

# BEST PROBLEMS

*Rassegna dei migliori problemi*

diretta da **Antonio Garofalo**

Col sostegno dell'API (Associazione Problemistica Italiana)

Anno XXVIII - n. 111

3°/2024 - July

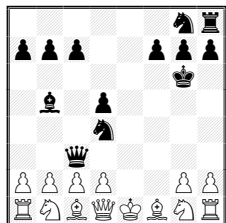
**Hanno collaborato a questo numero:**

Mr. Veneziano, Harry Fougiaxis, Awani Kumar

## EDITORIALE

Welcome to VIRGINIO CABRERA, YURI AREFIEV, for their first publication on *Best Problems*.

Glorious magazines have stopped publications in recent years. To avoid the same fate I am forced, with these words of mine, to make an appeal to the composers: send me your works, to make me get to the publication of the usual 44 problems in each issue. At this moment I am working at BP111 and there are the aforementioned 44 originals, but for BP112 I don't have enough. The works that will arrive (many, I hope) will be divided between the issues 112 (October) and 113 (January 2025), with the hope that the influx will be continuous. I remind you the types of competitions, see page 748. And of course judges are also needed for some of these tournaments... Thank you.



← **Michel Caillaud**, out competition

6nr/ppp2ppp/6k1/1b1p4/3n4/2q5/PPPP2PP/RNBQKBNR

SPG 11.0 (14+13) C+

1.f4 d5 2.f5 ♖d7 3.f6 ♖b5 4.fxe7 ♖c6 5.exf8=♖ ♔f6 6.e4 ♔c3 7.e5

♔e7 8.e6 ♔f6 9.e7 ♔xf8 10.exf8=♖ ♖d4 11.♖g6 ♔xg6

Comments by Author: «The piece capturing a Schnoebelen piece is captured: the theme of the Jubilee tourney. Vlaicu Crisan-50.

Here linked with a Prentos promotion. I immediately recognized the PG by Kostas as a submission to Vlaicu Crisan-50 JT.

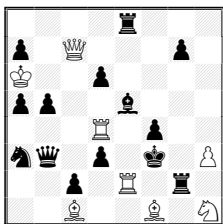
As it happens in thematic tourneys, several composers came with the same idea and the comment by Kostas exactly applies to my problem (except the square f8 instead of d8). [See BP110, front page] I think (and Kostas agrees) that my version is slightly better with less technical captures. I suggested that this version could appear with our two names, but Kostas declined...»

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## Inediti (Originals)

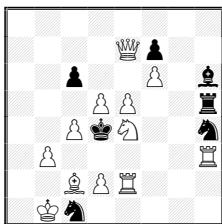
**5906. Z. Labai  
& M. Svitek**  
Slovacchia/Rep. Ceca



≠2 v (8+14) C+

**5910. G. Doukhan**  
Francia

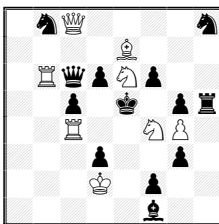
**5907. M. Svitek**  
Rep. Ceca



≠2\* v (12+7) C+

**5911. J.L. Velasco**  
Spagna

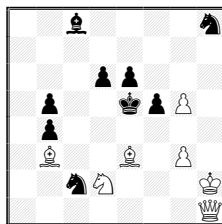
**5908. A. Pankratiev**  
Russia



≠2\* vvv (8+13) C+

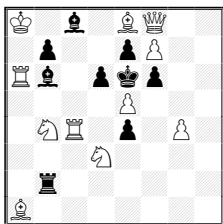
**5912. G. Bielefeldt  
& V. Cabrera**  
Cile / Cuba

**5909. A. Tarnawiecki**  
Perù



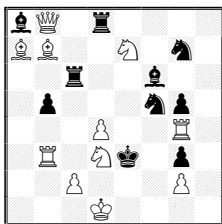
≠2 vv (7+9) C+

**5913. J.L. Velasco**  
Spagna



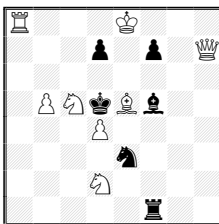
≠2 vvv (11+9) C+

**5914. E. Abdullayev**  
Azerbaijan



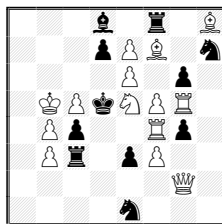
≠2 (11+10) C+

**5915. L. Lyubashevsky, L. Makaronez  
& V. Volchek**  
Israele / Bielorussia



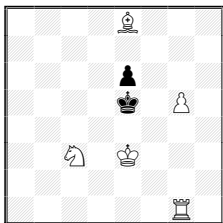
≠2 (8+6) C+

**5916. Y. Arefiev**  
Russia

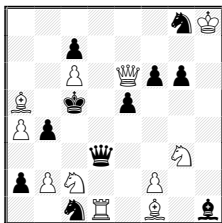


≠2 vvvv (14+11) C+

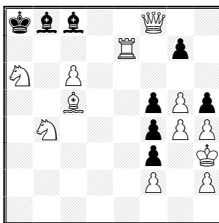
**5917. A. Pankratiev**  
Russia



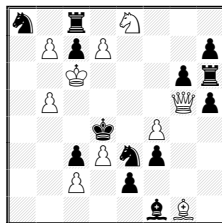
≠3 v (5+2) C+



≠3 (11+11) C+



S≠2 v (12+8) C+  
b) ♠b8, ♜c8

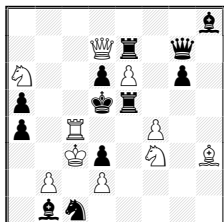


S≠3 (10+13) C+

≠2, n. 5906-5913 (Judge 2024: NN)

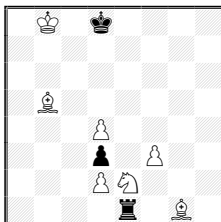
≠3, n. 5914-5915 (Judge 2024-2025: Antonio Garofalo).

5918. A. Pankratiev  
Russia



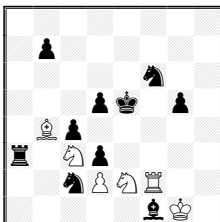
S≠3 (10+12) C+

5919. A. Armeni  
Italia



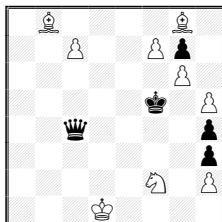
H=2 (7+3) C+  
2 sol.

5920. M. Dragoun  
Rep. Ceca



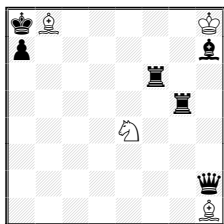
H≠2 (6+10) C+  
4 sol.

5921. M. Witztum  
Israele



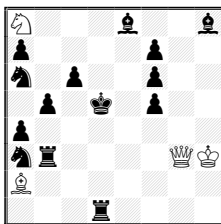
H=2 (9+5) C+  
b) ♖f2→h7

5922. J. Lozek  
& M. Svitek  
Slovacchia/Rep. Ceca



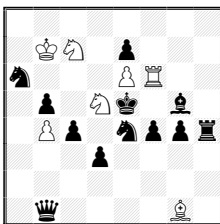
H≠2 (4+6) C+  
2 sol.

5923. A. Pankratiev  
& Y. Gorbatenko  
Russia



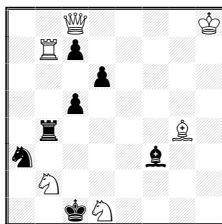
H≠2 (4+14) C+  
b) ♖a8→g1  
c) ♖a8→b8

5924. A. Pankratiev  
& E. Gavriliiv  
Russia/Ucraina



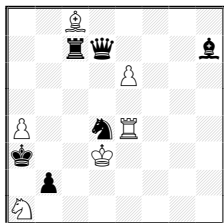
H≠2 (7+12) C+  
4 sol.

5925. M. Vasyuchko  
& M.T. Galma  
Ucraina



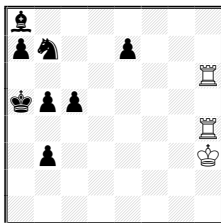
H≠2 (6+7) C+  
2 sol.

5926. F. Magini  
Italia



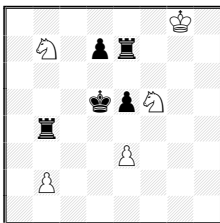
H≠2 (6+6) C+  
2 sol.

5927. E. Zimmer  
Polonia



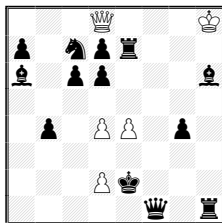
H≠2,5 (3+8) C+  
b) ♜b7→g6

5928. B. Majoros  
Ungheria



H≠2,5 (5+5) C+  
2 sol.

5929. Y. Arefiev  
Russia



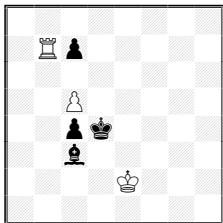
H≠2,5 (5+13) C+  
b) ♖d2↔♜e2  
3+3 sol.

S≠2/3, n. 5916-5918 (Judge 2024-2026: Antonio Garofalo).

H≠2, H=2, n. 5919-5926 (Judge 2024-2025: NN)

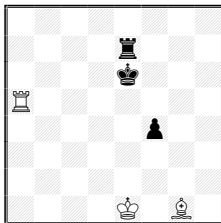
H≠2.5/H≠3, H=2.5/H=3, n. 5927-5932 (Judge 2024-2025: NN).

5930. E. Zimmer  
Polonia



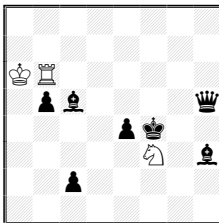
H≠3 (3+4) C+  
b) ♖d4→e5, c) ♖d4→a5

5931. S. Hudak  
Slovacchia



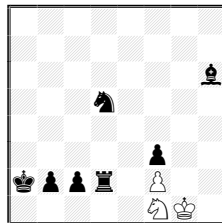
H≠3 (3+3) C+  
3 sol.

5932. M. Vasyuchko  
& M.T. Galma  
Ucraina



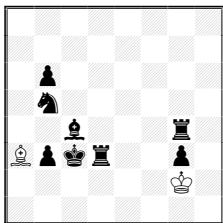
H≠3 (3+7) C+  
3 sol.

5933. F. Magini  
Italia



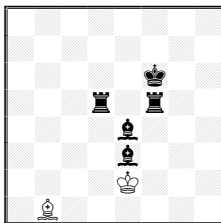
H≠4 (3+7) C+  
2 sol.

5934. S. Luce - *Dedicated  
to Antonio Garofalo* -  
Francia



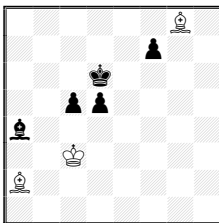
H≠4,5 (2+8) C+  
b) ♖g4

5935. F. Magini  
Italia



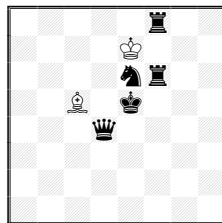
H≠5 (2+5) C+  
b) ♖b1→g2

5936. S. Luce  
Francia



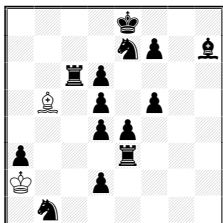
H≠6,5 (3+5) C+  
1 sol.

5937. A. Pankratiev  
Russia



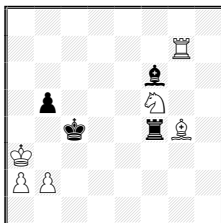
H≠6,5 (2+5) C+  
1 sol.

5938. M. Parrinello  
Italia



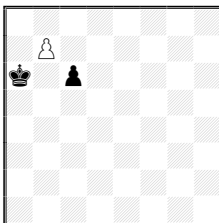
H≠6,5 (2+14) C+  
1 sol.

5939. N. Petkovic  
Serbia



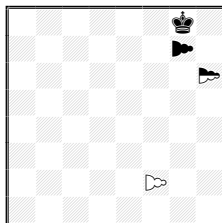
hs≠3,5 (6+4) C+  
2 sol.

