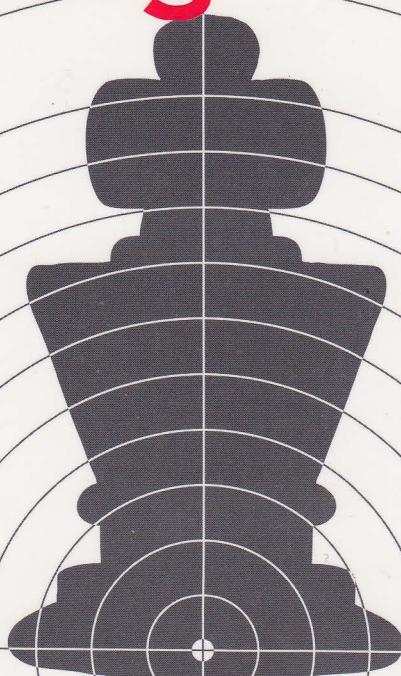


test your thinking endgame



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EVERYMAN CHESS

Glenn Flear

test your thinking endgame

EVERYMAN CHESS

Glenn Flear

Everyman Publishers plc www.everymanbooks.com

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To Christine, the love of my life.

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INTRODUCTION

As I was preparing this book I wanted it to be more than just another quiz book. Many traditional books of problems are fine at testing tactical ability as the solutions are generally tactical blows or combinations. This is excellent for keeping one tactically aware, but not so great for testing strategic thinking. Planning and strategy are an important part of the endgame phase.

If I really wanted an approach adapted to endgames I would need problems that would test *the thinking process* rather than simple powers of calculation. Another feature I observed is that books with endgame problems tend to set the level too high. I have thus aimed to set exercises of differing degrees of difficulty, so everyone should find some questions that are testing but not beyond solving.

A final point is that I have given detailed solutions so that the careful reader can learn key themes. Your endgame thinking can improve and manifest itself in greater ability at solving over-the-board problems.

For the more difficult puzzles I have introduced a chapter of hints so that the frustrated reader can get a nudge in the right direction!

The book is laid out as follows:

Chapter One emphasises Strategic Thinking whereas Chapter Two combines planning with detailed analysis.

Chapters 3 to 5 mainly ask the reader to find the key move or idea.

Although in Chapter 3 the solution may be a one-mover or standard technique, Chapter 4 and (even more so) Chapter Five (where the reader is invited to get down to some detailed analysis) consist of more demanding questions. These can be tough, so I have introduced a new idea: a chapter to give the reader some clues. Therefore in Chapter 6 the reader can obtain a hint corresponding to each

Test Your Endgame Thinking

exercise from Chapters 4 and 5.

The exercises in Chapters One and Two can be looked at in two completely different ways: they can be considered as a series of independant exercises or as part of a flowing game. So the exercises in Chapter One are repeated as part of the whole picture in Chapter 7, with the solutions following on straight away within the text. In the same way the exercises of Chapter 2 can be found in Chapter 8.

You may prefer to go through Chapters 7 and 8 using a sheet of blank paper to avoid reading the solutions prematurely.

Chapters 9 to 11 constitute the solutions to Chapters 3 to 5. However they contain more than the answer to a direct question, often giving the game continuation or further interesting play if it is sufficiently instructive.

So the solutions to Chapter 3 are in Chapter 9, those of Chapter 4 in Chapter 10 and, finally, Chapter 5 in Chapter 11.

I chose material from several books and databases but was also sent some interesting positions by a number of people, so my thanks go to A.Kosten, J.Gallagher, E.Prie, S.Wagman and S.Boyd, plus anybody else who I may have forgotten.

Glenn Flear,
Baillargues, France,
August 2002

CHAPTER ONE

Strategic Thinking

This chapter consists of twenty exercises, each of which arose from play in ten of my own games. They are aimed in particular at testing your planning abilities and your judgement.

The solutions can be found embedded in the text of Chapter Seven. There the events of the endgames unfold and the questions are repeated at appropriate moments, followed, almost immediately, by the ‘solutions’.

Exercises concerned with Strategic Thinking are better understood as part of the *whole* story, which explains why I’ve included the answers within a complete endgame.

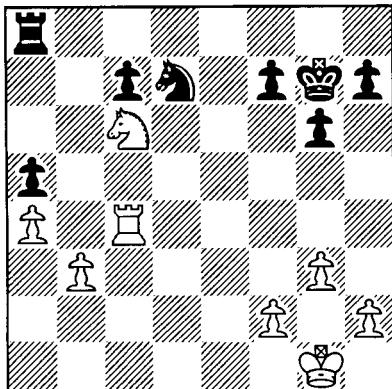
The reader thus has various options:

1. Solve the exercises in Chapter One and then seek out only the solutions in Chapter Seven.
2. Forget about Chapter One and turn to Chapter Seven where, by judiciously using a blank sheet of paper, the reader can solve the exercises as he goes along.
3. Forget about Chapter One, the sheet of paper *and* the exercises and just play through Chapter Seven for your enjoyment!

Remember that the answers sought in this section are essentially general considerations, plans and ideas but, on occasion, something more specific is required.

Good luck!

Note: Solutions and detailed endgames are to be found in Chapter Seven.



Chapter 1: Exercise 1

□ Razuvayev

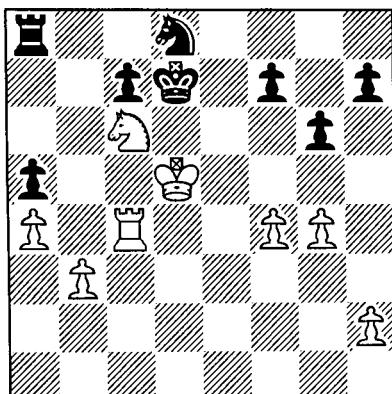
■ Flear

Rome 1990

White to Play

Who is better and why?

What should each player be aiming to do over the next few moves?



Chapter 1: Exercise 2

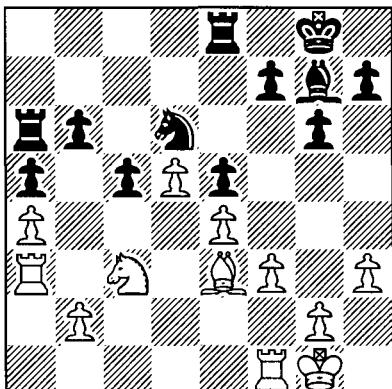
□ Razuvayev

■ Flear

Rome 1990

White to Play

Should White exchange knights?



Chapter 1: Exercise 3

Flear

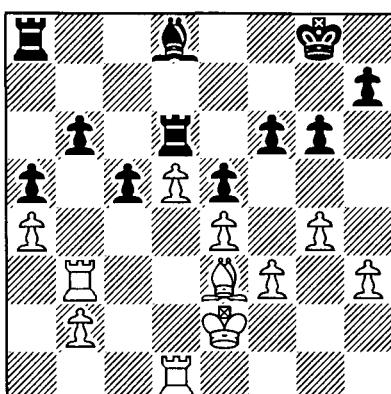
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Cap d'Agde 1998

White to Play

Why does White have the better game?

Which of Black's pieces should he aim to exchange?



Chapter 1: Exercise 4

Flear

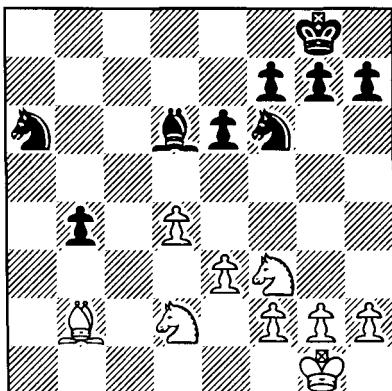
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White to Play

What should White do now?

Can you suggest a role for his king?



Chapter 1: Exercise 5

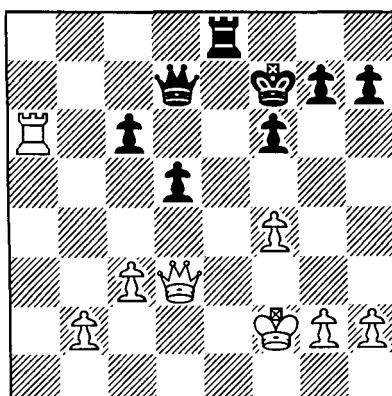
Flear

Fontaine

St. Affrique 1999

White to Play

Black offered a draw here, which White (to play) refused.
What are the factors that justified his playing on?
What plan do you think he should embark on?



Chapter 1: Exercise 6

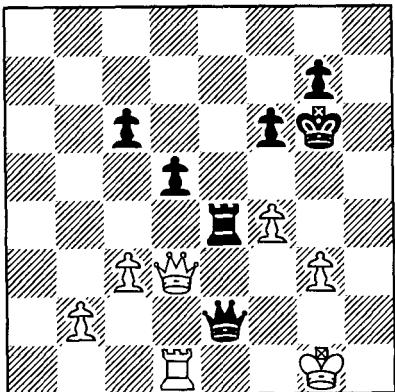
Bryson

Flear

Dundee 1991

Black to Play

At first sight there doesn't seem to be very much in the position, with pieces and pawns being equal and little asymmetry. However, if we look more closely there might be some factors that favour Black. Can you see them?



Chapter 1: Exercise 7

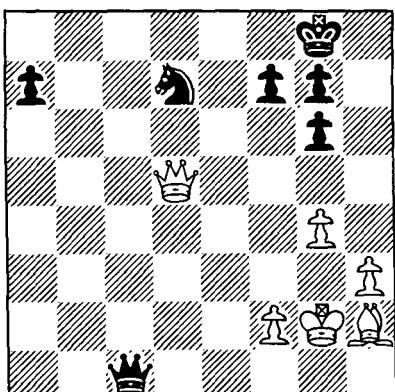
Bryson

Flear

Dundee 1991

Black to Play

How should Black proceed?



Chapter 1: Exercise 8

Flouzat

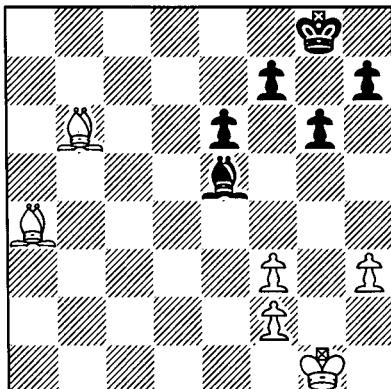
■ Flear

St.Affrique 2000

Black to Play

In order to attempt to win this position Black will need a long-term strategy.

Try to formulate a stage-by-stage plan of action.



Chapter 1: Exercise 9

- Flear
- Rotstein

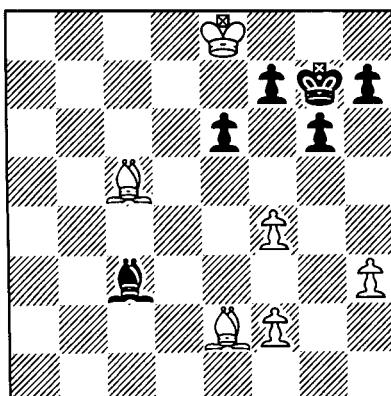
St. Affrique 1999

White to Play

White has an extra piece but how can he hope to make progress against such a solid-looking position?

Where is Black's Achilles' heel?

Formulate a plan to exploit this weak point and decide where your king needs to be.



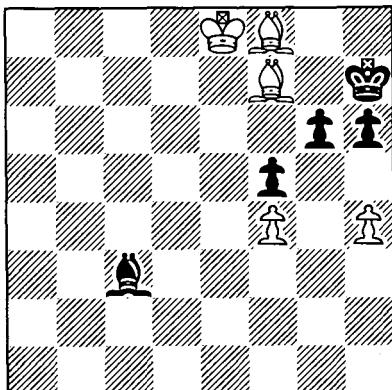
Chapter 1: Exercise 10

- Flear
- Rotstein

St. Affrique 1999

White to Play

How can the light-squared bishop support the king in exerting further pressure on f7?

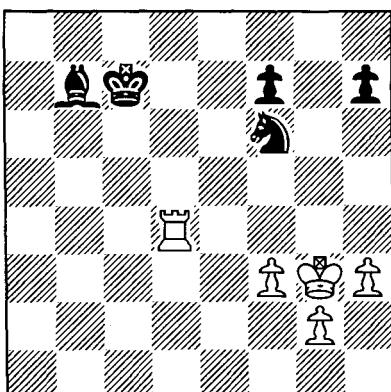


Chapter 1: Exercise 11

Flear
 Rotstein
St. Affrique 1999

White to Play

Find an effective continuation to end all resistance

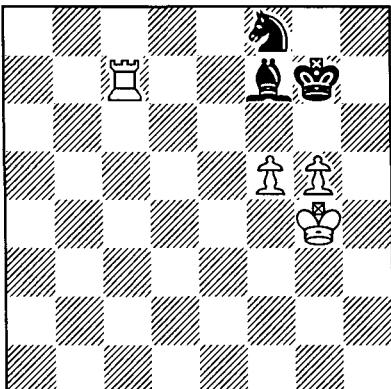


Chapter 1: Exercise 12

Flear
 Large
Uppingham 1989

White to Play

Which side has winning chances?
What are the factors that promise an advantage?



