BEST PROBLEMS

Rassegna dei migliori problemi

diretta da **Antonio Garofalo**

Col sostegno dell'API (Associazione Problemistica Italiana)

in redazione - A. Armeni, V. Rallo;

Hanno collaborato a questo fascicolo: Vlaicu Crisan, Eric Huber, Giuseppe Lucchesini

EDITORIALE

Nessun nuovo compositore in questo fascicolo, ma alcuni graditi ritorni, fra i quali il G.M. Anatoly Styopochkin. Come sempre invito i compositori a visitare il sito ufficiale della rivista, www.bestproblems.it/bppdf/Best.html, dove ogni 3 mesi possono trovare i nuovi fascicoli.

[*As always I invite the composers to visit the official website of the magazine,* www.bestproblems.it/bppdf/Best.html*, where they can find the new pdf files every 3 months.*]

In questo fascicolo due importanti verdetti riguardanti la sezione fairy di due anni lontani; mi scuso coi compositori per il ritardo e ringrazio ancora i due giudici per l'opera svolta.

Segue un simpatico canovaccio teatrale a sfondo problemistico (ovviamente!) del nostro fedele Autore e Compositore Giuseppe Lucchesini. Rimane spazio per un'unica affermazione italiana in prima pagina, come potete vedere qui in basso.

Alberto Armeni - 23° T.T. *Problemist Ukraïni* 2018, 1°-2° Premio e.a.
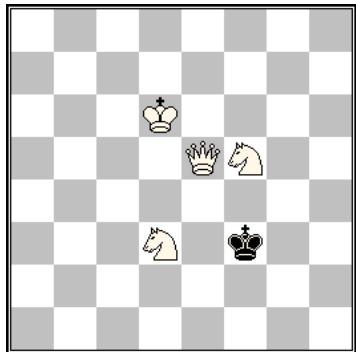
8/8/3K4/4QN2/8/3N1k2/8/8

≠3 (4+1) C+, b) ♘f5-f2, c) ♕e5-c4

a) 1.♕d4? tempo, 1…♔g2 2.♕f2+ ♔h1 3.♘g3≠ 2…♔h3 3.♕g3≠ ma 1…♔e2!

1.♔e6! tempo, 1…♔g2 2.♕g3+ ♔f1 3.♕f2≠ 2…♔h1 3.♘f2≠ 1…♔g4 2.♕g3+ ♔h5 3.♘f4≠

b) 1.♕e1? tempo, 1…♔g2 2.♕h1+ ♔g3 3.♕h3≠ ma 1…♔g3! **1.♕e6!** tempo, 1…♔g2 2.♕h3+ ♔g1 3.♕h1≠

c) 1.♕d4? tempo, 1…♔g2 2.♕f2+ ♔h1 3.♘g3≠ 2…♔h3 3.♕g3≠ ma 1…♔e2!

1.♘f4! tempo, 1…♔f2 2.♕e2+ ♔g1 3.♕g2≠ 1…♔g4 2.♔e5 ♔f3 3.♕e2≠ 2…♔g5 3.♕g8≠

Extended to 9 mates + a) wK-key; b) w-Reciprocal; c) Key closes rank 4. (Judge Carlos Grassano)

Inediti

4140. G. Sardella
Italia

4141. D. Gatti
Italia

4142. D. Gatti
Italia

4143. B. Colaneri
Italia

≠2 vv (13+7) C+

≠2 vv (7+5) C+

≠2 (5+10) C+

≠2* (10+8) C+

**4144. V. Agostini &
G. Brunori** - Italia

4145. F. Magini
Italia

4146. G. Sardella
Italia

4147. V. Agostini
Italia

≠2 vv (10+7) C+

≠2 v (13+8) C+

≠2 (10+10) C+

≠2* v (9+11) C+

4148. B. Colaneri
Italia

4149. V. Koci
Rep. Ceca

4150. L. Makaronez
Israele
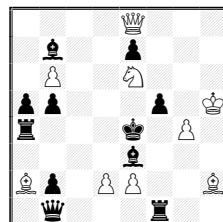
4151. A. Armeni
Italia

≠3 (13+8) C+

≠3 v (7+8) C+

≠3 (9+12) C+
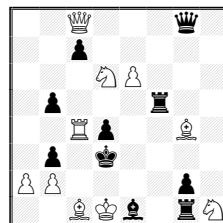
S≠2 (10+10) C+

≠2 - n. 4140-4147 (Judge 2019: NN).
≠3 - n. 4148-4150 (Judge 2018-2019: Antonio Garofalo).
S≠2/S≠3 - n. 4151-4153 (Judge 2019-2020: NN).

4152. G. Kozyura	4153. A. Pankratiev	4154. F. Magini &	4155. M. Witztum
Ucraina	Russia	A. Garofalo - Italia	Israele
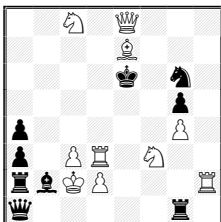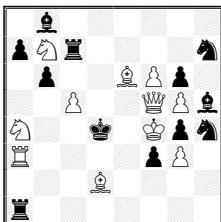
S≠2 (10+9) C+

S≠3 v (11+12) C+
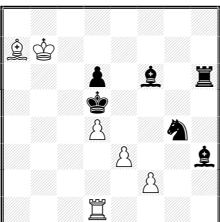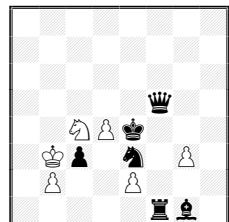
H≠2 (6+6) C+
b) ♘d1

H≠2 (6+6) C+
2 sol.

4156. M.J. Elbaz	4157. B. Colaneri	4158. B. Colaneri	4159. E. Klemanic
Marocco	Italia	Italia	Slovacchia
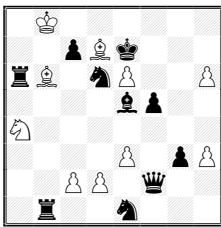
H≠2 (10+10) C+
b) ♚e7-f6
c) ♚e7-f1, ♘a4-h4
d) ♚e7-g6, ♟c7-g7
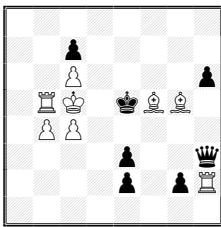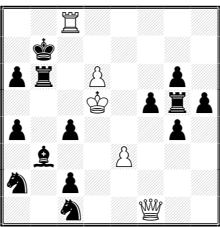
H≠2 (8+7) C+
2 sol.

H≠2 (5+14) C+
2 sol.
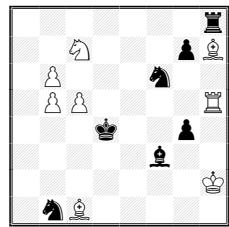
H≠2 (8+7) C+
4 sol.

4160. M.J. Elbaz	4161. B. Colaneri	4162. J. Csak	4163. M. Witztum
Marocco	Italia	Ungheria	Israele
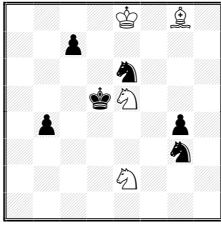
H≠2 (4+6) C+
b) ♔e8-h6
c) ♔e8-a6
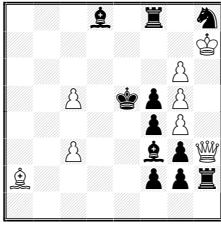
H≠2 (8+11) C+
3 sol.
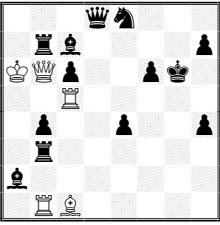
H≠2 (5+13) C+
2 sol.
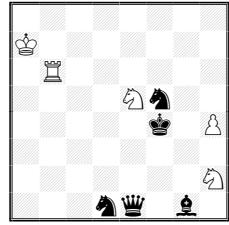
H≠2 (5+5) C+
2 sol.

H≠2 - n. 4154-4163 (Judge 2018-2019: NN).

4164. J. Csak
Ungherìa
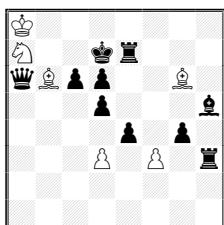
4165. J. Csak
Ungherìa
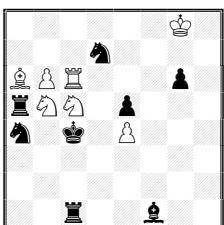
4166. C. Lago +
Argentina
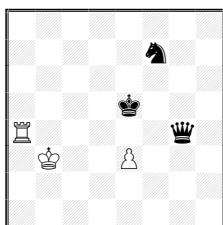
**4167. J.J. Lois
& J.M. Kapros**
Argentina

H≠2,5 (6+10) C+
3 sol.

H≠2,5 (7+8) C+
2 sol.

H≠3 (3+3) C+
2 sol.
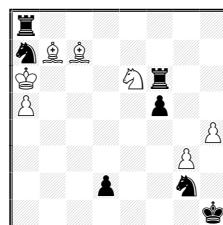
H≠3 (7+7) C+
2 sol.

4168. J.M. Kapros
Argentina
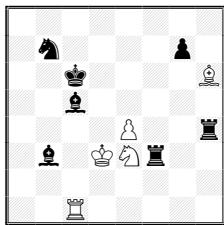
4169. J. Csak
Ungherìa
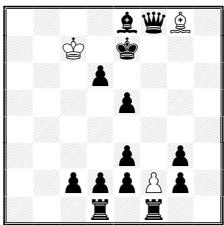
4170. Z. Mihajloski
Macedonia
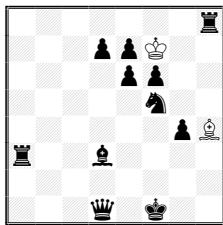
4171. A. Styopochkin
Russia

H≠3 (5+7) C+
2 sol.

H≠4 (3+13) C+
b) ♟d2↔♙f2

H≠5,5 (2+11) C+
1 sol.
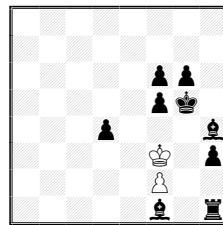
H≠6 (2+9) C+
2 sol.

4172. M. Rimkus
Lituania
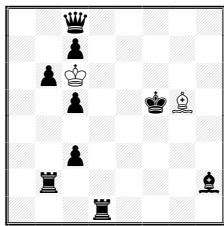
4173. V. Barsukov
Russia
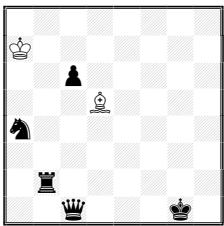
**4174. V. Agostini &
G. Brunori -** Italia

4175. J. Pitkanen
Finlandia

H≠6,5 (2+9) C+
3 sol.

