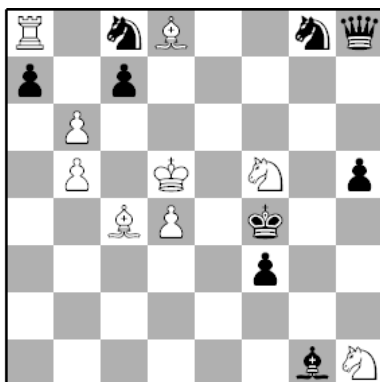


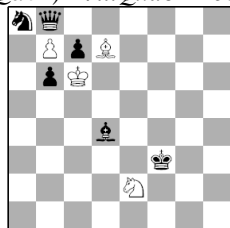
№1. Yuri Bazlov
J.Mikitovics - 70 JT, 2020
1st prize
(version special for WCCI)



= 9+9

1.b7! Nge7+! 1...Ncb6+ 2.Kc6 Ne7+ 3.N:e7. **2.B:e7!** 2.N:e7? Q:d8+.
2...Nb6+ 3.Kc6! Nxa8 4.Be6! 4.Ng7? Qb8 5.Ne6 Kf5 6.Bd8 (6.Nc5 Qe8+ 7.Nd7 Nb6 8.b8Q Qxd7+ 9.Kb7 Nxc4) 6...h4 7.Bd5 (7.b6 Nxb6 8.Ng7+ Kg6 9.Bxc7 Qxb7+ 10.Kxb7 Kxc4 11.Ne6 f2 12.Nxf2 Bxf2 13.d5 a5 14.d6 14...Nxd6 15.Bxd6 Bg3) 7...f2 8.Nxf2 Bxf2 9.Nxc7 Nxc7 10.Bxc7 Qe8+ 11.Kc5 Qe3! 12.b8Q Qxd4+ 13.Kc6 Qc5+ 14.Kd7 Qxd5+ win; 5.Nxh5+ Ke3. **4...Qe8+!** 4...f2 5.Nxf2 Bxf2 6.b6 axb6 7.Kd7 7...b5 8.Bd8 Nb6+ 9.Kxc7 Bxd4+ 10.Nxd4. **5.Bd7! Qb8!** Badly 5...Qg8 6.Bc5! etc. **6.Bf6! Ke4!** 6...Nb6 7.Be5+ Kg5 8.Bxc7 Qg8 9.Bxb6 ab 10.d5 Bh2 11.Nhg3 Kf6 12.Kc7! Bxg3 13.Nxg3 Qxg3+ 14.d6 f2 15.b8Q Kg7 16.Qxb6 f1Q 17.Qd4+ draw. **7.Be5! h4!** 7...Kd3 8.Bc8 f2 9.Nxf2 Bxf2 10.d5 a6 11.d6 Qa7 12.b6 Qxb6+ 13.Kd7 Qb5+ 14.Ke6 draw.

8.b6!! Early 8.Bc8? f2 9.Nxh4 f1N! 10.Ng3+ 10...Nxg3 11.Bxg3 Bf2! 12.Bxf2 Nb6 13.Bf5+ Kf4 14.Be1 Qe8+ 15.Kxc7 Nd5+ 16.Kd6 Qd8+ 17.Bd7 Ke4 win. Or 8.Nxh4? Bxd4 9.Ng3+ Kxe5 10.Nxf3+ Kf4 11.Ne2+ Kxf3 winning. **8...ab.** After 8...Nxb6 9.Bxc7 Qg8 10.Nd6+ Kxb4 11.Bxb6 axb6 12.Bc8 white equalizes the material and the game. **9.Nxh4!** 9.Nd6? cxd6 10.Bxd6 Qa7! 11.b8Q Qa4+ 12.Kb7 Qxd7+ 13.Kxa8 Bxd4 14.B5 14...Qf8!
9...Bxd4! 9...Qg8 10.Bf5+ Ke3 11.Bc8. **10.Ng3+! Kxe5 11.Nxf3+ Kf4.** 11...Kf6 12.Ne4+ K~ ~ 13.Kxd4 draw. **12.Ne2+.** 12.Nxd4? Kxg3. **12...Kxf3.** 12...Ke3 13.Nf(e)xd4 13...b5 14.baN! (14.baQ? Qb6+ 15.Kd5 Qd6#) 14...Qxa8+ 15.Kxc7 b4 16.Be6 draw. Black has an overwhelming advantage in power.