Chapter 1: Exercise 13

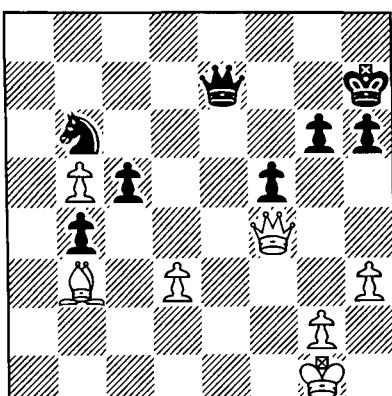
Flear

Large

Uppingham 1989

White to Play

How should White continue?



Chapter 1: Exercise 14

B.Bujisho

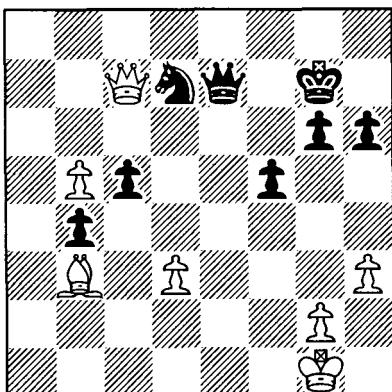
Flear

Montpellier 2000

Black to Play

Assess this position.

What is the most likely result?



Chapter 1: Exercise 15

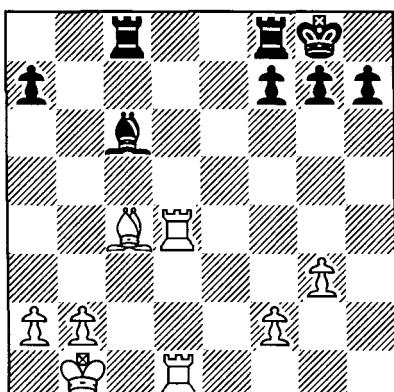
B.Bujisho

Flear

Montpellier 2000

Black to Play

Analyse and reach a conclusion.



Chapter 1: Exercise 16

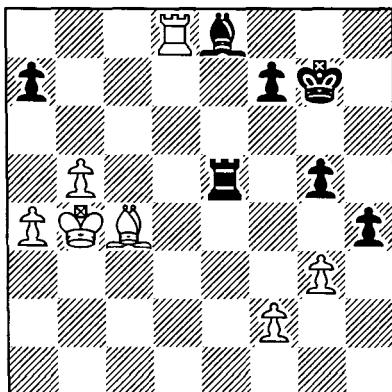
Flear

■ Prakken

Creon 1998

Black to Play

Assess this position.



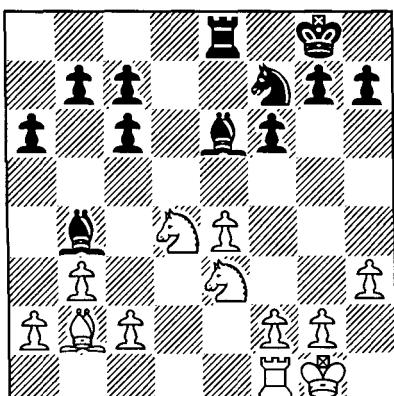
Chapter 1: Exercise 17

- Flear
- Prakken

Creon 1998

White to Play

What should White do now?
Can he lay claim to any advantage?



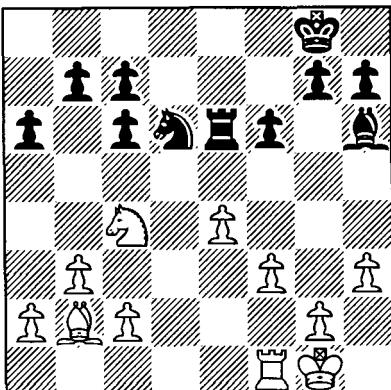
Chapter 1: Exercise 18

- Boudre
- Flear

Montpellier Team Ch., 1996

Black to Play

How would you judge this position?



Chapter 1: Exercise 19

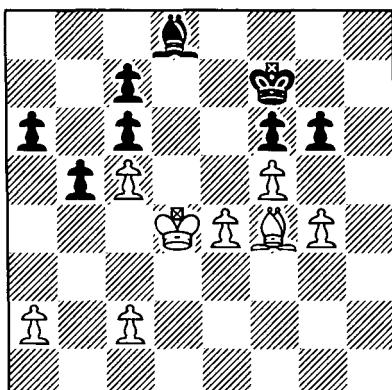
Boudre

Flear

Montpellier Team Ch., 1996

White to Play

How should White continue?



Chapter 1: Exercise 20

Boudre

Flear

Montpellier Team Ch., 1996

White to Play

Find a winning plan for White?

Solutions and detailed endgames are to be found in Chapter Seven.

CHAPTER TWO

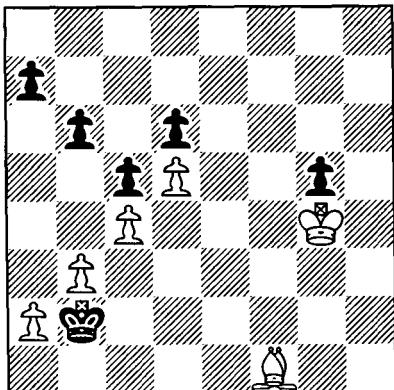
Planning and Detailed Analysis

There are ten exercises in this chapter, the positions in the diagrams all arising from detailed analysis that I made of two fascinating endgames. I hope that the chapter is instructive and enjoyable and (perhaps) can stimulate the reader to go into great depth in his own critical endgames.

In a similar way to Chapter One the exercises are repeated and the solutions available in Chapter Eight. Therefore please do one of the following:

1. Do all the exercises in this chapter before turning to Chapter Eight for the Solutions.
2. Instead of continuing with this chapter, turn now to Chapter Eight and read it line-by-line (possibly using a sheet of blank paper to cover up what follows so as not to be tempted to cheat!). Try and solve the exercises as they arise and find the answers just below the questions in each case.
3. Forget about the exercises and just play through Chapter Eight to obtain the full story of each endgame – as if this were a typical chess book.

Note: Solutions and detailed endgames are to be found in Chapter Eight.



Chapter 2: Exercise 1

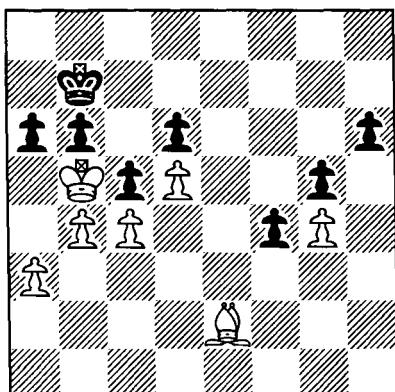
Flear

Dunworth

Cheltenham Team Ch., 1994

White to Play

Can you demonstrate that White is winning?



Chapter 2: Exercise 2

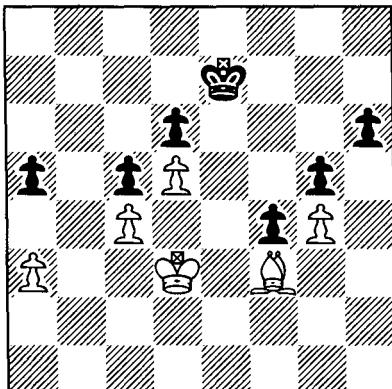
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Dunworth

Cheltenham Team Ch., 1994

White to Play

How, in general terms (formulate a general plan with words – not analysis) would you go about making progress?



Chapter 2: Exercise 3

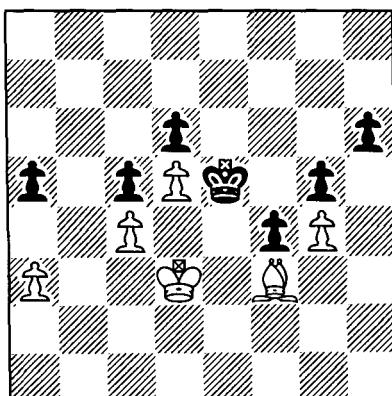
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White to Play

Can you find a win for White?



Chapter 2: Exercise 4

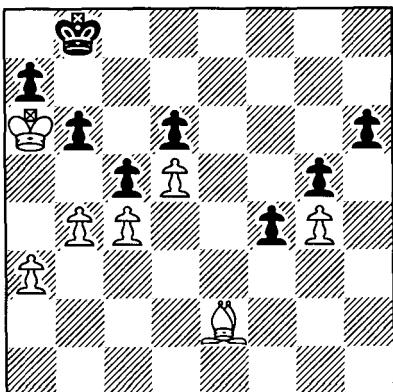
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White to Play

Is White winning or can Black obtain sufficient counterplay?



Chapter 2: Exercise 5

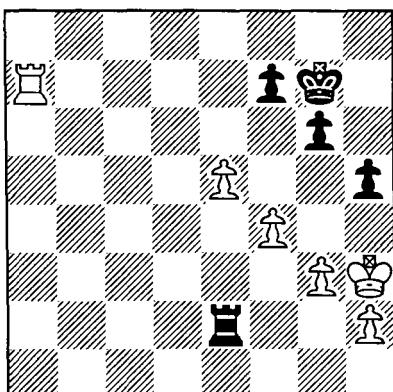
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Dunworth

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White to Play

Find the way to finish Black off.



Chapter 2: Exercise 6

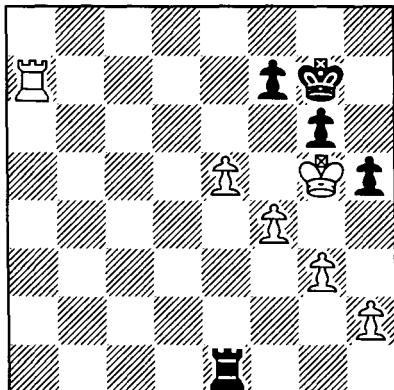
Sellos

Flear

Hem 1984

Black to Play

What would you play as Black?



Chapter 2: Exercise 7

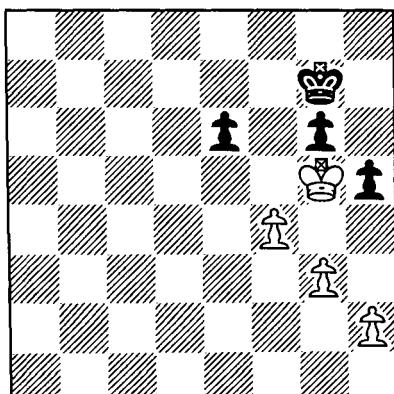
Sellos

Flear

Hem 1984

White to Play

Can you see a plan that might lead to a win for White?



Chapter 2: Exercise 8

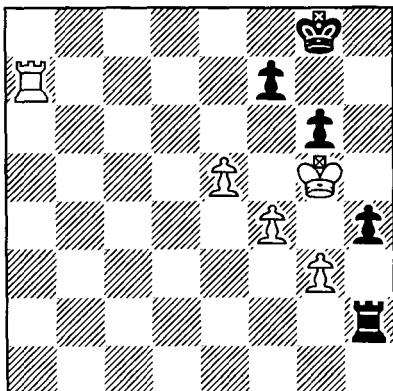
Sellos

Flear

Hem 1984

White to Play

Can you analyse this to a forced win for White?



Chapter 2: Exercise 9

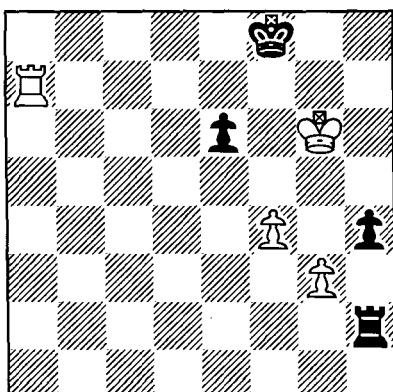
Sellos

Flear

Hem 1984

White to Play

How should White proceed to obtain maximum winning chances?



Chapter 2: Exercise 10

Sellos

Flear

Hem 1984

White to Play

Which is better: g3-g4 or ♔f6?

Solutions and detailed endgames are to be found in Chapter Eight.

