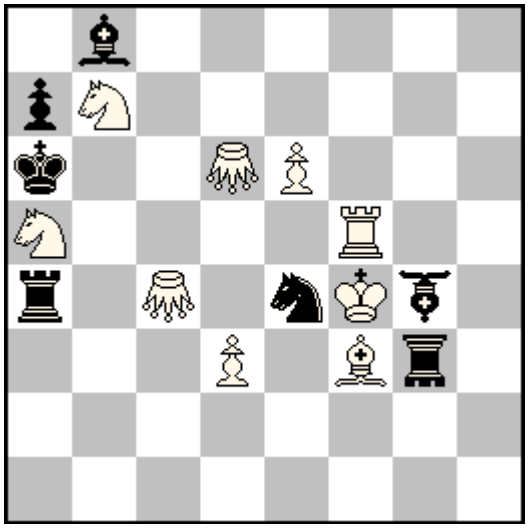
Problem no 1 – Section G (Fairies)

Vlaicu Crişan (Romania)
FB1966. Strategems 93/2021
In memory of my mother Monica Crişan
Award not available



(9 + 7) 2.1.1... HS#3.5

= Bul Vao
= Bul Pao
= Bul Leo

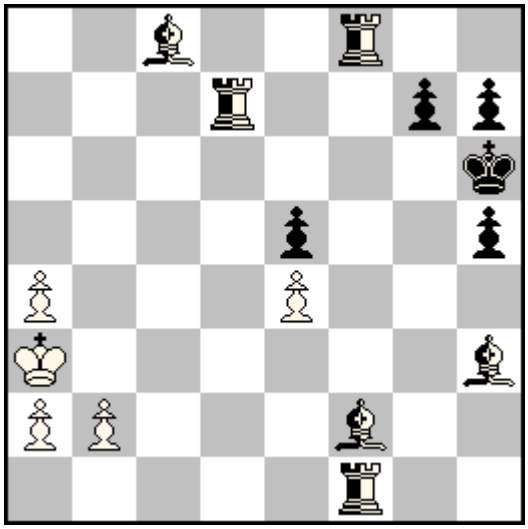
1... BVA:e6 (Rg6) 2.Kf5! BPA:d3 (Bh3)! 3.Bg4 BVAd5 4.BLE:d3 (BVAb5)+ BVA:d3 (BLEe6)#
1... BVA:e6 (Rh3)?
2... BVAd5? 3.Bg4 BPAd3??

1... BPA:d3 (Bf1)! 2.Ke3! BVA:e6 (Rh3)! 3.Rf3 BPAd5 4.BLE:e6 (BPAc6)+ BPA:e6 (BLEd3)#
1... BPA:d3 (Bh3)?
2... BPAd5? 3.Rf3 BVAe6??

Bul Leo: Moves like a Leo, but the hurdle must also make a Leo move
Bul Pao: Moves like a Pao, but the hurdle must also make a Pao move
Bul Vao: Moves like a Vao, but the hurdle must also make a Vao move

Problem no 2 – Section G (Fairies)

Vlaicu Crişan (Romania)
1st Prize, Franz Pachl 70 JT, Section B
Die Schwalbe 307/2021



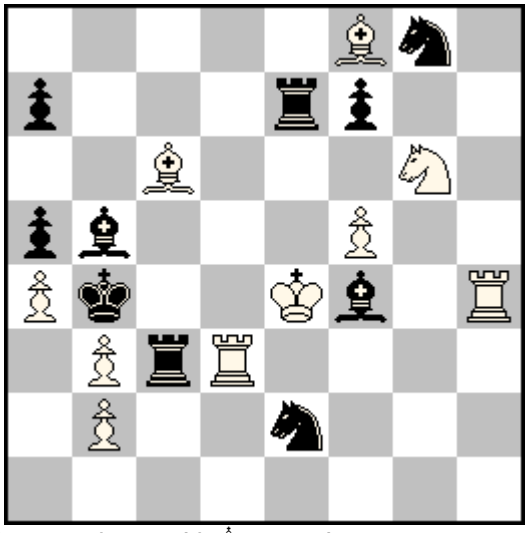
(5 + 5 + 6) 2.1.1... HS#3.5
Take & Make

1... nBd4 2.nRd6+ nBce6 3.nRc8 nB:f1→f8 4.nB:c8→c1+ nR:d4→e3#
1... nRd4 2.nBe3+ nR1f4 3.nBf1 nR:c8→h3 4.nR:f1→a6+ nB:d4→d6#

