

**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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First published in Russia in 2016

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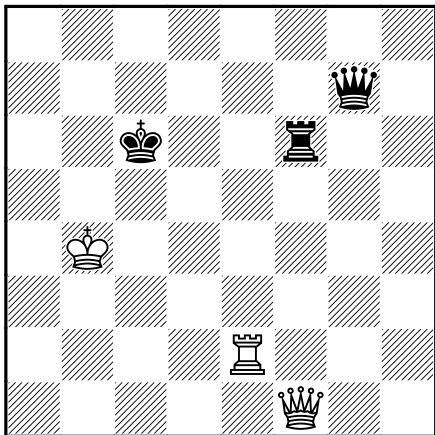
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ISBN 978-5-6040710-0-7

No. 1



White to move and win

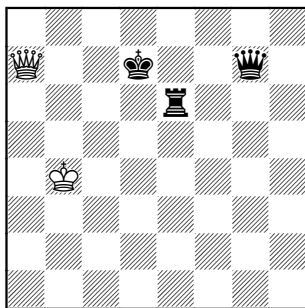
At first glance, the black king easily evades the checks 1.♖c2+? ♔b7! 2.♕h1+ ♔b6 with a drawn position.

However, an unexpected rook sac leads to victory.

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

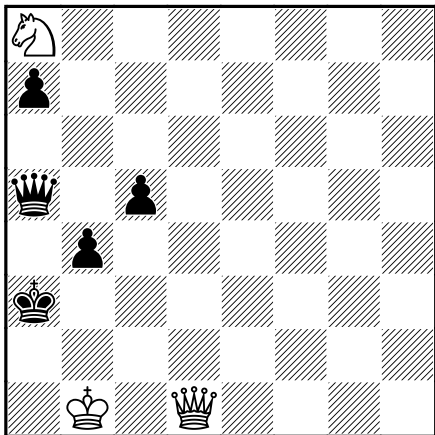
2...♔d5 3.♕c4+ ♔d6. Black can't save the game with 3...♔e5 4.♕c3+ ♔f5 5.♕xg7.

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!

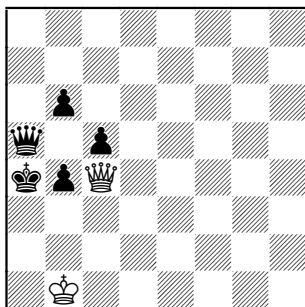
1. ♖c1+! (1... ♖d2? ♔a4!) **1... ♔a4.** Black loses quickly after 1... ♖b3 2. ♖c2+ ♔a3 3. ♖a2#.

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