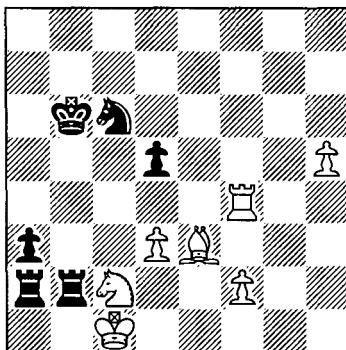
CHAPTER THREE

Basic Endgames

In this chapter the reader is required to use either general endgame technique or tactical awareness in order to solve the problems. I suggest that after attempting to solve the problems and carefully going through the solutions in Chapter Nine, it might be an idea to take note of which types of position you had difficulties with.

Here is an example to illustrate a typical exercise:

Rainfray-Flear
Creon 2001



A question may be in the following form:
*In this position Black played the flashy 1...d4
Does it work?*

To obtain an informed answer you would need to calculate the following lines:
2 $\mathbb{Q}xa3$ (hopeless are 2 $\mathbb{Q}xd4+$ $\mathbb{Q}xd4$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}xd4$ $\mathbb{Q}a1$ mate or 2 $\mathbb{Q}xd4$ $\mathbb{Q}xc2+$ 3

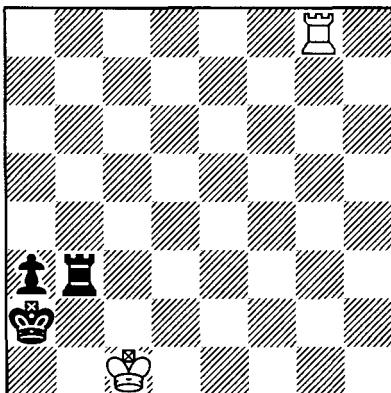
Basic Endgames

Qd1 Qxd4 etc. $2\dots \text{dxe3}$ ($2\dots \text{Qc5}$ is also good) 3Qc4+ Qb5 4Qxb2 Qa1+ 5Qc2 e2 6Qe4 e1Q 7Qxe1 Qxe1 and wins.

So it does work!

Remember to take your time (this is not a time trial) and, most of all, enjoy these positions!

Note: Solutions and detailed endgames are to be found in Chapter Nine.

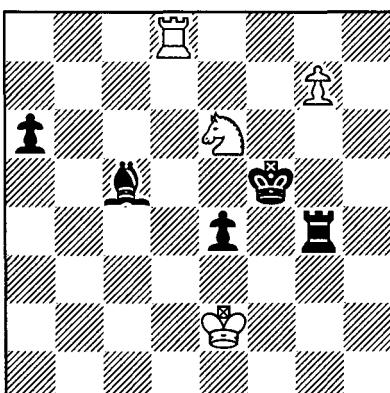


Chapter 3: Exercise 1

Silbermann
 Lindner
Hungary 1954

White to Play

White to play should draw, but how?

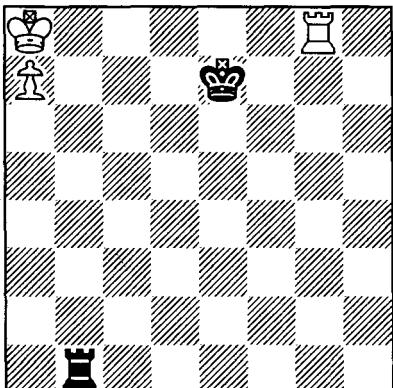


Chapter 3: Exercise 2

Piankov
 Prie
Laragne 2001

White to Play

A critical choice. Is there a way to win?

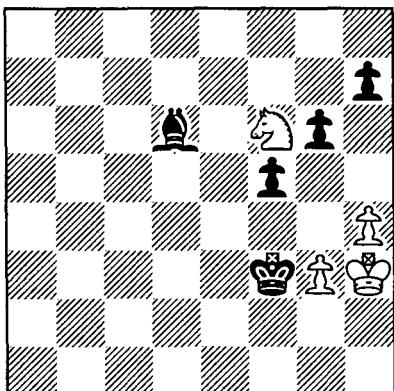


Chapter 3: Exercise 3

Test position

Black to Play

Determine how White wins after a) 1... $\mathbb{Q}d7$, and b) 1... $\mathbb{Q}d6$.

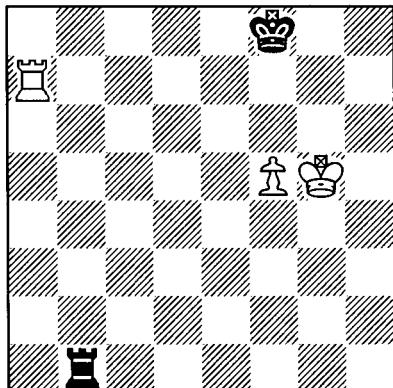


Chapter 3: Exercise 4

Nimzowitsch
 Davidson
Semmering 1926

Black to Play

Can you find a way for Black to win?



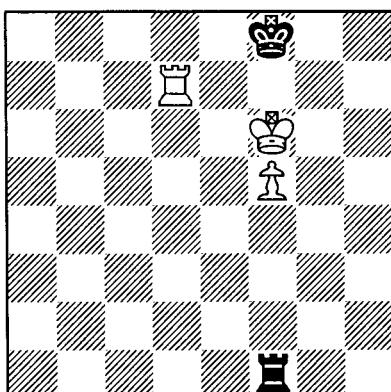
Chapter 3: Exercise 5

Philidor

Black to Play

This is the first position to learn in rook endings.

What is Black's best move, and the simplest way to obtain a draw?



Chapter 3: Exercise 6

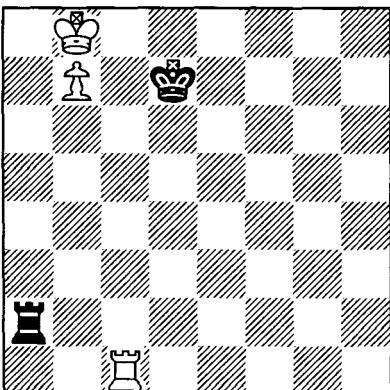
Gligoric

Fischer

Stockholm Interzonal 1962

Black to Play

What should Black do here?

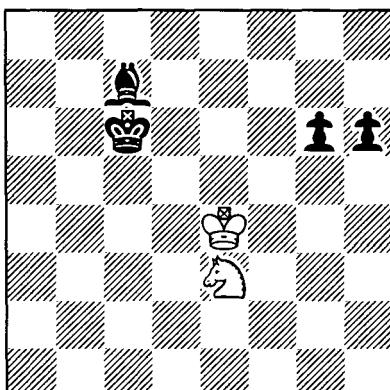


Chapter 3: Exercise 7

Lucena

White to Play

How does White force the win?

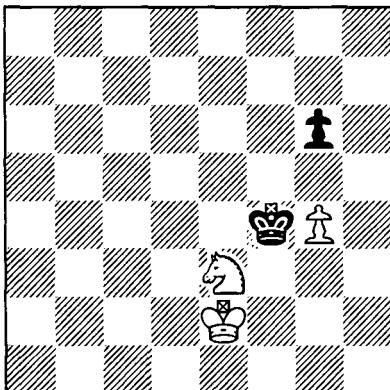


Chapter 3: Exercise 8

M.Buckley
 Arakhamia-Grant
Wroxham 2002

White to Play

Do either of 1 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ or 1 $\mathbb{Q}g4$ lead to a draw?

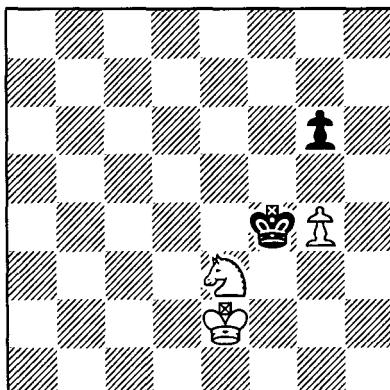


Chapter 3: Exercise 9

□ Blackburne
■ Zukertort
London 1881

White to Play

With White to play, he should be able to win. Can you see how?



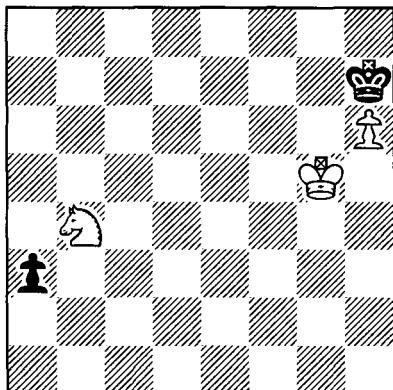
Chapter 3: Exercise 10

□ Blackburne
■ Zukertort
London 1881

Black to Play

This is the same position as in the previous example, but with Black to move.

This time can you show how Black can draw?



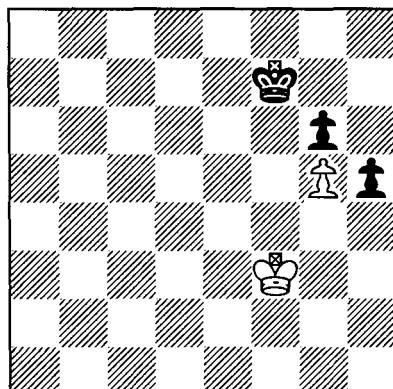
Chapter 3: Exercise 11

Yermolinsky
 Short
Tallinn/Parnu 1998

Black to Play

White would like to bring his knight across and organise a mate. Black must retreat his king.

The question is: which square?

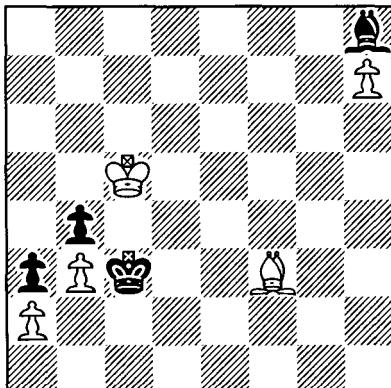


Chapter 3: Exercise 12

Staunton
 E.Williams
London 1851

White to Play

Can you see how to defend with White?



Chapter 3: Exercise 13

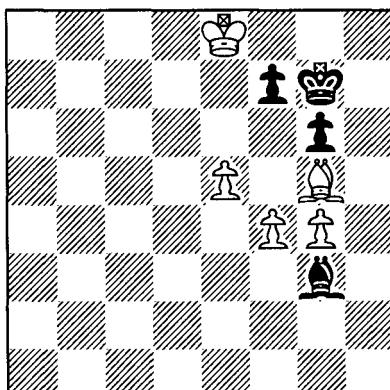
Voliani

Kosten

Latvian Training (e-mail) 2001

Black to Play

Should Black content himself with a draw (by passing with the bishop), or should he try for more (with 1... $\hat{q}b2$)?



Chapter 3: Exercise 14

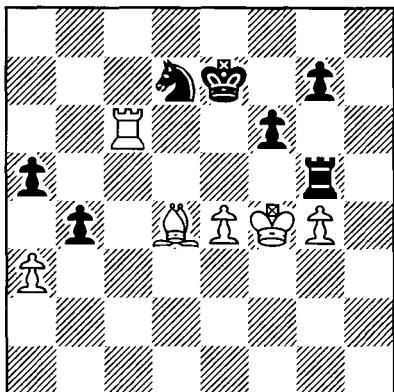
H.Olafsson

Kosten

Hastings 1990/1

White to Play

Can White win despite the limited material?



Chapter 3: Exercise 15

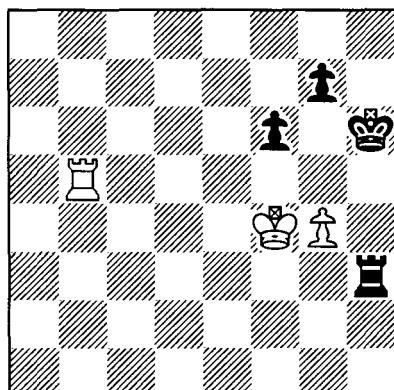
Degembe

Flear

St.Vincent 2002

White to Play

What is White's best defence?



Chapter 3: Exercise 16

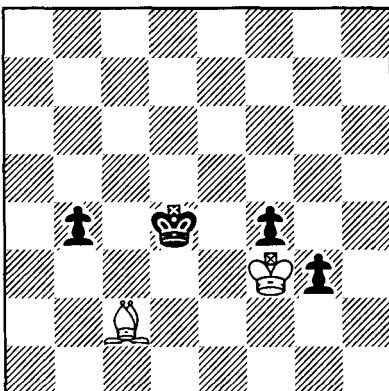
Degembe

Flear

St.Vincent 2002

White to Play

What should White do here?

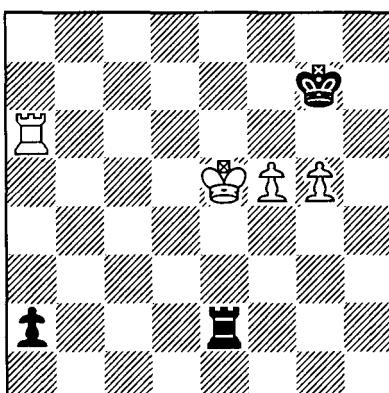


Chapter 3: Exercise 17

Kosten
 Adorjan
Esbjerg 1988

Black to Play

Can you find a way for Black to win?