WTP after 12...Kxf3

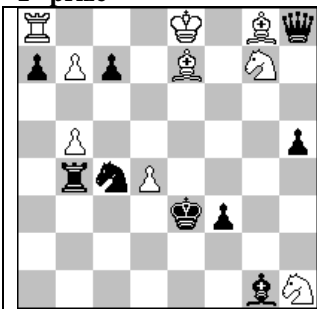
13.Kb5!! White also gives a pawn-his last hope, which never became a queen. **13...Qxb7.** 13...Kxe2 14.Bc6! Qxb7 15.Bxb7 c6+ 16.Kxc6. Or 14...Qg8 15.baQ Qb3+ 16.Ka6 Qa3+ 17.Kb7! Despite black's two extra pawns, they can't win. But not 17.Kb5? Qd3+! 18.Ka4 Qc4+ 19.Ka3 Kd2 win. **14.Nxd4+.** 14.Bc6+? Qxc6 15.Kxc6 Kxe2. **14...Ke3 15.Nc6! Ke4 16.Be6!** - zz when black moves, it is a draw. Worse 16. Bh3? Kd5! 17. Bg2+ Kd6! and the blacks win. 16...Kf4 17.Bd7(h3) positional draw; **15...Kf4 16.Bh3!** - **positional draw.** 16.Be6? Ke4! zz.

Comments:

Paradoxical positional draw, when black, having a queen, a knight and two pawns against a knight and a bishop in an open position, cannot play any of these pieces and the king is powerless to help them in any way.

The author found it necessary, due to the abundance of analytical options, to remove the first move of the solution and change the original version of the sketch, which looked like this:

№1a.Yuri Bazlov
J.Mikitovics - 70 JT, 2020
1st prize



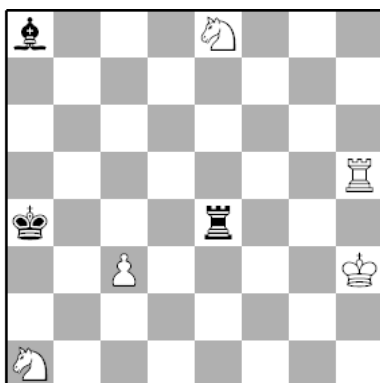
= 9+9

1.Nf5+! 1.b8Q? Qxg8+ 2. Bf8 (2.Kd7 Nb6+ 3.Qxb6 Qd5) 2...Nd6+ 2.Kd7 Qf7+ 3. Be7 Rd4; 1.Bg5+? Kd3 2.Kf8 Bxd4 3.Ne6 Rd8 Rxb5 4.b8Q Rxb8 5.Rxb8 Bf6 6.Bf4 Nb6. 1.Bxb4? Qxg8+ 2.Bf8 Nd6+; 1. Bf6? Qxg8+ 2.Ke7 Qd5 3.b8Q Bh2 4.Be5 Bxe5 5.de5 Rxb5 6.Qd8 Qxe5+ 7.Kf8 7...Qd6+; 1.Kf7? Rxb5 2.b8Q (2.Bf6 f2 3.Nxf2 Qh6) 2...Rxb8 3.Rxb8 Kd2 4.Bf6 Qh6 5.Nf5 5...Nd6+ 6.Nxd6 cd6. **1...Kf4! 2.Kd7!** 2.b8Q? Qxg8+ 3.Bf8 Qe6+ 4.Kd8 (4.Ke7 Nd6) 4...Kxf5 5.Bxb4 Nb6. **2...Nb6+!** **3.Kc6!** 3.Kc7? Rc4+ 4.Bc5 Bxd4 5.Bxc4 Be5+ 6.Kc6 Nxa8 7.Be6 Kg5 8.Nd6 Qb8 9.Kd5 Bh2; 3.Ke6? Bxd4 4.Nxd4 Qh6+ 5.Kf7 Rxd4 6.Rd8 Rxd8 7.Bxd8 Nd7 8.Bxc7+ 8...Kg5 9.Ke7 Qg7+ 10.Kd6 Qd4+ 11.Ke7 Ne5 12.Be6 Ng6+ 13.Ke8 Qh8+ 14.Kd7 Nf8+ 15.Kc6 Qc3+ 16.Kd6 Qf6 win. **3...Rc4+! 4.Bxc4** 4.Bc5? Qf6+ 4.Kxc7 Bh2. **4...Nxa8 5.Be6!** etc.

