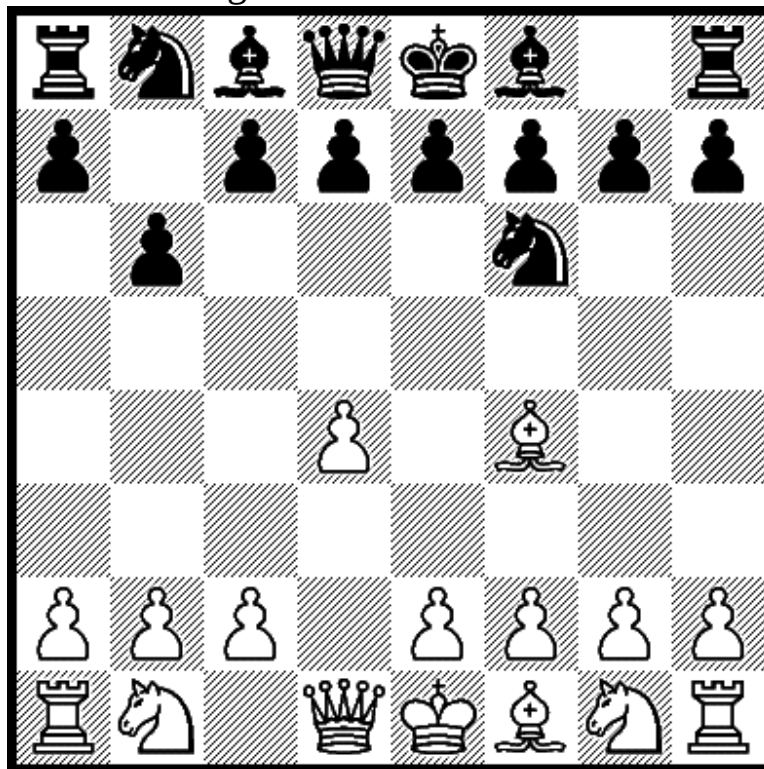


12.e4

If 12...dxe4 13.Nxe4 Nxe4 14.Qxe4 with good play.

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4

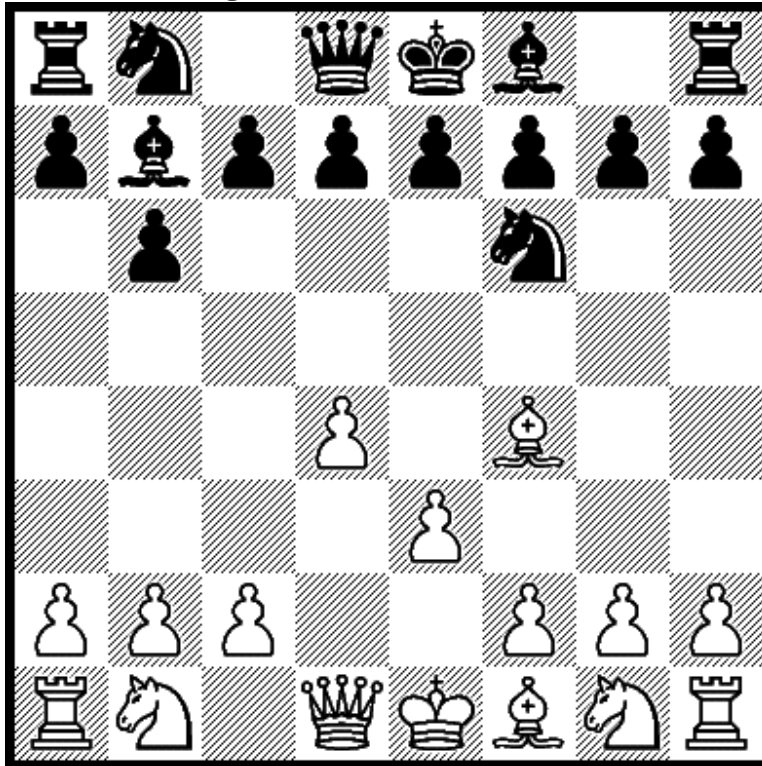
Diagram 101 after 2.Bf4 b6



3.e3

White gets ready for a possible 3...Ba6 4.Bxa6.

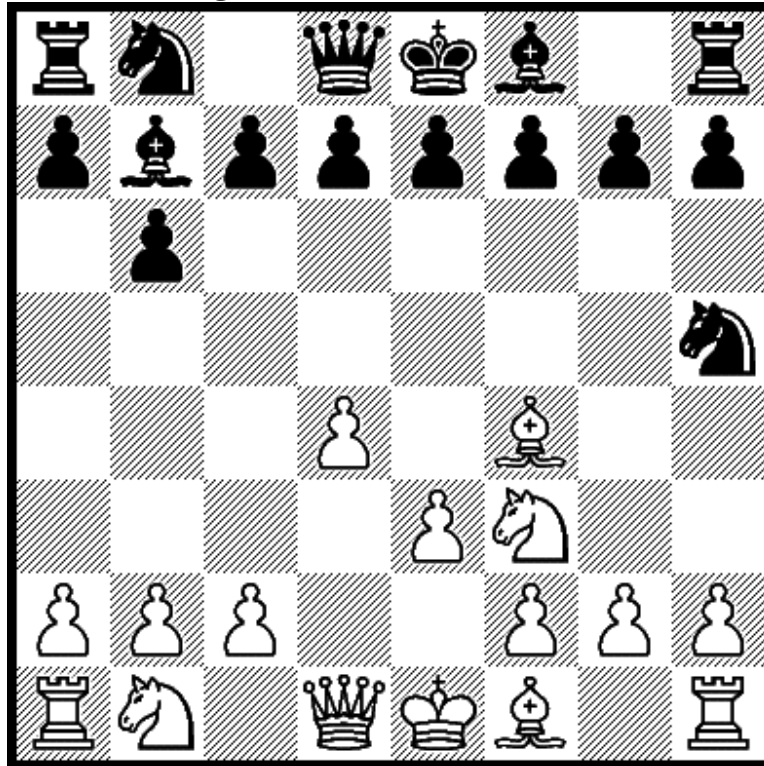
Diagram 102 after 3.e3 Bb7



4.Nf3

The knights shields g2 from attack.

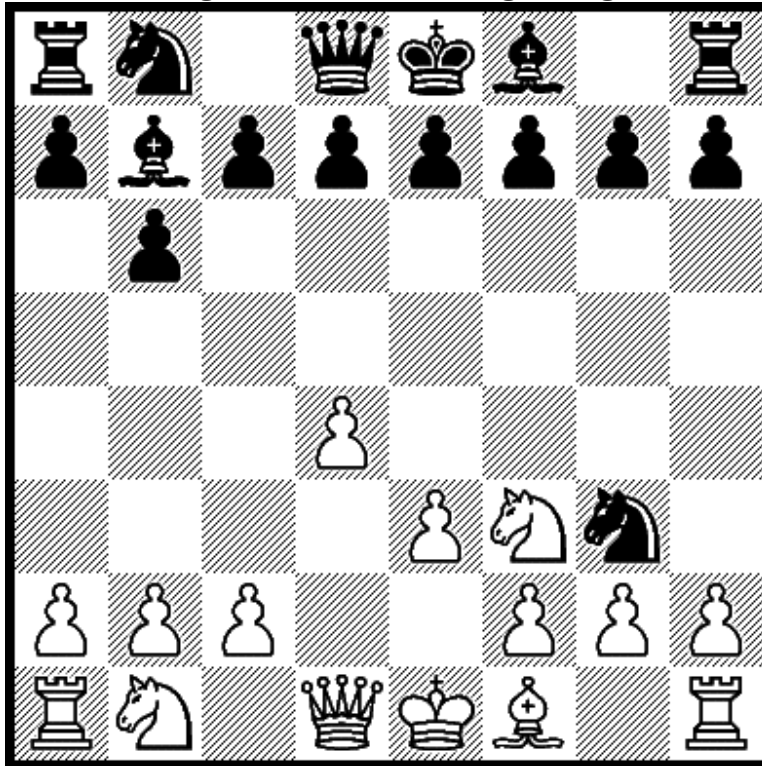
Diagram 103 after 4.Nf3 Nh5



5.Bg3

White lets h-pawn do the recapture honors.

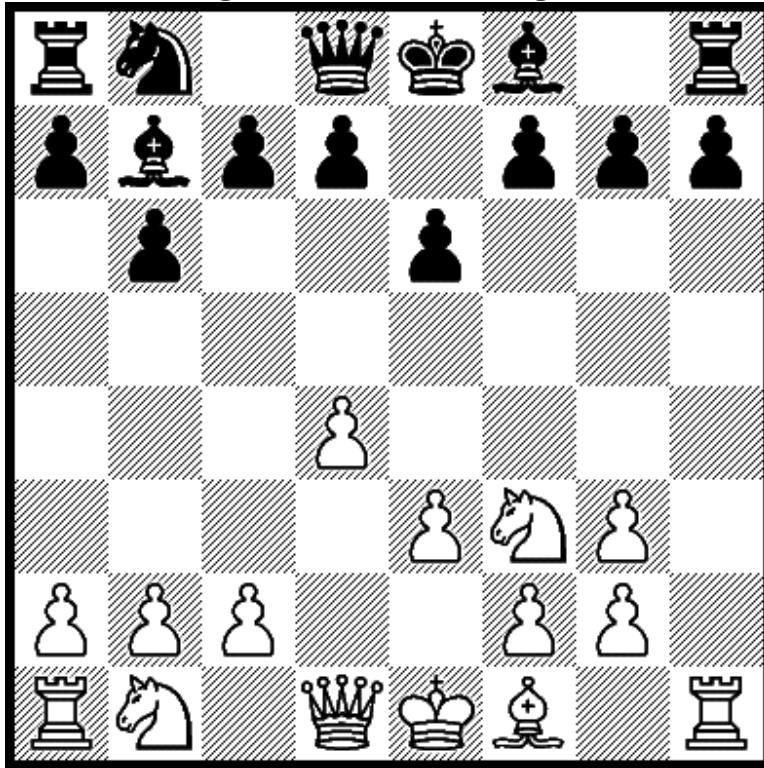
Diagram 104 after 5.Bg3 Nxd3



6.hxg3

White gets an open h-file.

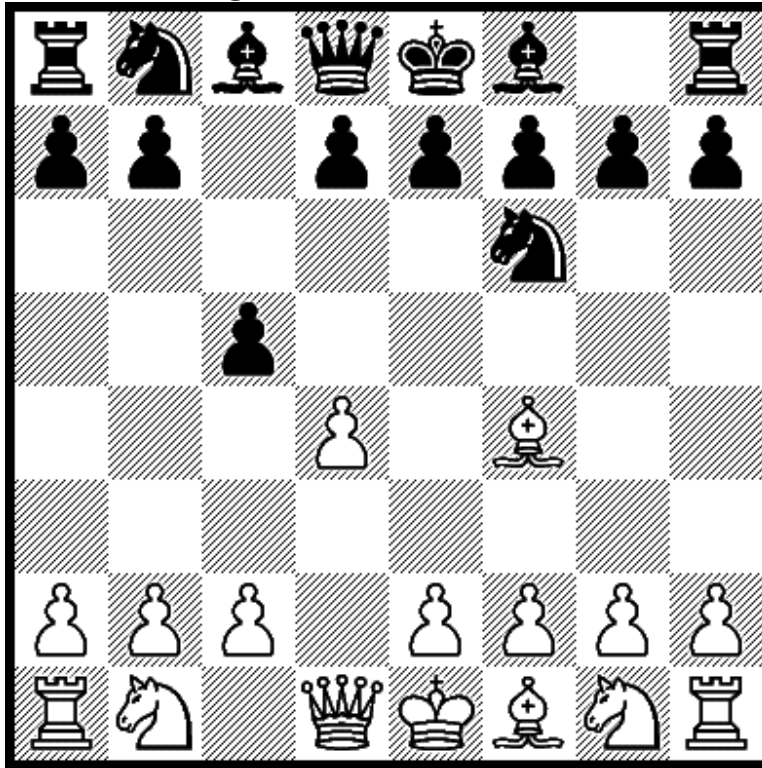
Diagram 105 after 6.hxg3 e6



7.c3

The pawns control the dark squares.

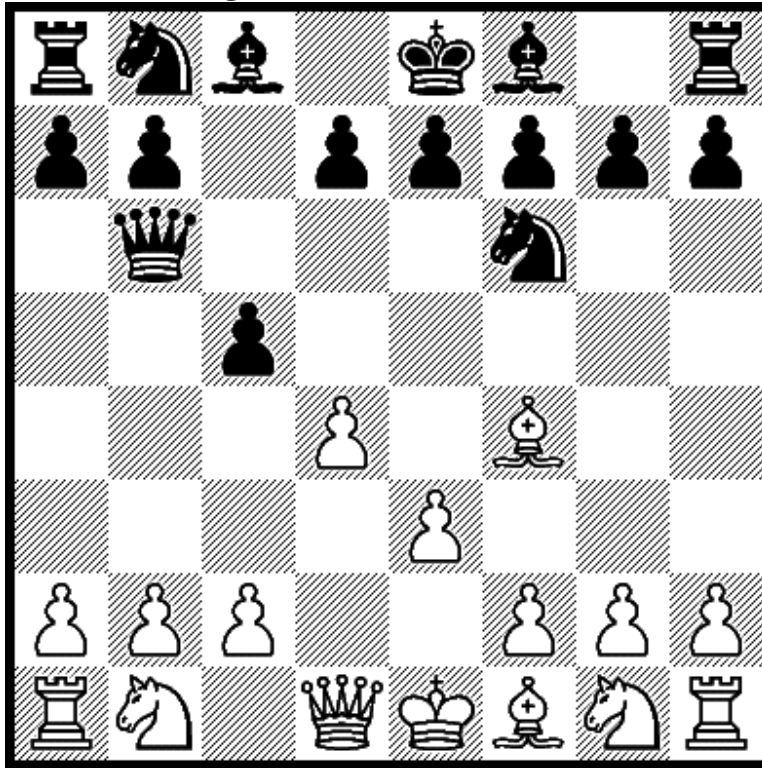
Diagram 106 after 2.Bf4 c5



3.e3

White intends to keep a pawn on d4.

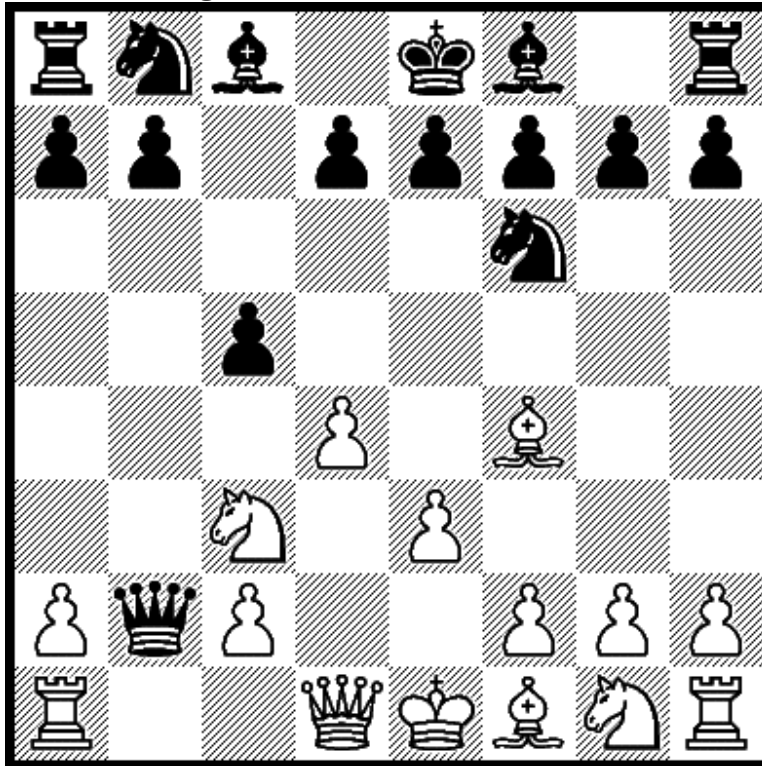
Diagram 107 after 3.e3 Qb6



4.Nc3

White resorts to tactics for counterplay.

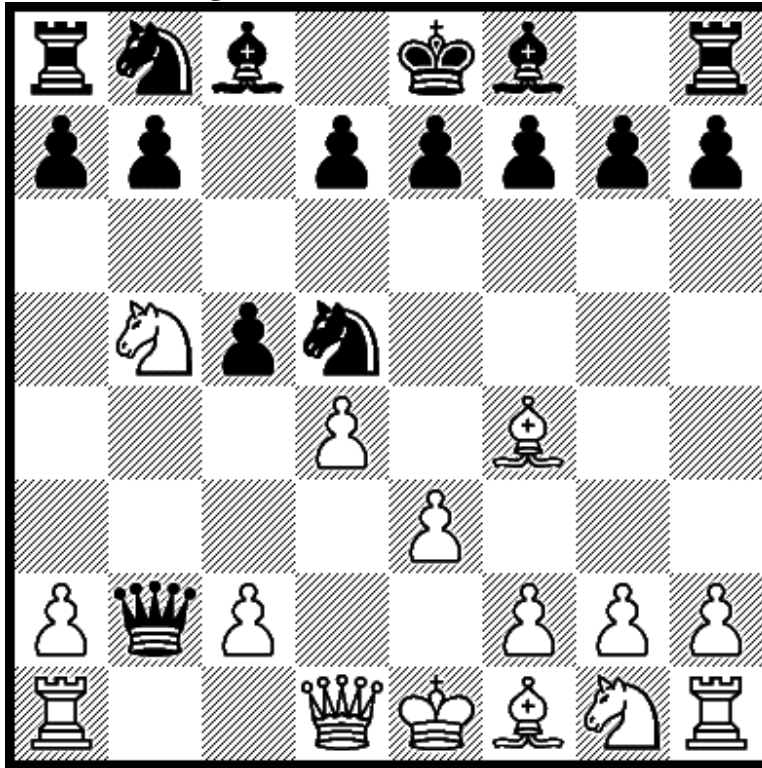
Diagram 108 after 4.Nc3 Qxb2



5.Nb5

If 5...Na6 6.a3 Nd5 7.Rb1 Qa2 8.Rb3 Nxf4 9.Nc3.

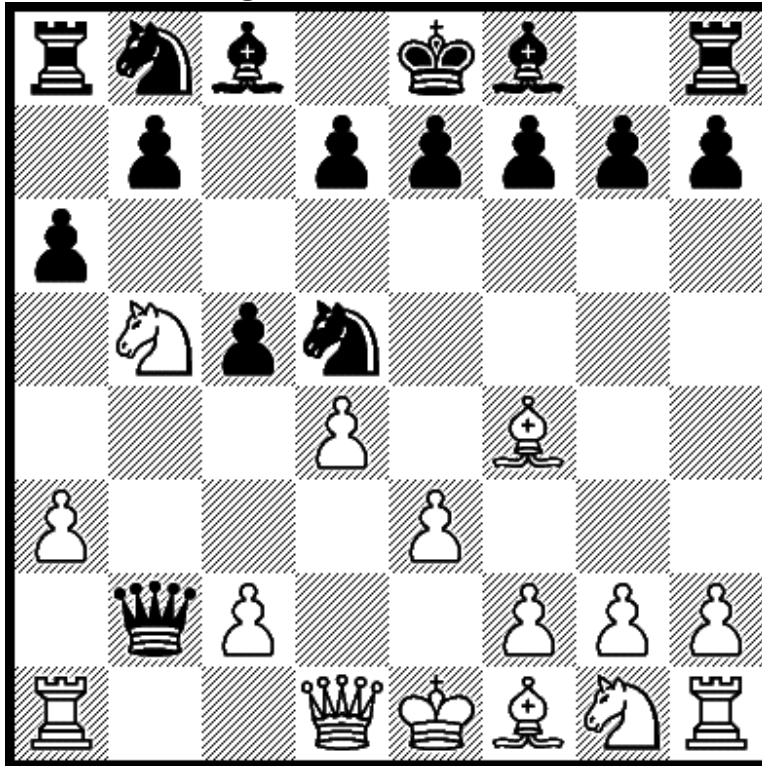
Diagram 109 after 5.Nb5 Nd5



6.a3

White takes away the important b4 square.

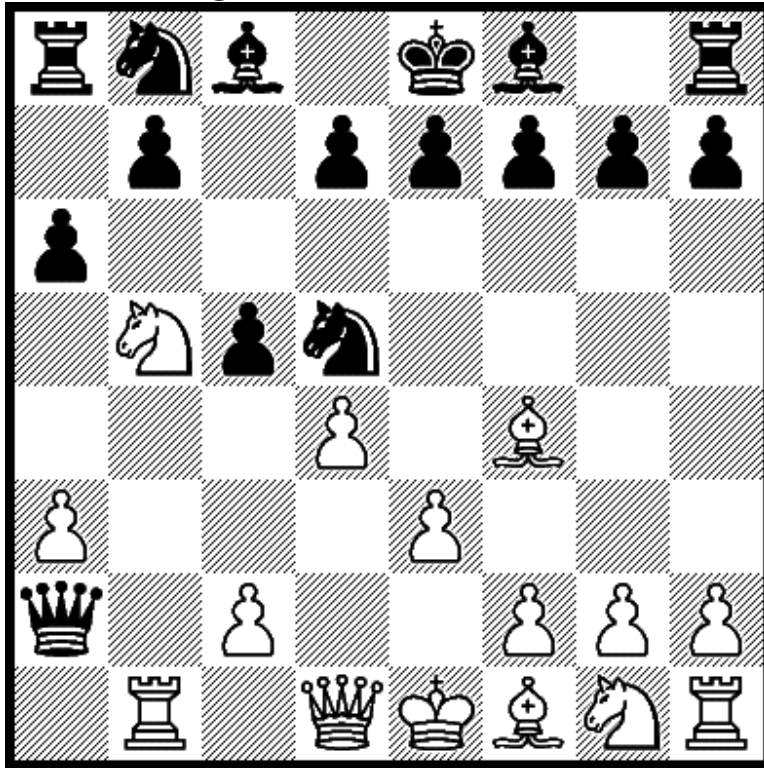
Diagram 110 after 6.a3 a6



7.Rb1

The Black queen is forced to move.

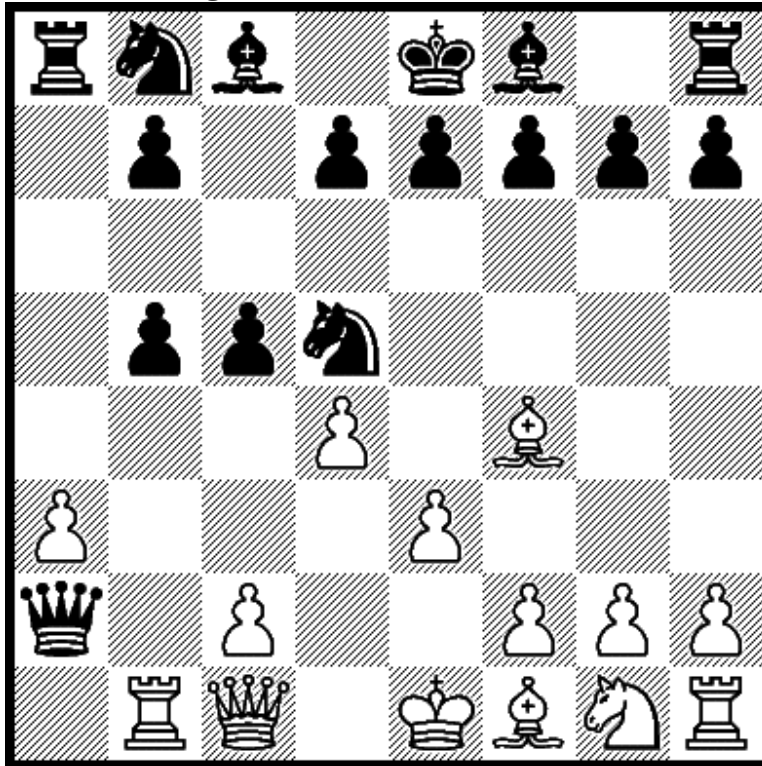
Diagram 111 after 7.Rb1 Qa2



8.Qc1

The White queen covers b2 and a3.

Diagram 112 after 8.Qc1 axb5

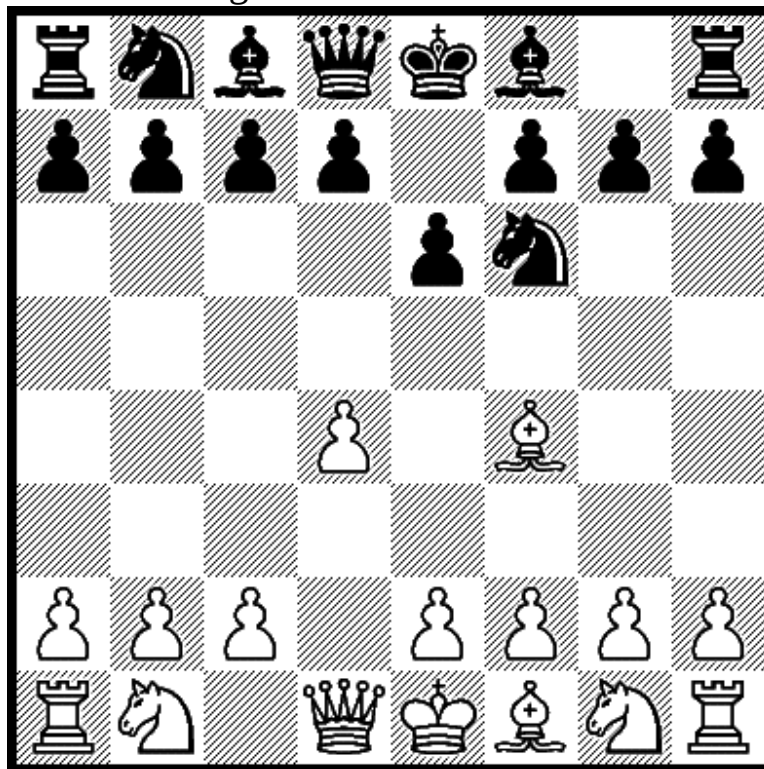


9.Ra1

The Black queen is trapped.