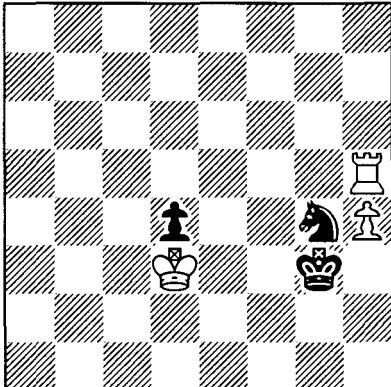
Chapter 3: Exercise 18

Euwe
 Alekhine
Holland (match) 1935
(Analysis position)

White to Play

In *Mastering the Endgame* I stopped here and foolishly claimed that the position was drawn as White has nowhere to hide. Karsten Müller pointed out to me that White can indeed win.

Can you see how?



Chapter 3: Exercise 19

Flear

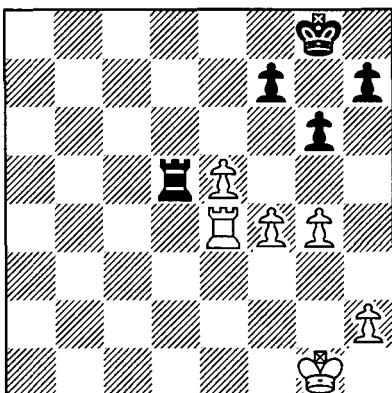
Maurer

Nice 2000

(Analysis position)

Black to Play

In *Mastering the Endgame* I claimed that White was winning, but Karsten Müller found a draw for Black. After 1... $\mathbb{Q}e3!$ (best) I gave 2 $\mathbb{Q}xd4 \mathbb{Q}g4$ 3 $\mathbb{B}h8 \mathbb{Q}f6$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}e5 \mathbb{Q}g4+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ as winning for White. How can Black improve on this?



Chapter 3: Exercise 20

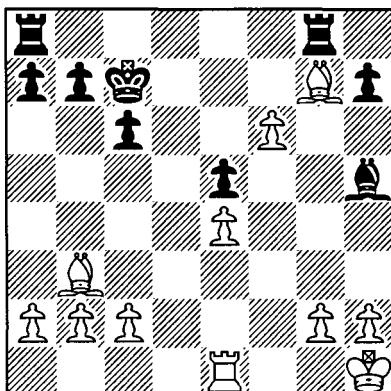
G.Buckley

D.Howell

Hastings Challengers 2001/02

Black to Play

What is the simplest way for Black to earn the draw?



Chapter 3: Exercise 21

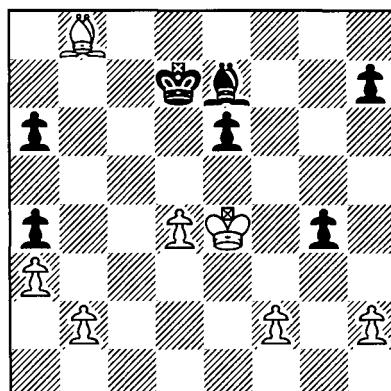
Moreno Tejero

Flear

Villarreal Team Ch., 2001

White to Play

How should White continue?



Chapter 3: Exercise 22

Flear

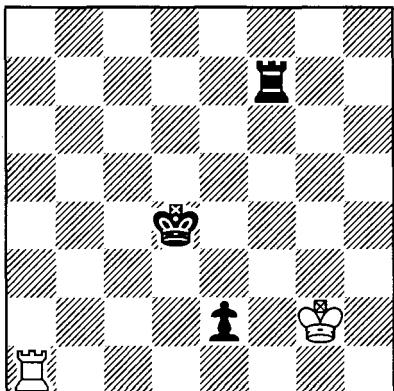
Knott

Hastings Challengers 2001/2

Black to Play

My opponent played 1... $\mathbb{Q}g5$ and the game was soon drawn. However, at the time I wasn't sure about 1... $\mathbb{Q}d6$.

What would the logical result then be? Analyse and find a convincing line to prove your decision?

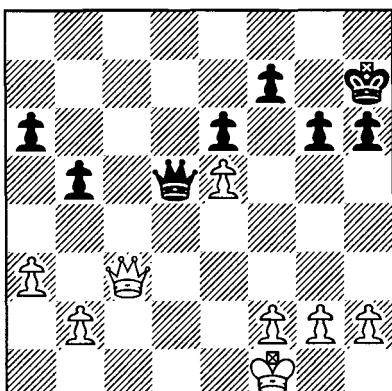


Chapter 3: Exercise 23

Skripchenko-Lautier
 H.Hunt
Leon 2001

Black to Play

Can Black win?

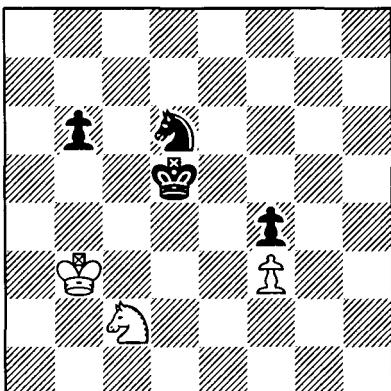


Chapter 3: Exercise 24

Marshall
 Maroczy
Ostend 1905

Black to Play

Can you see how Black can increase his advantage?



Chapter 3: Exercise 25

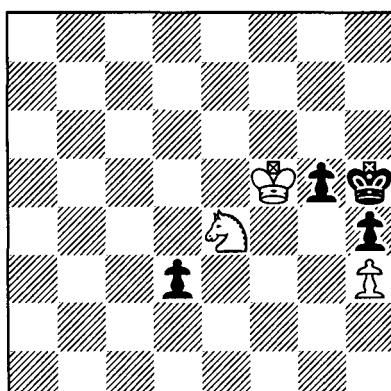
□ Botvinnik

■ Lisitsin

Moscow 1935

White to Play

Can White hold out despite being a pawn down?



Chapter 3: Exercise 26

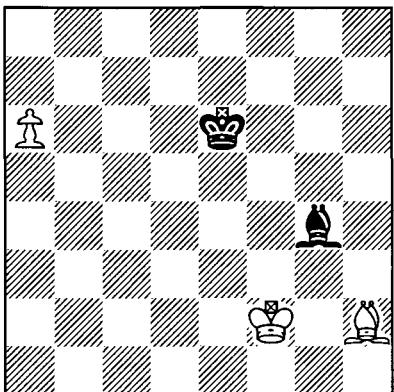
□ Sakharov

■ Vasiukov

USSR ch (Alma Ata) 1968
(Analysis position)

White to Play

How can White convert his advantage?

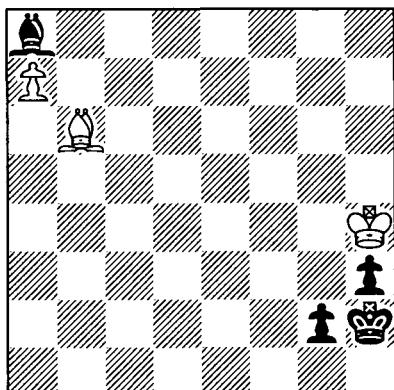


Chapter 3: Exercise 27

Berger 1922

Black to Play

How does Black draw?



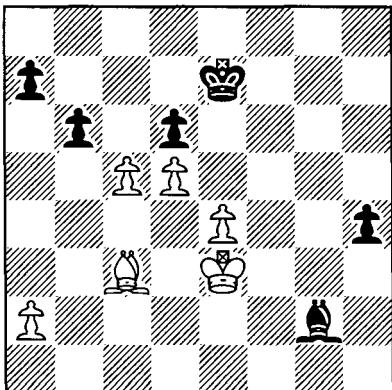
Chapter 3: Exercise 28

Szily
 Karakas

World Championship Zonal 1960

Black to Play

Can Black win?

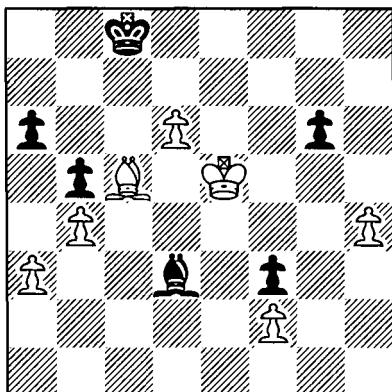


Chapter 3: Exercise 29

□ Kotov
■ Botvinnik
Moscow 1947

Black to Play

How should Black recapture?

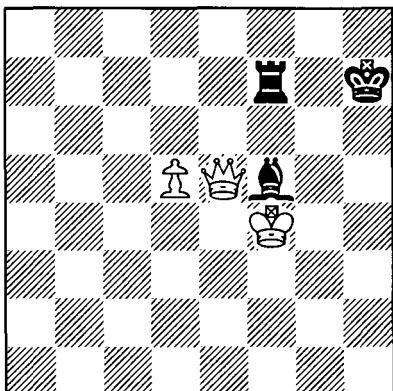


Chapter 3: Exercise 30

□ D.Howell
■ Charleshouse
Southend 2001

White to Play

Can you see how White won quickly?

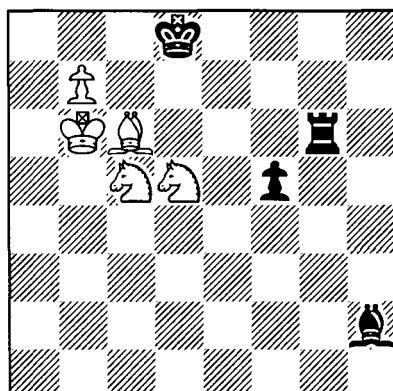


Chapter 3: Exercise 31

Cheshkovsky
 Flear
Wijk aan Zee B 1988

Black to Play

What result and why?

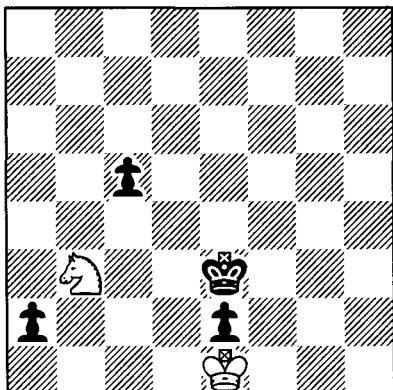


Chapter 3: Exercise 32

Flear
 Emms
Hastings Challengers 1989/90

White to Play

Any suggestions for White?

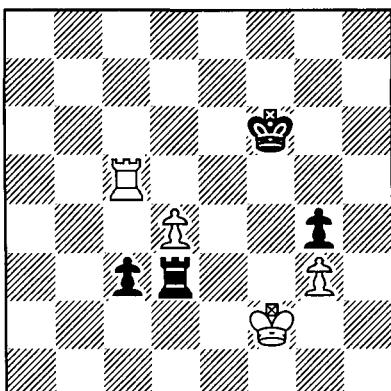


Chapter 3: Exercise 33

□ Voitzikh
■ Tikhomirova
USSR 1960

Black to Play

This seems to be easily winning for Black, but is it?

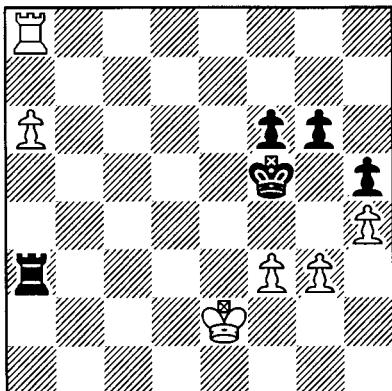


Chapter 3: Exercise 34

□ Spielmann
■ Capablanca
Moscow 1926

White to Play

Can you find a defence for White?



Chapter 3: Exercise 35

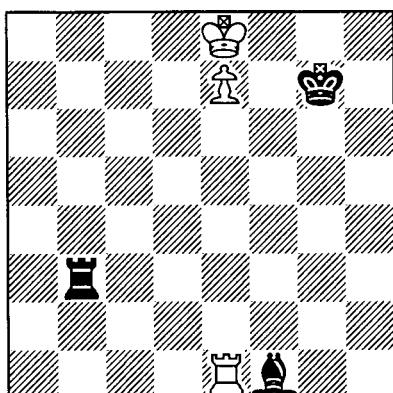
Unzicker

Lundin

Amsterdam Olympiad 1954

White to Play

How should White proceed?