№2. Yuri Bazlov

«Шахматная композиция», 2020

1st prize



+ 5+3

1.Nc7! The game is immediately divided into two variants with a completely identical game on opposite sides of the board:

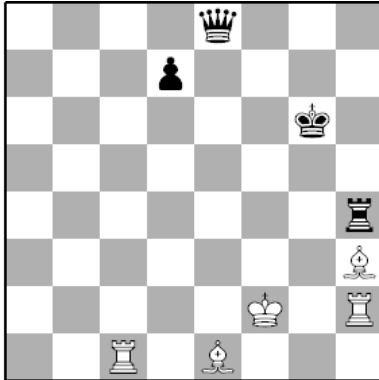
•A) **1...Rc4!** 1...Bb7 2.Rc5 Re2 3.Kh4! followed by 4.Nb5 and 5.Nd4. **2.N:a8!** 2.Nb5? Bc6 3.Nd4 3...R:c3+ 4.Kg4 (4.Kh2 Rc1) 4...Rc4 5 Nb3. But 5...Kb4! and the threat of 6...Ba4! inescapable. **2...R:c3+** **3.Kg2!** 3.Kh2? Ka3! 4.Nb6 Ka2! 5.Ra5+ (the white king prevents his rook from defending the knight from the h1 field) 5...Ra3! with draw. Missed the win and 3.Kg4? Rc4+! 4.Kf3 (4.Kf5 Rc5+) 4...Rc1! 5.Nb6+ Ka3 6.Rb5 Ka2 7.Nb3 Rc3+! draw. **3...Ka3** **4.Nb6!** But not 4.Rh1? Kb2! 5.Nb6 Rc1! **4...Rc1** **5.Rb5!** **R:a1** **6.Nc4+** **Ka2.** 6...Ka4 7.Ra5+. **7.Rb2#!** Or **5...Ka2** **6.Nb3!** Rb1 7.Nc4! **R:b3** **8.Ra5+** Kb1 9. Nd2+. Another independent additional variant after **4...Ka2** **5.Rh1!** **Rd3!** 5...Rc5, hoping for 6.Kf3 6...Rb5 7.Na4 Ra5 8.Nb6 Rb5 7.Na4 Ra5 positional draw. But 6.Rd1! Rb5 7.Nd5 Rb1 8.Nc3+ Ka3 9.N:b1. **6.Na4!** 6.Kf2?Rd6! 7.Nc4 Rd1! 8.R:d1 stalemate. Or 7.Na4 Rc6! 8.Ke3 Ka4! Draw. **6...Rd4.** 6...Rd5 7.Nc3+. **7.Nc5!** 7.Nc3+? Kb2! **7...Rd5** **8.Nb3!** and the white knights reunited.