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 e6 3.Nf3

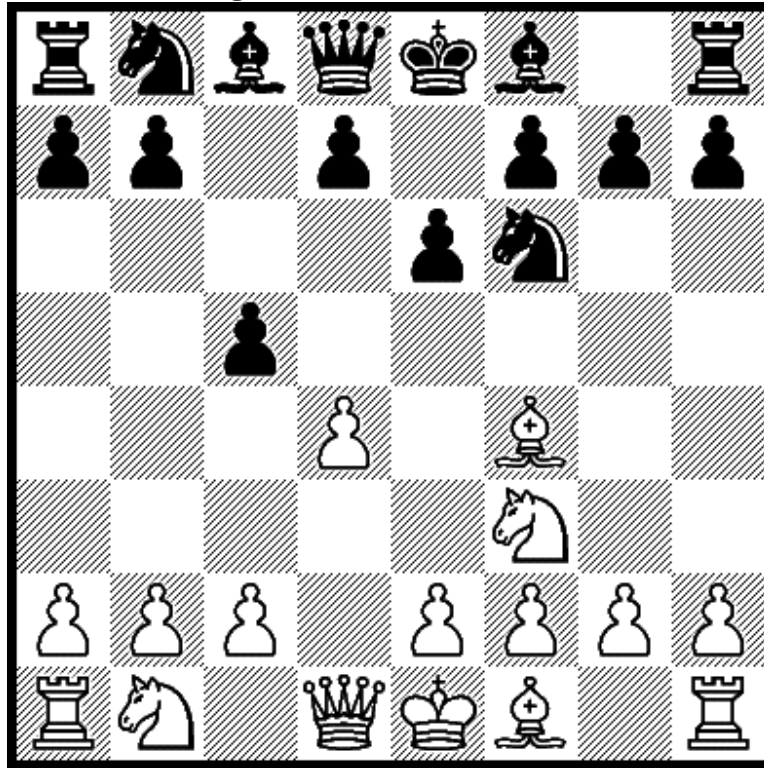
Diagram 113 after 2.Bf4 e6



3.Nf3

This knight move works best against 2...e6.

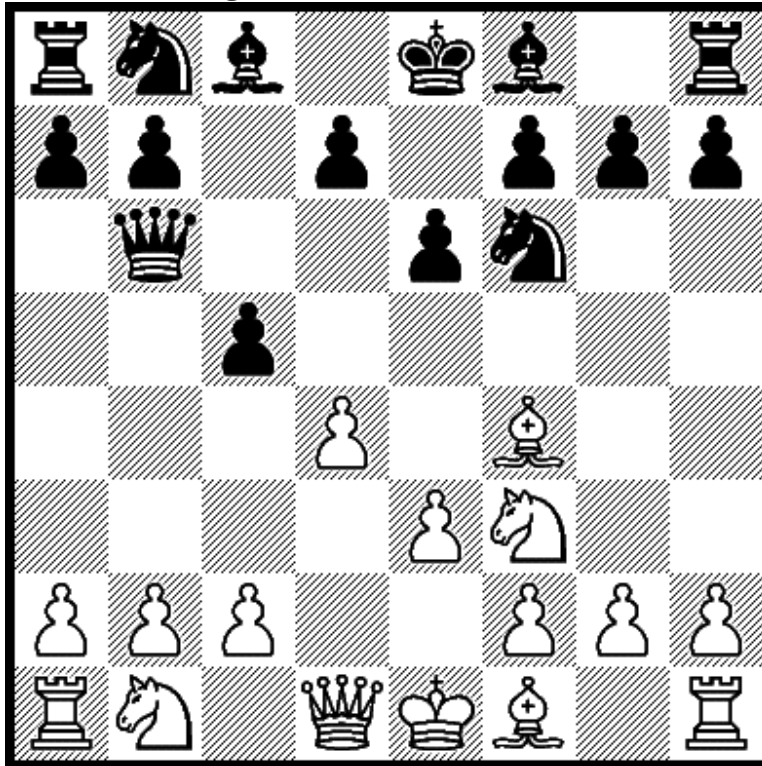
Diagram 114 after 3.Nf3 c5



4.e3

White is prepared for 4...cxd4 5.exd4 if need be.

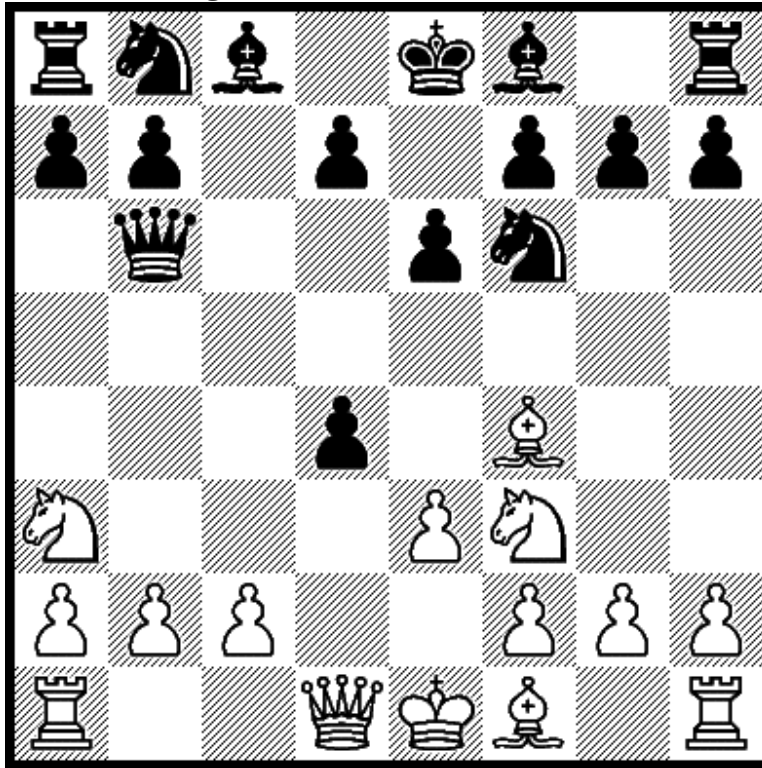
Diagram 115 after 4.e3 Qb6



5.Na3

White can choose between Nc4 and Nb5.

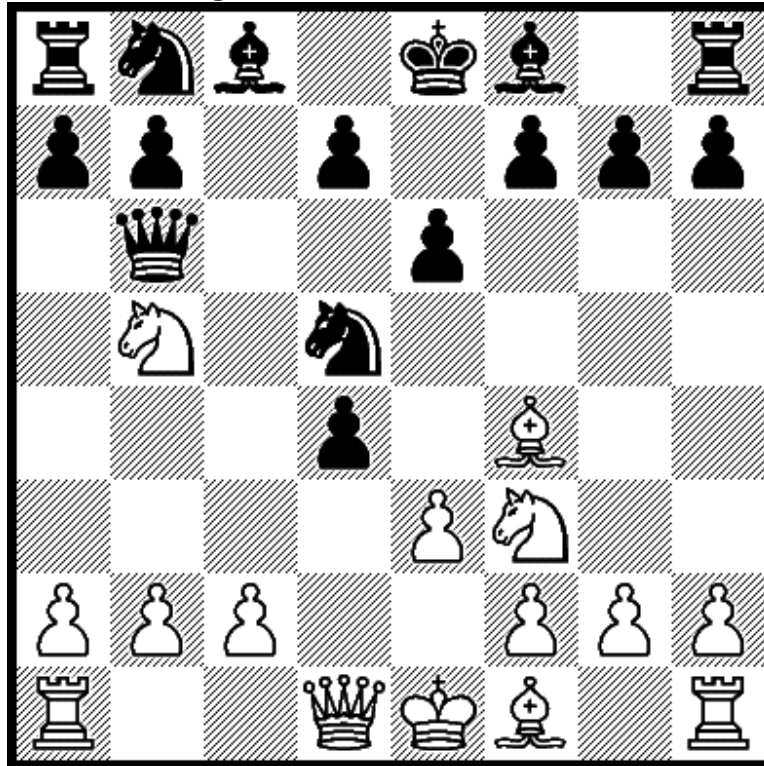
Diagram 116 after 5.Na3 cxd4



6.Nb5

The threat is 7.Nc7+ and 8.Nxa8.

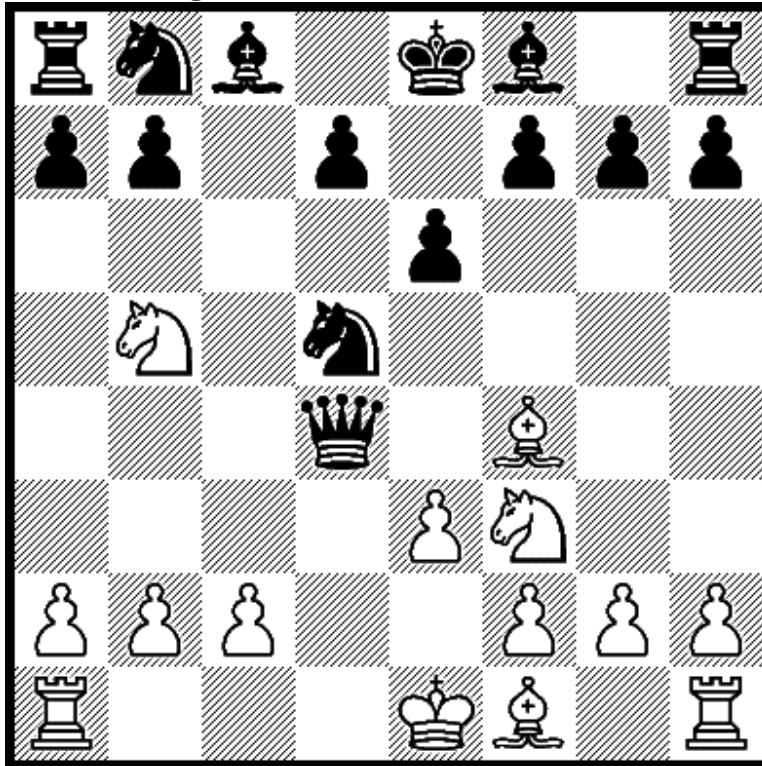
Diagram 117 after 6.Nb5 Nd5



7.Qxd4

Regains the pawn. If 6...Bc5 7.Qxg7 White is better.

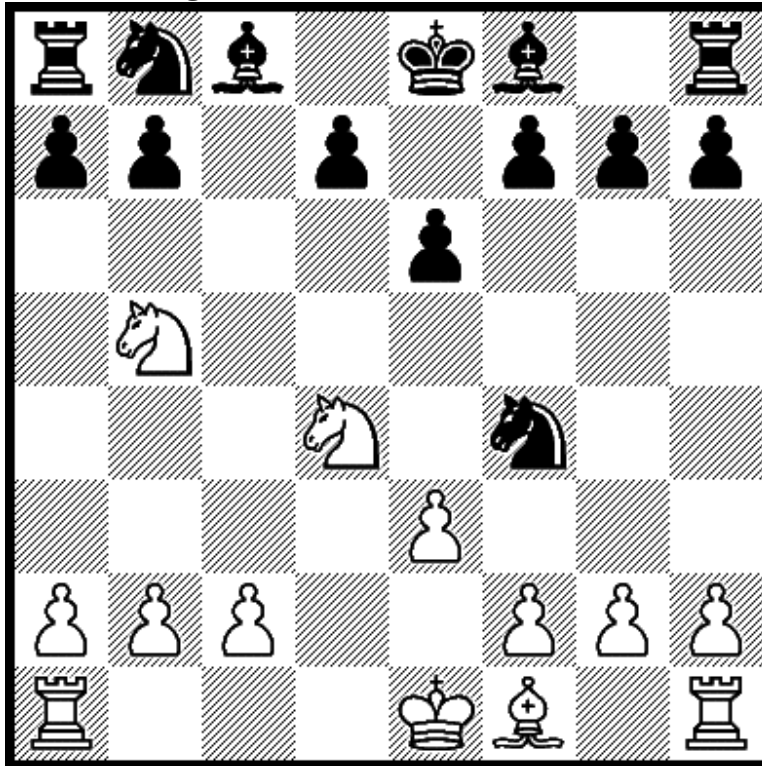
Diagram 118 after 7.Qxd4 Qxd4



8.Nfxd4

If 8...b6 9.Nd6+ Bxd6 10.Bxd6.

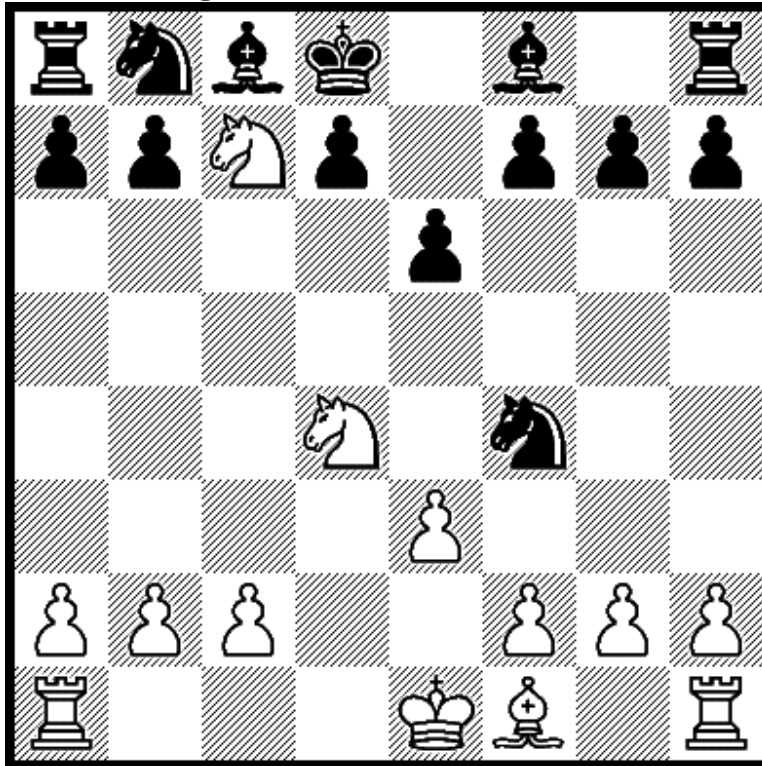
Diagram 119 after 8.Nfxd4 Nxf4



9.Nc7+

The check keeps Black from castling.

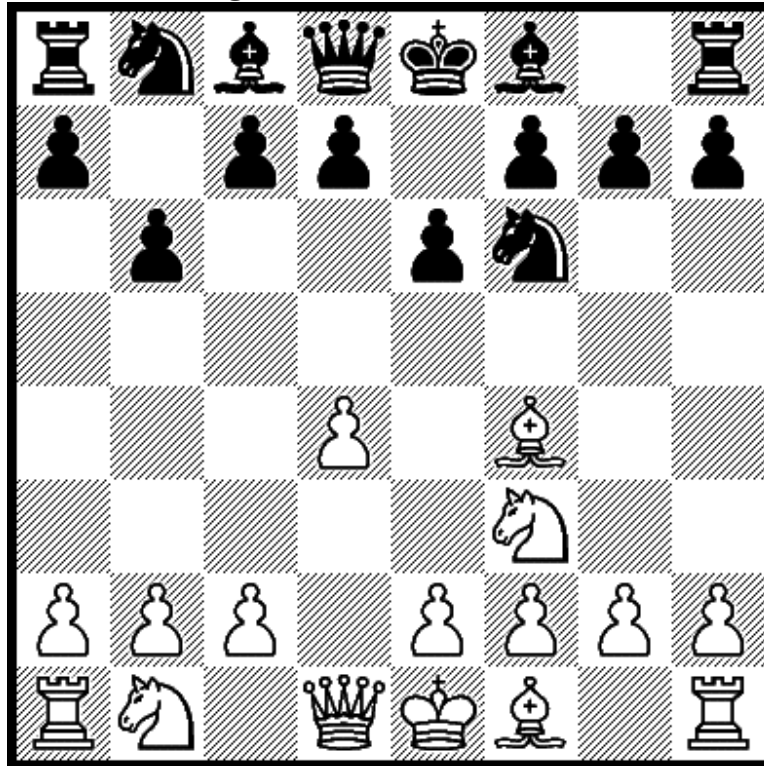
Diagram 120 after 9.Nc7+ Kd8



10.Nxa8+

White grabs the rook.

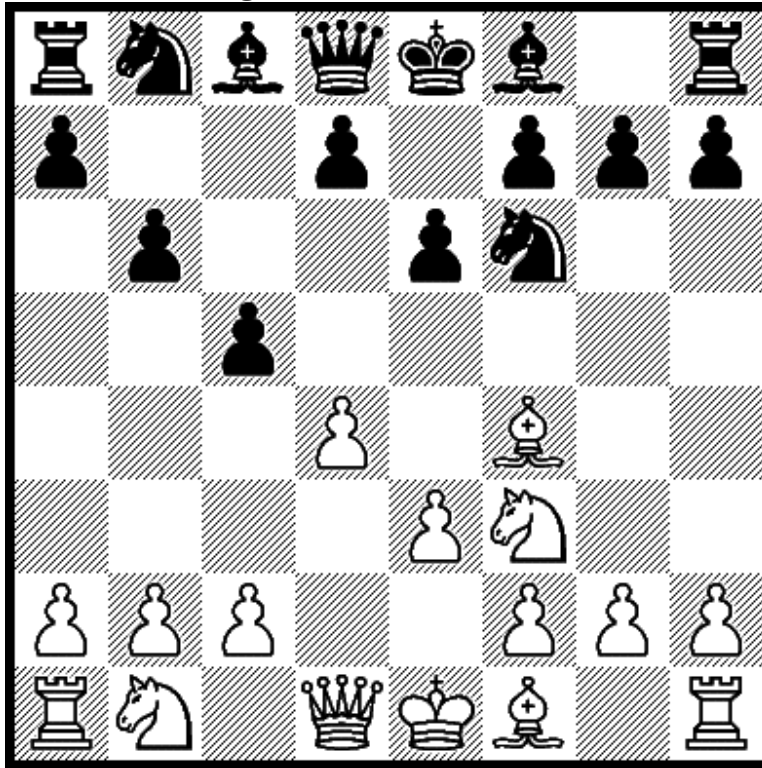
Diagram 121 after 3.Nf3 b6



4.e3

White needs to be prepared for 4...Ba6.

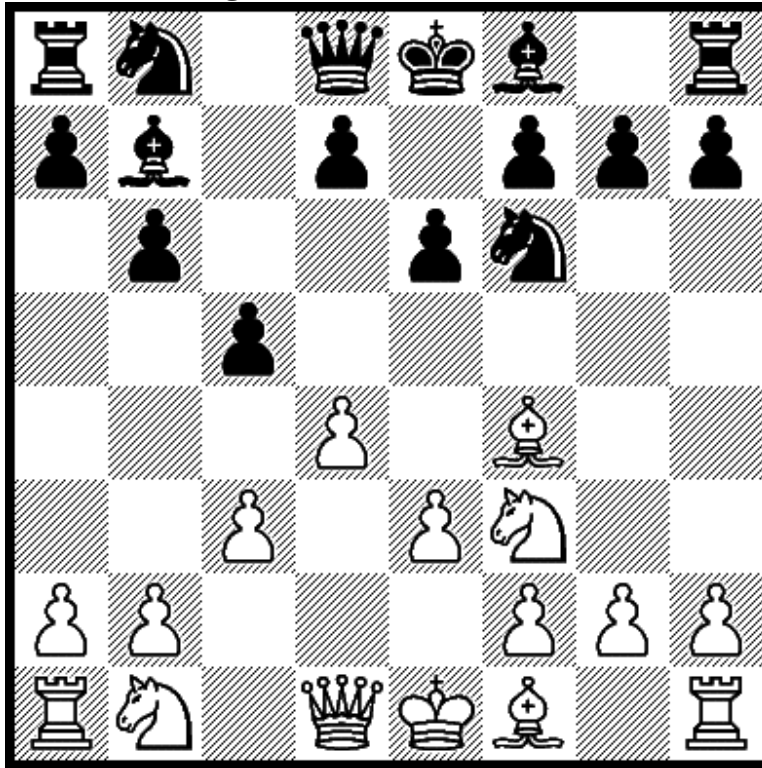
Diagram 122 after 4.e3 c5



5.c3

White keeps the pawn structure solid.

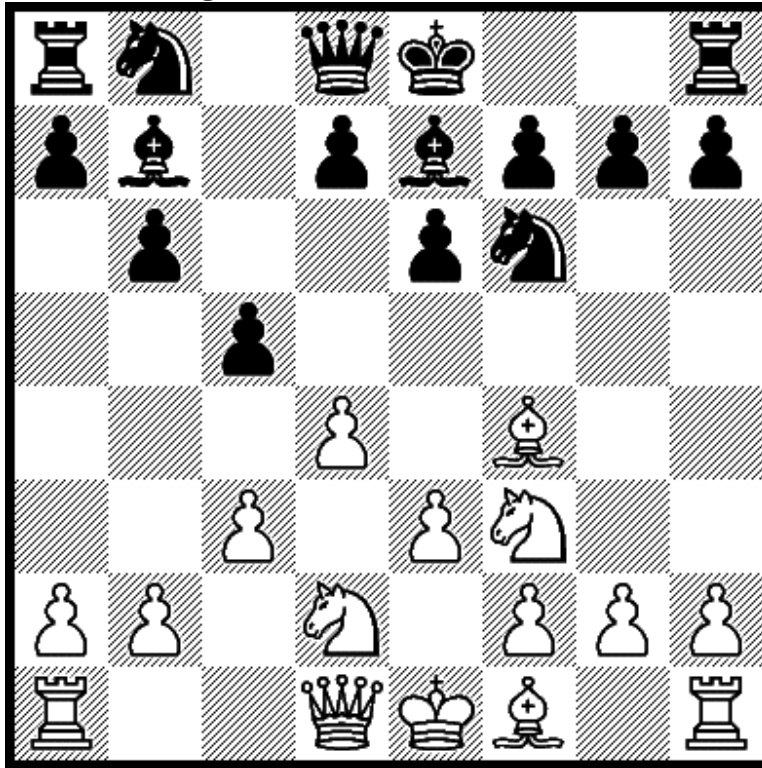
Diagram 123 after 5.c3 Bb7



6.Nbd2

White plays this and waits to choose Bd3 or Be2.

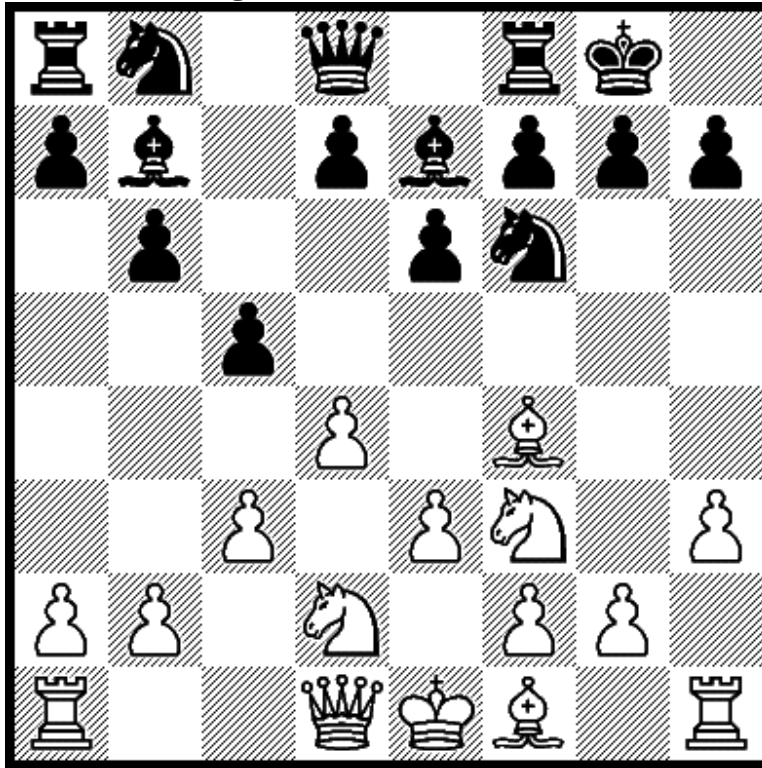
Diagram 124 after 6.Nbd2 Be7



7.h3

Prepare 8.Bh2 when 7...Nh5 8.Bg5 is not playable.

