BEST PROBLEMS

Rassegna dei migliori problemi

diretta da **Antonio Garofalo**
Col sostegno dell'API (Associazione Problemistica Italiana)

Anno XXIX- n. 114

2°/2025 - April

Hanno collaborato a questo numero:
Igor Kochulov, Daniil Yakimovich, Sebastién Luce, Awani Kumar

EDITORIALE

Dear Composers;
In January you found this fantastic news on BP113. Best Problems Magazine changed its publishing system. I wanted to do this experiment, but unfortunately the great influx of originals – normally a welcome thing – caused me considerable stress. I am therefore forced to return to the previous system: you will find the normal BP issue on January 10, April 10 (which for this year have already passed), July 10, October 10, and precisely BP115 in July, BP116 in October. I am sorry if I have disappointed you, but it is my duty to think about health. All the problems you sent me and that I have not yet published as of March 31, will be published as soon as possible on issues 115 and 116. Thank you for your trust and the many compliments I have received.

In gennaio avete trovato su BP113 una fantastica notizia. Best Problems Magazine cambiava sistema di pubblicazione. Ho voluto fare questo esperimento, ma sfortunatamente il grande afflusso di inediti – normalmente una cosa gradita – mi ha provocato un notevole stress.
Sono quindi costretto a tornare al precedente sistema: troverete nei giorni 10 gennaio, 10 aprile (che sono per questo anno già passati), 10 luglio, 10 ottobre il normale fascicolo di BP, e precisamente in luglio BP115, in ottobre BP116. Sono spiacente se vi ho deluso, ma è mio dovere pensare alla salute. Tutti i problemi che mi avete inviato e che non ho ancora pubblicato al 31 marzo, saranno pubblicati appena possibile sui fascicoli 115 e 116. Grazie per la fiducia e i tanti complimenti che ho ricevuto.

I concorsi su *Best Problems*:

- **≠2/=2, (2025-2026): NN**
- **≠3/=3, (2024-2025): Antonio Garofalo**
- **S≠2/3-S=2/3 (2024-2025: Antonio Garofalo**
- **H≠2/H=2, (2024-2025): NN**
- **H≠2,5/3-H=2,5/3, (2024-2025): NN**
- **H≠n/H=n, (2024-2025): Antonio Garofalo**
- **HelpSelfmate 2/3/n (Orthodox and fairy) 2024-2025: Antonio Garofalo**
- **Fairies (2025: NN**

E-mail & web site: perseus@bestproblems.it http://www.bestproblems.it

Contents

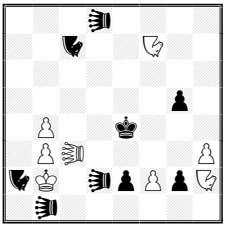
Award Best Problems Fairies 2024

by Igor Kochulov

In 2024 not many problems participated in the fairy problem competition of Best Problems Magazine (problems HS≠ participate in a separate competition), but the level of tasks is good, sufficient for a full award.

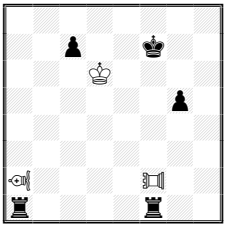
Here my proposal:

1st Prize
5982. M. Dragoun
Rep. Ceca



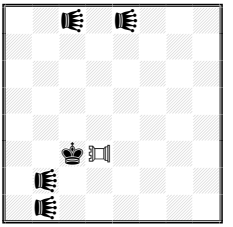
H≠2 (8+9) C+
4 sol.
=Leo
=Nightrider

2nd Prize
5988. M. Parrinello, M. Guida, F. Simoni, A. Garofalo - Italia



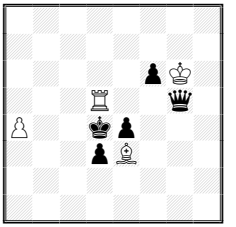
H≠2 (3+5) C+
2 sol. - Anti-Kings
=Bishop-Locust
=Rook-Locust

3rd Prize
5855. V. Kotesovec
Rep. Ceca



sh≠17 (1+5) C+
3 sol. =Kangaroo
=Aigle (Eagle)

1st Hon. Mention
5901. M. McDowell
Gran Bretagna



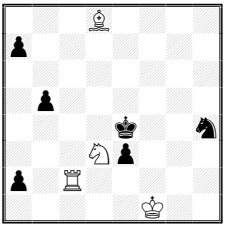
H≠2 (4+5) C+
2 sol.
Anti-Kings

• **1st Prize - 5982. Michal Dragoun**
1.LEh1 LEf3 2.♔d4 LExh1‡ 1.LEbe1 LEe5 2.♔d3 LExe1‡
1.♔f5 ♘h8 2.LEe4 ♘d4‡ 1.♔f4 ♘f6 2.LEf5 ♘d3‡
White has two pairs of solutions with non-standard material,which are additionally combined by playing Leo b1 in all phases.

• **2nd Prize - 5988. Mario Parrinello, Marco Guida, Antonio Garofalo, Francesco Simoni**
1.♖fe1 ♔e5 2.♖xa2 ♔f4‡ 1.♖ac1 ♔c5 2.♖xf2 ♔c4‡
Alternating the functions of the black rooks- one takes white Locust, and the second helps the white king get to the square covering the second white piece.

