

Variantim 86 וריאנטים

April 2022

מקוריות: פתרונות והערות

Originals: Solutions & Comments

IRT judges: #2: Hubert Gockel (2022); #3: Hartmut Laue (2022-23) #n: Aleksandr Kuzovkov (2021-23);
Studies: Árpád Ruzs (2022=Afek-70 JT); H#: H#2-3 xxx; H#>3 Silvio Baier (2022); S#: Alexandr
 Azhusin (2021-22); Fairies: Michal Dragoun (2022), James Quah (2023)

Editors:

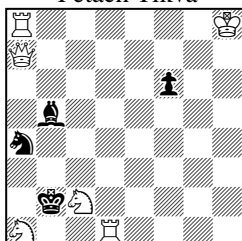
Orthodox (#n,H#n,S#n): **Ofer Comay** ofercomay@gmail.com
 Studies: **Gady Costeff** costeff@gmail.com
 (Please send originals in pgn format)
 Fairies: **Michael Grushko** bargrushko@bezeqint.net

עורכים:
 בעיות רגילות: עופר קומאי
 סיומים: גדי קוסטף
 (גא לשלוח מקוריות בפורמט pgn)
 בעיות אגדתיות: מיכאל גרושקו

All fairy definitions can be found here: <http://www.variantim.org/FairyDefinitions.pdf>

3794

David Shtern
Petach Tikva

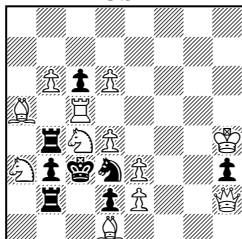


#2*vv 6+4

1...♙c3 2.♗d4# 1...♘~ 2.♗a3#
 1.♗e3 ? [2.♗a3,♗b3#] 1...♘c3 2.♗c1# but 1...♙d3 !
 1.♗f7 ? [2.♗b3#] 1...♘c5 2.♗xf6# but 1...♙c4 !
 1.♗e7 ! [2.♗a3#]
 1...♙c3 2.♗b4#
 1...♘c5 2.♗xf6#
 Threat separation – the Barnes theme, with one changed mate (PE)

3795

Daniil Yakimovich
USA

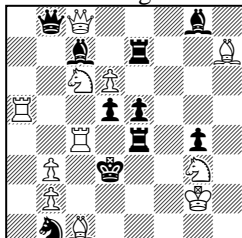


#2*v 12+8

1...♘~ 2.♘e5# 1...♘xc5!
 1.♗e5 C ? zz. 1...♘f4 a (♘~) 2.d5 A # 1...♘xe5 b 2.♘e5 B # but 1...h2 !
1.d5 A ! zz. 1...♘f4 a 2.♘e5 B # 1...♘e5 (♘~) b 2.♗xe5 C #
 1...cd 2.♘b5#
 1...R2~ 2.♘b1#
 This problem implements Kiss theme with black correction (author)
 A very interesting mechanism of the Kiss theme involving many elements, like the interference of the WQ (1...Sf4 in the solution) and pin of WSc4, unpinned by 1...Sf4 (PE)

3796

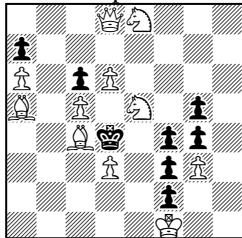
Givi Mosiashvili
Georgia



#2v 11+10

1.♗e6? [2.♙d5,♘e5#] 1...♙e6/♙e6 2.♙d5/♘e5# 1...dc4 2.♙e4# but 1...♙h7,♙h7 !
1.♗f5! [2.♗f1#] 1...♙xh7 2.♙xd5# 1...♙xh7 2.♘xe5# , 1...dxc4 [a] 2.♗xe4 [B] #
 1...♘c3/d2 2.♙(x)c3# 1...♗f8 2.♘b4#
 The Novotny try is refuted by the two captures on h7, while these captures lead to the mates they prevented. A nice version of Dombrovskis. It is interesting that in both try and solution the captures on h7 aim at the same self-unpin (PE)

3797
Miguel Uris
Spain



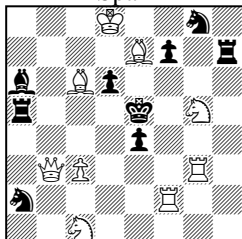
#2*v... 11+8

1... ♖xe5 x 2. ♗f6# 1. ♜xc6?+ A 1... ♖e3 a 2. ♗e7# I 1... ♖xc5! b
1. ♗e7? zz 1... ♖e3 a 2. ♜xc6# A 1... ♖xc5 b 2. ♗xa7# 1... fxg3!
1. ♗f6? zz 1... ♖e3 a 2. ♜xg4# 1... ♖xc5 b 2. ♜d7# 1... fxg3!
1. ♜g7? zz 1... ♖e3 a 2. ♜f5# 1... ♖xc5 b 2. ♜e6# 1... ♖xe5 x 2. ♜c3# 1... fxg3! c
1. ♗xg5! zz 1... ♖e3 a 2. ♗xf4# 1... ♖xc5 b 2. ♜xf3# 1... fxg3 c 2. ♜xc6# A
A Zagoruiko 4x2 (a, b) Salazar (A/I) Kharkov 2 (b) Transferred mate (A) Changed
mate extra (x) (author)

The mates by the direct & indirect Q/S batteries are known (see example below) but
the addition of the 4th phase 1.Sg7? is valuable. I do not see any Salazar and the extra
change and transfer are minor. The repeated refutation is a drawback (PE)



3798
Miguel Uris
Spain



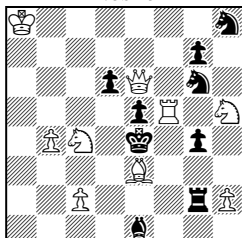
#2*v... 9+9

1... e3 2. ♖xe3# X 1. ♖g4? [2. ♖xe4#] 1... ♜d3!
1. ♜xe4? [2. ♖f5#] 1... ♜h6 2. ♜f6# 1... ♜c8 2. ♜d3# 1... ♜xe7!
1. ♗c2? [2. ♗xe4#] 1... f5! a, d5! b, ♖h4! c, ♖a4! d, ♜d3! e
1. ♖e3! X [2. ♖xe4#] 1... f5 a 2. ♗e6# 1... d5 b 2. ♗b8# 1... ♖h4 c 2. ♜xf7#
1... ♖a4 d 2. ♗d5# 1... ♜d3 e 2. ♜xd3# 1... ♜f6 2. ♜xf6# 1... ♜xc3 2. ♗xc3#

Kharkov theme – Transferred mates (author)

There are actually no mate transfers here since both Bf6# & Sd3# can appear on 1...Sf6
& 1...Bd3 in the try even if they are not defences. I do not know what the Kharkov
theme means (PE)

3799
Semion Shifrin
Nesher

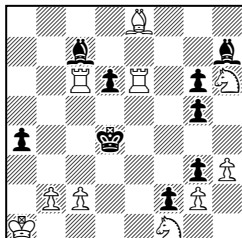


#4 9+9

1. ♖f1 ! [2. ♗f5 + ♖d5 3. ♜b6 + ♖c6 4. ♗d7#]
1... ♜f2 2. ♜d2 + ♖xe3 3. ♗b3 + ♖e2, ♖d4, ♖xd2 4. ♗d3#
1... ♖f2 2. ♜g3 + ♖f3 3. ♗d5 + e4 4. ♗xe4#

An entertaining Grimshaw with a key avoiding a Novotny (PE)

3800
Leonid Lyubashesky
Leonid Makaronez
Viktor Volchek
R.Lezion/Haifa/---

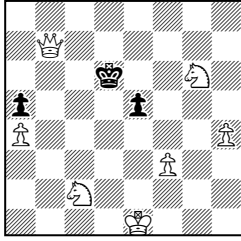


#4 10+9

1. ♜g4 ! [2. ♖e4 + ♖xe4 3. ♖c4 + ♖d5 4. ♜f7# 3... ♖f5 4. ♜d7#]
1... ♜g8 2. c3 + ♖d5 3. ♖e5 + dxe5 4. ♜f6# (2... ♖d3 3. ♜xg6#)
1... ♜b6 2. ♖exd6 + ♖e4 3. ♜d2 + ♖f4, ♖f5 4. ♖f6#
1... d5 2. ♖e3 [3. c3#] 2... ♜a5 3. c3 + ♜xc3 4. bxc3#

Nice sacrifices but without a unifying thread (PE)

3801
Petrasin Petrasinovic
 Serbia

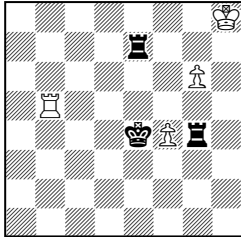


#4 b) ♠f3→f2 7+3

a) 1.♠f2? 1...♙c5 2.♚c7+ ♜d5 3.♜e3+ ♞e6/♞d4 4.♞e7#/♞c4# but: 1...♞e6! 1.♞e2?/♞d2?, ♞e6!; 1.f4?, exf4!; 1.♚c8?, e4! 1.♜e3? ♞c5 2.♜f5 ♞c4 3.♞d2 threat: 4.♚b5# but: 1...e4! 1.♜d4? ♞c5 2.♜f5 ♞c4 3.♞d2 threat: 4.♚b5# but: 1...exd4! 1.♜h8? 1...♞c5 2.♜f7 ♞c4 3.♞d2 threat: 4.♚b5# 1...♞e6 2.♜e3 e4 3.♜c4 threat: 4.♚f7# 2...♞d6 3.♜f5+ ♞c5/♞e6 4.♚b5#/♚f7# but: 1...e4! 1.♜f8? 1...♞c5 2.♞a6 ♞d5 3.♞e6+ ♞c5 4.♜d7# 2...e4 3.♞e6 threat: 4.♜d7# but: 1...e4!
1.h5! 1...♞c5 2.♞a6 ♞d5 3.♜e7 ♞c5 4.♚c6# 2...e4 3.♜e7 threat: 4.♚c6# 1...♞e6 2.f4 e4/exf4 3.♜d4+ ♞d6/♞f6 4.♚c6#/♞e7# 2...♞f5 3.♜e3+ ♞e6/♞f6 4.♞e7# 2...♞d6 3.fxe5+ ♞c5/♞e6 4.♚b5#/♜d4# 2...♞f6 3.♜e3 threat: 4.♞e7#

b)
 1.f4?/ ♜d4?, exf4!; 1.♜f8?, ♞c5!; 1.f3?, ♞e6!
1.♜e3! threat: 2.♞d2 e4 3.♞c3 ♞c5/♞e6 4.♚c7#/♞e7# 2...♞c5 3.♜f5 threat: 4.♚b5# 1...e4 2.♜e5 ♞c5 3.♜f5 e3 4.♚b5# 2...♞xe5 3.♚b6 ♞f4 4.♚f6# 2...♞e6 3.S3c4 threat: 4.♚f7# 1...♞c5 2.♜f5 ♞c4 3.♞d2 threat: 4.♚b5#

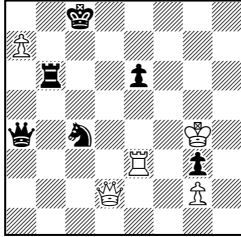
3802
Michal Hlinka
Ľuboš Kekely
 Slovakia



Draw 4+3

1.f5 ♖g5 2.g7 Rcxg7 2...Rgxg7 3.f6 ♖h7+ 4.♞g8 ♖a7 5.♖a5 ♖ab7 6.♖b5 ♖bc7 7.♖c5 ♖a7 (7...♖cd7 8.♖g5) 8.♖a5 positional draw **3.f6 ♖g8+ 4.♞h7 ♖g1 5.♖b1 R1g2 6.♖b2 R2g3 7.♖b3 R3g5 8.♖b5 ♖g1 9.♖b1** positional draw.
 "Synthesis of positional draws with systematic movement in ending RP versus 2R."

