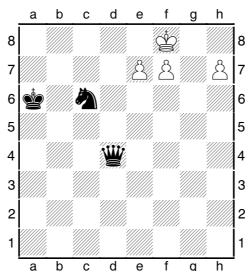


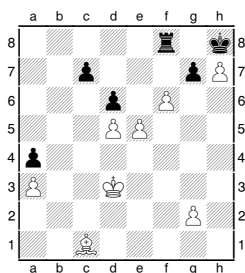
В 2017 году в журнале было впервые опубликовано 26 произведений 20 авторов из 16 стран (Австрии, Аргентины, Венгрии, Германии, Грузии, Дании, Израиля, Италии, Нидерландов, Польши, России, Румынии, Словакии, США, Украины, Франции). Предлагается следующее распределение отличий.

A. Ruzs, M. Minski,  
S. S. Nielsen  
1 prize



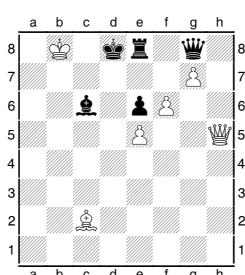
=

A. Jasik  
2 prize



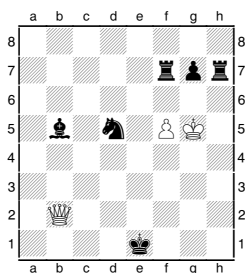
+

A. Ruzs  
3 prize



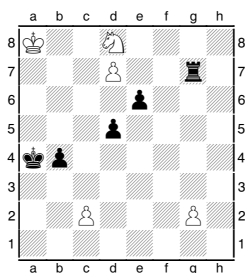
+

D. Gurgenedze, M. Minski  
4 prize



=

P. Arestov  
5 prize



+

**1.Ke8!** No 1.e8Q? Qh8# **1...Qa4!** Build a battery, promotion of pawns will be later, 2.f8Q? Ne5+!-+ and 2.h8Q? Nd4+! 3.Kf8 Ne6+ 4.Kg8 Qg4+-+ **2.Kf8 Qa1!** **3.Ke8 Kb7!** Black finds the minimum chance to win, the bQ hits the eighth line through the king-given vertical "a", and no 4.f8Q? Ne5!-+ **4.h8Q!** the first sacrifice with a proposal 4...Qxh8+ 5.f8Q Qh5+ 6.Qf7 Qh8+ 7.Qf8= or 4...Qa8+ 5.Kd7 Qxh8 6.f8Q! Qh3+ 7.Kd6 Qd3+ 8.Ke6=, but... **4...Ne5!** refusal of capture and **5.Qxe5!** new sacrifice, otherwise 5.Kf8? Ng6+-+ **5...Qa8+!** awaiting 6.Kd7? Qc8+ 7.Kd6 Qc6# position X, epaulet mate with self-block, but... **6.Qb8+!! Qxb8+** **7.Kd7 Qc8+** **8.Kd6 Qc6+** The sacrificial perseverance of the wQ is rewarded: position X without the wQe5, no mat! **9.Ke5=**  
A bright, crystal clear study!

**1.Bh6!!** 1...gxh6 2.e6! Kxh7 3.e7 Kg8 4.exf8Q+ Kxf8 5.Ke4! Kf7 6.Kf5+- Using its inviolability, the wB ramming the defense of the black **1...Rb8** **2.Bxg7+ Kxh7** **3.e6 Rb3+** To the main line goes and 3...Kg6 4.Kd4! (4.Kc4? Rb3 zugzwang 5.g4 Rxa3=) 4...Rb3 5.Kc4!+- zugzwang, but maybe the author should have chosen such a continuation as more natural: the bK is approaching the passing pawns, the rook controls the horizontal. **4.Kd4!** **Kg6** **5.Kc4!!** Incredible, but on the board is a very-multi-figure mutual zugzwang! It was a mistake 4.Kc4?! Kg6! zugzwang in white, and they are forced to move a pawn 5.g4 Rxa3 6.g5 Rf3 7.Bh6 a3 8.e7 Re3 9.f7 and then the most interesting 9...Re4+! 10.Kd3 Rd4+!! 11.Kxd4 a2= 9...Kxf7 10.g6+ Kxe7 11.Bxe3+- **5...Rxa3** **6.Bh8!** **Ra1** **7.f7+-** 5...Rb1 6.g4 Rb3 7.g5+- Unfortunately, the thematic try is more study than the solution! Maybe change the color?