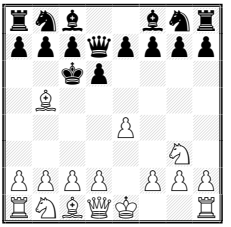
• **3rd Prize - 5855. Václav Kotesovec**
1.♔b4 2.KAb5 3.KAb6 4.♔c5 5.♔d6 6.♔e7 7.♔f8 8.KAg8 9.KAd8 10.♔e7 11.♔d7 12.KAa4 13.♔c7 14.KAa5 15.♔b7 16.♔a6 17.KAa7 AIc6‡
1.♔d4 2.♔e4 3.KAf5 4.KAc2 5.♔d4 6.♔c3 7.KAc1 8.♔d2 9.KAe2 10.KAf2 11.♔e3 12.KAe1 13.♔f4 14.♔g3 15.♔g2 16.♔f1 17.KAg1 AIf3‡
1.♔c2 2.KAe4 3.♔d2 4.♔e3 5.KAe2 6.KAe1 7.♔d2 8.KAf2 9.KAc2 10.KAb2 11.♔c3 12.KAc1 13.♔b4 14.♔a3 15.♔a2 16.♔b1 17.KAa1 AIb3‡
Three 17-way solutions with echo mates

2nd Hon. Mention
5945. P. Tritten
Francia



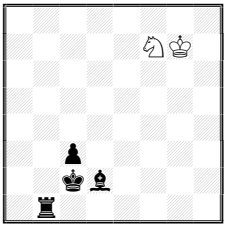
H≠2 (4+6) C+
3 sol.
Take & Make

3rd Hon. Mention
5989. G. Lucchesini
Italia



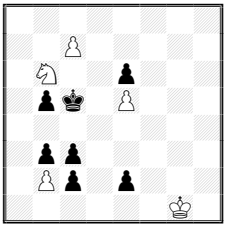
PG 5.0 (16+16) C+
Breton adverse
Fuddled men
Extinction

Commendation
5944. H. Nieuwhart
Olanda



H≠3 (2+4) C+
b) ♖b1→c1
Anticirce

Commendation
5948. S. Luce
Francia



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

• **1st Hon. Mention - 5901. Michael McDowell**
1.♕h5 ♗h6 2.♔e3 ♖g5‡ 1.♕h6 ♖h5 2.♔d5 ♗g5‡
A complete analogy of two elegant solutions. Pawns seem to be necessary under this condition. But the game is worth it.

• **2nd Hon. Mention - 5945. 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‡
Cyclic Zilahi.

• **3rd Hon. Mention - 5989. Giuseppe Lucchesini**
1.e3 d6 2.♘e2 ♔d7 3.e4 ♕e8 4.♘g3 ♔c6 5.♗b5 ♕d7+

Commendations without ranking:

• **Comm. 5944. Hans Nieuwhart**
a) 1.♔c1 ♘e5 2.♗h6+ ♔xh6(♔e1) 3.c2 ♘d3‡
b) 1.♔d1 ♘d6 2.c2 ♘e8 3.♗h6+ ♔xh6(♔e1)‡

• **Comm. 5948. Sébastien Luce**
1.e1=♗ 2.c1=♕ 3.♕d2 4.♕d8(+d2) 5.cxd2 6.d1=♖ 7.♖d4 8.♗b4 cxd8=♘=
The author tried to complicate the content by adding to the cute stalemate with Sentinelles mixed AUW

January 2025, **Judge Igor Kochulov**

I miei più sinceri ringraziamenti a Igor Kochulov per il suo qualificato verdetto, il quale diverrà definitivo passati 3 mesi dalla pubblicazione. Eventuali reclami vanno inviati al Redattore:
Antonio Garofalo, E-mail: perseus@bestproblems.it
[*My most sincere thanks to Igor Kochulov for his qualified award, which will become definitive 3 months after publication. Possible claims must be sent to the Editor:*
Antonio Garofalo, E-mail: perseus@bestproblems.it.]

Best Problems ≠2 - 2024 Award

by Daniil Yakimovich

I am very grateful to the editor Antonio Garofalo, who appointed me to the judge of this tournament, for this honor. I am also very grateful to the participants who presented their compositions.

32 problems by 22 authors have participated:

Abad José Miguel	5950
Bielefeldt Germán	5863,5864,5912*,5954,5956*
Cabrera Virginio	5912*,5956*
Doukhan Gérard	5819,5910
Fica Alexander	5822*
Garzon José Antonio	5867*
Labai Zoltán	5822*,5906*
Magini Fabio	5824,5865
Maleika Gerhard	5823,5955,5958
Moen Kabe	5951*
Monti Luca	5821
Mosiashvili Givi	5820
Murashyov Pavel	5952,5953
Navon Emanuel	5957*
Pankratiev Alexandre	5908
Pereira Alvaro Faria	5818*
Quaresma Luis	5818*
Sardella Giuseppe	5825,5862
Svitek Miroslav	5906*,5907
Tarnawiecki Antonio	5909,5951*,5957*
Uris Miguel+	5866,5867*
Velasco José Luis	5868,5911,5913

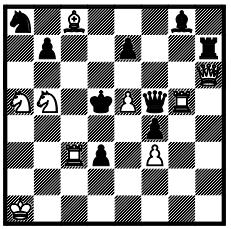
Unfortunately, the following problems were disqualified because of anticipations:
5820 - https://www.yacpdb.org/#5544
5862 - https://www.yacpdb.org/#3938
5863 - https://www.yacpdb.org/#14108
5865 - https://www.yacpdb.org/#618

Here is the ranking: (with • Judge's comments)

