PHÉNIX : PROVISIONAL JUDGEMENT STUDIES 2020

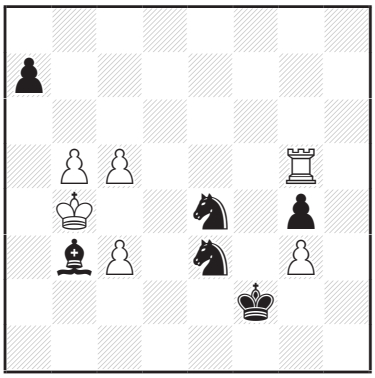
(Michal Hlinka, International Judge of FIDE

Phénix 306-307 (april-may 2020) : 8697, 8698, 8699, 8700, 8701, 8702 **[6]**.
Phénix 310-311 (september-october 2020) : 8791, 8792, 8793, 8794, 8795 **[5]**.
Phénix 312 (november 2020) : 8890, 8891, 8892, 8893, 8894 **[5]**.

I received 17 studies from Daniel Capron for judging, of which one was a version. My friend Ľuboš Kekely checked for anticipations, for which I thank him.
I did not include several studies in the result for anticipation or for partial anticipation, I preferred original ideas : **Pavel Arestov (8697)**, the study aspired to high award, but the idea has already been worked with Gromov & Kozirev (1st Prize - Birnov MT 1988). **Viktor Syzonenko (8791)**, working with this material, it is increasingly difficult to find something new today. The idea has already been known, e.g. Eichler (Czechoslovak Republic 1929), Skuja (Schach 1976) and also others. **Andrzej Jasik (8698)**, several authors have already dealt with a similar idea, e.g. Elkies (Chess Life and Review 1979). Here, the new author improved the idea, but I preferred more original themes for the award.

My order follows :

P. Gyarmati & M. G. Garcia
Phénix 2020
Prize



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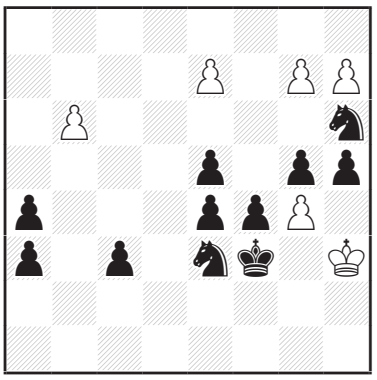
Prize : Péter Gyarmaty and Mario García (8701)
After the intro and 4.ç4! followed by an interesting duel ♔+♙♙ against ♗+♘♘+♟ in which three light officers have great strength, but the position also has an Achilles heel. White will safely lead his army to the position of Troitzky, in which even the advantage of two knights is not enough to win.
Try : 1.♖g7? ♗é6! (1…♗d5? 2.b6 a×b6 3.ç×b), 2.♖×a7 (2.ç4? ♘ç2+-+, 2.b6? a×b6 3.ç×b6 ♘d5+ 4.♔a5 ♘×b6 5.♔×b6 ♚×g3-+), 2…♘d5+ 3.♔a5 ♘×ç5-+
1.♖é5? ♘d2 2.ç6 ♘d5+ 3.♔ç5 ♚×g3-+
4.♖×d5 (4.ç4 ♘b6 5.♖é7 ♘d×ç4 6.♖×a7 ♗ç2 7.ç7 ♗f5-+), 4…♘é4+ 5.♔d4 ♗×d5 6.♔×d5 ♘×ç3+-+

