

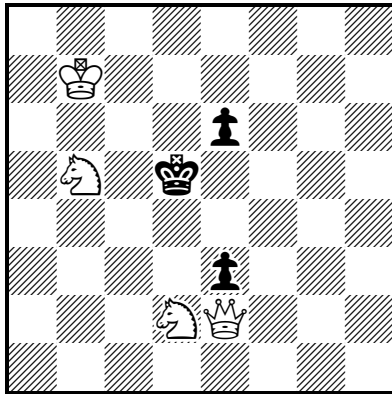
Facebook: Chess Endgame Studies and Compositions Solving Ladder

Leg 1, Round 1, May 2021

Solutions, Comments and Results

1) Frithiof Lindgren

Deutsches Wochenschach, 1920



1. ♖g4! (5)
(2. ♖d4#)

1... ♖e5 2. ♖g5#

1... ♖c5 2. ♖c4#

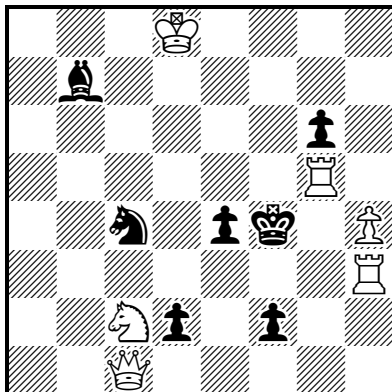
1... e5 2. ♖c4#

Mate in 2

1...Kc5 and 1...e5 are already set with 2.Qc4# and only 1...Ke5 needs to be provided for. The key does this leaving the set mates unchanged. “An easy starter problem. The mate after 1...Ke5 is a model mate.” (Rhodes Peele). To quote John Rice in *Chess Wizardry* (1996): “A **model mate** is a mating position in which no square in the black king’s field is guarded more than once by White, and no square is guarded by White and simultaneously blocked by Black, and in which all the white men on the board, with the permitted exception of the king and pawns, play some active part in the mate ...” The composer Frithiof Lindgren was Swedish and lived from 1897 to 1957.

2) Anders Emil Wester

Land og Folk, 1971



1. ♘e3! (5)
(2. ♘g2#)

1... d1=♖,♗+ 2. ♘d5#

1... ♘xe3 2. ♖c7#

1... f1=♖,♗ 2. ♖xf1#

Mate in 2

The only black move set with mate is 1...f1=any 2.Qxf1#. Everything else has to be provided for, especially 1...dxc1=Q. “The key unpins bPd2, allowing a striking cross-check variation.” (Rhodes Peele). “Very nice, but I found it very quickly.” (Alex King). The key half-opens the c-file for the wQ and 1...Sxe3 opens the gate fully to allow 2.Qc7#. Anders Wester (1902-1978) was another Swedish composer. He published a small volume of his own problems entitled *Amatörproblem* in 1976.

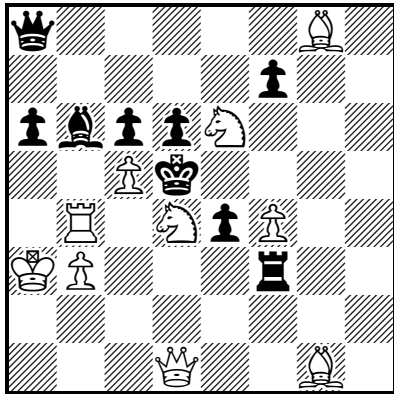
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Solutions, Comments and Results

3) Svante Sandin

2nd HM., BCF 110. Ty., 1965-1966



1. ♖g7!

(5)

(2. ♗xf3#)

1... ♖d3
 1... ♗xb3+
 1... ♖xc5
 1... ♗xc5
 1... ♖f1, ♖f2, ♖c3, ♖e3
 1... e3

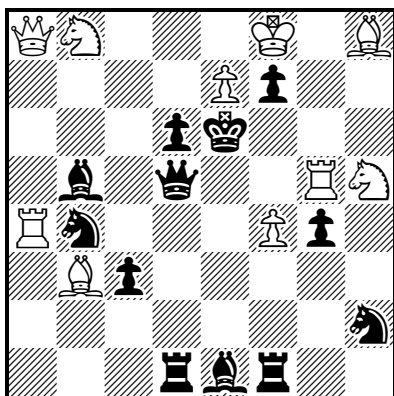
2. ♖h5#
 2. ♗xb3#
 2. ♗de6#
 2. ♗xf7#
 2. ♖h5#
 2. ♗de6#

Mate in 2

1...Rxb3+ is met by 2.Qxb3# and the flight-giving 1...e3 by 2.Qxf3#. Also 1...Bxc5 leads to 2.Sc7#. Unprovided with mates are the flight-giving 1...dxc5! and 1...Rxf4! If an extra guard was put on e6, these latter 2 moves would be followed by mates. 1.Sg5? is refuted by 1...Rd3! (and other rook moves) as it prevents 2.Qh5#. 1.Sd8? fails to 1...B,Qxd8!, 1.Sf8? fails to 1...Qxf8, while 1.Bxf7? is refuted by 1...Qh8!, guarding d4 and thus stopping the threat of 2.Sxf3#. Which leaves 1.Sg7!, which is indeed the key. It gives a flight at c5 and changes three of the set mates. 1...Rxb3+ is now met by 2.Sxb3#, 1...Bxc5 by 2.Bxf7# and 1...e3 by 2.Sde6#. "Very intricate and beautiful." (Alex King). Svante Sandin (1900-1969) was another Swedish composer, so readers will now have discovered the 'theme' of this round. Sadly, it is a long time since the BCF (now ECF) put its name to a composing tourney.