1st Prize: 5952. Pavel Murashëv
1.e6? X [2.♖xf5‡] B
1…♔e5 a 2.♖c5‡ A 1…♕e5 b 2.♗xb7‡ Y 1…♗xe6 2.♕xe6‡ 1…♕xg5 2.♕xg5‡ 1…♖f7!
1.♘b3? [2.♖c5‡] A 1…♔xe5 a 2.♖xf5‡ B 1…♕xe5 b 2.♗xb7‡ Y 1…♕xc8 2.e6‡ X 1…b6!
1.♘xb7! [2.♖c5‡] A 1…♕xc8 2.e6‡ X 1…♔xe5 a 2.♖xf5‡ B 1…♕xe5 b 2.♕c6‡
Comments by Author: Le Grand + pseudo-Erokhin (Dyachuk pseudo-combination); Changed mates 2x2, Bartolovic.

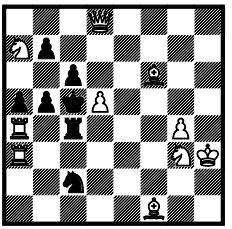
• A very non-trivial combination of function and game changing themes. I could not find anything with the same set of themes in Turevsky's DB, whence this one receives the 1st Prize for difficulty, originality and a nice construction.

1st Prize
5952. P. Murashëv



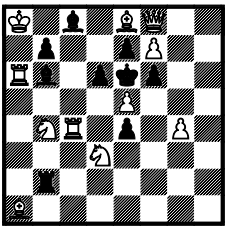
≠2 vv (9+9) C+

2nd - 3rd Prizes
5953. P. Murashëv



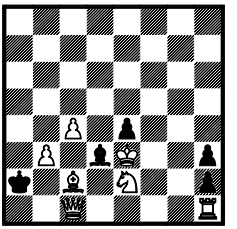
≠2* vv (10+7) C+

2nd - 3rd Prizes
5910. G. Doukhan



≠2 vvv (11+9) C+

4th Prize
5823. G. Maleika



=2 vvv (7+5) C+

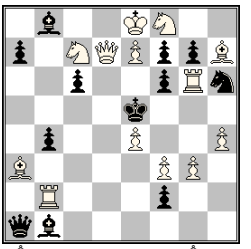
2nd - 3rd Prizes: 5953. Pavel Murashëv
Comments by Author: Dyachuk pseudo-combination (new Erokhin + pseudo-le Grand) The reverse Dombrovskis paradox, check provocation.
• A splendid problem with a new Erokhin schema, something not very easy to come up with. Also a very rare combination of themes.

2nd - 3rd Prizes: 5910. Gérard Doukhan
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.
• A very original and interesting problem, with many tries, variations and themes. I found pseudo-Erokhin, 2 defence-refutation, 3 transferred mates, 4 key-mate changes, ½ Tver theme and pseudo Reversal I double, if I didn't miss anything.

4th Prize: 5823 Gerhard Maleika
Comments by Author: Zilahi, Boros, Zagorouïko, Reversal.
• While this problem has a non-standard task of stalemate in two, it has a very rich content for such an economical setting.

Special Prize: 5819 (v.) Gérard Doukhan
1…f4 2.♕d5‡ **A** 1…♗xe3 2.f3‡ **F**
1.♖d2? [2.♕d5‡ **A**] (and not 2.♕xd3+? **C** ♕xd3!)
1…♕d3 2.♕xd3‡ **C** 1…♗xc6 2.♕xc6‡
but 1…♗xd2!
1.♖xf5? [2.♕d5‡ **A**] (and not 2.f3+? **F** ♔xf5!)
1…♘xf5 2.f3‡ **F** transferred; but 1…♗xc6!

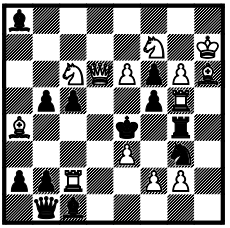
5819. G. Doukhan
Judge's version:



Judge's version solution: 1.♖d2? [2.♕d6‡] 1…♘f5 2.♕xf5‡ 1…♗xe4 2.f4‡ 1…♗xc7 2.♕xc7‡ 1…♕d4 2.♕xd4‡ but 1…♗d3! 1.♘b5! [2.♕d4‡] 1…♘f5 2.♕xf5‡ 1…♗xe4 2.f4‡ 1…♗d6 2.♕xd6‡ 1…♕xb2 2.♗xb2‡ 1…c5 2.♕d5‡ 1…cxb5 2.♕d5‡ (etc…)

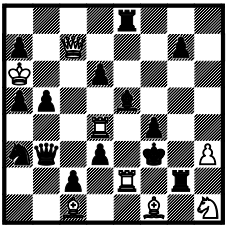
1.♖c3? [2.f3‡ **F**] (and not 2.♕xd3+? **C** ♕xd3!)
1…♕d3 2.♕xd3‡ **C** but 1…♖f4!
1.♘b4! [2.♕d3‡ **C**] (and not 2.♕xd5+? **A** ♗xd5!)
1…♗d5 2.♕xd5‡ **A** transferred
1…♗xe3 2.f3‡ **F** 1…♕xc2 2.♗xc2‡ 1…c4, cxb4 2.♕d4‡
Comment by Author: Complete Cyclic Sushkov with a new and homogeneous scheme (all white moves open line to black pieces !): this involves a cycle of threats dual avoidance linked with a cyclic Pseudo-Le Srand AF-FC-CA. In addition, Sushkov theme after the moves 1.♖d2? & 1.♘b4? with a Pseudo-Le Grand AC-CA (surely the first realisation of the combination Sushkov - Cyclic Sushkov). Another Pseudo Le Grand FC-CF, and 2 transferred mates.
• This problem would have won a regular prize, but, unfortunately, wRg5 and wBh6 are not used in the solution anyhow.