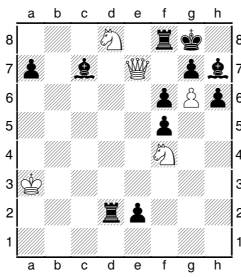
**1.Bg6!** White plays to win without a rook, using the extremely constrained position of black, but does not give anything 1.f7? Qxg7 2.fxe8Q+ Bxe8 3.Qh4+ Qe7 (3...Kd7? 4.Ba4#) 4.Qd4+ Qd7 5.Qb6+ Ke7 6.Qc5+ Kf7= (6...Kd8? 7.Ba4! Qxa4 8.Qc7#) **1...Re7!** **2.fxe7+ Kxe7+** **3.Be8!** Otherwise, black is released 3.Kc7? Qd8+! 4.Kxc6 Qd5+ 5.Kb6 Qb3+ 6.Kc5 Qc3+ 7.Kb5 Qb3+ 8.Ka5 Qa3+ 9.Kb5 Qb3+= perpetual check. **3...Bxe8** **4.Qh4+!** 4.Qg5+? Kd7 5.Qd2+ Ke7 6.Qg5+ Kd7= positional draw. 4.Qh8? Kf7!-+ (4...Bf7+? 5.Kc7 Qe8 6.Qh4#) **4...Kd7** 4...Kf7 5.Qf6# **5.Qb4!** **Bg6+** или 5...Bf7+ 6.Qf8 Kc6 7.Kc8 Kd5 8.Kd7(d8) Kxe5 9.Ke7+- or 5...Kd8 6.Qd6+ Bd7 7.Qf8+-+ **6.Qf8 Bh7** **7.Kb7!+-** zugzwang 6...Bf7 7.Kb7+- zugzwang. White's technical game with many tries!

White loses on the material after 1.Kg6? Rxf5! 2.Kxf5 Bd3+-+ or 2.Kxh7 g5!-+ or 1.Qe5+? Be2 2.Kg6 Rxf5! 3.Qg3+ Kd2-+ **1.Qb1+!** Thematic try: 1.Qxb5? Rxf5+! 2.Kxf5 Rh5+ 3.Kg4 Nf6+ 4.Kf4 Rxb5+-+ no stalemate; **1...Kf2** **2.Qxb5** mainline A: **2...Rxf5+!** **3.Kxf5 Rh5+** **4.Kg4** 4.Ke4? Nc3+-+ (4...Nf6+? 5.Kf4 Rxb5= stalemate) 4.Kg6? Nf4+-+ **4...Nf6+** **5.Kf4 Nd5+** **6.Kg4 Nf6+** **7.Kf4 Rxb5=** model mirror stalemate in the middle of the board. mainline B: **2...Rh5+!** **3.Kxh5 Rxf5+** **4.Kh4 g5+** **5.Kh3** 5.Kh5? Nf6+-+ (5...Nf4+? 6.Kg4 Rxb5= stalemate) **5...Nf4+** **6.Kg4 Rxb5=** ideal stalemate in the middle of the board. Excellent synthesis!

**1.Nf7!** Why not 1.Nxe6? see the end of the solution! **1...Rg8+** **2.d8Q Rxd8+** **3.Nxd8 b3** **4.cxb3+ Kxb3** **5.Nc6!** Once again, keeping a pawn alive! **5...Kc4** **6.g4 Kc5** **7.g5 Kd6** **8.g6+-** His own pawn stands in the way of the bK. 6...d4 7.g5 d3 8.Ne5+-+ After an mistake 1.Nxe6?! Rg8+ 2.d8Q Rxd8+ 3.Nxd8 b3! 4.cxb3+ Kxb3 5.Nc6 Kc4 6.g4 Kc5 7.g5 Kd6 8.g6 pB on the board is missing, for 8... Ke6 there are no obstacles 9.Ne5 Kf6= 5.Ne6 Kc4 6.g4 d4 7.Nf4 Kc5! 8.Kb7 Kd6 9.Nd3 Kd5! 10.Nf2 Ke5 11.Kc6 Kf4 12.Kd5 d3 13.Kd4 d2 14.Kd3 d1Q+= A pleasant logical study with a double refusal of capture a pawn.