Diagram 125 after 7.h3 0-0

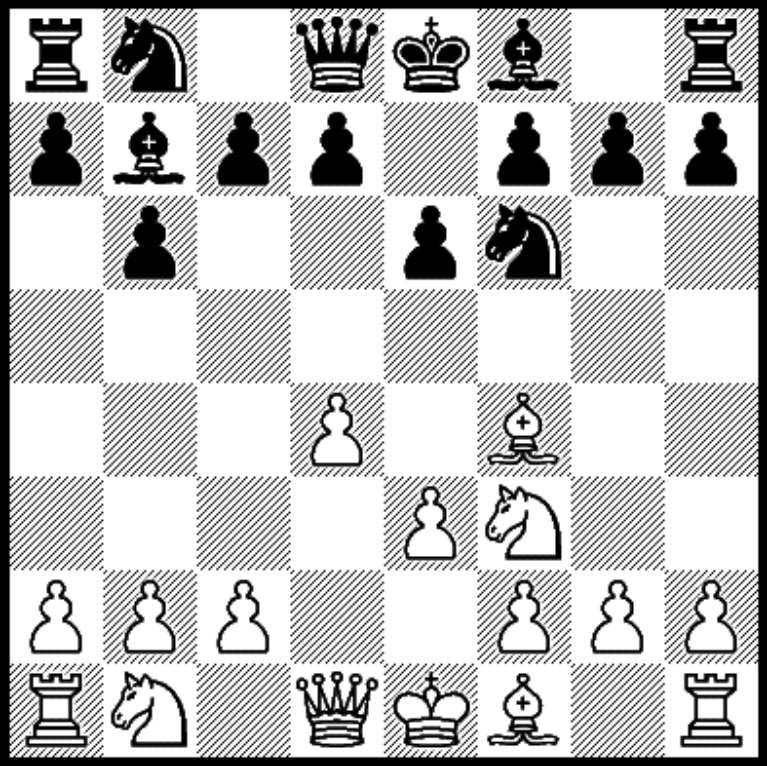


8.Bd3

The bishop chooses the most active square.

3.Nf3 b6 4.e3 Bb7 5.Bd3

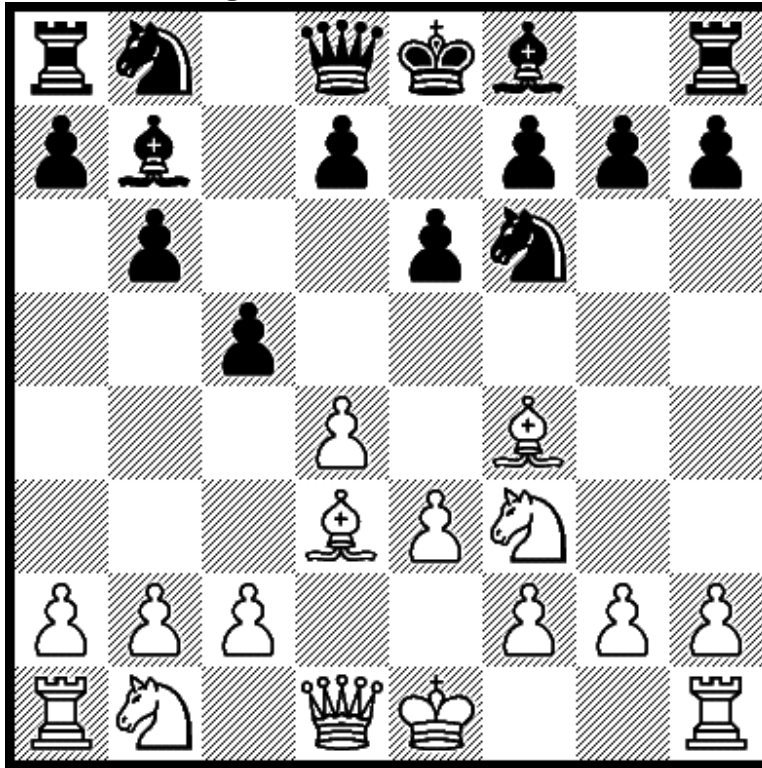
Diagram 126 after 4.e3 Bb7



5.Bd3

When d4 is not under attack, White castles quickly.

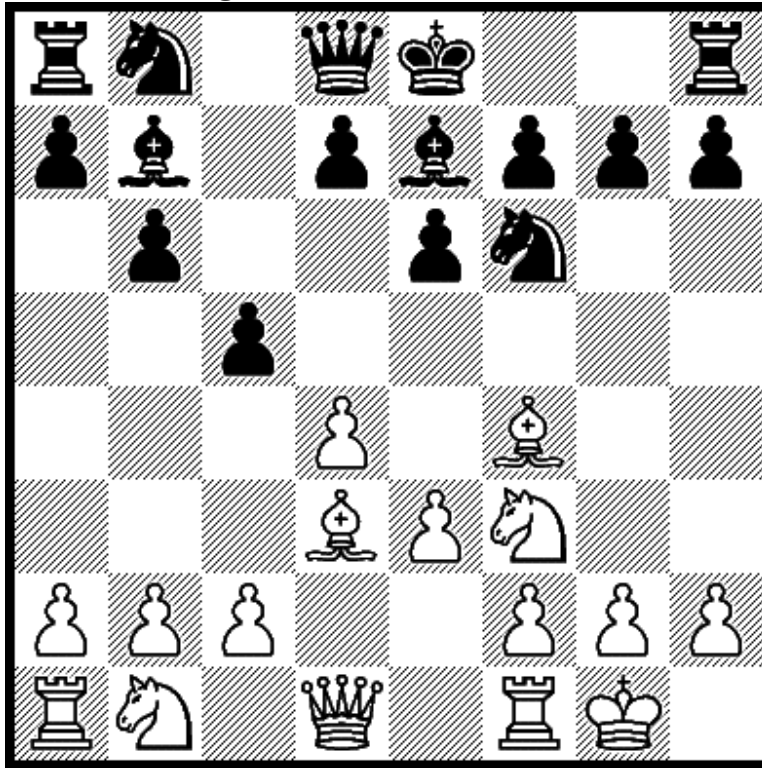
Diagram 127 after 5.Bd3 c5



6.0-0

If 6...Nh5 7.Bg5 Bxf3 8.Qxf3 Qxg5 9.Qxa8 winning.

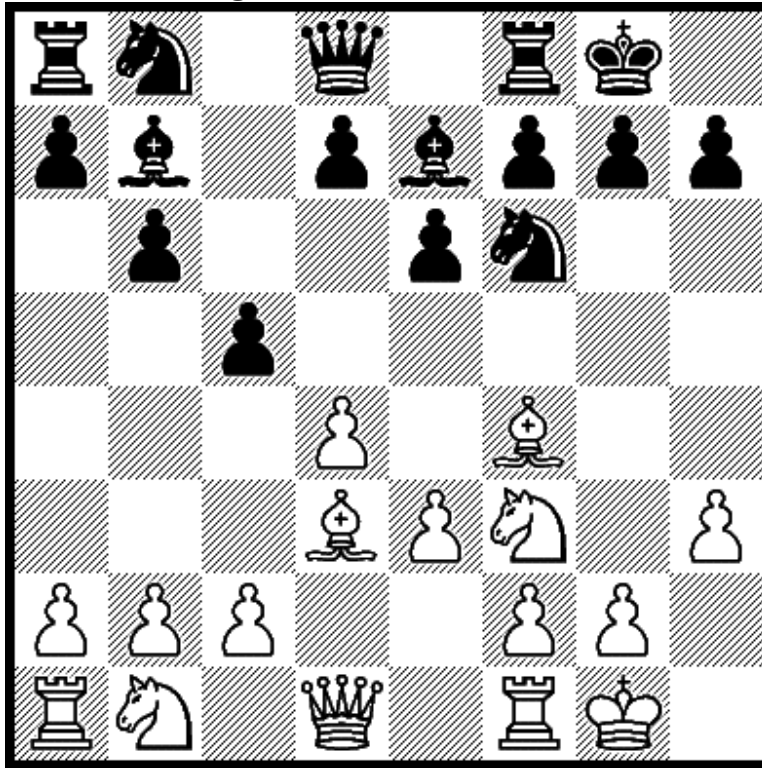
Diagram 128 after 6.0-0 Be7



7.h3

This move is a frequent response to Black's ...Be7.

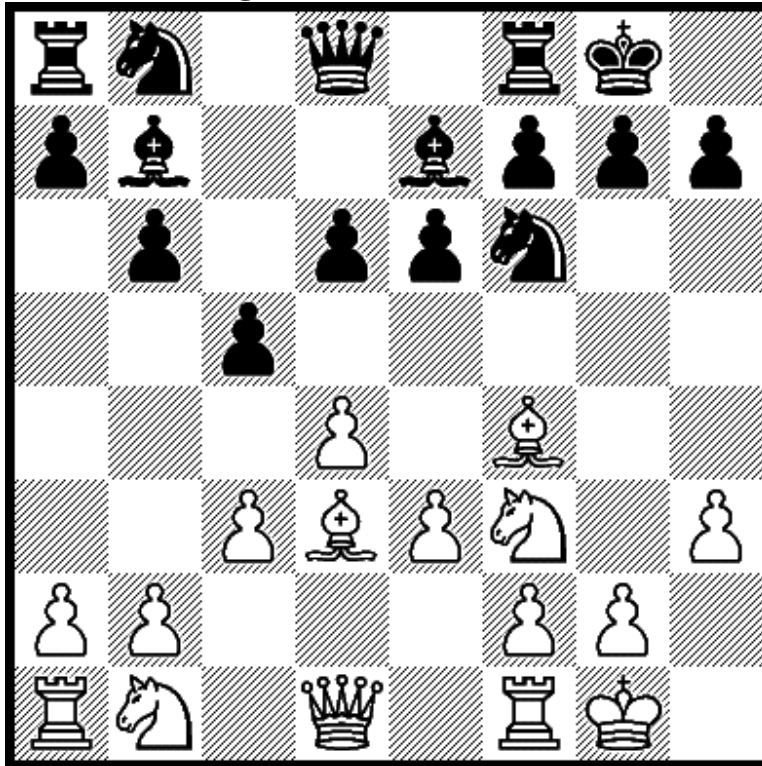
Diagram 129 after 7.h3 0-0



8.c3

White adopts the systematic pawn triangle.

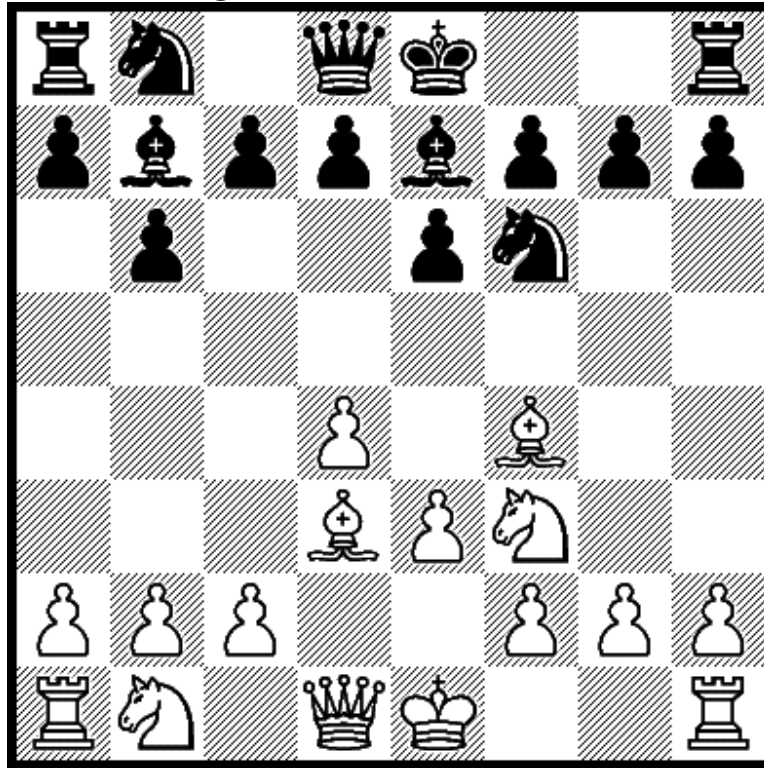
Diagram 130 after 8.c3 d6



9.Nbd2

If 9...e5 10.dxe5 dxe5 11.Nxe5 protects the Bd3.

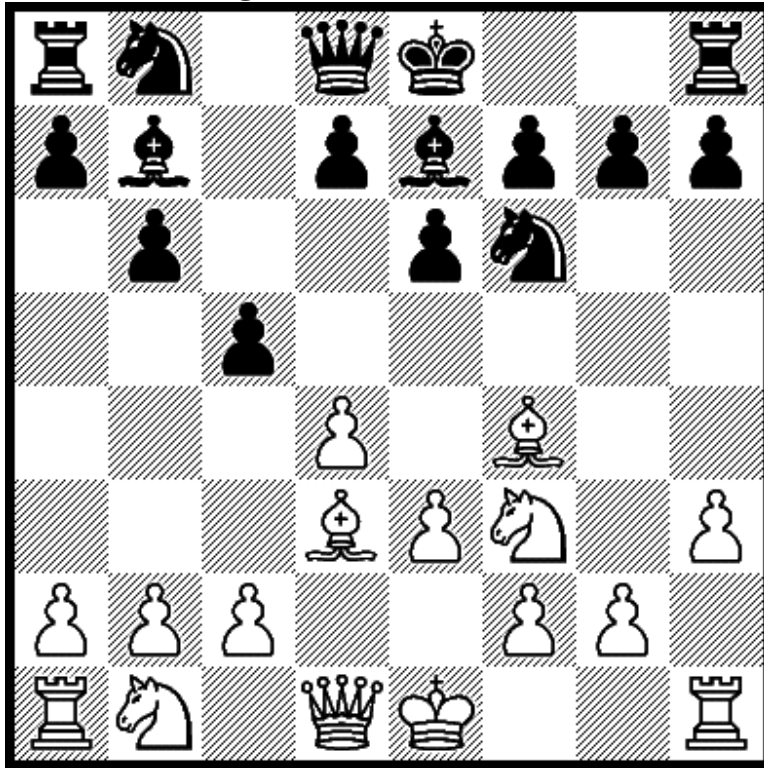
Diagram 131 after 5.Bd3 Be7



6.h3

This is the response to ...Be7 in the Queens Indian.

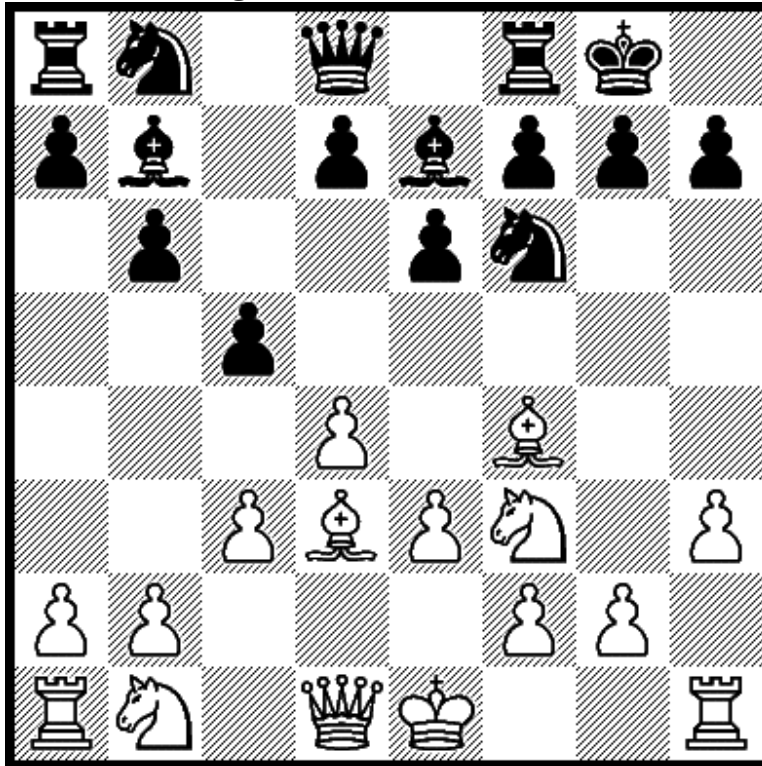
Diagram 132 after 6.h3 c5



7.c3

The pawn supports d4.

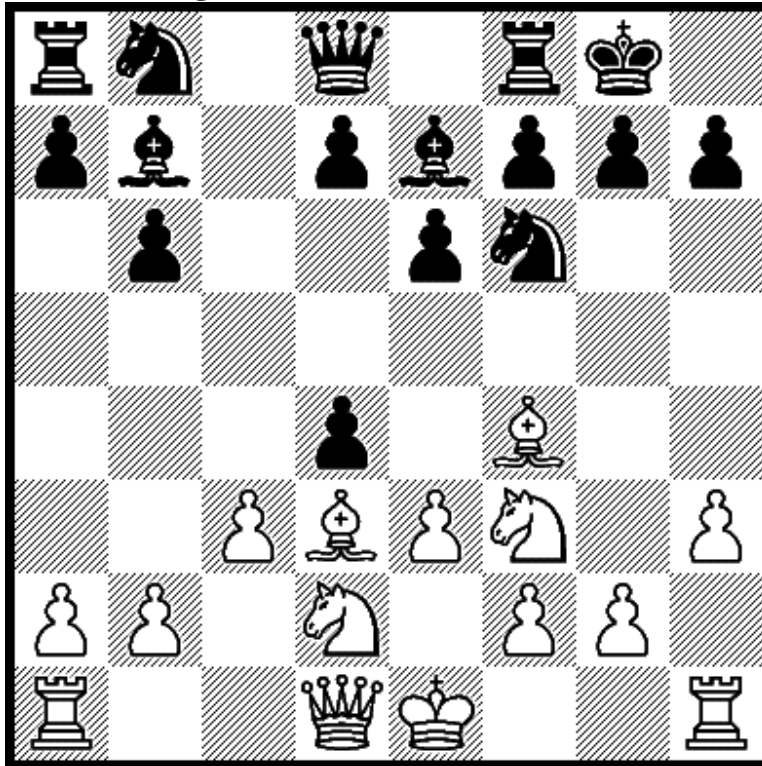
Diagram 133 after 7.c3 0-0



8.Nbd2

This knight supports the Nf3.

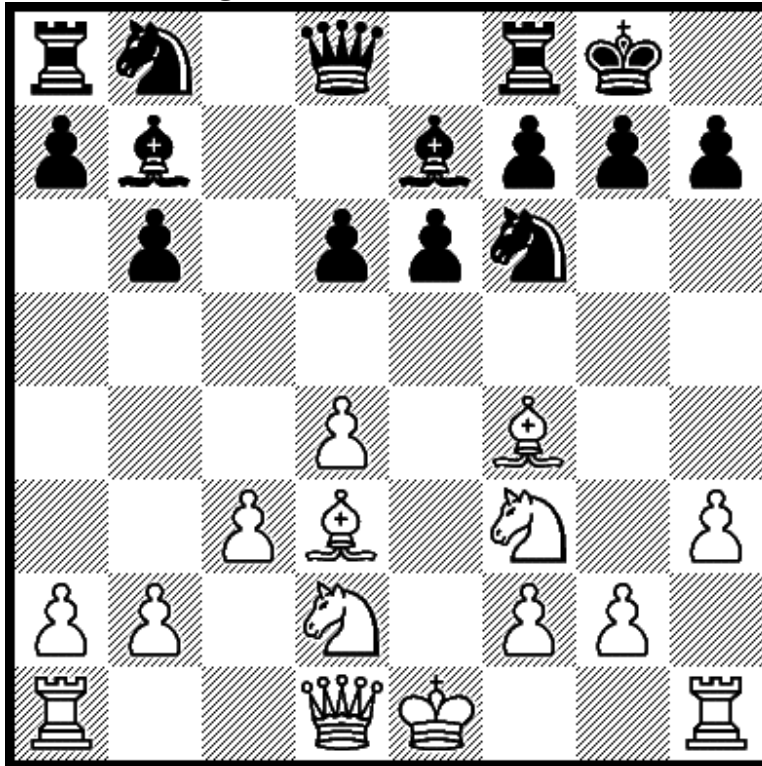
Diagram 134 after 8.Nbd2 cxd4



9.exd4

White gets a half open e-file.

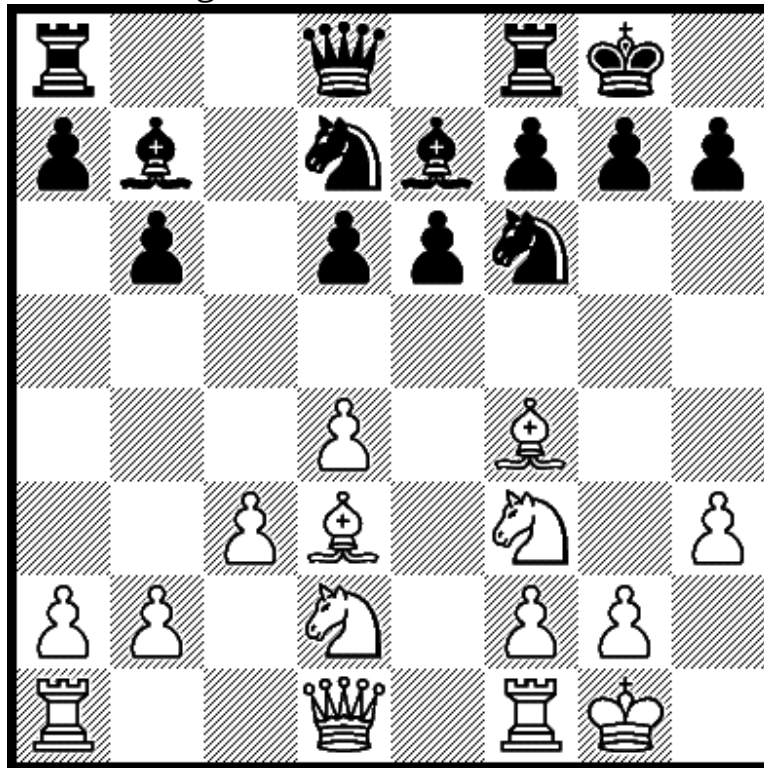
Diagram 135 after 9.exd4 d6



10.0-0

The king castles to safety.

Diagram 136 after 10.0-0 Nbd7

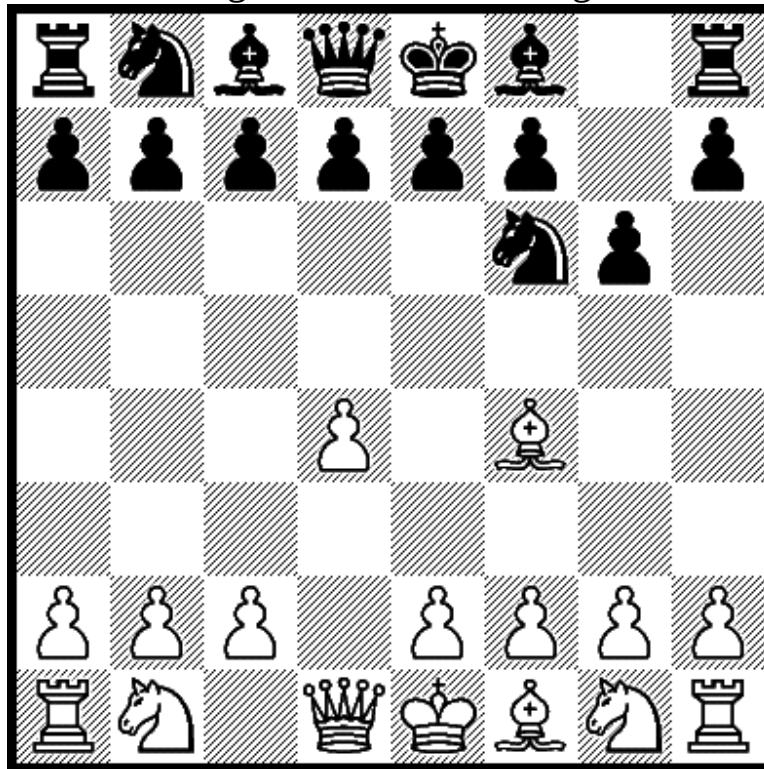


11.Re1

The rook takes the open file.

1.d4 Nf6 2.Bf4 g6 3.e3

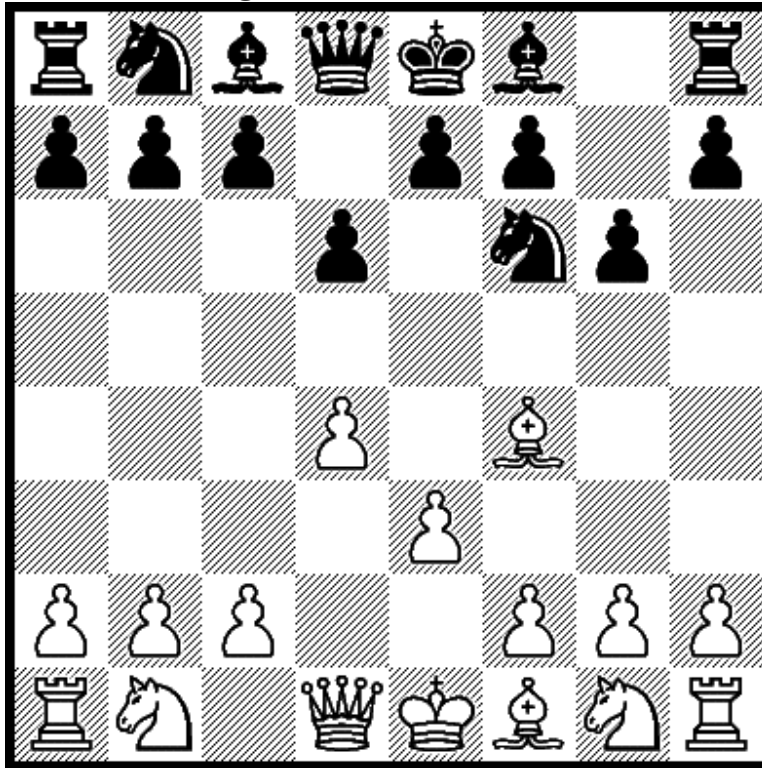
Diagram 137 after 2.Bf4 g6



3.e3

London System works fine against the King's Indian.