Special Prize
5819. G. Doukhan



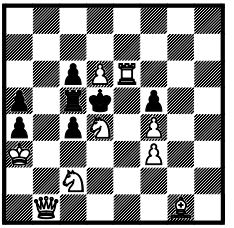
≠2* vvv (13+12) C+

1st Hon. Mention
5906. Z. Labai
& M. Svitek



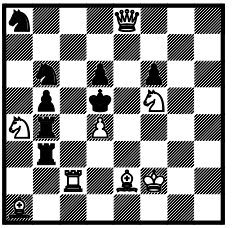
≠2 v (8+14) C+

2nd Hon. Mention
5951. A. Tarnawiecki
& K. Moen



≠2 vv (9+7) C+

3rd Hon. Mention
5818. A. Pereira
& L. Quaresma



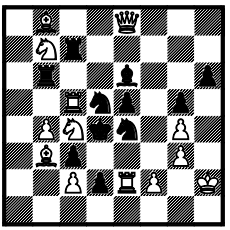
≠2 vvv (8+8) C+

1st Hon. Mention: 5906 Zoltán Labai and Miroslav Svitek
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.
• An impressive problem of Slovak school with extra Theme “Pergialis” (The wQ pins a piece, which is the only pinned black piece, and the threat is a pin-mate from another white piece. In the variations the wQ delivers at least four mates from different directions to the immobile bK, the one mate being by capturing the pinned piece).

2nd Hon. Mention: 5951 Antonio Tarnawiecki and Kabe Moen
Comments by Authors: Hannelius with sacrifical zugzwang key and Somov mates.
• An interesting rendering of Hannelius, also with one changed mate.

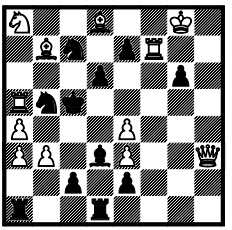
3rd Hon. Mention : 5818 Alvaro Faria Pereira and Luis Quaresma
Comment by Authors: White Grimshaw, Sushkov, Pseudo Le Grand and transferred mates; Theme F refutation (1.Bc3? Sd7!).
• A rare implementation of Sushkov based on White Grimshaw with other themes.

4th Hon. Mention
5957. A. Tarnawiecki & E. Navon



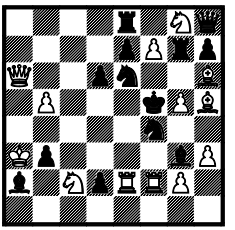
≠2* (13+11) C+

5th Hon. Mention
5867. J.A. Garzon & M. Uris



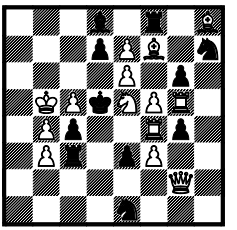
≠2 v (12+11) C+

6th Hon. Mention
5958. G. Maleika



≠2* v (13+13) C+

7th Hon. Mention
5913. J.L. Velasco



≠2 vvvv (14+11) C+

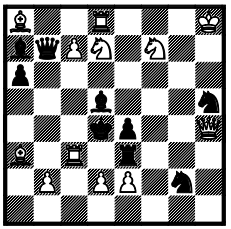
4th Hon. Mention: 5957 Antonio Tarnawiecki and Emanuel Navon
Comments by Authors: Two changed mates on a BABY theme setting.
1…♖f7 **a** 2.♗xe5‡ **A**
1…♗xg4 **b** 2.♕xe5‡ **B**
1.♘xe5! [2.♘f3‡]
1…♖f7 **a** 2.♖c4‡ **C**
1…♗xg4 **b** 2.♖xd5‡ **D**
1…♔xe5 2.♕h8‡

6th Hon. Mention: 5958 Gerhard Maleika
1…d5 2.♕xe6‡ 1…♘d4 2.♘xd4‡ 1.♕a4? [2.♕e4‡] ma 1…d5!
1.♕c8! [2.♕xe6‡ 2.♘d4‡]
1…♖xc8 **AB** 2.♘xe7‡
1…♗xf2 **BC** 2.g4‡
1…♖g6 **CD** 2.♗g4‡
1…bxc2 **DA** 2.♕xc2‡
Comments by Author: Zyklus der Effekte, mit denen die Drohungen verhindert werden
A ein schwarzer Stein schlägt einen Drohstein
B ein schwarzer Stein gewinnt Zugang zu einem Feld durch Entfesselung
C ein schwarzer Stein gewinnt Zugang zu einem Feld durch seinen Zug
D ein schwarzer Stein gewinnt Zugang zu einem Feld durch Linienöffnung
[*Ciclo degli effetti con cui le minacce sono prevenute.*
I matti minacciati sono impediti per:
A - cattura B - schiodatura C - controllo diretto D - apertura di linea]
• An interesting problem of Slovak school.

7th Hon. Mention: 5913 José Luis Velasco
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‡
• Four White combinations.