1.b6! a×b6 2.ç×b6 ♗d5!
2…♘×g5 3.b7 ♗d1 4.b8=♕! (essai : 4.ç4? ♘ç2+! {4…♘é4? 5.b8=♕ ♘×g3 6.ç5 ♗f3 7.♔a5=}, 5.♔ç3 ♘é4+ 6.♔b2 ♘é3-+), 4…♘é4 5.ç4 ♘×g3 6.ç5! ♗f3 7.♔a5! (essai : 7.♕d6? ♘gf5 8.♕d2+ {8.♕h2+ ♚f1 9.♕d2 ♗ç6 10.♕ç1+ ♚f2-+}, 8…♚g3 9.♕ç1 ♘d4 10.♕×é3 ♘ç2+-+), 7…♘é2 (7…♘gf5 8.♕h2+,♕b2+=) 8.♕h2+ ♚é1 9.ç6! (9.♕h5? ♘d4-+), 9…♗×ç6 10.♕h6! ♘ç4+ 11.♔b4!= positional draw
3.♖g7 ♚×g3 (3…♘×g3 4.ç4,b7= ; 3…♘d6 4.♖×g4! {4.ç4? ♗f3 5.ç5 ♘b7-+}, 4…♘×g4 5.♔ç5!=)
4.ç4! (4.b7? ♗×b7 5.♖×b7 ♘d5,♘d6+-+ Troïtzky : 6.♔a5 ♘d6 7.♖d7 ♘ç4+ 8.♔b5 ♘dé3).
4…♘ç2+ 5.♔a5! (5.♔b3? ♘d4+ 6.♔b4 ♘ç6+ 7.♔b5 ♘ç3+ 8.♔ç5 ♗f3 9.b7 ♘a2 10.♖g8 ♘ab4 11.b8=♕+ ♘×b8 12.♔×b4 ♘ç6-+)
5…♗ç6 6.b7! (6.♖ç7? ♘d4 7.b7 {7.♔b4 ♚f4 8.♖f7+ ♘f5 9.♖ç7 g3 10.♖×ç6 ♘fd6 11.b7 ♘×b7 12.♖g6 ♘bç5-+ Troïtzky}, 7…♗×b7 8.♖×b7 ♘ç5-+ Troïtzky)
6…♗×b7 7.♖×b7 ♘ç5 8.♖f7! (8.♖ç7? ♘d4 9.♖×ç5 ♘b3+-+)
8…♘d4 9.♔b4 ♘dé6 10.♔ç3! ♚h2 11.♔d2! (11.♖h7+? ♚g2 12.♔d2 ♚f3 13.♖f7+ ♘f4-+)
11…g3 12.♖h7+= positional draw : 12…♚g1 13.♖h6 g2 14.♔é3=

Prize : Marco Campioli (8795)

M. Campioli
Phénix 2020
Prize



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Does the author like Queens ? Probably yes, because in several of his studies on «this topic» he has promoted enough of them. In this study, he «multiplied» them by four, but only to sacrifice them all to save his insecure King.

1.g×h5? ç2-+

1.g8=♕? h×g4+ 2.♔h2 g3+ 3.♔g1 ç2
4.♕ç8 a2 5.♕ç3 ♚g4 6.é8=♕ f3-+

1.h8=♕? h×g4+ 2.♔h2 g3+ 3.♔g1 (3.♔h3 ♞ég4), 3…a2

1.é8=♕! h×g4+ (1…♞f1 2.♕×h5 a2 3.♕×g5 a1=♛ 4.♔h4= ; 1…ç2 2.♕ç6,♕ç8 cf variante principale ; 1…a2 2.♕×a4 ç2 3.♕a3 h×g4+ 4.♔h2 ♚f2 5.g8=♕ ♞×g8 6.h×g8=♕ g3+ 7.♔h3 g4+ 8.♔h4=)

2.♔h2 g3+ (2…♚f2 3.g8=♕ ♞hf5 4.♕b5 ç2 5.♕ç5 a2 6.♕×ç2+ ♞×ç2 7.♕×a2 g3+ 8.♔h3 ♚f3 9.♕g8 g2 10.♕×g5±)

3.♔g1 (3.♔h1,♔h3? ç2 4.♕h5+ ♚f2-+)

3…ç2 4.♕ç6,♕ç8 a2 (4…♞hf5 5.h8=♕=)

5.♕ç3 ♞hf5! (5…♚é2 6.g8=♕=)

6.h8=♕ (6.g8=♕? ♞d4! 7.♕gç4 a1=♛+ 8.♕×a1 ♞×ç4 9.♕f1+ ♚é3 10.♕×ç4 ♞é2+ 11.♔f1 ç1=♛+ 12.♕×ç1+ ♞×ç1 13.h8=♕ f3-+)