5940. J.M. Loustau  
Francia



H≠5 (1+2) C+  
b) ♖a6↔♜c6  
AntiNeuKöko

5941. S. Luce  
Francia



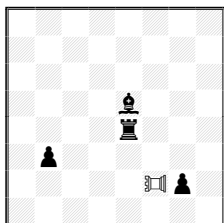
H≠2 (1+2+1) C+  
\*\*

\*\* 5941. b) ♖g8→a1 c) ♖g8→h1 d) ♖g8→b8 ♞♟♞=Super-Pion bondisseur

H≠n, n. 5933-5938 (Judge 2024-2025: Antonio Garofalo).

hs≠2/n, n. 5939 (Judge 2024-2025: Antonio Garofalo).

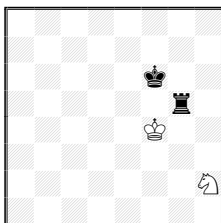
**5942. S. Luce**  
Francia



**1N & sd=12 (1+4) C+**  
**2 sol.** ∞ PWC  
♖=Triton

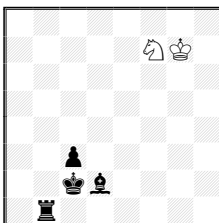
∞ 5942: One black move, then Serie-direct stalemate 12 moves.

**5943. O.V. Paradzinsky**  
Ucraina



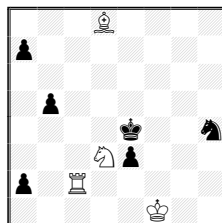
**H≠3 (2+2) C+**  
**2 sol.**  
Masand chess

**5944. H. Nieuwhart**  
Olanda



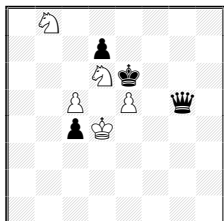
**H≠3 (2+4) C+**  
**b) ♖b1→c1**  
Anticirce

**5945. P. Tritten**  
Francia



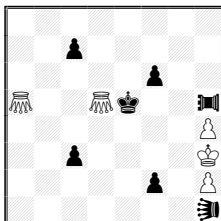
**H≠2 (4+6) C+**  
**3 sol.**  
Take & Make

**5946. N. Danstrup**  
Danimarca



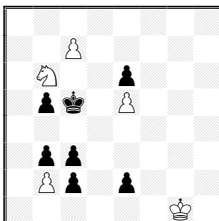
**H≠2 (5+4) C+**  
**2 sol.**  
Einstein

**5947. M. Parrinello**  
Italia



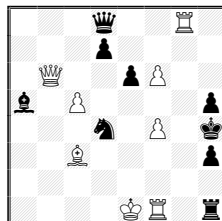
**hs≠3 (5+7) C+**  
**2 sol. Anti-Kings**  
♗=Leo, ♘=Pao  
♙=Grasshoppers

**5948. S. Luce**  
Francia



**sh=8 (5+7) C+**  
**1 sol.**  
Sentinels with adverse  
Pawn

**5949. A. Armeni**  
Italia



**H≠2 (8+9) C+**  
**3 sol.**  
Madras

**Fairies n. 5940-5949** (Judge 2024: (NN).

## Note agli inediti (Fairy elements)

sh = aiutatto a serie (Serie helpmate/helpstalemate).

hs = helpselfmate.

sd = diretti a serie (Serie direct)

ss = serie selfmate

• **Anticirce:** On making a capture, any unit (including K) is reborn on its game-array square (as determined according to **Circe** rules), and the captured unit disappears. Since rebirth is obligatory, a capture is legal only if the relevant rebirth-square is unoccupied. A capture may be made from a rebirth-square. Promotion with capture is legal provided the rebirth-square of the promoted unit is unoccupied. In **Anti-Circe type Calvet** capture on a rebirth-square is allowed (it is default type if type is omitted). In **Anti-Circe type Cheylan** capture on a rebirth-square is not allowed.

- **Anti-Kings:** A King is in check, if it is not attacked.
  - **Antineukōko:** A piece that is in contact with another piece should not be after playing; A piece that is not in contact with another piece must be after playing. [Un pezzo che è in contatto con un altro pezzo NON deve esserlo dopo aver mosso. Un pezzo che non è in contatto con un altro pezzo DEVE esserlo dopo aver mosso.]
  - **Einstein:** Units "grow" when they capture (♔→♖→♙→♗→♘→♚→♞...) and "shrink" when they move without capturing (♞→♗→♙→♖→♔→♞...). Castling is permitted with reborn Rook but the Rook changes to a Bishop. If a white (black) Pawn on 7<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup>) rank make a non-capturing move, fit does not change its status, i.e., remains a Pawn and loses its mobility.
  - **Madراسi:** Units of the same kind other than Kings are paralysed when and for as long as they attack each other. Paralysed units cannot move, capture or give check, their only power being that of causing paralysis. **Madراسi RI** (rex inclusive): the rule applies to Kings as well, so the two Kings may stand on adjacent squares.
  - **Masand:** A piece which directly threatens the opposite King, after it moves, it changes the color of the pieces it controls or attacks, except the Kings. [Quando un pezzo dà scacco, e nel contempo controlla altri pezzi, tali pezzi cambiano di colore. Sono esclusi i Re.]
  - **PWC = PlatzWechselCirce:** A captured unit is reborn, according to **Circe** rules, on the departure square of the capturing unit. (Quando viene fatta una cattura, l'unità catturata viene piazzata nella casa del pezzo che l'ha appena catturata, in pratica scambiandosi il posto con il pezzo catturante.)
  - **Sentinelles en Pion adverse** (Sentinels in opponent pawn): Lorsqu'une pièce (Pion exclus) quitte une case située en dehors des premières et dernières rangées, elle y laisse un Pion de la couleur de l'autre camp, sauf si 8 Pions de cette couleur sont déjà présents sur l'échiquier.
  - **Super-Pion bondisseur:** Super-Pion ne se promouvant qu'en un Bondisseur. [A Super Leaper Pawn (SLP) is a Super-Pawn which can be promoted only to any kind of Leaper. *Un super-pedone-saltatore, può essere promosso solo a qualsiasi tipo di saltatore.*]
  - **Take & Make:** After any capture, the capturing unit **must** make a move that could be made by the captured unit, and this move cannot be another capture.
- **AN=Antelope**, or Leaper (3, 4)
  - **DA=Dababba**, or Leaper (0, 2).
  - **Grasshopper:** Moves along Queen-lines over another unit of either colour to the square immediately beyond that unit. A capture may be made on arrival, but the hurdle is not affected.
  - **Leo:** The Chinese Queen, which moves like a normal Queen but captures like a **Lion**.
  - **Pao:** The Chinese Rook, which moves like a normal Rook but captures like a **Rook-Lion**.
  - **Triton:** A marine piece that moves like a Rook but captures like a **Rook-Locust**.

## Soluzioni Inediti

Fascicolo n. 111

Commenti degli autori e del redattore.

### 5906. (≠2, Zoltán Labai & Miroslav Svitek)

4r3/p1Q3p1/K2p4/pp2b3/3R1p2/nq1p1k1P/2p1R1r1/2B2B1N

1. ♖xg7? [2. ♗xg2‡]

1... ♜xe2 a 2. ♗g4‡ 1... ♜xg7 2. ♗f2‡ 1... ♙xg7 2. ♞xf4‡ 1... ♖g8 2. ♞xd3‡ ma 1... ♞g8!

**1. ♖f7!** [2. ♜e3‡]

1... ♜xe2 aAB 2. ♖h5‡ 1...dxe2 BC 2. ♖xb3‡ 1... ♙xd4 CA 2. ♖xf4‡ 1... ♙f6 CD 2. ♜xf4‡  
 1...d2 CE 2. ♖xb3‡  
 1... ♘c4 2. ♖d5‡ 1... ♖xf7 2. ♜xd3‡

Comments by Authors:

- Pergialis theme
- Cycle of pairs of defensive motifs AB - BC - CA
- Spiral of pairs of defensive motifs AB - BC - CD ( AB - BC - CE )

A - direct guard of the threat square

B - capturing of the threat unit

C - indirect guarding by line-opening

D - indirect guarding by unpinning

E - creating flight by line interference

**5907. (≠2, Miroslav Svitek)**

8/4Qp2/2p2P1b/3PP2r/2PkN2n/1P5R/2BPR3/1Kn5

1... ♜xe5 a 2. ♖c5‡ 1... ♙e3 b 2.dxe3‡

1. ♘f2? [2. ♜e4‡] ma 1... ♜xe5! a ♙e3! b

**1. ♘g5!** [2. ♜e4‡]

1... ♘xe2 c 2. ♜d3‡ 1...cxd5 d 2. ♖a7‡

Comments by Author: Radical change Z – 22 – 44

**5908. (≠2, Alexandre Pankratiev)**

1nQ4n/4B3/1RqpNp2/2p1k1pr/2R2NP1/3p2p1/3K1p2/5b2

1... ♖c6~ 2. ♙xd6#

1. ♘d8? [2. ♖f5‡ A 2. ♖e6‡ B]

1... ♘d7 a 2. ♘xc6‡ 1... ♖xc8 c 2. ♙xd6‡ ma 1... ♖d7! b

1. ♘xc5? [2. ♖f5‡ A 2. ♖e6‡ B]

1... ♖d7 b 2. ♜e4‡ Y ma 1... ♘d7! a

1. ♘xg5? [2. ♖f5‡ A 2. ♖e6‡ B]

1... ♖xc8 c 2. ♙xd6‡ X 2. ♘f3‡ Y 2. ♜e4‡ Z

1... ♖d7 b 2. ♘f3‡ Y 2. ♜e4‡ Z 1... ♖e4 2. ♙xd6‡ X 2. ♜xe4‡ Z ma 1... ♘d7! a

**1. ♘d4!** [2. ♖f5‡ A]

1...gxf4 2. ♖e6‡ B 1... ♘d7 a 2. ♘xc6‡ 1... ♖d7 b 2. ♘f3‡ Z

1... ♖xc8 c 2. ♘f3‡ Z 1... ♖e4 2. ♙xd6‡ X

**5909. (≠2, Antonio Tarnawiecki)**

2b4n/8/3pp3/1p2kpP1/1p6/1B2B1P1/2nN3K/7Q

1. ♖f1? [2. ♖f4‡] ma 1... ♘g6!

1. ♖c6? [2. ♘f3‡]

1... ♘d4 2. ♙f4‡ 1...f4 2. ♖e4‡ 1...d5 2. ♖c7‡ ma 1... ♘e1!

**1. ♖a8!** [2. ♘f3‡]

1... ♘e1 2. ♖a1‡ 1... ♙b7 2. ♖xh8‡ 1...d5 2. ♖b8‡ 1... ♘d4 2. ♙f4‡ 1...f4 2. ♖e4‡

**5910. (≠2, Gérard Doukhan)**

K1b1BQ2/1p2pP2/Rb1pkp2/4P3/1NR1p1P1/3N4/1r6/B7

1. ♖g7? [2.f8=♘‡]

1...dxe5 2. ♜xb6‡ (2. ♘f4?) 1... ♜xb4 2. ♘f4‡ ma 1...exd3!

1.exd6? A [2. ♖xe7‡] not 2. ♜xe4? C ♘xd6!

1... ♙d8 2. ♜xe4‡ C 1...exd6 2. ♜xe4‡ C 1... ♙xd6 2. ♜xb6‡ ma 1... ♜xb4! b

1.exf6? **B** [2. ♖xe7†] not 2. ♖xe4? **C** ♖xf6!  
 1...exf6 2. ♖xe4† **C** transferred  
 1... ♖xf6 2. ♖h6† 1... ♖xb4 **b** 2. ♖f4† (2. ♖xe4?) ma 1... ♖d8! **a**  
**1. ♖xe4!** [2. ♖f4†] not 2.exd6? **A** ♖xd6! and not 2.exf6? **B** ♖xf6!  
 1... ♖e3 2.exd6† **A** 1... ♖f2 2.exf6† **B**  
 1...fxe5 2. ♖h6† transferred  
 1...dxe5 2. ♖xb6† transferred

Comments by Author:

Combination of first and second white move exchanges, line openings with the reappearance of the impossible threat and transferred mates. Two black generalized corrections 1.Qf8-g7? : d6xe5 corrects Rb2xb4, 1.e5xf6? : Rb2xb4 corrects e7xf6

After the key, all defences open white lines.