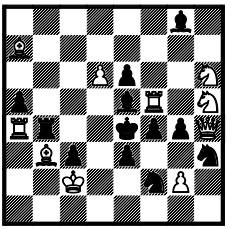
Commendation ex aequo:

Commendation
5824. F. Magini



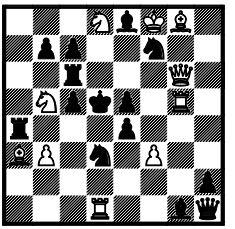
≠2 vv (12+9) C+

Commendation
5825. G. Sardella



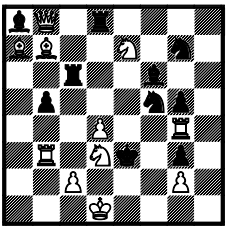
≠2* (10+12) C+

Commendation
5866. M. Uris



≠2 v… (10+14) C+

Commendation
5911. J.L. Velasco



≠2 (11+10) C+

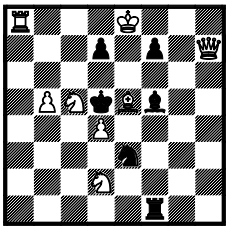
5824 Fabio Magini
1.♘de5? [2.♖c4‡]
1…♕xc7 **a** 2.♖xd5‡ **A** 1…♕c6 **b** 2.♘xc6‡ **B** 1…♖xc3 **c** 2.bxc3‡ **C** ma 1…♕b5!
1.♕g5? [2.♕e5‡] 1…♕xc7 **a** 2.♕xd5‡ **D** ma 1…♖xc3!
1.♘c5! [2.♘e6‡]
1…♕c6 **b** 2.♘b3‡ **E** 1…♖xc3 **c** 2.♕xe4‡ **F** 1…♕b6 **d** 2.♖xd5‡ **A**
1…♘gf4 2.dxe3‡ 1…♘hf4 2.♕f6‡ 1…♘g7 2.♕f6‡ 1…♗xc5 2.♗xc5‡ 1…♕c8 2.♘b3‡
• Three changed and one pseudo-transferred mates.

5825 Giuseppe Sardella
1…g3 2.♘xg3‡ 1…f3 2.gxf3‡
1.♛e7! [2.♕b7‡] 1…♗d4 2.♗d5‡ 1…exf5 2.♘f6‡
• An original rendering of Hirlap theme (change of half-pin).

5866 Miguel Uris
1.♕h5? [2.♖xe5#] 1…♖e6, **a** 1…♖d4, **b** 1…♗d4 **c**
1.♕e6+? ma 1…♖xe6! **a**
1.♕f5? [2.♕xe5‡] 1…♗d4 2.♕xe4‡ 1…♖e6 2.♕xe6‡ ma 1…♖d4! **b**
1.f4? [2.♖xe5‡] 1…♖d4 2.♘c3‡ 1…♖e6 2.♕xe6‡ ma 1…♗d4! **c**
1.♗b2! [2.♖xe5‡]
1…♖e6 **a** 2.♕xe6‡ 1…♖d4 **b** 2.♘c3‡ 1…♗d4 **c** 2.♕xe4‡
Kharkov 1 – Separation of refutations – Defences on same square
• An interesting problem, but it feels rather like 3 white combinations.

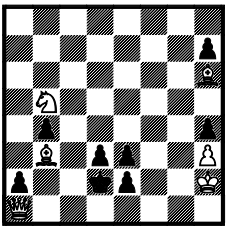
5911 José Luis Velasco
1.♔e1! [2.♘c5‡]
1…♘xd4 2.♕xg3‡ 1…♗xd4 2.♕e5‡ 1…♖xd4 2.♘d5‡
1…♖c3 2.♖e4‡ 1…♖xc2 2.♖e4‡ 1…♖c4 2.♖e4‡
• A nice problem with triple Schiffmann.

Commendation
5912. G. Bielefeldt & V. Cabrera



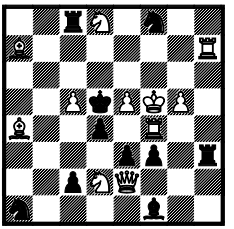
≠2 (8+6) C+

Commendation
5950. J.M. Abad Gonzalez



≠2* vv (6+8) C+

Commendation
5955. G. Maleika



≠2 vvv (11+10) C+

5912 Germán Bielefeldt and Virginio Cabrera
1.♘e6! [2.♘c7‡]
1…♗xe6 2.♕e4‡ 1…♖c1 2.♘f4‡ 1…♔xe6 2.♕xf7‡
1…fxe6 2.♕xd7‡ 1…dxe6 2.♖d8‡
• A classical problem with a very good key – giving a flight square and an active sacrifice.

5950 José Miguel Abad Gonzalez
1…e1=♕ 2.♕b2‡ **B** 1…e1=♘ **a** 2.♕d1‡ **A**
1.♘d4? [2.♘f3‡] 1…e1=♕ 2.♕b2‡ ma 1…e1=♘! **a**
1.♕g1? [2.♗xe3‡] 1…e1=♘ **a** 2.♕xe3‡ ma 1…e1=♕!
1.♗f8! [2.♗xb4‡] 1…e1=♕ 2.♕b2‡ 1…e1=♘ 2.♕d1‡
• An interesting Ropke with thematic refutations and a changed mate.