P. Krug

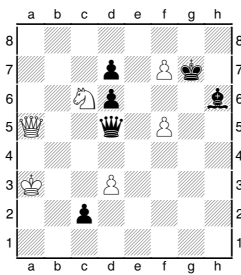
1 honorable mention



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A. Avni & Y. Afek

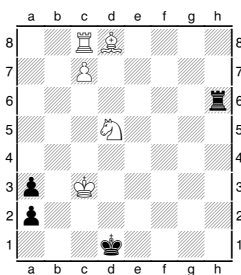
2 honorable mention



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V. Tarasiuk

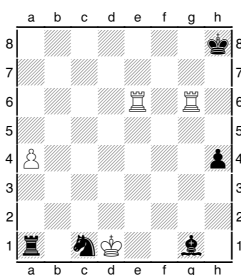
3 honorable mention



+

R. Becker

4 honorable mention



+

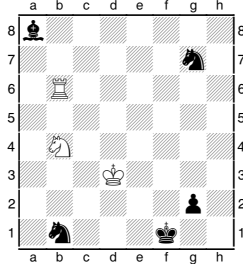
**1.Qf7+! Rxf7** Black cannot refuse of capture **1...Kh8** **2.Qxf8+ Bg8** **3.Nf7#** **2.gxf7+ Kh8** **3.f8Q+ Bg8** No **4.Nf7+? Kh7** **5.Ne6 Rd3+!** **6.Kb2 Kg6=** **4.Nde6!** This creates a matte threat to black **4...Rd7** **5.Ng6+ Kh7** **6.Qxg7+ Rxc7** **7.Nef8#** **4...Bd6+** **5.Ka4!** Great answer! **5...Bxf8** **6.Ng6+ Kh7** **7.Nexf8#** **5...Rd4+** **6.Kb5 Rb4+** **7.Ka6!** Early **7.Kc6?** **Rb6+** **8.Kd7 Rb7+** **9.Kxd6 Kh7** **10.Nxe2 Rb6+** **11.Kc5 Rxe6=** **7...Ra4+** **8.Kb7 Rb4+** **9.Kxa7 Bc5+!** **10.Ka8! Ra4+** **11.Kb8 Bd6+** **12.Kb7! Rb4+** As a result of the White King's walk, the interfering black pawn was eliminated, and it became possible **13.Kc6 Bxf8** **14.Ng6+ Kh7** **15.Nexf8#** Interesting idea and a good mate!

**1.f6+! Kxf6** **2.f8Q+!** Contrary to expectations, the advanced f-pawn is sacrificed. **2...Bxf8** **3.Qc3+ Kf5!** Black's chances lie in creating a battery along the a3-f8 diagonal, and liquidating into a winning pawn-ending. However, after **3...Kf7** **4.Nb4!** **Qc5!** **5.Qxc5!** (**5.Qxc2? d5!+-**) **5...dxc5** **6.Nxc2 c4+** **7.Kb2 cxd3** **8.Ne3** white succeeds in building a fortress and draws! **4.Nb4!** **Qc5!** **4...Qa5+** **5.Kb3!** **d5** **6.Nxc2=** **5.Qxc2!** The bK's current position enables a surprising save **5.Qxc5+? dxc5** **6.Nxc2 c4+** **7.Kb2 cxd3+-** loses, as the bK is too close. **5...d5!** **6.d4+!** **Qxc2=** Model pin stalemate!

**1.Ne3+ Kc1** **2.Nc2 Rc6+** **3.Kb3 Rxc2** **4.Bg5+!** **4.Bf6?** **Rb2+** **5.Ka4 a1Q** **6.Rh8 Rb4+** **7.Ka5 Rb5+** **8.Ka4 Rb4+=** **7.Kxb4 Qb1+** **8.Kxa3 Qd3+=** **4...Kb1** **5.Bf6 Rb2+** **6.Bxb2 axb2** No **7.Rd8?** **Ka1!** **8.c8Q b1Q+** **9.Ka3 Qb2+** **10.Ka4 Qc2+!** **11.Qxc2=** stalemate, **11.Ka3 Qb2+=** **7.Ra8!** What did the whites plan? **7...a1Q** **8.Ra4?** **Qxa4+** **9.Kxa4 Ka1=** **8.c8Q?** **Qa2+!** **9.Rxa2=** another stalemate. **8.Ra3!!** Simple and beautiful! **8...Qxa3+** **9.Kxa3 Ka1** **10.c8Q+-**