•B) **1...Re3+** **2.Kh2!** **R:c3.** Attempts to get the bishop out of harm's way and make it difficult for White to realize the advantage are easily refuted without the help of tables: 2... Bf3 3.Rc5 Bd1 4.Nd5 Re2 5.Kg3 Ka3 6.c4 Kb2 7.Ra5 Re4 8.c5 etc. **3.Rh4+!** Thematic try **3.N:a8? Rc1** **4.Nb6+ Ka3** **5.Rb5!** with a win, as in the previous variant. But **3...Ka3!** **4.Nb6 Ka2!** **5.Ra5+.** **3...Rc6** led to the same result after the correct **4.Rh3!** Kb4 **5.Rb3+ Ka4** **6.Nb6+4.Nb6 Ka2!** **5.Ra5+.** This is the weakness of the king's position on h2: White cannot defend the knight on the first horizontal. **5...Ra3!** Draw. **3...Ka5!** 3...Ka3 4.Nb5+. **4.Nxa8.** Here, already knowing about the thematic try, Black could try to repeat it at the top of the board: **4...Ka6** **5.Rb5 Rc6!** **6.Nb3 Ka7!** **7.Ra5+ Ra6!** with an echo-chameleon positional draw. However, after a more precise **5.Rh7!** Rc8 **6.Nc7+ Kb6** **7.Nd5(e6)** black cannot resist. **4...Rc8!** And, as in the first variant, **5.Nb3+!** **Ka6** **7.Rb4!** **Rxa8** **8.Nc5+ Ka7.** 8...Ka5 9.Ra4+. **9.Rb7#!** Or **7...Ka7** **8.Nb6!** Rb8 **9.Nc5!** **Rxb6** **10.Ra4+** Kb8 **11.Nd7+!** Half a century later, the author managed to add to his old and subsequently incorrect study ("Chess in the USSR", 1971) a variant with an identical echo-chameleon game, while retaining a thematic false trail, which in the original version had an ambiguous solution. An additional variant is interesting, where white needs to overcome Black's stalemate defense and avoid a positional draw in order to win.

№3. Yuri Bazlov

Henri Rinck-150 MT, 2021

3rd prize

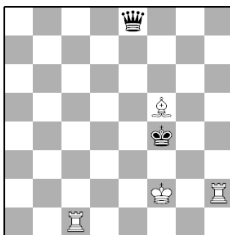


+

5+4

1.Bf5+! 1.Rg2+? Kf7 2.Rg3 Rf4+ 3.Kg1 Qe2 4.Rb3 Rf3 (or 4.Bg2 Rg4) draw. **1...Kg5!** 1...K:f5 2.R:h4. If 1...Kh5, than 2.Bg4+! (It's bad 2.Bg6+? Q:g6 3.Rc5+ Qg5!) 2...K:g4 3.Rc4+ K~ 4.R:h4 win. **2.Bd2+!** 2. Rxh4?! Kxh4 3. Bd2 Qa8 4.Rc4+(or 4. Rd1 Qa7+! 5. Be3 Qa2+ 6.Kf3 6...Qa8+ 7.Be4 Qf8+ 8.Bf4 Qa3+ 9.Bd3 Qa8+ perpetual check) 4...Kh5 5.Rc3 Qa7+ 6.Ke2 6...Qa6+ 7.Ke1 Qa1+ 8.Kf2 Qa7+ 9.Ke2 Qa6+ draw. **2...Rf4+!** **3.Bxf4+!** 3.Kg3? Kxf5 4.Rc5+ 4...d5! 5.Rxd5+ Ke4(e6). **3...Kxf4** **4.Re1!** 4.Rc5? Qe3+. **A first thematic try 4.Be4?! Q:e4 5.Rh4+** (or 4... Kxe4 5.Re1+). However 4 ... d5! 5.Rh4+ Kg5! 6. Kg3 Qe5+ draw. But not 6... dxe4? 7. Rg4+ Kf6 8. Rf1+ Ke5 9.Re4+ Kxe4 10.Re1+ and black was left without a queen. 4...Qg8! 5.Bg4!! **The second thematic try 5. Rg2?! (threatens 5...Qg3+ with winning the other rook) 5...Qa2+ 6.Kg1 (6.Re2 Qa7+; 6.Kf1 Qa6+) 6...Qa7+ 7.Rf2+ Kg3 8.Re2 (8.Rf1 Qb6 draw) 8...Qa1+ 9.Rf1 Qa7(d4)+ 10.Ref2 Qb6. 5 ... Qxg4. 5...Kxg4 6.Rg2+; 5 ... Qa2+ 6. Be2; 5 ... Qb3 6. Rg2. 6.Kf1!! Qg3 7.Rf2+ Kg4(g5) 8.Rg2!** Or **6...Kf5 7.Rf2+ Kg6 8.Rg2.**

