

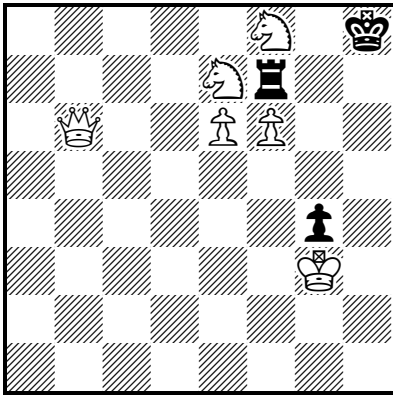
# Facebook: Chess Endgame Studies and Compositions Solving Ladder

## Leg 2, Round 4, July/August, 2022

### Solutions, Comments and Results

#### 1) Bohuslav Prikryl

Wiener Schachzeitung, 1901



**1. ♖b2!**      0              (5)

1... ♖xf6	2. ♖xf6#
1... ♖xe7	2. f7#
1... ♖xf8	2. ♖h2#
1... ♖g7	2. fxg7#
1... ♖h7	2. ♗fg6#

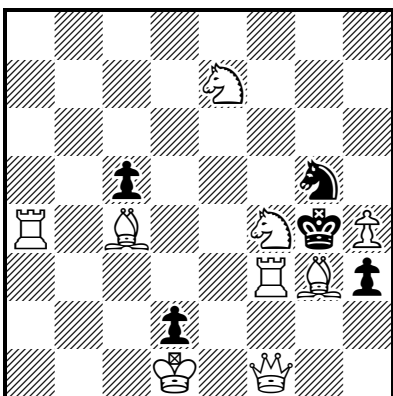
Mate in 2

“The bR has 5 moves. One of these, 1...Rh7 already has a mate set. The key provides different mates for the other four.” (Rhodes Peele) “A Meredith (*incomplete* - BDS) block problem, with the key move putting Black in zugzwang. Simple but elegant; Black’s 5 available R moves head to a pleasing variety of pure mates.” (Chris Shephard) “I like the way that there’s a different (and often very pretty) mate in response to each of Black’s five legal moves.” (Matthew Reisz) “White needs to be able to meet 1...Rxf6 with 2.Qxf6, and 1.Qd4? doesn’t allow access to the h-file.” (Tim Sheldon) “A try is 1.Qd4? which fails to 1...Rxf8!” (Syd Jacob) “Easy to spot as a1-diagonal and h-column to control.” (David Whisstock) “Nice variations at bR cross moves.” (Ioannis Garoufalidis)

Bohuslav Prikryl (1880-1949) was an Austrian, and then Czech, composer.

#### 2) Valentin Rudenko

4th HM., *Shakhmatna misl*, 1958



1... ♗~ a      2. ♗(x)e6# A  
 1... ♗xf3 b    2. ♖xh3# B

**1. ♗f2!**      0              (5)

1... ♗~ a	2. ♖xh3# B
1... ♗xf3 b	2. ♗e6# A
1... ♖xf3	2. ♗e2#
1... h2	2. ♖g2#

#2

“At first this looks like a half-battery, but that does not work, so it’s good that the nicely ingenious key finds a way of making use of White’s bishop on c4.” (Matthew Reisz) “After 1...h2, 2.Qg2 only mate, so Bg3 must move.” (David Whisstock) “A difficult problem with unexpectedly clever moves after the key.” (Alan Bradnam) “Random moves of the bS allow 2.Qxh3. The black correction defence 1...Sxf3 self-blocks f3, so that White can play 2.Be6.” (Rhodes Peele) If anybody noticed the reciprocally changed black correction between set and actual play, they didn’t mention it.

Valentin Rudenko (1938-2016) was a Grandmaster of Composition from Ukraine. He was one of the greatest composers of the modern era.

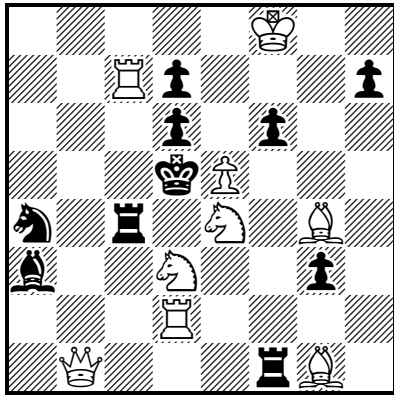
# Facebook: Chess Endgame Studies and Compositions Solving Ladder