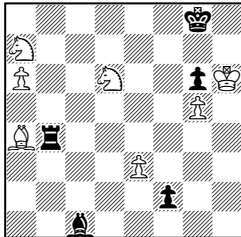
3803
Martin Minski
 Germany



Draw 5+6

1.♖c3 1.♚c3 ♚b7 2.♖e4 ♖c6 3.♚g7+ ♖c7 4.♚g8 ♚xa7 5.♚xe6 ♖g7+ 6.♚h3 ♚g1 7.♚d5+ ♚a7 8.♚d4+ ♚xd4 9.♖xd4 ♜e3 -+ 1...♚b7 2.♚f4 ♜e3+! 3.♖xe3 ♖b4 4.♖b3!! stalemate maltese cross **4...♚xb3 5.♚h3! ♚xa7 5...♖xf4 6.a8=Q+ ♚xa8 stalemate 5...♚a8 6.♚f8+ ♚xa7 7.♚a8+! ♚xa8 stalemate 6.♚c7+ ♖b7 7.♚a5+ ♚b8 8.♚d8+ ♚a7 9.♚a5+** perpetual check

3804
Yehuda Hoch
Itay Richardson
 (After Bron)
 Petach Tikva

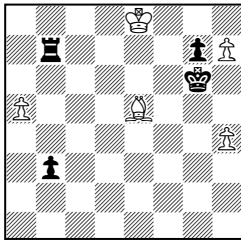


Win 7+5

1.♜b5! 1.♜c6? ♖h4+ 2.♞xg6 ♖xa4 -+ 1.♜b3+? ♖xb3 2.♜c6 ♖xe3 3.a7 ♖h3+ 4.♞xg6 ♖a3 5.♞h6 ♖xa7 -+ **1...♖xb5 1...♜xe3 2.♜c6 ♖xb5 3.♜e7+ = 2.♜c6!** 2.♜axb5? f1=♚ 3.a7 ♚f8+ 4.♞xg6 ♜xe3 -+ 2.♜ac8? ♖e5 3.a7 f1=♚ 4.♜e7+ ♖xe7 5.a8=♚+ ♚f8+ 6.♚xf8+ ♚xf8 -+ **2...♖xg5!** 2...f1=♚ 3.♜e7+ ♚f8 4.♜xg6+ ♚g8 5.♜e7+ = perpetual check 2...♖e5 3.a7 f1=♚ 4.a8=♚+ ♚f8+ 5.♚xf8+ ♚xf8 6.♜xe5 +- **3.a7 3.♜e7+?** ♚f8 4.a7 ♖h5+ 5.♞xg6 ♖a5 6.♞h7 ♚xe7 -+ **3...♖h5+ 3...f1=♚ 4.a8=♚+ ♚f8+ 5.♚xf8+ ♚xf8 6.♞xg5 = 4.♞xg6 ♖h6+!** 4...f1=♚ 5.a8=♚+ ♚f8 6.♜e7+ ♚h8 7.♚xf8# **5.♞xh6 ♜xe3+ 6.♞g6 ♜xa7 7.♜e7+ 7.♞h6? ♜e3+ -+ 7...♞f8 7...♞h8 8.♜f7# 8.♞h6!!**
 Thematic try: 8.♞h7? ♚xe7 9.♜f5+ ♚e6 10.♜g3 ♜b8 11.♜f1 ♚f5 -+ White is a move short **8...♜e3+ 8...♚xe7** leads to a study by Bron as follows: 9.♜f5+ ♚e6 10.♜g3 ♜b8 11.♜f1 ♚f5 12.♞h5 ♚f4 13.♞h4 ♚f3 14.♞h3 ♜f4 15.♜g3! ♜d6 16.♜f1 ♚e2 17.♞g2 ♜f4 18.♞h1 ♚f3 19.♜g3 draw **9.♞h7** this time, the bishop is on e3 compared to the thematic try where it was on a7, so the position is a draw **9...♞xe7 10.♜f5+ ♚e6 11.♜xe3 =**

3805

Pavel Arestov
Steffen S. Nielsen
---/Denmark

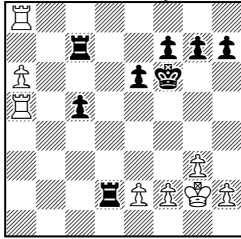


Win 5+4

1.h8=♖ b2! 1...♖b8+ 2.♙xb8 +- 2.h5+! 2...♙xb2? ♖b8+ 3.♗e7 ♖xh8 = 2...♗g5!
2...♗f5 3.♗f8+ ♗xe5 4.♗c5+ ♗e4 5.♗c6+ ♗d3 6.♗xb7 +- 3.♙xb2 ♖b8+ 4.♗f7
♖xh8 5.h6! 5.♗xg7? ♖xh5 = 5...♖c8! 5...gxf6 6.♙xh8 +- 5...♖xh6 6.♙c1+ ♗f5
7.♙xh6 +- 6.h7! Try: 6.hxg7? ♖c7+ 7.♗e6 ♖c8 8.♗f7 (8.a6 ♗g6 =) 8...♖c7+ 9.♗g8!
♖c4!! (9...♗g6? 10.♗h8 +-) 10.a6 ♗g6 11.♙a3! ♖a4! 12.♗h8 ♖h4+! 13.♗g8 ♖a4!
14.♗f8 ♖f4+! 15.♗g8 ♖a4! positional draw 6...♗h6 6...♖c7+ 7.♗e6 ♖c8 8.♙xg7 +-
7.h8=♗+! 7.♙xg7+? ♗xh7 = 7...♖xh8 8.♙xg7+ ♗h7 9.♙xh8 wins

3806

Michael Prusikin
Germany

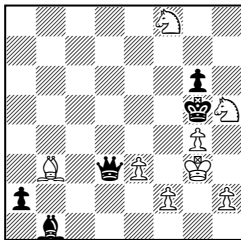


Win 8+8

1.a7 ♖dd7 2.f4! c4 3.f5 e5 4.g4! 4.e4? ♗g5! 5.h4+ ♗h6 6.f6 g6! 7.g4 ♖b7! (7...♖d2+
8.♗g3 ♖d3+ 9.♗f2 ♖d2+ 10.♗e3 ♖cd7 11.♖d5 c3 12.♖c8 R2xd5 13.exd5 ♖xa7
14.♗e4 +-) 8.♖a2 c3 9.♖h8 c2! 10.♖xc2 (10.a8=Q?? ♖d2+ +-) 10...♖xa7 = 4...h5!
5.♖a6+ 5.h4 hxg4 6.e4 c3 7.♖a6+ ♗e7 8.f6+ (8.♖e8+?? ♗xe8 9.a8=Q+ ♖d8 +-)
8...gxf6 9.♖a1 c2 10.♖e8+ ♗xe8 11.a8=Q+ ♖d8 = 5...♗g5 6.gxh5! 6.f6? g6 7.gxh5 c3
8.hxg6 fxg6 9.♖e8 ♖xa7 10.♖xe5+ ♗h6 = 6...♗xf5 7.h6!! gxh6 8.♗f3! e4+ 9.♗g3
c3 10.♖b8 ♖xa7 11.♖b5+ ♖d5 12.♖xd5#

3807

Amatzia Avni
Givaat Shmuel



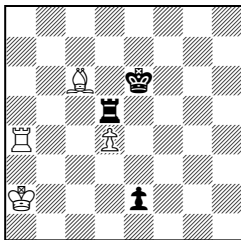
Win 8+5

1.h4+ 1.♗e6+? ♗h6 2.g5+ ♗h7! +- (2...♗xh5? 3.h4 main) 1...♗h6 2.g5+ ♗xh5
3.♗e6 double mate-threat on f4 and g7 3...♗d6+ 4.♗f4+ 4.f4? a1=Q + 4...♗xf4+
5.exf4 ♙c2 5...a1=Q?? 6.♙d1# 6.♙xc2! 6.♙xa2? ♙b3 7.♙b1 ♙c2 = 6.♙e6? ♙d1 (6...♙f5?
7.♙xa2) 7.f3 ♙xf3 8.♙xa2 ♙d5 9.♙b1 ♙e4 = 6...a1=Q 7.♙e4 ♗g1+ 8.♙g2
ZZ 8...♗h1 9.♙f3+ +-

Themes: mate, stalemate, avoidance of stalemate, draw by repetition, double threat, reciprocal zugzwang. 1-0