6…♞d4 7.♕h5+! (7.♕h1+? ♚g4 8.♕×é4 ♞é2+ 9.♔h1 ♞×ç3-+)

7…g4 8.♕h1+ (8.♕×g4+? ♚×g4 9.g8=♕+ ♚f3-+)

8…♚é2 9.g8=♕ (9.♕g2+? ♞×g2 10.♔×g2 f3+ 11.♔×g3 ♚d1 12.g8=♕ ♞é2+)

9…f3 (9…♞f3+ 10.♕×f3+ g×f3 11.♕gç4+ ♞×ç4 12.♕×ç4+ ♚d1 13.♕d5+= ; 9…a1=♛+ 10.♕×a1 ♞f3+ {10…f3 11.♕×g4=} 11.♕×f3+ g×f3 12.♕f1+! ♞×f1 13.♕ç4+ ♚d2 14.♔×f1=

10.♕g2+! (10.♕gç4+? ♞×ç4 11.♕×ç4+ ♚d1! 12.♕f1+ ♚d2 13.♕h6+ é3 14.b7 ç1=♛ 15.♕×é3+ {15.♕×ç1+ ♚×ç1 16.♕×é3+ ♚ç2! 17.♕é4+ ♚d2 -+}, 15…♚×é3 16.♕×ç1+ ♚é4 17.b8=♕ ♞é2+ 18.♔h1 g2+ 19.♔h2 g3+ 20.♔h3 g1=♞+! {20…♞×ç1? 21.♕b4+!} ; 10.♕×é3+? ♚×é3 11.♕g5+ ♚d3 12.♕ç1 ♞é2+-+)

10…f×g2 11.♕×ç2+! ♞é×ç2! 12.♕×a2 é3! (12…♚d3 13.♕b1 ♚d2 {13…é3 14.b7 cf principale line}, 14.♔×g2 é3 15.b7 é2 16.b8=♕ ♞é3+ 17.♔×g3=)

13.b7 (13.♕×ç2+? ♞×ç2 14.b7 ♚d1 15.b8=♕ é2 16.♕×é5 é1=♛+ 17.♕×é1+ ♚×é1!+- 17…♞×é1?? pat !)

13…♚d3 14.♕b1! (14.b8=♕? ♞é2+! 15.♔×g2 ♞é1+ 16.♔f1 g2+ 17.♔×é1 g1=♛# ; 14.♕×ç2+? ♚×ç2 15.b8=♕ é2 16.♔×g2 é1=♜!-+ ; 14.♔×g2? é2 15.b8=♕ ♞é3+! 16.♔×g3 é1=♛+ -+)

14…é2 15.b8=♕ é1=♛+ 16.♕×é1 ♞×é1 (16…♞f3+ 17.♔×g2 ♞ç×é1+ 18.♔×g3=)

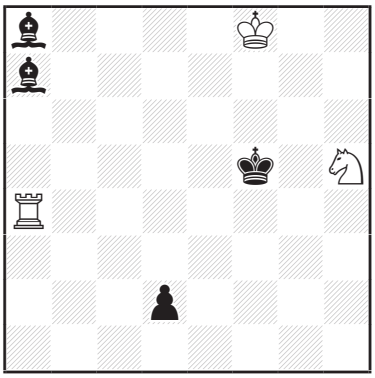
17.♕b3,♕b5+ (17.♕b1+? ♞éç2! 18.♕d1+ ♚é3 19.♕é1+!? ♞é2+! -+)

17…♞×b3 pat

First Honourable Mention - Pavel Arestov and Daniel Keith (8792)

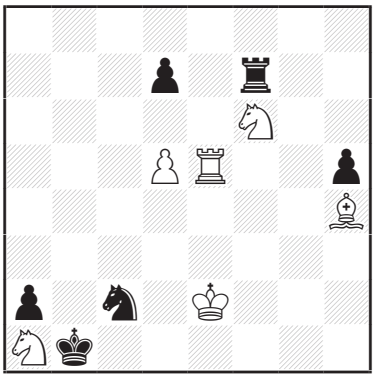
Elegantly designed study. After 1.♖a5+ black unexpectedly sacrifices the Bishop, because there is a good answer to every retreat of the black King. But even after 2.♖×ç5+ ♚é6 white finds a successful defense, in which he does not prevent the promotion of a black pawn into a queen, but the tandem rook with a knight can maintain a draw. The fight at the end of ♖+♘ against ♛ has already been used several times, but the game after which the fight takes place here makes a good impression.