H≠7 (2+5) C+
b) ♗d5−c5
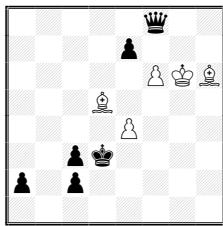
H≠2 (5+6) C+
2 sol.   Anticirce
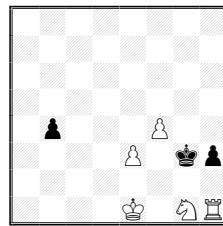
hs≠6 (5+3) C+
1 sol.

H≠2,5/3 - n. 4164-4168 (Judge 2018-2019: Francesco Simoni).
H≠n - n. 4169-4173 (Judge 2018-2019: Antonio Garofalo).

4176. A. Styopochkin
Russia

4177. V. Agostini
Italia
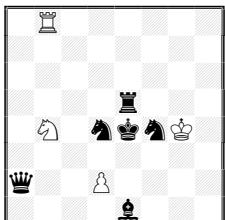
4178. A. Styopochkin
Russia

4179. K. Solja
Finlandia

hs≠5 (3+2) C+
Köko, ♛f3=pezzo
Camaleonte.

hs≠2,5 (4+6) C+
b) ♘b4-b5
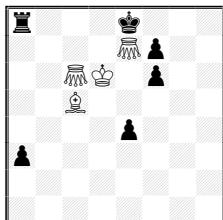
S≠7* (4+6) C+
2 sol. Maximum
🦗=Grasshoppers
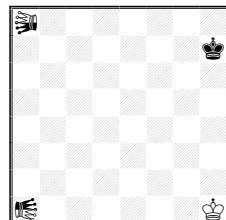
hs≠11 (1+1+2) C+
Köko, Maximum
=Princess
=Empress

4180. K. Solja
Finlandia

4181. K. Solja
Finlandia

4182. R. Kohring
Germania

4183. J. Pitkanen
Finlandia
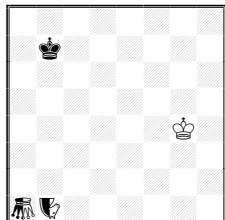
hs≠10,5 (1+1+2) C+
Köko, Maximum
=Empress
=Dragon
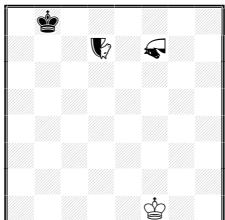
hs≠12 (1+1+2) C+
Köko, Maximum
=Bison
=Elephant
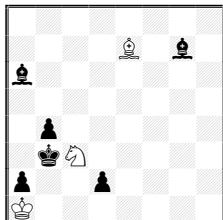
H≠5,5 (3+6) C+
Alphabetic chess
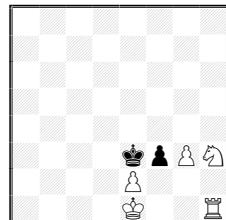
hs≠6 (5+2) C+

Fairies n. 4174-4183 (Judge 2019: NN).

Note agli inediti (Fairy elements)

sh = Problema aiutomatto a serie (Serie helpmate/helpstalemate).
sd = problema diretto a serie (Serie direct mate).
hs = helpselfmate.

Bison: saltatore (1,3)+(2,3)
Dragon: ♘+♙
Elephant: ♛+Nightrider
Empress: ♖+♘
Grasshopper: moves along Queen-lines over another unit of either colour to the square immediately beyond that unit. A capture may be made on arrival, but the hurdle is not affected.
Princess: ♗+♘

Pezzo Camaleonte = **Chameleon:** On completing a move, a Chameleon changes into another piece, in the sequence ♕-♘-♗-♖-♕...

Alphabetic Chess (Alphabétiques): Each move of either side must be by the piece occupying the first square in the order of a1, a2, a3...b1, b2, b3...c1, c2, c3... etc., which is able to make a legal move. Castling is permitted if the King has the right to make a legal alphabetical move, provided the usual other rules for that move are obeyed.

Anticirce: On making a capture, any unit (including K) is reborn on its game-array square (as determined according to **Circe** rules), and the captured unit disappears. Since rebirth is obligatory, a capture is legal only if the relevant rebirth-square is unoccupied. A capture may be made from a rebirth-square. Promotion with capture is legal provided the rebirth-square of the promoted unit is unoccupied. In **Anti-Circe type Calvet** capture on a rebirth-square is allowed (it is default type if type is omitted). In **Anti-Circe type Cheylan** capture on a rebirth-square is not allowed.

Maximum: Black must play his geometrically longest move or may choose from among longest moves of equal length, distances being measured from the centre of each square. (**White Maximum** = Only White must play the longest moves, as says above.)

Soluzioni Inediti (Original's solutions)

Fascicolo n. 90

Commenti degli autori e del redattore.

4140. (≠2, Giuseppe Sardella)
4B3/3pp1QK/s3Pp1P/1P1S3R/P1k3Pp/1Sp1P3/2P5/8
1.♕g6? [2.♕d3≠ 2.♕e4≠] 1…♘c5 2.♘a5≠ ma 1…f5!
1.♕xe7? [2.♘a5≠ 2.♘b6≠] ma 1…d6!
1.♗g6! [2.♗d3≠] 1…♘b4 2.♘b6≠ 1…♘c5 2.♘a5≠ 1…f5 2.♕d4≠ Rudenko

4141. (≠2, Daniele Gatti)
7r/3r2Q1/3R4/7R/p5b1/K1S2P2/1P6/k7
1.♕g6? [2.♕b1≠] ma 1…♗f5!
1.♕f7? [2.♕a2≠] 1…♖xf7 2.♖d1≠ ma 1…♗e6!
1.♕g8! [2.♕a2≠] 1…♗e6 2.♕g1≠ 1…♖f7 2.♖d1≠ 1…♖xg8 2.♖h1≠

4142. (≠2, Daniele Gatti)
8/8/B1p5/1qp5/4Q2S/6pr/1S1pp3/3rk1Kb
1.♕g2! [2.♘f3≠]
1…♗xg2 2.♘xg2≠ 1…♖xh4 2.♕xg3≠ 1…♕b3 2.♕xe2≠ 1…♕d3 2.♘xd3≠

4143. (≠2, Bruno Colaneri)
8/8/2B1p3/2p1pp2/P1k2psR/K2S3r/2P1PS2/B3R3
1…f3 2.♘xe5≠ 1.e4! [2.♗b5≠]
1…fxe3 e.p. 2.♘xe5≠ Matto trasferito 1…♖xd3+ 2.cxd3≠ 1…fxe4 2.♖xe4≠

4144. (≠2, Valerio Agostini & Gabriele Brunori)
8/1pS5/1p3K2/1pkPP3/3p3R/1s1P4/1R2P3/1S1bB3
1.♘d2? [2.♘e4≠] 1…♘xd2 2.♖xb5≠ ma 1…♔b4!
1.e4? [2.♘e6≠] 1…♗g4 2.♖c2≠ 1…dxe3 e.p. **a** 2.♗b4≠ **A** ma 1…b4!
1.♖xd4! [2.♘e6≠] 1…♘xd4 **b** 2.♗b4≠ **A**
1…♔xd4 2.♗f2≠ 1…b4 2.♖c4≠
Cambio di strategia nelle tre fasi. Chiave ampliativa con cambio di difese tra il secondo GV e la soluzione. (Authors)

4145. (≠2, Fabio Magini)
4R3/6sQ/2KP1bP1/4S2p/R1pk2r1/3PpPB1/1P1P4/2r1S3
1.♕g8? [2.♕d5≠] 1…exd2 2.♗f2≠ ma 1…♘e6!
1.♘xc4! [2.dxe3≠]
1…♘f5 2.♕a7≠ 1…♗g5 2.♗e5≠ 1…♖xe1 2.♘e5≠ 1…♖xc4+ 2.♖xc4≠
1…♖e4 2.♖xe4≠ 1…e2 2.♗f2≠ 1…exd2 2.♗f2≠

4146. (≠2, Giuseppe Sardella)
bSs2B2/1s6/K1Q1r3/p3b2r/3k1Pq1/1BpSR3/5P2/1R6
1.♖a1! [2.♖a4≠]
1…♘bd6 2.♕c5≠ 1…♘b6 2.♕e4≠ 1…♘cd6 2.♕d5≠
1…♗d6 2.♕c4≠ 1…♘c5+ 2.♗xc5≠ 1…♖xc6+ 2.♘xc6≠

4147. (≠2, Valerio Agostini)
4Q3/1b2p3/1P2S3/pp3p1K/r3k1P1/4b3/Bp1PP2B/1q3r2
1…♗d4 a 2.♘g5≠ A 1…♖d4 b 2.♘c5≠ B
1.♕xb5? [2.♕e5≠]
1…♖f4 c 2.♗xb1≠ C 1…♗f4 d 2.♕xf5≠ D
1.♕h8! [2.♕e5≠]
1…♖f4 c 2.♘g5≠ A 1…♗f4 d 2.♘c5≠ B
Tra il GA ed il GV si svolgono due giochi differenti con cambio sia di difese che di matti. Nel GR si presenta la fusione tra i due precedenti. Interessanti i "semi-Grimshaw" in d4 ed f4 (Author). Rukhlis ripartito in tre fasi.