3808

Michael Pasman
Meitar

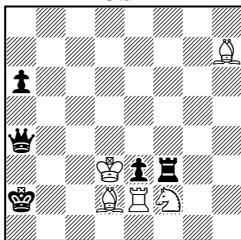


Win 4+3

1.♖a8! ♖d7! 2.♖a5! 2...♙xd7+ ♗xd7 3.♖a7+ ♗d6 4.♖a6+ ♗d5 5.♖a5+ ♗xd4 6.♖a4+
♗d3 7.♖a3+ ♗d2 2...♖xd4 3.♖a8! Switchback 3...♖d7! Switchback 4.♖a4!
Switchback 4...♖a7! 4...♖d5 5.♖e4+ ♖e5 6.♖xe2 = 5.♖xa7 e1=Q 6.♖a4! switchback
6.♙e8 ♗f2+ or 6.♖a3 ♗f2+ 7.♗b1 ♗b6+) 6...♗f2+ 6...♗d2+ 7.♗b3 ♗d3+ 8.♗b4
7.♗a1! 7.♗b3 ♗b6+ 7...♗b6 7...♗g1+ 8.♗a2 8.♙e4! 8.♙e8 ♗f6 9.♖f4+ ♗g5 10.♖a4
♗e6 8...♗b3! 8...♗b5 9.♙c2 9.♖a8! switchback 9...♗e7! (9...♗e5) (9...♗c3+)
10.♙c2! 10.♖a7+? ♗f6 11.♙c2 ♗xc2 12.♖f7+ ♗g5 13.♖g7+ ♗h6 +- or 10.♙b1?
♗c3+ 11.♗a2 ♗c4+ 12.♗a1 ♗d4+ 13.♗a2 ♗d5+) 10...♗xc2 11.♖e8+ and the final
with model stalemate is like in Pogosiants, 1976 1/2-1/2

3809

Richard Becker
USA

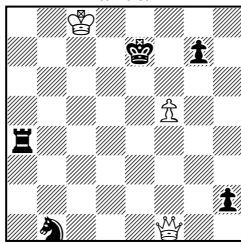


Win 5+5

1.♙c1+ 1.♙c3+? ♗a3 +- 1...♗b3 1...♗b1 2.♗c3+ ♗a1 3.♙b2+ ♗a2 4.♙g8+ ♗b1
5.♖e1+ +- 1...♗a1 2.♙b2+ ♗a2 3.♙d4+ ♗b3 4.♙g8+ ♗b4 5.♖b2+ ♗a3 6.♖a2+ ♗b4
7.♖xa4+ +- 2.♖b2+ ♗a3 3.♖b6+!! The wR cannot guard both d7 and e8 directly
3.♖b7+? ♗a2 4.♙g8+ ♗a1 5.♙b2+ ♗b1 6.♙d4+ ♗c1 7.♙xe3+ ♖xe3+ 8.♗xe3
♗e8+! = 3.♖b8+? ♗a2 4.♙g8+ ♗a1 5.♙b2+ ♗b1 6.♙d4+ ♗c1 7.♙xe3+ ♖xe3+
8.♗xe3 ♗d7! = 3...♗a2 4.♙g8+ ♗a1 5.♙b2+ ♗b1 6.♙d4+ ♗c1 7.♙xe3+ ♖xe3+
8.♗xe3 ♗e8+ Now Black gets caught in a cyclic zugzwang 8...♗d7 9.♙d3+ ♗c2
10.♖c6+! ♗xc6 11.♙b4+ +- 8...♗c2 9.♙h7+ ♗c3 10.♙e4+ ♗c4 11.♙g8# 9.♙e6 ♗c2
10.♙d3! ♗c3 11.♖b3+ ♗c2 12.♙e1+ ♗c1 13.♖b6 a5 14.♙d3+ ♗c2 15.♖b2+
♗c3 16.♖b3+ ♗c2 17.♙e1+ ♗c1 18.♖b6 a4 19.♙d3+ ♗c2 20.♖c6+ ♗xc6
21.♙b4+ ♗b2 22.♙xc6 a3 23.♙b4 wins 1-0

3810

Daniel Keith
Pavel Arestov
France/---

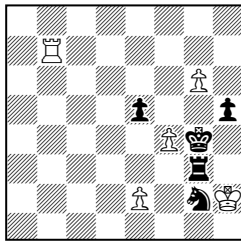


Win 3+5

Inspired by the game V. Kramnik - G. Kasparov, Paris PCA-Intel GP rapid, 1995
1.f6+!! Try: 1.♖e2+? ♕f6! 2.♗xh2 ♖c4+ 3.♖b8! (3.♗d7 ♖d4+ =) 3...♗c3! 4.♗d6+ ♕xf5 5.♗d3+ ♖e4 6.♗xc3 g5! 7.♗f3+ ♖f4 8.♗h5 ♕f6! 9.♗h6+ ♕f5 10.♗h5 ♕f6 positional draw. **1...gxf6** 1...♕f7 2.fxg7+ ♕xg7 3.♗g2+ +- **2.♖e2+ ♕f7** 3.♗xh2 ♖c4+! 3...♗c3 4.♗c7+ +- **4.♕b7!** 4.♗d7? ♖d4+ 5.♖c8 ♗d2! = 4.♖b8? ♗c3! 5.♗h7+ ♕f8! 6.♗d3 ♖b4+ 7.♖c7 ♗b5+ 8.♖b6 ♗d4+ 9.♖c5 ♖a4 = **4...♗c3** 5.♗h7+ ♕f8 5...♖e6 6.♗g8+ **6.♗d3 ♗e4!** 6...♖b4+ 7.♖c6 +- **7.♕b6!** 7.♗xc4? ♗d6+ +- **7...♖b4+ 8.♕a5 ♖a4+ 9.♕b5!** win. 9.♖xa4? ♗c5+ +- 1-0

3811

Carsten Hansen
Steffen S. Nielsen
Denmark



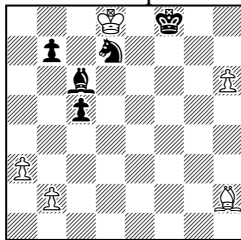
Win 5+3

Inspired by Andreikin-Matlakov, Russian Superfinal, Ufa 2021

1.g7 ♕h4 2.f5 2.♖b3? ♖xg7 3.♖h3+ ♕g4 4.♖g3+ eg 4...♕xf4 = **2...♗e3** 2...e4 3.♖e7 ♗e3 4.♖xe4+ transfers 2...♗f4 3.f6 **3.♖b4+ e4!** 3...♖g4 4.g8=Q **4.♖xe4+ ♖g4** 4...♗g4+ 5.♖xg4+ (5.♕h1) **5.♖xe3** 5.♖xg4+ ♗xg4+ = 5.g8=Q? ♗f1+ = **5...♖xg7** **6.♖h3+ ♕g5** 6...♕g4 transfers **7.♖g3+ ♕h4!** 7...♕f6 8.♖xg7+ - 7...♕h6 8.♖xg7 **8.f6!** 8.♖xg7?? = 8.♖g6? ♖e7! 9.♖g2 ♖f7! 10.e4 ♖xf5 11.exf5 = **8...♖f7** 8...♖xg3 9.f7 ♖g8 10.fxg8=B (10.fxg8=N) **9.♖g6** 9.♖f3 ♕g5 **9...♖g7!** 9...♖e7 10.♖g4+ (10.♕g1) **10.e4!!** 10.fxg7?? 10.♖xg7?? 10.♖g1 ♖f7 11.♖g6 waste of time 10.♖g4+?? ♖xg4 +-) **10...♖xg6** 11.e5 ♖h6 **12.f7 ♖h8** 13.e6 ♕g5 **14.e7**

3812

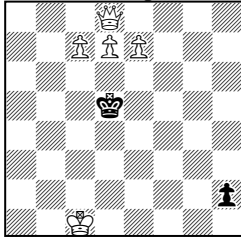
Jaroslav Polášek
Emil Vlasák
Czech Republic



Draw 5+5

1.b3! Else c4 with technical win, for example: 1.♖c7? c4! planning ♗d3 2.♗g1 (2.♗d6 ♖g8 3.♗f4 ♕h7 4.♗e3 ♖g6 5.♗f4 (5.♗d2 ♗b6 6.♖c5 ♗a4+ 7.♖xc4 ♗xb2+) 5...♗a4! 6.♖c7 ♗c5 7.♗e3 ♗d3 8.♗d4 b5) 2...♖g8 3.♗d4 (3.♗e3 ♕h7 4.♗f4 ♗c5 5.♗e3 ♗d3) 3...♕h7 4.♗e3 (4.♗g7 ♗c5 is shorter) 4...♗e5 5.♗d4 (Premature is 5.♖b6 c3 6.bxc3 ♗c4+) 5...♗d3 The bishop has to move to g7 and it is not good square for him. (5...♗g4? 6.♖b6 ♗xh6 7.♖c5) 6.♗g7 ♗c5 7.♗d6 (7.♖b6 is shorter 7...♗e6 see ahead 9... ♗e6) 7...♗e4+ 8.♖c7 has to attack b7 (8.♖e5 ♗g5 9.♗d4 ♗b5 { after ♗a6 White has no chance } 10.♖c5 ♗a6) 8...♗g5 9.♖b6 (9.♗d6 ♗a4! with b5 (or 9...♗b5 with ♗a6)) 9...♗e6 The maneuver is finished, Black wins Ph6 and at the same time is able to consolidate the queenside pawn. 10.♖a5 ♗xg7 11.hxg7 ♖xg7 12.♖b4 ♖f6 { or ♖f7/f8 } 13.♖xc4 ♖e6+ just in time **1...c4!** the best chance 1...♖f7 2.♗g1 (or 2.♖c7 ♖g6 (2...c4 3.bxc4 ♗c5 4.♗d6 ♗a4 5.♗b4 ♖g6 6.♗d2) 3.♗d6 ♖xh6 4.a4 c4 5.bxc4) 2...♖g6 3.♗e3 c4 4.bxc4 ♗e5 5.c5! ♗c4 6.♗c1! **2.bxc4 ♗b6** **3.♖c7!** 3.c5? ♗c4 winning a3, so White has to attack Pb7 first. or 3.♗c7? ♗xc4 4.♖c8 b5 with ♗e7-c2-a4 **3...♗xc4** **4.a4!** Very interesting dynamic position with deep coincidences. 1. Black would like to play ♗b2 a5 ♗c4, but with ♗c6 there is of course a6. 2. After the Black bishop leaves c6, White can start the principal plan ♖b8-a7, B.. b6, a5 with a6. 3. With ♗c6 the plan ♖b8 is not possible because of b6! ♖a7 ♗xa4 with b5. So surprisingly the position has a zugzwang nature with two main lines. **4...♖g8** 2nd main variation: 4...♖f7 5.♗g3! (5.♗f4? ♖g6 Mutual zugzwang, see later) (5.♗g1 ♖g6 6.♖b8 ♗b2! 7.a5 ♗c4 8.♗b6 ♗xb6+) 5...♖g6 6.♗f4! see 8.♗f4 in line A) (4...♗e4? 5.♖b8 the most principled 5...♗b2 6.a5 ♗c4 7.♗c7 ♖f7 8.♖a7 ♖g6 9.♗b6) **5.♗f4!** 5.♗g3 ♕h7 6.♗f4 (6.♗f2 ♖xh6 7.♖b8 ♖g6 8.♖a7 ♖f5 9.♗b6 ♖e4 10.a5 ♗d6 11.♗c5 ♗c8+ 12.♖b8 ♗d5 13.♗f8 ♗d6 14.♖a7 ♗c4 15.a6 b5) 6...♖g6 Mutual zugzwang 7.♗g5 (Bad is also 7.♗c1 ♗e4 8.♖b8 ♗b6 9.a5 ♗c4 and White cannot guard Pa5) 7...♗e4 and the threat ♖xg5 gives Black tempo for leaving c6 8.♗f4 ♗b2 9.a5 ♗c4 **5...♖h8** 5...♕h7 6.♗g5! shortens the solution. 6...♖g6 7.♗f4 ♗e4 8.♖b8 **6.♗c1!** ♖h7 6...♗f3 7.♗f4 (or 7.♗g5) 7...♕h7 (7...♗b2? 8.♗e5+) 8.♖b8! ♗b2 9.a5 ♗c4 10.♗c7 ♖xh6 11.♖a7 ♖g6 12.♗b6 ♗d6 13.♗c7 (13.a6? ♗b5+) 13...♗b5+ 14.♖b6 followed by a6 = **7.♗g5!** Mutual zugzwang 7.♗f4? ♖g6 **7...♖g6** 7...♗e4 8.♖b8! ♗b2 (8...b6 9.♖a7 ♗c2 10.♗d8 =) 9.a5 ♗c4 10.♗d8! = for example 10...♖xh6 11.♖a7 ♖g6 12.♗b6 ♗d6 13.♗c5 ♗b5+ 14.♖b6 ♗c3 15.♖a7 ♗a4 16.♗b6 **8.♗f4!** = for example 8...♗e4 9.♖b8 ♗b2 10.a5 ♗c4 11.♗c7 ♖xh6 12.♖a7 ♖g6 13.♗b6

