

Mate in one!

by

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That free hour or so before dinner used to be, once upon a time, songs...before I saw that, on an app Manpreet had installed, I could instead solve chess puzzles, and that without any rush, though this game is called Puzzle Rush. Now that I've been at it for months, there is no excuse that I should fail to see even a mate in one, but alas! it happens, and not infrequently either. Consider the two puzzles below from the game of 22/09/25:-



My first strike was, incredibly, the first puzzle above. The second strike, a muffed smothered mate, also came early. So I was booked, but then I clawed my way back, and got that cherished half century, my 50th scalp being, equally incredibly, the second puzzle above. After 50 I ease up—this game I struck out at 52 : of course in hindsight that puzzle too I should've seen, drat!—because by now it is pretty much certain that, left behind in my wake, are some certified masters, often some of the grand variety too. This I duly check from the daily leadership board after each 'hentury' and happily enough for my ego, more often than not, nowadays I do score 50 or more!