

# METABOOK

## — ENTERTAINMENT —

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### **10-Year-Old Chess Prodigy to Publish New Book *He's Got Moves*; Chess Consultant to *The Queen's Gambit* Pens Foreword**

**[NEW YORK: November 16, 2020]** Metabook Entertainment announced today its latest title *He's Got Moves: 25 Legendary Chess Games (As Analyzed by a Smart Kid)* by 10-year-old chess prodigy Oliver Boydell. The book is scheduled for release on Tuesday, December 8 in hardcover and digital editions by the company's Metabook® imprint.

The book's Foreword is penned by Boydell's chess coach Bruce Pandolfini, famously portrayed by Sir Ben Kingsley in the movie *Searching for Bobby Fischer* and primary chess consultant for Netflix's hit series *The Queen's Gambit*.

"I had never heard of a 10-year-old who had even attempted to write such a book, let alone complete it with panache and delightful humor. But that is exactly what Oliver has done," said Pandolfini of his protégé. "He has put his genius into a one-of-a-kind chess book, in which he has crafted engaging text, with quality examples and instructive insights, all artfully presented and arranged."

Boydell is a National and New York City chess champion who had dreamed of writing a book to share his love of the game. The shutdowns caused by the Covid-19 pandemic gave him the time to write the book while he was – like so many kids – stuck at home. And Pandolfini has continued to mentor his protégé virtually during the pandemic through countless games of online chess.

"Chess has been a very special part of my life for as long as I can remember," said Boydell, a refreshingly typical NYC kid who has amassed a string of medals, trophies and first place finishes in chess tournaments. "One of my favorite things to do is teach people about chess and get them excited about this wonderful game. So I hope readers will feel my passion for chess in the pages of this book."

*He's Got Moves* breaks down 25 of the most riveting games ever played—from ‘The Immortal Game’ of 1851 to Magnus Carlsen’s online triumph against Anish Giri in 2020. Oliver's unprecedented feat in writing this book has already won admiration and advance praise from some of the most accomplished and respected figures in the international chess world.

As part of the deal, Metabook Entertainment also acquired dramatic and performance rights to *He's Got Moves*. The book and its young author's film and television appeal factored heavily into the company's decision to acquire the project.

“This project hits on so many levels, and Oliver is just an extraordinary kid,” said Benjamin Alfonsi, co-founder of Metabook Entertainment. “With *The Queen’s Gambit*, we're getting to see not only a renewed interest in chess, but also just how riveting stories built around the game can be.”

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### **About Oliver Boydell**

Oliver Boydell was born in New York City to a Vietnamese mother and an English father. A National Chess Champion and a New York City Chess Champion, Oliver developed a passion for chess at the age of five. He started competing in chess tournaments during the same year and is a regular contender at New York City, New York State, and National Scholastic Chess Championships. Oliver endeavors to become a chess Grandmaster. He loves sports, especially playing soccer and skiing down double black runs with his older brother Sebastien. Oliver lives in New York City with his family.

### **About Metabook Entertainment**

Metabook Entertainment is a producer of premier content in a variety of mediums and an array of genres. Founded by Benjamin Alfonsi, Christian Alfonsi and Ken Siman, Metabook Entertainment acquires, develops and licenses original IP across multiple formats. A digital innovation pioneer, the company has established itself as “a serious player” (*The New York Times*), publishing works by *New York Times* bestselling authors on its cutting-edge imprint Metabook®. Its integrated dramatic content featuring Emmy, Grammy, Tony and Academy Award winning talent has been called “an immersive experience not found anywhere else” (*Adweek*). As Metabook Entertainment continues its expansion into film and television development under its Metabook Films banner, the company remains rooted in the power of great storytelling.