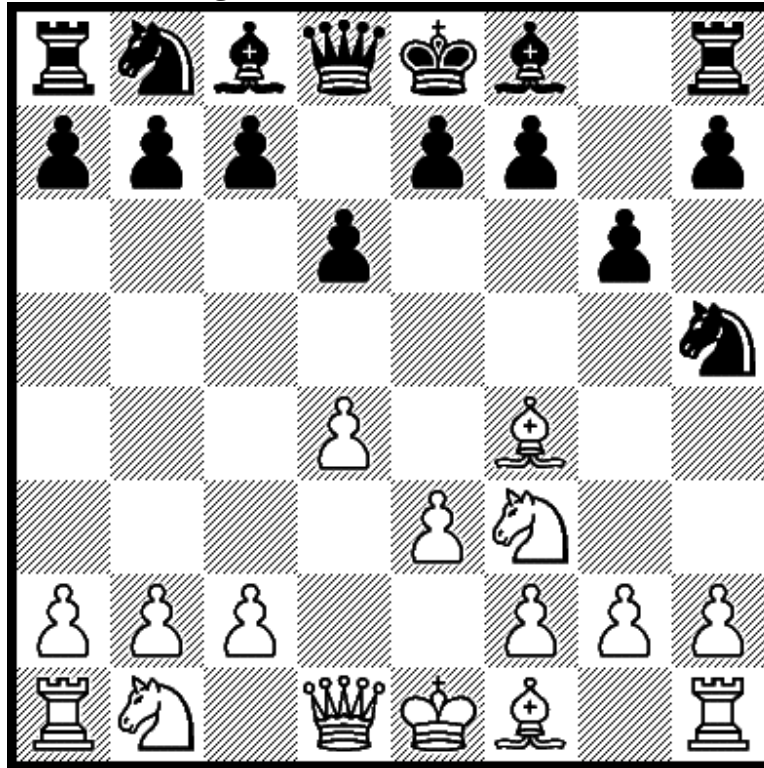
Diagram 138 after 3.e3 d6



4.Nf3

The two sides battle for control of e5.

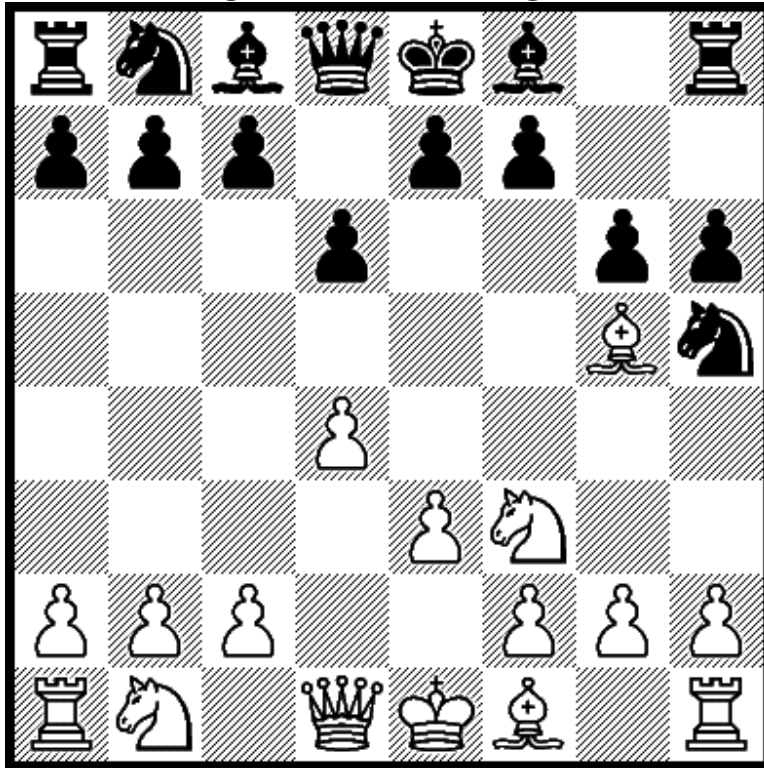
Diagram 139 after 4.Nf3 Nh5



5.Bg5

This bishop move is a common response to ...Nh5.

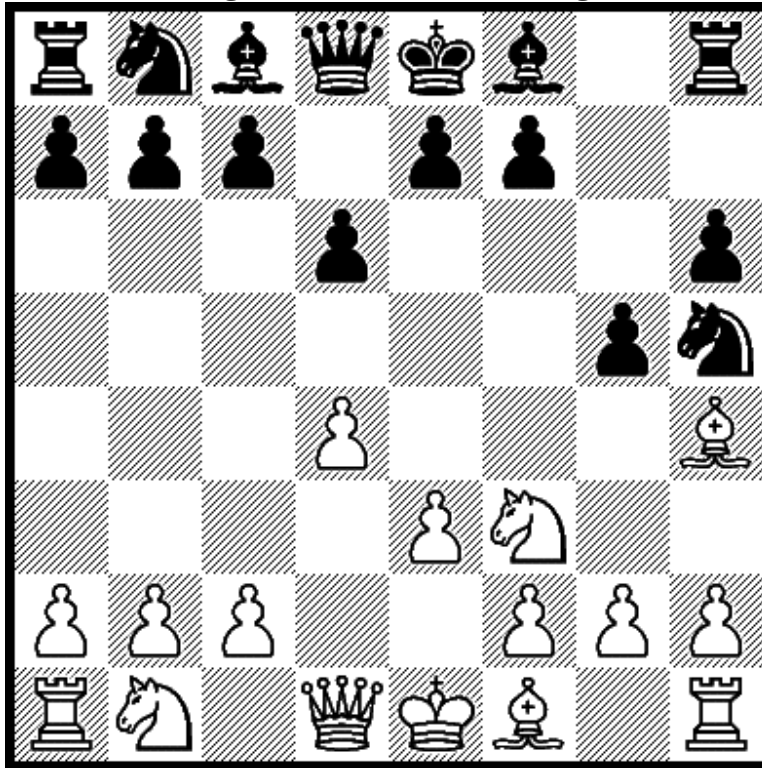
Diagram 140 after 5.Bg5 h6



6.Bh4

The bishop retreats to a safe square.

Diagram 141 after 6.Bh4 g5

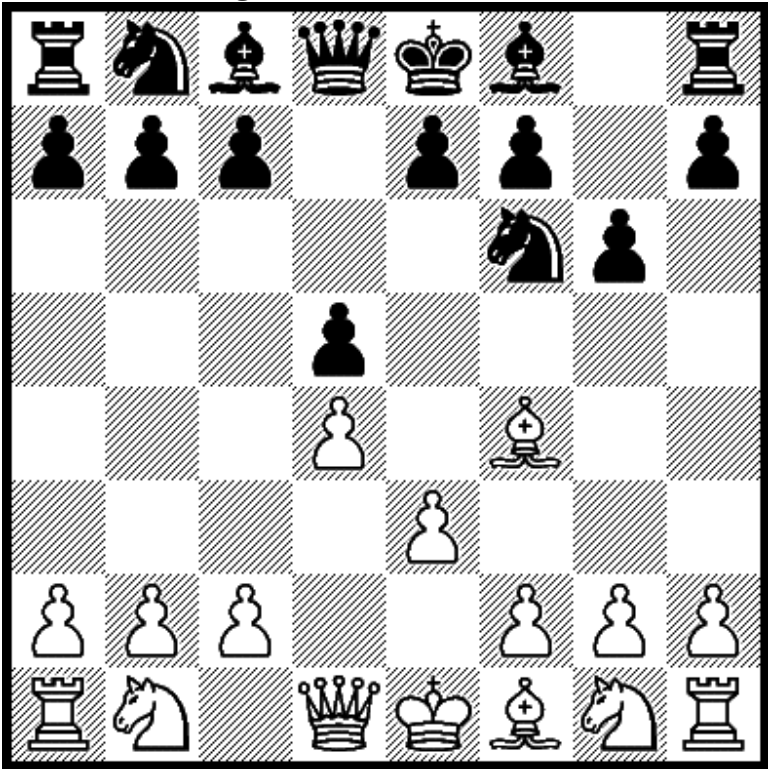


7.Nfd2

The queen attacks the hanging Black knight.

2.Bf4 g6 3.e3 d5 4.Nf3

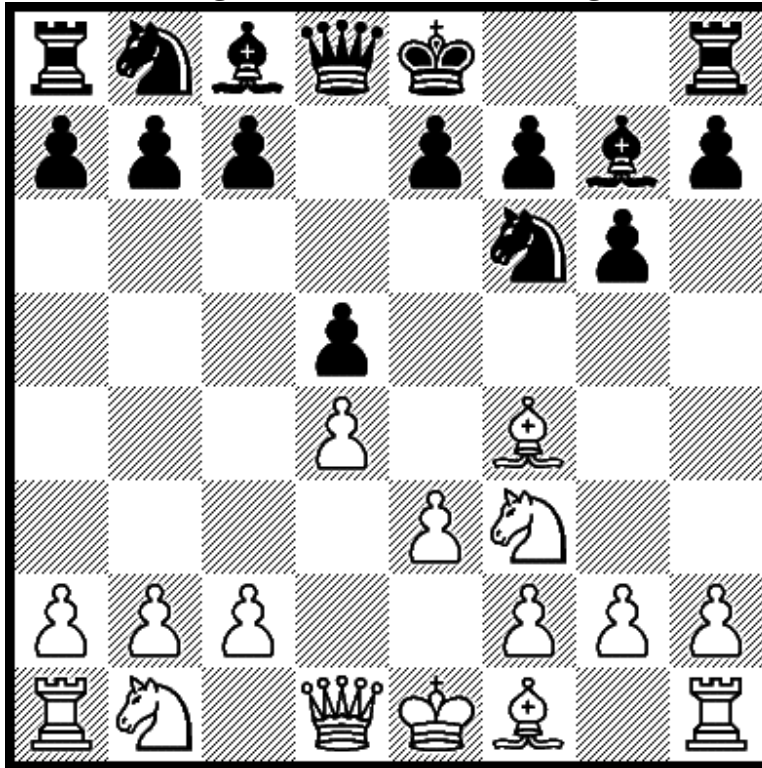
Diagram 142 after 3.e3 d5



4.Nf3

Another move order is 1.d4 d5 2.Bf4 Nf6 3.e3 g6.

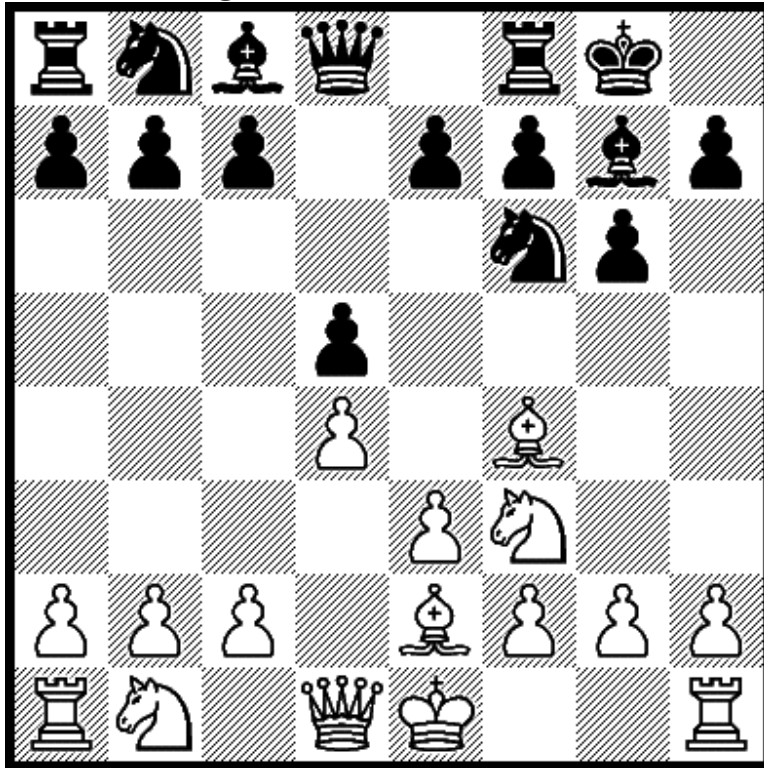
Diagram 143 after 4.Nf3 Bg7



5.Be2

This works well against ...g6 defenses.

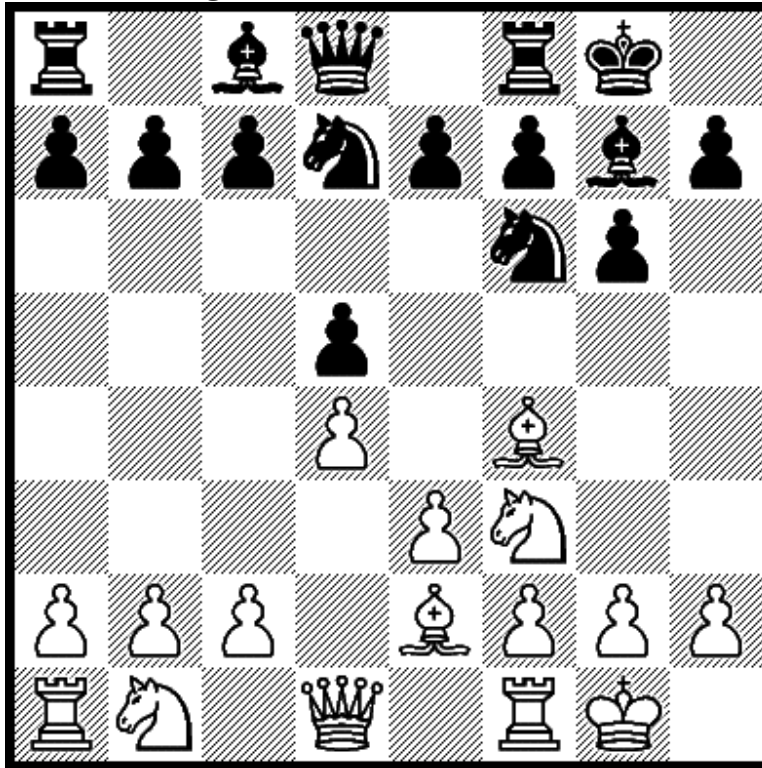
Diagram 144 after 5.Be2 0-0



6.0-0

White castles before committing the queenside.

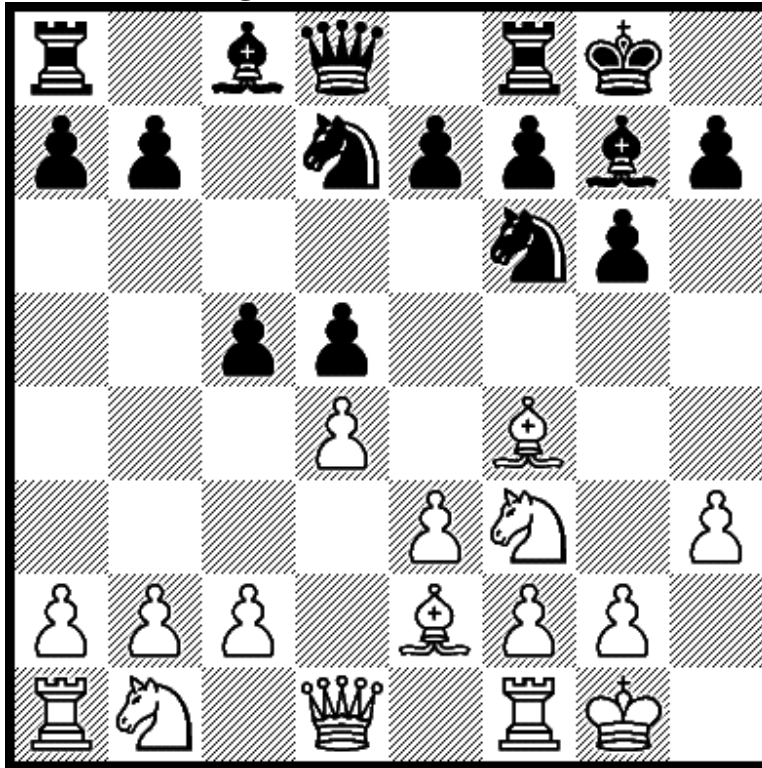
Diagram 145 after 6.0-0 Nbd7



7.h3

It is useful to have the Bh2 retreat available.

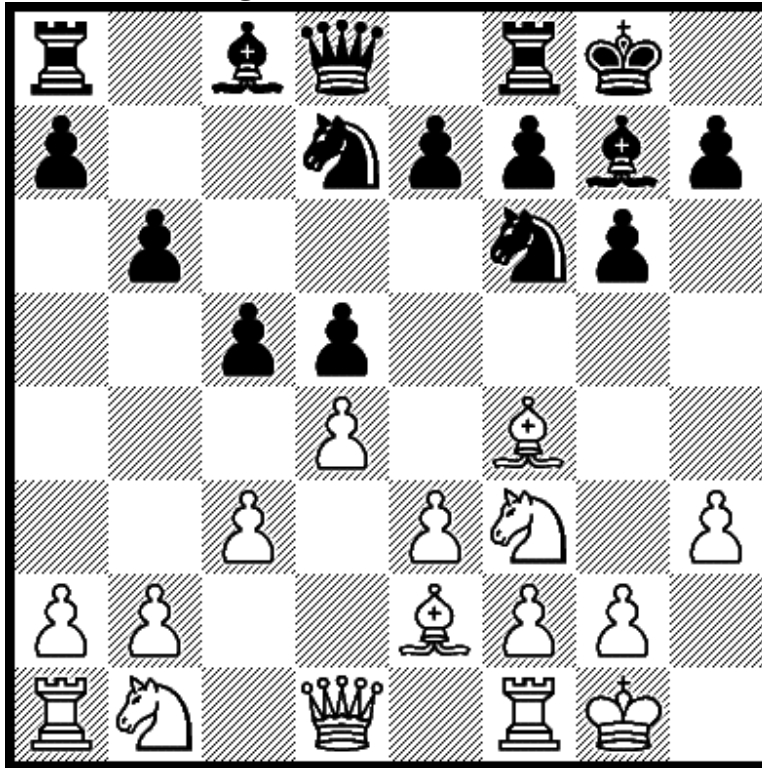
Diagram 146 after 7.h3 c5



8.c3

White chooses the standard London pawns.

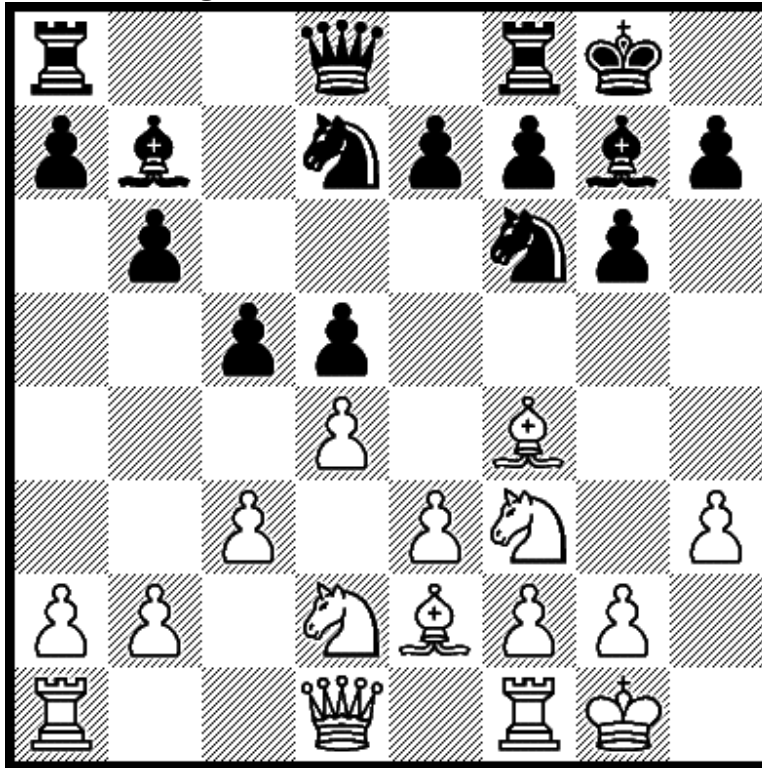
Diagram 147 after 8.c3 b6



9.Nbd2

All the White minor pieces are developed.

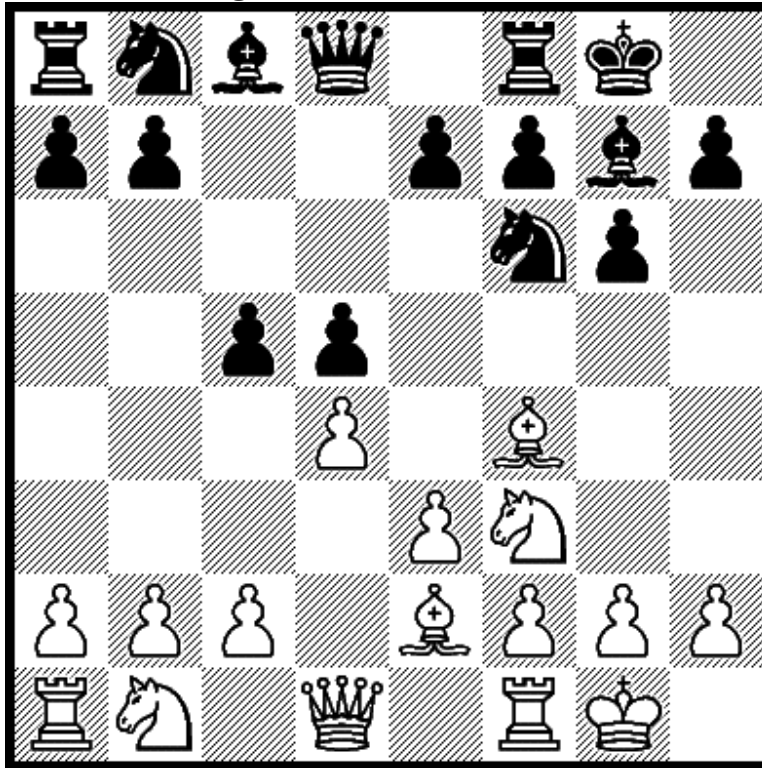
Diagram 148 after 9.Nbd2 Bb7



10.a4

White has time to begin queenside action.

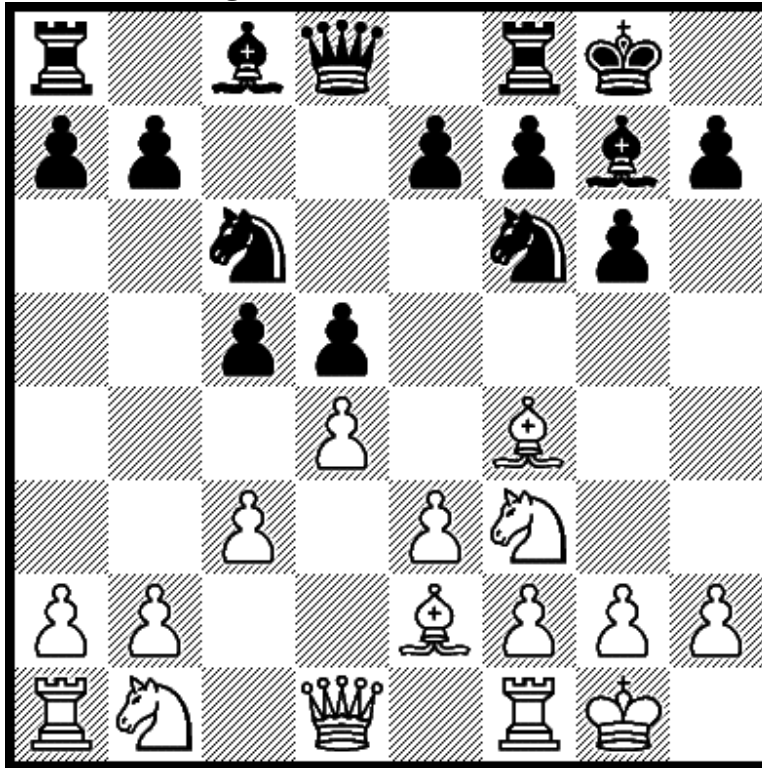
Diagram 149 after 6.0-0 c5



7.c3

This pawn move allows a future Qb3.

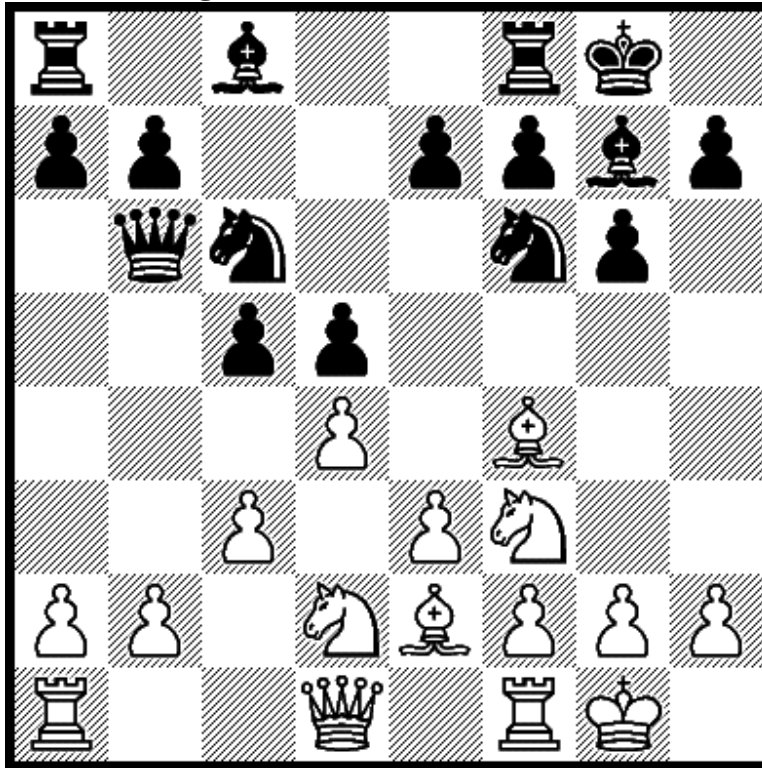
Diagram 150 after 7.c3 Nc6



8.Nbd2

The knight goes to its regular spot.