Judge's (Franz Pachl) comments: Ein geometrisches take&make-Meisterwerk mit parallelen Bewegungen der neutralen Langschrittler (diagonal und orthogonal) in perfekter Harmonie und präzisem Gleichklang. Im Finale zwingt Weiß mit einem Doppelschach den Gegner zu einem Doppelschachmatt, Wahnsinn. Man könnte glauben, dass der Zauberer von Oz seine Hand im Spiel hatte.

Problem no 3 – Section G (Fairies)

Vlaicu Crişan (Romania)
2nd Prize, FIDE World Cup 2019



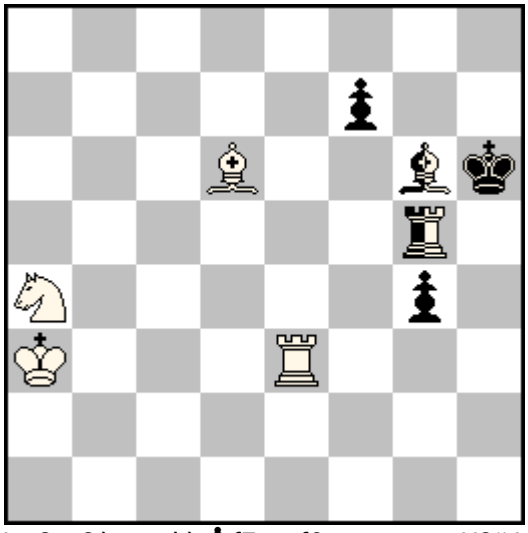
(10 + 10) b) ♔e4 → d6 HS#3
Take & Make

a) 1.K:f4→d6+ Sf4 2.B:e7→e1 R:d3→d2+ 3.S:f4→d3+ B:d3→f4#
b) 1.K:e7→e4+ Se7 2.R:f4→b8 B:c6→b7+ 3.S:e7→c6+ R:c6→e7#

Judge's (Petko Petkov) comments: A unique complex, including many paradoxical motifs:
a) The white King, initially in check, will eventually be mated on the square where it is shifted to in the other twin;
b) The black pieces that are captured on White's 1st move are replaced by their siblings after Black's 3rd move;
c) An Exclusive Strategic Complex, including: pins, self-pins, Pelle moves, Follow My Leader effects, line openings, checks and cross-checks, and model mates (!) is realised by 5 duos (wRh4/wBf8, wRd3/wBc6, bRe7/bBf4, bRc3/bBb5, bSe2/bSg8) that exchange roles in diagonal-orthogonal correspondence.
Five out of 6 half-moves in each phase exploit the fairy condition!

Problem no 4 – Section G (Fairies)

Vlaicu Crişan (Romania)
F3588. The Problemist May 2020
Award not available



(4 + 3 + 2) b) ♟f7 → f6 HS#4.5
Anda

a) 1... nBc2 2.Rd3 nRc5 3.Bf8=nB+ Kg6 4.nBb1 nRb5+ 5.Rd6=nR+ nRd3=bR#
b) 1... nRa5 2.Bc5 nBd3 3.Rh3=nR+ Kg5 4.nRb5 nBb1+ 5.Be3=nB+ nBc5=bB#