Interestingly, the d7 pawn, which previously saved from 4.Be4?!, now prevents the queen from breaking free. Without it, the solution and the thematic try would have changed places :

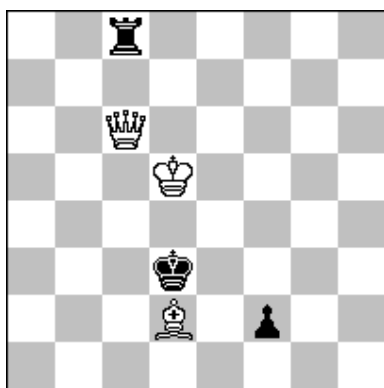


+

4+2

4.Be4! **Thematic try 4.Re1? Qg8! 5.Bg4?! (5.Rg2 Qa2+ 6.Re2 Qa7+ and 7...Kxf5) 5...Qxg4 6.Kf1 Qd7(c8)! draw. 4...Qd7. 4...Qg8 5.Rh4+! Kg5 6.Rg1+. 5.Re1! Qd4+ 6.Kf1! Kg3 7.Rg2+!** win. But not 7.Rhe2?Qf6+! 8.Kg1 Qd4(b6)+ 9.Re3+ Kf4 10.Re2 Qc5 (an echo-positional draw in relation to a thematic try in a valid solution after 5.Rg2?). Or 7.Rc2? Qf6+ 8.Ke2 Qd4! 9.Bd3 Qe5(g4)+ 10.Kd2 Qf4+! 11.Kc3 Qf6+! 12.Kb3 Qb6+ 13.Ka4 13...Qa7+ 14.Kb4 Qd4+! 15.Bc4 (15.Rc4 Qb2+ 16.Ka4 Qa2+ 17.Kb4 Qb2+) 15...Qd6+ 16.Kb5 Qd7+! 17.Kb4 17...Qd6+ 18.Kb3 Qb6+ 19.Ka4 Qc6+ 20.Kb4 Qd6+! 21.Kc3 Qf6+ 22.Kd3 Qd6+! 23.Ke2 Qe5+! 24.Kd1 Qd4+! 25.Kc1 Qa1+! 26.Kd2 Qd4+! 27.Bd3 Qf4+ draw.

№4.Yri Bazlov
E.Vlasak & J.Polasek-64 JT, 2021
4th prize



+ 3+3

1.Qh6! –

Thematic try 1.Qxc8?! Kxd2 2.Qc4 Ke1! 3.Qh4 Ke2! 3...Kf1? 4.Qh2! Ke1 5.Ke4 f1Q 6.Ke3! 4.Qh2 Kf3! 4...Ke3? 5.Qg2. 5.Qh1+ Ke2! 6.Qg2 Ke1! 7.Qg3 Ke2 8.Qe5+! Is it bad now 8...Kf3? because of 9.Qe4+ Kg3 10.Qh1! (this position will be repeated in one of the finals), and 8...Kd2 because of 9.Qh2! Ke3 10.Qg2! Ke2 11.Ke4. 8...Kd3 looked tempting?! – and before us is position No. 7 (win) in the mirror image after the first move of the sides from Yu. Averbakh's monograph "Chess endings (queens)" (M, "FiS", 1982, p.9) with reference "according to N. Grigoriev, 1932": ♔d5, ♕e5 – ♚d3, ♜f2. If now 9.Qe4+ (e6,e8), then 9...Kd2! - and there is no winning move 10.Qh2. On 9.Qd4+, 9...Ke2 brings a draw. The same king's retreat helps out in the case of 9.Qd6,c7,b8. Therefore, the authors recommend playing 9.Qg3+ Ke2 10.Qh2 Ke1 11.Cre4 with a win. In fact, as shown above, this is a mistake. Continuing 10...Kf3! black is saved.

