

**The Queen Saves the Day:
A World Champion's Favorite Studies**

Sergei Tkachenko

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A World Champion's Favorite Studies**

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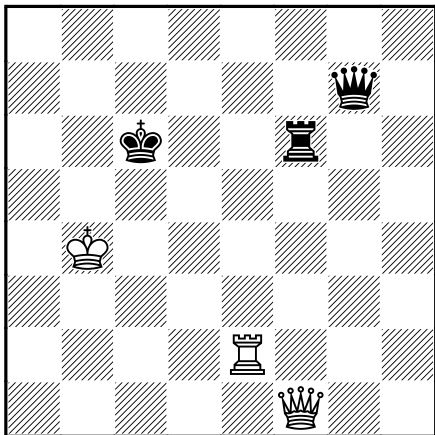
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No. 1



White to move and win

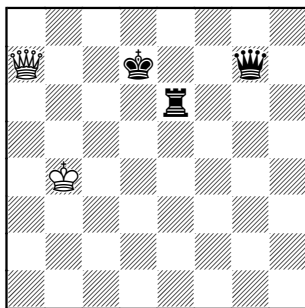
At first glance, the black king easily evades the checks 1.♖c2+? ♔b7! 2.♙h1+ ♔b6 with a drawn position.

However, an unexpected rook sac leads to victory.

1.♖e6+!! ♖xe6 2.♙a6+! But not 2.♙b5+? ♔c7! and black wins.

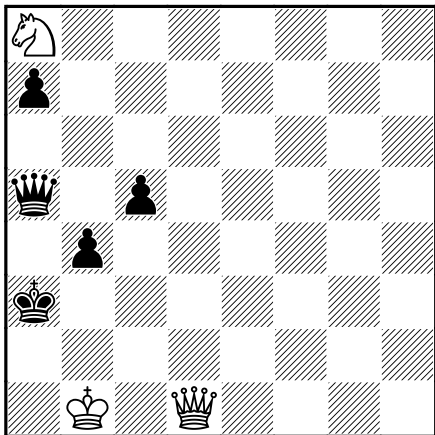
2...♔d5 3.♙c4+ ♔d6. Black can't save the game with 3...♔e5 4.♙c3+ ♔f5 5.♙xg7.

4.♙c5+ ♔d7 5.♙a7+. White wins.



Author A. Troitsky, 1898

No. 2



White to move and win

The knight in the corner looks ugly, yet it will contribute to white's victory!

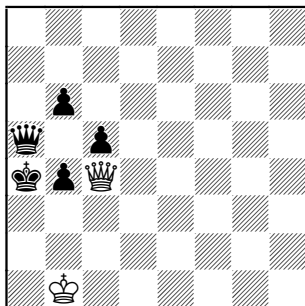
1. ♖c1+! (1... ♕d2? ♔a4!) **1... ♔a4.** Black loses quickly after 1... ♖b3 2. ♗c2+ ♔a3 3. ♗a2#.

2. ♗c4! ♕d8. Black can't save the day with 2...a6 3. ♖b2 ♕d8 4. ♗xa6+ ♗a5 5. ♘b6#.

3. ♗a6+ ♗a5. An attempt by the king to run away doesn't help: 3... ♖b3 4. ♗a2+ ♔c3 5. ♗c2+ ♔d4 6. ♗d2+ ♔e5 7. ♗xd8.

4. ♘b6+!! The hermit knight has come alive!

4...axb6 5. ♗c4!! What a picture!



5... ♗a7 (5...b5 6. ♗a2#) **6. ♗a2+**, and the black queen dies.

Authors L. Kubbel and A. Troitsky, 1936