### 5911. (≠2, José Luis Velasco)

bQ1r4/BB2N1n1/2r2b2/1p3np1/3P2R1/1R1Nk1p1/2P3P1/3K4

1. ♖e1! [2. ♖c5†]  
 1... ♖xd4 2. ♖xg3† 1... ♖xd4 2. ♖e5† 1... ♖xd4 2. ♖d5† 1... ♖c3 2. ♖e4† 1... ♖xc2 2. ♖e4†  
 1... ♖c4 2. ♖e4†  
 4 difese Schiffmann

### 5912. (≠2, Germán Bielefeldt & Virginio Cabrera)

R3K3/3p1p1Q/8/1PNkBb2/3P4/4n3/3N4/5r2

1. ♖e6! [2. ♖c7†]  
 1... ♖xe6 2. ♖e4† 1... ♖c1 2. ♖f4† 1... ♖xe6 2. ♖xf7†  
 1...fxe6 2. ♖xd7† 1...dxe6 2. ♖d8†

### 5913. (≠2, José Luis Velasco)

3b1r1B/3pPB1n/4P1p1/1KPkNPR1/1Pp2Rp1/1Pr1pP2/6Q1/4n3

1. ♖xd7? [2. ♖d4†]  
 1... ♖c2 2.fxg4† 1... ♖f6 2.fxg6† 1... ♖d3 2.bxc4† ma 1... ♖xh8! **a**  
 1. ♖xg6? [2. ♖d4†]  
 1... ♖c2 2.fxg4† 1... ♖d3 2.bxc4† 1... ♖xh8 2.exd7† ma 1... ♖f6! **b**  
 1. ♖xc4? [2. ♖d4†]  
 1... ♖c2 2.fxg4† 1... ♖f6 2.fxg6† 1... ♖xc4 2.bxc4† 1... ♖xh8 2.exd7† ma 1... ♖d3! **c**  
 1. ♖xg4? [2. ♖d4†]  
 1... ♖f6 2.fxg6† 1... ♖d3 2.bxc4† 1... ♖xh8 2.exd7† ma 1... ♖c2! **d**  
 1. ♖d3! [2. ♖d4†]  
 1... ♖xh8 **a** 2.exd7† 1... ♖f6 **b** 2.fxg6† 1... ♖xd3 **c** 2.bxc4† 1... ♖c2 **d** 2.fxg4†

L'Autore presenta una Proof Game a dimostrazione della legalità della posizione! Eccellente iniziativa.

1. g4 h5 2. Nf3 c6 3. Bg2 Qa5 4. b3 Qf5 5. Ne5 g6 6. gxf5 Bg7 7. Ng4 hxg4 8. h4 Kd8 9. h5 Kc7  
 10. h6 Kd6 11. h7 Nf6 12. Rh5 Rf8 13. h8=Q Kc5 14. Rg5 Na6 15. Qh3 Nh7 16. Bd5 Nb4 17.  
 Qg2 b6 18. f3 Ba6 19. Kf2 Nd3+ 20. Ke3 Ne1 21. Bb2 Be5 22. a3 Bc7 23. Bh8 f6 24. Nc3 Bd3  
 25. Qb1 Kd6 26. Nb5+ Kc5 27. Nd6 Bd8 28. Nf7 a6 29. cxd3 e5 30. d4+ Kb5 31. dxe5 Kc5 32. e6  
 Kb5 33. e7 Kc5 34. d3 b5 35. Kd2 b4 36. Nh6 Kd6 37. e4 Kc5 38. e5 a5 39. Bg8 Kb5 40. Nf7  
 Kc5 41. e6 a4 42. Qb2 Kd5 43. Qe5+ fxe5 44. axb4 c5 45. d4 e4 46. Ne5 e3+ 47. Kc3 Kd6 48.  
 Kc4 a3 49. Kb5 a2 50. Rd1 c4 51. Bf7 a1=Q 52. Rd2 Ra2 53. Rd1 Rc2 54. Rd2 Qa7 55. Rd3  
 Qc5+ 56. dxc5+ Kc7 57. Rd4 Rc3 58. Re4 Kb7 59. Ka4 Kc7 60. Nd3 Kc6 61. Ne5+ Kd5 62. Kb5  
 Rc1 63. Rf4 Rc3 \*



**5914. (#3, Elmar Abdullayev)**

4B3/8/4p3/4k1P1/8/2N1K3/8/6R1

1. ♖b5? tempo

1... ♗d5 2. ♜c1 ♗e5 3. ♜c5‡ 2... e5 3. ♗f7‡ ma 1... ♗f5!

1. ♖e4! tempo

1... ♗f5 2.g6 e5 a 3. ♗d7‡ A 2... ♗e5 b 3. ♜g5‡ B

1... ♗d5 2. ♜c1 e5 a 3. ♗f7‡ C 2... ♗e5 b 3. ♜c5‡ D

Comments by Author: Tema Visserman. Matti cambiati a eco.

**5915. (#3, Leonid Lyubashevsky, Leonid Makaronez & Victor Volchek)**

6nK/2p5/2P1Qpp1/B1k1p3/Pp6/3q2N1/pPN2P2/2nR1B1b

1. ♖xb4! [2. ♖a6+ ♗d4 3. ♗c3‡ 2... ♗xa6 3.b4‡]

1... ♖e2 2. ♜xd3 (♖xd3+? ♗d4!) [3. ♖a6‡] ♗d5 3. ♗xd5‡

1... ♖b3 2. ♖xd3+ (♜xd3? ♖xa5!) ♗d4 3. ♗c3‡

1... ♗d5 2. ♗xd5+ ♗xd5 3. ♜xd5‡

1... ♗d4 2. ♖c2+ ♗c5 3.b4‡

Comments by Authors: Pinning, Antiduals, Play on same square

**5916. (S#2, Yuri Arefiev)**

kbb2Q2/4R1p1/N1P5/2B2pPp/1N3pPP/5p1K/5P1P/8

a) 1. ♜xg7? ♗e5!

1.g6! tempo

1... ♗e5 2. ♜xe5 hxg4, fxg4‡ 1... ♗d6 2. ♗xd6 hxg4, fxg4‡ 1... ♗a7 2. ♗xa7 hxg4, fxg4‡

1... ♗c7 2. ♜xc7 hxg4, fxg4‡ 1... ♗xa6 2. ♖xa6 hxg4, fxg4‡ 1... ♗e6 2. ♜xe6 hxg4, fxg4‡

1... ♗b7 2. ♜xb7 hxg4, fxg4‡ 1... ♗d7 2. ♜xd7 hxg4, fxg4‡ (1. ♗xc8? fxg4!)

b) 1.g6? tempo, ma 1... ♖xe7!

1. ♜xg7! tempo

1... ♖xa6 2. ♖xa6 hxg4, fxg4‡ 1... ♖xc6 2. ♖xc6 hxg4, fxg4‡ 1... ♖d7 2. ♜xd7 hxg4, fxg4‡

1... ♖b6 2. ♗xb6 hxg4, fxg4‡ 1... ♖d6 2. ♗xd6 hxg4, fxg4‡ 1... ♖a7 2. ♗xa7 hxg4, fxg4‡

1... ♖e7 2. ♜xe7 hxg4, fxg4‡ Comments by Author: Some variants represent the Rukhlis theme, and there is not duality of white moves in all variants!

**5917. (S#3, Alexandre Pankratiev)**

n1r1N3/1PpP3p/2K3pr/1P4Qp/3k1P2/2pPnp2/2P1p3/5bB1

1. ♖g7! [2. ♖f5+ A gxf5+ 3. ♗f6+ B ♜xf6‡]

1... ♗h3 2. ♖e6+ C ♗xe6 3. ♗d5+ D ♗xd5‡

1... f2 2. ♗d5+ D ♖xd5 3. ♖f5+ A gxf5‡

1... ♜f8 2. ♗f6+ B ♜xf6+ 3. ♖e6+ C ♜xe6‡

Ciclo delle 2° e 3° mosse bianche.

**5918. (S#3, Alexandre Pankratiev)**

7b/3Qr1q1/N2pP1p1/p2kr3/p1R2P2/2Kp1N1B/1P1P4/1bn5

1. ♖g5! [2. ♗g2+ ♜e4+ 3. ♜d4+ ♗xd4‡]

1... ♖b3 2. ♜d4+ ♖xd4 3. ♗b5+ ♖xb5‡

1... ♜e4+ 2. ♜d4+ ♜xd4 3. ♗g2+ ♜e4‡

1... ♜xd7 2. ♖c7+ ♜xc7 3. ♗g2+ ♜e4‡

**5919. (H=2, Alberto Armeni)**

1K1k4/8/8/1B6/3P4/3p1P2/3PN3/4r1B1

1. ♜xe2 ♗f2 2. ♜e7 ♗h4= 1. ♜xg1 ♖f4 2. ♜g6 ♖xg6=

Zilahi, Captures réciproques, Pats modèles, (WinChloe)

**5920. (H≠2, Michal Dragoun)**

8/1p6/5n2/3pk1p1/1Bp5/r1Np4/2nPNR2/5bK1

1. ♖xc3 ♙xc3+ 2. ♚e4 ♜g3‡ 1. ♙xe2 ♖xe2+ 2. ♚d4 ♜b5‡

1. ♖a6 ♖g2 (♙a5?) 2. ♖e6 ♖xg5‡ 1. ♙h3 ♙a5 (♖g2?) 2. ♙e6 ♙c7‡

Comments by Author: 2+2 solutions. In the first pair Zilahi with passive captures of wSS and recaptures by white officers. The second pair with selfblocks of e6 is clearly simpler, but it contains at least antidual choice of white manoeuvre and uses D/O geometry in play of both rooks and bishops.

**5921. (H=2, Menachem Witztum)**

1B4B1/2P2Pp1/6P1/5k1P/2q4p/7p/5N1P/3K4

a) 1. ♖xc7 f8=♙ (♖+?) 2. ♖e7 ♙xe7=

b) 1. ♖xf7 c8=♖ (♖+?) 2. ♖c4 ♖xc4=

Zilahi, Switchback de Dame, Echo diagonal-orthogonal, Captures réciproques (WinChloe)

**5922. (H≠2, Jozef Lozek & Miroslav Svitek)**

kB5K/p6b/5r2/6r1/4N3/8/7q/7B

1. ♖g3 ♙xg3 2. ♖gg6 ♜xf6‡ 1. ♖d6 ♙xd6 2. ♖fg6 ♜xg5‡

• Comments by Authors • Active sacrifice (black) × 2 • Analogy (complete)

• Exchange of functions (bRg5/bRf6, Captured / Interfering + Interfered)

• Hideaway (bQ, sacrificial) × 2 • Play on the same square (B2, 2) • Battery mate × 2

View in Helpmate Analyzer

**5923. (H≠2, Alexandre Pankratiev & Yuri Gorbatenko)**

N3b2b/p4p2/n1p2p2/1p1k1p2/p7/nr4QK/B7/3r4

a) 1. ♙e6 ♜b6 2. ♖d6 ♖e3‡ b) 1. ♙c4 ♜e2 2. ♖d5 ♖c3‡ c) 1. ♖e1 ♜d7 2. ♖e6 ♖d3‡

**5924. (H≠2, Alexandre Pankratiev & Evgeny Gavriliv)**

8/1KN1p3/n3PR2/1p1Nk1b1/1Pp1nppr/3p4/8/1q4B1

1. ♖xg1 ♖f5+ **A** 2. ♚d4 ♜xb5‡ **B** 1. ♜xb4 ♜xb5 **B** 2. ♜xd5 ♙d4‡ **C**1. exf6 ♙d4+ **C** 2. ♜f5 ♜e7‡ **D** 1. ♖xb4 ♜xe7 **D** 2. ♖d6 ♖f5‡ **A**

Comments by Authors: • AntiZielElement (W1, flight-unguard) • Cycle of moves (W1/W2) • Cycle of pieces (W1/W2)