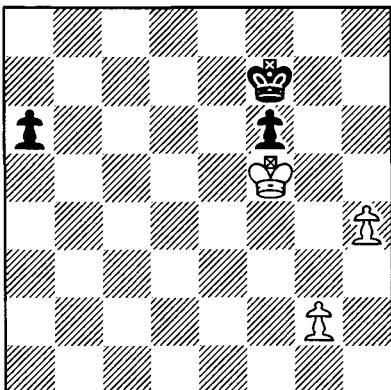


Chapter 3: Exercise 36

Exercise

White to Play

How does White win?

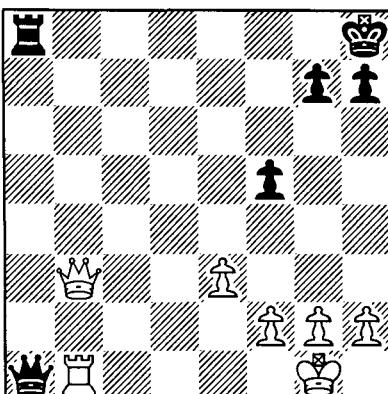


Chapter 3: Exercise 37

Nimzowitsch
 Tarrasch
San Sebastian 1911

Black to Play

What is the logical result?



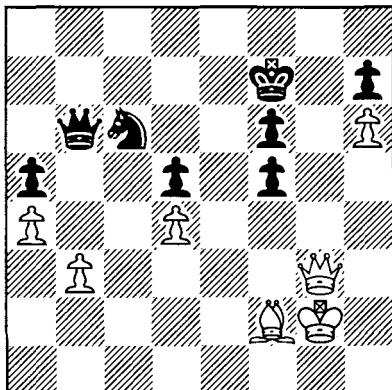
Chapter 3: Exercise 38

Polugaevsky
 Psakhis
USSR ch (Moscow) 1983

White to Play

White has an extra pawn.

Should he simplify into an ending or use tactical means to try and exploit his advantage?

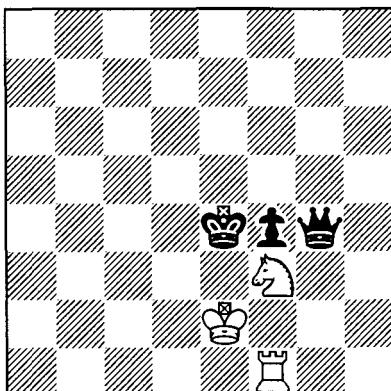


Chapter 3: Exercise 39

Short
 Bagirov
Baku 1983

Black to Play

Black is faced with the threat of $\mathbb{W}g7+$ followed by taking the h-pawn. What should he do?



Chapter 3: Exercise 40

Colle
 Alekhine
Paris 1925

Black to Play

Can you find the way to break down
White's blockade?

Solutions and detailed endgames are to be found in Chapter Nine.

CHAPTER FOUR

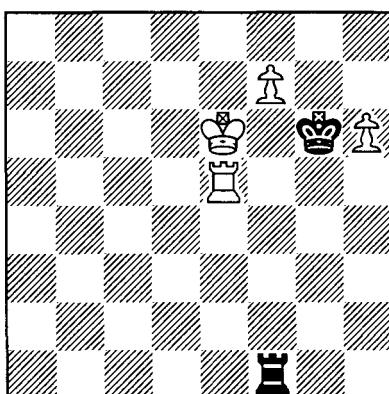
Intermediate Level

The selection here is intended to be more demanding than in the previous chapter. The solutions require rather refined techniques, subtle ideas or more involved variations. However, don't hurry! You'll need to use your powers of judgement more often and to be aware that some of the tactical lines are quite tricky.

If a particular exercise is proving frustrating, then don't give up! You can glance at Chapter Six, where specific hints are given, and then return to the problem. After having a further go and (hopefully!) finally solving the exercise, have a look at Chapter Ten to see if you were right. Read the solution carefully(!) because it will often include further illustrative material for your benefit.

Here's an example to give you a taste of what's to come:

A.Ivanov-Vitolins
Frunze 1979



The question could be:

What should be the result?

After trying in vain for a while you can look up the relevant exercise in Chapter 6, where it will say something like: *Black's king is just too well placed, isn't it?*

Then have a further go. Finally the answer in Chapter 10 will reveal all:

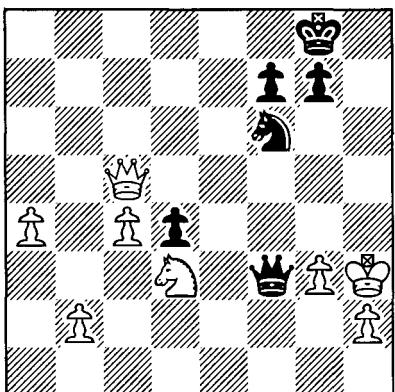
1 $\mathbb{Q}g5+$! (giving Black's king an unenviable choice!) 1... $\mathbb{Q}xg5$ (1... $\mathbb{Q}xh6$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}g8$ etc.) 2 $h7 \mathbb{Q}e1+$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}d7 \mathbb{Q}d1+$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}e8 \mathbb{Q}e1+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}f8 \mathbb{Q}h1$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}g7$

Now it is White's king that is rather well placed!

Are you ready to get down to some serious solving? Read on!

Hints can be found in Chapter Six.

Solutions and detailed endgames are to be found in Chapter Ten.



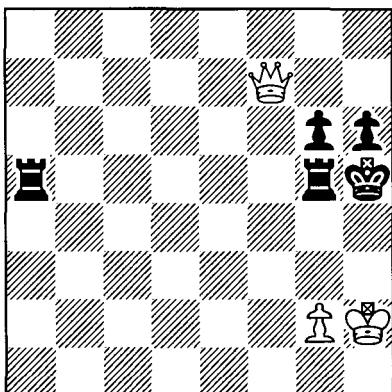
Chapter 4: Exercise 1

□ Short
■ Nunn
Brussels 1986

White to Play

White has a material advantage but Black has active play around the white king.

Should White still be looking to win or is it time to bail out with a draw?
Find the best line of play.

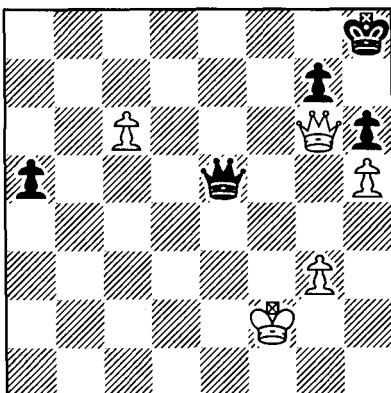


Chapter 4: Exercise 2

□ Karpov
■ Timman
Tilburg 1977
(Analysis position)

White to Play

Is White winning?



Chapter 4: Exercise 3

□ Bogolyubov

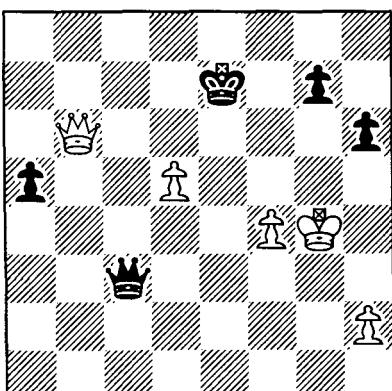
■ Stahlberg

Kemerri 1938

White to Play

White has the most dangerous passed pawn.

Can he benefit from this



Chapter 4: Exercise 4

□ Marshall

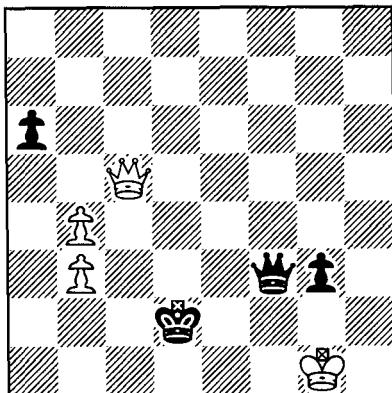
■ Alekhine

Bradley Beach 1929

Black to Play

White's passed pawn is further advanced but Black has the outside passed pawn.

Can Black exploit this?



Chapter 4: Exercise 5

Colle

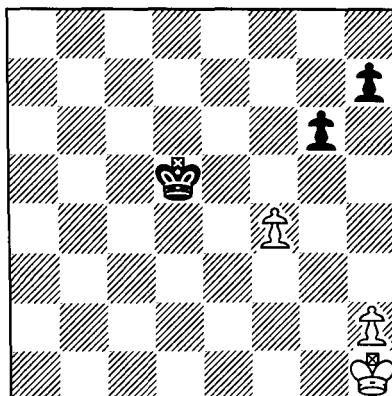
Pirc

Frankfurt 1930

(Analysis by Grigoriev)

Black to Play

Can Black win?



Chapter 4: Exercise 6

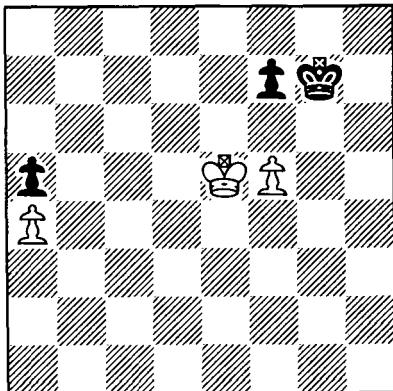
Filep

Mariotti

Reggio Emilia 1969/70

White to Play

White (to move) has time to come to the defence of the f-pawn, but Black's active king means that he is likely to be outmanoeuvred. Nevertheless, is there a defence?

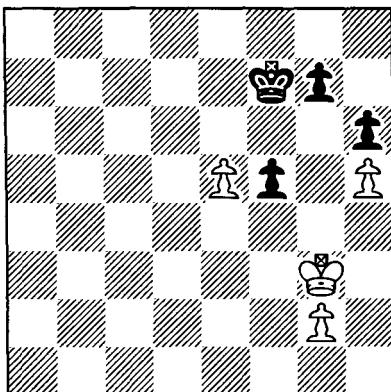


Chapter 4: Exercise 7

Kostro
 Filipowicz
Poland 1963

Black to Play

Tricky manoeuvring may be required.
Can you find Black's best move?

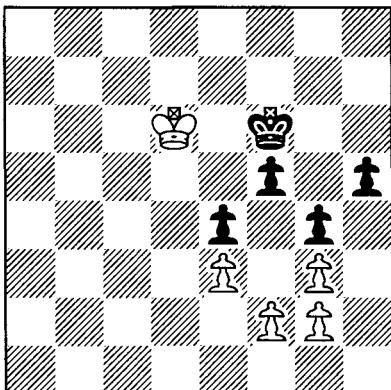


Chapter 4: Exercise 8

Iljin-Zhenevsky
 Botvinnik
USSR 1938

White to Play

Analyse this out to a win for White.

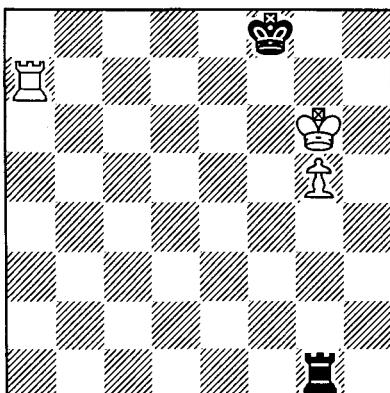


Chapter 4: Exercise 9

□ Pomar
■ Cuadras
Olot 1974

Black to Play

Equal pawns but White's king is more advanced.
So – what result?

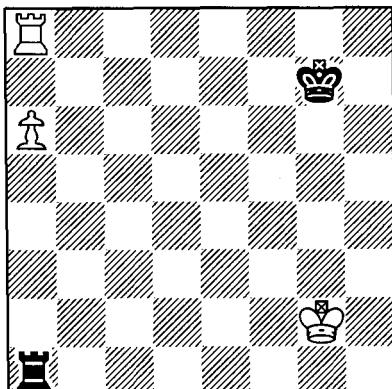


Chapter 4: Exercise 10

Exercise

White to Play

Can you find the way to win?
If in doubt, the hint in Chapter 6 may come in useful!

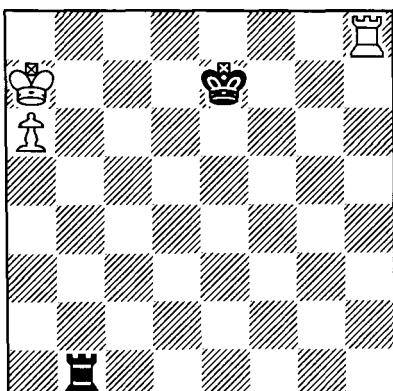


Chapter 4: Exercise 11

Exercise

Black to Play

How does Black defend?