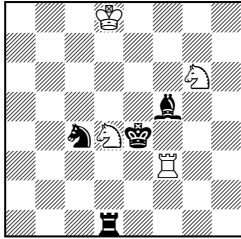
3813
Jaroslav Polášek
Emil Vlasák
Czech Republic



Win B→ 5+2

1...h1=♙+ 2.♖b2! 2.♖c2 ♜e4+ 2...♞h2+ 2...♞g2+ 3.♖a3/♖b3 3.♖b3! 3.♖a3 ♜d6+ or 3.♖c3 ♞g3+ 3...♞g3+ 4.♖a4! 4.♖b4 ♜d6+ 5.♖a5 ♜c5+ 6.♖a6 ♜c4+ 7.♖b7 ♜b5+ 8.♖c8 ♜a6+ 4...♞f4+ 5.♖a5! 5.♖b5 ♜c4+ 5...♞d2+ 6.♖a6! 6.♖b6 ♜b4+ 6...♞a2+ 7.♖b7! ♞b3+ 8.♖c8 ♖c6 9.♞g8!! The point. 9.♞h8 ♜b7+ 10.♖d8 ♜xc7+ 11.♖e8 ♜xd7+ 12.♖f7 ♜d5+ 13.♖g6 ♜e4+ or 9.♞f8 ♜b7+ 10.♖d8 ♜xc7+ 11.♖e8 ♜xd7+ 12.♖f7 ♜f5+ 13.♖g8 ♜g6+ 14.♞g7 ♜e8+ 9...♞b7+ 9...♞xg8+ 10.e8=Q 10.♖d8 ♜xc7+ 11.♖e8 ♜xd7+ 12.♖f8 ♜f5+ 13.♞f7 ♜c5 14.♖g7 or 14.♖g8 14...♞g5+ 15.♞g6+ 1-0

3814
David Shtern
Petach Tikva

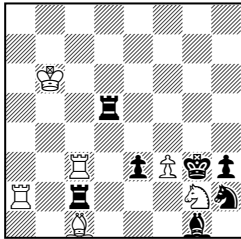


H#2 b)♞f3→c6 4+4
c)♞c4→f4

- a) 1.♞d6 ♞c2 2.♞d5 ♞e3#
- b) 1.♖d5 ♞f3 2.♞e4 ♞e7#
- c) 1.♞d5 ♞e6 2.♞d4 ♞g5#

Three different unpins of Ws4 with selfblocks (PE)

3815
Shaul Shamir
Rishon Lezion

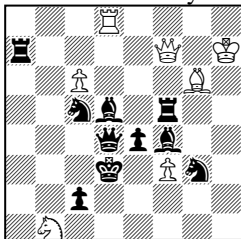


H#2 2.1.1.1 6+7

- 1.♞c5 ♞xe3 2.♞c1 ♞f4#
- 1.♞d4 ♞xe3 2.♞g2 ♞f5#

Anticipatory unpins on B1 of the different captures on e3 by W1. BRc2 must open the line to WRa2 and makes hideaway moves to the squares vacated by white (PE)

3816
Jean Haymann
Shaul Shamir
R. Lezion/S. Eliyahu

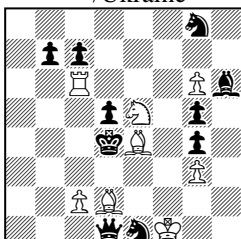


H#2 b)♞f3→h5 7+10

- a) 1.♞b7 ♜xd5 2.e3 ♜b5#
- b) 1.♞c7 ♜xf5 2.♞c4 ♜f3#

The two black half-pins are used in different ways in each solution: one is used to re-pin the black piece adjacent to the BK and the other is activated by black (PE)

3817 Alexander Pankratiev
Evgeny Gavryliv
---/Ukraine



H#2 6.1.1.1 8+10

- 1.♞f6 ♞xg4 2.♞xe4 ♞e3#
- 1.♞xc2 ♖f2 2.♞xe4 ♞c3# zilahi passive
- 1.♞xd2 ♞c4 + 2.♖e3 ♞xg4#
- 1.♞g7 ♞f5 2.♞xe5 c3# zilahi
- 1.b6 ♞d6 2.♖c5 ♞xd5#
- 1.bxc6 ♞d3 2.c5 ♞c6#

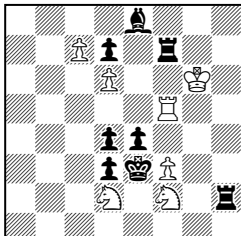
play on same square (B2) (authors)

The two solution with captures on e4 are nicely unified, but the array of the other solution, adding what looks like “incidental Zilahi” and one W1 move that reappears as W2 (mate) really blur things (PE)

3818 Alexander Pankratiev

Evgeny Gavryliv

---/Ukraine

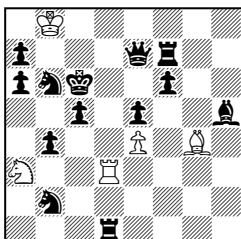


H#2 b) ♘c90° 7+8

3819

Alexandr Pankratiev

Ivan Antipin

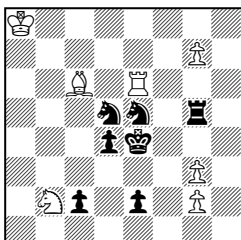


H#2 b) ♗b6→e3 5+13

c) ♖a6→f5

3820

Anatoly Stepochnik

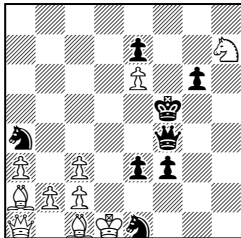


H#2 3.1.1.1 7+7

3821

Menachem Witztum

Tel Aviv



H#2.5 10+8

b) ♗e3→c4

a) 1.exf3 ♗h3 2.♗xd2 ♗e5#

b) 1.♗xg6 f7 2.♗g5 ♗h6#

Bukovina them (reverse form) (authors)

I cannot see a unifying thread here (PE)

a) 1.♗xg4 ♗b5 2.♗d7 ♗xa7#

b) 1.bxa3 ♗xa3 2.♗d6 ♗xa6#

c) 1.♗xd3 ♗e2 2.♗d6 ♗b5#

Cyclic Zilahi with two (but not three) moves to d6 (PE)

1.c1=♗ ♗b5 2.♗e3 ♗d3#

1.e1=♗ ♗f6 2.♗e3 ♗f4#

1.♗xg3 g8=♗ 2.♗e3 ♗g4#

Pin-mates in the first two solutions, using one of the pinning pieces, and double pin-mate in the third solution. The three self-blocks on e3 add interest, but would have been more interesting with three different piece-types, using a knight promotion instead of a rook promotion – see version 1. With twins it is even possible to achieve three different black promotions – see version 2 (PE)

Version 1



1.dxc1=♗ ♗a4 2.♗e3 ♗c2 #

1.d1=♗ ♗f6 2.♗e3 ♗f4 #

1.♗xg3 g8=♗ 2.♗e3 ♗g4 #

Version 2



a) Diagram 1.e1=♗ ♗g6 2.♗f3 ♗g4 #

b) wSc2→c5 1.h1=♗ ♗a5 2.♗f3 ♗d2 #

c) wKh3→a8 1.f1=♗ h8=♗ 2.♗f3 ♗h4 #

a) 1...♗xe3 2.♗xe3 ♗c1 3.♗e4 ♗g5#

b) 1...♗xc4 2.♗xc4 ♗a2 3.♗g4 ♗d5#

Active sacrifice, ambush, annihilation (author)

Daniel Papack suggested an improved version that is now republished with co-authorship

Menachem Witztum & Daniel Papack

Tel Aviv/Germany

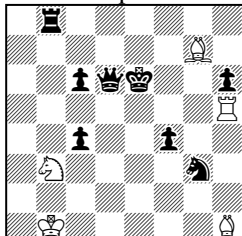


H#2.5 2.1.1.. 9+9

1...♗f4 2.♗xf4 ♗c1 3.♗e4 ♗xg5 #

1...♗c4 2.♗xc4 ♗a2 3.♗g4 ♗d5 #

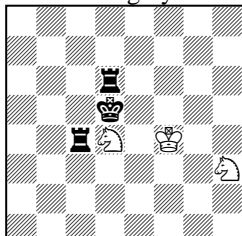
3822 Michal Dragoun
Ladislav Salai jr.
 Czech Rep./Slovakia