**5925. (H≠2, Mikola Vasyuchko & Mikhaïlo T. Galma)**

2Q4K/1Rp5/3p4/2p5/1r4B1/n4b2/1N6/2kN4

1. ♙xb7 ♖xb7 2. ♖xb2 ♖xb2‡ 1. ♖xg4 ♖xg4 2. ♙xd1 ♖xd1‡

Comments by Authors: • Active sacrifice (black) × 4 • Analogy (complete) • Exchange of functions (wBg4/wRb7, Captured / Passive guard) • Exchange of functions (wSd1/wSb2, Captured / Passive guard) • Orthogonal-diagonal transformation • Sacrificial clearance (B-W) × 2 • Model mate × 2

View in Helpmate Analyzer

**5926. (H≠2, Fabio Magini)**

2B5/2rq3b/4P3/8/P2nR3/k2K4/1p6/N7

1. ♖xa4 ♙d7 2. ♜f5 ♖xa4‡ 1. ♖xe6 ♙xe6 2. ♜c6 ♜c2‡

**5927. (H≠2.5, Eligiusz Zimmer)**

b7/pn2p3/7R/kpp5/7R/1p5K/8/8

a) 1... ♖b6 2. axb6 ♖h8 3. ♙a6 ♖xa8‡ b) 1... ♖b4 2. cxb4 ♖xg6 3. ♙a4 ♖a6‡ Zilahi

**5928. (H≠2.5, Béla Majoros)**

6K1/1N1pr3/8/3kpN2/1r6/4P3/1P6/8

1... b3 2. ♖f7 ♜xf7 3. ♖e4 ♜e7‡ 1... ♜c5 2. ♖c4 b4 3. d6 ♜xe7‡

**5929. (H≠2.5, Yuri Arefiev)**

3Q3K/p1npr3/b1pp3b/8/1p1PP1p1/8/3Pk3/5q1r

- a) 1... ♖f8 2. ♖d1 ♖xh6 3. ♜f1 ♜e3‡  
 1... ♜xc7 2. ♖d3 ♜xc6 3. ♖xd4 ♜d5‡ 1... ♜g8 2. ♖f3 ♜b3+ 3. ♖f4 ♜e3‡
- b) 1... ♜c8 2. ♖c1 ♖xa6 3. ♜e1 ♜d3‡  
 1... ♜xe7 2. ♖e3 ♜xd6 3. ♖xe4 ♜e5‡ 1... ♜f8 2. ♖c3 ♜f3+ 3. ♖c4 ♜d3‡

Comments by Author:

The full chameleon of model mates with aiming points for white Queen.

Triax-form of HOTF helpmate.

**5930. (H≠3, Eligiusz Zimmer)**

8/1Rp5/8/2P5/2pk4/2b5/4K3/8

- a) 1. ♙xc5 ♙f3 2. ♙d4 ♙f4 3. c5 ♜d7‡  
 b) 1. ♙e6 ♜a7 2. ♙d7 c6+ 3. ♙c8 ♜a8‡  
 c) 1. ♙d2 ♙xd2 2. ♙a4 ♙c3 3. ♙a3 ♜a7‡

**5931. (H≠3, Stanislav Hudak)**

8/4r3/4k3/R7/5p2/8/8/4K1B1

1. ♜b7 ♙b6 2. ♙d7 ♜d5+ 3. ♙c8 ♜d8‡  
 1. ♜f7 ♙d4 2. ♙e7 ♙f6+ 3. ♙f8 ♜a8‡  
 1. ♜d7 ♜f5 2. ♙e7 ♙c5+ 3. ♙e8 ♜f8‡

**5932. (H≠3, Mikola Vasyuchko & Mikhaïlo T. Galma)**

8/8/KR6/1pb4q/4pk2/5N1b/2p5/8

1. ♜g4 ♘e5 2. ♙g5 ♘f7+ 3. ♙h5 ♜h6‡  
 1. ♙e3 ♜e6 2. ♙e2 ♜xe4+ 3. ♙d1 ♜e1‡  
 1. ♙g3 ♜d6 2. ♙g2 ♜d2+ 3. ♙h1 ♜h2‡

Comments by Authors:

- BK moves only × 2
- Long-trip (wR, 3) × 2
- Model mate × 3
- Echo mates

View in Helpmate Analyzer

**5933. (H≠4, Fabio Magini)**

8/8/7b/3n4/8/5p2/kppr1P2/5NK1

1. ♜d1 ♙h2 2. ♜a1 ♘e3 3. ♙b1 ♘xd5 4. ♙c1 ♘c3‡  
 1. ♙b1 ♘xd2+ 2. ♙c1 ♙f1 3. ♘c3 ♙e1 4. ♘b1 ♘b3‡

**5934. (H≠4.5, Sébastien Luce)***Dedicated to Antonio Garofalo*

8/8/1p6/1n6/2b3r1/Bpkr2p1/6K1/8

- a) 1... ♙f1 2. ♜dd4+ ♙e1 3. ♙d3 ♙d1 4. ♜b4 ♙c1 5. ♜gc4 ♙b2‡  
 b) 1... ♙c5 2. ♜g6 ♙xb6 3. ♜d2+ ♙f3 4. ♜b2 ♙e3 5. ♜c2 ♙a5‡

Comments by Author: White King finds a way to c1 in twin a), to e3 in twin b). Black Bristol in

a) to self-block squares b4 and c4 with the good pieces. In b) Rook d3 also has to self-block first on b2 before the Queen on c2.

**5935. (H≠5, Fabio Magini)**

8/8/5k2/3r1r2/4b3/4b3/4K3/1B6

- a) 1. ♙h6 ♙a2 2. ♙g5 ♙e3 3. ♙h5+ ♙xe4 4. ♜d4+ ♙xf5 5. ♜h4 ♙f7‡  
 b) 1. ♜fe5 ♙f1 2. ♙d3+ ♙f3 3. ♙f5 ♙g3 4. ♙e4 ♙g4 5. ♜d4 ♙g2‡

**5936. (H≠6.5, Sébastien Luce)**

6B1/5p2/3k4/2pp4/b7/2K5/B7/8

- 1... ♙h7 2. d4+ ♙c4 3. ♙c2 ♙b5 4. ♙e4 ♙e6 5. fxe6 ♙b6 6. ♙d5 ♙c7 7. e5 ♙g8‡

Comments by Author:

Three Bishops on the board, but three of the same colour! Difficult to mate...

It is necessary to sacrifice one of the white Bishops to allow a future Pawn self-block in e5, black Bishop also self-blocks in e4 then white King goes to c7 and the remaining white Bishop h7 mates with unexpected switchback.

**5937. (H≠6.5, Alexandre Pankratiev)**

5r2/4K3/4nr2/2B1k3/3q4/8/8/8

1... ♖xd4+ 2. ♖f5 ♖xf6 3. ♖g6 ♖g7 4. ♖h7 ♖xf8 5. ♖h8 ♖h6 6. ♖f8 ♖f7 7. ♖h7 ♖g7♯

Ideal mate

**5938. (H≠6.5, Mario Parrinello)**

4k3/4np1b/2rp4/1B1p1p2/3pp3/p3r3/K2p4/1n6

1... ♖d3 2. ♖d7 ♖xe4 3. ♖e6 ♖xf5+ 4. ♖e5 ♖d7 5. ♖e4 ♖xc6 6. ♖d3 ♖b3 7. ♖e4 ♖b5♯

Comments by Author: Rundauf dell' ♖b5.

**5939. (hs5.5, Nikola Petkovic)**

8/6R1/5b2/1p3N2/2k2rB1/K7/PP6/8

1... ♖d4 2. ♖e7 ♖d6 3. ♖e5 ♖e7 4. ♖e2+ ♖d3♯

1... ♖d4 2. ♖f3 ♖e3 3. ♖e4 ♖f3 4. ♖c7+ ♖c5♯

**5940. (H≠5, Jean-Marc Loustau)**

8/1P6/k1p5/8/8/8/8/8

a) 1.c5 b8=R 2. ♖a7 ♖c8 3. ♖b6 ♖c7 4. ♖a6 ♖b7 5. ♖a5 ♖b5♯

b) 1. ♖c5 b8=♖ 2. ♖b6 ♖c7 3. ♖c5 ♖d6+ 4. ♖d4 ♖c5+ 5. ♖e3 ♖b6♯

Comments by Author:

a) 1 c5 b8=R “tempo try”: 2 tempo?? Rb6# So 2 Ka7 Rc8 3 Kb6 Rc7 4 Ka6 Rb7 5 Ka5 Rb5# (echo) Rundlauf by Rook and Black King.

b) 1 Kc5 b8=B 2Kb6 Bc7 3 Kc5 “logic try”: 3... Bb6+?? 4 K~ So 3... Bd6+! 4 Kd4 Bc5+ 5 Ke3 Bb6#! (and not 5... Ba7+?? a5!) Original King and Bishop walk, step by step.

Contrasted solutions, with 2 minor promotions, tempo-manoeuvres (\*) and diagonal or orthogonal little steps... Wenigsteiner.

[ (\*) after 1st move: - in a) : 1 c5 b8=R 2 tempo??? Rb7 3 Ka5 Rb5# - in b) : 1 Kc5 b8=B 2 tempo??? Bd6+ 3 Kd4 Bc5+ 4 Ke3 Bb6# ]

**5941. (H≠2, Sébastien Luce)**

a) 1.SPBNh1=ANn ANNd4+ 2.Rh8 SPBf8=DA♯

b) 1.SPBg1=(1,5) SPBNh8=(6,7)n 2.(1,5)b2 SPBf8=(5,7)♯

c) 1.SPBg2 SPBNh8=ANn 2.ANnd5 SPBf8=(2,7)♯

d) 1.Ra8 SPBNh7 2.SPBNh1=(6,7)n SPBf3♯

Comments by Author:

In the first three variations, the black Super Leaper Pawn self-blocks, (one time after to be promoted). The neutral Super Leaper Pawn is promoted in all variations to control two flight squares. White Super Leaper Pawn finishes the job with a mating promotion to a different Leaper each time.

The solution of twin d) is the most surprising: the neutral Super Leaper Pawn makes a "waiting move" forward before to be promoted on h1! And white Super Leaper Pawn mates without to be promoted, just advancing one step!! Black is mated in all the four corners of the board.

**5942. (1N & sd=12, Sébastien Luce)**

1.Fh2 & 1.TRf4 2.TRh4 3.TRxe4-d4(Th4) 4.TRd1 5.TRh1 6.TRxh2-h3(Fh1) 7.TRh2 8.TRxh4-h5(Th2) 9.TRh3 10.TRxb3-a3(h3) 11.TRa1 12.TRg1=

1.Fa1 & 1.TRe2 2.TRxe4-e5(Te2) 3.TRa5 4.TRa3 5.TRxb3-c3(a3) 6.TRc2 7.TRa2 8.TRxe2-f2(Ta2) 9.TRb2 10.TRxg2-h2(b2) 11.TRh1 12.TRb1=

Comments by Author:

Echo in the corners a1/h1 with self incarceration of Rook and Bishop.

The "hybrid stipulation" avoids twins, and adds "some mystery" to the solution.

**5943. (H≠3, Oleg V. Paradzinsky)**

8/8/5k2/6r1/5K2/8/7N/8

1. ♖e5 ♜g4+ 2. ♘g6 ♖e6+ 3. ♘h5 ♗h6‡ 1. ♗g8 ♜g4+ 2. ♘g7 ♘g5 3. ♘h7+ ♜f6‡

Black Indien.

**5944. (H≠3, Hans Nieuwhart)**

8/5NK1/8/8/2p5/2kb4/1r6

a) 1. ♘c1 ♜e5 2. ♗h6+ ♘xh6(♘e1) 3.c2 ♜d3‡

b) 1. ♘d1 ♜d6 2.c2 ♜e8 3. ♗h6+ ♘xh6(♘e1)‡

Scambio delle seconde e terze mosse nere.

