

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

Sergei Tkachenko

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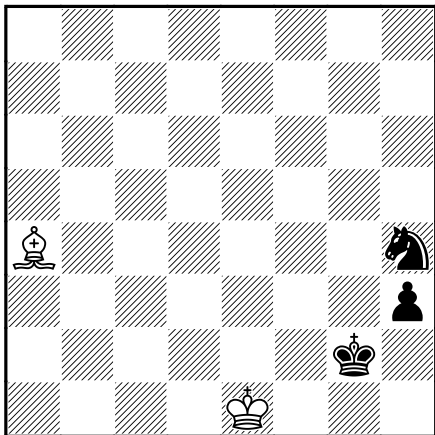
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No. 1

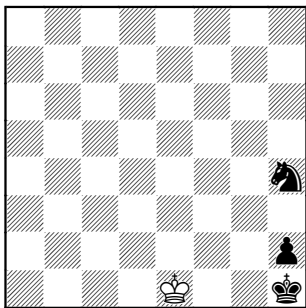


White to move and draw

Not 1. ♖c6+? ♔g1 2. ♖d5 ♘g2 and the pawn cannot be stopped.

1. ♖d7! h2. Black cannot win with 1... ♘f3+ 2. ♔e2 ♘d4+ 3. ♔e3 h2 4. ♔xd4 h1=♚ 5. ♖c6+.

2. ♖c6+ ♔g1 (2... ♘f3+ 3. ♔e2 h1=♚ 4. ♖xf3+) 3. ♖h1!! ♔xh1. Or a draw after 3... ♘g2+ 4. ♔e2 ♘h4+ 5. ♔e1! and so on.

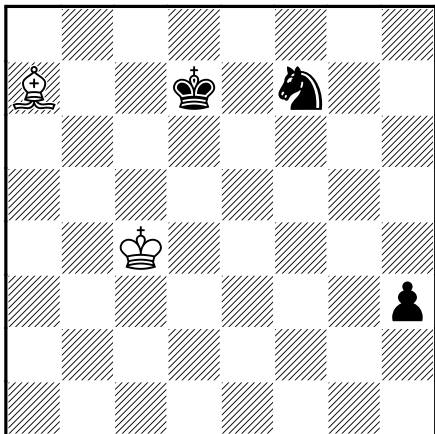


4. ♔f2! But not 4. ♔f1? ♘f3 5. ♔f2 ♘d2, and white loses due to zugzwang.

4... ♘f3 5. ♔f1 ♘d2+ 6. ♔f2. Now black is in zugzwang and his king cannot get out of the corner. A draw.

Author S. Lloyd, 1860

No. 2



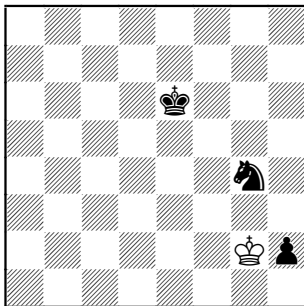
White to move and draw

1. ♖g1! White can turn out the lights after 1. ♖b8? ♘d6+ 2. ♔d5 h2 and so on.

1... ♘e5+ 2. ♔d5! But not 2. ♔d4? ♘f3+ 3. ♔e3 ♘xg1 4. ♔f2 ♘e2! and the end.

2... ♘f3 3. ♖h2!! ♘xh2 4. ♔e4! And now the white king copes admirably with black's knight and pawn!

4... ♘g4 5. ♔f3 ♔e6 6. ♔g3 h2 7. ♔g2! A classic drawing position!



Author E. Pogosiants, year unknown (amended by S. Tkachenko)