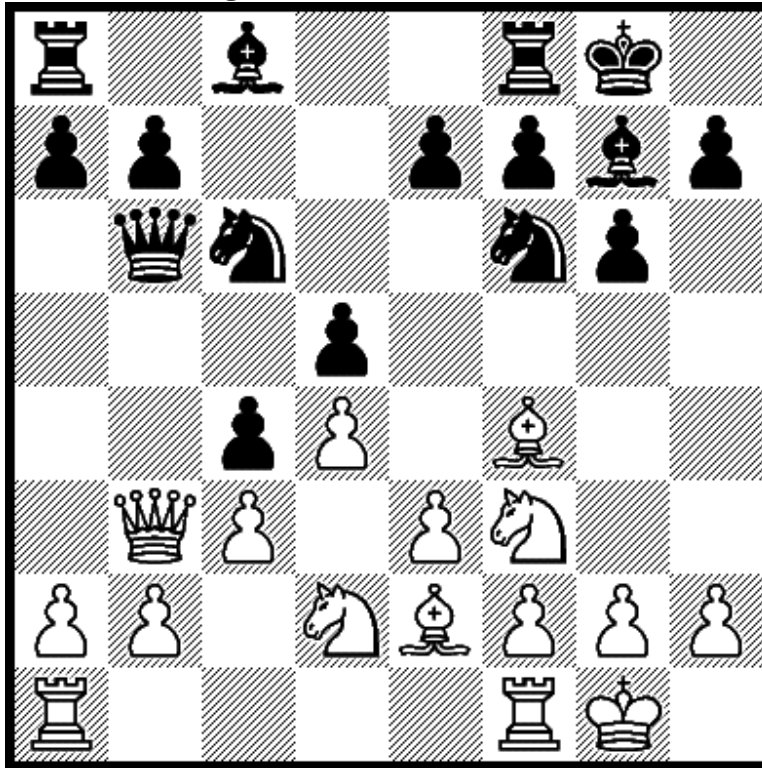
Diagram 151 after 8.Nbd2 Qb6



9.Qb3

The queens opposite each other.

Diagram 152 after 9.Qb3 c4

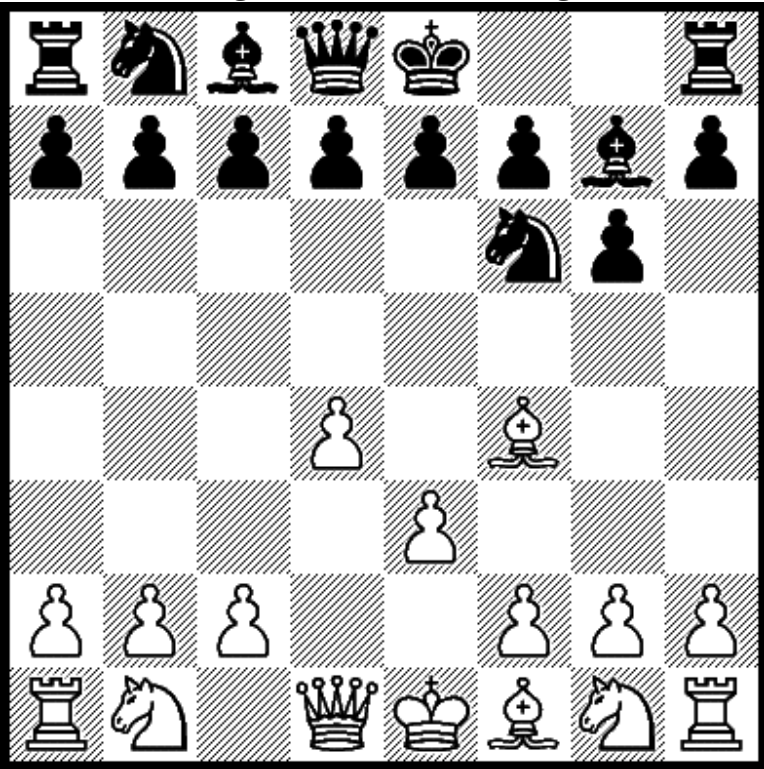


10.Qa3

The queen finds a useful square that works after Bg7.

2.Bf4 g6 3.e3 Bg7 4.Nf3

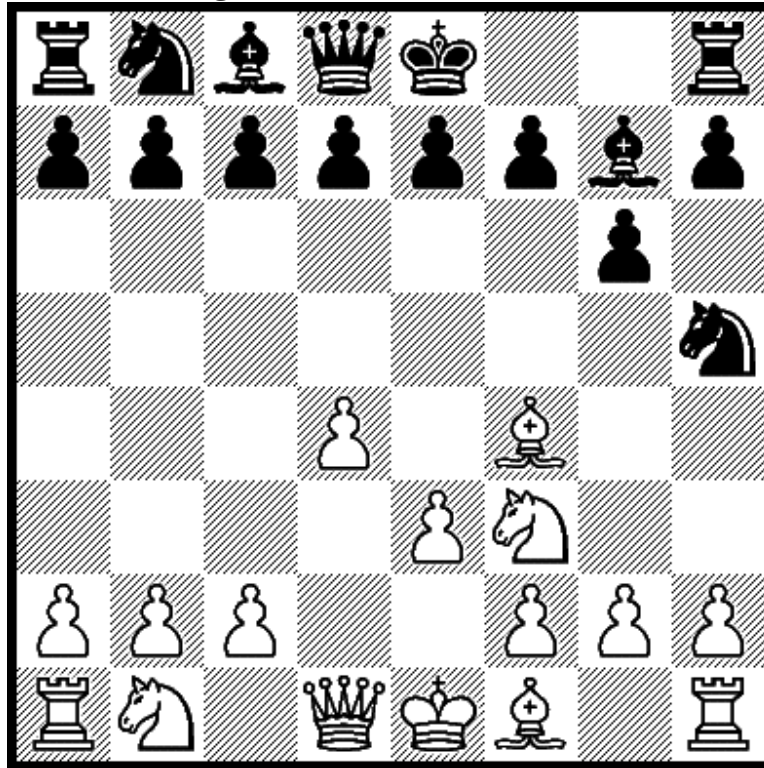
Diagram 153 after 3.e3 g6



4.Nf3

The players reach a popular position.

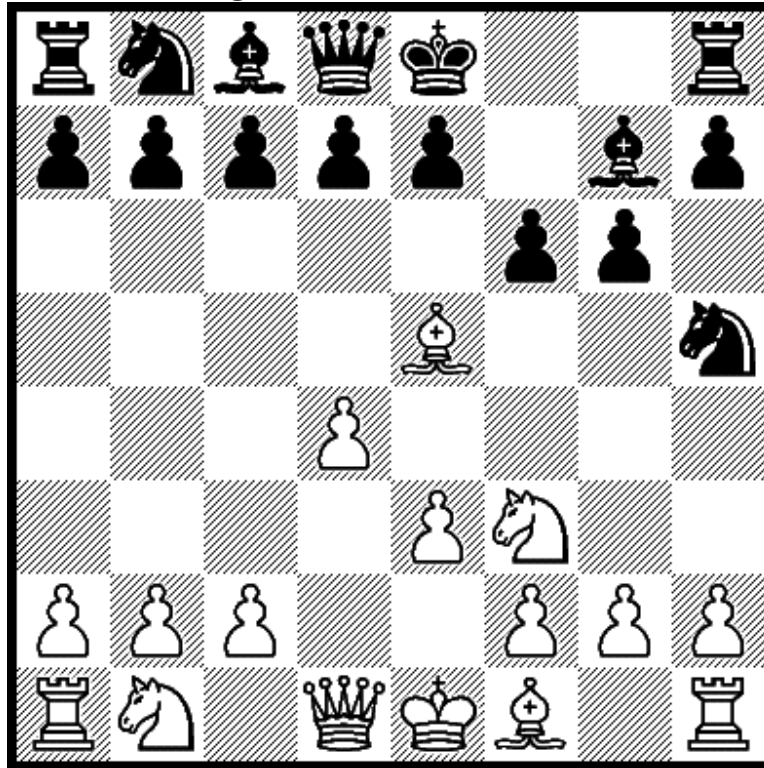
Diagram 154 after 4.Nf3 Nh5



5.Be5

White would love to trade off dark squared bishops.

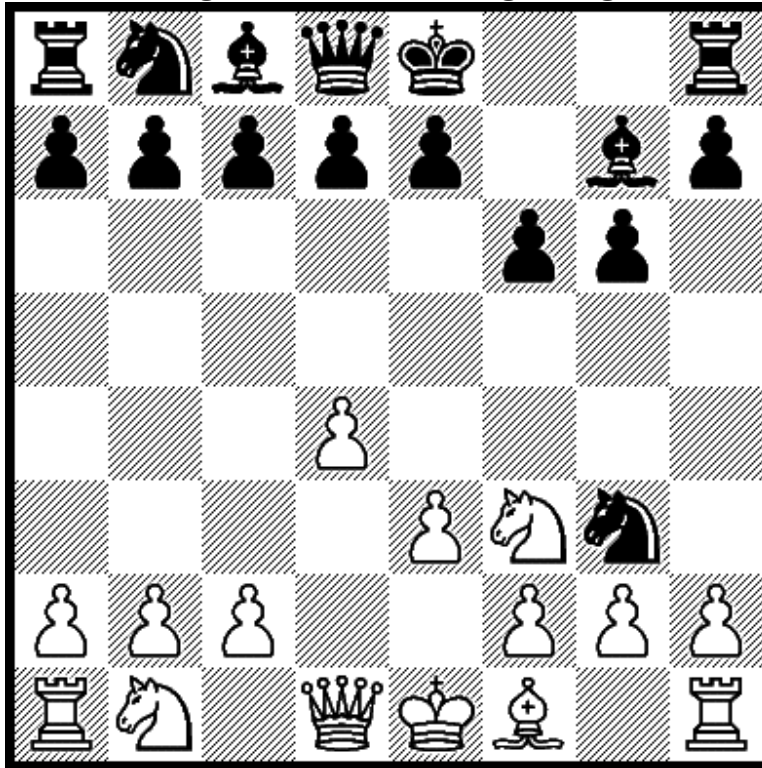
Diagram 155 after 5.Be5 f6



6.Bg3

Mission accomplished, the bishop awaits its fate.

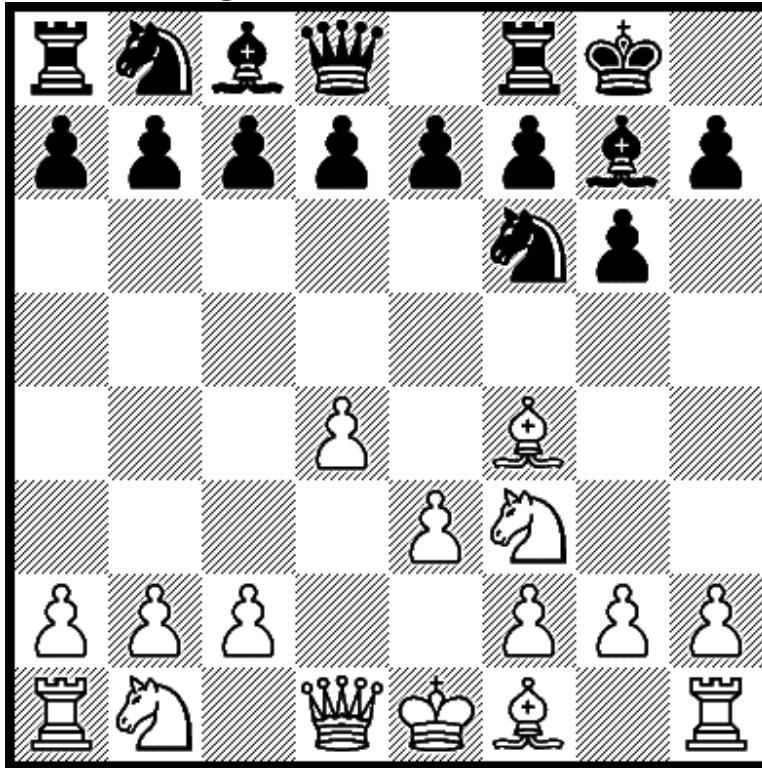
Diagram 156 after 6.Bg3 Nxd3



7.hxg3

White can use the open h-file or castle kingside.

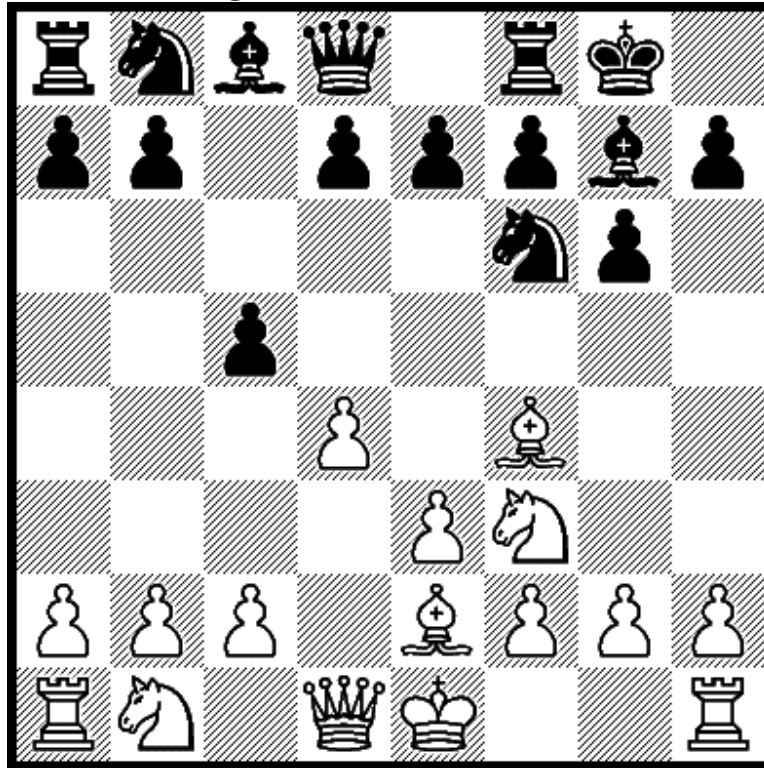
Diagram 157 after 4.Nf3 0-0



5.Be2

If 5...Nh5 6.Bg5 h6 7.Bh4 g5 8.g4 Nf6 9.Bg3 Nxe4 10.h4.

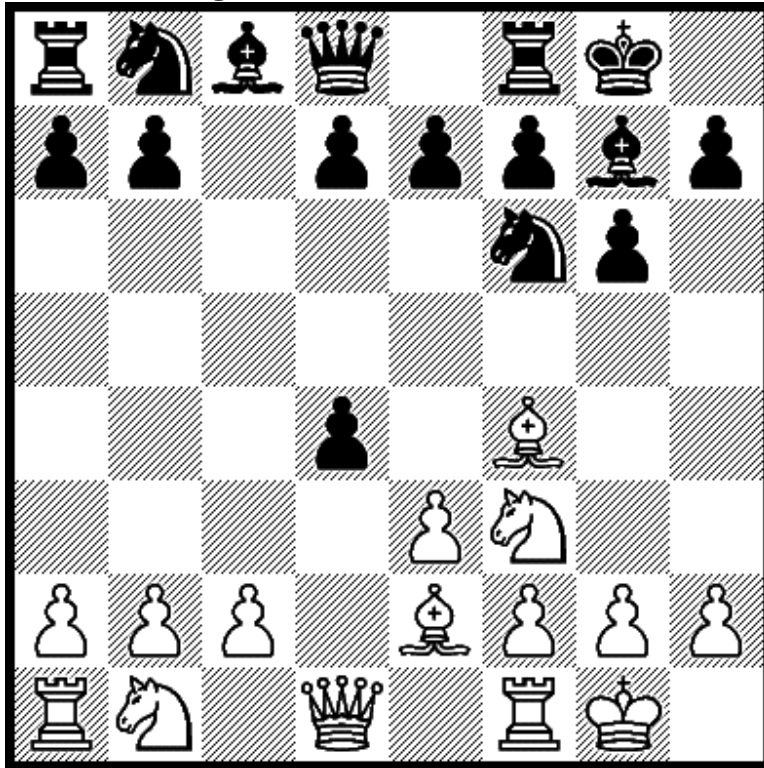
Diagram 158 after 5.Be2 c5



6.0-0

London System aims for rapid safe development.

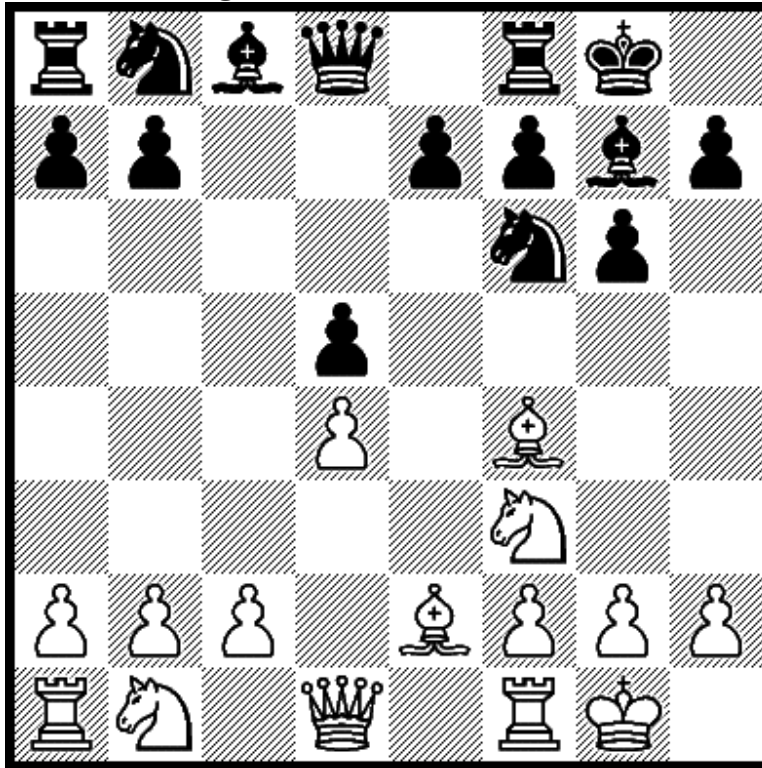
Diagram 159 after 6.0-0 cxd4



7.exd4

White will have an open e-file.

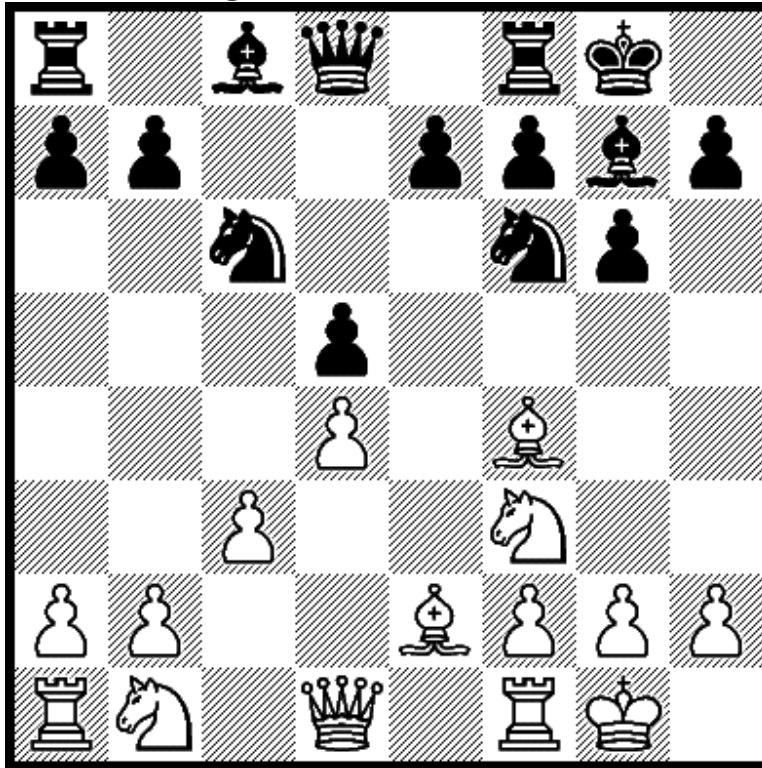
Diagram 160 after 7.exd4 d5



8.c3

Black's Bg7 has minimal long diagonal influence.

Diagram 161 after 8.c3 Nc6

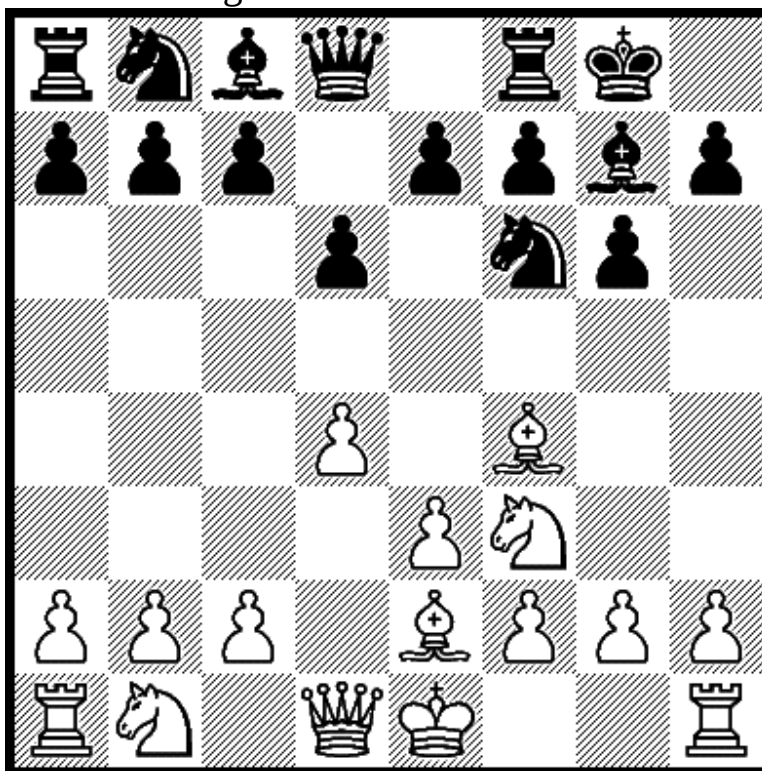


9.h3

White plans for Bh2 since Bxb8 is no longer available.

4.Nf3 0-0 5.Be2 d6 6.0-0

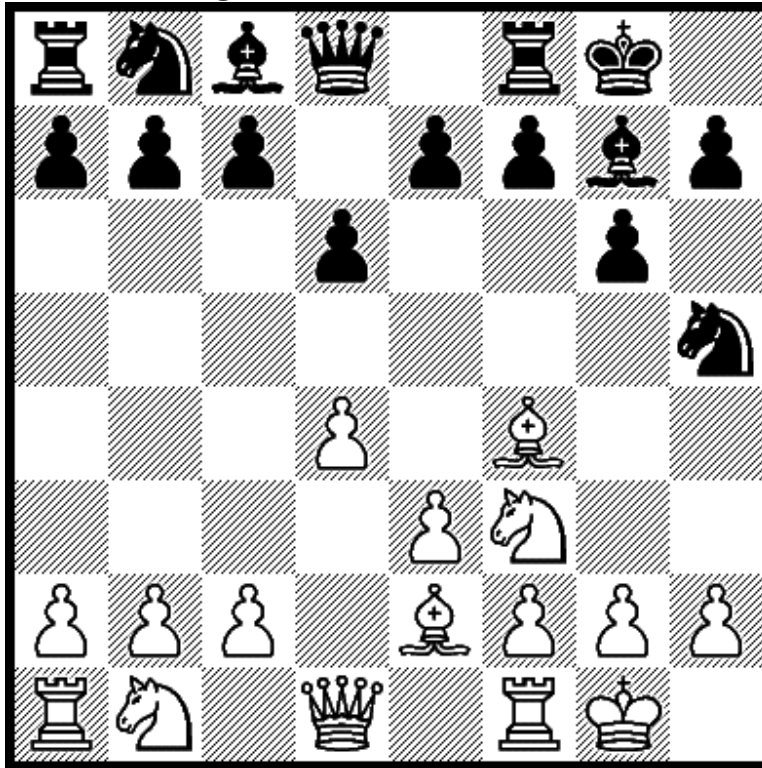
Diagram 162 after 5.Be2 d6



6.0-0

Now Black will have to make a commitment.

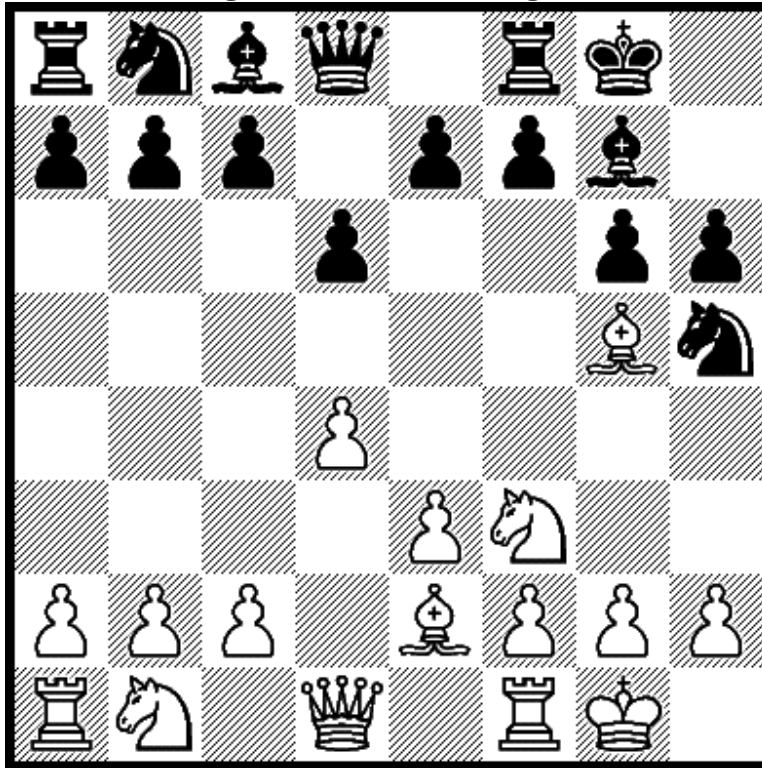
Diagram 163 after 6.0-0 Nh5



7.Bg5

The bishop avoids capture.