## Leg 2, Round 4, July/August, 2022

### Solutions, Comments and Results

#### 3) Nils G G van Dijk

4th HM., *Sachove umeni (Ceskoslovensky sach)*, 1958



1...dxe5+	2. ♖b4#
1...fxe5+	2. ♖f4#
<b>1. ♖b3!</b>	<b>(5)</b>
	(2. ♖xc4#)
1...dxe5+	2. ♖dc5#
1...fxe5+	2. ♖df2#
1...♖c1	2. ♖xf6#
1...♗c5	2. ♖b7#
1...♜b2, ♜c5, ♜b6	2. ♖c3#

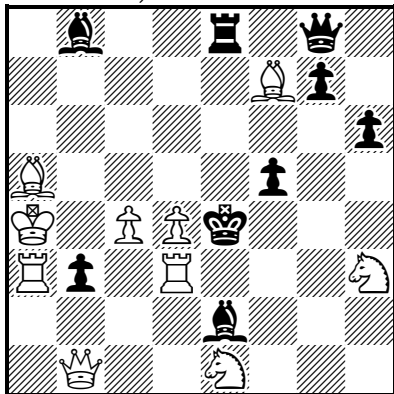
Mate in 2

“Try 1.Qa2? 1...Bc5! I found it hard to see that, after moving the queen, a different response to 1...fxe5+ would be possible because of the pin.” (Chris Blanden) “Changed play as defence of e4 is gone.” (Gerry Enslin) “I very much enjoyed the changed mates in response to the cross-checks and that full use was made of the white knight on e4.” (Matthew Reisz) “White must prevent 1...Rc7, so the key is rather forced. With the bRc4 now pinned, the set play defences can be met by simple discovered checks with the Sd3 moving to squares which both block the black checks and protect e4.” (Tim Sheldon) “1...Kxe4 unprovided for, now met with 2.Qxc4.” (David Whisstock) “This was the hardest 2-mover for me.” (Ioannis Garoufalidis)

IM Nils Gustav Gerard van Dijk (1933-2003) was a Norwegian chess composer of great talent.

#### 4) Edward W Beal

*The Field*, 1964



<b>1. ♖c2!</b>	<b>(5)</b>
	(2. ♖e3#)
1...♖xd3	2. ♖f2#
1...♗xd3	2. ♖h1#
1...bxc2	2. ♖b7#
1...f4	2. ♗g6#
1...♗f4	2. ♖f2#

Mate in 2

“A good key and some nice strategy (for example 1...bxc2 opens both b1-b7 and a3-d3, allowing 2.Qb7).” (Rhodes Peele) “Lovely long Q moves after 1...Bxd3 and 1...bxc2. Lots of tries.” (Chris Blanden) “Great key move.” (Gerry Enslin) “A spectacular problem. The apparently out of play R on a3 gives a big clue to the sacrificial key.” (Chris Shephard) “The daftest looking move principle helps to solve this one, along with the redundant piece on a3. A fine composition.” (Dafydd Johnston) “Another neat sacrificial key, giving a flight and destroying a battery, which enables the wQ to come to life.” (Matthew Reisz) “Why does White need Ba5? To cover d2 and c3 after 1...Kxd3. So White must allow Black to play 1...Kxd3.” (Tim Sheldon) “bP on b3 suggests flight-giving key with capture on d3. Key protects d4 after removal of Rd3.” (David Whisstock) “A difficult problem with so many white pieces on the board. As wQ and wS do not both need to protect Rd3, I thought that one of them must move. It was a surprise when the key move allows the wR to be sacrificed.” (Alan Bradnam)

Edward Beal (born 1917) was one of a large number of British chess composers active in the early to mid 20<sup>th</sup> Century. He lost his sight in his old age, but continued to compose problems that solvers enjoyed. *The Field*, which is still published, had a very long-running chess column that featured chess problems. That column's demise, along with the demise of many others, is one of the reasons why there are very few active British chess composers today.