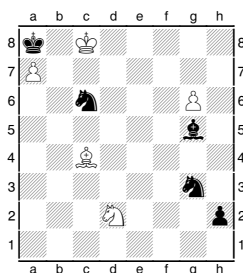
**1.Kc2! Ne2** **1...Ra2+** **2.Kb1!+-** **2.Rxe2 Ra2+** **3.Kd3 Ra3+** **4.Kc4 Rxa4+** **5.Kb5!** Correct move, but WK seems to go in wrong direction. Thematic try **5.Kb3?** **Ra1** **6.Rg4 Kh7** **7.Rxh4+ Kg6** **8.Rf4 Kg5!** **9.Rf8 Ra3+!** **10.Kxa3 Bc5+** skewer! **5...Ra1** **6.Rg4 Kh7** **7.Rxh4+ Kg6** **8.Rf4 Rb1+** **8...Kg5** **9.Rf8!** **Bd4** **10.Rg2+ Kh5** **11.Kc4 Ra4+** **12.Kd3+-** **9.Kc4!** **9.Ka4?** **Kh7!** **10.Rg4 Rf1!** **11.Re5 Kh6** **12.Re8 Kh7** **13.Re2 Bf2!** **14.Rf4 Ra1+** **15.Kb3 Bg3! =** **9...Kh7!** This strange-looking move is Black's most stubborn defense. **10.Rf7+!** Approaching directly with WK does not work **10.Kc3?** **Rd1!** **11.Kc2 Rd4!** **12.Rf1 Rg4=** **10.Rg2?** **Be3!** **11.Rh4+ Bh6=** **10.Rf3?** **Rc1+!** **11.Kb3 Bd4!** **12.Rh2+ Kg8** **13.Rg2+ Bg7=** **10.Rg4?** **Rf1!** **11.Kd3 Ra1!** **12.Kc3 Rf1!** **13.Kc4 Bf2!** **14.Rf4 Rc1+** **15.Kd3 Bg3! =** **10...Kh6** **11.Rf6+!** **Kh7** **12.Rf4!** Repeating the position, but with BTM. Now WK's approach cannot be prevented. **12...Rd1** **13.Kc3 Rb1** **14.Kc2 Ra1** **15.Kb3!** **Rb1+** **16.Ka2 Rc1** Black sets one last trap. **17.Rg4!** Not **17.Rh4+?** **Kg6** **18.Rg2+ Kf5** **19.Rh1 Be3! =** **17...Rf1** **18.Rh4+ Kg6** **19.Rg2+** In the end there is a permutation of moves. Also **19.Rh1 Kf5** **20.Rg2** etc. **19...Kf5** **20.Rh1 Rf2+** **21.Rxf2+ Bxf2** **22.Rf1+-** Of course, a very fine and accurate game, but the analyst suppresses artistry. Not enough spectacular pointes!

P. Arestov & A. Skripnik  
5 honorable mention



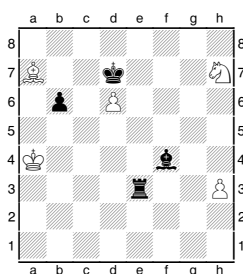
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M. Hlinka & L. Kekely  
6 honorable mention



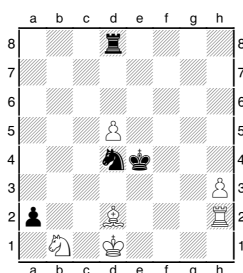
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P. Arestov & D. Keith  
Commendation



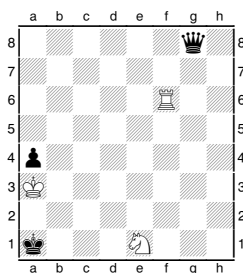
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S. S.Nielsen  
Commendation



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A. Rusz  
Commendation



=

Another study D. Gurgenzidze & M. Minski had a anticipant L. Mitrofanov & E. Pogosyants, 3.p Lokker MT Sportivnaya Gazeta. In the study Lajos Fabian duals 6.a8Q+/- or 6.Nd2+/- and 10.N1c3 or 10.N1a3. In the study M. Garcia & P. Gyarmati unpleasant permutation of the third and fourth moves.

