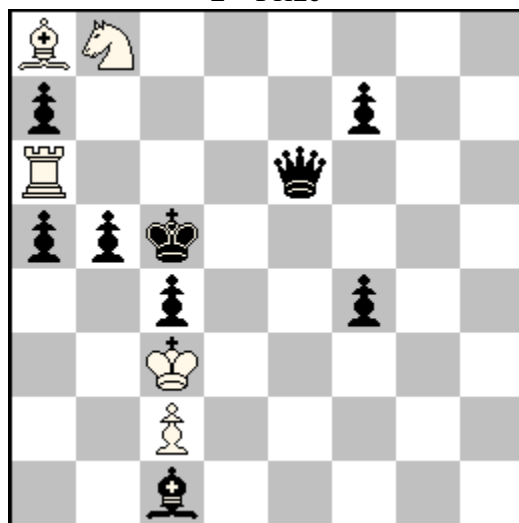


No.1
 Kostas Prentos
 5th FIDE World Cup 2017
 Section G (Fairies)
 2nd Prize



hs#3½ b) ♔e6→e4 (5+9) C+

[BS6/p4p2/R3q3/ppk5/2p2p2/2K5/2P5/2b5]

- a) 1...Qh6 2.Rg6 f6 3.Sa6+ Kb6 4.Rxf6+ Qxf6#
 b) 1...Qh1 2.Bg2 f3 3.Sd7+ Kd5 4.Bxf3+ Qxf3#

C+ Popeye v4.75 & WinChloe v3.35

The black Queen opens the line for the white piece that follows. This bicolor Bristol maneuver is necessary in order to transfer the bQ to an ambush-like position. From that square, the bQ is able to capture the white piece that gives the final check.

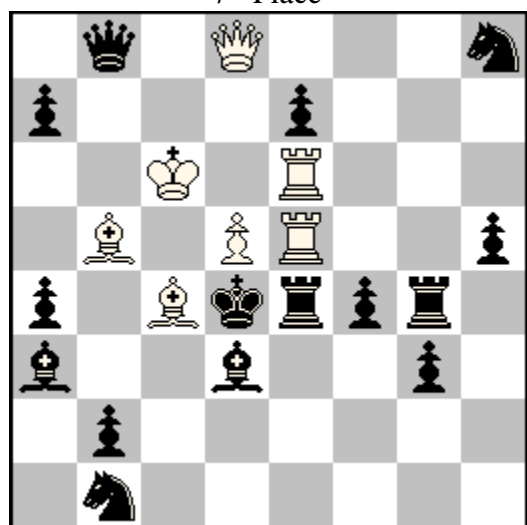
This strategy is highlighted by various tries, e.g., 1...Qf5?, 1...Qe7?, 1...Qe2?, that aim to control f6 or f3, in order to answer the check with 4...Qxf6# or 4...Qxf3#, respectively. They all fail because 4.Rxf6+ is answered by 4...Qe6! (or Qd6!) and 4.Bxf3+ by 4...Qe4!. For the same reason, the solution of each twin is unique and cannot be interchanged: In twin (a), 2.Bg2? does not work; likewise, 2.Rg6? in twin (b). The Queen must hide behind the white piece.

(Reciprocal) Bicolor Bristol,
 Maslar,
 ODT.

The judge Petko A. Petkov wrote: An impressive mechanism for demonstrating of themes Bicolor Bristol + Maslar! The play is very beautiful and spectacular - the position is also very good. The optimal use of white and black thematic material enhances the sense of harmony!

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No.2
 Kostas Prentos
 10th WCCT 2016-2017
 Section G (Fairies)
 7th Place



h#2 2.1.1.1 (7+15) C+
 Take & Make

[1q1Q3s/p3p3/2K1R3/1B1PR2p/p1Bkrpr1/b2b2p1/1p6/1s6]

- i) 1.Rxe5→e1 Qxb8→g8 2.Bxc4→e2 Qxg4→g7#
- ii) 1.Bxc4→f1 Qxb8→d6 2.Rxe5→e2 Qxa3→b4#