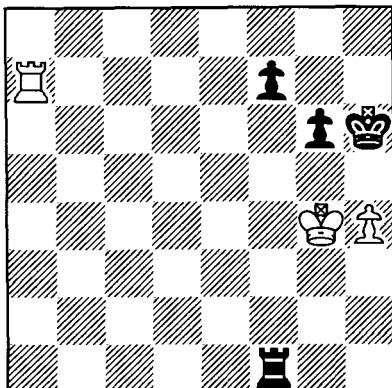


Chapter 4: Exercise 12

Karstedt 1896

White to Play

Can you show how White is winning?



Chapter 4: Exercise 13

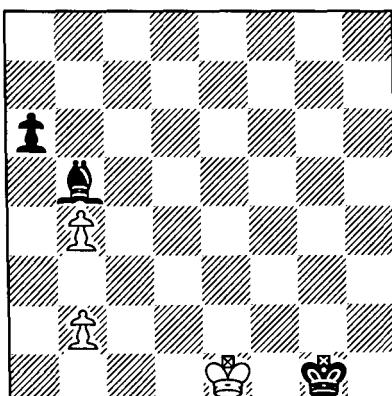
Grünfeld

Wagner

Breslau 1925

White to Play

What is White's best move – and why?



Chapter 4: Exercise 14

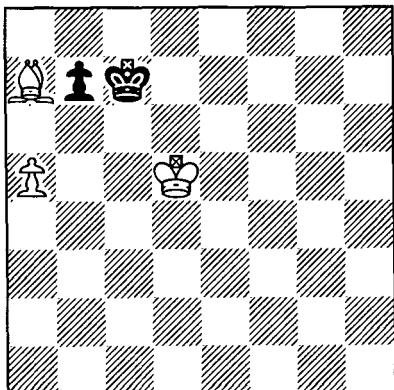
Short

Kasparov

Belgrade 1989

Black to Play

What result and why?



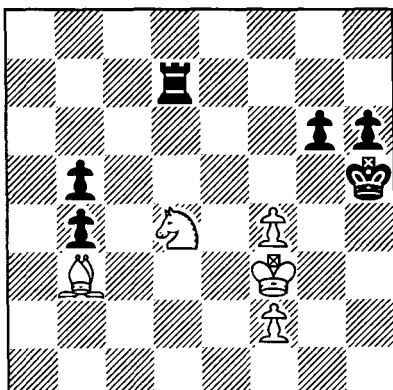
Chapter 4: Exercise 15

Paulsen
 Metger
Nuremberg 1888

White to Play

Some careful manoeuvring is required to prevent Black from getting his king into the corner.

How would you go about this?

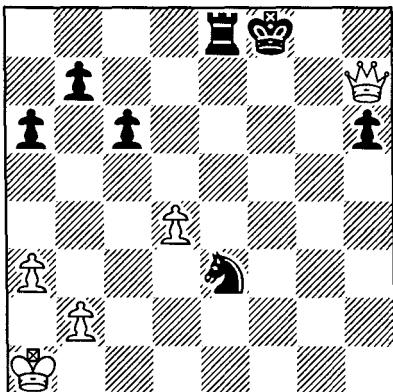


Chapter 4: Exercise 16

Flear
 Andruet
Athens 1989

White to Play

Any suggestions for White?



Chapter 4: Exercise 17

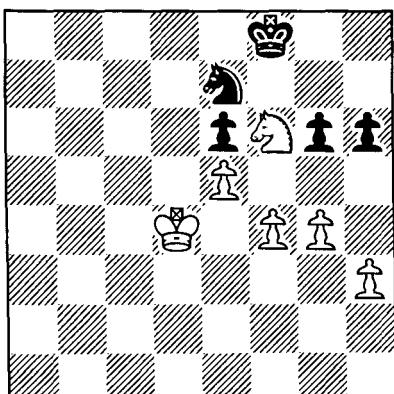
□ Azmaiparashvili

■ Flear

Belgrade 1988

Black to Play

What result and why?



Chapter 4: Exercise 18

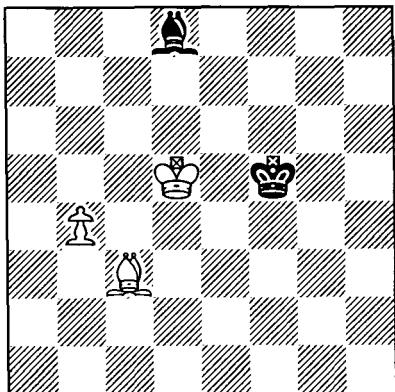
□ Boleslavsky

■ Ragozin

Moscow 1947

White to Play

Can you find a way to reach zugzwang?

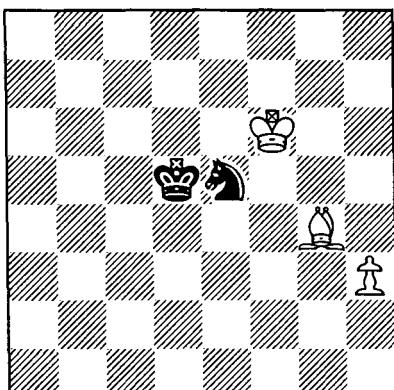


Chapter 4: Exercise 19

Capablanca
 Janowsky
New York 1916

Black to Play

A famous case of Black resigning in a drawn position.
Can you find the right plan?

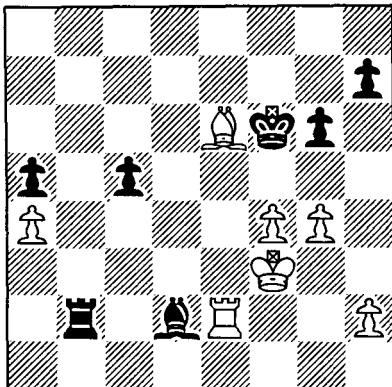


Chapter 4: Exercise 20

Fischer
 Taimanov
Vancouver 1971

Black to Play

How can Black draw?



Chapter 4: Exercise 21

□ Delchev

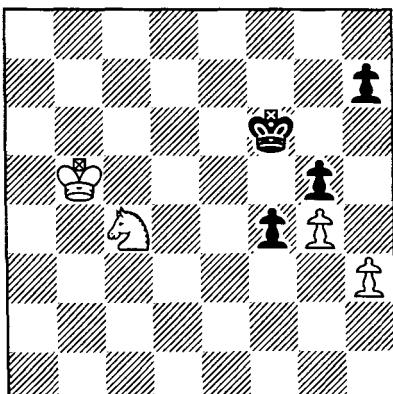
■ Flear

Creon 2001

White to Play

The game concluded 1 g5+ ♔g7 2 ♕d5 ♔f8 3 h4 ♔c3 4 ♕e6 ♕b4 5 ♕c6 ♕xa4 6 ♕xc5 ♔d2 7 ♔c4 ♕a3+ 8 ♔e4 ♕e3+ 9 ♔d5 ♕e7 10 ♕c8+ ½-½
After the game, my opponent regretted that he hadn't played 1 ♕d5!, which he thought was winning. However I was able to show him my intended drawing resource.

Can you find the way for Black to survive?



Chapter 4: Exercise 22

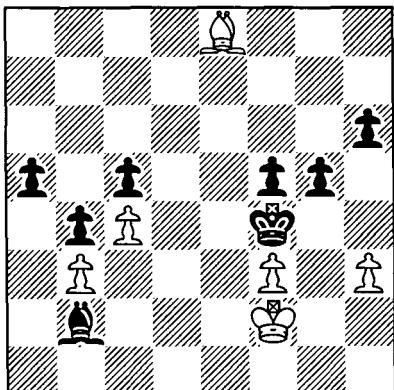
□ Nimzowitsch

■ Samisch

Copenhagen 1923
(Analysis position)

Black to Play

In *Mastering the Endgame* I claimed that White was winning after 1...f3 2 ♕d2 f2 3 ♕e4+ ♔e5 4 ♕xf2 ♔f4 5 ♔c4 ♔g3 6 ♕e4+ ♔xh3 7 ♕f6 but, somewhere in this line, Karsten Müller found a drawing resource.
What did he see that I didn't?

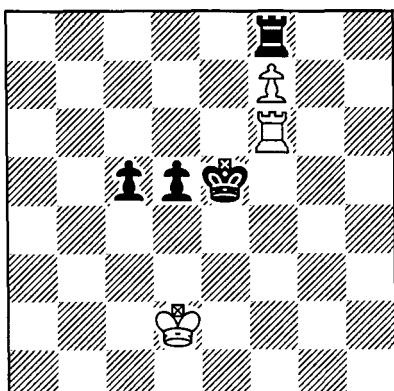


Chapter 4: Exercise 23

Motzer
 Trabert
St.Vincent 2002

Black to Play

How can Black win?

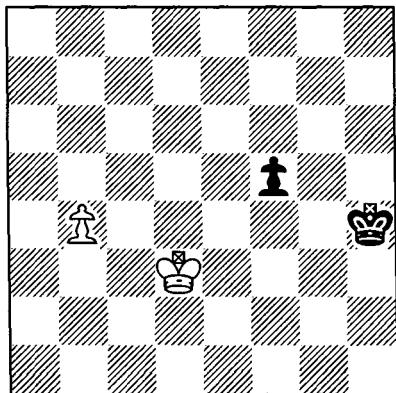


Chapter 4: Exercise 24

Kosten
 M.Gurevich
France 1991

White to Play

Can you find a way for White to draw?



Chapter 4: Exercise 25

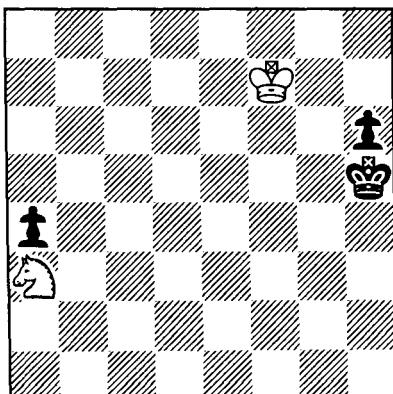
Najdorf

Vinuesa

Mar del Plata 1941

Black to Play

A pawn race with a twist or two.
Can Black draw?



Chapter 4: Exercise 26

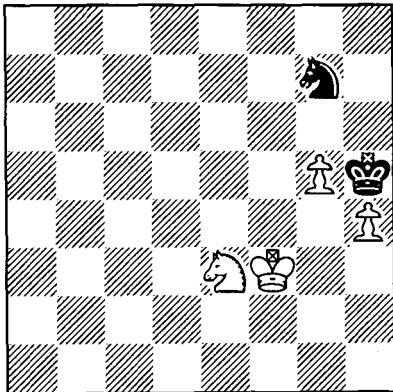
Hector

Levitt

Graested 1990

White to Play

Can you see how to draw by stopping both pawns?

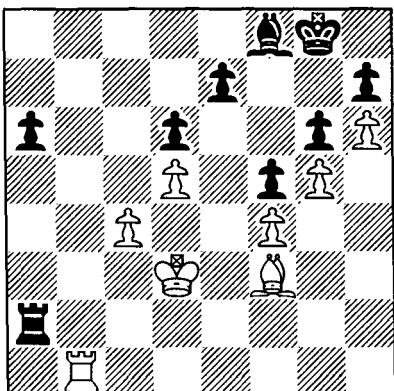


Chapter 4: Exercise 27

Serebrjanik
 K.Müller
Linares 1994
(Analysis position)

White to Play

How should White continue?

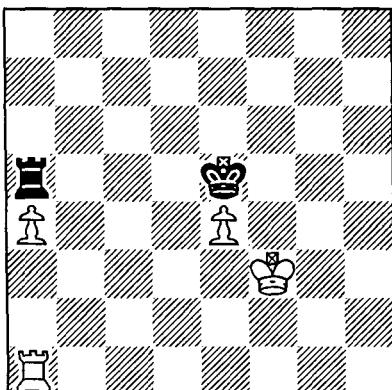


Chapter 4: Exercise 28

Karpov
 Kavalek
Nice Olympiad 1974

White to Play

What's happening?

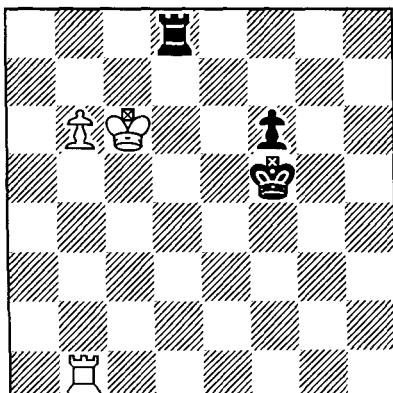


Chapter 4: Exercise 29

Kasparov
 Short
London match 1993

Black to Play

Black is two pawns down.
Is there any hope?