**1.Nc2!** Strong try 1.Rf6+? Kg1! 2.Nc2 Nh5 3.Rf5 Be4+! 4.Kxe4 Ng3+ 5.Kd3 Kh1 6.Rf6 g1Q 7.Rh6+ Kg2 8.Ne3+ Kf2! 9.Rf6+ Ke1 10.Nc2+ Kd1 11.Ne3+ Kc1 12.Rc6+ Nc3! 13.Rxc3+ Kbl-+ But the bK left the chase. **1...Be4+ 2.Kxe4 Nd2+ 3.Kd3 g1Q 4.Rf6+ Nf3! 5.Rxf3+ Kg2 6.Ke2! Kh2** Will not save and 6...Qb1 7.Ne3+ Kh2 8.Nf1+ Kh1 9.Rh3+ Kg2 10.Rg3+ Kh1 11.Rh3+= positional draw. **7.Ne3 Nh5 8.Nf1+ Kh1 9.Rh3+ Kg2 10.Rh2+=** White's coordinated actions neutralized the bQ-promotion.

**1.Bd5 h1Q** 1...Kxa7 2.Bxc6 Bxd2 3.g7 Nf5 4.g8N!= **2.Bxh1 Nxb1 3.Ne4!** 3.g7? Bh6! 4.Kd7 Ne5+ 5.Ke6 Bxg7-+ 3.Nf3? Bf6 4.Kd7 Nd4! 5.Nxd4 Bxd4 6.Ke6 Ng3-+ **3...Bh6 3...Ne7+** 4.Kd7 Bh4 5.g7= **4.Kd7! Ne5+ 5.Ke6 Nxb6 6.Kf5 Nf4! 7.Kg4 Kxa7 8.Kf3 Kb6 9.Nd6 Nh3 9...Nh5 10.Nf5 Bf8 11.Kg2= 10.Ne4 Nf4 11.Nd6 Nd3 12.Ne4 Nf4 13.Nd6=** switchback, positional draw. Domination. Long march of white king to target square. White makes a draw with very accurate moves, but without heroic efforts.

**1.Bxb6!** 1.Nf6+? Kc6! 2.Bxb6 Rd3! 3.Bc7 Rxb3 4.Ne4 (4.Kb4 Rh4! 5.Kb3 Bxd6-+) 4...Rd3 5.Nf2 Rd4+ 6.Kb3 Be3-+ **1...Rxb3 2.Nf6+ Kc6!** The bK can complete the destruction of pawns 2...Kxd6, but 3.Bd4! Rd3 4.Bc3! Rxc3 5.Ne4+= fork, 4...Kc5 5.Kb3 Re3 6.Ng4= **3.d7 Bd6 4.Bc5!** 4.Be3? Be7-+ **4...Bxc5 5.d8N+ Kc7 6.Ne6+= 5...Kb6 6.Nd7+=** White easily reflects the matte threat with the help of the sacrifice and the N-promotion.

**1.Nc3+ Kf3 2.Nxa2 Kg3 3.Ba5 Rxd5 4.Bc7+ Kh4 5.Rd2 Nf5 6.Bd8+!** timely check, forcing the bK to choose a move, try 6.Rxd5? Ne3+ 7.Ke2 Nxd5 8.Bd8+ Kg3! 9.h4 Nf4+(Kg4)= or 7.Kd2 Nxd5 8.Bd8+ Kxh3(h5)= Main A **6...Kxh3 7.Rxd5 Ne3+ 8.Ke2! Nxd5 9.Kf3** Domination, the horse is caught in the center of the board! **9...Kh2 10.Ke4 Kg3 11.Kxd5+-** Main B **6...Kg3 7.Rxd5 Ne3+ 8.Kd2!** but now, on the contrary, an error 8.Ke2? Nxd5 9.h4 Nf4+(Kg4)= **8...Nxd5 9.h4 Kg4 10.Nc3 10.Nc1? Nf4 11.Nd3 Ng6 12.Nf2+ Kh5= 10...Nf4 11.Nd1 Ng6 12.Ne3+ Kh5 13.Ng2+-** A good game study.

**1.Nc2+ Kb1 2.Nd4** protection against threat 2.Nb4? Qb3# and a matte threat at the same time! **2...Qc4 3.Rb6+ Ka1 4.Rb3!!** Very elegant and beautiful! Black in zugzwang: 4...Qxd4 5.Rb1+! Kxb1= stalemate or 4...Qc5+ 5.Rb4 Qc3+ 6.Kxa4= or **4...axb3 5.Nxb3+ Kb1 6.Nd2+=** fork. Six-pieces find!