**5945. (H≠2, Pierre Tritten)**

3B4/p7/8/1p6/4k2n/3Np3/p1R5/5K2

1. ♘d5 ♗c6 2. ♘xc6(♘a6) ♜c5‡

1. ♘f3 ♜f2 2. ♘xf2(♘h1) ♗xh4(♗f3)‡

1. ♘f5 ♗f6 2. ♘xf6(♘a1) ♗c1‡

Comments by Author:

Black King moves to allow white sacrifice. Cyclic Zilahi.

**5946. Niels Danstrup**

1N6/3p4/3Nk3/2P1P1q1/2pK4/8/8/8

1. ♖e7(♗) ♜xc4(♗)+ 2.d5 cxd6 e.p.(♜)‡ 1. ♗g7(♗) c6 2. ♗e7(♗) ♜xd7(♗)‡

Comments by Author:

There is mate with en passant in solution 1.

In the end-positions there are blockade on e7 by a Rook or Bishop (originally a Queen)

**5947. (hs≠3, Mario Parrinello)**

1. ♞d2+ ♘d6 2. ♞g2+ ♘c6 3. ♞xh1+ PAd5‡

1. ♞d8+ ♘d4 2. ♞g5+ ♘c5 3. ♞xh5+ LEd5‡

Zilahi, Echo diagonal-orthogonal, Umnov. (WinChloe)

Ed ecco un altro eccellente HelpSelfmate del GM Parrinello.

**5948. (sh=8, Sébastien Luce)**

8/2P5/1N2p3/1pk1P3/8/1pp5/1Pp1p3/6K1

1.e1=♗ 2.c1=♖ 3. ♖d2 4. ♖d8(+d2) 5.cxd2 6.d1=♗ 7. ♗d4 8. ♗b4 cxd8=♜=

Comments by Author:

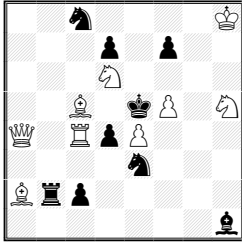
AUW with Ceriani-Frolkin by black Queen of promotion which lets an important white sentinel on d2, allowing the promotion to Rook on d1. Black Bristol by the Rook of promotion. At the end, black Bishop b4 and Rook d4 self-block but are also "pinned by the condition". Impossible to move from these squares because a white sentinel would appear with self check. For the same reason, black King cannot capture Knight b6.

**5949. (H≠2, Alberto Armeni)**

3q2R1/3p4/1Q2pP2/b1P4p/3n1P1k/2B4p/8/4KR1r

1. ♜c6 f7 2. ♜b4 ♗f6‡ 1. ♜e2 f5 2. ♜g1 ♗f4‡ 1. ♜b5 c6 2. ♜c7 ♖f2‡

## Affermazioni italiane (Italian award winners)



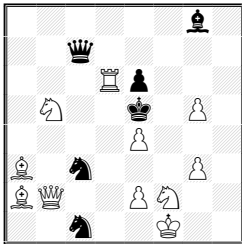
← **Marco Guida** - 1<sup>st</sup> Hon. Mention, Vitaly Aksenov JT65, 2021  
2n4K/3p1p2/3N4/2B1kP1N/Q1RpP3/4n3/Brp5/7b

≠2 (9+9) C+

1. ♖a8? [2. ♜xf7♯ A]  
 1... ♙xe4 a 2. ♗xe4♯ C  
 1... ♜xd6 b 2. ♘xd4♯ B  
 1... ♜xf5 x (♜d5) 2. ♗(x)d5♯ G ma 1... ♖b7!  
 1. ♗xd7? [2. ♘xd4♯] B  
 1... ♙xe4 a 2. ♜xf7♯ A  
 1... ♜xd6 b 2. ♗e7♯ D  
 1... ♜xf5 x 2. ♗xf5♯ H ma 1... ♜xc4!  
 1. ♖xd4! [2. ♜xf7♯] A  
 1... ♙xe4 a 2. ♖xe4♯ E  
 1... ♜xd6 b 2. ♘xd6♯ F

### Thematic Highlights

- Zagoruiko 3x2
- Pseudo Le Grand (Try 1: AbB; Try 2: BaA)
- 2 x Dombrovskis paradox (Try1: Aa–Try2: aA; Try2: Bb–Try1: bB)
- 1x change of mate in Tries after 1... ♜xf5 (x)?



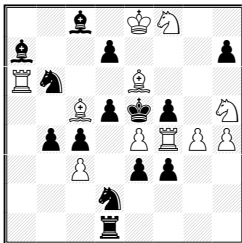
← **Marco Guida** - 1<sup>st</sup> Hon. Mention, 7<sup>th</sup> FRME, 2021  
6b1/2q5/3Rp3/1N2k1P1/4P3/B1n3P1/BQ2PN2/2n2K2

≠2 (11+6) C+

1. ♗c2? [2. ♜g4♯] D  
 1... ♗f7 a 2. ♗xc3♯ A 1... ♜xe4 b 2. ♗xe4♯ B but 1... ♜d3!  
 1. ♜d4? [2. ♜f3♯]  
 1... ♗f7 a 2. ♜c6♯ C 1... ♜xe4 b 2. ♜g4♯ D but 1... ♗c5!  
 1. ♖d4! [2. ♜g4♯] D  
 1... ♗f7 a 2. ♘d6♯ E 1... ♜xe4 b 2. ♖d5♯ F

### Thematic Highlights

- Zagoruiko 3x2
- 1 x Dombrovskis paradox (Try1: D-b!; Try2: b-D#)
- Pin play: in all 3 phases the key un-pins the ♜c3 (directly in the Try1, indirectly in the Try2 and Solution), allowing one of the 2 thematic defenses.



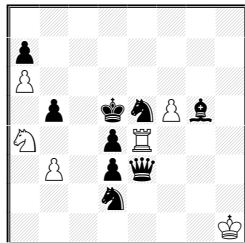
← **Marco Guida & Miroslav Svitek** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize, *StrateGems* 2022  
2b1KN2/b2p3p/Rn2B3/2Bpkp1N/1pp1PRPP/2P1pp2/3n4/3r4

≠2 (11+14) C+

1. ♖e7? [2. ♘d4≠ A, ♘d6≠ B]  
 1... ♜xe4 x 2. ♗xf5≠ C but 1... bxc3!  
 1. ♜f6? [2. ♗xf5≠ C]  
 1... ♜xf6 a 2. ♘d4≠ A 1... ♜xf4 b 2. ♘d6' B but 1... dxe6!  
 1. ♘d5! [2. ♗xf5≠ C]  
 1... d6 c 2. ♘d4≠ A 1... ♜xd5 d 2. ♘d6≠ B

## Thematic Highlights

- 2x Pseudo Burmistrov combination (2x Pseudo Le Grand with double-threat introductory Try):  
A total of 4 Pseudo Le Grand patterns:
  - 2x Pseudo Le Grand vs. mates (A) and (C) (Try1-Try2: AxC-CaA; Try1-Solution: AxC-CcA)
  - 2x Pseudo Le Grand vs. mates (B) and (C) (Try1-Try2: BxC-CbB; Try1-Solution: BxC-CdB)
- Key of Try2 provides 2 flights.
- Novelty: 1<sup>st</sup> time rendering of the doubling of the theme.



### ← Francesco Simoni

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize, Israel Ring Tourney 2018 (Variantim n.92)

8/p7/P7/1p1knPb1/N2pR3/1P1pq3/3n4/7K

H≠3 (6+9) C+

1. ♖h4 ♜b2 2. ♚h6 ♜c4 3. ♚c6 ♖xe5‡

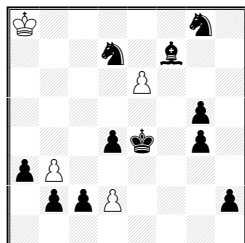
1. ♜f1 ♜c5 2. ♚c1 ♜e6 3. ♚c6 ♖xd4‡

A great idea, although the position is almost symmetric. After the first black move, white needs to choose between two plans. One plan fails due to closing a critical black line, and this becomes clear only in the last black move.

1.Bh4 Sb2 (Sc5?) 2.Qh6 Sc4 3.Qc6 Rxe5≠

1.Sf1 Sc5 (Sb2?) 2.Qc1 Se6 3.Qc6 Rxd4≠

Judge: Ofer Comay.



### ← Antonio Garofalo

4<sup>th</sup> Commendation, Israel Ring Tourney 2018 (Variantim n.92)

*dedicated to V. Agostini e D. Gatti*

K5n1/3n1b2/4P3/6p1/3pk1p1/pP6/1ppP3p/8

H≠3 (4+11) C+

1. ♖d3 e7 2. ♖xd2 e8=♚ 3. ♖c1 ♚e1‡

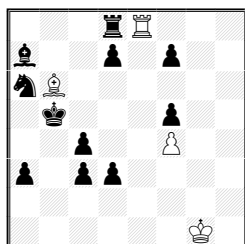
1. ♖f3 exf7 2. ♖g2 f8=♚ 3. ♖h1 ♚f1‡

1. ♖d5 exd7 2. ♖c5 d8=♚ 3. ♖b4 ♚b6‡

1. ♖f5 exf7 2. ♖g6 fxg8=♚+ 3. ♖h5 ♚h7‡

King's Star; all black's moves are done by King; 4 promotions to Queen. Sorry for 1...exf7 repeated.

[Composto il 7 maggio 2017, in presenza dei cari amici Valerio e Daniele.] All commendations have no comments by Judge.



### ← Antonio Garofalo

5<sup>th</sup> Commendation, Israel Ring Tourney 2018 (Variantim n.92)

3rR3/b2p1p2/nB6/1k3p2/2p2P2/p1pp4/8/6K1

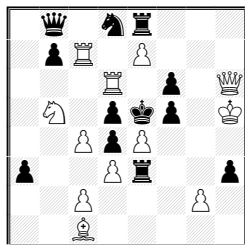
H≠3 (4+11) C+ b) ♜b5→g6

a) 1. ♖c6 ♖f2 2. ♖d5 ♖e3 3. ♖d4 ♖e5‡

b) 1. ♖g7 ♖e1 2. ♖f8 ♖e3 3. ♖e8 ♖c5‡

Indien; ODT.

All commendations have no comments by Judge.



### ← Marco Guida & Miroslav Svitek

1<sup>st</sup> Hon. Mention, 125° Memorial A. Kozlov 2022

1q1nr3/1pR1P3/3R1p1Q/1N1pkp1K/2PpP3/p2Pr2p/2P3P1/2B5  
≠2 (12+12) C+

1.g3? [2.♖f4 (A), ♗xf6 (B)≠]

1...♗e6 (x); 2.♖xd5 (C)≠ but 1...♖h8!

1.♗xd4? [2.♖xd5 (C)≠]

1...♗xd6 (a); 2.♖f4 (A)≠ 1...♗xd4 (b); 2.♖xf6 (B)≠  
but 1...♖xd3 (c)! (NOT 2.♖f4 (A)?)

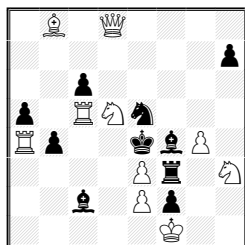
1.exf5! [2.♖xd5 (C)≠]

1...♖xd3 (c); 2.♖f4 (A)≠ 1...♗xf5 (d); 2.♖xf6 (B)≠

1...dxc4; 2.♖c5≠

#### Thematic Highlights

- 2x Pseudo Burmistrov combination (twice 2x Pseudo Le Grand with double-threat introductory Try). **Novelty: 1<sup>st</sup> time realization of the doubling of the theme.**
- A total of 4 Pseudo Le Grand patterns, with 2x Transfer of mates (A and B) across Try 2 and Solution:
  - 2x Pseudo Le Grand vs. mates (A) and (C) (Try1-Try2: AxC-CaA; Try1-Solution: AxC-CcA)
  - 2x Pseudo Le Grand vs. mates (B) and (C) (Try1-Try2: BxC-CbB; Try1-Solution: BxC-CdB)
- Flight-giving Keys in Try2 (2 flights) and Solution (1 flight).



### ← Marco Guida

1<sup>st</sup> Hon. Mention, *StrateGems* 2022

1B1Q4/7p/2p5/p1RnN3/Rp2kbP1/4Pr1N/2b1Pp2/5K2  
≠2 (10+10) C+

1...♗xe3 (a); 2.♗c3 (A) ≠ (not 2.♗f6 (B)?)

