

**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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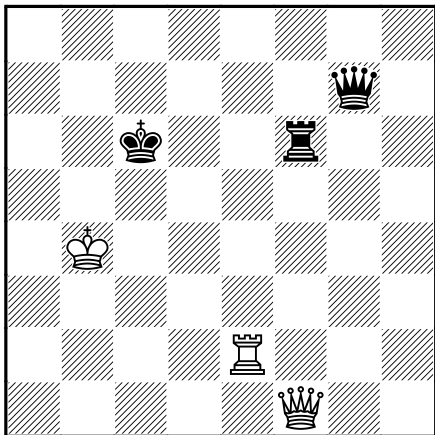
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No. 1



*White to move and win*

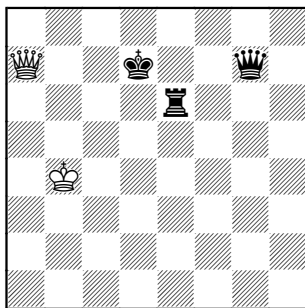
At first glance, the black king easily evades the checks 1.♖c2+? ♔b7! 2.♕h1+ ♔b6 with a drawn position.

However, an unexpected rook sac leads to victory.

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

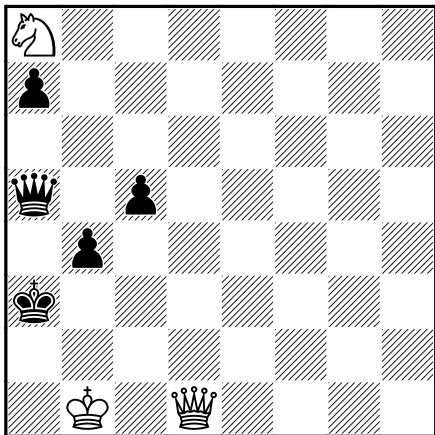
2...♔d5 3.♕c4+ ♔d6. Black can't save the game with 3...♔e5 4.♕c3+ ♔f5 5.♕xg7.

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!

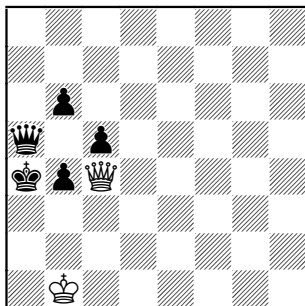
**1. ♖c1+!** (1... ♗d2? ♔a4!) **1... ♔a4.** Black loses quickly after 1... ♔b3 2. ♗c2+ ♔a3 3. ♗a2#.

**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