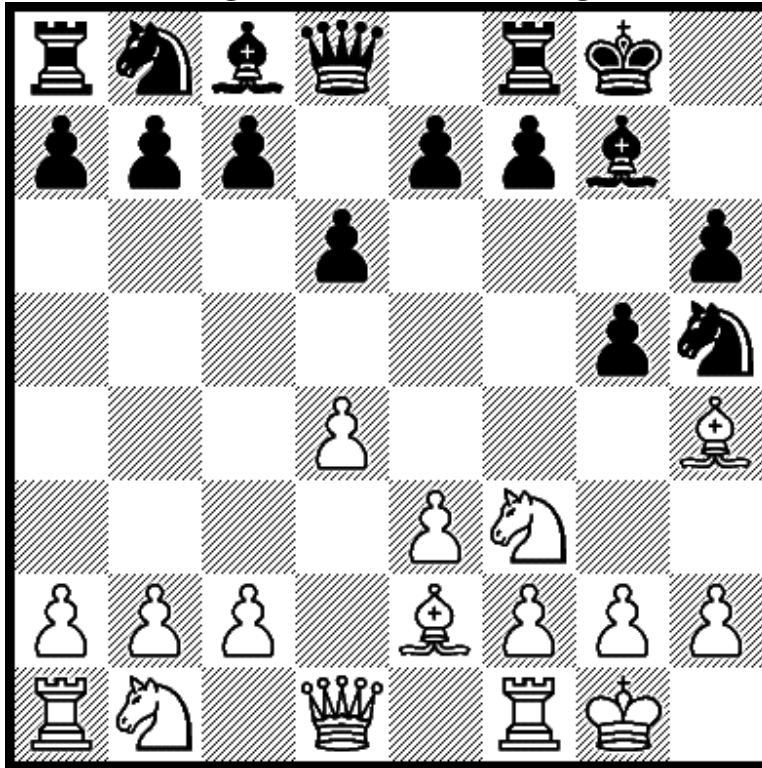
Diagram 164 after 7.Bg5 h6



8.Bh4

The standard retreat.

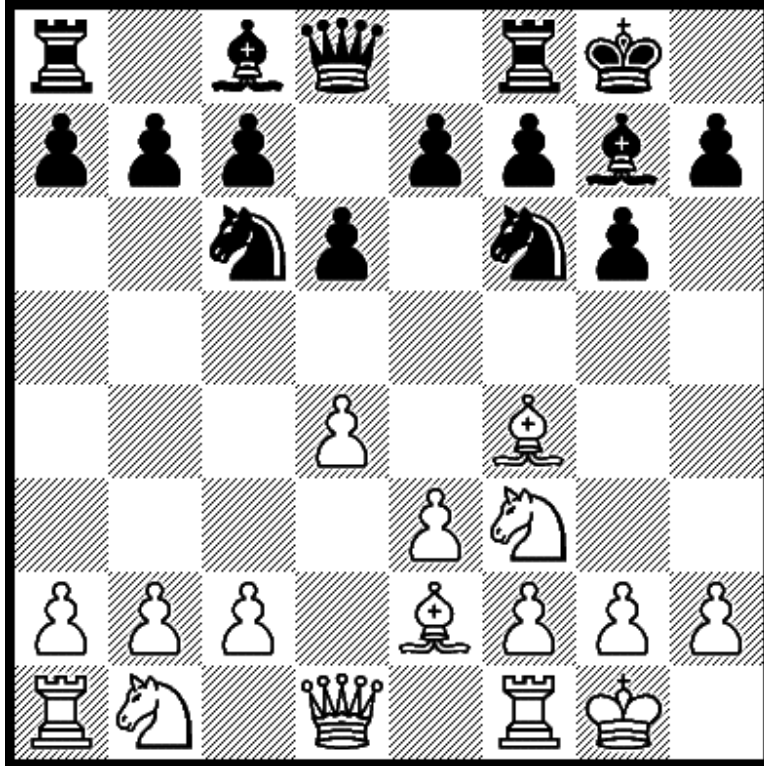
Diagram 165 after 8.Bh4 g5



9.Nfd2

This thematic retreat attacks the Nh5 and defends e4.

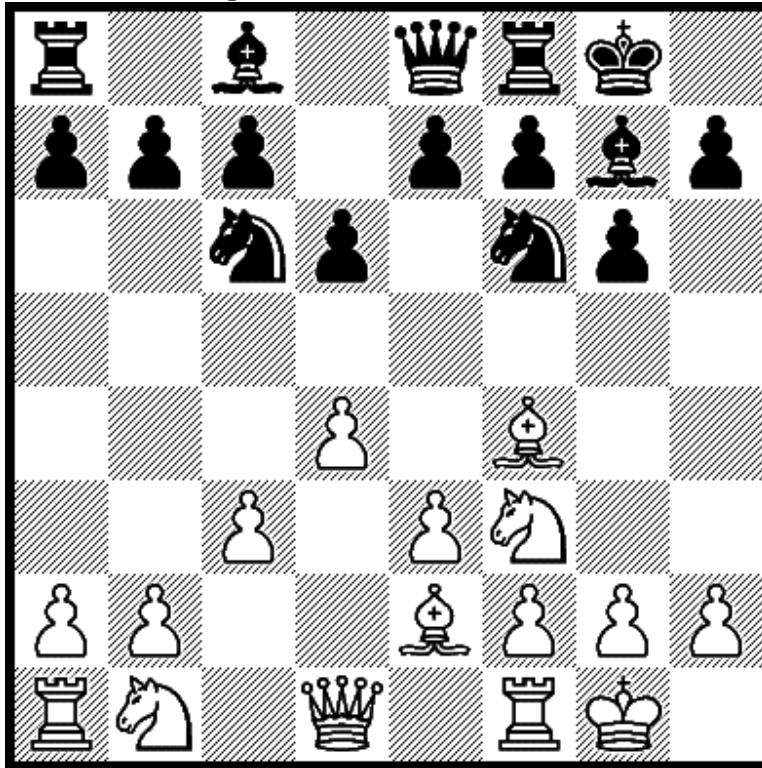
Diagram 166 after 6.0-0 Nc6



7.c3

The pawn shores up the b2-c3-d4 pawn chain.

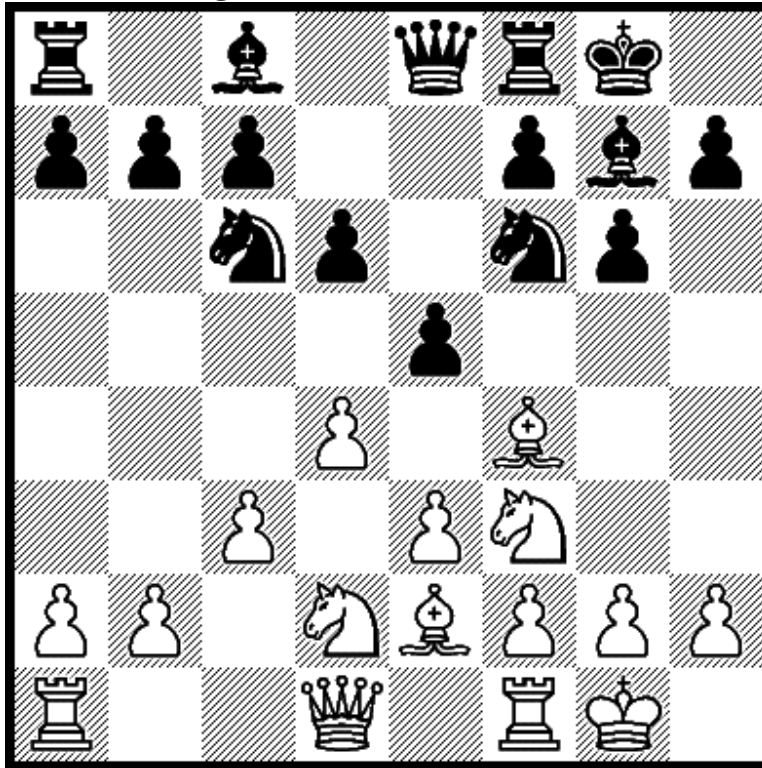
Diagram 167 after 7.c3 Qe8



8.Nbd2

White completes the minor piece development.

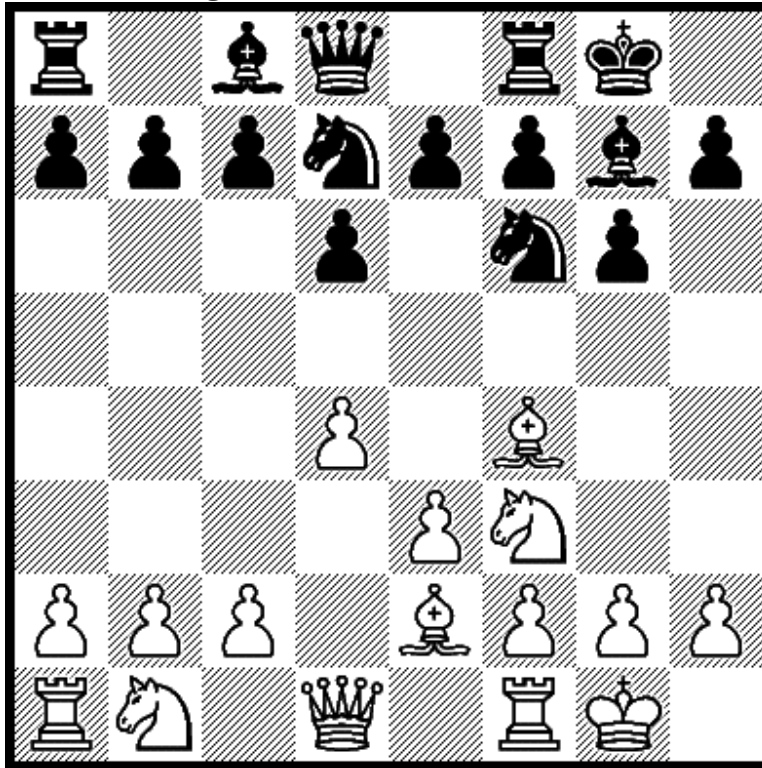
Diagram 168 after 8.Nbd2 e5



9.Bg3

The bishop retreats to safety.

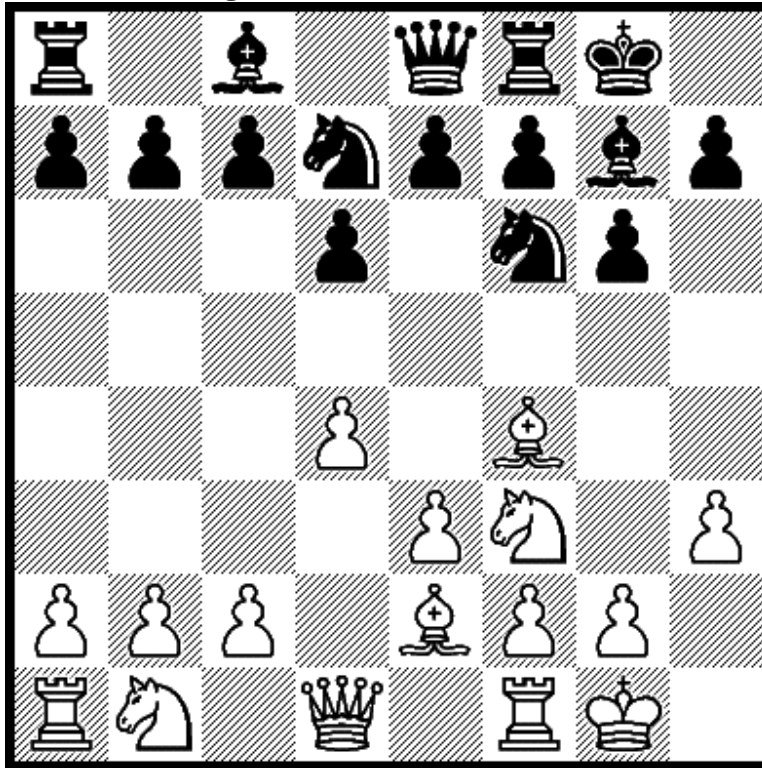
Diagram 169 after 6.0-0 Nbd7



7.h3

White has time to create a retreat square.

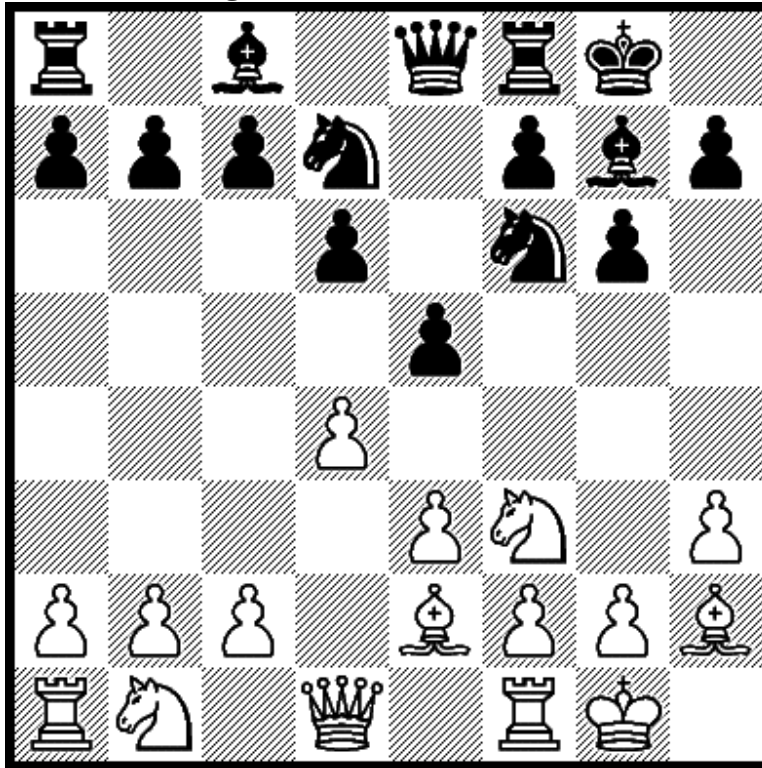
Diagram 170 after 7.h3 Qe8



8.Bh2

The bishop retreats before being attacked.

Diagram 171 after 8.Bh2 e5

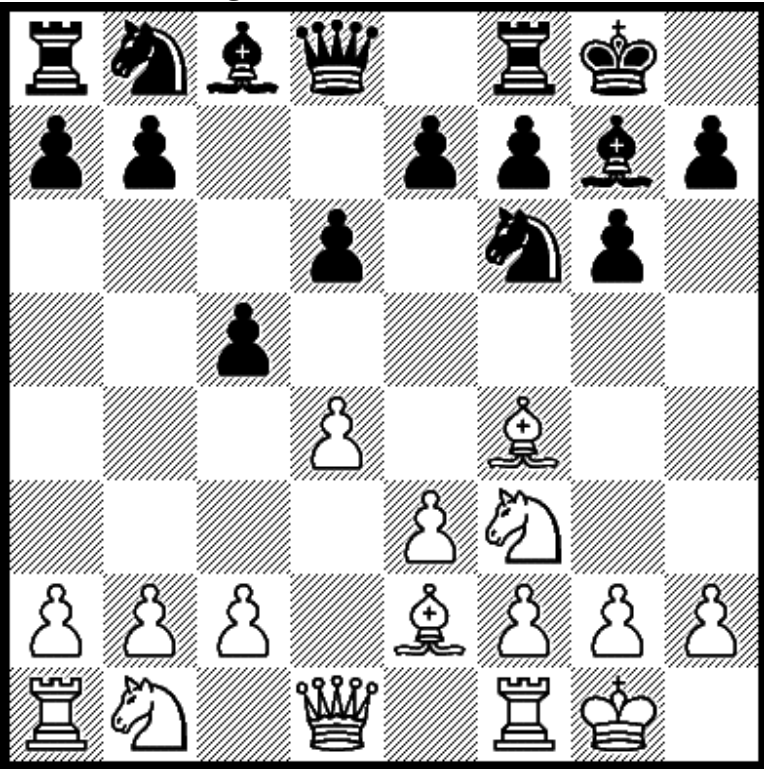


9.a4

If the e5-pawn moves then Bh2 has more scope.

5.Be2 d6 6.0-0 c5 7.c3

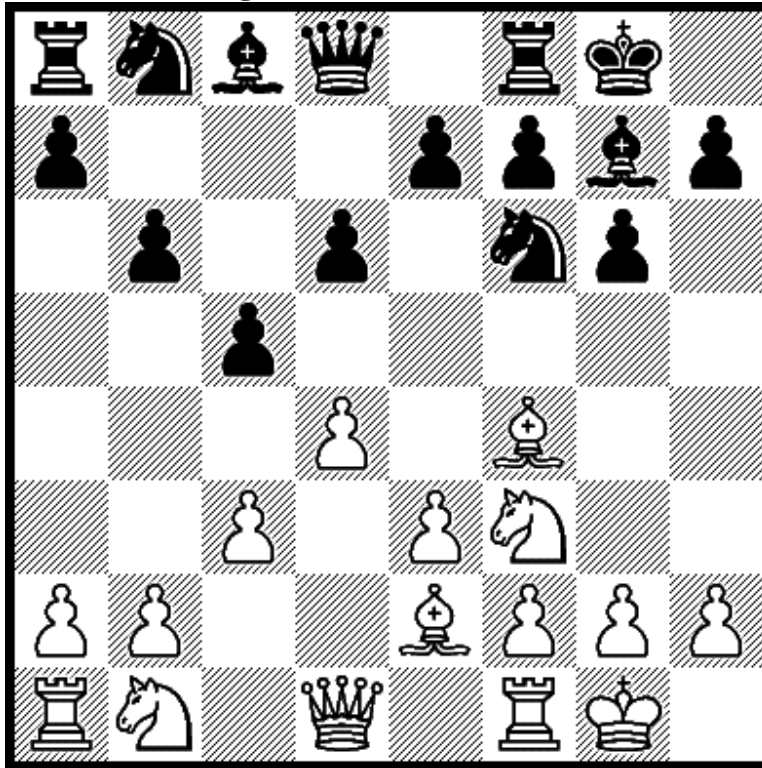
Diagram 172 after 6.0-0 c5



7.c3

White adopts an Anti-Benoni stance.

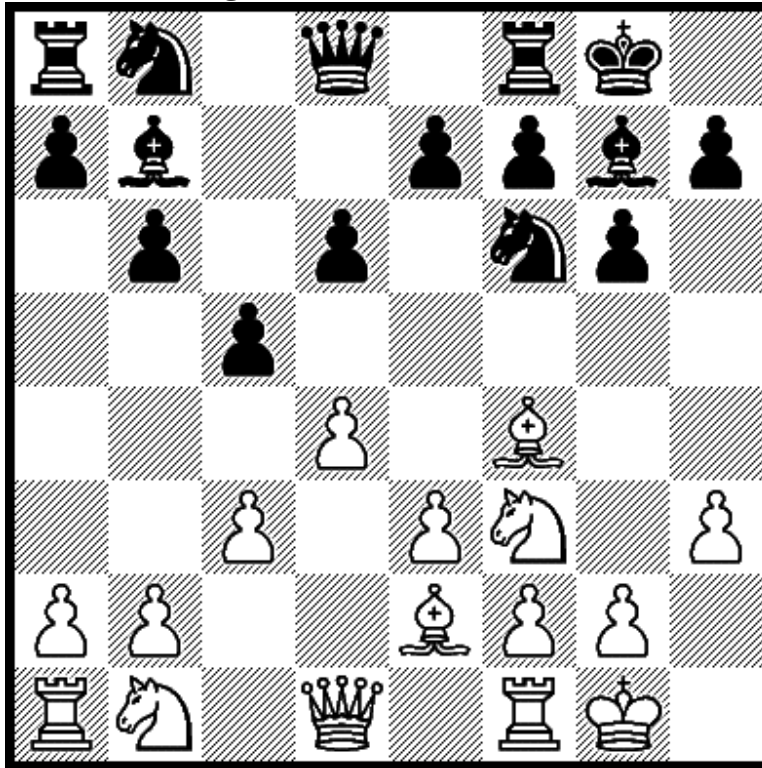
Diagram 173 after 7.c3 b6



8.h3

The pawn move offers White a convenient choice.

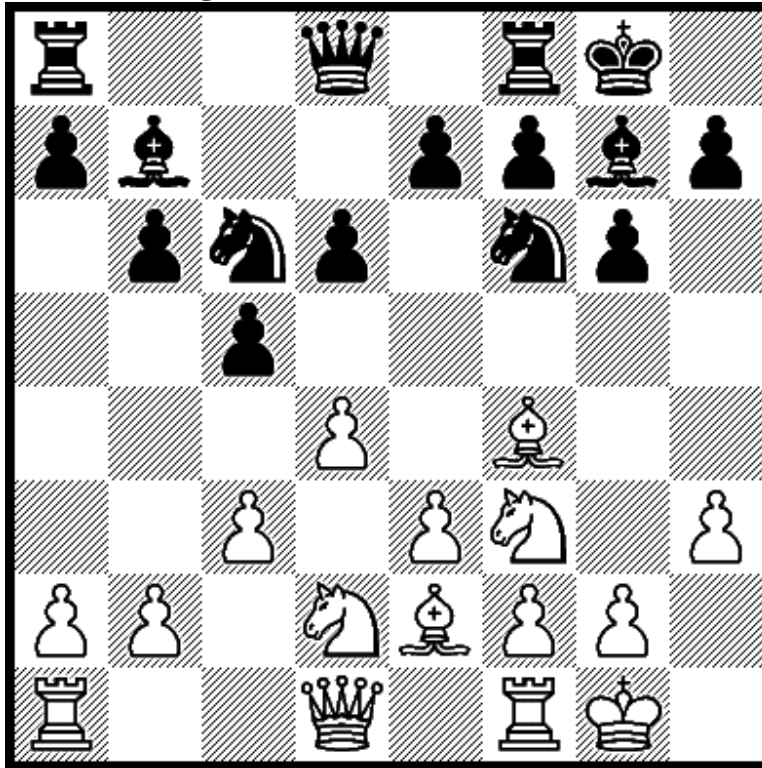
Diagram 174 after 8.h3 Bb7



9.Nbd2

When in doubt, bring the knight out.

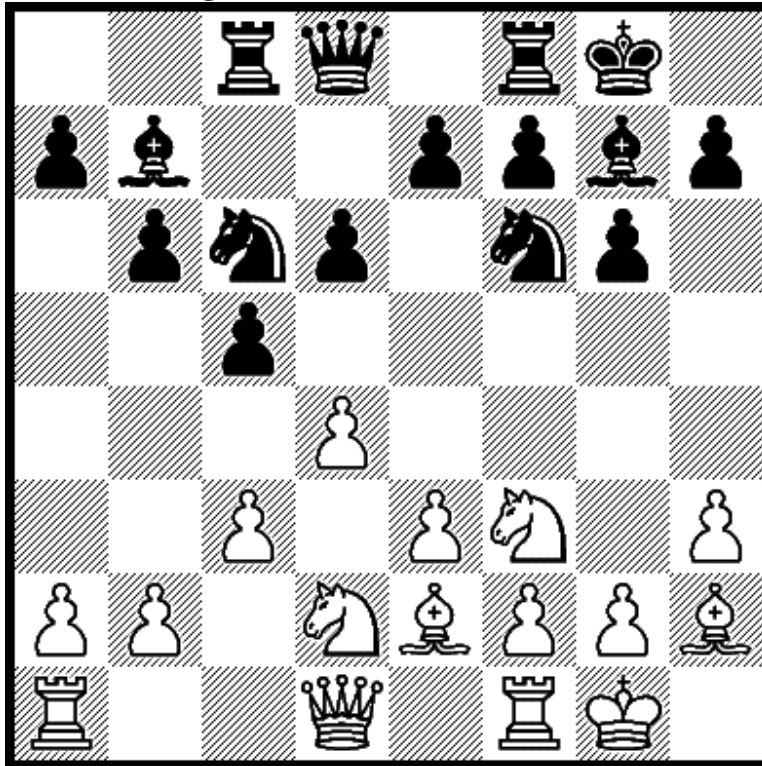
Diagram 175 after 9.Nbd2 Nc6



10.Bh2

The bishop move out of the line of fire.