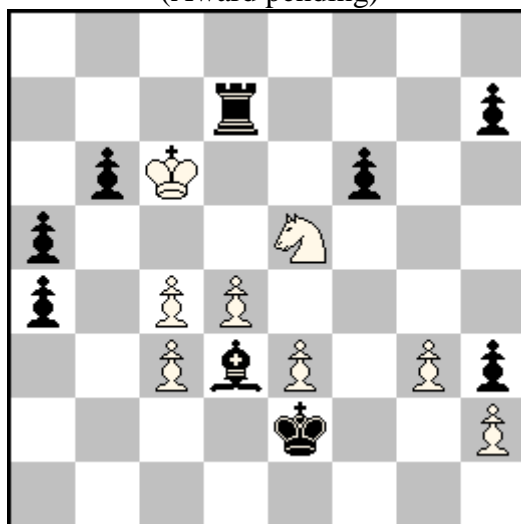
C+ Popeye v4.69 & WinChloe v3.33

Black Grimshaw on e2 square, with critical move by the rear piece. While the first capture (on B1) is necessary in order to clear the mating line, the second capture (on B2) is more subtle: With the white piece still present on c4 or e5, the black King would be able to escape the final check by “taking” that piece and “making” a safe flight. Even if White’s play is less interesting, all 4 half-moves are thematic and the solutions are quite harmonious.

Theme: In a solution of a helpmate (h#2-3) with Take & Make fairy condition an “invisible capture” takes place. An “invisible capture” occurs when a unit standing on a square A can move to a square B, but in fact it arrives to square B in the “make” part of the move. The result looks like an orthodox move with the additional effect of disappearance of the captured piece. Only an orthodox set without extra (“promoted”) pieces may be used. Any side may have two bishops on squares of the same color in the diagram position.

Take & Make: Having captured, a piece must immediately, as part of its move, play a non-capturing move in imitation of the captured unit from the capture square. If no such move is available, the capture is illegal.

No.3
 Kostas Prentos
 StrateGems 2018 (82/FA1700)
 (Award pending)



hs#3½ b) ♠h7→g6 (8+9) C+
 ConditionsFromPly=7 (***)
 Maximummer

(***) The fairy condition Maximummer applies only on the final move. All other moves are orthodox.

[8/3r3p/1pK2p2/p3S3/p1PP4/2PbP1Pp/4k2P/8]

- a) 1...Bxc4 2.Sd3 Bf7 3.Kb5 Bg6 4.Kc4 Bxd3#
 b) 1...Rxd4 2.Sd7 Rh4 3.Kd5 Rh7 4.Kd4 Rxd7#

C+, WinChloe v3.39

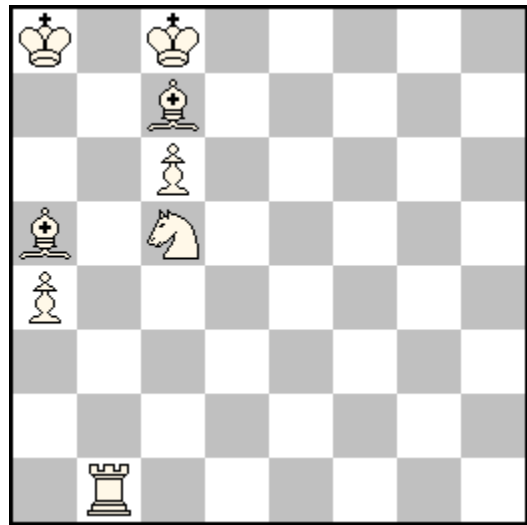
Bishop/Rook Rundlauf, combined with the Kniest theme. Anticipating the return of the mating piece, the white Knight plays on its departure square, in order to regulate the length of the mating move. Reciprocal change of functions between the bR and bB.

ConditionsFromPly=n: The fairy conditions take effect only after a certain number of half-moves (plies) have been played.

Maximummer: Black must play the geometrically longest move or may choose among longest moves of equal length, distances being measured from the center of each square. The distances are measured from the orthogonal coordinates by using the Pythagorean Theorem (equals the square root of the sum of the squares of the orthogonal distances).