4148. (≠3, Bruno Colaneri)
5B2/4Sp2/3dRP2/p2PpP2/Pp1PkPKp/1R2p2P/4S3/8
1.♖xd6! tempo, 1…exd4 2.♘c6 d3 3.♖c4≠ 1…exf4 2.♗h6 f3 3.♖xe3≠

4149. (≠3, Vladimír Koci)
7S/4p2s/2K1S1p1/B1p1kPb1/2B1p3/4p2P/8/8
1.♗c7+? 1…♔xf5 2.♘g7+ ♔f6 3.??
1.♗e2! [2.♗c3+ A ♔xf5 3.♗g4≠ B]
1…♔xf5 2.♗g4+ B ♔e5 3.♗c3≠ A 2…♔f6 3.♗c3≠
1…♘f6 2.♗c7+ ♔xf5 3.♘g7≠

4150. (≠3, Leonid Makaronez)
4SR2/6p1/Kp1p2p1/1B2k1p1/2Q4p/SPpq1P2/4pB2/1b1r4
1.♗d7! [2.♗d4+ ♕xd4 3.♕e6≠]
1…♕e3 2.♕e6+ ♔d4 3.♕xd6≠ 1…♕xc4+ 2.♘xc4+ ♔d5 3.♘c7≠
1…♕d5 2.f4+ gxf4 3.♕xf4≠
1…♕f5 2.♕xc3+ ♔f4 3.♕e3≠ 2…♔d5 3.♘c7≠ 2…♖d4 3.♕xd4≠

4151. (S≠2, Alberto Armeni
2Q3q1/2p5/3SP3/1p3r2/2Rp2B1/1p1k4/PP4p1/2BKb1rS
1.♖b4! [2.♖xb3+ ♗c3≠]
1…♖c5 2.♘f2+ ♗xf2≠ 1…♕xe6 2.♗e2+ ♕xe2≠ 1…cxd6 2.♕c2+ bxc2≠

4152. (S≠2, Gennady Kozyura)
2S1Q3/4B3/4k1s1/6p1/p5P1/p1PR1S2/rbKP3R/q5r1
1.c4! [2.♕xg6+ ♗f6≠]
1…♘~ 2.♖e2+ ♗e5≠ 1…♘xe7 2.♖h6+ ♗f6≠ (♕xg6+? ♘xg5!)
1…♘e5 2.♘d4+ ♗xd4≠ 1…♘f4 2.♖e3+ ♗e5≠

Theme: Orthodox selfmates, showing a combination of black correction and defensive motif characteristic of Schiffmann defence or Nietvelt defence. After a random move by a black piece, White continues with a particular move. In the secondary defence, the black piece pins itself, so that White cannot continue with the same move, because it would unpin the black piece. (Note: in longer selfmates, thematic effects may occur at any move.) T.T. Ohrid 61 (Author).

4153. (S≠3, Alexandre Pankratiev)
1b6/pSr4s/1p2BPp1/2P2QPb/S2k1Kps/R4pP1/3B4/r7
1.♘a5? bxa5!
1.♘d8! [2.♘c6+ **A** ♖xc6+ 3.♕e5+ **B** ♗xe5≠]
1…♖xc5+ 2.♕e5+ **B** ♖xe5 3.♗e3+ **C** ♖xe3≠
1…♖xa3 2.♗e3+ **C** ♖xe3 3.♕e4+ **D** ♖xe4≠
1…♘xg5 2.♕e4+ **D** ♘xe4 3.♘c6+ **A** ♖xc6≠
Ciclo delle seconde e terze mosse bianche.

4154. (H≠2, Fabio Magini, Antonio Garofalo)
8/BK6/3p1b1r/3k4/3P2s1/4P2b/5P2/3R4
a) 1.♗xd4 f4 2.♖e6 ♖xd4≠ b) 1.♘xe3 f3 2.♗e6 ♘xe3≠

4155. (H≠2, Menachem Witztum)
8/8/8/5q2/2SPk3/1Kp1s1P1/1P2P3/5rb1
1.♘d5 bxc3 (♔c3?) 2.♗e3 ♘d6≠ 1.♕d5 ♔xc3 (bxc3?) 2.♖f5 ♘d2≠

4156. (H≠2, Mohamed Jamal Elbaz)
1K6/2pBk3/rB1sP2P/4bp2/S7/4P1pP/2PP1q2/1r2s3
a) 1.♘b5 c4 2.♔d6 ♗c5≠ b) 1.♗b2 ♘c3 2.♔e5 ♗d4≠
c) 1.♕xe3 ♗b5+ 2.♔f2 ♗xe3≠ d) 1.♔f6 ♘b2 2.g6 ♗d8≠

4157. (H≠2, Bruno Colaneri)
8/2p5/2P4p/1RK1kBB1/1PP5/4p2q/4p1pR/8
1.♕f3 ♖h4 2.♕xc6+ ♔xc6≠ 1.♕g4 ♖xh6 2.♕xc4+ ♔xc4≠

4158. (H≠2, Bruno Colaneri)
2R5/1k6/pr1P2p1/3K1prp/p1p3p1/1b2P3/s1p5/2s2Q2
1.a3 ♕xc4 2.♗a4 ♕c7≠ 1.g3 ♕xf5 2.♖g4 ♕d7≠

4159. (H≠2, Emil Klemanic)
7r/2S3pB/1P3s2/1PP4R/3k2p1/5b2/7K/1sB5
1.g6 ♘e6+ A 2.♗e4 ♗xg6≠ [1....♗e3+ B?] 1.g5 ♗e3+ B 2.♔e5 ♖xg5≠ [1....♘e6+ A?]
1.♘a3 ♗d2 2.♘c4 ♘e6≠ A [1.♘d2?] 1.♗e2 ♘d5 2.♗c4 ♗e3≠ B [1.♗d5?]

4160. (H≠2, Mohamed Jamal Elbaz)
4K1B1/2p5/4s3/3kS3/1p4p1/6s1/4S3/8
a) 1.♔d6 ♘d4 2.♘c5 ♘c4≠ b) 1.♔e4 ♘d7 2.♔f5 ♗h7≠ c) 1.♔c5 ♘xg3 2.♘d4 ♘e4≠

4161. (H≠2, Bruno Colaneri)
3b1r1s/7K/6P1/2P1kpP1/5pP1/2P2bpQ/B4ppr/8
1.♘xg6 ♕h6 2.♘h4 ♕e6≠ 1.♗xg4 ♕h5 2.♗h3 ♕e2≠ 1.♗xg5 ♕h4 2.♗h6 ♕e7≠

4162. (H≠2, János Csak)
3qs3/1rb4p/KQp2pk1/2R5/1p2p2p/1r6/b7/1RB5
1.♗xb6 ♗e3 2.♖f7 ♖g1≠ 1.♖xb1 ♖e5 2.♗f7 ♕g1≠
Zilahi, Echo diagonal-orthogonal.

4163. (H≠2, Menachem Witztum)
8/K7/1R6/4Ss2/5k1P/8/7S/3sq1b1
1.♘f2 ♖b3 2.♕e4 ♘g6≠ 1.♘de3 ♖e6 2.♕g3 ♘d3≠

4164. (H≠2.5, János Csak)
K7/S2kr3/qBpp2B1/3p3b/4p1p1/3P1P1r/8/8
1…♗xe4 2.♗f7 ♗xd5 3.♗e6 ♗xc6≠
1…fxe4 2.♖e3 exd5 3.♖3e6 dxc6≠
1…dxe4 2.♕e2 exd5 3.♕e6 dxc6≠

4165. (H≠2.5, János Csak)
6K1/3s4/BPR3p1/rSS1p3/s1k1P3/8/8/2r2b2
1…♗c8 2.♔xb5 ♘b7 3.♔a6 ♘d6≠ 1…♖e6 2.♔xc5 ♘d6 3.♔c6 ♘b7≠
Indian, Zilahi

4166. (H≠3, Carlos Lago)
8/5s2/8/4k3/R5q1/1K2P3/8/8
1.♕e6+ ♔b4 2.♔d5 ♔b5 3.♘e5 ♖d4≠ 1.♕g6 ♔c4 2.♔f5 ♔d5 3.♘g5 ♖f4≠

4167. (H≠3, Jorge J. Lois & Jorge M. Kapros)
r7/sBB5/K3Sr2/P4p2/7P/6P1/3p2s1/7k
1.♔g1 ♗c6 (♗d6?) 2.♔f2 ♘f4 3.♔e3 ♗b6≠
1.♔h2 ♗d6 (♗c6?) 2.♔h3 ♘g5+ 3.♔g4 ♗f3≠

4168. (H≠3, Jorge M. Kapros)
8/1s4p1/2k4B/2b5/4P2r/1b1KSr2/8/2R5
1.♖f7 ♘c2 (♘c4?) 2.♗b6 ♘f4 3.♖d7+ ♘d4≠ (2.♗d6? ♗e3 3.♖d7 ♘d4+ 4.♔b6!)
1.♖f5 ♘c4 (♘c2?) 2.♗d6 ♗e3 3.♖b5 ♘e5≠ (2.♗b6? ♗f4 3.♖b5 ♘e5+ 4.♔d6!)

4169. (H≠4, János Csak)
4bqB1/2K1k3/3p4/4p3/8/4p1p1/2pppPp1/3r1r2
a) 1.e1=♗ fxg3 2.♖f4 gxf4 3.♗h4 fxe5 4.♗f6 exd6≠
b) 1.c1=♗ dxe3 2.♖d4 exd4 3.♗g5 dxe5 4.♗f6 exd6≠

4170. (H≠5.5, Zlatko Mihajloski)
7r/3ppK2/4pp2/5s2/6pB/r2b4/8/3q1k2
1…♗e1 2.♖h1 ♔g6 3.♘h4+ ♔h5 4.♘f3+ ♔xg4 5.♔g1 ♔g3 6.♗f1 ♗f2≠ Black Indian.

4171. (H≠6, Anatoly Styopochkin)
8/8/5pp1/5pk1/3p3b/5K1p/5P2/5b1r
1.♔h5 ♔f4 2.♗g5+ ♔f3 3.♗h6 ♔g3 4.♔g5 ♔f3 5.♗e2+ ♔g3 6.♗h5 f4≠
1.♗g3 ♔xg3 2.♖g1+ ♔h2 3.♗e2 ♔xh3 4.♖h1+ ♔g2 5.♖h6 ♔g3 6.♗h5 f4≠

4172. (H≠6.5, Mecislovas Rimkus)
2q5/2p5/1pK5/2p2kB1/8/2p5/1r5b/3r4
1…♗f6 2.♖bd2 ♔b5 3.♔e4 ♔a4 4.♔d3 ♔a3 5.♔c2 ♔a2 6.♔c1+ ♔a1 7.c2 ♗b2≠
1…♗f4 2.♔e4 ♗xh2 3.♔d3 ♔d5 4.♔c2+ ♔e4 5.♖db1 ♔e3 6.♔c1 ♗f4 7.c2 ♔e2≠
1…♗d8 2.♔e6+ ♔b7 3.c6 ♗xb6 4.♔e5 ♔c7 5.♔d5+ ♔d8 6.♔d6 ♗a5 7.♖d5 ♗c7≠
Thematic content: Annihilation x 2; Helpmate Indian; Kniest theme; Rehm theme (incomplete);
Bristol (bicolor, Bb impure, 2, 2); Long-trip (B, 5). (Author)