H#2.5 2.1.1.1 5+8

3823

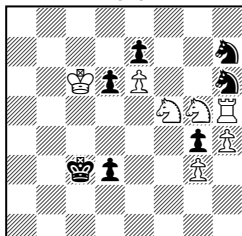
Bela Majoros
 Hungary



H#2.5 b) ♖c4→c5 3+3

3824

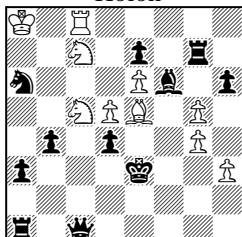
Emanuel Navon
 Holon



H#3 b) ♖c3 ⇒ ♗d3 7+7

3825

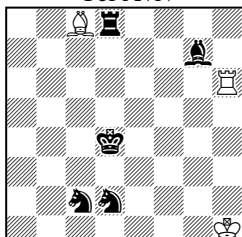
Emanuel Navon
 Holon



H#3 b) ♖c7→f7 10+11

3826

Ofer Comay
 (after Abdurahmanovic)
 Tel Aviv



H#3 b) -♗d2 3+5

1...♖b5 2.♗e4 ♖c5 + 3.♗d5 ♗xe4#

1...♗b2 2.♗f5 ♖d4 + 3.♗e5 ♖xf5#

Interferences of two white pieces (using the same pair ♖b3 and ♗g3) allow moves of the black king into mating net, critical moves with self-unpin in W1 (authors)

The matching initial unpin are an important addition (PE)

a) 1...♗f2 2.♗c5 ♗e5 3.♖b6 ♖d3#

b) 1...♗e3 2.♗e5 ♗f2 3.♖d5 ♖g4#

For me, the main element here is the fact that the WK & BK use the same square – e5, in the two solutions (PE)

a) 1.♗xg5 ♖xh6 2.♗e4 ♖c5 + 3.♗d4 ♗f5#

b) 1.♗xf5 ♖xh7 2.♗e3 ♖d5 + 3.♗e4 ♗g5#

Very nice reciprocal captures and WS switchback (PE)

a) 1..♗xe5 ♖xa6 2.♗e4 ♖f8 3.♗e3 ♖c5#

b) 1.♗xc5 ♗xf6 2.♗e4 ♖c3 + 3.♗f4 ♗e5#

As above, reciprocal captures & switchback, but here there is more diversity (PE)

a) 1.♗d3 ♗g4 (♖e6?) 2.♗c3 (♖d4?) ♖e6 3.♖d4 ♗e2#

b) 1.♗c3 ♖b6 (♗e6?) 2.♖d2 (♗d4?) ♗e6 3.♗d4 ♖b3#

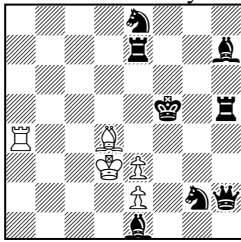
B/W Grimshaw dual avoidance (author)

On the face of it, a simple model mate problem. However, the determination of move order through Grimshaw interferences by both white and black takes it to a complete new level!! (PE)

3827

Jean Haymann
Shaul Shamir

R. Lezion/S. Eliyahu



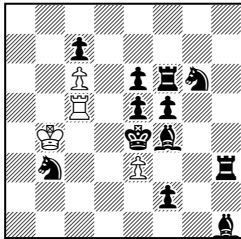
H#3 2.1.1.. 5+8

1. ♖xe3 + ♜c4 2. ♞e4 ♘c3 3. ♙f5 ♜c5#
1. ♙g3 e4 + 2. ♞f4 ♘f6 3. ♖f5 e5#

Black starts with a remote self-block and what follows is the creation of a half-battery, by both black and white and then its realization for a battery mate (PE)

3828

Alexey Ivunin
Alexandr Pankratiev



H#3 3.1.1.. 4+12

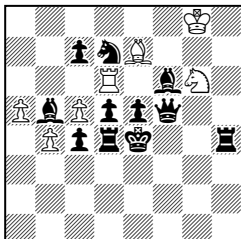
1. ♖f3 exf4 2. ♞e3 ♜c3 3. ♘xf4 ♖xe5#
1. ♘d2 ♖c3 2. ♞d5 ♜b5 3. ♘e4 ♖d3#
1. ♘d4 ♖xe5 + 2. ♞xe5 ♜c5 3. ♙e4 exd4#

Two solutions see nice rook mates with the WK moves to oppose the BK. In the 3rd solution the WR is captured, the WK still moves to oppose the BK and the WP mates. A Zilahi is somehow gets mixed in... (PE)

3829

Alexander Pankratiev
Evgeny Gavryliv

---/Ukraine



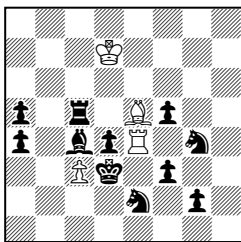
H#3 2.1.1.. 7+11

1. ♙xe7 ♖xd5 2. ♞xd5 a6 3. ♞c6 ♘xe7#
1. cxd6 ♘xe5 2. ♞xe5 ♞f7 3. ♖e4 ♘xd6#

Active sacrifice (black, delayed) × 2. Active sacrifice (white) × 2. Chumakov theme (p-p, simplified, 2, 2). Exchange of functions (wPa5/w♞g8, Guard / Passive). Helledie theme × 2. Kniest theme x 2 .Zilahi (mixed, BS, 2) (authors)

Zilahi and an additional sacrifice, with the capture providing a kind of “clearance” of the mating square (PE)

3830 Alexey Ivunin



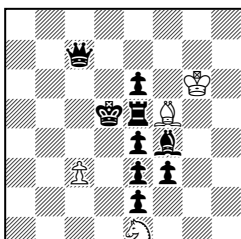
H#3 6.1.1.. 4+11

1. ♞d2 ♖xd4 + 2. ♞e1 ♙g3 + 3. ♞f1 ♖d1#
1. ♘xc3 ♙f4 2. ♖e5 ♖e2 3. ♖e4 ♖d2#
1. ♖c6 ♞xc6 2. ♞xc3 ♖e3 + 3. ♞b4 ♘d6#
1. ♙b3 ♘d6 2. ♞c4 ♖e5 3. d3 ♖xc5#
1. ♖xe5 ♖xe2 2. ♘e3 ♖d2 + 3. ♞e4 ♖xd4#
1. ♞xc3 ♘c7 2. ♞b4 ♖e6 3. ♞b5 ♖b6#

The last 3 solutions have nice echo mates but I think the rest can be discarded (PE)

3831

Alexandr Pankratiev
Ivan Antipin

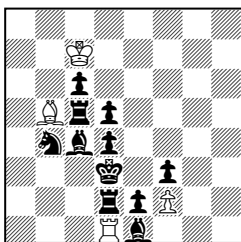


H#3 2.1.1.. 4+9

1. f2 ♘d3 2. exd3 ♘h3 3. ♞e4 ♘g2#
1. ♞d6 ♙xe4 + 2. ♖xe4 c4 + 3. ♞e5 ♘xf3#

Zilahi with the active sacrifices allowing a black piece to capture and unobstruct a square for the BK, instead of the much more common capture by the BK (PE)

3832
Alexandr Pankratiev
Ivan Antipin

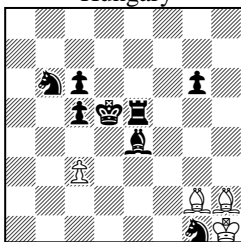


H#3 b) + ♞d4 4+11

- a) 1. ♞xd1 ♕a6 2. ♜c3 ♜c8 3. ♞d2 ♜f5#
b) 1. ♜xb5 ♞xe1 2. ♞c2 ♞xe2 3. ♜c4 ♞e3#

Unified Zilahi and switchback – very nice! (PE)

3833
Bela Majoros
Hungary

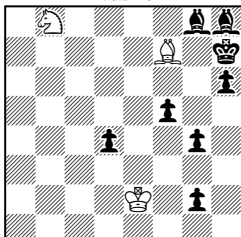


H#3 b) ♞b6→h8 4+8
c) ♜c3→b3

- a) 1. ♞g5 ♜f3 2. ♞g2 ♜h5 3. g5 ♜f7#
b) 1. ♜f3 ♜f1 2. ♜d4 + ♞g1 3. ♞e6 c4#
c) 1. ♞d4 ♜f4 2. ♜d3 ♜c1 3. ♞e3 ♜b2#

The two solutions with the unpins of WBg2 are nice, the third goes a different way (PE)

3834
Semion Shifrin
Nesher

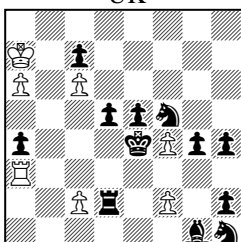


H#3.5 2.1.1.. 3+8

- 1... ♜c6 2. g1=♜ ♜xd4 3. ♜xd4 ♜e6 4. ♜g7 ♜xf5#
1... ♜h5 2. g1=♞ ♜xg4 3. ♞xg4 ♜d7 4. ♞g7 ♜f8#

Minor promotions, and Zilahi with active sacrifices having the same purpose: enabling the promoted piece to reach g7. Excellent (PE)

3835
Christopher Jones
UK

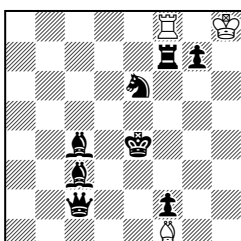


H#3.5 2.1.1.. 7+12

- 1... ♞d3 2. ♜e3 fxe3 3. ♞f2 ♞xd5 4. ♞f3 ♞xe5#
1... ♞g3 2. ♞d4 f3 + 3. gxf3 ♞g6 4. exf4 ♞e6#

Always high quality works from Christopher. Here, in one solution black makes a sacrifice to enable the WP to make essential guard while in the second solution the same WP is sacrificed to enable an essential self-block (PE)