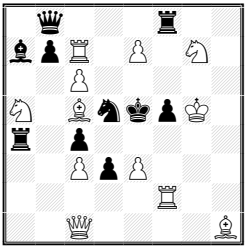
5955 Gerhard Maleika
1.♘e6! A [2.♖xd4‡] 1…♘xe6 **a** 2.♖d7‡ 1…♖h4 **b** 2.♕xf3‡ ma 1…♘b3! **c**
1.♖hh4? B [2.♖xd4‡] 1…♖xh4 **b** 2.♕xf3‡ 1…♘b3 **c** 2.♗xb3‡ ma 1…♘e6! **a**
1.♘b3? ♘ [2.♖xd4‡] 1…♘xb3 **c** 2.♗xb3‡ 1…♘e6 **a** 2.♖d7‡ ma 1…♖h4! **b**
1.c6! [2.♖xd4‡] 1…♘e6 **a** 2.♖d7‡ 1…♖h4 **b** 2.♕xf3‡ 1…♘b3 **c** 2.♗xb3‡
Comments by Author: Zyklus von Erstzug und Widerlegung [Cycle between defenses and refutations]
Ciclo fra difese inefficaci e refutazioni, il tutto collegate con le case dei tentativi.
• Unfortunately, the thematic mates are all set, which makes the problem's content be more like three White combinations.

I wish all the participants and the editor further successes in Chess Composition!

Judge: Daniil Yakimovich, March 5th 2025, USA, Maryland, Greenbelt

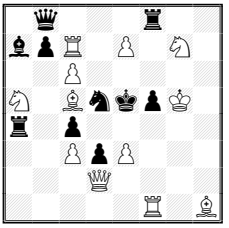
I miei più sinceri ringraziamenti a Daniil Yakimovich per il suo qualificato verdetto, il quale diverrà definitivo passati 3 mesi dalla pubblicazione. Eventuali reclami vanno inviati al Redattore:
Antonio Garofalo, E-mail: perseus@bestproblems.it
[*My most sincere thanks to Daniil Yakimovich for his qualified award, which will become definitive 3 months after publication. Possible claims must be sent to the Editor:*
Antonio Garofalo, E-mail: perseus@bestproblems.it.]

Ricostruzione

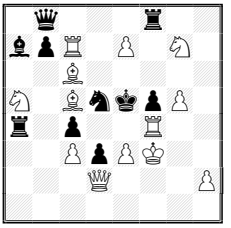


←Miguel Uris - (Ricostruzione 102, BP113 gennaio 2025)
Associazione Scacchistica Italiana Giocatori per Corrispondenza 2017
1q3r2/bpR1P1N1/2P5/N1BnkpK1/r1p5/2PpP3/5R2/2Q4B
≠2 (12+10) C+
1.♖d7! [2.♖xd5‡]
1…♘xc3 2.♕xc3‡ 1…♘xe3 2.♕xe3‡ 1…♘b4 2.♘xc4‡
1…♘f4 2.exf4‡ 1…♘b6 2.♗d4‡ 1…♘f6,♖d8 2.♖xf5‡
1…♘c7,♕d6,♕d8 2.♗(x)d6‡ 1…♘xe7 2.♖xe7‡
1…bxc6 2.♘xc6‡ - Rosa completa di ♞ nero.

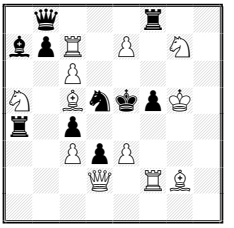
José Antonio Coello Alonso



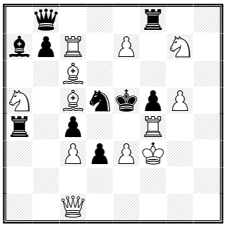
German Bielefeld



Hans Nieuwhart
Predrag Zuvic



Valeriu Giurgean



Per la ricostruzione 102 ho scelto questo lavoro di Miguel in memoriam per la sua triste dipartita precoce. Mostra un classico di altri tempi, la rosa completa di un cavallo nero.
Hanno inviato la soluzione JACA, GB, HN, PZ e VG, in ordine cronologico di ricezione. Tutti perfetti, con disposizione diversa di alcuni pezzi (♗c6 → ♗g2 per esempio), ma tutti necessari. I pezzi sono 12+10, salvo la proposta di GB che è 13+10, se non erro German è la prima volta che partecipa (welcome).

Ricostruzione n. 103 - Ricostruire un problema ≠2 che abbia la seguente soluzione:

1.♕c8? Tempo, ma 1…♘f5!
1.♘b4? [2.♕xc4‡] **A** ma 1…♖xb4! **a**
1.♕b4? [2.♘xc3‡] **B** ma 1…♗xb4! **b**
1.♕d4! Tempo
1…♖~ 2.♕xc4‡ **A** 1…♖b4! **a** 2.♘xc3‡
1…♗~ 2.♘xc3‡ **B** 1…♗b4! **b** 2.♕xc4‡
1…♘~ 2.♕g4‡ 1…exd4, e4 2.♘f4‡

Inviare (send to): **perseus@bestproblems.it**
(last available day for to send: **10/06/2025**)

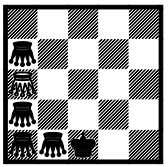
A. Garofalo

Let's talk about…

Sébastien LUCE

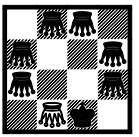
LOVE is multiform. For a fairy composer like me, Grasshopper is one of my favourite piece. We see in the four following problems a white one versus a group of black ones, moving on a little space.