1...♖xe3 (b); 2.♗f6 (B) ≠ (not 2.♗c3 (A)?)

1.♖g5? [2.♖f5≠]

1...♗~; 2.♗c3 (A) ≠ 1...♗xe3 (a); 2.♖xe5 (C) ≠

1...♗xg5; 2.♗xg5 ≠ 1...♖xe3 (b); 2.♖xf4 (D) ≠

1...♗xg4 2.♖c4≠ but 1...cxd5!

1.♗xb4! [2.♖d4≠]

1...♗xe3 (a); 2.♖xe5 (E) ≠ 1...♖xe3 (b); 2.♗xf2 (F) ≠

1...♗xe3 (♗d7); 2.♗xc2 ≠

#### Thematic Highlights

- Zagoruiko 3x2 • Dual-avoidance in Setplay
- Indirect Battery (Queen-Knight) destruction in Try & Solution, with a new Rook-Knight battery formation in Solution that fires in the by-play
- Flight-giving key, with new mate after the king's flight
- Black Correction by ♗f4 in the Try
- 1x transfer of mate (A) (Try vs. Setplay)



NUTS (48) di Mr. Veneziano  
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## Esame d'ammissione (con soluzione)

Dal 1° marzo di quest'anno la FIDE ha apportato alcuni correttivi al rating per calcolare la forza dei giocatori, il noto sistema Elo, dal nome del fisico statunitense di origine ungherese che lo ideò. La novità più consistente è l'innalzamento della soglia minima da 1000 a 1400 punti e il conseguente incremento per tutti i giocatori sotto l'indice 2000 attraverso la formula:

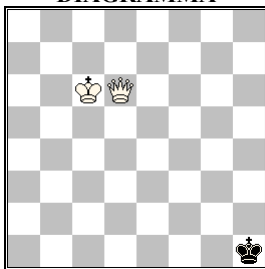
$$2000 - \text{rating} \times 0.4 = \text{incremento.}$$

Ad un presente iper-digitalizzato, caratterizzato da cavillose misurazioni in centesimi e millesimi, si contrappone un passato sicuramente più dozzinale, avvolto tuttavia da un allettante afflato romantico.

*"In Unione Sovietica avevamo due corsi differenziati di due ore a settimana sulla teoria - ricorda il GM Iosif Dorfman - e alla Domenica si giocavano tornei chiusi con 10 o 12 giocatori, separati per ogni categoria. Gli open non esistevano. Dovevi fare una prima norma e poi una seconda per passare alla categoria successiva, da quella principianti, alla 5ª, via via su fino alla 1ª categoria, che oggi varrebbe circa 2000 punti Elo. Potevi poi ambire al titolo di Candidato Maestro (circa 2200 odierni) e poi a Maestro (2400 o più)".*

Questa era la cosiddetta piramide sovietica che ogni ambizioso scacchista si proponeva di scalare! Una storiella che girava nei circoli scacchistici fino a qualche anno fa, raccontava che ogni alunno della scuola sovietica dovesse dimostrare di conoscere l'esatta risposta al quesito in diagramma, prima di poter accedere al torneo per principianti, una sorta di esame d'ammissione...

### DIAGRAMMA



Può il Bianco, senza muovere il ♔c6, dare matto al ♚ del Nero?

[ Can White, without moving the ♔c6, give checkmate to the Black king? ]

Soluzione: 1. ♖h6+ ♘g2 2. ♚c1 ♘f2 3. ♗g5 ♘f3 4. ♗g1 ♘f4 5. ♗f2+ ♘g4 6. ♗e3 ♘h4 7. ♗f3 ♘g5 8. ♗e4 ♘h5 9. ♗f4 ♘g6 10. ♗e5 ♘h6 11. ♗f5 ♘g7 12. ♗e6 ♘h8 13. ♗e7 ♘g8 14. ♗e5 ♘h7 15. ♗f6 ♘g8 16. ♗h6 ♘f7 17. ♗g5 ♘e6 18. ♗f4 ♘e7 19. ♗f5 ♘e8 20. ♗d7+ ♘f8 21. ♗h7 ♘e8 22. ♗g7 ♘d8 23. ♗d7≠

Mr. Veneziano

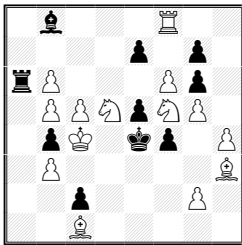
# Award Best Problems ≠3 2022/2023

by Antonio Garofalo

The following composers have participated to this Competition;

Armeni Alberto	4821
Barsukov Valery	4698
Craciun Ovidiu	4861
Doukhan Gérard	4741,4942
Dowd Steven B.	4738,4824**
Garzon José Antonio	4823,4822
Labai Zoltán	4983
Lyubashevsky Leonid	4863**,4862*,4740*,4739*
Makaronez Leonid	4780*,4863**,4862*,4740*,4739*,4699,4943*
Pereira Alvaro Faria	4982
Prentos Kostas	4824**
Tarnawiecki Antonio	4824**
Volchek Victor	4780*,4863**,4943*

The level of the competition was medium; but the three Prize's problems are of high level. Here my ranking:



## ← 4741 - Gérard Doukhan

1<sup>st</sup> Prize, Best Problems 2022/2023

1b3R2/4p1p1/rP3Pp1/1PPNpNP1/1pK1kp1P/1P5B/2p3P1/2B5

≠3 (14+10) C+

1. ♖g4? ♙ [2. ♘dx7 E [3. ♙f3♠]  
 2. ♘f7 D [3. ♙f3♠]  
 2. fxg7 C [3. ♙f3♠]]  
 2. ♘g7 B [3. ♙f3♠]  
 2. fx7 A [3. ♙f3♠] but 1... ♖a3! a

1. fx7? A [2. ♙g4 ♙ [3. ♙f3♠]] 1... ♖a3 a 2. ♘g7 B [3. ♘f6♠] but 1... ♖xb6!  
 1. ♘g7? B [2. ♙g4 ♙ [3. ♙f3♠]] 1... ♖a3 a 2. fx7 A [3. ♘f6♠] but 1... e6!  
 1. fxg7? C [2. ♙g4 ♙ [3. ♙f3♠]] 1... ♖a3 a 2. ♘f7 D [3. ♘f6♠] but 1... ♖xb6!  
 1. ♘f7? D [2. ♙g4 ♙ [3. ♙f3♠]] 1... ♖a3 a 2. fxg7 C [3. ♘f6♠]  
 1... ♖a7 2. fxg7 [3. ♘f6♠] but 1... ♙d6!  
 1. ♘dx7! E [2. ♙g4 ♙ [3. ♙f3♠]]  
 1... ♖a3 a 2. ♖xb8 [3. ♘d6♠] gxf5 3. ♙xf5♠ changed mate.  
 1... ♖a7 2. bxa7 [3. a8=♙♠] ♙xa7 3. ♘d6♠

Comments by Author: • Quiet moves

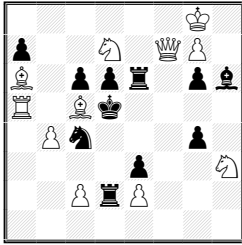
• Quintuple theme Threat reversal (F/A, F/B, F/C, F/D, F/E) for which the refutation is the thematic defense

• Quadrupe theme Dombrovskis between tries 1. ♙g4? & 1. fx7?, 1. ♙g4? & ♘g7?, 1. ♙g4? & 1. ♘g7?, 1. ♙g4? & 1. ♘f7?

• The four tries (1. fx7?, 1. ♘g7?, 1. fxg7? & 1. ♘f7?) present Theme Reversal (Salazar) doubled \* very rare

• Change of strategy after the key with a fifth changed mate after defense 1... ♖a3





← 4740 - Leonid Lyubashevsky & Leonid Makaronez

1<sup>st</sup> Hon. Mention, Best Problems 2022/2023

6K1/p2N1QP1/B1ppr1pb/R1Bk4/1Pn3p1/4p2N/2PrP3/8

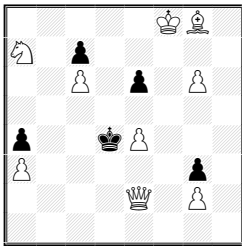
≠3 (11+11) C+

1. c3! [2. ♖f6+ A ♙e5 3. ♗d4♯ B]  
 1... gxf3 2. ♗d4+ B ♗xa5 3. ♖f6♯ A  
     2... ♙e4 3. ♖f3♯  
     2... c5 3. ♗b7♯

1... ♗xa5 2. ♖f8 [3. ♖xe6♯]  
 1... ♙e4 2. ♖xe6+ ♖e5 3. ♖f6♯  
 1... dxc5 2. ♖xc5 [3. ♖xe6♯] ♖d6 3. ♖b7♯  
 1... ♗xg7 2. ♖g5 [3. ♖xe6♯]  
 1... ♗g5 2. ♖xg5 [3. ♖xe6♯]

Exchange of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> white moves.

Theme Babushka.



← 4738 - Steven B. Dowd

2<sup>nd</sup> Hon. Mention, Best Problems 2022/2023

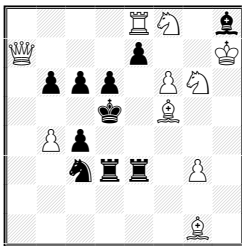
5KB1/N1p5/2P1p1P1/8/p2kP3/P5p1/4Q1P1/8

≠3 (9+5) C+

1. ♗f7! Tempo  
 1... ♙c3 2. ♗b5+ ♙b3 3. ♗xe6♯  
 1... ♙c5 2. ♖e3+ ♙c4 3. ♗xe6♯ 2... ♙d6 3. ♖d4♯  
 1... e5 2. ♙e7 ♙c3 3. ♗b5♯  
     2... ♙c5 3. ♖e3♯

1... ♙e5 2. ♖e3 ♙d6 3. ♖d4♯ 2... ♙f6 3. ♖f4♯

Theme Babushka.



← 4739 - Leonid Lyubashevsky & Leonid Makaronez

3<sup>rd</sup> Hon. Mention, Best Problems 2022/2023

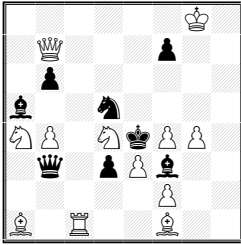
4RN1b/Q3p2K/1ppp1PN1/3k1B2/1Pp5/2nrr1P1/8/6B1

≠3 (10+10) C+

1. ♖xb6? [2. ♖c5+ dxc5 3. ♗d8♯]  
 1... ♖b5 2. ♗d8 [3. ♖c5♯]  
 1... ♗e6 2. ♖xe6 [3. ♖ef4♯ 3. ♖c7♯]  
 1... c5 2. ♖e6 [3. ♖b7♯] 2... ♗xe6 3. ♖b7♯  
     2. ♖b7+ ♖d4 3. ♖e6♯ but 1... ♖a4!  
 1. ♖xe7! [2. ♖e5+ ♗xe5 3. ♖f4♯ 2... dxe5 3. ♗d8♯]  
 1... ♗xf6 2. ♖f4+ ♖d4 3. ♖xf6♯  
 1... ♗d4 2. ♖f7+ ♗e6 3. ♖xe6♯  
 1... ♗xe7+ 2. ♖xe7+ ♖e5 3. ♖d7♯  
 1... ♖d4 2. ♖xd6+ ♖d5 3. ♖e5♯  
 1... c5 2. ♖b7+ ♖d4 3. ♖e6♯  
 [1... ♖e2 2. ♖e4+ ♗xe4 3. ♗xe4♯ 1... ♖e4 2. ♖xe4+ ♗xe4 3. ♗xe4♯  
 1... ♖b5 2. ♖e4+ ♗xe4 3. ♗xe4♯]

Exchange of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> white moves. Sacrifice's key.

Author: Changed mates, Pinning.



### ← 4943 - Leonid Makaronez & Victor Volchek

1<sup>st</sup> Commendation, Best Problems 2022/2023

6K1/1Q3p2/1p6/b2n4/NP1NkPP1/1q1pPb2/5P2/B1R2B2

≠3 (12+8) C+

1. ♖c7? [2. ♖e7♯] but 1... ♗xb4!