3836
Alexey Ivunin
Alexandr Pankratiev

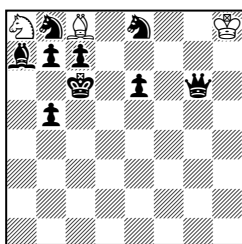


H#3.5 2.1.1.. 3+8

- 1... ♜g2 + 2. ♞d3 ♞e8 3. ♜d4 ♞e1 4. ♞d2 ♜e4#
1... ♜d3 + 2. ♞e3 ♜xc2 3. ♞f3 ♞f4 4. ♜d2 ♞e4#

Nothing new here (PE)

3837
Alexey Ivunin
Alexandr Pankratiev



H#3.5vv 3+9

1... ♖xe6 2..b6 ♖xb6 3. ♜b7 ♘c4 4. ♜a6 ♘c8#

Tempo tries:

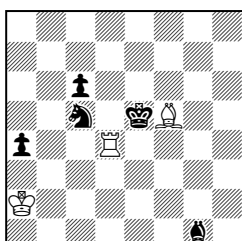
1... ♖b6 2..♘d6 ♘d5 3..♘c5 ?? 4.b6 ♘e7#

1... ... 2..♘c5 ♖b6 3..♘d6 ♘d5 4.b6 ♘e7#

Active sacrifice (black) AntiZielElement (W1, square obstruction) Hidden tempo-try Long-trip (wS, 3) Switchback (wB, with captures, 1) (authors)

Try play is an essential part of modern helpmates. Here, however, the tries involve cook prevention and are not related to the actual solution (PE)

3838
Alexey Ivunin



H#4 3.1.1.. 3+5

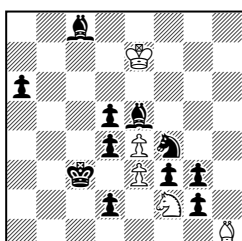
1. ♘e4 ♘h3 2. ♜f4 ♘f1 3. ♜g3 ♜d3 + 4. ♜h2 ♜h3#

1. ♘e3 ♜h4 2. ♘d2 ♘g4 3. ♜d4 ♘e2 + 4. ♜c3 ♜c4#

1. ♘h2 ♜d8 2. ♘d7 ♜a3 3. ♜d6 ♜b4 4. ♘e5 ♜xd7#

The unifying element here are the interferences allowing the movement of the BK. The 3rd solution deviates as the BK does not move away from the line (PE)

3839
Alexey Ivunin



H#4 3.1.1.. 5+11

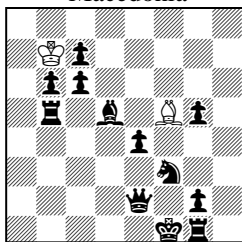
1.dxe4 exd4 2. ♜xd4 ♘xg2 3. ♜e3 ♘f1 4. ♘d4 ♘d1#

1.g1=♘ ♘g4 2. ♜d3 ♘xe5 + 3. ♜xe4 ♜f6 4. ♘xe3 ♘xf3#

1.d1=♘ ♘xg2 2. ♘xe3 ♘h1 3. ♜d3 ♘f1 + 4. ♜xe4 ♘xg3#

Too much similarity between solutions: the WB moves to g2 & f1 in the first and third, and the BK moves to d3 & e4 in the second & third (PE)

3840
Zlatko Mihajlovski
Macedonia



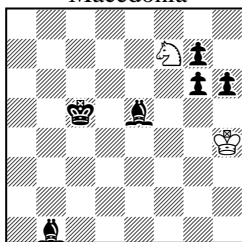
H#5.5 2.1.1.. 2+12

1... ♘g4 2..♘a2 ♜xc6 3. ♜b3 ♜d5 4. ♜a6 ♜xe4 5. ♜b5 ♜e3 6. ♘e1 ♘e2#

1... ♜xc7 2. ♜a2 ♜d6 3. ♘d2 ♜e5 4.e3 ♜d4 5.e2 ♜e3 6.e1=♘ ♘d3#

The first solution has critical play, self-interferences to allow passage to the WK and hideaway. The second solution has another hideaway by the BQ and self-interference to enable the mate, but adds a minor promotion to the mix. Both involve WK tour (PE)

38441
Zlatko Mihajlovski
Macedonia

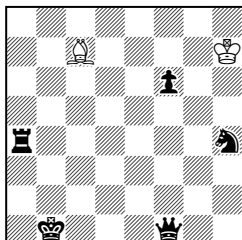


H#6 2+6

1. ♜d5 ♘h8 2. ♜e6 ♘xg6 3. ♜f6 ♘h8 4. ♘h7 ♘f7 5. ♜g6 ♜g4 6. ♘f6 ♘h8#

Double switchback by the WS and, overall, an artistically pleasing composition (PE)

3842
Valery Barsukov



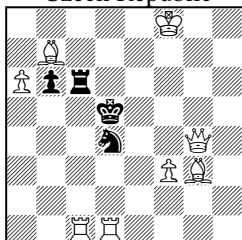
H#7 a) ♖a4→g2 2+5
b) ♗c7→c3

- a) 1. ♖f5 ♗f4 2. ♗g3 ♖g6 3. ♗e2 + ♖f5 4. ♖c2 ♖e4 5. ♖d1 ♗d3 6. ♖e1 ♖c2
7. ♖f2 ♗d2 #
b) 1. ♖f3 ♖g6 2. ♖a2 ♖f5 3. ♗d4 + ♖e4 4. ♖f4 + ♖d3 5. ♗b3 ♖c2 6. ♖a3 ♖b1
7. ♖b4 ♗b2 #

Balanced solutions highlighting the black self-interferences and echo mates (PE)

3843

Alexander Fica
Czech Republic



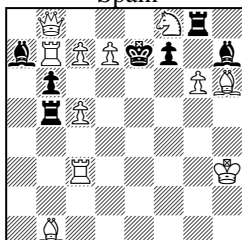
S#6 b) ♖a6→f7 9+4

1. a7 b5 2. a8=♖ b4 3. ♖xd4+ ♖e6 4. ♖g4+ ♖f6 5. ♖d6+ ♖c6xd6 6. ♖d8+ ♖xd8#
1. ♖e8 b5 2. f8=♗ b4 3. ♗c5 b3 4. ♗gd6 b2 5. ♖xd4 ♖e6 6. ♗c8+ ♖xc8#
c+ Gustav 4.2a

The second solution, with the critical play by the black-square bishops and self-interferences, look much more interesting (PE)

3844

Jose A. Garzon
Spain

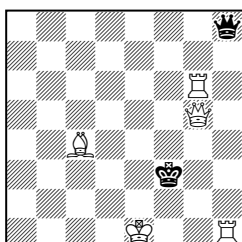


S#6 11+7

1. d8=♗+! ♖e8 2. ♗h4+ ♗xb8 3. gxf7+ ♖xf7 4. c8=♖+ ♗c7 5. ♗a2+ ♖b3 6. ♖f3+ ♗f5#
Image Pacioli's mate (pin mate) Minor promotion (x2) — Battery play (x2) — Pacioli (Pelle) move. The main idea of this problem is the bicolor fusion of the two great contribution of the renaissance mathematician Luca Pacioli (c.1445-1517): the so-called Pelle move and mate with a pinned unit. C+ Gustav 4.2a (author)
An ingenious composition! With two minor promotions, double pin (BRb3 and WRf3) and mirrored WK, we have a pleasing mix of effects combined with high difficulty (PE)

3845

Anatoly Stepanchkin



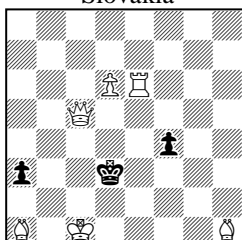
S#9 b) ♖g6→a7 5+2

- a) 1. ♖f1+! ♖e4 2. ♖f4+ ♖e3 3. ♖g4+ ♖f3 4. ♖d5+ ♖e3 5. ♖e6+ ♖e5 6. ♖d1 ♖e4
7. ♖e5! ♖xe5 8. ♖c1+ ♖f3+ 9. ♗e2+ ♖xe2# (6... ♖xe6 7. ♖c1+ ♖f3 8. ♗e2+)
b) 1. 0-0+! ♖e4 2. ♖d5+ ♖e3 3. ♖e1+ ♖f4 4. ♖e4+ ♖g3 5. ♖g5+ ♖f3(h3) 6. ♖f5+ ♖g3
7. ♖g7+! ♖xg7 8. ♖f2+ ♖h3+ 9. ♖g2+ ♖xg2# (4... ♖f3 5. ♖f5+ ♖g3 6. ♖g7+ ♖xg7
7. ♖f2+)

The "to castle or not to castle" is one element with the other being the way the BQ is brought to form the royal battery (PE)

3846

Jozef Holubec
Slovakia

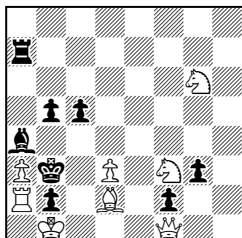


S#10 a) ♖a3→b3 6+3
b) ♖d6→g6

- a) 1. ♗b2 f3 2. ♖e1 f2 3. ♖xf2 ♖c4 4. ♖b6 ♖d3 5. ♗e4+ ♖c4 6. ♗b1 ♖d5 7. ♖a6 ♖c5
8. ♖d1 ♖b4 9. ♗a3+ ♖c3 10. ♗c5 b2#;
b) 1. ♗f3 a2 2. ♖e3+ fxe3+ 3. ♖d6+ ♖c4 4. ♗e2+ ♖b3 5. g7 ♖a4 6. g8=♖ ♖a5 7. ♗c3+ ♖a4 8. ♖g4+ ♖b3 9. ♗d1+ ♖xc3 10. ♖d2+ exd2#

The mostly quiet play of the first solution looks more interesting than that of the second solution (PE)

3847
Anatoly Stepochkin



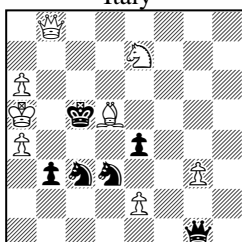
S#12 8+8

1. ♖xb2? ♜a3 2. ♖a2+ ♜b3 3. ♖a3+ ♜xa3 4. ♗c1+ ♜b4!