L)
Sébastien LUCE, 2025



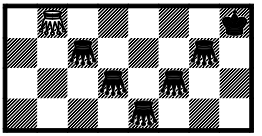
H≠6 (1+5) C+
b) translation e1→e2)
PWC
♖♖=Grasshopper

O)
Sébastien LUCE 2025



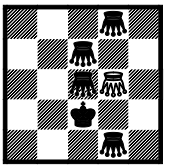
H≠6 (1+7) C+
♖♖=Grasshopper

V)
Sébastien LUCE, 2025



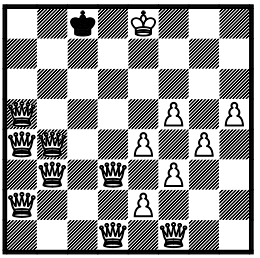
H≠5 (1+6) C+
♖♖=Grasshopper

E)
Sébastien LUCE, 2025



H≠6 (1+5) C+
Circe turncoat
♖♖=Grasshopper

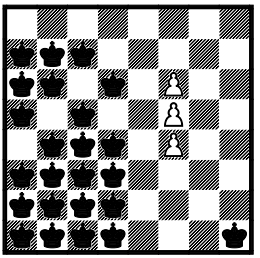
Love can take many forms. In the following, we see « a really white wedding »



← Sébastien LUCE
Dedicated to the eight wives of Eddy Barclay, 2025
White : Ke8 Qa5a4b4b3d3a2d1f1 Pf5h5e4g4f3e2
Black : Kc8

ser-auto=25 (15+1) C+
ABC for white
1.♕d2 2.♕a1 3.♕h8 4.♕a7 5.♕h7 6.♕g8 7.♕f8 8.♕b3 9.♕f7 10.♕h6 11.♕d6 12.♕g6 13.e3 14.e5 15.e4 16.e6 17.e5 18.e7 19.e6 20.♕a1 21.♕g7 22.f4 23.f6 24.f5 25.g5-auto=

Eddy Barclay was **a** french music producer, famous for his many marriages. He was also famous for the parties he organised where everybody should be dressed in white.
Two white Bristols (Qb3-f7 and Qa1-g7) during the party.



←Sébastien LUCE
Dedicated to the 24th husband of Linda Wolfe, 2025
White: Pf6f5f4
Black: Ka7b7c7a6b6d6a5c5b4c4d4a3b3c3d3a2b2c2d2a1b1c1d1h1

The following problem needs some explanations:
Linda Wolfe is american, "recordwoman" for the number of marriages. She had 23 to her credit in 2009 when she was 68 years old. Her longer marriage
the first, lasted seven years, the shorter 36h (!). Among its conquests she counts a convict, a pastor, some plombers, or some musicians. Two of her husbands have been proven to be gays. Her last union with Glynn Wolf was only a publicity stunt, this one was the man the most married of the world with 29 wifes to his credit. Linda is looking for number 24.
(tested with some immobile Kings)

ser-h=9 (3+24) PWC
1.♔g2 2.♔f3 3.♔xf4(f3) 4.♔xf5(f4) 5.♔fe6 6.♔xf6(e6) 7.♔fe7 8.♔exe6(e7) 9.♔ed5 e8=♕=

Solutions of the LOVE problems:

L:
Board 5x5
White : ♖a3
Black : ♔c1 ♖a4a2a1b1
a)
1.♔c2 ♖a5 2.♖d2 ♖e1 3.♔b3 ♖xa1(♖e1) 4.♔b4 ♖a5 5.♔xa5(♖b4) ♖xe1(♖b4) 6.♖b5 ♖c3‡
b)
1.♖a1 ♖xa1(♖a4) 2.♖a3 ♖xa3(♖a1) 3.♔d2 ♖c1 4.♖d1 ♖e1 5.♔xe1(♖d2) ♖xa2(♖d2) 6.♖e2 ♖a5‡
In this first L, thanks to the PWC condition, echo 180° in the corners a5/d1 where three black Grasshoppers are used to self-block, the last one allowing the ultimate checkmate.

O:
Board 4×4
White : Gb1
Black : Kç1 Gb4ç4a3d3a2d2
1.♔b2 ♖b3 2.♖c3 ♖b1 3.♖cc2 ♖b3 4.♔a1 ♖d1 5.♖b2 ♖d4 6.♖db1 ♖a4‡
Switchback b3-b1 and four corners theme: d1, d4, a4 by white Grasshopper which mates black King on a1.

V:
Board 8×4
White : Gb4
Black : Kh4 Gç3g3d2f2é1
1.♖g2 ♖d2 2.♖c2 ♖h2 3.♖g4 ♖b2 4.♖h3 ♖d2 5.♖e2 ♖f2‡
Linear rundlauf by white Grasshopper from d2 to d2. Black Grasshopper e1 don't move during the solution, but avoids at the end the escape of the Grasshopper g3.

E:
Board 5×5
White : Gd3
Black : Kç2 Gd5ç4ç3d1
1.♖d4 ♖xd5(♖♗d1) 2.♔d2 ♖b3 3.♔e3 ♖a4 4.♖c2 ♖xc2(♖♗c1) 5.♔e4 ♖xc3(♖♗c1) 6.♔d5 ♖c4‡
This last letter of LOVE shows a more unusual condition of the Circe family. Here is the definition : when **a** piece is captured, it must be replaced on its Circe square if it is empty, then it changes its colour. If the rebirth square is occupied, the captured piece vanishes. Here white Grasshopper is alone at the beginning. There are four at the end, the remaining black Grasshopper used to self-block.