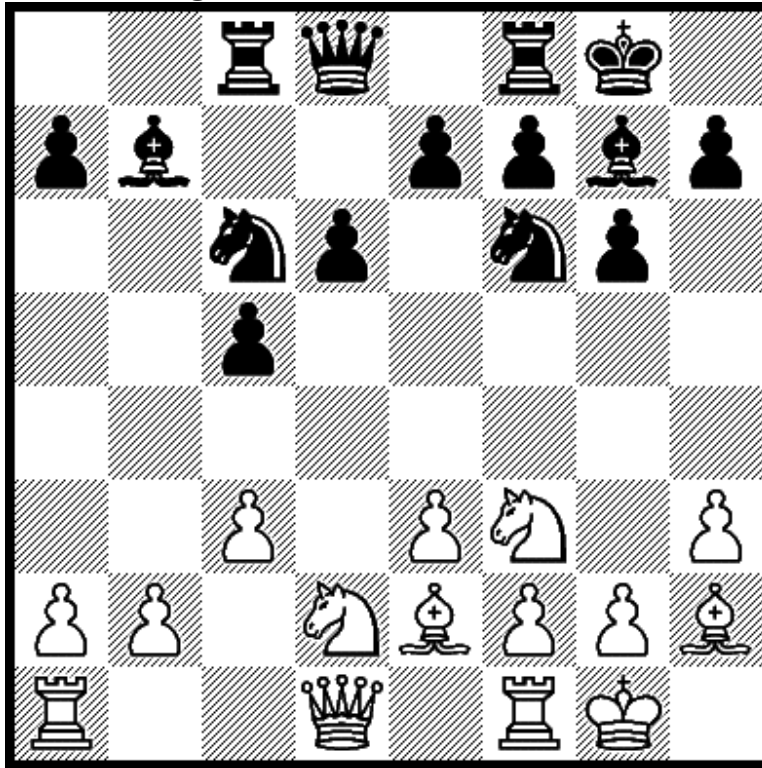
Diagram 176 after 10.Bh2 Rc8



11.dxc5

White forces Black to select a pawn structure.

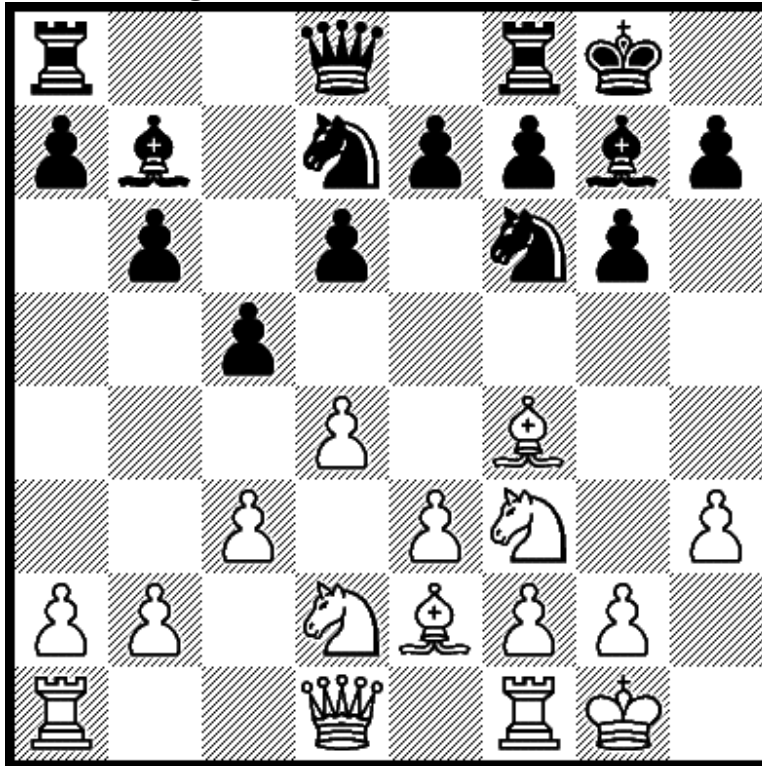
Diagram 177 after 11.dxc5 bxc5



12.Qc2

The White rooks are connected.

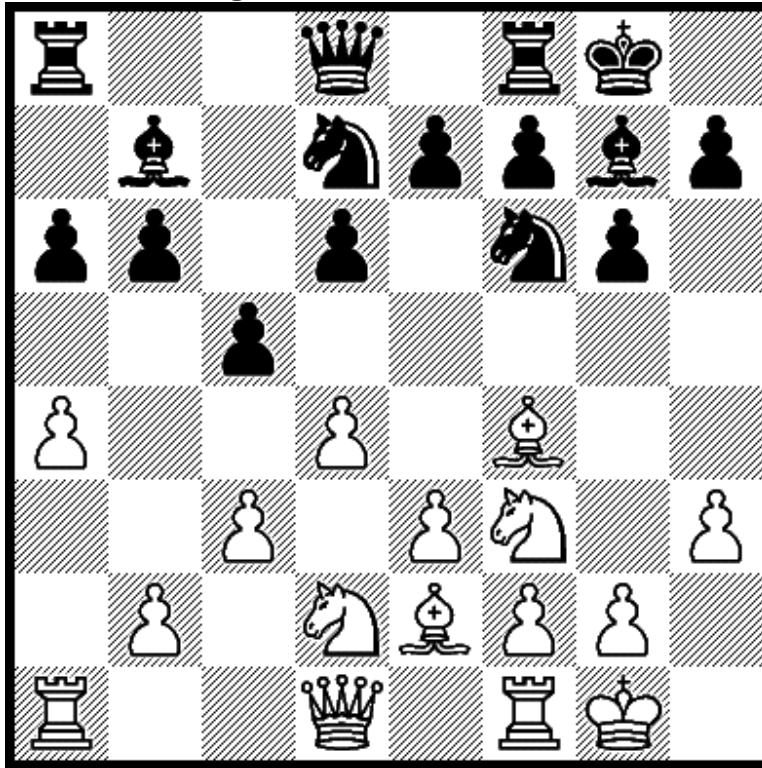
Diagram 178 after 9.Nbd2 Nbd7



10.a4

The pawn stakes out a claim on the queenside.

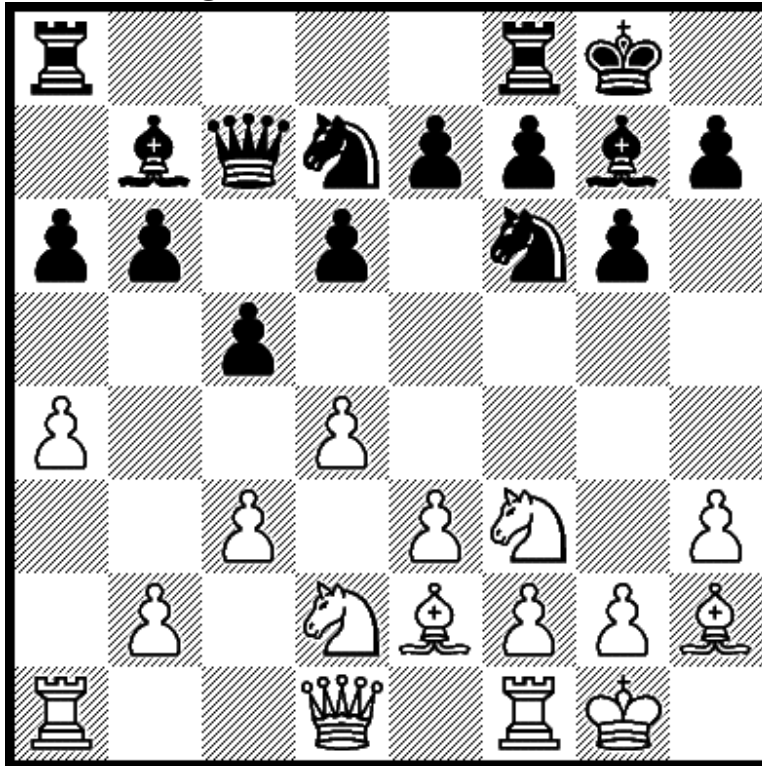
Diagram 179 after 10.a4 a6



11.Bh2

White avoids possible e7-e5-e4 tactics.

Diagram 180 after 11.Bh2 Qc7

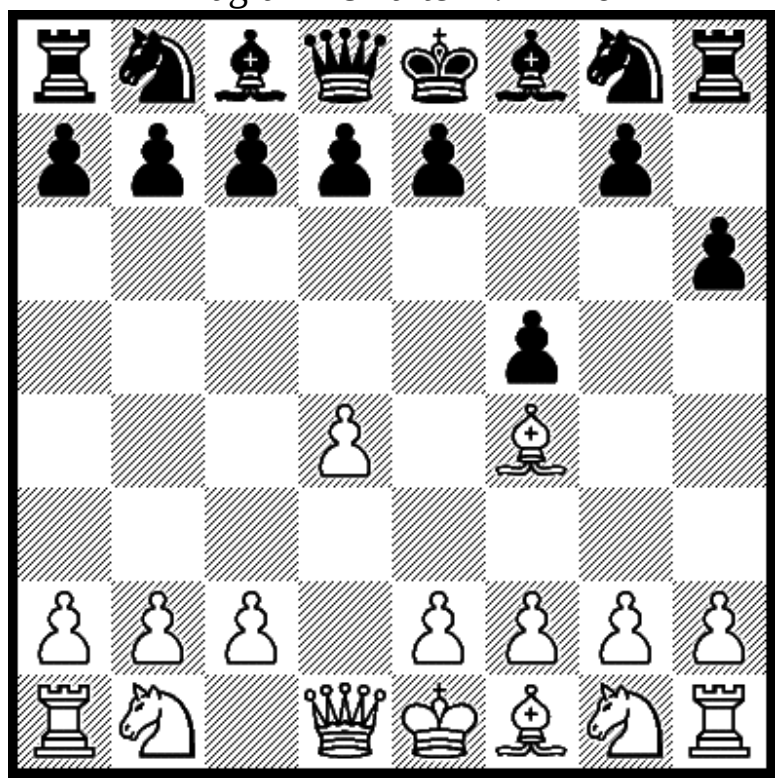


12.Re1

The rook plans for the future.

1.d4 f5 2.Bf4

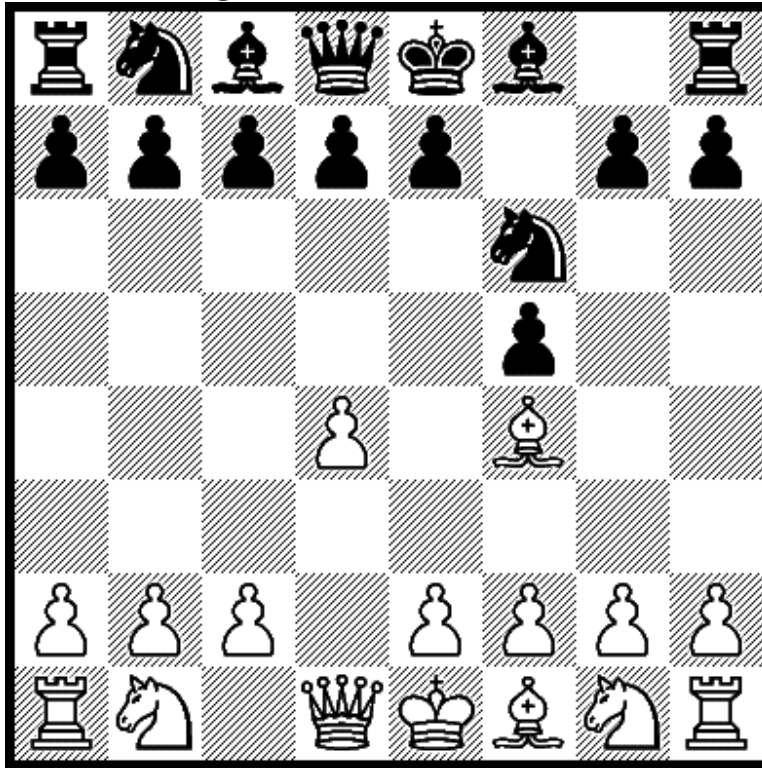
Diagram 181 after 2.Bf4 h6



3.e4

White threatens 3.Qh5+ with a checkmate.

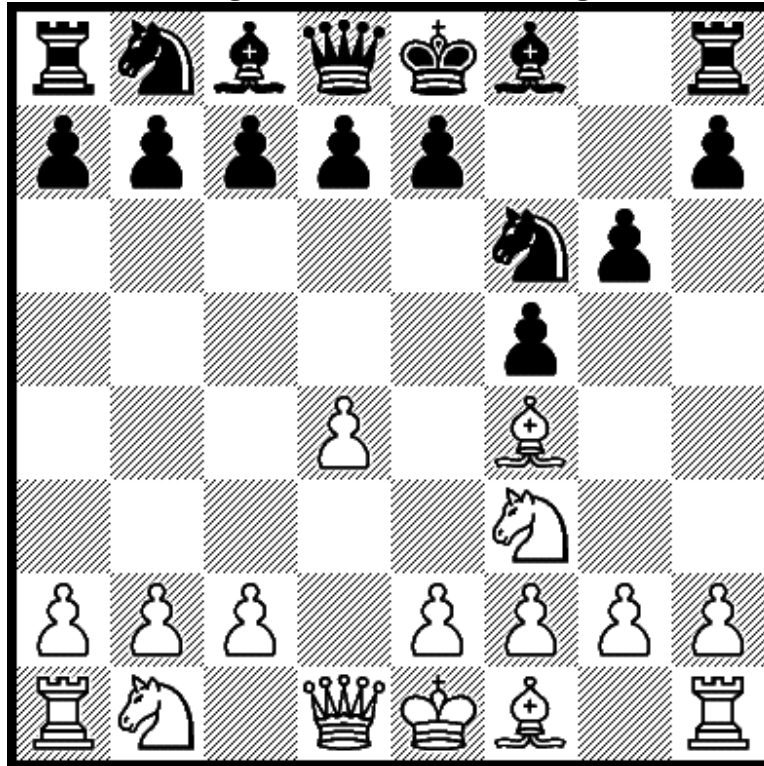
Diagram 182 after 2.Bf4 Nf6



3.Nf3

The knight helps control e5.

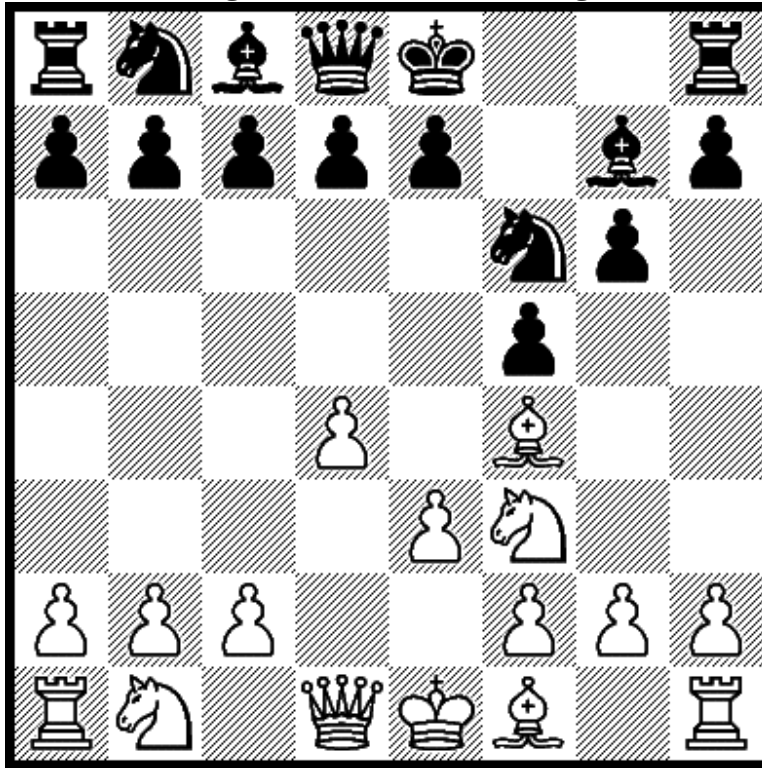
Diagram 183 after 3.Nf3 g6



4.e3

The door opens for the light squared bishop.

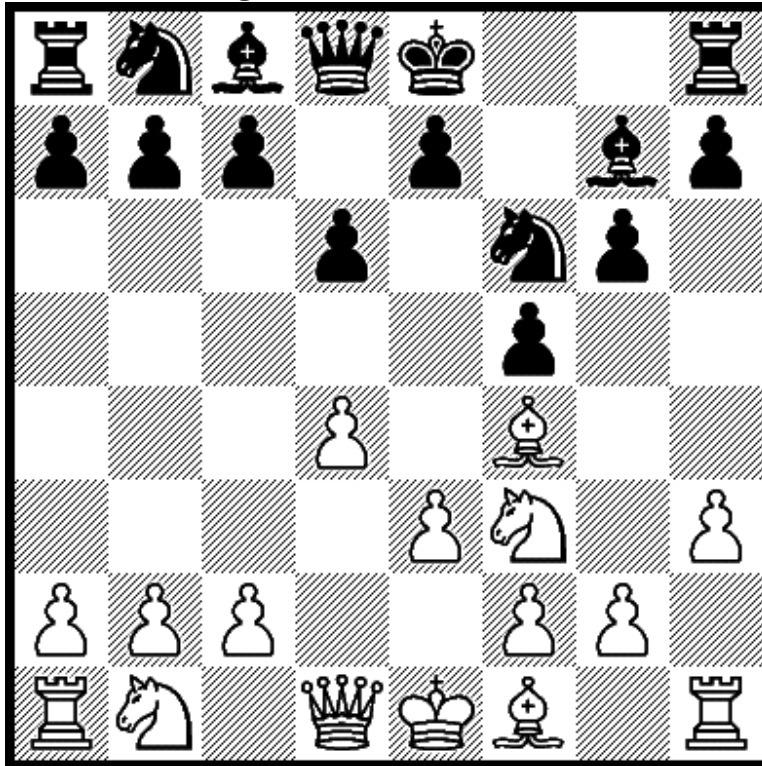
Diagram 184 after 4.e3 Bg7



5.h3

White prepares to attack g2-g4 or to retreat Bh2.

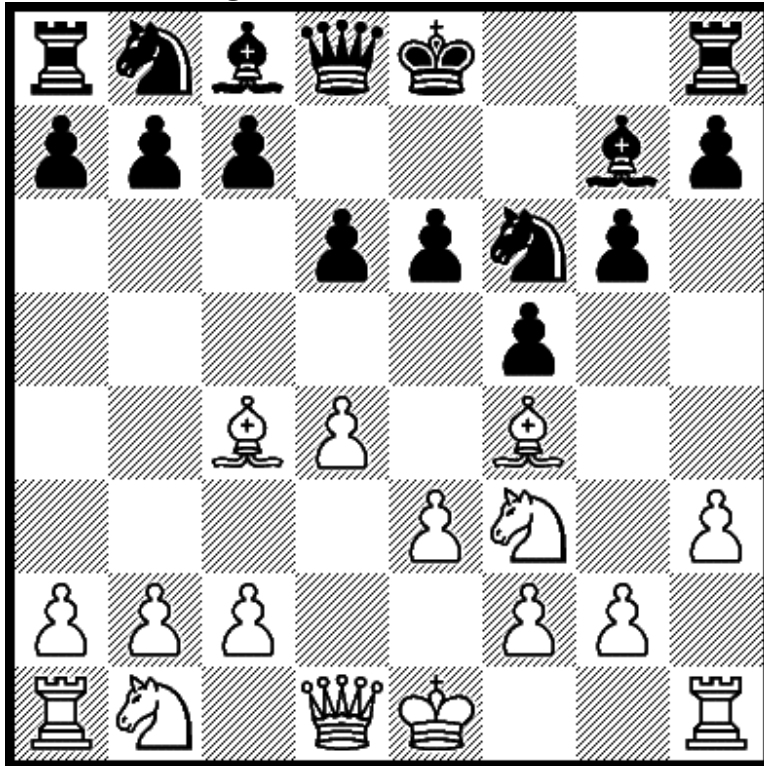
Diagram 185 after 5.h3 d6



6.Bc4

What wonderful diagonal for the bishops!

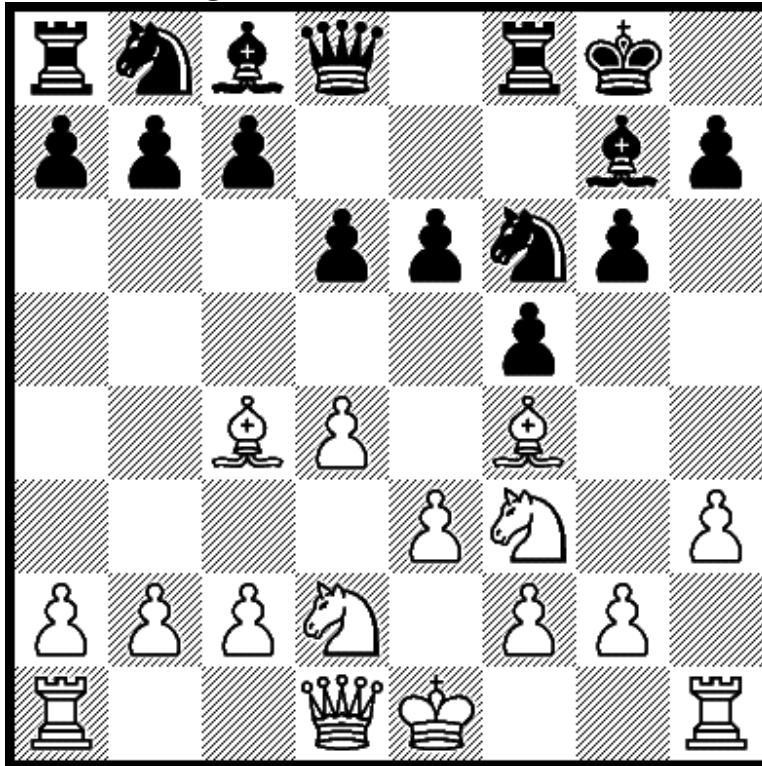
Diagram 186 after 6.Bc4 e6



7.Nbd2

Thematic and flexible.

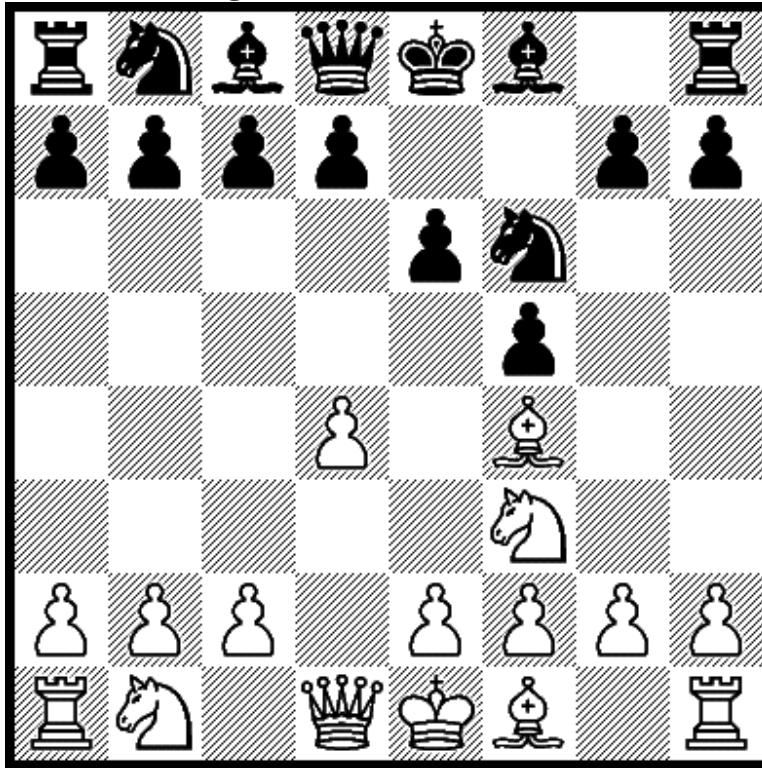
Diagram 187 after 7.Nbd2 0-0



8.0-0

If 8...d5, then 9.Bb3 and maybe 10.c4.

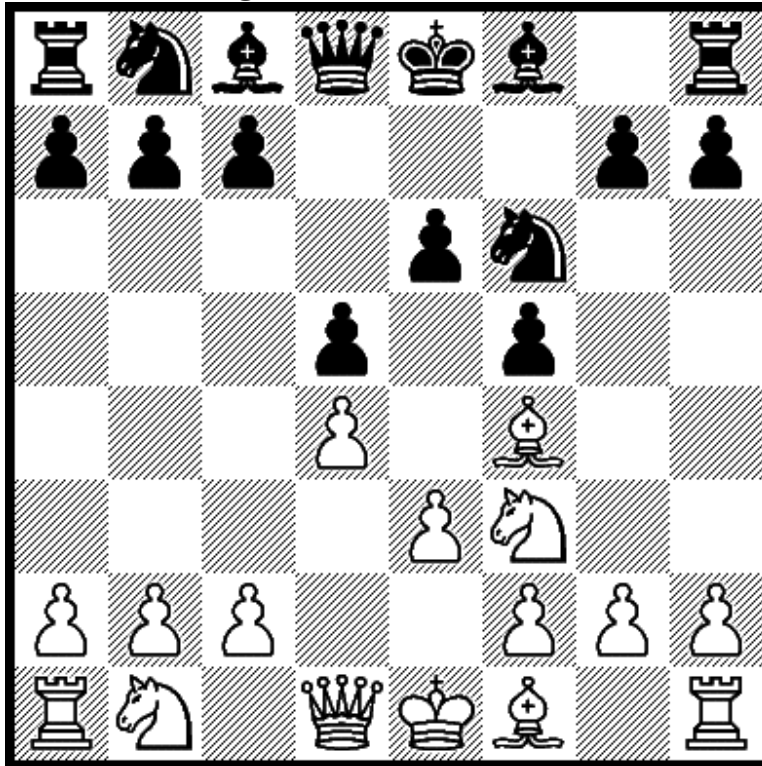
Diagram 188 after 3.Nf3 e6



4.e3

White follows the basic repertoire approach.