Winning is achieved in another, very unusual way: 9.Qb2! It is clear that it is impossible to 9...f1Q because of 10.Qb5+, and after 9...Ke3 10.Qb5 Kf3 11.Qf1 the pawn is immobilized. By the way, in the initial position of the training endgame, White could win in other ways by simply moving his king. Only 8...Kd1! led to the equation. 9.Qh5+ Ke1! 10.Qh4 Ke2! 11.Qh2 Kf3! 12.Qh1+ Ke2! 13.Qg2 Ke1! 14.Qg3 (14.Ke4 f1Q =) 14...Ke2 - and white can check the vigilance of the black king for any length of time. A curious positional draw in the theoretical endgame, where black deftly bypasses the tricky traps placed in their path. 1.Qb6? didn't help either, because instead of the expected 1...Rf8? 2.Qe3+! Kc2 3.Qc3+ 3...Kd1 4.Bg5! Rd8+ 5.Ke4! Re8+ (5...f1Q 6.Qc1+ Ke2 7.Qc2+ Ke1 8.Bh4!) 6.Kd4! Rd8+ 7.Ke3 f1Q 8.Qa1+! Black achieved the result they needed without unnecessary prettiness: 1...Rd8+! 2.Ke6 Re8+! 3.Kd7 Ke2!

1...Rd8+! 2.Kc5! 2.Ke5? Re8+ 3.Kd5 Ke2 with draw.

Now black can try to achieve a draw in several different ways, but in all cases they fail due to white's subtle game:

•a) **2...Re8! 3.Bf4! 3.Bg5? Re5+ 4.Kb4 Rb5+! 5.Kxb5 f1Q** and white can't win. **3...Ke4! Lost 3...Rc8+ 4.Kd5! Rd8+ 5.Ke5! Re8+ 6.Kf5! Rf8+ 7.Kg4! Rg8+ 8.Bg5!** But not 8.Kh4(h5)? Rh8! 9.Qxh8 f1Q. **4.Qg5! Rc8+! 4...f1Q 5.Qd5+! Kxf4 6.Qf7+.** **5.Kd6! Rd8+! 6.Qxd8.** A waste of time would be 6.Ke6 Re8+ 7.Kd5 Rd8+. **6...f1Q 7.Qa8+!** Bad 7.Qe7+? Kd3 and 7.Qe8+? Kd4 - everywhere draw. **7...Kd4! 7...Kf5 6.Qd5+ Kg4 7.Qg5+ Kf3 8.Qg3+ Ke4 9.Qe3+ Kf5 10.Qe6+ 10...Kxf4 11.Qf6+ and white still got to someone else's queen. 8.Qa7+! Kc3 9.Qa3+! Kc2.** Unlike the previous game, the struggle of the sides has moved from the royal flank to the queenside. **10.Qa2+! 10.Qa4+ Kc3 11.Be5+ Kd2 12.Bf4+ Kc3 13.Qa3+ Kc2** led to the loss of time. **10...Kc3.** If 10...Kd1, then 11.Qd2#. **11.Bd2+!** Decisive blow. Careless 11.Be5+? zeroed out the chances of winning. After 11... Kb4 12.Qb2+ Ka4! 13.Qc2+ Ka5! (surely not 13...Kb5? because of 14.Qb3+Ka5 15.Bc3+Ka6 16.Qa4+Kb7 17.Qc6+Kb8 18.Qc7+Ka8 19.Qc8+Ka7 20.Bd4#) 14.Qc3+Ka4! (14...Ka6? 15.Qc6+Ka5 16.Bc3# led to another correct echo mat) 15.Qc2+Ka5! 16.Bc3+ Kb6! 17.Bd4+Ka5 18.Bc3+, a draw. The very bishop moves that beautifully matted the black king in the proof versions now lead only to the eternal check. **11...Kd3. 11...Kd4 12.Qd5#. 12.Qa6+!**

On 6th move black can play differently:

6...Kxf4! 7.Qa8! A move resembling 9.Qb2! from a thematic try. Only there, the pawn that stepped on the last horizontal was won by a diagonal check, and here by a linear check, vertically f. It took place almost at any departure of the queen or king, but, surprisingly, only this one leads to victory. Everything else led to a draw. For example, 7.Qf6+? Kg3! 8.Qf5 Kg2 9.Qg4+ Kh2(h1) 10.Qf3 Kg1 11.Qg3+ Kh1! 12.Qxf2 and black pat. Also didn't solve 7.Qh4+? because of 7...Kf3! (7...Ke3? 8.Qc4) 8.Qh3+ (8.Qc4 Kg2!) 8...Ke2! 9.Qg2 Ke1 10.Qg3 Ke2! with a draw by repeating the moves. Or 7.Qg8? Kf3! But the transformation of a pawn can be delayed. **7...Kg3.** If 7...Ke3, then 8.Qa6 or 8.Qg2. **8.Qh1!** win. The final moves 7.Qa8! is known in study L.Mitrofanov & V.Khachaturov.

•b) **2...Rf8 3.Qxf8! Ke2.** White has a queen and a bishop against black's only pawn, and there is no win in sight. But **4.Bf4!! f1Q 5.Qe8(e7)+ Kf3 6.Qe3+.** Other checks lead to loss of time. **6...Kg4** (6...Kg2 7.Qg3+ Kh1 8.Qh2# is the first correct mate) **7.Qg3+ Kf5** (7...Kh5 9.Qg5# is the second correct mate) **8.Qg5+ Ke4.** After 8...Ke6 white has a wide choice of winning continuations. 9.Qd5+! Kxf4 10.Qf7+ - and black was left without a queen.

•c) **2...Rc8+ 3.Kb4! Re8 4.Qh3+! Ke2 5.Qg4+! Kxd2 6.Qd7+! Ke2.** 6...Kc1 7.Qf5! with technical win. **7.Qxe8+ Kf3 8.Qc6+ Ke2 9.Qg2!** Other moves lead to a loss of time. **9...Ke1 10.Kc3 f1Q 11.Qd2#.** Well-known classical mate. Or 3...Rb8+ 4.Ka4(a3) Ra8+ (4...Re8 5.Ba5!) 5.Kb3 Rb8+ 6.Bb4 Rxb4+ 7.Kxb4 And the win is like in the previous variant.

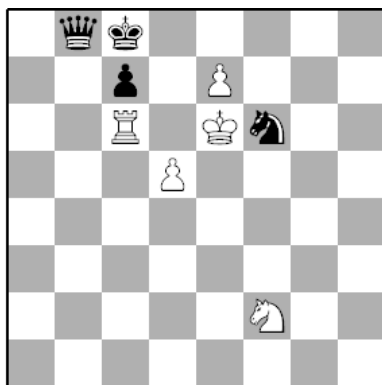
Comments: A rare synthesis of original and previously encountered ideas in a super-miniature with an unusual balance of forces and a game covering the entire board - from the 1st to the 8th horizontal and from vertical "a" to vertical "h".

№5. Yuri Bazlov

Chess Artistry

Competition, 2021

2nd prize



1.Ne4! 1.Kxf6? Kd7! draw.

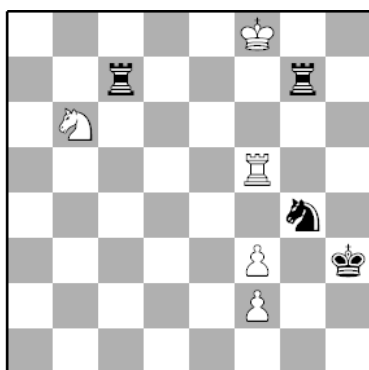
Thematic try 1.Ng4? Ne8 2.Kf7 Qb5(b3)! (lost 2...Qb1? 3.Kxe8 Qf5 4.Nf6 Qg6+ 5.Kf8 Qh6+ 6.Kf7!) 3.Kxe8 Qxd5 4.Rg6 Qf5! 5.Rg8 Kb7! 6.Kh6 Qh7! 7.Kd8 Qd3+ 8.Ke8 Qh7! - Positional draw.