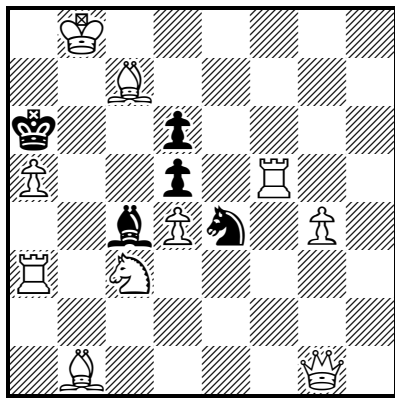
# Facebook: Chess Endgame Studies and Compositions Solving Ladder

## Leg 2, Round 4, July/August, 2022

### Solutions, Comments and Results

#### 5) Aleksandr Melnichuk & Aleksandr Sigurov

3rd Comm., *StrateGems*, 2021



- |                  |                   |     |                       |  |
|------------------|-------------------|-----|-----------------------|--|
| <b>1. ♖h2!</b>   | ○                 |     |                       |  |
| <b>1... ♗xc3</b> | <b>2. ♖xd6+ @</b> | ♜b5 | <b>3. ♖b6#</b>        |  |
| <b>1... ♗a2</b>  | <b>2. ♗xe4 @</b>  | &   | <b>3. ♖xd6#</b>       |  |
| <b>1... ♗f1</b>  | <b>2. ♖b2 @</b>   |     | <b>(3. ♖b6, ♖b7#)</b> |  |
| <b>1... ♗b3</b>  | <b>2. ♖x3 @</b>   | ♜b5 | <b>3. ♖xb5#</b>       |  |
|                  |                   |     | <b>(3. ♗d3, ♖e2#)</b> |  |
| <b>1... ♗b5</b>  | <b>2. ♗xd5 @</b>  | ♗~  | <b>3. ♖xd6#</b>       |  |
| <b>1... ♗g3</b>  | <b>2. ♗xd5 @</b>  | &   | <b>3. ♗b4#</b>        |  |
|                  | <b>2. ♖h8 @</b>   | &   | <b>3. ♖c8#</b>        |  |

**@ 1/0.5, 2/1, 3/2, 4/3, 5/4, 6/5**

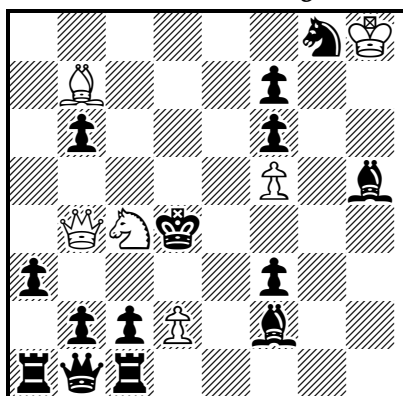
Mate in 3

“White needs to fix the bS, otherwise 1...Sf6 and 1...Sc5 threaten checks. The try 1.Rxd5? is defeated by 1...Be2! after which 2.Sa2? fails to 2...Sc5! Hence 1.Qh2.” (Tim Sheldon) “d6 is a weak point. The key also controls entry to the b-file.” (David Whisstock) “Surprising how many different white second moves are required given the limited black material.” (Dafydd Johnston) “...but there are a surprising number of variations.” (Chris Shephard) “wPg4 stops Q from getting at g8 and then c8 mate but wQ must reach somehow the 8<sup>th</sup> rank. Also Q should also be able to reach b-file for b5/b6 mate. Perhaps I was inspired from No. 4 for these wQ manoeuvres!” (Ioannis Garoufalidis)

Mike Prcic, the chief editor of *StrateGems*, the chess problem magazine in which this problem appeared, has recently announced that its hundredth issue, to be published later this year, will be the last. In his eighties and after 25 years in post, he desires to spend his time in other ways. One hopes that a new chief-editor can be found for this excellent American magazine.

#### 6) Nikolai Belchikov & Leonid Makaronets

3rd Prize, *Shakhmaty v SSSR*, 1978



- |                 |   |              |
|-----------------|---|--------------|
| <b>1. ♗c6!</b>  | <b>(2. ♖d6+ ♜xc4 3. ♖d5+ ♜b4 4. ♖b5#)</b> | <b>(1)</b>   |
| <b>1... ♖d3</b> | <b>2. ♗xb2+ ♜e2 3. ♗b5+ ♜e1 4. d4#</b>    | <b>(1)</b>   |
| <b>1... ♗g3</b> | <b>2. ♖xb6+ ♜d3 3. ♖e3+ ♜xc4 4. ♖c3#</b>  | <b>(0.5)</b> |
|                 | <b>3. ♖b5+ ♜d4 4. ♖d5#</b>                | <b>(0.5)</b> |
| <b>1... ♗e7</b> | <b>2. ♖c3+ ♜c5 3. ♗xa3+ ♜d6 4. ♗b5#</b>   | <b>(1)</b>   |
| <b>1... a2</b>  | <b>2. ♖d6+ ♜xc4 3. ♖a3 ♜d4 4. d3#</b>     | <b>(1)</b>   |