1. ♖c8? [2. ♖e8♯] but 1... ♔xa4!

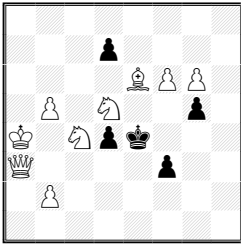
1. ♖c6! [2. ♖e6+ fxe6 3. ♔h7♯]

1... ♖xe3 2. ♖c4+ ♗xf4 3. ♖e6♯ 2... ♖d5 3. ♖xb3♯

1... ♖e7+ 2. ♖xe7+ ♗d5 3. ♖e5♯ 2... ♖e6 3. ♖c3♯

1... ♖f6+ 2. ♖xf6+ ♔d5 3. ♖c3♯

1... ♗xg4 2. ♗g2+ ♗f3 3. ♗xf3♯



### ← 4824 - Antonio Tarnawiecki, Steven B. Dowd & Kostas Prentos

2<sup>nd</sup> Commendation, Best Problems 2022/2023

8/3p4/4BPP1/1P1N2p1/K1Npk3/Q4p2/1P6/8

≠3 (9+5) C+

1. ♗g4? [2. ♖xf3♯] but 1... d3!

1. ♖e7! Tempo

1... ♗d3 2. ♗f5+ ♗xc4 3. ♖b6♯

1... dxe6 2. ♖xe6+ ♗d3 3. ♖b4♯

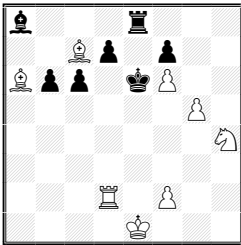
1... d6 2. ♗f7+ ♗f5 3. ♖e6♯ 2... ♗d3 3. ♖b4♯

1... g4 2. ♗f7+ ♗f5 3. ♖e5♯ 2... ♗d3 3. ♖b4♯

1... f2 2. ♗g4+ ♗d3 3. ♖e2♯ 2... ♗xd5 3. ♖b6♯

1... d3 2. ♖c3+ ♗d4 3. ♖d6♯ 2... ♗f4 3. ♖d6♯

Author: Battery creation with flight giving key.



### ← 4822 - José Antonio Garzon

3<sup>rd</sup> Commendation, Best Problems 2022/2023

b3r3/2Bp1p2/Bpp1kP2/6P1/7N/8/3R1P2/4K3

≠3 (8+7) C+

1. ♗e2? [2. ♗g4♯] but 1... d6!

1. ♗h2? [2. ♖d6♯] but 1... d5!

1. ♗d6? [2. ♗c4♯] 1... b5 2. f4 [3. f5♯] but 1... c5!

1. ♗d3! [2. ♗f5♯]

1... ♗d5+ 2. ♗e2+ ♗e4 3. ♗f3♯

2... ♗e6 3. ♗g4♯

2... ♗c5 a 3. ♗d6♯ A

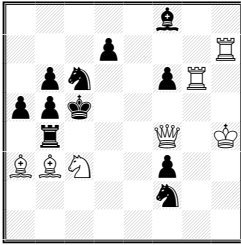
1... d6 2. ♗f5+ ♗e5 b 3. ♗xd6♯ A

Author: This soliloquy presents the novelty that the check, a requirement of the soliloquy after the key, is given by the black King. Soliloquy/Garzon Theme (#3) - Stipulations (summary):

1) All three white plays are executed by the same piece (King, Queen, Rook, Bishop, Knight or Pawn).

2) The key enables a check for black, which did not exist in the initial position. The main line of the composition is built on the sequence arising from this check, otherwise it would be a Pseudo Soliloquy.

3) The white piece that executes the soliloquy, which is the one that gives or causes the mate, cannot capture any pieces throughout the solution.



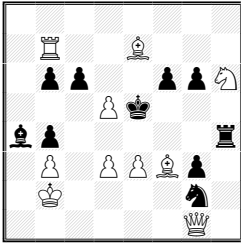
### ← 4699 - Leonid Makaronetz

4<sup>th</sup> Commendation, Best Problems 2022/2023

5b2/3p3R/1pn2pR1/ppk5/1r3Q1K/BBN2p2/5n2/8

≠3 (7+11) C+

1. ♖xd7? (2. ♜d5#) ♜e5!  
 1. ♖xf6! [2. ♞a4+ bxa4 3. ♜c4‡]  
 1... ♞e4 2. ♜e3+ ♞d4 3. ♞xe4‡  
 1... ♞d4 2. ♜e5+ d5 3. ♜xd5‡  
 1... ♞e5 2. ♞xb4+ axb4 3. ♜e3‡  
 1... d5 2. ♜xc6+ ♜xc6 3. ♜c7‡



### ← 4861 - Ovidiu Craciun

5<sup>th</sup> Commendation, Best Problems 2023

8/1R2B3/1pp2ppN/3Pk3/bp5r/1P1PPBp1/1K4n1/6Q1

≠3 (10+10) C+

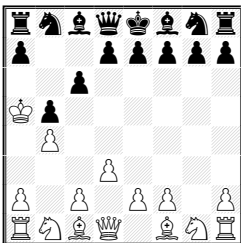
- 1... f5 2. ♞f7‡  
 1. ♜c1! [2. ♞d6+ ♜xd6 3. ♞f7‡]  
 1... ♞xe3 2. ♜xe3+ ♜e4 3. ♜xe4‡  
 1... ♜e4 2. ♞f7+ ♞xd5 3. ♜c4‡ 2... ♜f5 3. dxe4‡  
 1... ♜xh6 2. d4+ ♜f5 3. e4‡  
 1... cxd5 2. ♜c7+ ♜e6 3. ♜d6‡

June 2024, Int. Judge A. Garofalo

Il verdetto diverrà definitivo passati 3 mesi dalla pubblicazione. Eventuali reclami per anticipazioni vanno inviati al Redattore: Antonio Garofalo, E-mail: [perseus@bestproblems.it](mailto:perseus@bestproblems.it)

[The award will become definitive 3 months after publication. Possible claims about anticipation must be sent to the Editor: Antonio Garofalo, E-mail: [perseus@bestproblems.it](mailto:perseus@bestproblems.it).]

## Trash Corner



### ← Antonio Garofalo

rnbqkbnr/p2ppppp/2p5/Kp6/1P6/3P4/P1P1PP1P/RNBQ1BNR

SPG 6.0 (15+16) C+

1. d3 b5 2. ♔d2 ♜b7 3. ♜c3 ♜xg2 4. ♜b4 ♜b7  
 5. ♜a5 ♜c8 6. b4 c6≠

Un semplice switchback dell'♜c8 con un matto dato al ♔ bianco.



## Best Problems $H \neq 2$ / $H=2$ 2022-2023 Award - Update

With regard to the Prize of Pankratiev & Gavriliu,

• **Prize: 4748 BP 102 (April 2022) - see award on BP109 (January 2024)**

**Aleksandr Pankratiev (RUS) & Evgeny Gavriliu (UKR)**

1. ♖xe6 ♜f4+ a 2. ♖d5 c4♯ b 1. ♘d4 c4 b 2. ♜d3 ♙d5♯ c

1. ♖xf6 ♙d5+ c 2. ♖f4 hxg3♯ d 1. ♜d2 hxg3 d 2. ♜d3 ♜f4♯ a

I received from Vladislav Nefyodov - one of the most knowledgeable problemists in the field of helpmates - a set of earlier works showing exactly the same thematic complex of a fourfold cycle of white moves combined with Zilahi. All compositions (except for No.8) use similar patterns.

Then, I remove this problem from the award as it is anticipated.

Unfortunately, no prize at all in the award. [Judge Harry Fougiaxis]

*Thanks to Judge and to Vladislav - AG*

### Announcement:

Tidskrift för Schack opens its pages once again for problems. But only for  $\neq 2$ ,  $H=2$  and  $S \neq 2$ ! Send to Rolf Uppström ( [rolf.uppstrom@springaren.se](mailto:rolf.uppstrom@springaren.se) ) with subject "For Tidskrift för Schack". Judges will be Kjell Widlert and Christer Jonsson and the tournaments will be held annually or of three (?) years duration according to interest. The published problems can be seen in <https://schack.se/forbundet/tfs/arkiv/>

### Memorial Tourney Jorge Marcelo Kapros 2024-2025

Kapros died in Moreno, Province of Buenos Aires, on August 27, 2023 at the age of 67. During his life, he resided in the city of El Palomar, Argentina. He had the title of International master of the FIDE for chess composition.

The Unión Argentina de Problemistas de Ajedrez (UAPA) organizes the Memorial Tourney Jorge Marcelo Kapros, containing three sections - **Theme free:**

Twomovers ( $\neq 2$ ) Judge: **Miguel Uris** (Spain)

Helpmates ( $H \neq 2$ ) Judge: **Ricardo de Mattos Vieira** (Brazil)

Helpmates ( $H \neq 3$ ) Judge: **Jorge Joaquín Lois** (Argentina)

Please send your entry with diagram, full solution, name and address of author, to the tournament director:

**Mario Guido García**, producer and editor the UAPA.

E-mail: [mariogarcia@gmail.com](mailto:mariogarcia@gmail.com) – All received problems will be presented to the judge in anonymous form.

Prizes, Honourable Mentions, Commendations and Special Nominations will be awarded.

The preliminary and final award will be published in mid-2025 will be available in the website <https://www.problemistasajedrez.com.ar>, and will be sent to all participants by e-mail – **Closing date: 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024.**

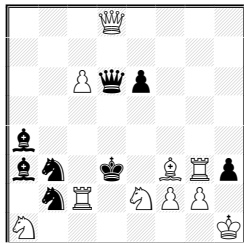
### Please reprint

#### I concorsi su *Best Problems*:

- $\neq 2$ / $=2$ , (2023/2024): NN
- $\neq 3$ / $=3$ , (2024-2025): Antonio Garofalo
- $S \neq 2/3$ - $S=2/3$  (2024-2025): Antonio Garofalo
- $H \neq 2/H=2$ , (2024-2025): NN
- $H \neq 2,5/3$ - $H=2,5/3$ , (2024-2025): NN
- $H \neq n/H=n$ , (2024-2025): Antonio Garofalo
- HelpSelfmate 2/3/n 2024-2025: Antonio Garofalo
- Fairies (2024): NN

E-mail & web site: [perseus@bestproblems.it](mailto:perseus@bestproblems.it) <http://www.bestproblems.it>

## Ricostruzione



← **Johannes J. Rietveld** - Ricostruzione 99, BP110

1<sup>st</sup> Prize, Mémorial H. Schuld 1921-22

3Q4/8/2Pqp3/8/b7/bn1k1BRp/1nR1NPP1/N6K

≠2 (10+8) C+ WID 525197

1. ♖d7! [2. ♖h7‡]

1... ♜d2 2. ♜c3‡ 1... ♜d4 2. ♜c1‡ 1... ♜c5 2. ♖xd6‡

1... ♙xc6 2. ♙xc6‡ 1... ♖d4 2. ♜f4‡ 1... e5 2. ♙d5‡

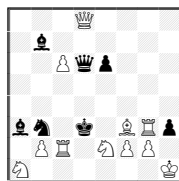
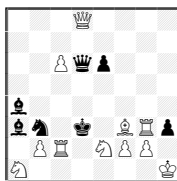
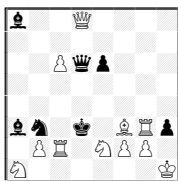
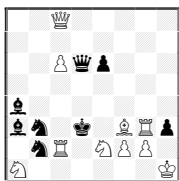
1... hxg2+ 2. ♙xg2‡

**Predrag Zuvic**

**Miguel Uris**

**José L. Velasco  
+ JACA**

**Hans Nieuwhart**



La prima proposta che mi è pervenuta è quella di Zuvic; quasi uguale all'originale ma ha una chiave che inchioda la ♜ nera. Siccome era C+ anche mettendo la ♜ bianca in d8, la scelta di Predrag non è stata felice. È seguita la proposta di Uris; mettere ♙a8 o ♙a4 è indifferente; il ♜b2 ovvero ♞b2 con cui Miguel lo ha sostituito serve a permettere il matto 2. ♜c1≠ In prima analisi sarebbe più economico mettere un pezzo nero in un diretto in 2 mosse, ma non potendo usare un ♜ nero, a mia opinione ha fatto bene Miguel a usare un ♞ bianco. Ma qualcuno potrebbe pensarla diversamente. La proposta di José Luis Velasco e José Antonio Coello Alonso è simile alla precedente di Miguel, salvo la posizione dell'♙a4. Lo stesso vale per quella di Hans Nieuwhart, che vede il detto ♙ in b7. Bravissimi tutti i partecipanti.