P. Arestov & D. Keith
Phénix 2020
1° Honorable Mention



= (3+4)

L'. Kekely
Phénix 2020
2°-3° Honorable Mention



+ (6+6)

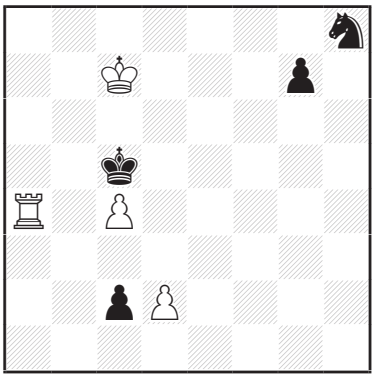
1.♘g7+? ♚é5 2.♖a5+ (2.♖×a7 d1=♕ 3.♖×a8 ♕d6+-+), 2…♗d5-+
1.♘g3+? ♚é5 2.♖a5+ ♗d5 3.♘é2 d1=♕ 4.♖×d5+ ♕×d5-+

1.♖a5+ ♗ç5+!
(1…♚g4 2.♘f6+! ♚f3 3.♖×a7 d1=♕ 4.♖×a8= 1…♚g6 2.♘f4+! ♚f6 3.♘d5+ and 4.♘ç3 ; 1…♚é6 2.♘g7+! ♚d6 3.♘f5+ ♚ç6 4.♖a1 and ♖d1, ♖×d2 ; 1…♚é4 2.♘f6+!)
2.♖×ç5+ ♚é6 (2…♚g4,♚é4 3.♖a5 d1=♕ 4.♘f6+ and ♖×a8 ;
2…♚g6 3.♘f4+! ♚f6 4.♘d5+ and 5.♘ç3)
3.♘f4+ (3.♘g7+? ♚d7! {3…♚d6? 4.♖ç8 ♗d5 5.♘f5+ et ♘é3} 4.♖a5 d1=♕ 5.♖a7+ ♚d6-+)
3…♚d6 (3…♚d7 4.♖ç3=)
4.♖ç3! (4.♖ç8? ♗ç6-+ ; 4.♖a5? d1=♕ 5.♖×a8 ♕f3 6.♖a4 ♕b7-+)
4…♗é4 5.♖ç4! (5.♖é3? ♗f5-+)
5…♚é5! (5…d1=♕ 6.♖×é4 ♕f3,♕ç2 7.♖é6+)
6.♘é2! d1=♕ 7.♖×é4+ ♚f5 (7…♚×é4 8.♘ç3+= ; 7…♚f6 8.♘d4! and 9.♖é6+ ♚g5 10.♘ç6=)
8.♘g3+ ♚f6 (8…♚g5 9.♖é7! ♕d8+ 10.♔f7 ♕d5+ 11.♔g7! {11.♔f8? ♚g6-+} 11…
♚g4,♚f4,♚h4 12.♘é4!=)
9.♖f4+ ♚g5 (9…♚é5 10.♖é4+= ; 9…♚g6 10.♔é7! ♕é1+ 11.♘é4! ♕é3 12.♖f6+=)
10.♖f7! ♕d6+ (10…♚g6 11.♖g7+ ♚h6 12.♘f5+=)
11.♔g8 ♕b8+ 12.♔h7 ♕×g3 13.♖g7+ ♚h4 14.♖×g3=

