## Baby got Back

66 I give 98 percent of my mental energy to Chess. Others give only 2 percent. - Bobby Fischer

B
obby Fischer Teaches Chess is one of my favorite chess books. In it he starts with very simple examples of a back rank mate, which is a crucial tactic for all chess players to know. He slowly builds on each example.

In the position on the right it is White to move.

Answer below.

In the book he does not use any algebraic notation, only arrows drawn on the board. Each page has a problem, and the answer is on the next page. No space is wasted in the book, and when you get to the end you flip it over and
 continue reading from back to front. After you go through this book a few times you will never miss a back rank mate thread again.

In this game I played "The Grob", 1. g4, one of my favorite openings. There are a lot of tricks, traps and tactics in the opening, so black needs to be careful. I wrote an article that I posted on Hubpages.com called Chess Tactics in the Grob that you might find interesting.

Here is the game:

```
[Event "Clan league"]
[Site "http://www.redhotpawn.com"]
[Date "2011.01.26"]
[White "Timmybx"]
[Black "Czewiske"]
[Result "1-0"]
[ECO "AOO"]
[WhiteElo "1779"]
[BlackElo "1336"]
[PlyCount "107"]
```

1. g4 d5 2. Bg2 Nc6 3. h3 e5 4. c4 Be6 5. cxd5 Bxd5 6. Bxd5 Qxd5 7. Nf3 e4 8.

Nc3 Qc4 9. b3 Qe6 10. Ng5 Qe5 11. Ngxe4 Bb4 12. Qc2 Nd4 13. Qd3 O-O-O 14. Bb2

Nf6 15. Nxf6 gxf6 16. Ne4 Nf3+ 17. Qxf3 Qxb2 18. O-O Bxd2 19. Nxf6 Qe5 20. Rad1 Bg5 21. Rxd8+ Kxd8 22. Rd1+ Kc8 23. Ne4 f6 24. Nxg5 Qxg5 25. Rd5 Qc1+ 26. Kg2 Qc6 27. Qf5+ Kb8 28. Kg3 h5 29. Qxh5 Rc8 30. Qf5 a6 31. h4 b5 32. h5 b4 33. Rd4 Qc3+ 34. Rd3 Qb2 35. Qe6 Kb7 36. Qd5+ c6 37. Qf7+ Kb6 38. Qe6 Rc7 39. h6 a5 40. Qe3+ Kb5 41. Rd2 Qe5+ 42. Qxe5+ fxe5 43. g5 Re7 44. g6 Re6 45. g7 Rg6+ 46. Kf3 Rf6+ 47. Ke3 Rxh6 48. g8=Q Rh3+ 49. f3 a4 50. Qc4+ Kb6 51. Qxb4+ Kc7 52. Qa5+ Kb7 53. Rd7+ Kc8 54. Qc7\# 1-0

You can play through the moves here: http://tacticstime.com/?page_id=1988.

## Answer:

White can grab the $h$ pawn with 29. Qxh5. If black plays 29. ..Rxh5 then 30. Rd8\# with a back rank mate.


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