**Ricostruzione n. 100** - Ricostruire un problema ≠2 che abbia la seguente soluzione:

1. ♙c5? **A** [2. ♜c7‡ **B**, ♜d8 **C**, ♜d4 **D**]

1... ♖f5 2.d4‡ 1... ♙xd5 2. ♖b8‡ ma 1... ♖xd5! (2.d4?)

1. ♜c7? **B** [2. ♙c5‡ **A**] 1... ♖xd5, ♖f5 2.d4‡ ma 1... ♙xd5! (2. ♖b8?)

1. ♜d8? **C** [2. ♙c5‡ **A**] 1... ♖xd5, ♖f5 2.d4‡ ma 1... ♖c4!

1. ♜d4! **D** [2. ♙c5‡ **A**]

1... ♜xd5 2. ♜xe4‡ 1... ♙xd5 2. ♜c6‡ 1... ♖xd5, ♖f5 2. ♜f3‡ 1... ♙xd4 2. ♙c5‡

(Not easy I believe)

Inviare (send to): [perseus@bestproblems.it](mailto:perseus@bestproblems.it)

(last available day for to send: 10/09/2024)

**A. Garfalo**



## Commemorating 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of three-dimensional knight's tour

By Awani Kumar, Lucknow, INDIA

Tour of a knight is a classical problem almost as old as the game of chess – which is believed to have originated in India around 5<sup>th</sup> century. For almost a millennium, it was confined to two-dimensional boards. Alexandre-Théophile Vandermonde (1735–1796) [1], a mathematician, musician and chemist, was the first to construct a three-dimensional knight's tour, using a 4×4×4 board in 1771, some 250 years ago. Later, Schubert [2], Gibbins [3], Stewart [4], Watkins [5], DeMaio [6] and others also worked on it. Kumar [7] has enumerated 216 magic tours in 4x4x4 board. The author wishes to commemorate its 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary with interesting tours of knight on 10x25 (= 250) cell board and in three dimensional boards. Readers are aware of Tour of knight puzzle – view *Best Problems* Vol. 27 No. 108 October 2023. Figure 1 has all the consecutive cells from the starting cell (1) to the last cell (250) at knight's move and sum of all the rows is 1255. Such tour is called semi-magic tour of knight on 10x25 board. Columns can't have a magic sum because of unequal number of odd and even numbered cells along the columns. It is more challenging to compose a closed (or re-entrant) semi-magic tour and readers may like to do so.

<b>1</b>	18	3	244	5	246	7	248	233	<b>250</b>	1255
240	243	238	17	236	15	234	13	8	11	1255
19	2	241	4	245	6	247	10	249	232	1255
242	239	20	237	16	235	14	231	12	9	1255
23	222	37	216	21	230	35	214	29	228	1255
38	217	22	221	36	215	30	229	34	213	1255
223	24	219	40	225	26	211	32	227	28	1255
218	39	224	25	220	31	226	27	212	33	1255
59	198	41	204	55	196	47	210	53	192	1255
42	201	58	197	46	205	54	193	50	209	1255
199	60	203	44	195	56	207	48	191	52	1255
202	43	200	57	206	45	194	51	208	49	1255
61	78	177	184	65	186	175	190	67	72	1255
180	183	64	77	176	75	66	71	174	189	1255
79	62	181	178	185	70	187	172	73	68	1255
182	179	80	63	76	171	74	69	188	173	1255
81	84	167	170	109	126	111	140	143	124	1255
166	169	82	85	112	141	108	125	128	139	1255
83	86	165	168	107	110	127	142	123	144	1255
154	163	98	87	152	113	100	121	138	129	1255
97	88	153	164	99	106	151	130	145	122	1255
162	155	96	89	150	101	114	137	120	131	1255
95	92	159	156	105	134	103	148	117	146	1255
158	161	90	93	102	149	136	115	132	119	1255
91	94	157	160	135	104	133	118	147	116	1255

Fig.1. Semi-magic tour of knight on 10x25 board

Readers can visualise a three-dimensional board, say 4x8x8, by stacking four 8x8 boards one over the other and are well aware of the knight's move in it. Figure 2 is a magic tour of knight in 4x8x8 (= 256) board. Here sum of all the 8-number lines is 1028 and that of 4-number lines is 514.

142	159	100	113	170	87	78	179
151	134	121	108	181	76	81	176
98	115	144	157	88	169	180	77
123	106	149	136	75	182	175	82
<b>256</b>	227	2	29	64	193	220	37
233	246	23	12	213	44	49	208
4	31	254	225	196	61	40	217
21	10	235	248	41	216	205	52

Level 2

99	114	141	160	67	190	167	90
122	107	152	133	96	161	188	69
143	158	97	116	189	68	89	168
150	135	124	105	162	95	70	187
<b>1</b>	30	255	228	195	62	39	218
24	11	234	245	42	215	206	51
253	226	3	32	63	194	219	38
236	247	22	9	214	43	50	207

Level 1

146	131	128	109	86	171	178	79
139	154	101	120	73	184	173	84
126	111	148	129	172	85	80	177
103	118	137	156	183	74	83	174
238	251	18	7	34	223	198	59
241	232	13	28	203	54	47	210
20	5	240	249	222	35	58	199
15	26	243	230	55	202	211	46

Level 4

127	110	145	132	191	66	91	166
102	119	140	153	164	93	72	185
147	130	125	112	65	192	165	92
138	155	104	117	94	163	186	71
19	6	239	250	221	36	57	200
16	25	244	229	56	201	212	45
237	252	17	8	33	224	197	60
242	231	14	27	204	53	48	209

Level 3

Fig.2. Magic tour of knight in 4x8x8 board

While magic tours are mathematical in nature, 'figured tours' are primarily piece of art. The name figured tour is appropriate for any numbered tour in which certain arithmetically related numbers are arranged in a geometrical pattern. Figured tours have been scantily composed in three dimensional board and the author has composed few of them in 4x4x4 board. Figure 3 shows all the square numbers  $1^2, 2^2, 3^2, \dots, 8^2$ , that is, 1, 4, 9, ... 64 arranged in the central cells that follow closed wazir  $\{0,1\}$  path. Zebra is another fairy piece and Figure 4 has the consecutive square numbers arranged in closed zebra  $\{2,3\}$  path.

33	2	11	54
10	53	48	27
39	34	63	12
52	13	38	57

40	59	62	3
47	<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	58
32	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>	43
15	46	51	28

31	18	55	26
24	<b>49</b>	<b>36</b>	19
17	<b>64</b>	<b>25</b>	56
50	35	14	37

22	41	8	61
5	60	23	42
30	21	44	7
45	6	29	20

Fig.3. Knight tour with square numbers in closed wazir  $\{0,1\}$  path.

<b>1</b>	44	17	10
14	11	32	47
45	2	13	<b>36</b>
12	31	46	33

<b>16</b>	41	6	61
51	60	15	40
58	37	50	<b>9</b>
29	34	59	22

7	18	43	<b>64</b>
28	63	48	19
<b>49</b>	8	3	62
52	21	30	35

42	5	56	<b>25</b>
57	24	39	54
<b>4</b>	55	26	23
27	38	53	20

Fig.4. Knight tour with square numbers in closed zebra  $\{2,3\}$  path.

Monogram tours delineate letters. Figure 5 to Figure 8 show monogram tours delineating letters ‘T’, ‘L’, ‘X’ and ‘O’ respectively. These are the letters in Alexandre-Théophile Vandermonde’s name and readers may like to compose other letters in his name. Eagle-eyed readers may have spotted that Figure 6 also has the consecutive square numbers arranged in wazir {0,1} path.

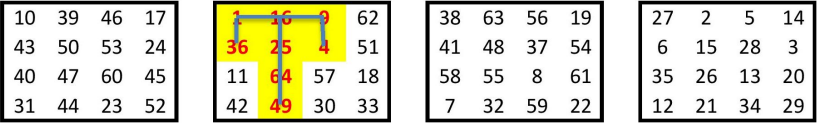


Fig.5. Monogram tour with square numbers delineating letter ‘T’

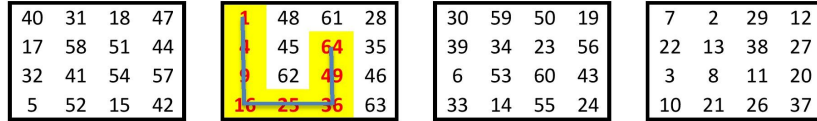


Fig.6. Monogram tour with square numbers delineating letter ‘L’

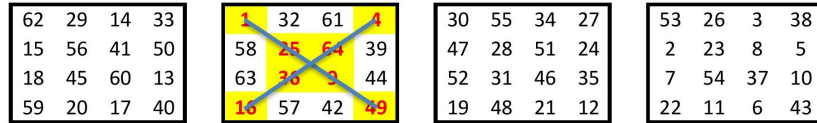


Fig.7. Monogram tour with square numbers delineating letter ‘X’

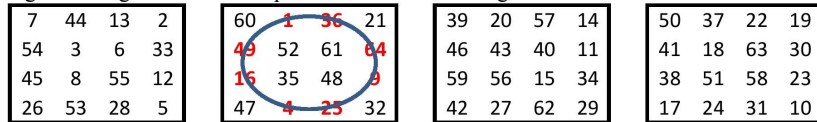


Fig.8. Monogram tour with square numbers delineating letter ‘O’

‘Non attacking queens’ is another classical chessboard problem. The task is to place 8 queens on a chessboard – or more generally ‘n’ queens on a ‘n<sup>2</sup>’ board – so that no queen attacks the other. The problem was first posed by Max Bezzel, a German chess player in *Schachzeitung*, a chess newspaper in 1848. It even attracted attention of the famous German mathematician and physicist Carl Friedrich Gauss who is sometimes referred as "the greatest mathematician since antiquity". Cambell [8] has given a detailed and interesting account of it. Queen is more dominating in 4x4x4 board than on 8x8 board. Figure 9 shows the possible moves of queen – shown in dots – in three-dimensional board. On an 8x8 board, queen can cover up to 27 cells but in a 4x4x4 board, it can cover up to 33 cells. Figure 10 shows the position of the eight non attacking queens when placed on cells having square numbers. All the consecutive square numbers are also in knight path. Madachy [9] mentions that “Much too little work has been done on chessboard-placement problems ...” Indeed a lot remains to be investigated especially in three (and higher) dimensions. Yes, knight’s tour has been extended in higher dimensions but that will be another story.

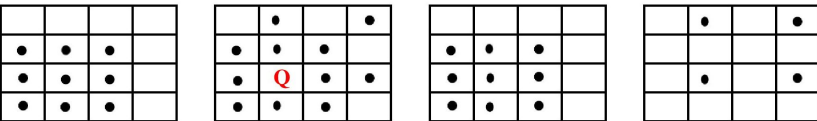


Fig.9. Queen moves (shown in dots) in a 4x4x4 board

33	18	1	26
4	41	38	19
11	32	51	16
42	9	20	37

12	29	56	17
43	60	21	46
62	47	2	55
3	40	61	8

5	64	27	30
34	39	50	25
49	24	31	52
10	53	36	15

28	13	22	45
59	44	57	14
6	63	48	23
35	58	7	54

Fig.10. Knight tour with square numbers representing non-attacking queens in 4x4x4 board

Knight is perhaps the most popular piece and countries the world over frequently come out with stamps having knight motif. Figure 11 shows three such stamps. Author has only shown a glimpse; readers may look for more knight tour compositions.



Fig.11. Postal stamps of Azerbaijan, Russia and Nicaragua with knight motif

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