The 3rd FIDE World Cup in Composing

Section G – Fairies

Preliminary award by

Petko Petkov

MMXIII

Participants

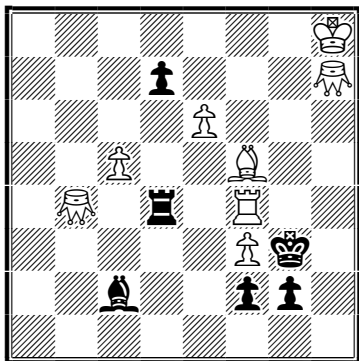|			
G01	A. Garofalo (ITA)	G25	I. Shanahan (AUS)
G02	V. Kotěšovec (CZE)	G26	V. Crişan (ROM)
G03	V. Agostini (ITA)	G27	E. Klemanič (SVK)
G04	A. Bidleň (SVK)	G28	J. Vysotska (LAT)
G05	S. Dietrich (GER)	G29	D. Stojnić (SRB)
G06	H. Gockel (GER)	G30	G. Tar (HUN)
G07	L. Lyons (AUS)	G31	M. Grushko (ISR)
G08	S. Shifrin (ISR)	G32	A. Tyunin (RUS)
G09	A. Harl (HUN)	G33	S. Luce (FRA)
G10	P. Tritten (FRA)	G34	J. Brabec (SVK)
G11	D. Novomeský (SVK)	G35	S. Abramenko (RUS)
G12	F. Pachl (GER)	G36	V. Kozhakin (RUS)
G13	A. Styopochkin (RUS)	G37	A. Kozhakina (RUS)
G14	V. Plenkov (UKR)	G38	G. Hadži-Vaskov (MKD)
G15	K. Mlynka (SVK)	G39	B. Bašić (SRB)
G16	Y. Gorbatenko (RUS)	G40	A. Gasparyan (ARM)
G17	J. Dučák (CZE)	G41	G. Foster (AUS)
G18	M. Dragoun (CZE)	G42	F. Hariuc (GER)
G19	B. Majoros (HUN)	G43	A. Biénabe (FRA)
G20	L. Grolman (RUS)	G44	J. Lörinc (SVK)
G21	P. Olin (FIN)	G45	S.K. Balasubramanian(IND)
G22	M. Parrinello (ITA)	G46	Z. Gavrilovski (MKD)
G23	K. Wenda (AUT)	G47	J. Golha (SVK)
G24	V. Nefyodov (RUS)	G48	R. Kohring (GER)

I've received from the director of the tournament, Dmitry Turevsky, 48 problems on anonymous diagrams, with solutions and authors' comments, but without authors' names.

The level of competition is high and I congratulate the organizers of this competition and personally the director, Dmitry Turevski!

I've accepted for the competition all 48 problems which are C+. For various significant reasons mentioned below, I haven't included in the ranking the following problems:

❖ Poor usage of fairy condition: G01, G02, G15, G33,G43

❖ Insufficiently rich (or/plus banal) content in thematic attitude: G03, G04, G07, G09, G14, G16, G19, G24, G32, G36, G37, G38, G39, G40

❖ Insufficient thematic analogy between the solutions: G08, G23, G30, G35

❖ Unaesthetic, very heavy construction: G17, G27

❖ Unaesthetic formation of twins: G21, G26 (plus heavy construction), G42

❖ Bad key-move: G29, G44

❖ Repetition of key-moves in the twins: G47.

❖ Multiple repetitions of moves in both phases: G25, G31 (mirror repetitions).

PROF. S. K. BALASUBRAMANIAN
India

h#2.5   Madrasi   8+6
Take&Make
Grasshoppers b4, h7
b) ♚g3→a7

and 1...Ghe4 are not quite equal in thematic attitude – a better one is 1...Gbe4! with additional line-opening to the square "b8" for the white Bishop! There is no such motive after 1...Ghe4. But in my opinion, this difference has no significant importance. This is undoubtedly the best problem in the tournament and without any hesitation I award this brilliant work with the first prize!

a) 1…Gbe4 (1…Ghe4??) 2.♖:e4→b1 ♖e4 3.♗:e4→h4 ♗:b1→b8#.

b) 1…Ghe4 (1…Gbe4??) 2.♗:e4→c4 ♗e4 3.♖:e4-b7 ♖:c4→a2#.

A wonderful synthesis between the fairy conditions Take&Make and Madrasi! Three duos of pieces represent a great content whose finale are nice model mats. Here the "eternal" theme Zilahi is only one of the many interesting components of the problem.