4173. (H≠7, Valery Barsukov)
8/K7/2p5/3B4/s7/8/1r6/2q3k1
a) 1.♘c5 ♗c4 2.♘b3 ♔b6 3.♘d2+ ♔c5 4.♔f2 ♔d4 5.♔e1 ♔e3 6.♔d1 ♔f2 7.♖c2 ♗e2≠
b) 1.♖f2 ♔b7 2.♔f1 ♗xc6 3.♔e1 ♔d5 4.♖d2+ ♔e4 5.♘c3+ ♔f3 6.♘e2 ♔g2 7.♕d1 ♗f2≠
Minimal miniature "white aristocratic", the model echo-mates with the adjacent fields. (Author)

4174. (H≠2, Valerio Agostini & Gabriele Brunori)
5q2/4p3/5PKB/3B4/4P3/2pk4/p1p5/8
1.♕d8 ♗f7 (f7?) 2.♕d4 fxe7(e2)≠ 1.♕h8 f7 (♗f7?) 2.♕d4 ♗xa2(♗f1)≠

4175. (hs≠6, Jorma Pitkanen)
8/8/8/8/1p3P2/4P1kp/8/4K1SR
1.♘f3 b3 2.0-0 b2 3.♔h1 b1=♕ 4.♘g1 ♕h7 5.♖f2 ♕h4 6.♖g2+ hxg2≠

4176. (hs≠5, Anatoly Styopochkin
1.0-0-0 CAg2(♘) 2.♖d4 ♔d3 3.♖h3+ ♔c2 4.♖c3+ ♔b1 5.♖dd3 CAe3(♗)≠
1.♖d1 ♔f4 2.0-0 ♔g3 3.♖fe1 ♔h2 4.♖d2+ ♔h1 5.♔h2+ CAf1(♘)≠
Anti-bateria reciproca.

4177. (hs≠2.5, Valerio Agostini)
1R6/8/8/4r3/1S1sksK1/8/q2P4/4b3
a) 1…♘g6 2.♖f8 ♕g8 3.♖f4+ ♘xf4≠ b) 1…♘f5 2.♖d8 ♕e6 3.♖d4+ ♘xd4≠
Umnov, Switchback. (Author)

4178. (S≠7, Anatoly Styopochkin)
1…0-0-0≠
1.♜g5! 0-0-0+ 2.♔e7 ♖d1 3.♜f3 ♖d8 4.♜xf7 ♖d1 5.♗d6 ♖xd6 6.♔e8 ♖d1 7.♜e7 ♖d8≠
1.♜g7! 0-0-0+ 2.♔e7 ♖d1 3.♔xf7 ♖d8 4.♔g6 ♖d1 5.♔h6 ♖d8 6.♜g6 ♖d1 7.♗d4 ♖h1≠

4179. (hs≠11, Kenneth Solja)
1.♞g8 ♛h8 2.♞g7 ♛g6 3.♞f6+ ♞h5 4.♞h6 ♞h2 5.♞g2+ ♛h5 6.♔h2 ♞g6 7.♞g5 ♛h7 8.♞h6
♞g4 9.♔g3 ♞g8 10.♞g6 ♛f4+ 11.♔h4+ ♛h3≠

4180. (hs≠10.5, - Kenneth Solja)
1…♜a8 2.♝b6 ♝b2 3.♚c3 ♜b6 4.♜b4 ♜f4 5.♔f5 ♜b4 6.♚c4 ♜d5 7.♔e6 ♜b6 8.♚a5+ ♜d7
9.♔d6 ♜e5 10.♔c7+ ♔c8 11.♚b8 ♜b5≠

4181. (hs≠12, Kenneth Solja)
1.♝c8+ ♝g1 2.♔f2 ♝f3 3.♔e3 ♝d2 4.♔e2+ ♝d3 5.♔d4 ♝e5+ 6.♔c4 ♝b7 7.♝d6 ♝b3+
8.♔c5 ♝b2 9.♝c3 ♝a7 10.♔b6 ♝a2 11.♔c7 ♝d6+ 12.♔c8 ♝d8≠

4182. (H≠5.5, Rolf Kohring)
8/4B1b1/b7/8/1p6/1kS5/p2p4/K7
1…♗c5 2.♗c4 ♗d4 3.♔c2 ♘d1 4.b3 ♘e3+ 5.♔c1 ♗xg7 6.b2+ ♗xb2≠

4183. (hs≠6, Jorma Pitkanen)
8/8/8/8/4kpPS/4P3/4K2R
1.0-0 fxe2 2.♔h1 e1=♕ 3.♖g1 ♕f2 4.♖g2 ♔e2 5.♘f4+ ♔f1 6.♖g1+ ♕xg1≠

Best Problems 2012 Fairies Award
by Vlaicu Crisan & Eric Huber

In Spring 2018 we received the problems competing in the Best Problems informal fairy tourneys 2012 and 2013. Since there was a rather high number of competing works - 59 in 2012 and 68 in 2013 - it was considered more appropriate to make two awards. However, our criteria were the same for both tourneys. We praised rich strategy as well as a good and pleasant construction and optimal economy. For the necessary comparison with existing works, we consulted the existing databases and Winchloe was especially helpful.

In 2012, 59 fairy problems by 26 composers from 15 countries were published in Best Problems. We left out of the award entries with constructional blemishes (e.g. unused white / black figures in at least one phase). We hope, however, their authors will be able to find out improved settings.

Let's start with some words about the entries which narrowly missed a reward:

• **2817 (R. Riva)** Nice changed mates between set and play. Unfortunately this has been shown in miniature setting (see Annex A).

• **2819 (P. Tritten)** is a miniature featuring exchange of roles between two pairs of pieces, but the play is slightly similar with one of the author's previous compositions (see Annex B)

• **2865 (R. Kohring)** two parry effects in each solution, slightly marred by the repetition of 4.♔c6

• **2867 (C.J. Feather)** two nice Wenigsteiner in a single diagram, with a subtle differentiation between Camel and Camel-Rider.

• **2871 (J.M. Loustau)** nice exchanged mates after black correction. The two white Vaos seem rather technical and the whole play is rather orthodox.

• **2919 (T. Ilievski)** serial helpmates with Zilahi, with black promotions going on a square previously occupied by the white piece was shown before (see Annex C).

• **2923 (P. Tritten)** the double Durbar in Take & Make has been realized before more economically (see Annex D).

• **2928 (V. Tinebra)** the four-fold duel w♔ vs promoting b♟ in AntiCirce has been shown before (see Annex E).

Prize:
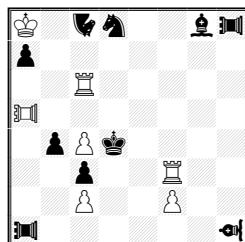
← **Prize 2927 – Julia Vysotska**
hs≠3 (7+10) C+ b) ♗c4-d3
Andernach chess. ♛=Vao, ♞=Nightrider, ▥▮=Pao
a) 1.**PA**a6 **N**e4 2.♖f5 Nxa6(W)+ 3.♖d5+ ♗xd5(W)≠
b) 1.**PA**a2 ♗d5 2.♖e3 ♗xa2(W)+ 3.♖e4+ Nxe4(W)≠
Quite a very daring concept: triple pin-mates in helpselfmate! We are aware about 5 other compositions, out of which 3 participated three years later in the 13th Romanian Tzuica Tournament – Ostroda. An outstanding and original concept, with the Pelle moves of white Pao being anticipatory sacrifices, the exchange of roles between two pairs of pieces and also the exchange of first and last black moves. Clearly the best problem of the whole competition!

Honourable Mentions
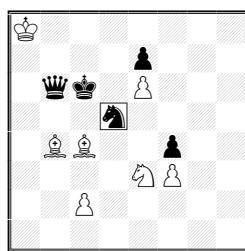
← **1st Hon. Men. 2981 – Francesco Simoni**
H≠2* (7+5) C+ b) after the key – d5 = ♞ Summapromoteur
a) 1…♘g4 2.♘c7=♖ (♘c7=♗?) ♘e5≠
   1…♘f5 2.♘c7=♗ (♘c7=♖?) ♘xe7≠
   1.♕c7 ♘f5 2.♘b6=♖ (♘b6=♗?) ♘d4≠
   1.♕c7 ♗b3 2.♘b6=♗ (♘b6=♖?) ♗a4≠
b) 1…♘f5 2.♘b6=♖ (♘b6=♗?) ♘d4≠
   1…♗b3 2.♘b6=♗ (♘b6=♖?) ♗a4≠
   1.♕b6 ♘g4 2.♘c7=♖ (♘c7=♗?) ♘e5≠
   1.♕b6 ♘f5 2.♘c7=♗ (♘c7=♖?) ♘xe7≠

A perpetuum mobile, with a subtle dual avoidance in the Knight's summapromoteur play. The twin seems a little bit artificial and doesn't bring anything new. In spite of the unavoidable lack of interplay, the two solutions both in set and real play deserve high recognition.
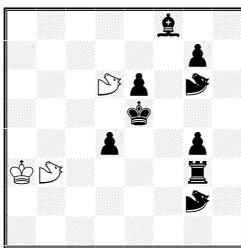
← 2nd Hon. Men. 2925 – Gabriele Brunori & Francesco Simoni.

H≠2 (3+9) C+, ♘♟=Gnu

1.**GN**d3 **GN**c5 2.**GN**d5 **GN**c4≠
1.**GN**e7 **GN**e3 2.**GN**gf4 **GN**d2≠

Neat exchange of functions between white and black Gnus, in diagonal-orthogonal correspondence. This Meredith should become a classic.
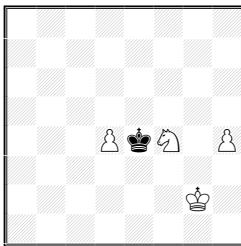
← 3rd Hon. Men. 2875 – Pierre Tritten

Serie-H≠16 (4+1) C+, PWC

1.♔f5 2.♔g4 3.♔xh4(g4) 4.♔g5 5.♔xg4(g5) 6.♔xf4(♘g4) 7.♔f5
8.♔g6 9.♔xg5(g6) 10.♔f5 11.♔e6 12.♔e7 13.♔f8 14.♔g7
15.♔xg6(g7) 16.♔h7 g8=♕≠
1.♔xd4(e4) 2.♔e5 3.♔xe4(e5) 4.♔f5 5.♔xe5(f5) 6.♔f6
7.♔xf5(f6) 8.♔xf4(♘f5) 9.♔e5 10.♔e6 11.♔f7 12.♔xf6(f7)
13.♔xf5(♘f6) 14.♔g6 15.♔g7 16.♔h8 f8=♕≠
Pleasant tanagra with 5 + 7 PWC effects in two long solutions. Pity only one mate is specific. Though there are many long serial helpmates with PWC with 2 solutions (see for instance Annex F for the most economic rendering), this one has its own charm.