Mate in 4

“Very tricky to solve. I was expecting the two main variations to have discovered checks at move 2, rather than straight Q checks.” (Time Sheldon) “The key was a likely candidate after I saw the mate on b5 but it took a long time to see the follow-up of 1...a2.” (David Whisstock) “A seemingly discreet little key in fact creates a sequence of mating possibilities which were not available in the set position (where there’s already a nice but different mate ready in response to 1...Bg3, involving 2.Qc3+ and then 3.d4+). The black set-up in the SW corner is a bit clumsy, but I loved the quiet third move made possible by 1...a2. The way some of the mates echo each other (as well as the set mate mentioned above) and generally involve the ‘sacrifice’ of the knight, one of White’s only three major pieces, add to the pleasure of this ingenious problem.” (Matthew Reisz) “The quiet third move in the 1...a2 line is splendid, provoking a self-block on d4 so that the pawn at last gives mate.” (Dafydd Johnston) “A very nice Bohemian problem with pleasing model mates. The key move is not so hard because there are so few plausible non-checking moves, but it took me a while to work out how to meet 1...a2.” (Chris Shephard)

# Facebook: Chess Endgame Studies and Compositions Solving Ladder

## Leg 2, Round 4, July/August, 2022

### Solutions, Comments and Results

#### Facebook Chess Solving Ladder, Leg 02, 2022

<b>Name</b>	<b>Ascents</b>	<b>Leg 01</b>	<b>R1</b>	<b>R2</b>	<b>R3</b>	<b>R4</b>	<b>R5</b>	<b>R6</b>	<b>Leg Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
Hugh Gilbert	1	160.0	28.5	30.0	29.5	24.0			112.0	272.0
Rhodes Peele	1	153.5	30.0	23.0	22.5	22.0			97.5	251.0
Ene Florian	0	135.5	25.0	26.0	29.0	29.0			109.0	244.5
Geoff Brown	0	158.5	25.0	20.0	15.0	25.0			85.0	243.5
Chris Shephard	0	109.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	29.0			119.0	228.0
Chris Carew	0	30.0	30.0	29.0	30.0	30.0			119.0	149.0
David Whisstock	0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	29.0			119.0	149.0
Ioannis Garoufalidis	0	80.0	20.0	-	24.0	24.0			68.0	148.0
Chris Worthington	0	29.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	28.5			118.5	147.5
Matthew Reisz	0	25.0	30.0	30.0	29.5	28.0			117.5	142.5
Geoff Haddow	0	19.0	30.0	30.0	29.5	30.0			119.5	138.5
Joe Franks	0	30.0	25.0	29.0	25.0	27.0			106.0	136.0
Harry Scott	0	24.0	20.0	28.0	26.0	26.5			100.5	124.5
Tim Sheldon	0	0.0	30.0	30.0	29.5	29.0			118.5	118.5
Dafydd Johnston	0	0.0	30.0	29.0	29.5	29.0			117.5	117.5
Stephen Orton	0	0.0	30.0	28.0	23.0	28.0			109.0	109.0
Gerry Enslin	0	30.0	25.0	25.0	-	25.0			75.0	105.0
Chris Blanden	0	14.0	25.0	20.0	25.0	20.0			90.0	104.0
Dennis Chivers	0	14.0	27.0	22.0	17.0	15.0			81.0	95.0
Erik Baurdoux	0	0.0	25.0	20.0	25.0	25.0			95.0	95.0
Adrian Tottenham	0	0.0	25.0	23.0	19.5	23.5			91.0	91.0
Colin Thiodet	0	62.5	-	15.0	-	-			15.0	77.5
Whole Hog (Malmsbury)	0	0.0	22.5	30.0	25.0	-			77.5	77.5
Alan Bradnam	0	15.0	25.0	5.0	10.0	21.0			61.0	76.0
Syd Jacob	0	0.0	-	-	29.5	28.5			58.0	58.0
Steven Dowd	0	45.0	-	-	-	-			0.0	45.0
Nigel Pilkington	0	10.0	15.0	10.0	0.5	-			25.5	35.5
James, Brown	0	10.0	25.0	-	-	-			25.0	35.0
Christian Westrapp	0	30.0	-	-	-	-			0.0	30.0
Alex King	0	29.0	-	-	-	-			0.0	29.0
Stanislas Loiret	0	29.0	-	-	-	-			0.0	29.0
Gordon Ironside	0	0.0	22.5	-	-	-			22.5	22.5
Paul Davies	0	0.0	5.0	-	-	-			5.0	5.0