A very fortunate and nonstandard idea here is to create the thematic synthesis using the white Grasshoppers! But in this aspect I've also a "microscopic" critical remark: the moves 1...Gbe4

h#2   Edgehogs d3, c4, e5   6+8
b, c) ♟d5→e4, c3

h#2   MirrorAntiCirce   3+10
Sparrow b2, Eagle c2
b) ♟f3→f4

a) 1.♖c1 EHd3-b1 2.♖:c4 EHe5-h8#,
b) 1.♖f5 EHc4-c1 2.♖:e5 EHd3-d1#,
c) 1.♖d1 EHe5-h5 2.♖:d3 EHc4-a4#.

a) 1.SWb1 ♖c4 2.EAd3 ♔:d4 (♔e8)#,
b) 1.EAb1 ♗c6 2.SWd3 ♔:d5 (♔e8)#.

Cyclic Zilahi nicely executed by three Edgehogs and by the black Rook that captures on c4, e5 and d3. The white play is not complicated thematically but is beautiful in the optical aspect - 6 long moves of the white Edgehogs which occupy the attacked positions on the edge squares of the board! Undoubtedly, such an idea deserves a prize. Unfortunately, in this trio of solutions there's a model mate only in position "a". But I doubt that any better version is possible here.
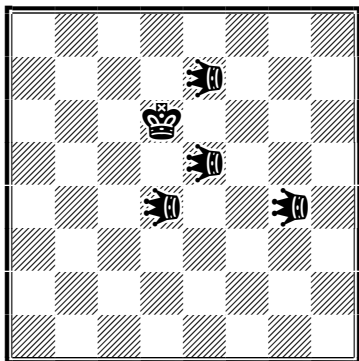
Exchange of functions between 3 pairs of pieces: ♖a4/♗b7; EAc2/SWb2; ♖d4/♗d5. Particularly interesting is the reciprocal play of EAc2/SWb2, which demonstrates two blocks on the squares b1/d3 with anti-dual effect, very good are also the white moves 1...♖c4! (a) and 1...♗c6! (b). Unfortunately, ♖d4/♗d5 are only static components in the construction (the ♗d5 can be replaced with a black pawn). I think that the use of black material is probably not optimal here. I mean ♙d2 and ♙e3, and the possibility to achieve a Meredith form.

4th Prize
DANIEL NOVOMESKÝ
Slovakia

A strange "Tanagra" problem created with only 5 black pieces (without w. King)! Here we see a three pairs of chameleon-echo finals: each pair consists of two absolutely identical chameleon mates, but each pair has a different structure in comparison with the mates by the other two pairs! Perhaps we can tell that this is a particular form of the well known HOTF - helpmates propagated by Chris Feather.

h#3   HurdleColourChanging   0+5
Eagles e5, d4, g4, e7
2 solutions
b) ♛e7→h3
c) ♔d6→h2

a) **1.EAd4-f4** (e5=w) **EAe5-c5 2.♔e6 EAc5-f6** (e7=w) **3.EAg4-f5**(f4=w) **EAf4-e5** (f5=w)**#,**
    1.EAe7-f5 (e5=w) **EAe5-e3** (d4=w) **2.EAg4-e4** (f5=w) **EAd4-e6 3.♔e5 EAe3-f4** (e4=w)**#;**

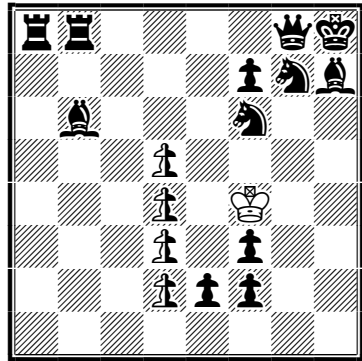b) **1.EAh3-h5** (g4=w) **EAg4-g6** (h5=w) **2.♔c6 EAg6-c5 3.♔d5 EAh5-e6** (e5=w)**#,**
    1.EAh3-f3 (g4=w) **EAg4-e4** (f3=w) **2.EAd4-c6 EAf3-f5** (e4=b) **3.EAe4-d7** (c6=w) **EAf5-e6** (e5=w)**#;**

c) **1.EAd4-g3** (g4=w) **EAg4-f3** (g3=w) **2.EAe7-f5** (e5=w) **EAe5-f4** (f5=w) **3.♔h3 EAf5-g2#,**
    1.EAe5-e3 (d4=w) **EAd4-g3** (g4=w) **2.EAe7-f3** (e3=w) **EAg4-g2** (f3=w)**+ 3.♔g1 EAe3-h2#.**

