Bobby Fischer: The Remarkable Rise and Fall of America's Brightest Prodigy to the World Chess Champion

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Bobby Fischer, the American chess prodigy who became the youngest-ever World Chess Champion in 1972, had a remarkable rise to fame that was followed by an equally dramatic fall from grace. His exceptional talent, coupled with his eccentric behavior and mental health issues, made him a controversial figure throughout his life.



Endgame: Bobby Fischer's Remarkable Rise and Fall - from America's Brightest Prodigy to the Edge of

Madness by Frank Brady

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 4.5 out of 5 Language : English File size : 3632 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled X-Ray : Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 418 pages



Early Life and Chess Prodigy:

Robert James "Bobby" Fischer was born in Chicago, Illinois, on March 9, 1943. His parents divorced when he was young, and Fischer spent most of

his childhood in New York City with his mother. He learned to play chess at the age of six from a book given to him by his sister, and his natural ability quickly became apparent. Fischer won his first chess tournament at the age of 13, defeating several adult opponents.

In 1958, at the age of 15, Fischer became the youngest-ever International Grandmaster. He continued to dominate the chess world throughout the 1960s, winning several major tournaments and earning a reputation as one of the greatest players of all time.

World Chess Championship:

In 1972, Fischer faced off against the reigning World Chess Champion, Boris Spassky of the Soviet Union. The match, which was held in Reykjavik, Iceland, was billed as the "Match of the Century" and became a major Cold War propaganda battle. Fischer's victory over Spassky, in a dramatic match that lasted for nearly three months, made him a national hero in the United States.

Ecstasy and Controversy:

Fischer's victory in the World Chess Championship brought him fame and fortune. He became a national icon and was celebrated by millions of Americans. However, his success was also met with controversy. Fischer's eccentric behavior and outspoken views on politics and religion alienated many people.

Mental Health Issues and Fall from Grace:

In the years following his World Chess Championship victory, Fischer's behavior became increasingly erratic. He suffered from depression,

paranoia, and a fear of persecution. He withdrew from the public eye and spent much of his time living in seclusion.

Later Years and Exile:

In 1992, Fischer played a rematch against Spassky in Yugoslavia, in violation of United States sanctions against the country. As a result, he was stripped of his U.S. citizenship and became a fugitive. He spent the rest of his life living in various countries, including Iceland, Japan, and the Philippines.

Death and Legacy:

Bobby Fischer died in Reykjavik, Iceland, on January 17, 2008, at the age of 64. He was buried in the Laugardælir Cemetery in Reykjavik.

Bobby Fischer's rise to fame as a chess prodigy was nothing short of remarkable. His exceptional talent and the dramatic circumstances surrounding his World Chess Championship victory made him a legend in the chess world. However, his fall from grace, fueled by mental health issues and eccentric behavior, is equally tragic. Despite his personal struggles, Fischer's legacy as one of the greatest chess players of all time remains secure.



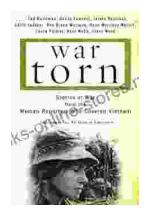
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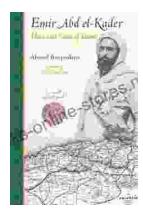
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