1...Ne8. 1...Nxe4 2.e8Q+ Kb7 3.Qxb8+ Kxb8 4.Kd7. **2.Nd6+!** And now the continuation of 2.Kf7?, as in the thematic try, missed the victory. Only now 2...Qb5(b3)? led Black to defeat: 3.Kxe8 Qxd5 4.Nd6+! Kb8 5.Kd7, and a draw was given by 2...Qb1! - a move that led to defeat in the thematic try trail. For example, 3.Nd6+ Nxd6 4.Rxd6 Qf5(h7)+. Interestingly, with both knight positions after 1...Ne8, 2.Kf7 equally lost both 2...Qb4 and 2...Qb2 3.Nf6! Nxf6 4.Rxf6! - black is unable to delay the pawn. This did not happen with the queen on b3(b5) or on b1. **2...Nxd6 3.Rxd6 Kb7!!** Preparing a trap for white. 3...cxd6 4.f8Q+ Kc7 5.Qxb8 Crxb8, and the pawn endgame is hopeless for Black. **4.Kf7!!** 4.Rd8?! Qa7! 5.e8Q. White has an extra rook, but... there is no win: 5...Qe3+! (5...Qa6+? 6.Qc6+) 6.Kd7 Qh3+! 7.Qe6! The queen is connected to the game, but it does not help: 7...Qh7+! 8.Qe7! Qf5(h3)+! 9.Qe6 Qh7+! 10.Ke8! 10...Qh8+! (but not 10...Qh5+? 11.Ke7! Qh7+ 12.Qf7! Qh4+ 13.Qf6!) 11.Ke7 Qg7+! 12.Qf7 12...Qe5+! 13.Kf8 Qh8+ 14.Qg8 Qf6+! (14...Qh6+? 15.Qg7! Qf4+ 16.Kg7!) 15.Ke8 Qe5+! 16.Qe6 Qh8+! 17.Ke7 Qg7+ 18.Qf7 Qe5+! 19.Kd7 Qd6+! 20.Ke8 Qe5+ 21.Qe6 Qh8+!- and it starts all over again. With precise moves, black achieves an perpetual check. **4...cxd6.** There is no attempt to achieve the same result with white's "hanging" rook: 4...Qh8 5.e8Q Qh7+ 6.Kf8! 6...Qh8 (6...Qe5+ 7.Qf7!) 7.Ke7! Qh4+ 8.Rf6! **5.e8R!!** 5.e8Q? Qc7+! 6.Qc7 Ka8! 7.Qxc7 stalemate! **5...Qc7 6.Re7 Qxe7.** 6...Ka8? 7.Rxc7 and there is no stalemate, because the b8 field is available for the king. **7.Kxe7 Kc7 8.Ke6** win.

№6. Yuri Bazlov

J.Timman-70 JT, 2021

2nd prize



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5+4

1.Nd5! Was losing 1.fg? **Kxg4!** 2.Rc5 Rcf7+! 3.Ke8 Ra7! 4.Kf8 Rh7! 5.Kg8 Rhb7! **1...Rg8+!**
2.Kxg8 Nh6+ 3.Kh8! 3.Kf8? Rc8+ 4.Ke7(g7) Nxf5+. **3...Rc8+ 4.Rf8! Rxf8+ 5.Kg7!** Two black pieces are under attack. **5...Rf5!** 5...Rd8 6.Nf4+. **6.Ne3! Rh5 7.Kh7!** Here only. The zugzwang. 7.Kg6? Rh4! zz WTP 8.Kg7 Kh2 9.Kg6 Kg1 10.Kg5 Rh3 11.Kg6 Kxf2. **7...Rh4.** 7...Nf7 8.Kg6! Echo-chameleon position (look 5th a white move). Not better 7...Nf5(g4)+ 8.Kg6. **8.Kg6!** zz BTP. **8..Ng8 9.Kf7! Nh6+ 10.Kg6 Kh2 11.Kg5!** 11.f4? Ng4 12.f5 (12.Kg5 Kh3) 12...Ne5+. **11...Rh3 12.Kg6! Ng8.** 12...Kg1 13.Ng4! Nxf4 14.fxf4 Kf2 15.g5 draw. **13.Kf7!** **13...Nh6+ 14.Kg6 Rh4 15.Kg5 Kh3 16.Kg6!** zz BTP. **16...Ng8 17.Kf7 Nh6+ 18.Kg6** etc. Positional draw.