Second-Third Honourable Mention - Ľuboš Kekely (8700)
White must make the right decision on key. Isn't it enough to play seemingly equivalent 1.♔d2? for strong 3…d6! which will save the black (8…♜h3=). The white king is already in the right place in the solution at the crucial moment, and defending the black 3…d6 will no longer help.
Try : 1.♔d2? ♞×a1 2.♖é1+ ♚b2 3.♖×a1 d6! 4.♖é1 a1=♕ 5.♖×a1 ♚×a1 6.♘×h5 (6.♔é3 ♚b2 7.♘é4 ♚b3 8.♘×d6 ♜d7 9.♗g3 h4 10.♗f4 h3 11.♔d4 ♜a7 12.♘é4 ♜a2=),
6…♜h7 7.♗f6+ ♚a2 8.♘g7 ♜h3=

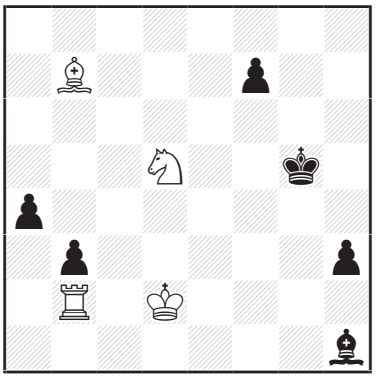
1.♔d3! ♞×a1 2.♖é1+ ♚b2 3.♖×a1! ♚×a1
(3…d6 4.♖é1 a1=♕ 5.♖×a1 ♚×a1 6.♘×h5 ♜h7 7.♗f6+ ♚a2 8.♘g7 compare with the try)
4.♔ç2 d6 (4…♜f8 5.♘é8!+-)
5.♘d7! (5.♘é8? ♜ç7+! 6.♘×ç7 stalemate)
5…♜f4 (or 5…♜f3) 6.♗f6+ ♜×f6 7.♘×f6 h4 8.♘é4 (8.♔ç1? h3 9.♘é4 h2 10.♘f2 h1=♕+
11.♘×h1 stalemate)
8…h3 9.♘d2 h2 10.♘b3#

M. Pasman
Phénix 2020
2°-3° Honorable Mention



= (4+4)

V. Samilo
dédié à Henri Rinck
Phénix 2020
Special Honorable Mention



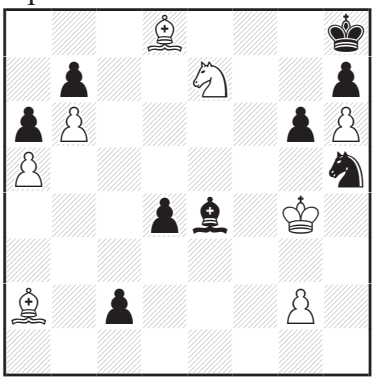
+ (4+6)

Second-Third Honourable Mention - Michael Pasman (8890)
He will be captivated by the duel of the rook against two pawns, which is adorned with a surprising retreat of the king (8.♔b8!). The study can bring pleasant entertainment for the solver as well.
1.♖a1 ♚×ç4 2.♔d6 ♚d3-+
1.d4+! ♚×d4 2.ç5+! (2.♖a1 ♚×ç4), **2…♚×ç5 3.♖a6! ♚ç4 4.♖ç6+ ♚b3 5.♖b6+!**
5.♔b8? ♞f7! 6.♖b6+ ♚ç3 7.♖ç6+ ♚d2-+
5…♚ç3 6.♖ç6+ ♚b2! (6…♚d2? 7.♖d6+ ♚ç1 8.♔b8 and 8.♔ç8 draw).
7.♖b6+ ♚ç1 8.♔b8! (8.♔ç8? ♞f7! and ♖b7 is not possible)
8…g5 (8…♞f7 9.♖b7!=) **9.♖b7!** (9.♖f6? g4!-+)
9…♞g6 (9…g4 10.♖g7! ♚d2 11.♖d7+ ♚ç3 12.♖ç7+ ♚b2 13.♖b7+ ♚ç1 14.♖g7!)
10.♖g7! ♚b2 11.♖b7+ ♚ç3 12.♖ç7+ ♚d2 13.♖d7+ ♚ç1 14.♖g7 ♚d1 15.♖d7+ ♚é2
16.♖ç7 ♞f4 17.♖×ç2+=