Commendations without order
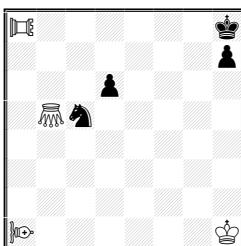
← 2872 – Valerio Agostini

H≠2 (4+4) C+, b) ♞c5-c7, ♗=Vao, ♖=Pao, ♛=Grasshopper

a) 1.♘b7 **G**b8+ 2.♘d8 **G**e5≠ b) 1.d5 **G**e5+ 2.d4 **G**b8≠

This charming Meredith features two changed anti-batteries in twins, with two pairs of pieces exchanging their roles in a highly aesthetic presentation.
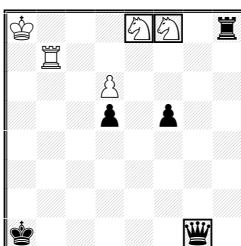
← 2926 – Julia Vysotska

hs≠3* (5+5) C+, □= Chameleon pieces g1, e8, f8

1...**CA**g7(♘) 2.**CA**d7(♗) **CA**xe8(♗) 3.**CA**a4(♖)+ **CA**xa4(♖)≠
1.d7 **CA**g6(♘) 2.**CA**d6(♗) **CA**xf8(♗) 3.**CA**a3(♖)+ **CA**xa3(♖)≠

Chameleon echo mates in set and real play with excellent activity of all chameleon pieces.
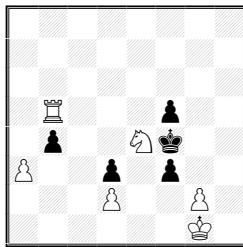
← 2978 – Vito Rallo
Serie H≠8 (6+5) C+
1.fxg2 2.♚f3 3.♚e2 4.♚d1 5.♚c2 6.♚b3 7.♚a4 8.bxa3 ♘c3≠
1.fxe4 2.e3 3.exd2 4.♚e3 5.♚e2 6.♚e1 7.d1=♖ 8.d2 ♖e5≠
1.b3 2.b2 3.b1=♗ 4.♗a2 5.♗d5 6.♚e5 7.♚d4 8.♚c4 ♖b4≠
Three solutions ending in different mates in a longer serial helpmate
without twins. However, there is no link between solutions and the
third solution doesn't end in a model mate. In Annex G, all solutions
show a black promotion and end with a mate delivered by the white
Rook.

We address our thanks to Antonio Garofalo for his trust in our abilities and to all composers,
especially the awarded ones, for our enjoyment in the study of their problems.

Vlaicu Crisan & Eric Huber
Cluj-Napoca & Bucharest, December 2018

ANNEX
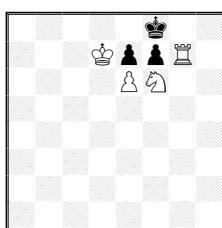
A
← Alexander Hildebrand - *Thema Danicum* 1996, Comm.
sh≠9* (4+3) C+
1… ♖xf7≠
1… ♖g8≠
1.fxe6 2.e5 3.e4 4.e3 5.e2 6.e1=♘ 7.♘f3 8.♘g5 9.♘f7 ♖g8≠
1.exf6 2.f5 3.f4 4.f3 5.f2 6.f1=♖ 7.♖h1 8.♖h8 9.♖g8 ♖xf7≠
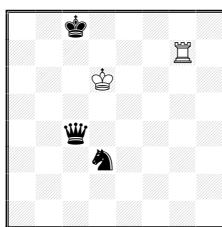
B
← Pierre Tritten - *Phénix* 2010
hs≠2,5 (2+3) C+, Anticirce

1… ♘e5 2.♖b7 ♘f7+ 3.♖b8+ ♚xb8(♚e8)≠
1… ♚d8 2.♖c7 ♛c6 3.♖c8+ ♚xc8(♚e8)≠
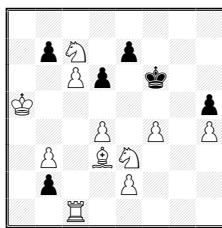
C
← Tode Ilievski - *StrateGems* 2001
sh≠6 (11+6) C+

1.b1=♛ 2.♛xd3 3.♛xe3 4.♚f5 5.♚e4 6.♚xd4 ♖c4≠
1.bxc1=♖ 2.♖xc6 3.♖xc7 4.♚e6 5.♚d7 6.♚c6 ♗b5≠
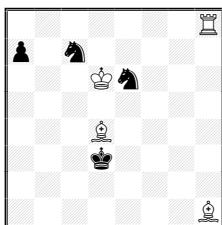
D

← **S.K. Balasubramanian** - *The Problemist* 2011, 2nd Prize

H≠2 (4+4) C+, Take & Make

1.♔xd4(♔g1) ♔xe6(♔d8) 2.♔xh1(♔a8) ♔xc7(♔a6)≠
1.♔xd4(♔g7) ♔xc7(♔d5) 2.♔xh8(♔a8) ♔xe6(♔c7)≠
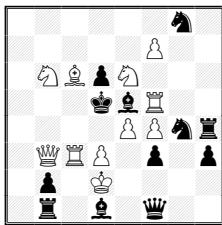
E

← **Yves Cheylan** - *diagrammes* 1991 (v), 1st Prize

≠2 (11+12) C+, Anticirce

1…♗xb3(♗c8) 2.♔c2≠
1.♖c4? [2.♖d4≠] but 1…h2!
1.♖c1! [2.♖xd1(♖h1)≠]
1…bxc1=♕(♕d8) 2.♔e1≠
1…bxc1=♘(♘b8) 2.♔e3≠
1…bxc1=♖(♖h8) 2.♔c1≠
1…bxc1=♗(♗f8) 2.♔c3≠
1…♗xb3(♗c8) 2.♖xf1(♖h1)≠
1…♘e3 2.fxe5(e2)≠
1…♘f2 2.♔e3≠
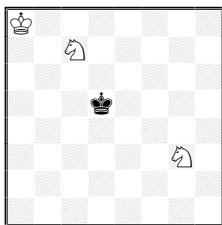
F

← **Victor Zheglov** - *Ideal-Mate Review* 1996, Prize

sh≠19 (3+1) C+, PWC

1.♔c6 2.♔xc7(♘c6) 3.♔b6 4.♔b5 5.♔xc6(♘b5) 6.♔d5 7.♔e5
8.♔f4 9.♔xg3(♘f4) 10.♔f3 11.♔e4 12.♔xf4(♘e4) 13.♔e5
14.♔d5 15.♔xe4(♘d5) 16.♔d3 17.♔c4 18.♔xb5(♘c4) 19.♔a6
♘c7≠
1.♔e5 2.♔f4 3.♔xg3(♘f4) 4.♔f3 5.♔e4 6.♔xf4(♘e4) 7.♔f5
8.♔g6 9.♔f7 10.♔e7 11.♔d7 12.♔xc7(♘d7) 13.♔c6 14.♔d5
15.♔xe4(♘d5) 16.♔f5 17.♔e6 18.♔xd7(♘e6) 19.♔c8 ♘b6≠
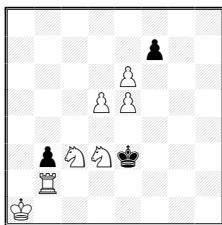
G

← **Steven B. Dowd & Marko Ylijoki** - *Probleemblad* 2006

sh≠10 (7+3) C+
1.f6 2.fxe5 3.e4 4.exd3 5.d2 6.♔f2 7.♔e1 8.d1=♘
9.♘e3 10.♘f1 ♖e2≠
1.f5 2.f4 3.f3 4.f2 5.♔f3 6.♔g2 7.♔g1 8.f1=♗
9.♗g2 10.♔f1 ♖b1≠
1.fxe6 2.exd5 3.d4 4.dxc3 5.c2 6.♔e2 7.♔f1 8.c1=♘
9.♘e2 10.♘g1 ♖f2≠

Best Problems 2013 Fairies Award

by Vlaicu Crisan & Eric Huber

As mentioned in the Best Problems 2012 Fairy Award, in Spring 2018 we received the problems competing in the Best Problems informal fairy tourneys 2012 and 2013. Since there was a rather high number of competing works - 59 in 2012 and 68 in 2013 - it was considered more appropriate to make two awards.

However, as previously mentioned, our criteria were the same for both tourneys. We praised rich strategy as well as a good and pleasant construction and optimal economy. For the necessary comparison with existing works, we consulted the existing databases and once again Winchloe was especially helpful.

In 2013, 68 fairy problems by 31 composers from 15 countries were published in Best Problems. We left out of the award entries with constructional blemishes (e.g. unused white / black figures in at least one phase). We hope, however, their authors will be able to find out improved settings.

We begin with a few words about some entries we did not retain:

• **3032 (R. Riva)** is a continuation of this idea, with a cyclic change of the mates between setplay and solutions, with Madrasi condition, but the strategy is rather messy.

• **3033 (R. Riva)** is a series reflexmate version of the 2012 series helpmate (2817) with reciprocally changed mates between set play and solution, but the position is too heavy.

• **3035 (S.K. Balasubramanian & C.J. Feather):** Black and white promotions. The stipulation 1W & sh≠4 allows avoiding a twin presentation A) w♘c4 B) w♘c3. There are many other PWC series-helpmates with promotions (see Annex A, Erich Bartel, Phénix 1992).

• **3065 (A. Armeni & V. Rallo):** Nice Anticirce effects but two changes in each twin.

• **3072 (V. Agostini):** Exchange of functions in two pairs of white pieces: wN/wN and w♖/w♗. Anticipatory self-pin. But the used Gnu is a technical piece.

• **3108 (F. Simoni):** Super-AUW with repeated black and white moves. But the black Bishopper is a technical piece.

• **3111 (J. Koczian)** was cooked by Winchloe: 1.♘c4 ♔c6 2.♗b6 cxb6 3.♗d6 f8=♕ 4.♔f6 ♕g4 5.♔e4 ♕d5≠

• **3149 (V. Rallo)** had been published as PS2498F in The Problemist Supplement 2011 (with reversed twins).