5ᵗʰ Prize
MICHAL DRAGOUN
Czech Republic

Special Prize
STEPHAN DIETRICH
Germany
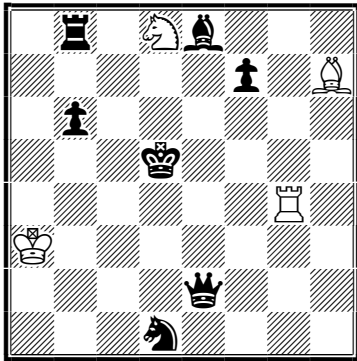
h#2   Take&Make   4+7
3 solutions

Ser-#37   Alphabetic Chess   1+12+4
Isardam

1.♕c4 ♗e4+ 2.♔:e4→a8 ♖:c4→a6#,
1.♕e6 ♖c4 2.♔:c4→c1 ♗:e6→b3#,
1.♕e4 ♘e6 2.♔:e6→f8 ♗:e4→b4#.

There are many similar Take&Make problems in the "Style of Pierre Tritten" the last time. But this new opus seems to me particularly different and successful. Here we see the cyclical sacrifices of the white pieces, three very good key-moves by the black Queen and wonderful model mats. In a different version - with twins - it would be possible to eliminate some black pieces which doesn't play in all phases of the problem. But this is only one possible option, that is not required from the author.

1.d6 2.d5 3.d4 4.d3 5.d7 6.d6
7.d5 8.d4 9.d8n♘ 10.d7 11.d6 12.d5
13.n♘c6 14.n♘:b8 15.n♘a6 16.n♘c7
17.n♘:a8 18.n♘:b6 19.n♘c4 20.n♘e5
21.d8n♗ 22.d7 23.d6 24.n♗:f6
25.d8n♖ 26.d7 27.n♖e8 28.d8n♕
29.n♕d1 30.n♕f1 31.n♘c6 32.n♘e7
33.n♘:g8 34.n♖e5 35.n♖h5 36.n♕b1
37.n♕:h7#.

A paradoxical thematic: neutral AUW combined with curious (although to some extent schematic) march of the neutral pawns to the square "d8", and a difficult play of the promoted neutral pieces! An embarrassing fact is that the problem is correct according to Popeye version 4.61 (also by v.4.59) but it is not correct (with many cooks!) according to the last Popeye version 4.63! I accept that the solutions of Py 4.61 and Py 4.59 are correct but the "cooks" by Py 4.63 are bugs to be corrected.
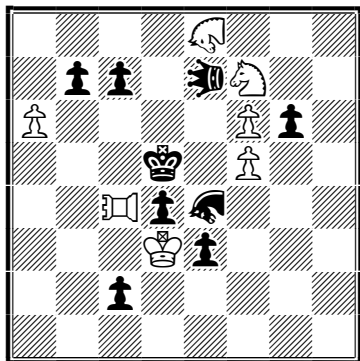
h#2   Triton c4, Sirene e7,   7+9
Marine knights e8, e4
b) △ a6→c5

h#2   AntiCirce   1+0+2
Circe Parrain
Nightrider d5
2 solutions

a)   1.MS:f6-g8   TR:c7-c8
2.SIe4 MSf6#, (1.SI:f6-g5?),
b)   1.SI:c5-b4   MS:c7-a6
2.MSd6 TRc5# (1.MS:c5-a6?).

A very ambitious and
difficult complex - a reciprocal play
and change of functions of two pairs
of pieces: black (SIe7+MSe4) and
white (TRc4+MSe8). The first pair
demonstrates Annihilation of the
Pawns f6/c5 combined with black
blocks. In the second pair we have
mates after Annihilation of the black
pawn "c7" (with the goal - control of
the square "c6"). A small but nice
addition to this achievement are the
tries 1.SI:g6-g5?(a) and 1.MS:c5-a6?
(b). I could distinguish the problem
with a higher premium, but
unfortunately there is no complete
thematic relevance.

1.♔e4 Nb1 (Ne7?) 2.♗c3+
N:c3 (Nc8)# (3.♔~?),

1.♗d4 Nh7 2.♗c2 ♔:c2
(♔e1)# (3.♔~?).

Small but very nice three-
men with paradoxical play - a good
demonstration of the combined
effects of two fairy conditions! The
ideal mates are surprising and
beautiful, but unfortunately they
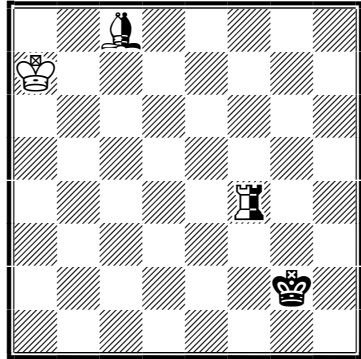do not have exact chameleon-echo
format.