Special Honourable Mention - Vladimir Samilo (8793)
Jean de Villeneuve Esciapon composed on an interesting study idea in 1923 (he worked on several versions while working towards its «optimal» and sound form. Many authors were inspired and tried to use certain fragments of it for new studies. The known author of this study turned the colors quite interestingly and worked the original idea to win.
1.♖b1!? ♗g2! 2.♖g1 ♚h6 3.♘f4 ♗×b7 (3…h2 4.♖×g2 h1=♕ 5.♖g6+!), 4.♘×h3 a3! 5.♘f2 ♗ç8
▲6.♖h1+! ♚g5 7.♔ç3 b2 8.♘é4+ ♚f4 9.d2 ♗é6
■10.♖h4+ ♚g5!! 11.♖a4 ♗f5 12.♖a5 ♚f4=
■10.♖é1 ♗d5! 11.♔ç2 f5 12.♔b1 ♗g8 13.♖é7 ♗d5!= (positional draw) :
14.♖a7 ♚é3 or 14.♖é2 ♗é4+
▲6.♔ç3 b2 7.♘é4 ♗é6 8.♘d2 f5! 9.♔ç2 f4!=

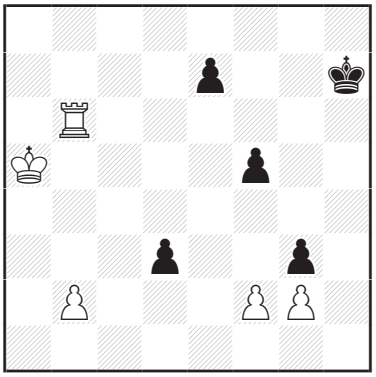
1.♔ç3 a3 2.♖h2 (2.♖b1? ♗g2!=)
2…♗g2 3.♔×b3 ♚h4 (3…a2 4.♔b2! {4.♔×a2? ♚h4 5.♘f4 ♗×b7= 6.♖×h3+ ♚g4 7.♖h7! ♗é4 8.♖×f7 ♗f5 9.♘d5 ♗é6 10.♖f4+ ♚g5 11.♖d4 ♚f5 12.♔b3 ♚é5 13.♔ç4 ♚d6!= J.V.E.})
4.♘f4 ♗×b7 5.♖×h3+ ♚g4 6.♖h7! ♗é4 (6…♚×f4? 7.♖×f7+)
7.♖×f7 ♗f5 (7…a2 8.♔b2!+-) **8.♘d5 ♗é6 9.♖f4+ ♚g5 10.♖d4 a2!** (10…♚f5 11.♔ç3! a2 12.♘é3++- {12.♘é7+? ♚f6 =})
11.♔b2!! gain (11.♔×a2? ♚f5 12.♔b3 ♚é5 13.♔ç4 ♚d6!= Jean de Villeneuve Esclapon).

P. Krug & M. G. Garcia
Phénix 2020
Special Honorable Mention



= (8+9)

J. Ulrichsen
Phénix 2020
Special Commandation



+ (5+5)