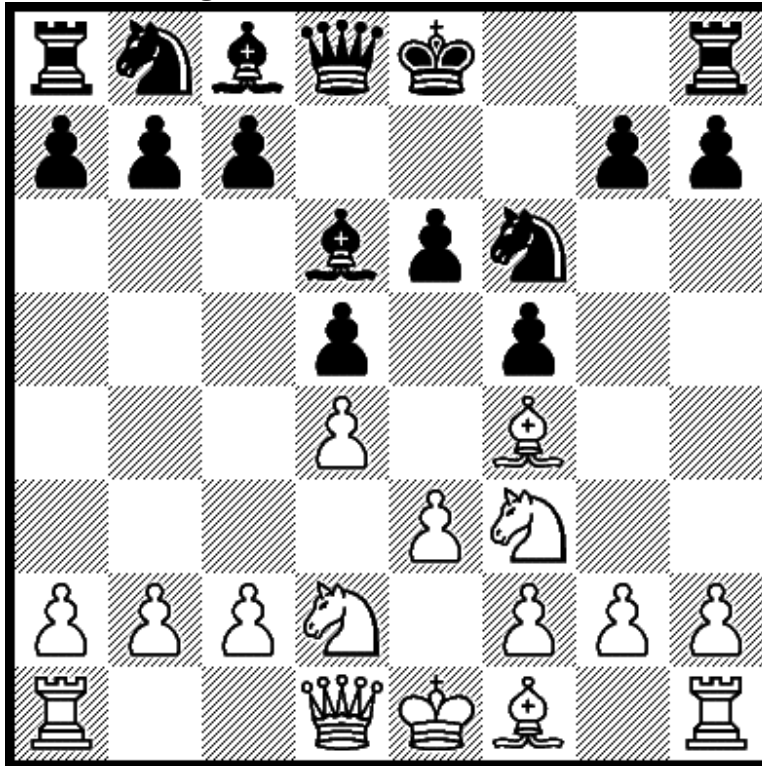
Diagram 189 after 4.e3 d5



5.Nbd2

White's Bf4 is stronger after 4...d5.

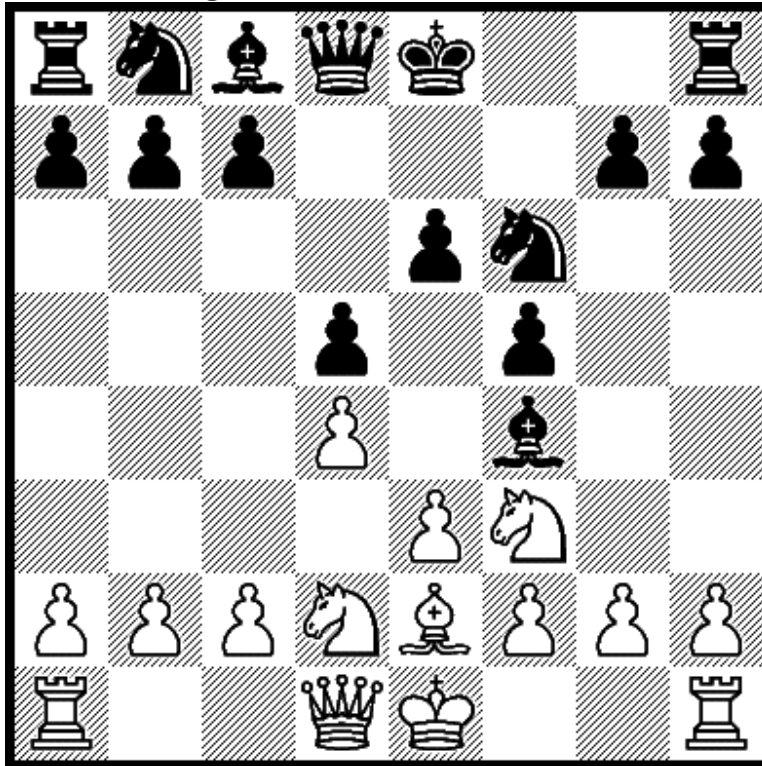
Diagram 190 after 5.Nbd2 Bd6



6.Be2

This bishop eyes h5 after a move like Ne5.

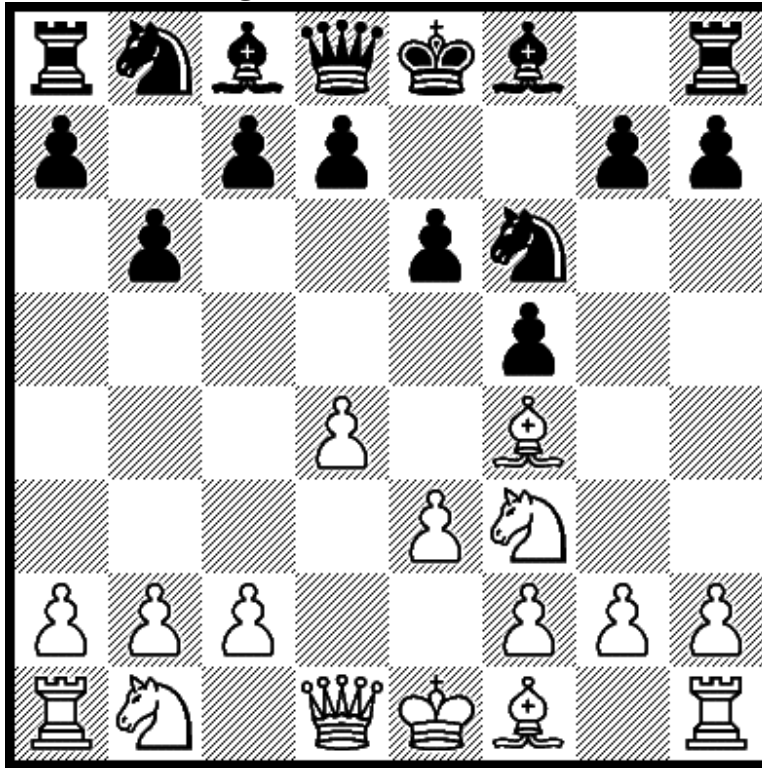
Diagram 191 after 6.Be2 Bxf4



7.exf4

Black has a backward e6 pawn on White's open e-file.

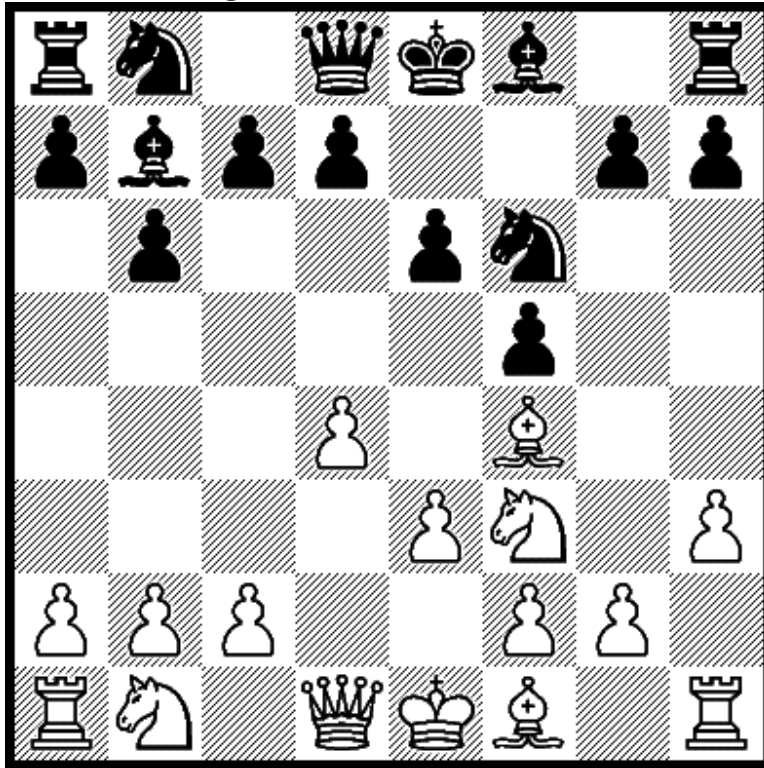
Diagram 192 after 4.e3 b6



5.h3

This waiting move might be followed by 5...Ba6 6.Bxa6.

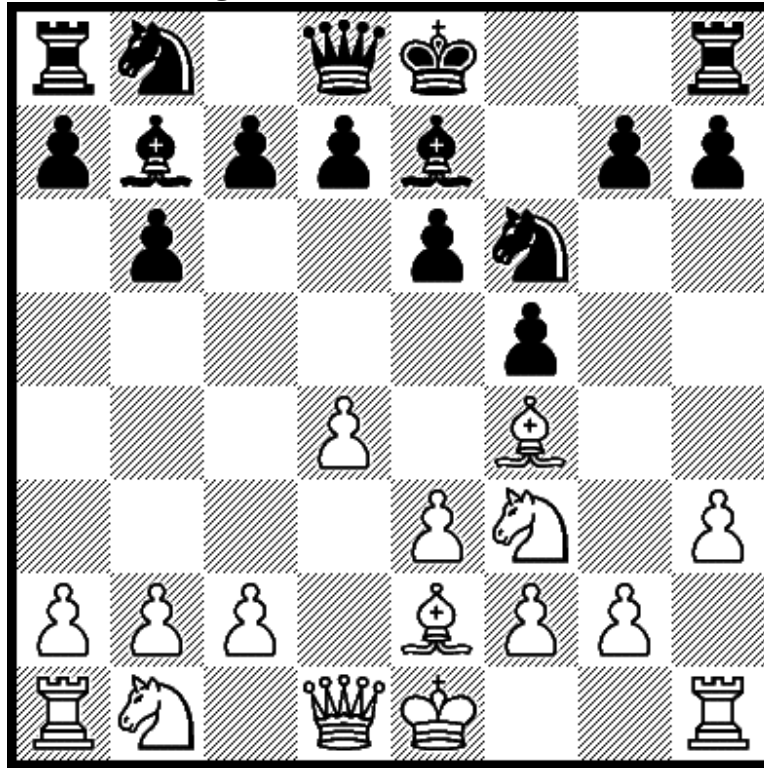
Diagram 193 after 5.h3 Bb7



6.Be2

The logical choice protecting the Nf3.

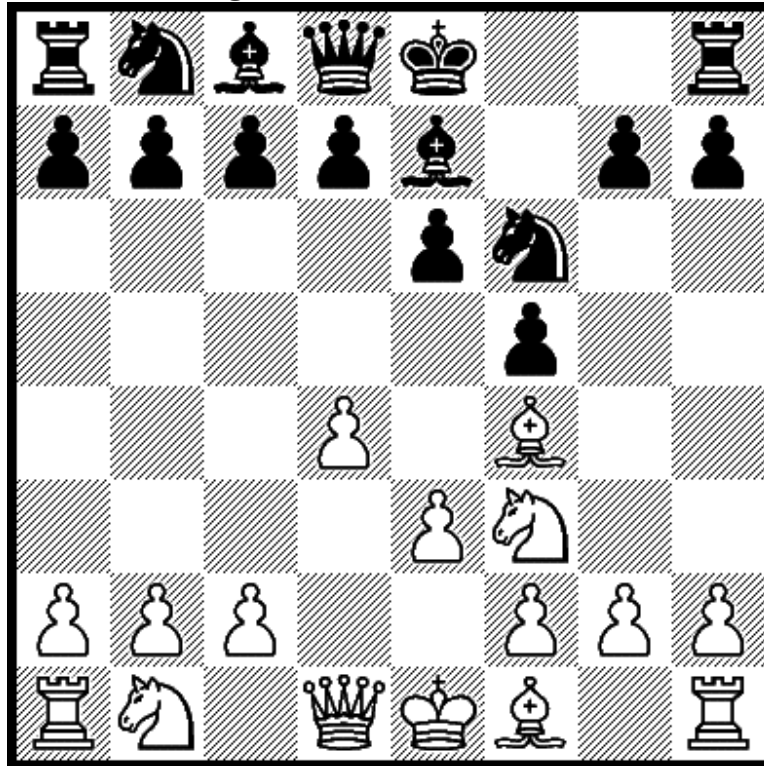
Diagram 194 after 6.Be2 Be7



7.0-0

The kingside is solid. White can expand queenside.

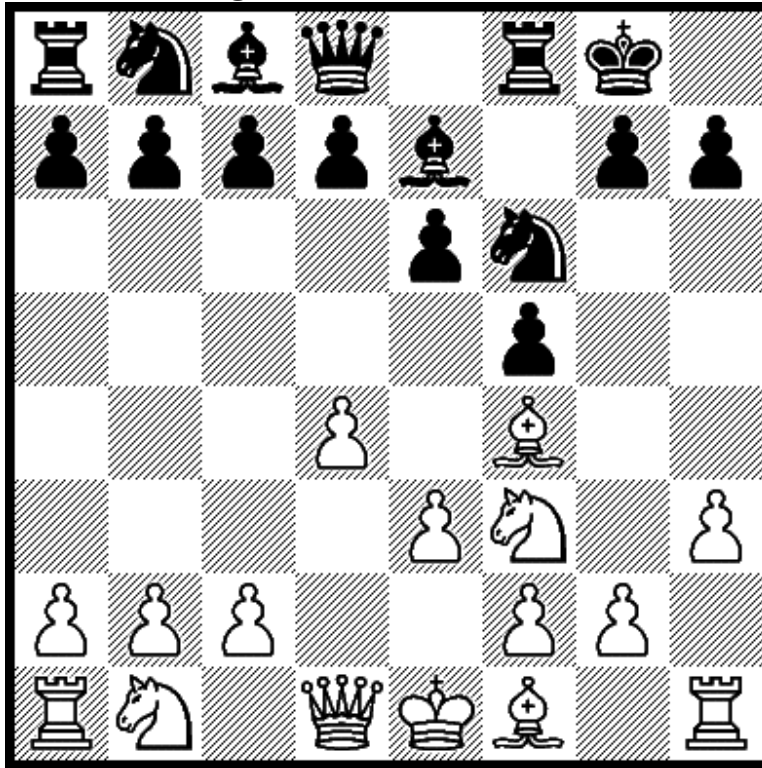
Diagram 195 after 4.e3 Be7



5.h3

It's nice to have the retreat Bh2 available.

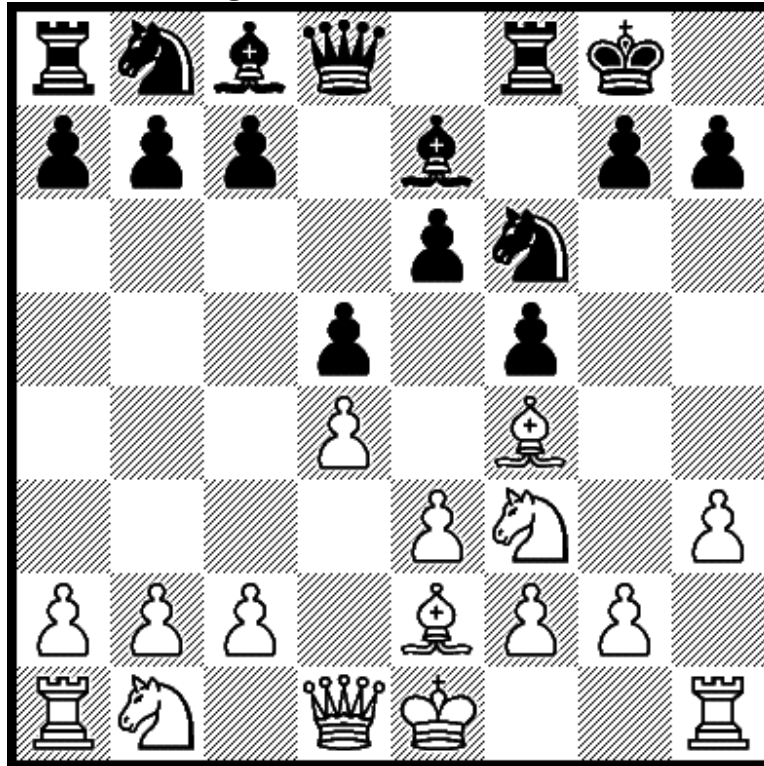
Diagram 196 after 5.h3 0-0



6.Be2

The bishop may be most useful from this square.

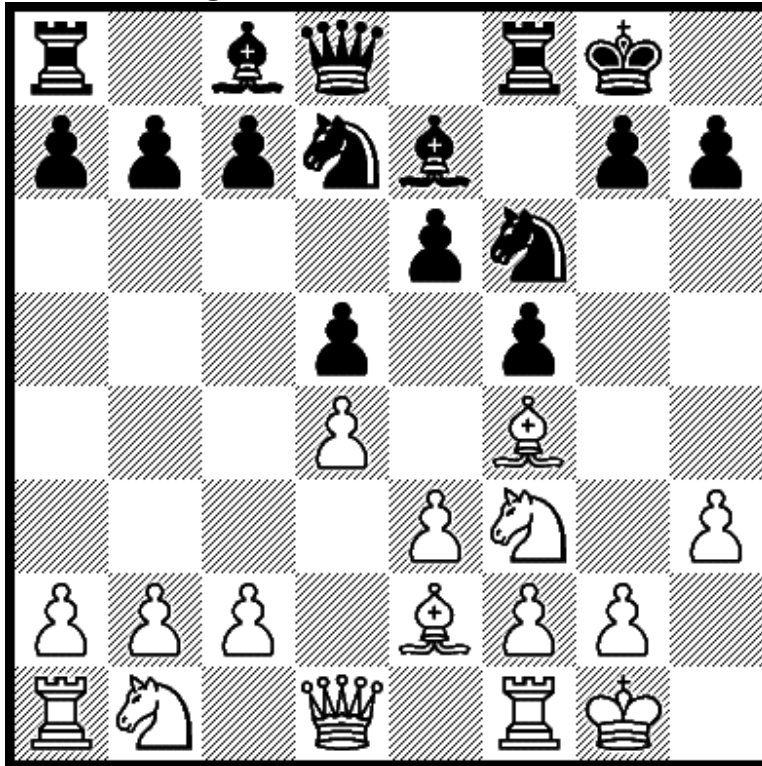
Diagram 197 after 6.Be2 d5



7.0-0

Castling kingside is the solid approach.

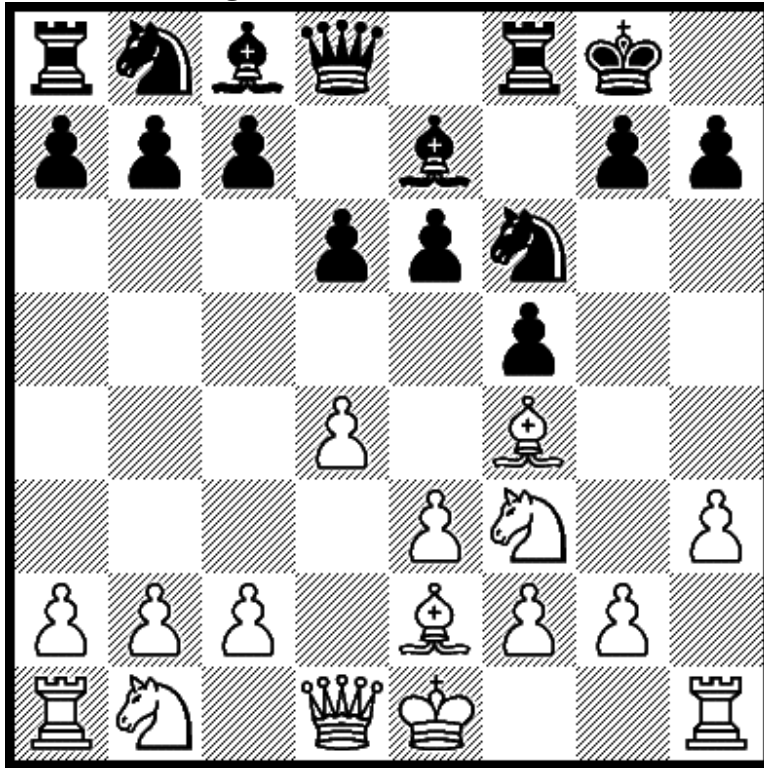
Diagram 198 after 7.0-0 Nbd7



8.Nbd2

This knight may have a future on f3, e4, c4, or b3.

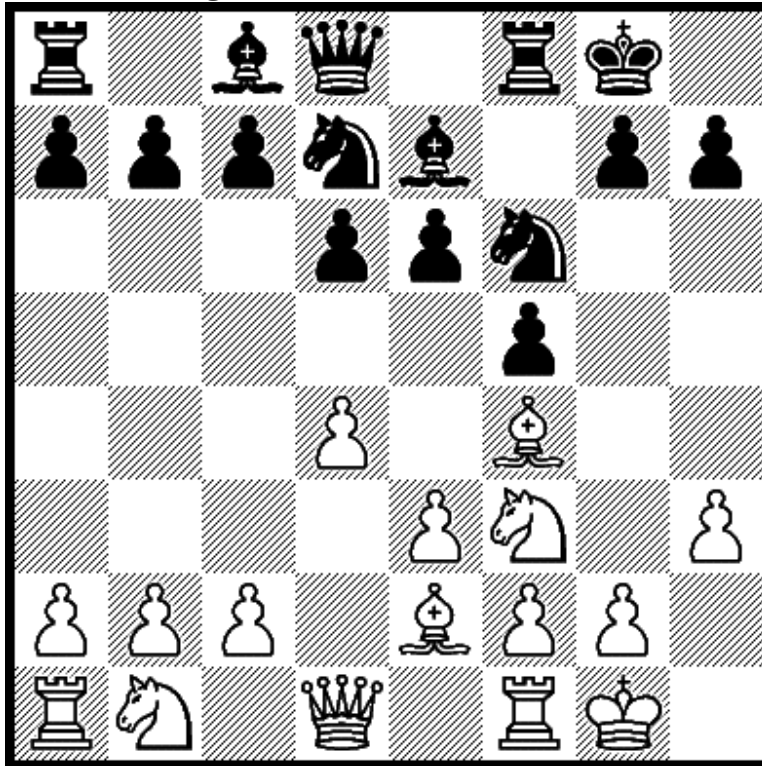
Diagram 199 after 6.Be2 d6



7.0-0

The White king is safer on g1 than on e1.

Diagram 200 after 7.0-0 Nbd7



8.Nbd2

White is prepared for anything that Black tries.

Before you go

[If you like this book, please leave a review.](#)

Tim Sawyer chess books

[French 3.Be3 Playbook: 200 Opening Positions for White](#)
[Philidor 2.Nf3 Playbook: 200 Opening Positions for White](#)
[Italian 2.Bc4 Playbook: 200 Positions Bishop Opening White](#)
[Kings Gambit Playbook: 200 Opening Positions for White](#)
[Caro-Kann Playbook: 200 Opening Positions for Black](#)
[Slav Defence Playbook: 200 Opening Positions for Black](#)
[Queens Gambit Playbook: 200 Opening Positions for White](#)
[Alekhine 1...Nf6 Playbook: 200 Opening Positions for Black](#)
[Dutch Stonewall Playbook: 200 Opening Positions for Black](#)
[Bird Stonewall Playbook: 200 Opening Positions for White](#)
[Petroff 2...Nf6 Playbook: 200 Opening Positions for Black](#)
[Four Knights Playbook: 200 Opening Positions for White](#)
[London 2.Bf4 Playbook: 200 Opening Positions for White](#)

[London 2.Bf4 Tactics: 200 Winning Opening Positions](#)

[Main Line 1.e4 Playbook: 200 Opening Positions for White](#)
[Main Line 1.d4 Playbook: 200 Opening Positions for White](#)
[Main Line 1...e5 Playbook: 200 Opening Positions for Black](#)
[Main Line 1...c5 Playbook: 200 Opening Positions for Black](#)

[King Pawn Puzzles: 200 Easy Opening Checkmates](#)
[Sicilian Defence Puzzles: 200 Easy Opening Checkmates](#)
[French & Caro Puzzles: 200 Easy Opening Checkmates](#)
[Queen Pawn Puzzles: 200 Easy Opening Checkmates](#)
[Indian Defence Puzzles: 200 Easy Opening Checkmates](#)
[Flank Opening Puzzles: 200 Easy Opening Checkmates](#)

[King Pawn 1.e4 e5 – Second Edition](#)
[French Defence 1.e4 e6 – Second Edition](#)
[Sicilian Defence 1.e4 c5 – Second Edition](#)
[Caro-Kann: 1.e4 c6 – Second Edition](#)
[Alekhine & Pirc 1.e4 – Second Edition](#)
[Chess Games 1.e4 Series: 5 Books in 1 \(First Editions\)](#)

[Queen Pawn 1.d4 d5 – Second Edition](#)
[Indian Defences 1.d4 Nf6 – Second Edition](#)

[Bird & Dutch 1.f4 & 1...f5 – Second Edition](#)
[Rare First Moves – Second Edition](#)
[Queen’s Knight 1.Nc3 & 1...Nc6 – Second Edition](#)
[Chess Games 1.d4 Series: 5 Books in 1 \(First Editions\)](#)

[Blackmar-Diemer Games 1: Accepted](#)
[Blackmar-Diemer Games 2: Declined](#)
[Blackmar-Diemer Theory 3: Accepted](#)
[Blackmar-Diemer Theory 4: Declined](#)
[Blackmar-Diemer Series: Books 1-4 \(4 books in 1\)](#)

[Blackmar-Diemer Puzzles: 200 Easy Positions](#)
[Blackmar-Diemer Games 5: Gambit Accepted and Declined](#)
[Blackmar-Diemer Playbook 6: 200 Opening Positions White](#)
[Blackmar-Diemer Playbook 7: 200 Opening Positions White](#)
[Blackmar-Diemer Series II: 4 Gambit Books \(4 books in 1\)](#)

[Adventures in Chess: 2018 Edition \(147 games\)](#)

[Chess Training Repertoire 3: 150 Openings](#)

[amazon.com/author/timsawyer](https://www.amazon.com/author/timsawyer)