ANATOLY STYOPOCHKIN
Russia

GEOFF FOSTER
Australia
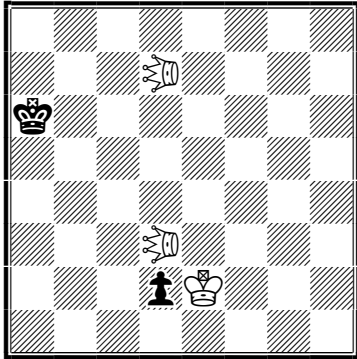
h#5 KöKo 3+2	h#2.5 PWC, Take&Make 1+1+2
Lions d3, d7	b, c)♗, ♛f4
b)♘d3→e3, c)♘d3→c1,	
d)♘d7→g1, e)♚a6→g8	

a) 1.d1♕ + ♔e3 2.♕e2 + ♔d4 3.♕e6 LIf5 4.♕b6 + ♔c5 5.♕a5 LIb5#,
b) 1.d1♖ ♔e1 2.♖d6 LId4 3.♖b6 ♔d2 4.♔a5 ♔c3 5.♖a6 ♔b4#,
c) 1.d1♗ ♔d2 2.♗e2 ♔c2 3.♗b5 ♔b2 4.♗c6 LIb5 5.♔b7 LIb1#,
d) 1.d1LI ♔d2 2.LIh1 ♔c2 3.LIf1 LIc1 4.LIc4 LIb1 5.♔b5 ♔b2#,
e) 1.d1♘ LId2 2.♘e3 LIf4 3.♘f5 ♔f3 4.♘g7 LIg3+ 5.♔f8 LIf2#.

a) 1...♗h3+ 2.♔:h3→c8 (♗g2) ♔b6 3.♖g4 ♖:g2→a8 (♗g4)#,

b) 1...♗b7+ 2.♔g1 ♔:b7→a8 (♗a7)+ 3.♔h1 ♔:a7→f2 (♗a8)#,

c) 1...♕g4+ 2.♔h1 ♗:g4→g3 (♕c8) 3.♕b8+ ♗:b8→a8 (♕g3)#.

The Super AUW in KoeKo H# (with the usage of Lion(s)) it's a lovely thematic of Russian composer Anatoly Stepochkin. Unfortunately, this problem is similar to one Stepochkin`s problem, already submitted for publication to the magazine StrateGems №65/2014. Also I don't like here the repetition of three white moves in the twins "c" and "d".
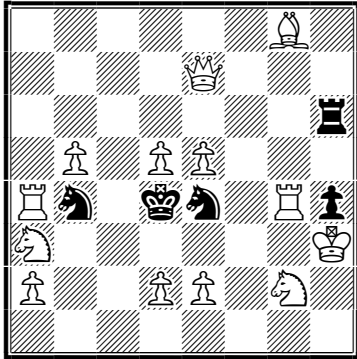
An interesting four-men with nonstandard twins and surprising mates! As a minus here I'd indicate the non-thematic partial analogy between the solutions in twins "b" and "c" and the repetition of the black move Kh1 in these two phases.

#2   Wormholes a8, d7,   13+5
        f7, h4, b3, d3, f3

#2   Grasshoppers b5, e4, g6   9+5
        Leos a1, f1, g5, f4, h4, c6
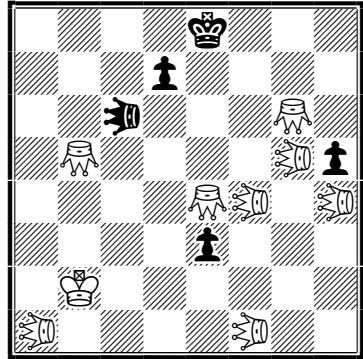
1.♕c7? ~ 2.♘c2# (2.♕c3+? ♔d3→d7!)
    1... ♞e6 a 2.♖:h4→d3# A,
    1... ♖d6 b 2.♘:h4→f3# B,
    1... ♖c6 c 2.♘:h4→b3# C,
    1... ♖a6! (2.♘c2+ ♔d3→a8!),

1.♗f7→a8! ~ 2.♖:b4#,
    1... ♖e6 a 2.♘:h4→f3# B,
    1... ♖d6 b 2.♘:h4→b3# C,
    1... ♖c6 c 2.♖:h4→d3# A.