Special Honourable Mention - Peter Krug and Mario García (8702)
White does not prevent the promotion of the black c-pawn, but fortunately the opponent's King is in danger and white dignifiedly defends himself with threats of mate. But the queen is a queen, and black not only defends himself, but gains an light officer ahead. Still, he won't lose. Namely, the white king attacks the black weakness (♟b7) and an positional draw occurs unexpectedly, because the opponent's king is paralyzed in arrest.
1.♘×g6+? h×g6 2.♗g5 ♚h7! 3.♗ç1 (3.♗ç4 ♞f6+ 4.♔g3 d3-+), 3…♗d5 4.♗×d5 ♞f6+!-+
1.♗ç7! ♞f6+ 2.♔g5 ç1=♕+ 3.♗f4! (3.♔×f6? ♕f1+! 4.♔é6 ♗f5+!-+)
3…♕a3 4.♗é5! (4.♔×f6? ♕×a2 5.♗é5 ♕×a5 6.♗×d4 ♕d2 7.♗é5 ♗d5!-+)
4…♕×é7 5.♗×d4 (5.♗×f6+? ♕×f6+ 6.♔×f6 d3 7.♔é5 d2 8.♗b3 ♗×g2 9.♔f4 ♗d5 10.♗d1 ♚g8-+)
5…♗b1 6.♗ç4!!
- 6.♗d5? ♕é3+! (6…♗é4? 7.♗a2= see solution) 7.♗×é3 ♞×d5-+
- 6.♗b3? ♗ç2!! 7.♗ç4,♗a2 ♕ç5+ 8.♗×ç5 ♞é4+ 9.♔f4 ♞×ç5 10.♔é5 11.♔é5 ♗ç6-+), 10…♞b3-+
6…♗d3 (6…♕ç5+ 7.♗×ç5 ♞é4+ 8.♔f4=, 8…♞×ç5 9.♗d5 ♗ç2 10.♔é5 ♗b3 11.♗f3 ♗a4 12.♔d6!)
7.♗a2!! (7.♗d5? ♕é3+ 8.♗×é3 ♞×d5-+) **7…♕ç5+ 8.♗×ç5 ♞é4+ 9.♔f4 ♞×ç5 10.♔é5!**
(10.♗d5? ♗b5 11.♔é5 ♗ç6 12.♗×ç6 b×ç6 13.♔d6 ♞b7+ 14.♔×ç6 ♞×a5+-+)
A) 10…♗b5 11.♔d6! (11.♗f7? ♗a4-+), **11…♞é4+ 12.♔ç7! positional draw**
12.♔é7? ♞d2 13.♗d5 ♞ç4 14.♗×b7 ♞×a5 15.♗ç8 ♗ç6 16.♗×a6 ♗×g2-+
B) 10…♗ç2 11.♗d5! (11.♔d6? ♞b3! 12.♔ç7 ♞×a5-+) **11…♗b3 12.♗f3!= positional draw, 12…♗ç2 13.♗d5=**

Special Commendation - Jarl Henning Ulrichsen (8893)
The idea is not new. One of the best treatments is the study of Hildebrand, 1963. The new author was his friend, who complained that he regretted that he could not have a pawn on b2 and that the black king was already in square h1. In this new study, the author managed a small gift for a friend - both of his wishes are fulfilled! Thus, the minor promotion (13.b8=♖!) is also excelsior.
1.♖b4! g×f2 (1…é5 2.f×g3 é4 3.♖d4) **2.♖h4+** (2.♖f4? d2 3.♖h4+ ♚g6 4.♖h1 ♚g5 5.♔b4 ♚f4 6.♔ç3 ♚é3! {not 6…♚g3? 7.♔×d2 ♚×g2}, 7.♖d1 é5 8.b4 ♚é2 9.♖×d2+ ♚é1=)
2…♚g6 3.♖h1 ♚g5 (3…d2? 4.♔b4 ♚g5 5.♔ç3 ♚f4 6.♔×d2 ♚g3 7.♔é2 ♚×g2 8.♖f1)
4.♔b4 (4.b4? é5 5.b5 é4 6.b6 é3 7.b7 é2 8.b8=♕ é1=♕+ 9.♔b5 ♕×h1)
4…♚f4 5.♔ç3 (5.♔ç4? ♚é3 6.♔ç3 ♚é2 7.b4 f1=♕ 8.♖×f1 ♚×f1 9.♔×d3 ♚×g2)
5…♚g3 6.♔×d3 ♚×g2 7.♔é2 ♚×h1 8.♔f1!! (8.♔×f2? é5 9.b4 é4 10.b5 f4 11.b6 é3+ 12.♔f1 f3 13.b7 é2+ 14.♔f2 é1=♕+ 15.♔×é1 ♚g2 16.b8=♕ f2+ 17.♔d2 f1=♕)
8…é5 9.b4 é4 10.b5 f4 (10…é3 11.b6 f4 12.b7 f3 13.b8=♖= {13.b8=♕? é2+ 14.♔×f2 é1=♕+ 15.♔×é1 f2+ 16.♔×f2,♔f1 stalemate) **11.b6 é3 12.b7 f3 13.b8=♖! +-**

(■ Michal Hlinka, International Judge of FIDE - Košice 24/03/2021)