4) Kjell Einar Widlert

2nd Prize, *Schach-Echo* 002. TT, 1965-1966



1. ♖a6!

(5)

(2. ♖e5#)

1... ♗xa6
 1... ♗xa6
 1... ♗f3
 1... ♗d3
 1... ♗c6
 1... ♗c6
 1... f5
 1... f6
 1... ♗c4

2. ♖e4#
 2. e8=♖, ♖#
 2. f5#
 2. ♗xd5#
 2. ♖c8#
 2. ♖e2#
 2. ♖g6#
 2. ♗g7#
 2. ♖c8, e8=♖, ♖#

Mate in 2

The sacrificial key pins the bPd6 to threaten mate on e5. Apart from capturing the white queen, Black can defend by unpinning the bPd6, unpinning the bQ, guarding the mating square or shutting off the threat-piece, leading to an open-gate, unguards, interferences and self-blocks. "... I was laid in bed wondering whether to go back to sleep when I suddenly thought about my solution to number 4. I'd already typed out 1.Qa6, but this morning I realised that Black had two possible defences that I hadn't considered, namely 1...Bc6 and 1...Sc6. I knew straightaway that the S

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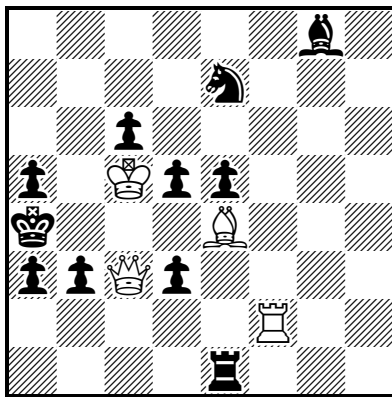
Leg 1, Round 1, May 2021

Solutions, Comments and Results

move didn't work, but I had to try to picture the board in my head to check that the Q could now come along the diagonal to e2. Just to be sure, I had to get out of bed and check the diagram." (Geoff Brown). "Very tricky. Took me a while." (Alex King). Kjell Widlert (born 1948) is the delegate for Sweden to the WFCC and also spokesperson for the Codex Committee. A fine composer, judge and solver.

5) Bo Waldemar Lindgren

Eskilstuna Kuriren, 1947



Mate in 3

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|
| 1. ♖a2! | (2. ♜xa5+ ♞xa5 3. ♞xa3#) | | (1) |
| 1... ♞xe4 | 2. ♞xa3+ | ♞xa3 | 3. ♞a1# (1) |
| 1... bxa2 | 2. ♞c2+ | dxc2 | 3. ♞xc2# (1) |
| 1... ♞a1 | 2. ♞xa1 | | (3. ♞xa3#) (1) |
| 1... ♞c1 | 2. ♞xc1 | bxa2 | 3. ♞d1# |
| | | bxa2, b2 | (3. ♞xa3, ♞xa3#) (1) |
| | | | 3. ♞d1# |

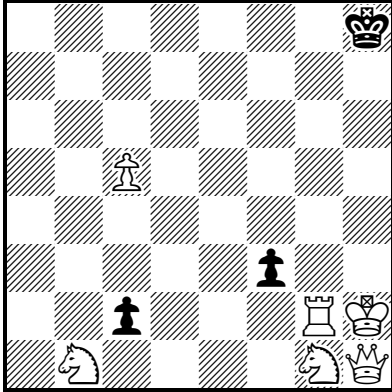
"Solved this one pretty quickly, but didn't much care for it." (Alex King). "Tried 1.Rf8 initially and devastated to discover 1...Rc1!" (Hugh Gilbert). An early work by Bo Lindgren (1927-2011), son, I think, of Frithiof Lindgren. This rather ordinary three-mover foreshadows many more ambitious compositions in later years. Bo may have been Swedish, but his nature was Bohemian. He was a frequent and entertaining visitor at international problemist meetings for many years and I am glad to have met him at several of them.

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6) Rolf Uppström
Springaren, 1987



1.♖g6! (2.♖g3#)
 1...♗h7 2.♖g5 ♗h6 (3.♖g3#)
 3.♖g4 & 4.♖g3# (5)

Mate in 4

“Amusing. Rook had to stay on g-file, so rook had to move. 1.Rg6! was the only square it could move to because 1...cxb1=Q!” (Hugh Gilbert). “The rook makes opposing king and herself gravitational. The c5-pawn prevents 1.Rxc2 from working.” (Stanislas Loiret). “Solved this one quickly as well, and found it charming.” (Alex King). “White cannot shorten the systematic descent down the g-file because of the threatening bPc2.” (Rhodes Peele). Rolf Uppström (born 1953) is our final Swedish composer of this round. *Springaren* is a Swedish chess problem magazine run by Kjell Widlert.

Facebook Chess Solving Ladder, Leg 01, 2021

| Name | Ascents | R1 | R2 | R3 | R4 | R5 | R6 | Leg Total | Cumulative Total |
|--------------------|---------|------|----|----|----|----|----|-----------|------------------|
| Christian Westrapp | 0 | 30.0 | | | | | | 30.0 | 30.0 |
| Geoff Brown | 0 | 30.0 | | | | | | 30.0 | 30.0 |
| Hugh Gilbert | 0 | 30.0 | | | | | | 30.0 | 30.0 |
| Alex King | 0 | 29.0 | | | | | | 29.0 | 29.0 |
| Stanislas Loiret | 0 | 29.0 | | | | | | 29.0 | 29.0 |
| Ene Florian | 0 | 28.0 | | | | | | 28.0 | 28.0 |
| Rhodes Peele | 0 | 25.0 | | | | | | 25.0 | 25.0 |