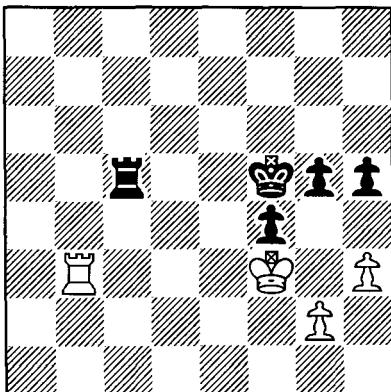


Chapter 4: Exercise 30

Alekhine
 Bogoljubov
The Hague 1929

Black to Play

A famous game where Black went wrong and subsequently lost.
Can you do better?

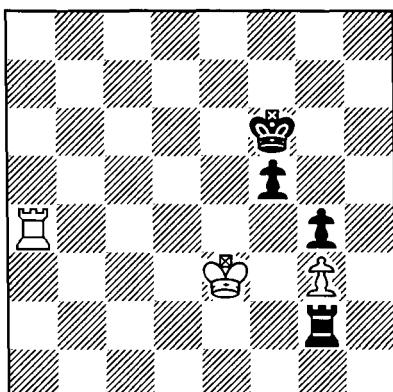


Chapter 4: Exercise 31

□ Lutikov
■ Taimanov
Moscow 1955

White to Play

Should White defend passively with 1 \mathbb{Q} a3 or activate with 1 \mathbb{Q} b8 – that is the question!?

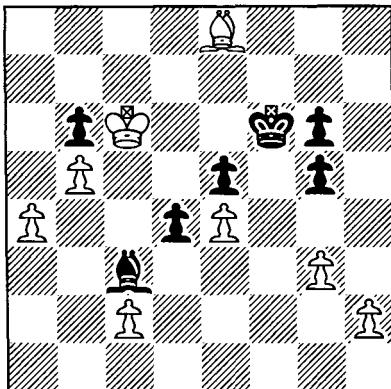


Chapter 4: Exercise 32

Exercise

White to Play

It looks a bit grim for White.
Is there anything he can do?



Chapter 4: Exercise 33

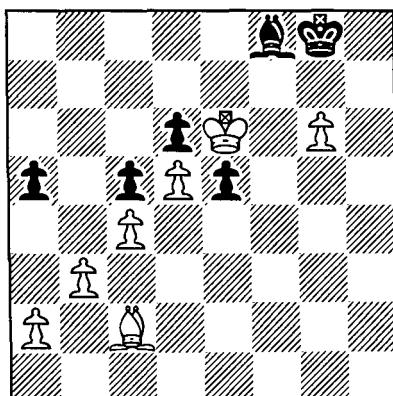
□ Botvinnik

■ Pachman

Leipzig Olympiad 1960

Black to Play

Black resigned here. Can you see why?



Chapter 4: Exercise 34

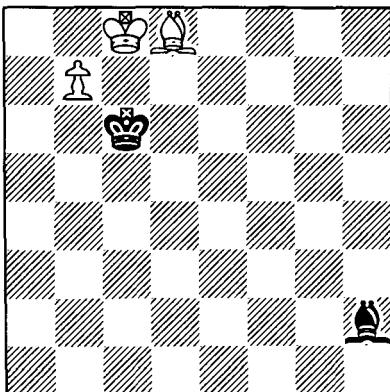
□ Farago

■ Zimmerman

Zalakaros 1992

White to Play

How did White win?

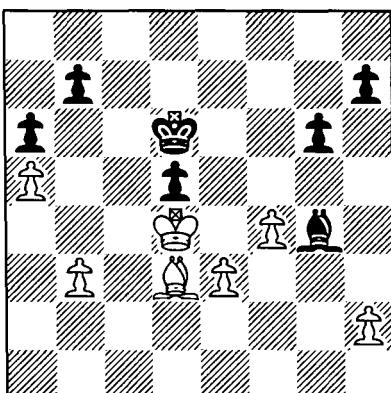


Chapter 4: Exercise 35

Centurini 1847

White to Play

A famous and instructive study.
How can White win?

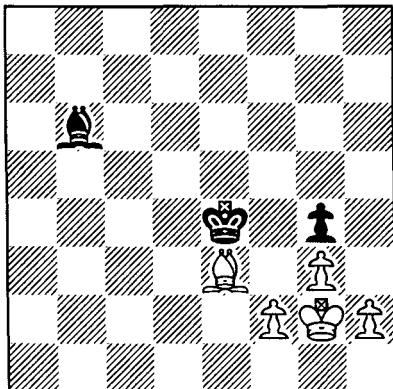


Chapter 4: Exercise 36

Polugaevsky
 Mecking
Mar del Plata 1971

White to Play

A classic ‘good versus bad’ bishop ending.
Can you (White) gradually improve your bishop and pawns to create a decisive zugzwang? Remember that your opponent is not running away, so there is no need to hurry!

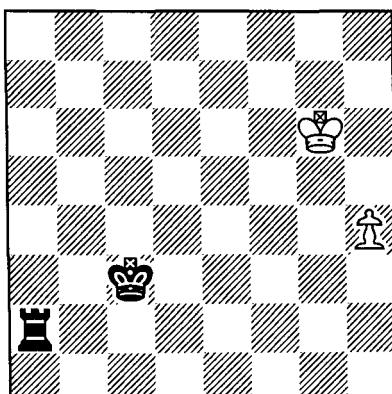


Chapter 4: Exercise 37

□ Cekro
■ Todorovic
Tuzla 1990

Black to Play

Is there any hope for Black?

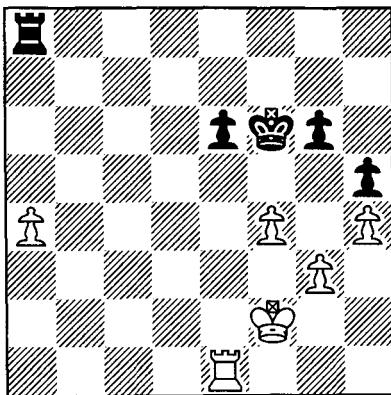


Chapter 4: Exercise 38

□ Hamdouchi
■ Topalov
Cap d'Agde (rapid) 1994

Black to Play

Win or draw?



Chapter 4: Exercise 39

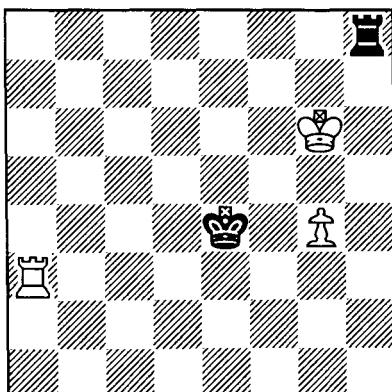
□ Yusupov

■ Timman

Linares 1992

White to Play

1 $\mathbb{H}a1$ or 1 $\mathbb{H}e4$ – which should White play?



Chapter 4: Exercise 40

□ Taimanov

■ Larsen

Palma de Mallorca 1970

White to Play

Black has just blundered. How can he be punished?

Hints can be found in Chapter Six.

Solutions and detailed endgames are to be found in Chapter Ten.

CHAPTER FIVE

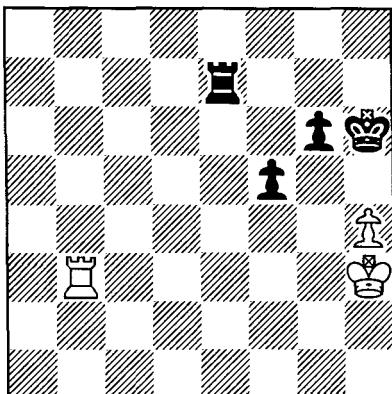
Advanced Level

Here the questions are intended to be pretty tough, the variations and ideas being less clear-cut and therefore requiring more time to work through. Some need more detailed analysis or contain one or more well hidden ideas. I hope to provoke the reader to get down to some serious investigations in this chapter.

However, don't get bogged down – training and analysis should be fun as well as enlightening. Remember there is always the hint in Chapter Six to help you out.

Here is an example to illustrate how the exercises should be approached. In this chapter you will be faced with an exercise such as the following:

**Vaisser-Djuric
Szirak 1985**



The question may ask:

Can you find a convincing way for White to defend?

Then you should have a good think and try and solve the puzzle without outside help, but if you really are struggling then have a quick look in Chapter Six at the related hint, which might say something like:

White must keep the Black king from maintaining pressure on the h4-pawn.

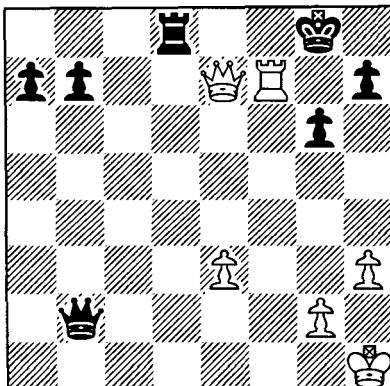
Then go back and see how this has helped. After (or during) the analysis process I suggest that you write down your variations. Finally, compare and see how well you have understood the salient points.

The answer should read something like:

1 $\mathbb{Q}g3!$ (1 $\mathbb{Q}b8 \mathbb{Q}e3+$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}h2 \mathbb{Q}h5$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}h8+$ [or 3 $\mathbb{Q}b4 \mathbb{Q}e4$] 3... $\mathbb{Q}g4$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}h6 \mathbb{Q}e6$ leads to a win for Black – see Chapter Four, Example 13) 1... $\mathbb{Q}e8$ (the main point is that 1... $\mathbb{Q}h5$ gets nowhere in view of 2 $\mathbb{Q}g5+$) 2 $\mathbb{Q}g1 \mathbb{Q}e3+$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}h2 \mathbb{Q}d3$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}g2 \mathbb{Q}d6$ (after 4...f4 5 $\mathbb{Q}g4 \mathbb{Q}d2+$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}g1 f3$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}f4 \mathbb{Q}d3$ White has 8 $\mathbb{Q}g4!$, and again 8... $\mathbb{Q}h5$ is met by 9 $\mathbb{Q}g5+$, while 4... $\mathbb{Q}h5$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}g5+$ $\mathbb{Q}xh4$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ is drawn) 5 $\mathbb{Q}h3 \mathbb{Q}f6$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}g5!$ (an important precision – cutting out ... $\mathbb{Q}h5$) and now advancing the f-pawn is foiled by blockading with the king, e.g. 6...f4 7 $\mathbb{Q}g2 f3+$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}f2 \mathbb{Q}f4$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}g3 \mathbb{Q}h5$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}g5+$ and White holds.

Hints can be found in Chapter Six.

Solutions and detailed endgames are to be found in Chapter Eleven.



Chapter 5: Exercise 1

Kasparov

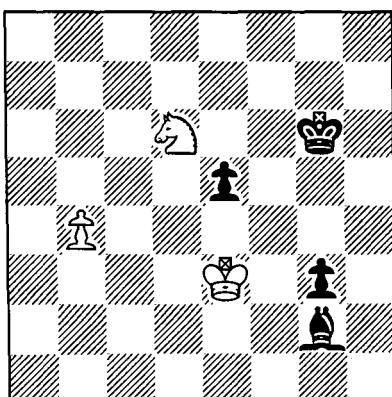
Karpov

London/Leningrad match 1986
(Analysis position)

White to Play

1 $\mathbb{R}xh7$ or 1 e4 – which is stronger?

How close can you get to Kasparov's analysis?



Chapter 5: Exercise 2

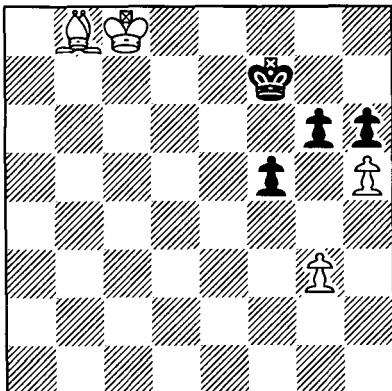
Flear

Mitkov

Toulouse 1996

White to Play

Find the correct line of play.



Chapter 5: Exercise 3

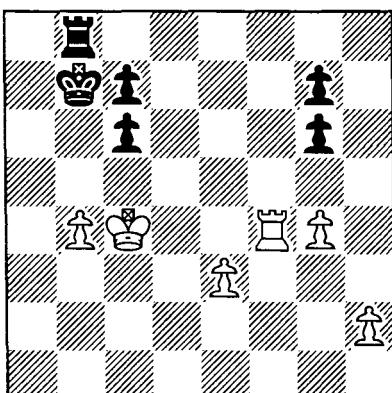
King

Flear

Cheltenham Team Ch., 1994

Black to Play

Black can draw, but in the game I failed to do so!
Can you do better?



Chapter 5: Exercise 4

Baklan

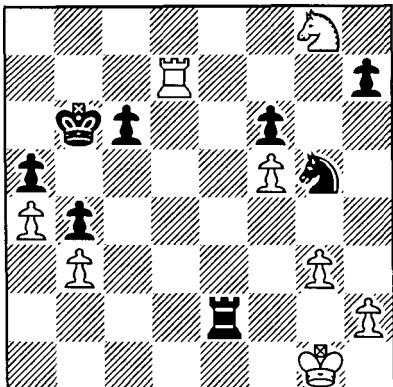
Flear

Montpellier Team Ch., 1999

White to Play

Where did White miss a win in the following continuation?