1. ♗g5! (~ 2. ♖d1+ ♜c3 3. ♖c2+ ♗xc2#) ♜c3 2. ♗f6+ ♜b3 3. ♗e5 ♜c3 4. ♗c6+ ♜b3 5. ♗g5 ♜c3 6. ♗d2+ ♜b3 7. ♖xb2+ ♜xa3 8. ♖a2+ ♜b3 9. ♖a3+!! ♜xa3 10. ♗c1+ ♜b3 11. ♖d1+ ♜c3 12. ♖c2+ ♗xc2#

Very interesting logical problem. To get the threat to work WRa2 and BPb2 are eliminated, but the elimination of WPa3 opens the line of the BR which covers the squares previously covered by the eliminated pieces (PE)

3848
Alberto Armeni
Italy



HS#2 4.1.1.1 8+6

1. e3 ♖xg3 2. ♖c7 + ♖xc7#

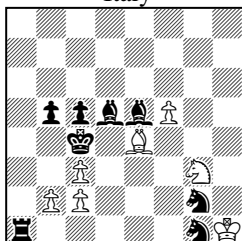
1. exd3 ♖d4 2. ♖b4 + ♖xb4#

1. ♗f5 ♖e1 2. ♖b5 + ♗xb5#

1. ♖xb3 ♖b1 2. ♖b6 + ♖xb6#

I expected the fourth solution to be a battery mate to complement the third (PE)

3849
Alberto Armeni
Italy



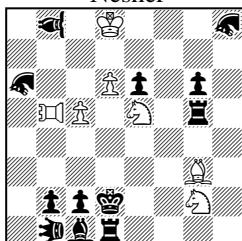
HS#2 2.1.1.1 7+8

1. ♗f1 ♗xe4 2. ♗e3 + ♗xe3#

1. ♗f3 ♗xg3 2. ♗e2 + ♗xe2#

Two nice battery mates (PE)

3850
Semion Shifrin
Nesher



H#2 b) ♗g3→d6 7+12
c) ♖b5→a7 d) =c+♗d6→c2
e) =c+♗g3→h4 f) =e+♗g2→c5
♖-Pao ♗-Nao ♗-Vao ♗-Leo

a) 1. NAXb5 ♗f4 2. ♗Ac3 ♗c4#

b) 1. LEXb5 c5-c6 2. LEE2 ♗b4#

c) 1. ♖xg3 PAh7 2. ♖c3 PAh2#

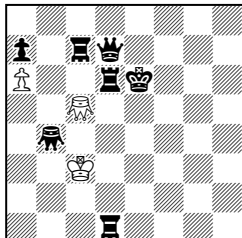
d) 1. NAXg3 PAc7 2. ♗Ae2 ♗f3#

e) 1. ♖xe5 ♗f6 2. ♖e2 PAD7#

f) 1. VAXe5 PAe7 2. VAc3 ♗xg5#

From the many twinning changes a highly thematic picture emerges. There is a unique cyclic Zilahi in which each white piece mates twice. Moreover, the captures always lead to alternating self-blocks on c3 and e2. Excellent work! (PE)

3851
Semion Shifrin
Nesher



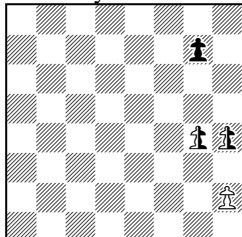
H#4 3.1.1.. 3+7

♞-Grashopper
♞-Rookhopper

1. ♖b6 ♞c8 + 2. ♜d6 ♜d4 3. ♖b7 axb7 4. ♞e7 b8=♞ #
 1. ♞e7 ♞a3 2. ♜b7 axb7 3. ♜d7 ♞d3 + 4. ♜d8 b8=♜ #
 1. ♜c8 ♜xb4 2. ♞d7 ♜b5 3. ♞b7 axb7 4. ♜d7 bxc8=♜ #

Three different sacrifices on b7 leading to three promotion mates (PE)

3852
Michael Grushko
Kiryat Bialik



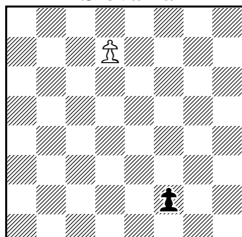
HS#14 Neutrals 1+1+2

ABC EinsteinChess
CirceDoubleAgents
RepublicanChess

1. ♙g5 ♙xh4=♞ [+ ♙h7] 2. h3 g7-g6 3. ♞xg6=♞ [+bPg2=w] ♞xh7=♞ 4. g3
 ♞xh3=♜ [+wPh7=b] 5. g4 ♜xg4 [+wPg7=b] 6. ♜xg7 [+bPg2=w] ♜g7-h8=♞ 7. g4 h7-
 h6 8. g5 hxg5=♞ [+wPg7=b] 9. ♞h8- h3=B ♞xh3=♞ [+♞c8] 10. ♞xh3=♞ [+b♞f1=w]
 g7-g5 11. ♞xh3=♞ [+♞h1] g5-g4 12. ♞h1-h2=♞ g4-g3 13. ♞xg3=♞ [+bPg2=w]
 ♞xg2=♜ [+wPg7=b] 14. ♜g2-g1=♞ [+b♜h6] + g7-g5 [+w♜h4] #
 15. ♞xg5=♜ + [+bg2=w] ??

A bewildering series of moves. Pieces constantly change identity and color (courtesy of circe double agents), but finally reaching an interesting fairy mating position in which the neutral rook cannot capture the mating BP as it will turn into a neutral queen with self-check (PE)

3853
Karol Mlynka
Slovakia



H=2 b) ♞d7→e6 1+1

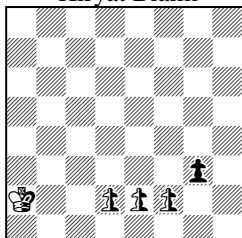
- c) ♞d7→h6 d) ♞d7→a4 +e) ♞f2→b7
 f) ♞d7→g4 +g) ♞f2→h2

CirceAssassin FaceToFace
PhantomChess

- a) 1. f1=♜ d7-d2-d4 2. ♜f1-d8-d6 d5=
 b) 1. f1=♞ e6-e2-e4 2. ♞f1-c8-e6 e5=
 c) 1. f1=♞ h6-h2-h4 2. ♞f1-g8-h6 h5=
 d) 1. f1=♞ a5 2. ♞f1-a8-a7 a6=
 e) 1. b5 a5 2. b7-b6 axb6 [+bPb7]=
 f) 1. f7-f5 g5 2. f7-f6 gxf6 [+bPf7]=
 g) 1. h7-h5 g5 2. h7-h6 gxh6 [+bPh7]=

The Face to Face condition is used to force the stalemates. A nice (and simple) find to show all these promotions (with AUW) and other elements in the most minimal way possible (PE)

3854
Michael Grushko
Kiryat Bialik



HS#13 0+1+4

ABC PWC EinsteinChess

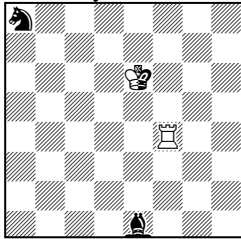
1. ♞b3 ♞c4 2. ♞d5 ♙d1 3. ♙xe2=♞ [+ ♙d1] ♞e4 4. ♙d4 ♞e2-g1=P 5. ♞d3 ♞xd4
 [+ ♙d3] 6. ♞e3 + ♞xd3 [+ ♙e3] 7. ♞e2 ♞f3 8. ♙xg3=♞ [+ ♙f2] fxg1=♞ [+ ♙f2] +
 9. ♞xe3 [+ ♙f3] + ♞f4 10. ♙xg3=♞ [+ ♞f2] ♞f2-h3=♙ 11. ♞e3 ♞f2
 12. ♞xg1 [+ ♞f2] ♞f2-g4=♙ 13. ♙xg4=♞ [+ ♙f3] f3-f2# (14. ♞xf2=♞ (+ ♙g4) +??)
 Ideal fairy mate (author)

As usual, an intricate maneuver leading to a nice final position in which black is compelled to move and mate (PE)

3855

Michael Grushko

Kiryat Bialik



HS#4.5 2.1.1.. 1+2+1

AntipodeanCirce ProteanChess

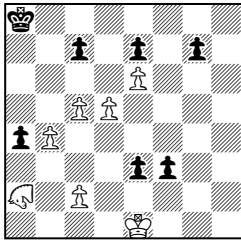
1...♙g3 2.♖a4 ♜b8 3.♚d7 ♜c7 4.♖a8 ♚c8 5.♚xb8=r♙[+♜f4] + ♜xa8=♚[+♖e4] #
1...♙b4 2.♖xb4=♙[+♜f8] ♜xb4 [+♜f8] 3.♙e7 ♚xe7=r♙[+♜a3] + 4.r♙f6 r♙h8
5.♙b2 + ♜c3#

Two nice mating positions with the BK controlled as a royal bishop in both cases (PE)

3856

Sébastien Luce

France



Ser-H#25 7+7

♙ Camel

1.g5 2.g4 3.g3 4.g2 5.g1=♙ 6.♙d2 7.♙xc5 8.♙b8 9.c5 10.cxb4 11.b3 12.b2
13.b1=♙ 14.♙c4 15.♙b7 16.♙xe6 17.♙b7 18.e6 19.exd5 20.d4 21.d3 22.dxc2
23.c1=♙ 24.♙b4 25.♙a7 ♙b5# C?