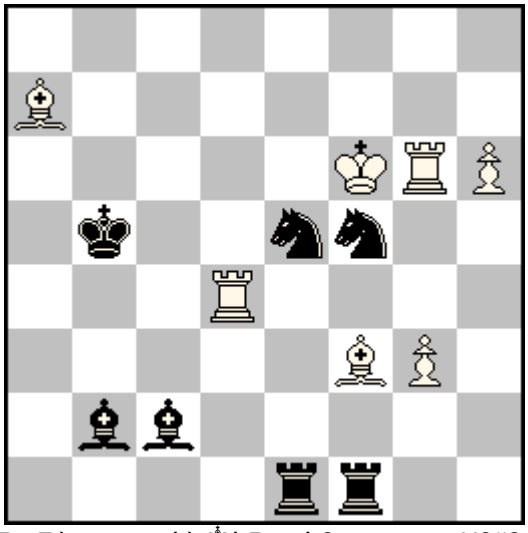
Anda: A non neutral piece (except a King) that gives a direct check becomes neutral.
A neutral piece (except a King) that gives a direct check takes the colour of the side that moved it.

In each phase three fully created direct batteries are fired in the last three half-moves:
a) Black: nBf8-nRc5, White: nBb1-wRd3, Black: nBf8-nRd6
b) Black: nRh3-nBd3, White: nRb5-wBc5, Black: nRh3-nBe3

Geoff Foster: The tries (a) 1... nBb1? and (b) 1... nRb5? fail because White has no W4 tempo move! In each solution the nBg6 and nRg5 take two moves to get to b1 and b5 respectively, but by different routes between solutions. A fabulous problem!

Problem no 5 – Section G (Fairies)

Vlaicu Crişan (Romania)
FA2033. Strategems 96/2021
Award not available



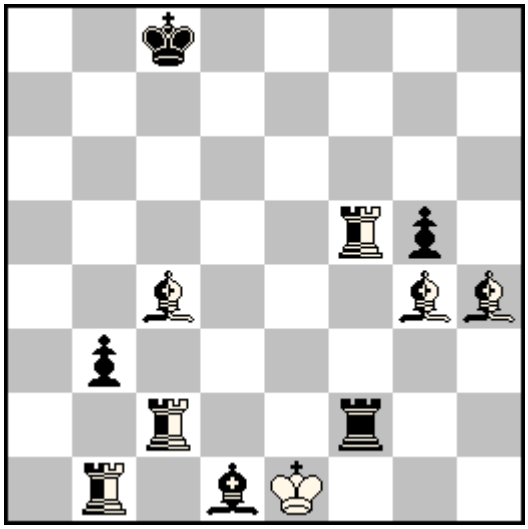
(7 + 7) b) ♚b5 → h2 HS#3.5

a) 1... Rd1! 2.Ra4 Sd4 3.K:e5 Bf5 4.Bc6+ S:c6#
b) 1... Bd1! 2.Bh1 Sf3 3.K:f5 Bc1 4.Rh4+ S:h4#

In the initial position there are two black masked direct batteries (Bb2-Se5 and Rf1-Sf5) and two indirect batteries (Bc2-Sf5 and Re1-Se5).
After Black destroys one indirect battery, White opens the line for one direct battery.
Paradoxically, Black interferes again on the direct battery line and White captures the former rear battery piece.
The mating moves open the newly created Black batteries: one direct (Bb2-Sd4 and Rf1-Sf3) and one indirect (Rd1-Sd4 and Bd1-Sf3).

Problem no 6 – Section G (Fairies)

Vlaicu Crişan (Romania)
Internet Tourney, Rhodes 2021 3rd Prize



(1 + 5 + 6) 2.1.1... H#2.5

1... nR:b3 2.nBh3 nR:g5+ 3.nRg4 nRg:c4#
1... nB:g5 2.nRcc1 nB:b3+ 3.nBc2 nBc:f5#

Judge's (Kostas Prentos) comments: Two neutral batteries point at the bK. In the course of the solution, one battery is rearranged, so that its front piece comes within range to capture the front piece of the other battery. This leads to a double-check mate, with the last move being irreversible due to the doubling (pin) of the front piece of the battery. Exquisitely analogous ODT, with Zilahi, distant model mates, reciprocal captures, pins, unpins. Made to satisfy the senses and impress.