Prizes:
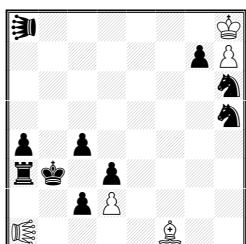
← 1st Prize 3146 - Valerio Agostini
hs≠4 (5+10) C+ b) ♘f1, c) -♟d3
♜=Double-Grasshopper, ♖=Siren
a) 1.♗h3 ♖a2 2.♖h1 ♜a1 3.♗d7 a3 4.♖b7+ ♖b2≠
b) 1.♘e3 c1=♜ 2.♘d5 ♜c2 3.♘c3 ♜e2 4.♖b1+ ♜b4≠
c) 1.♖f6 c1=♜ 2.♖c6 ♜b7+ 3.♖b5+ ♜b2 4.♗xc4+ ♔c2≠
All three solutions convincingly exploit the specificity of the Siren and the Double Grasshopper. The twinning is subtle and the changes don't seem to have a big impact. The diversity of the effects shown in the heterogeneous solutions is impressive and will satisfy the demands of the most pretentious solvers.
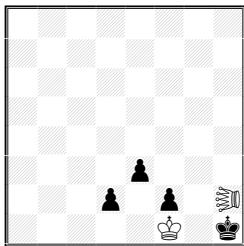
← 2ⁿᵈ Prize 3112 - Chris J. Feather

sh≠6* (2+4) C+ PWC, Take & Make, 🕮=Lion

1…🕮xd2(🕮d1;h2)≠
1.d1=🕮 2.♔xh2(♔d2;🕮h1) 3.🕮xh1(🕮e1;🕮d1) 4.🕮g3
5.♔xd1(♔h1;🕮d2) 6.exd2(h2;🕮e3) 🕮h3≠

Good fairy density of PWC and Take & Make effects. This was a rare feature in this informal tourney. A better fairy density could only be found in 2867 Best Problems 2012 or in the most spectacular and impressive Annex B.
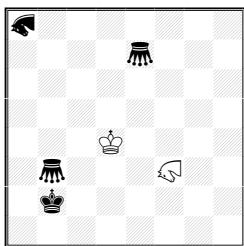
← 3ʳᵈ Prize 3109 - Václav Kotesovec

sh≠19 (2+4) C+, PWC
🐜=Grasshopper, ◁◀=NightriderHopper

1.♔a3 2.♔b4 3.🐜a3 4.🐜c3 5.🐜d3 6.🐜g3 7.🐜e3 8.🐜xf3(◀c3)
9.🐜d3 10.🐜xc3(◀e3) 11.🐜e5 12.🐜e2 13.🐜c4 14.◀d2 15.◀b6
16.🐜a4 17.♔b5 18.🐜a6 19.♔a5 ♔c4≠
1.🐜g3 2.🐜e3 3.🐜e8 4.🐜e6 5.NHg5 6.🐜h4 7.🐜c4 8.🐜b3 9.🐜d5
10.🐜e4 11.🐜xf3(NHd5) 12.🐜c4 13.🐜c6 14.🐜c3 15.NHa2 16.🐜a1
17.♔c2 18.🐜c1 19.♔b1 ♔c3≠

PWC effects are not numerous, but the remarkable precision and move order cannot be omitted. See Annex C by the same author with similar material.

Honourable Mentions
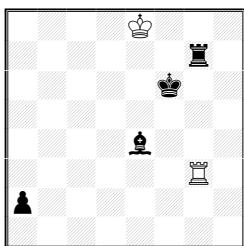
← 1ˢᵗ Hon. Mention 3104 - Pierre Tritten

H≠2 (2+4) C+ b) +♘g3
KoBul King white and black, Anti-Super-Circe

a) 1.♖g6 ♖g5 2.♔xg5(♔h7) **TR**xe4(**TR**h8)≠
b) 1.♗b1 ♘f5 2.♔xf5(♔a1) **CR**xg7(**CR**b3)≠

A successful miniature, with exchange of functions between the black units and full exploitation of the fairy conditions by both sides. White pieces are sacrificed to move the black KoBul King to the squares where he will be model-mated.
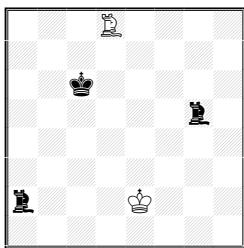
← **2nd Hon. Mention 3157 - D. Novomesky**

S≠7 (2+3) C+ b) ♚c6-h1, c) ♝g5-f5, Maximum, Köko
♝ ♝=Bishop-Rook
a) 1.♝d8-d6! ♝a2-e6 2.♝d6-e7 ♝e6-e3 3.♚f2 ♝e3-b6
4.♝e7-e2 ♝g5-g1+ 5.♚e1 ♝g1-c5 6.♚d2 ♝c5-c1+ 7.♚d3 ♝b6-b1≠
b) 1.♝d8-d3! ♝g5-g1 2.♝d3-d2 ♝g1-e3+ 3.♚d3 ♝a2-c4 4.♚e4
♝c4-c1 5.♝d2-d1 ♝e3-e1 6.♝d1-c2 ♝c1-f4 7.♚d3 ♝f4-f1≠
c) 1.♝d8-d2! ♝a2-e6+ 2.♝d2-f4 ♝e6-e3 3.♝f4-d6 ♝e3-b6 4.♝d6-
d2 ♝f5-f1+ 5.♚d1 ♝f1-a6 6.♚c2 ♝b6-b1+ 7.♚c3 ♝a6-a1≠

Three chameleon echo mates in a splendid aristocratic tanagra, but also
with regrettable move repetitions (1...BRa2-e6 and 2....BRe6-e3) hence
the Honourable Mention.

Commendations without order
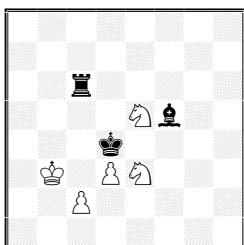
← **Commendation 3029 - V. Rallo & M. Parrinello**

H≠2 (5+3) b) ♚b3-b5 - Demi-échec
a) 1.♝e4 ♘f5 2.♝d5 ♘d7≠
b) 1.♜d6 ♘c6 2.♜d5 ♘d1≠

Dual avoidance and self-blocks on the same square, with exchange of
functions of the w♘s, in a fairy condition invented in 2010 for the Sake
Tourney and too early forgotten.
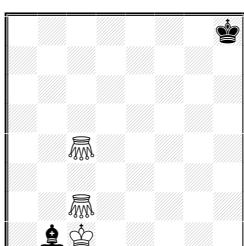
← **Commendation 3030 - Václav Kotesovec**

H≠7 (3+2) C+ ♛=Grasshopper
1.♝a2 ♚d2 2.♝b3 ♚e3 3.♝a4 ♚f4 4.♝d7 ♚g5 5.♝g4 ♛h4
6.♝e6 ♚g6 7.♝g8 ♛h7≠
1.♚g7 ♚b2 2.♚f6 ♚b3 3.♚e5 ♛a2 4.♚d4 ♚a4 5.♚c3 ♛a5
6.♚b2 ♛a2 7.♚a1 ♚b3≠

Distant echo mates with Grasshoppers in two opposite corners: tech-
nically very difficult and done for the first time.
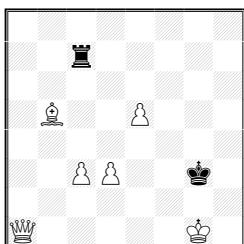
← **Commendation 3070 - Rolf Kohring**

sh≠19 (6+2) C+, Alphabetic chess
1.♜h7 2.♚f4 3.♚xe5 4.♚f6 5.♚g7 6.♚h8 7.♜c7 8.♜xc3 9.♚g7
10.♚f6 11.♚e5 12.♚d4 13.♚c5 14.♜a3 15.♜a7 16.♜c7 17.♚b6
18.♚b7 19.♚c8 ♛a8≠

Switchback and additional Rundlauf of b♜ by the German Alphabetical
specialist. See another b♜ Rundlauf in Annex D but without the
additional switchback.
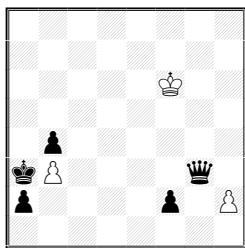
← **Commendation 3071 - Pierre Tritten**
H≠2 (3+5) C+, Take & Make

1.f1=♗ hxg3(♘b8) 2.♗a6 ♘xa6(♘c4)≠
1.a1=♖ hxg3(♕g8) 2.♖g1 ♕xg1(♕a1)≠

Black & white AUW and sacrifice of promoted black piece, with specific Take & Make mates.
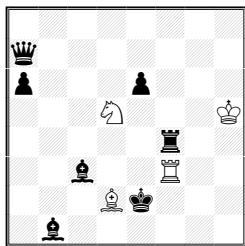
← **Commendation 3110 - Pierre Tritten**
H≠2 (4+7) C+, Take & Make

1.♖a4 ♖xc3(♖g7) 2.♔xd2(♔a5) ♖xa7(♖c5)≠
1.♗e5 ♗xf4(♗d4) 2.♔xf3(♔f5) ♗xa7(♗h7)≠

Zilahi, black line clearing by White, diagonal-orthogonal echo, anticipatory self-block.
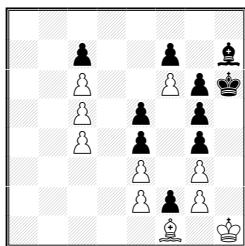
← **Commendation 3119 - Sébastien Luce & Alain Biénabe**
H≠22,5 (10+10) C+, Circe
1... ♔h2 2.♗g8 ♔h1 3.♔h7 ♔h2 4.♔h8 ♔h1 5.♗h7 ♔h2 6.♔g8 ♔h1 7.♔f8 ♔h2 8.♔e8 ♔h1 9.♔d8 ♔h2 10.♔c8 ♔h1 11.♔b8 ♔h2 12.♔a7 ♔h1 13.♔a6 ♔h2 14.♔a5 ♔h1 15.♔b4 ♔h2 16.♔c3 ♔h1 17.♔d2 ♔h2 18.♔xe3 ♔h1 19.♔d4 e3+ 20.♔xc5(c2) ♗d3 21.♔xc6 ♗xe4(e7)+ 22.♔d7 fxe7 23.♔c8 e8=♕≠

A length record. The pleasant peculiarity here is that the white Bishop is captured and reborn and plays a role in the mate.
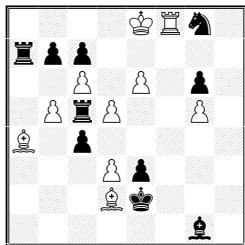
← **Commendation 3156 - Tibor Ersek**
sh=16 (10+10), Anticirce

1.♘e7 2.♘c8 3.♘b6 4.♘a8 5.b6 6.♖b7 7.♖b8 8.♖d8 9.♖d6 10.cxd3(d7) 11.♖c1 12.♔e1 13.e2 14.♗d4 15.♗f6 16.♗d8 ♔e7=

Long solution with many specific AntiCirce effects and motives, as well as a very specific final position.