No.4

Kostas Prentos
Sake TT, WCCC Belgrade 2016
1st Prize



h#2 b) ♖b1→d1 (8+0) C?
Colorless Chess

[K1K5/2B5/2P5/B1S5/P7/8/8/1R6]

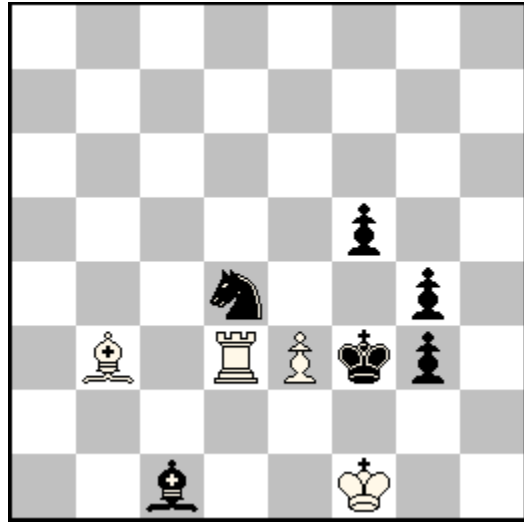
- a) 1.Rb7(=b) Bcb6(=w) 2.Sd7(=b) cxb7(=w)#
b) 1.Bb8(=b) c7(=w) 2.Rd7(=b) cxb8=Q#

The two Kings' colors are not revealed in either phase, but the final mates work with every possible coloring of the Kings.

The judges Tadashi Wakashima, Toshiki Kobayashi, Masato Yoshii wrote: "Schrödinger's cat" theme in twin form. We highly evaluate the composer's skill in achieving this difficult task. A worthy winner.

Colorless Chess: The color of all pieces (Kings included) is unknown. The side that moves a piece first, can claim its color. Castling and en passant capture are possible unless proved otherwise. All moves are assumed legal. A position is checkmate if and only if every legal coloring of the position is checkmate in an ordinary sense.

No.5
 Kostas Prentos
 SuperProblem 216 TT 2018
 Section C (hs#2-6)
 3rd Prize



hs#4 2.1.1... (4+6) C+
 Masand

[8/8/8/5p2/3s2p1/1B1RPkp1/8/2b2K2]

- i) 1.Rd1 Kxe3 2.Re1[c1=w]++ Kf3 3.Rd1 Sc2 4.Bd5+ Se3[g4,f5=w][d1,d5=b]#
- ii) 1.Ke1 Bd2[e3=b]+ 2.Kf1 Be1 3.Rxd4 Bf2 4.Bd1+ e2[d1=b]#

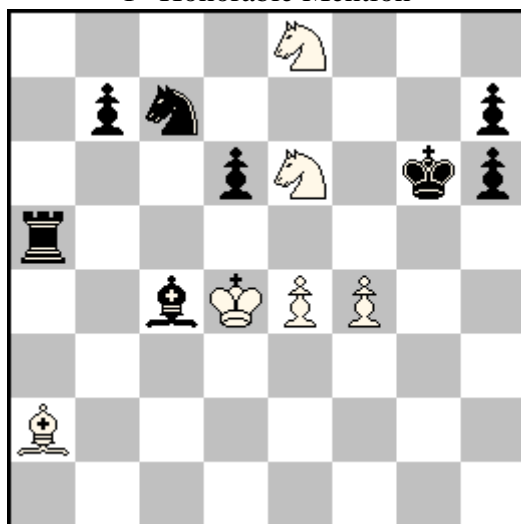
C+, WinChloe v3.42

Switchbacks of the two Kings and Rook.
 Unusual case of Zilahi between the bSd4 and the wPe3.

The judge Petko A. Petkov wrote: In spite of absence of full analogy in both phases, the author represents a paradoxical synthesis – bK switchback (1st solution) and wK switchback (2nd solution) in combination with non-standard interpretation of Zilahi theme (regarding bSd4 and wPe3!). Very good construction – only 10 pieces, i. e. the gravure again!

Masand: When a piece X gives a direct check with its move, all pieces of the same color controlled by X and all pieces of opposite color attacked by X, except for the Kings, change color.

No.6
 Kostas Prentos
 StrateGems 2017 (78/FA1594)
 1st Honorable Mention



hs#5 (6+8) C+

[4S3/1ps4p/3pS1kp/r7/2bKPP2/8/B7/8]

1.Bb3 (tempo) Rh5 2.Sg5 Bf7 (tempo) 3.Be6 Sb5+ 4.Kd5 Bg8 5.Bf7+ Bxf7#

C+ Popeye v4.75

The anticipatory self-pin of the white Knight after the critical move of the bRa5, opens the Bishops' line a2-g8 for the creation of a Maslar setting, by means of a delayed bi-color Bristol maneuver.

Two tempo moves, one for each side.

Magnet effect on the diagonal a2-g8.

The judge Pierre Tritten wrote: This one-phased problem shows very attractive play of white and black Bishops on the same diagonal, ending with pin-mate after a switchback.