Knight tour on 114 cell board

by Awani Kumar, Lucknow, India

Best Problems has come out with its 114th issue and let's celebrate and commemorate this glorious achievement with interesting knight tours on 6x19 (=114) cell board. Figure 1 and Figure 2 are semi-magic tours. Sum of move numbers in each column is 345. Sum of rows is from 1090 to 1095. The two figures are almost identical – only move numbers 11 and 12 interchange places with 103 and 104 respectively. Such 'twin tours' are very rare. These two tours are open and readers are urged to look for the more challenging closed (or reentrant) tours.

5	10	113	14	97	8	89	86	91	94	43	32	41	70	45	68	39	66	79	1090
112	13	6	9	**114**	15	96	93	88	85	58	71	44	33	40	47	80	49	38	1091
11	4	103	16	7	98	87	90	95	92	31	42	59	46	69	34	67	78	65	1094
104	111	12	99	108	17	26	29	24	21	84	57	72	53	62	81	48	37	50	1095
3	102	109	106	**1**	100	19	22	27	30	73	60	55	82	75	52	35	64	77	1092
110	105	2	101	18	107	28	25	20	23	56	83	74	61	54	63	76	51	36	1093
345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	

1.

5	10	113	14	97	8	89	86	91	94	43	32	41	70	45	68	39	66	79	1090
112	13	6	9	**114**	15	96	93	88	85	58	71	44	33	40	47	80	49	38	1091
103	4	11	16	7	98	87	90	95	92	31	42	59	46	69	34	67	78	65	1094
12	111	104	99	108	17	26	29	24	21	84	57	72	53	62	81	48	37	50	1095
3	102	109	106	**1**	100	19	22	27	30	73	60	55	82	75	52	35	64	77	1092
110	105	2	101	18	107	28	25	20	23	56	83	74	61	54	63	76	51	36	1093
345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	345	

2.

Figure 3 to Figure 7 is *'figured tour'* of knight on 6x19 board. Figured tour is mathematical art over board. Figure 3 to Figure 5 has the square numbers 1^2, 2^2, 3^2, ...,10^2, namely 1, 4, 9, ..., 100 along the knight path, zebra {2, 3} path and corsair {2, 5} path respectively. The paths are symmetrical having an aesthetic appeal. Figure 6 and Figure 7 has the square numbers delineating the numerals '1' and '4' respectively which correlate with the issue number 114. Readers may like to compose more figured tours.

7	2	29	10	89	54	33	26	87	52	105	50	85	48	69	102	83	80	45
30	11	8	3	32	27	88	53	106	35	86	75	70	103	84	63	46	101	82
1	6	31	28	**9**	90	55	34	**25**	74	51	104	**49**	76	47	68	**81**	44	79
12	19	**4**	113	110	23	**16**	91	56	107	**36**	71	40	97	**64**	77	62	67	**100**
5	**114**	21	14	17	112	109	24	93	58	73	38	95	60	41	98	65	78	43
20	13	18	111	22	15	92	57	108	37	94	59	72	39	96	61	42	99	66

3.

3	6	41	56	17	58	39	54	37	60	71	74	65	62	77	96	101	106	103
42	19	**4**	7	40	55	**16**	59	72	67	**36**	61	78	75	**64**	107	104	97	**100**
5	2	43	18	57	28	53	38	35	70	73	66	63	108	95	76	99	102	105
20	11	8	29	44	15	24	27	68	47	50	91	94	79	112	109	86	83	98
1	30	13	22	**9**	32	45	52	**25**	34	69	**114**	**49**	92	89	84	**81**	110	87
12	21	10	31	14	23	26	33	46	51	48	93	90	113	80	111	88	85	82

4.

1	12	31	22	**9**	54	33	52	**25**	56	59	106	**49**	108	97	104	**81**	74	71
30	21	10	13	32	23	26	55	34	61	50	57	96	105	82	75	72	103	80
11	2	29	8	27	14	53	24	51	58	95	60	107	48	109	98	79	70	73
20	5	18	43	40	91	38	15	94	35	62	47	112	65	76	83	68	99	102
3	42	7	28	17	44	89	92	37	46	87	**114**	63	110	85	66	101	78	69
6	19	**4**	41	90	39	**16**	45	88	93	**36**	111	86	113	**64**	77	84	67	**100**

5.

5	10	7	28	3	12
8	27	**4**	11	20	29
17	6	**9**	2	13	**114**
26	**1**	**16**	19	30	21
37	18	**25**	50	113	14
48	65	**36**	15	22	31
35	38	**49**	24	51	112
66	47	**64**	111	32	23
39	34	**81**	46	63	52
80	67	**100**	33	110	45
69	40	79	82	53	62
78	101	68	99	44	109
41	70	83	102	61	54
84	77	98	43	108	103
97	42	71	104	55	60
76	85	96	107	72	105
95	90	93	86	59	56
92	75	88	57	106	73
89	94	91	74	87	58

6.

7	12	19	22	39	14
20	41	8	13	18	23
11	6	21	40	15	38
44	3	42	**9**	24	17
5	10	45	**16**	37	26
2	43	**4**	**25**	68	35
63	46	67	**36**	27	50
66	**1**	**64**	**49**	34	69
47	62	33	**100**	51	28
32	65	48	**81**	70	101
61	82	99	72	29	52
98	31	80	87	102	71
83	60	73	30	53	88
106	97	84	79	86	103
59	78	105	74	89	54
96	107	58	85	104	75
113	110	77	92	55	90
108	95	112	57	76	93
111	**114**	109	94	91	56

7.