We address our thanks to Antonio Garofalo for his trust in our abilities and to all composers, especially the awarded ones, for our enjoyment in the study of their problems.

Vlaicu Crisan & Eric Huber
Cluj-Napoca & Bucharest, December 2018

ANNEX

A
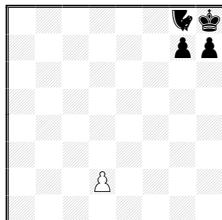
Erich Bartel, *Phénix* 1992 - ID 76263
sh≠3 (1+4) C+, PWC, ♞=Nightrider

1.Nxd2(g8=N) 2.Ne4 3.Nxg8(Ne4) Nd6≠
1.Nxd2(g8=♝) 2.Nf6 3.Nxg8(♝f6) ♝xg7(f6)≠
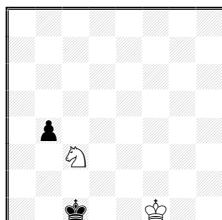
B

Geoffrey Foster & Chris Feather. *Fairings* 2011 – ID 401079
sh≠10 (2+2) C+ b) ♚c1-d2, Take & Make, PWC
1.bxc3(♖b1;♘b4) 2.♖xb4(♖c2;♘b1) 3.♚xb1(♚d2;♘c1)
4.♖xc1(♖e2;♘c2) 5.♚xc2(♚e3;♘d2) 6.♚xd2(♚f3;♘e3)
7.♖xe3(♖g4;♘e2) 8.♚xe2(♚g3;♘f3) 9.♚xf3(♚h2;♘g3)
10.♚xg3(♚h1;♘h2) ♘xg4(♘g3;♖h2)≠
b) 1.bxc3(♝d1;♘b4) 3.♚xb4(♚d3;♘c3) 4.♚xc3(♚e4;♘d3)
5.♚xd3(♚f4;♘e4) 6.♚xe4(♚g3;♘f4) 7.♚xf4(♚h3;♘g3)
9.♚xg3(♚h1;♘g4) 10.♝xg4(♝h2;♘d1) ♘f2≠

C

Václav Kotesovec, *The Problemist* 2013, 1st Commend. ID 484702
sh≠16 (2+4) C+ PWC, ♜=Grasshopper, ♘=Kangaroo
♞=Nightrider-Hopper
1.♚g3 2.KAg1 3.♚g4 4.Gg5 5.Gxa5(NHg5) 6.Gc5 7.Gh5 8.Gf5
9.♚h5 10.♚xg5(NHh5) 11.KAxh5(NHb5) 12.♚g4 13.Gh3 14.♚g3
15.♚h2 16.KAh1 ♚f3≠

1.Gd5 2.Gxa5(NHd5) 3.Gc5 4.Ge5 5.KAf5 6.KAc5 7.Ge3 8.KAg1
9.♚g3 10.KAg5 11.KAg2 12.KAg1 13.♚f2 14.♚e2 15.Ge1 16.♚f1
♚e3≠

1.Ge2 2.Ge5 3.Gxa5(NHe5) 4.Gc5 5.Gg1 6.♚e1 7.Gd1 8.♚d2 9.♚c3
10.♚c4 11.♚b4 12.♚b3 13.KAb2 14.KAb1 15.♚c2 16.♚c1 ♚d3≠

D

Dieter Werner & Norbert Geissler, *Gaudium* 2012, ID 453360
sh≠13 (2+3) C+ Alphabetic chess

1.e5 2.e4 3.e3 4.e2 5.e1=♘ 6.♘f3 7.0-0 8.♘g5 9.♖f7 10.♖g7
11.♘h7 12.♖f7 13.♖f8 ♘h6≠
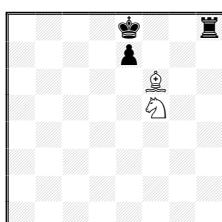
"1862" - Dialoghetto in forma di commedia

by Giuseppe Lucchesini
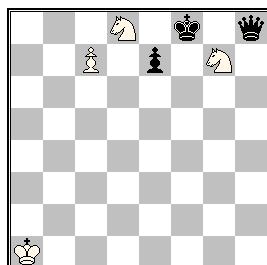
BRADÌPO: (*esibendo il foglio in cui compare la posizione che si vede* supra) Ho da sottoporvi un nuovo problema. Questo però è un po' strano…

CRIPTONOO: Perché, quello con la scacchiera vuota ti sembrava normale?

BRADÌPO: (*fiero*) Questo è leggermente più bizzarro, ma devo dire che ho tratto la notizia ispiratrice da un libro che forse conoscete entrambi, *The Chess Mysteries of Sherlock Holmes*, di Raymond Smullyan, Dover, Mineola, New York 1979.

POLILALO: Ne ho sentito parlare, ma non l'ho letto…

CRIPTONOO: Io invece l'autore lo conosco, ma non sapevo si fosse occupato anche di scacchi. Del resto, non sorprende, in un matematico.

BRADÌPO: Bene! Così potrete mettere alla prova il vostro acume senza *assist*.

CRIPTONOO: A differenza di te (*sorride ironicamente*).

BRADÌPO: Ehm, okay, in effetti…

POLILALO: (*pietoso*) Va bene, va bene: procedi.

BRADÌPO: (ex cathedra, *per così dire*) Dunque, la formula di questo problema è molto semplice: «Il Bianco ritira una mossa e la sostituisce con un'altra, con la quale matta il Re Nero». Ma c'è un'ulteriore condizione…

CRIPTONOO: Lo sospettavo, sai? Forza, cosa abbiamo, ora? È un anticirce monocromo? Sono gli «scacchi marini» inventati da Giuseppe Brogi? O magari è un Einstein o un Messigny? Oppure…

BRADÌPO: (*interrompendolo*) Niente di tutto questo. Le regole sono quelle normali. Quasi, però. Infatti, per un solo aspetto, qui si segue la XIII *rule* del *set* di norme emanato il 17 luglio del 1862 dalla British Chess Association: «When a pawn has reached the eighth square, the player has the option of selecting a piece, whether such piece has been previously lost or not, whose name and powers it shall then assume, or of deciding that it shall remain a Pawn»…

POLILALO: Interessante, somiglia vagamente alla regola «italiana» del pedone sospeso…

BRADÌPO: (*cerca di interromperlo*) Leggi meglio…

POLILALO: (*ignorandolo*) …Molto vagamente, tuttavia. Nell'Ottocento, nel nostro Paese vigeva «quella singolare e tipica regola italiana di quei tempi per cui, se un pedone arrivava a promozione senza che il giocatore avesse perso nessuno dei suoi pezzi maggiori doveva rimanere "sospeso" e quindi fuori dal gioco fino a quando poteva rientrare sostituendo un pezzo maggiore perso in partita»[1]. Se ben ricordo, c'era un ≠2 di Adriano Chicco su questo tema, in un vecchio numero di

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Nota 1. Alessandro Sanvito, *W789IM F35D Italian Chess Manuscript*, in *Il dilettevole e giudizioso giuoco de scacchi*, Edizione critica in italiano e in inglese a cura di Alessandro Sanvito e Kenneth Whyld, Ed. Sylvestre Bonnard, Milano 1998, p. 16.

«Sinfonie scacchistiche»… Aspetta, devo avercelo qua nel borsone (*fruga nella sua sacca*). Eccolo: a. XXIII, vol. 5, n. 90, pp. 117-118.

BRADÌPO: (*sbalordito*) Ma tu esci di casa con i numeri più significativi delle tue riviste problemistiche?

POLILALO: (*mostrando il problema illustrato nel diagramma che segue*) Posso dimenticarmi di mettere le scarpe, ma non dei miei numeri di «feenschach», «Best Problems», «Mat Plus», «StrateGems» e «Sinfonie Scacchistiche», per citare solo le prime riviste che mi vengono in mente. E faccio bene: guardate il problema di Chicco. È un'opera d'arte che rivaleggia con la *Giuditta e Oloferne* di Botticelli.
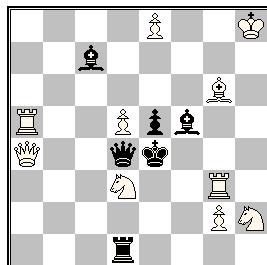
BRADÌPO: (*dopo averlo esaminato a lungo, si arrende, e con lui* Criptonoo) La soluzione?

POLILALO: 1.♘f1! (2.♖e3≠) 1…♛xa4 (♝e8=♛e8) 2.♖xa4≠ 1…♝xa5 (♝e8=♖e8) 2.♖xe5≠ 1…♝xg6 (♝e8=♝e8) 2.♝xg6≠ 1…♖xf1 (♝e8=♘e8) 2.♘f6≠ (1…♛≈/♖xd3/♖e1 2.♕x♛/♖g4/♘d2≠).

BRADÌPO: (*resta per un po' senza parole*) … Ah, la rinascita è "automatica"; era ovvio, ma non ci avevo pensato… Wow.

CRIPTONOO: (*dopo qualche minuto di "sindrome di Stendhal"*) Fantastico… Però (*riprendendo il controllo*), ora, proviamo a tornare a noi: non vedo a cosa possa servire la regola inglese (né quella "italiana", se è per questo, ma *transeat*), nella posizione presentataci da Bradìpo. L'unico pezzo bianco in ottava è il ♘d8. Se la mossa da ritirare fosse 0.d8=♘: a) qualunque diversa promozione-con-scacco (a Torre o a Donna) non darebbe matto: 1.d8=♕ o 1.d8=♖ il nero potrebbe rispondere con 1…♔f7 o 1…♔xg7; b) sostituire 0.d8=♘ con 1.d8=♙ non servirebbe a niente.

POLILALO: Giusto. Inoltre, c) il ♘g7 (ora inchiodato) potrebbe certo aver catturato un pezzo nero da f5 o h5 (non da e6: sarebbe retroscacco), ma da nessuna delle due ipotetiche retro-postazioni potrebbe, non dico mattare, ma nemmeno dar scacco al Re nero; e 1.♘e6+, lascerebbe al Nero ben tre vie di fuga: e8, f7 e g8; d) lo stesso vale per le retro-postazioni b7, c6 e f7 (e6 configurerebbe un retroscacco) del ♘d8; e) il ♔a1 potrebbe ritirare 0.♔a2-a1 o 0.♔b1-a1, retro-schiodando così il ♘g7, ma 1.♘ge6+ lascerebbe di nuovo sguarnite le case e8 e g8; f) anche se l'arrivo in c7 del Pedone bianco, o l'approdo in a1 del Re bianco, o quello in c8 del Cavallo bianco fossero frutto di una cattura, ciò non determinerebbe alcuna possibilità di matto.