(1.♖:b4+? ♔d3→a8!)

    Lacny theme interestingly motivated by the "Wormhole" squares. A substantial weakness in my opinion is the repetition of the capture ♘:h4.

    1.LEa1-a3? ~ 2.LEa3-e7# A,
1...d6 a 2.LEg5-e7# B, 1...d5! b,
    1.LEa1-a2? ~ 2.LEa2-f7# C,
1...d5 b 2.LEf4-f7# D, 1...d6 ! a,
    1.LEa1-a7! ~ 2.LEe7# B,
2.LEf7# D, 1...d6 a 2.LEa7-e7# A(C?),
1...d5 b 2.LEa7-f7# C(A?).

    At first glance, this beautiful problem with lightweight construction and wonderful thematic deserves a prize. But after a more broader analysis of the construction, we can find that there are many technical Leo pieces (LEf1, LEh4, LEc6) which can be replaced with a weaker Chinese pieces (PAOs and VAO). Also not economical are LEf4 and LEg5 which obviously execute the functions of PAO and VAO respectively. As an example, I show more economical version with the same content: W: Kb2, LEa1, PAf1, PAf4, VAg5, VAh4, Gb5, Ge4, Gg6 (9); B: Ke8, PAc6, Pd7, Pe3 (4).
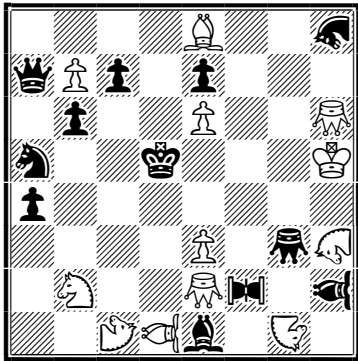
#2   PWC   12+12
Equihopper f2,
Camels h3, h8, Alfils d1, h2
Grasshoppers h6, e2, g3
Nightrider g1, Rose c1

1.b8RO? ~ 2.ALf3# A,
1...♛:b8 (ROa7) 2.e4# B,
1...G:b8 (ROg3) 2.CAg6# C,
1...EQ:b8 (ROf2) 2.ROa2# D,
1...Gd3!

1.b8N? ~ 2.e4# B,
1...♛:b8 (Na7) 2.ALf3# A,
1...G:b8 (Ng3) 2.ROa2# D,
1...EQ:b8 (Nf2) 2.CAg6# C,
(1...♞c6 ♝:c6(♞e8)#), 1...c6!

1.b8AL? ~ 2.CAg6# C,
1...♛:b8 (ALa7) 2.ROa2# D,
1...G:b8 (ALg3) 2.ALf3# A,
1...E♛:b8 (ALf2) 2.e4# B, 1...CAg5!

1.b8=CA! ~ 2.ROa2# D,
1...♛:b8 (CAa7) 2.CAg6# C,
1...G:b8 (CAg3) 2.e4# B,
1...EQ:b8 (CAf2) 2.ALf3# A.

This problem (with heavy construction) repeats almost fully the "Alphabetical algoritms" of the well-known problem by Juraj Lorinc (15th Spisska Boroviska T.T. Moskow, 2003, #2 Ultra Patrol + PWC). The new moment in G12 is the usage of only one fairy condition - PWC. But in such #2 problems PWC has a quite limited and modest function – it appears in only one half-move (of three possible half-moves in any #2). For these reasons I do not think G12 is a step forward in comparison with the mentioned problem of Lorinc (2003).
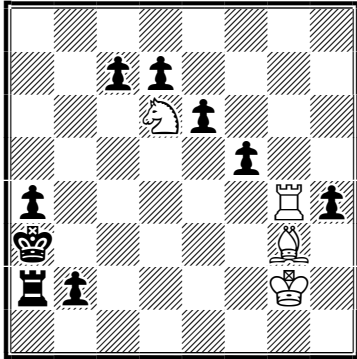
h#2   KoBul Kings   4+9
3 solutions

1.h:g3   (r♗g2)   **r♗b7**
2.f:g4 (r♖b7) **♘c4#,**
      1.f:g4   (r♖g2)   **r♖d2**
2.c:d6 (r♘d2) **♗:d6#,**
      1.c:d6   (r♘g2)   **r♘e1**
2.h:g3 (r♗e1) **♖:g3#.**

The white Kobul King plays well here, but the second white moves are not so good. Also, not all phases here have a model mates. I am convinced that an improvement is possible.

IGM **Petko Petkov**
International judge of FIDE