Triple Excelsior to Camel. Self-blocks successively in b8, b7, a7 then mate by white Camel (author)

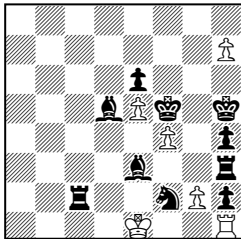
Nice to see how the camels are the best pieces to make the self-blocks. Hopefully this is sound (PE)

3857

Sébastien Luce

France

Ded. M. Grushko



Ser-S#10 6+10

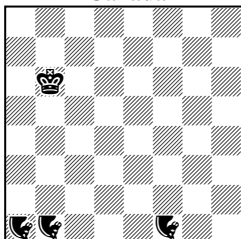
Rex Multiplex

1.h8=♜ 2.♜f7 3.♜g5 4.♜f3 5.♜xh2 6.0-0 7.♖xf2 8.♚h1 9.♖f3 10.g4+ hxg3 e.p.=
Valladao. "h" Pawn has to be promoted to Knight to capture the "annoying" Pawn h2.
After castling, white has to self-pin two times his Rook, in f2 and f3, to allow white
King to go to h1, also to unpin "g" Pawn. This one makes a final "fork" on the two
Kings, which can only be parried by the e.p. capture, with white stalemate (author)
A nice Valladao ending with a check to both black kings, forcing the e.p. capture (PE)

3858

Adrian Storisteanu

Canada



-2(w,b)&H=1 0+4

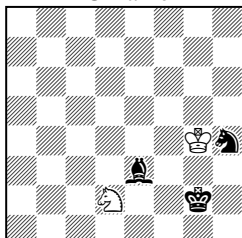
CirceAssassin b)♙b1→c1

a) - 1.♖a5x♙a1[+♙a1,-♖a1] b2-b1=♙ 2.♖c5x♙a5[+♙a1,-♖a1] ♙7x♖a5 [+♖a1,-
♙a1] & 1.♙b3 ♖a1xb2 [+♙b7,-♙b7]= (symmetrical stalemate)
b) - 1.♖c5x♙c1[+♙c1,-♖c1] f2-f1=♙ 2.♖a5x♙c5[+♙c1,-♙c1] ♙a4x♙c5 [+♙c1,-
♙c1] & 1.♙b6xa5[+♖a1,-♙a1] ♙c1-f1=

Not quite fifty, but there are three ways for the three Ns to go about the stalemate. In each twin (The answer is easy if you take it logically): get pinned (Just drop off the key, Lee), get unpromoted and then blocked (Make a new plan, Stan), and get the hell out (Slip out the back, Jack) (author)

The combination of circe assassin with retro play is really fun, I'm sure Paul Simon would approve (PE)

3859
Oleg Paradzinskij
 Ukraine

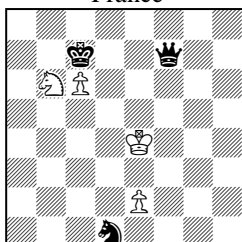


H#5 2.1.1.. 2+3
 FunctionaryChess

1. ♖f3 ♖f1 2. ♗h2 + ♜h5 3. ♘f4 ♗e3 + 4. ♜h3 ♗g2 5. ♘g3 ♖f4#
 1. ♖f5 ♖f1 2. ♘f2 ♗e3 + 3. ♜h1 ♗d1 4. ♗e3 + ♜h3 5. ♘g1 ♖f2#

Nice use of the fairy condition to allow piece movements and in the mates (PE)

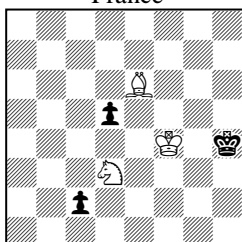
3860
Jean Carf
 France



PSer-S#9 4+3

1. ♜d4 2.e4 3.e5 4.e6 5.e7 6.e8=♜ 7. ♗a8 + ♜d6 8. ♜e5 + ♜xc6 9. ♜d5 + ♜xd5#

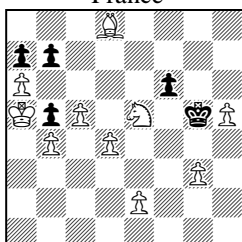
3861
Pascale Piet
 France



Ser-H#10 Circe 3+3

1. ♜h5 2. ♜g6 3. ♜f6 4. ♜e7 5. ♜d6 6. ♜c6 7. ♜b5 8. ♜c4 9. ♜xd3[+w♗b1] 10.d4 ♗c4#

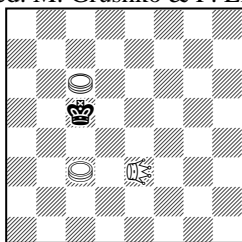
3862
Pascale Piet
 France



PSer-S#10 10+5

- 1.c6 2.cxb7 3.b8=♗ 4. ♗d7 5. ♗xf6 6. ♗f7+ ♜f5 7.e4+ ♜e6 8. ♗g5+ ♜d6 9.e5+ ♜c6
 10. ♗b6 axb6#

3863 Sébastien Luce
 France
 Ded. M. Grushko & P. Einat

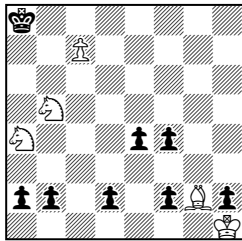


H#7.5 2.1.1.. 3+1
 ♞-Sparrow ♚-Friend

- 1... ♞d5+ 2. ♜b5 ♚b4 3. ♜a5 ♚b3 4. ♜b5 ♚c2 5. ♜a4 ♞c3 6. ♜a3 ♚b2 7. ♜a2 ♚cb1
 8. ♜a1 ♞c2#
 1... ♞d4 2. ♜b4 ♚b5 3. ♜a4 ♚b6 4. ♜b4 Ac7 5. ♜a5 ♞c6 6. ♜a6 ♚b7 7. ♜a7 ♚cb8
 8. ♜a8 ♞c7#

C+ only in WinChloe Chameleon echo in the corners a1/a8. At the end, one of the Friend is protected by the other. It is the use of the friends ! (author)
 The sparrow, which is a grasshopper that lands at angles of 135° (either way) on passing over the hurdle, lands its power to the friends and allow stepwise advances to the corners. Many thanks for the friendly dedication (PE)

3864

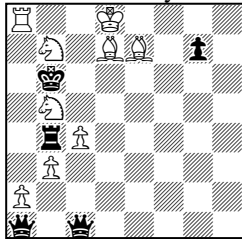
Sébastien LuceFrance
Ded. P. EinatSer-H=12 5+8
RexMultiplex

1.f1=♞ 2.d1=♖ 3.♞a1 4.b1=♚ 5.♞d2 6.♞f3 7.e3 8.e2 9.e1=♛ 10.♛f2 11.♛a7 12.♛b8
♞8=♞=C?

Super AUW (I prefer the name of royal AUW). First promotion to Knight covers first rank and allows the second promotion to Rook, going to a1 to be incarcerated. Follows the promotion of "b" Pawn to black King, allowing ♞f3 unpinning Pawn é4. This one can be promoted to Bishop, going after to b8 to be pinned by the ultimate white promotion to Queen (in the final picture, Knight f3 is also pinned) A full test is very difficult as the condition Rex Multiplex needs a lot of calculation (author)
Many thanks for the dedication of this lovely mixed AUW + an unusual BK promotion (PE)

3865**Daniel Papack**
Sven Trommler

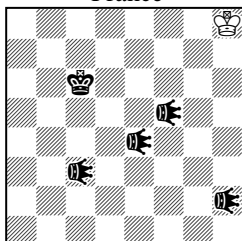
Germany

#4 9+5
AntiCirce Calvet

1.a4 ! [2.a5 A+ ♞ab2 3.♞a6 B+ ♞ca1 4.♛c5 C#
2...♞cb2 3.♛c5 C+ ♞c1 4.♞a6 B#
1...♞ab2 2.♞a6 B+ ♞ca1 3.♛c5 C+ ♞bc1 4.a5 A#
2...♞ba1 3.a5 A+ ♞cb2 4.♛c5 C#
1...♞cb2 2.♛c5 C+ ♞c1 3.a5 A+ ♞b2 4.♞a6 B#
2...♞c1 3.♞a6 B+ ♞a1 4.a5 A#

Complete cycle of 2.+3.+4. white move (Jacobs theme) (authors)

The two black queens need to control b2 (to prevent a mate with the pawn), a1 (to prevent a mate with the rook) and c1 (to prevent a mate with the bishop), but they cannot control all three at once. A very nice way to realize the Jacobus theme (PE)

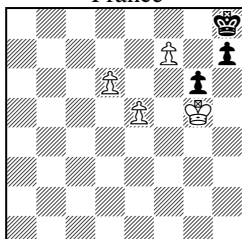
3866**Sébastien Luce**
FranceSer-#44 1+5
White Contagion ♞-Locust

White Contagion: After a white move, black pieces (king excepted) in contact with the piece which just played, become white.

1.♞g8 2.♞f8 3.♞e8 4.♞d8 5.Kc8 6.♞b8 7.♞a7 8.♞a6 9.♞a5 10.♞a4 11.♞a3 12.♞a2
13.♞b1 14.Kc1 15.♞d1 16.♞e1 17.♞f1 18.♞g1 [h2=w] 19.♞f1 20.♞e1 21.♞d1
22.♞c1 23.♞b1 24.♞a2 25.♞a3 26.♞a4 27.♞a5 28.♞a6 29.♞a7 30.♞b8 31.♞c8
32.♞d8 33.♞e8 34.♞f8 35.♞g8 36.♞h7 37.♞g6[f5=w] 38.♞f7 39.♞e8 40.♞d8
41.♞c8 42.♞b8 43.♞a7 44.LOxe4-d3[c3=w] #

Double white king rundlauf changing the color of Locusts h2 then f5, white king finishing its road on a7 allowing the final capture on e4 (author)

The WK route aims at "touching" locusts h2 and then locust f5, turning them into white locusts. Since the final move with the now-white locust f5 is the mating move, it can be done only after the WK reaches its final place (PE)

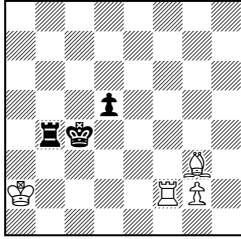
3867**Sébastien Luce**
FranceSer-h=14 4+3
Rex Multiplex

1.h5 2.h4 3.h3 4.h2 5.h1=♞ 6.♞g2 7.♞f3 8.♞e4 9.♞xe5 10.♞xd6 11.♞e7 12.♞f8
13.♞fg7 14.♞gh7 f8=♞=

Excelsior and Pawn rundlauf. The black promotion is to King which returns to h7 to be stalemated by a white promotion...to King ! (author)

Nice mutual king promotions (PE)

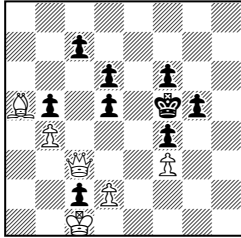
3868
Pascale Piet
 France



PSer-S#11 4+3

1. ♖d2 2. ♙e1 3. g4 4. g5 5. g6 6. g7 7. g8=♚ 8. ♗xd5+ ♜c3 9. ♗c6+ ♞c4 10. ♖d1+ ♜c2
 11. ♗a4+ ♞xa4#

3869
Pascale Piet
 France



PSer-S=8 6+9

1. ♗xc7 2. ♗f7 3. ♙d8 4. ♙xf6 5. ♙e5 + ♜xe5 6. d4 + ♜xd4 7. ♗c7 8. ♗c3 + ♜xc3 =