BRADÌPO: (*ridacchiando*) Mi stai dicendo che il problema è insolubile? Non avevamo scommesso una bottiglia di Talisker?

POLILALO: (*perfido*) No. Ma, ora che mi ci fai pensare…

BRADÌPO: (*preoccupato*) Oh, un momento, quel whisky costa un sacco di soldi. Dicevo così per…

POLILALO: *Your words, not mine*[2]

Nota 2. È la risposta di Cristo a Pilato, che lo accusa di essere *king of the Jews*, in *Jesus Christ Superstar.* (N. Jewison, 1973).

BRADÌPO: (*con un misto di sfida e di rassegnazione*) E va bene, vada per il Talisker, ma tanto…

POLILALO: (*interrompendolo*) Criptonoo, puoi rileggermi la *rule* XIII? Analizziamola ben bene. (*Rivolgendosi nuovamente a Bradìpo*) Una bottiglia a testa, s'intende…

BRADÌPO: (*rabbioso*) Ok, ok. Però, se vi arrendete, voglio anch'io due bottiglie.

POLILALO: Ci sto.

CRIPTONOO: (*timidamente*) Ci sto anch'io, e che Zeus ce la mandi buona. Ti rileggo la *rule*: «When a pawn has reached the eighth square, the player has the option of selecting a piece, whether such piece has been previously lost or not, whose name and powers it shall then assume…».

POLILALO: E fin qui ci siamo… Cos'hai da sogghignare, Bradìpo?

BRADÌPO: Niente, niente: stavo pensando ai termini della nostra scommessa (che mi avvio a vincere, mi pare): non abbiamo precisato l'*invecchiamento* del Talisker. Non scenderò sotto i vent'anni, vi costi quel che vi costi! (*Ride sguaiatamente*) Quando si dice una cosa, bisogna sempre stare attenti anche a quello che non si dice. Ah! Ah! Ah!

POLILALO: Uff. Andiamo avanti, Criptonoo.

CRIPTONOO: (*visibilmente ansioso, riprende la lettura della* rule) «…or of deciding that it shall remain a Pawn». Beh, però è strano: non si dice se, come nella regola italiana, il Pedone «sospeso» sia suscettibile di promozione (magari in sostituzione di una mossa successiva). Ma *deve* essere così, altrimenti la norma non avrebbe alcun senso. Infatti…

POLILALO: (*trionfante*) COSA HAI DETTO?

CRIPTONOO: (*perplesso*) Ma niente, che non è chiaro se…

POLILALO: No, no! Ripeti le tue esatte parole!

NOTAIO: (*legge il verbale, sbucando da non si sa dove*) «Beh, però è strano: non si dice se, come nella…».

POLILALO: Fermo! Ecco il punto: «non si dice». E, come non ha mancato di ricordarci mastro Bradìpo, «quando si dice una cosa, bisogna sempre stare attenti anche a quello che *non* si dice».

CRIPTONOO: (*vieppiù perplesso*) E cosa *non* dice la *rule* XIII?

POLILALO: Basta leggere la *rule* 3.7.5.1 delle vigenti Fide Laws of Chess: «When a player, having the move, plays a pawn to the rank furthest from its starting position, he must exchange that pawn as part of the same move for a new queen, rook, bishop or knight *of the same colour*[3] on the intended square of arrival».

CRIPTONOO: (*ha capito*[4]) «Of the same colour»![5]

BRADÌPO: Oh, no!

POLILALO: Oh, sì, *mon enfant*. La mancanza di «of the same colour» nella *rule* del 1862 implica la possibilità (non negata, quindi implicitamente consentita) di promuovere a un pezzo del colore avverso. *Ergo*, tutto quel che il bianco deve fare è ritirare 0.h8=♛ (nera) e mattare con 1.h8=♕ (bianca)!

BRADÌPO: *No es posible*. Due bottiglie di Talisker!

CRIPTONOO: (*sentenzioso*) «E non scenderemo sotto i vent'anni di invecchiamento: ti costi quel che ti costi!».

POLILALO: (*sghignazzando senza ritegno*) Gimme five, bro!

BRADÌPO: (*piange sommessamente*).

Sipario.

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Nota 3. Un raro caso di corsivo vocale.
Nota 4. «Hanno capito tutti!» (Totò, in *Un turco napoletano*, M. Mattoli, 1953).
Nota 5. Cfr. R. Smullyan, *The Chess Mysteries of Sherlock Holmes*, cit., pp. 76-79.

Vito Rallo-80 Jubilee Thematic Tourney

We are pleased to announce the 80th anniversary of Vito Rallo. Are required H≠3 (not allowed H≠2,5) with condition Circe Parrain, where the piece captured in the last move gives mate thanks to a specific rebirth. There are two sections, one with fairy pieces, one without. All problems received will be published on *Best Problems Magazine*. The prize winners will receive a diploma.
Please send originals to vitorallo@virgilio.it Last available day for to send: August 3, 2019.
Judge: Vlaicu Crisan.
Examples:
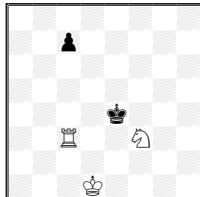
← **Vito Rallo & Guy Sobrecases** - *Problemaz* 2008
8/2p5/8/8/4k3/2R2N2/8/3K4 – WID 286914
H≠3 (3+2) C+
b) ♔d1−d2, Circe Parrain

a) 1.c5 ♖c4+ 2.♔d3 ♖d4+ 3.cxd4 ♘d2(♖b3)≠
b) 1.c6 ♘d4 2.c5 ♖f3 3.cxd4 ♖f5(♘d6)≠
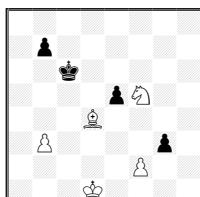
← **Vito Rallo** - 4° T.T. *Maroc Echecs* 2014, Commendation.
8/1p6/2k5/4pN2/3B4/1P4p1/5P2/3K4 – WID 547958
H≠3 (5+4) C+
Circe Parrain

1.gxf2 b4(f3) 2.♔d5 ♘e3+ 3.♔xd4 ♔c2(♗c5)≠
1.♔d5 ♔e2 2.gxf2 ♘e7(e4)+ 3.♔xe4 ♗e3(f3)≠

I apologize for not including the definition of fairy condition Circe Parrain in the announcement. I will quote the definitions given by two different sources:
[Christian Poisson Glossary - WinChloe] Circe Parrain: The single move following a capture, the captured unit (except a King) accomplish, from its capture square, an exact copy of that next move. If the arrival square is occupied or if the journey bring it out of the board, the captured unit vanishes.
[Stephen Emmerson Glossary]: Captured units are reborn, but on completion of the move following the capture move. The length and direction of this following move is the same as the length and direction from the capture square to the rebirth square. If that square is occupied or does not lie on the board, the captured unit does not return.

After reading the definition, it should be clear what happens in the first example:
- in a) the w♖ is captured on d4. Following the capture, the w♘ plays from f3 to d2 which is a geometrical vector (-2, 1). The rebirth square of w♖ must be (-2, 1) starting from d4 → which is b3.
- in b) the w♘ is captured on d4. Following the capture, the w♖ plays from f3 to f5 which is a geometrical vector (0, 2). The rebirth square of w♘ must be (0, 2) starting from d4 → which is d6.

In the second example:
- in the first solution, the w♗ is captured on d4. Following the capture, the w♔ plays from d1 to c2 which is a geometrical vector (-1, 1). The rebirth square of w♗ must be (-1, 1) starting from d4 → which is c5.
- in the second solution, the w♙ is captured on e4. Following the capture, the 3rd white move which unfortunately doesn't appear in the announcement, is 3... ♗d4-e3, which is a geometrical vector (1, -1). The rebirth square of w♙ must be (1, -1) starting from e4 → which is f3. The flight f4 is taken by w♗e3.

I hope these explanations will clarify what is Circe Parrain and will lead to instructive and imaginative chess compositions from many participants!

Vlaicu Crisan.

PLEASE REPRINT

Ricostruzione
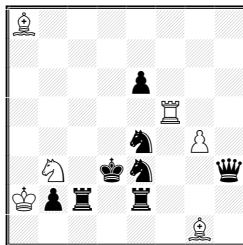
← **Anonimo -** (Ricostruzione 78 - BP89)
B7/8/4p3/5R2/4n1P1/1N1kn2q/Kpr1r3/6B1
H≠2 (6+8) C+

1.♘c4 ♗xe4+ 2.♚xe4 ♘c5≠
1.♘g3 ♗xe3 2.♚xe3 ♖f3≠
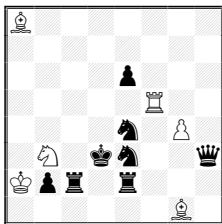
Miguel Uris	Antonio Garofalo	Valery Krivenko
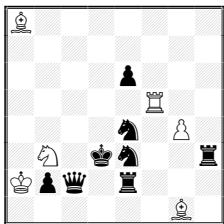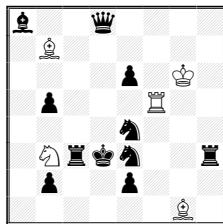
Stavolta la ricostruzione era di un problema di Anonimo pubblicato su una vecchia rivista in mio possesso. Non so se per la difficoltà della soluzione o per il poco tempo concesso (?), sono pervenute tre sole ricostruzioni. Quella di Miguel URIS uguale all'originale, quella di Antonio GAROFALO con ininfluente scambio di posto della Donna nera h3 con la Torre nera c2, ed infine quella di Valery KRIVENKO, con soluzione e tematica uguale all'originale (Kniest, sacrificio bianco, matti modello) ma con diverso numero di pezzi, disposizione e risultato finale più pesante.

Ricostruzione 79 - Ricostruire un H≠2 con le seguenti due soluzioni:

Diagramma a) 1.♚e4 ♚b4 2.♘xc2+ ♚xb5≠
Gemello b) ♛b1-e1, 1.♚xe3 ♚b6 2.♘xe2 ♚xb7≠

Inviare (send to) **Vito Rallo, via Manzoni n.162; 91100 Trapani (Italy)**.
E-mail: **vitorallo@virgilio.it** (last available day for to send: 31/05/2019)

Vito Rallo