1 $\mathbb{R}f7$ $\mathbb{R}e8$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}d4$ $\mathbb{R}d8+$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{R}h8$ 4 $\mathbb{R}xg7$ $\mathbb{R}xh2$ 5 $\mathbb{R}xg6$ $\mathbb{R}b2$ 6 $g5$
 $\mathbb{R}xb4+$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ $c5$ 8 $\mathbb{R}h6$ $c4$ 9 $\mathbb{R}h4$ $\mathbb{R}b5+$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $c3$ 11 $\mathbb{R}h1$ $\mathbb{R}b2$ 12 $g6$
 $\mathbb{R}f2+$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}e7$ $\mathbb{R}g2$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}f7$ $\mathbb{R}f2+$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}g8$ $c2$ 16 $g7$ $\mathbb{R}h2$ 17 $\mathbb{R}c1$ $\mathbb{Q}c8$ 18
 $\mathbb{Q}f7$ $\mathbb{R}f2+$ 19 $\mathbb{Q}e6$ $\mathbb{R}g2$ 20 $\mathbb{R}xc2$ $\mathbb{R}xg7$ 21 $e4$ $\mathbb{Q}d8$ 22 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{R}h7$ 23 $e5$
 $\mathbb{R}h6+$ 24 $\mathbb{Q}f7$ $\mathbb{R}h7+$ 25 $\mathbb{Q}g6$ $\mathbb{R}h1$ 26 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{R}h6+\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$?



Chapter 5: Exercise 5

□ Duncan

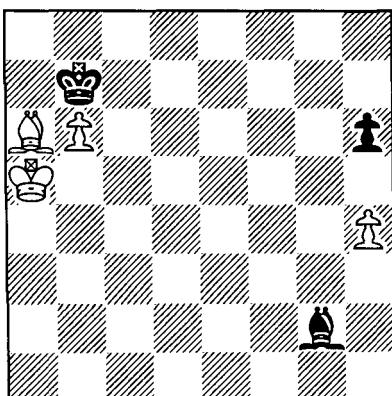
■ Flear

Hastings Challengers 1993/94

White to Play

Analyse the following moves and see if you can find an improvement for White.

1 ♕g8 ♜b2 2 ♔xf6 ♜xb3 3 ♔xh7 ♔xh7 4 ♜xh7 ♜f3 5 g4 ♜f4 6 h3 b3 7 ♜h8 ♛c5 8 ♜b8 ♜b4 9 ♜d8 b2 10 ♜d1 ♜c4 0-1



Chapter 5: Exercise 6

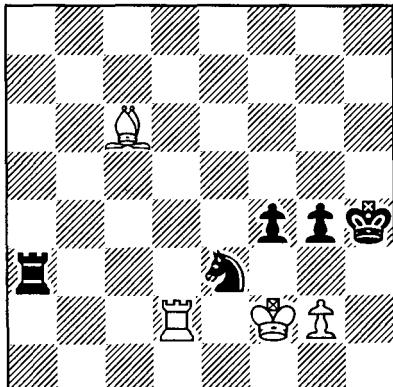
□ Eliskases

■ Capablanca

Semmering/Baden 1937

Black to Play

1...♛c6 or 1...♛b8 – which is the correct square, and why?



Chapter 5: Exercise 7

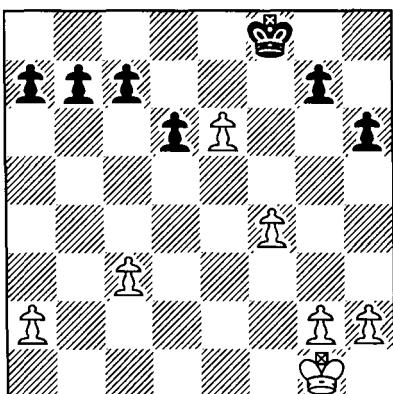
Yanofsky

Fischer

Stockholm Interzonal 1962

Black to Play

Fischer was able to demonstrate the winning plan.
Can you also find the way for Black to win?



Chapter 5: Exercise 8

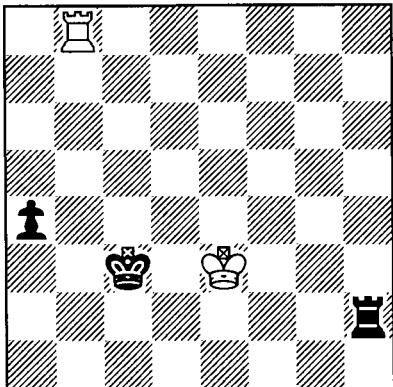
Leygue

Flear

Creon 1999

Black to Play

What result? And why?



Chapter 5: Exercise 9

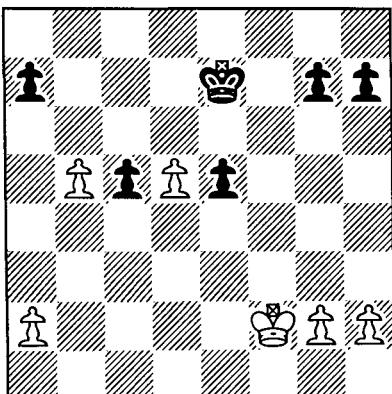
□ Euwe

■ Alekhine

Holland match 1935

White to Play

Can you show that White is drawing?



Chapter 5: Exercise 10

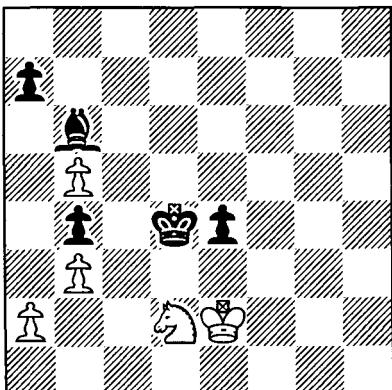
□ Guliev

■ Tukmakov

Nikolaev 1993

White to Play

What do you think White should do?

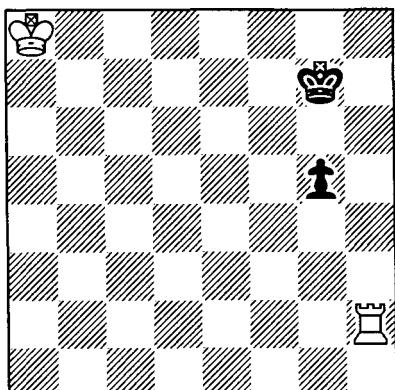


Chapter 5: Exercise 11

Spassky
 Botvinnik
USSR Team Ch., 1966

White to Play

Here White must seek the right way to set up a defensive fortress.
Can you find it?

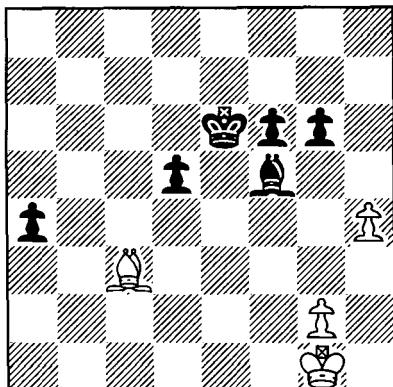


Chapter 5: Exercise 12

Lerner
 Dorfman
Tashkent 1980

White to Play

Can White really win with his king so far away?



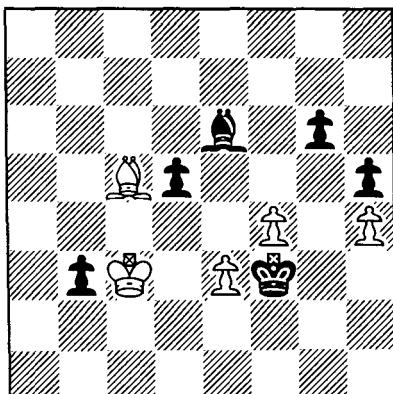
Chapter 5: Exercise 13

□ Topalov
■ Shirov
Linares 1998

Black to Play

Black already has two passed pawns but the a-pawn is the ‘wrong’ rook’s pawn. He needs to rapidly get his king into the white camp.

How did Black force the win?

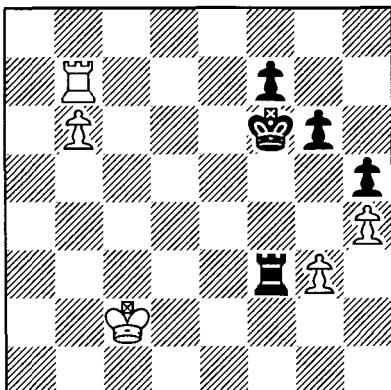


Chapter 5: Exercise 14

□ Kotov
■ Botvinnik
USSR ch (Moscow) 1955

Black to Play

Can Black create winning chances?



Chapter 5: Exercise 15

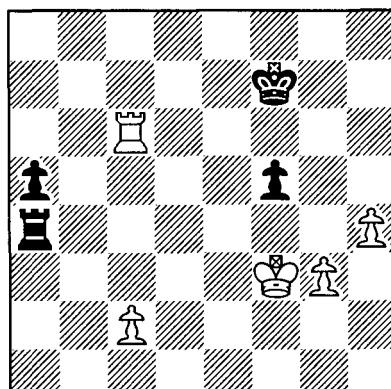
Hollis

Florian

Correspondence 1979

Black to Play

Find a convincing defence for Black.



Chapter 5: Exercise 16

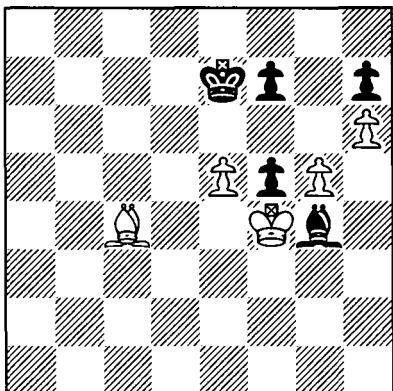
Schlechter

Lasker

Vienna match 1910

Black to Play

How does Black hold?

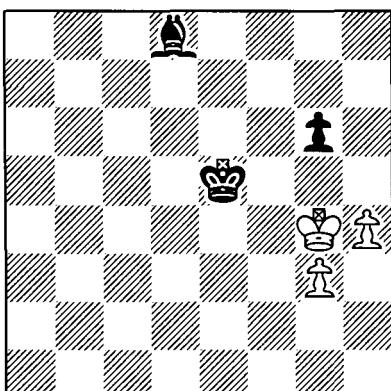


Chapter 5: Exercise 17

G.Timoshchenko
 Stephenson
Hastings Challengers 1996/97

White to Play

How does White win?

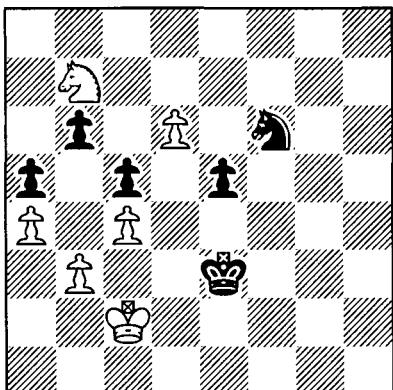


Chapter 5: Exercise 18

Tolstikh
 Zakharevich
Ekaterinburg 1997

Black to Play

Can Black really win?



Chapter 5: Exercise 19

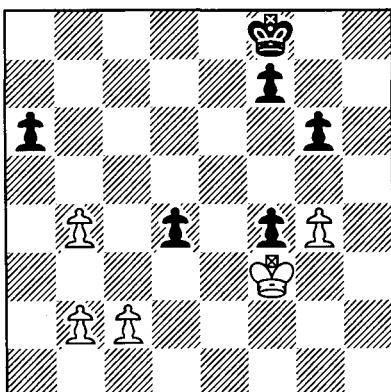
□ Albut

■ Lerner

Kiev 1978

White to Play

The d-pawn is stopped in it's tracks so White needs to create other threats.
How?



Chapter 5: Exercise 20

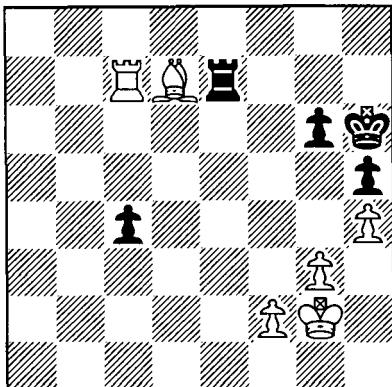
□ Rigo

■ Wagman

St. Vincent 2002

Black to Play

Is Black winning?



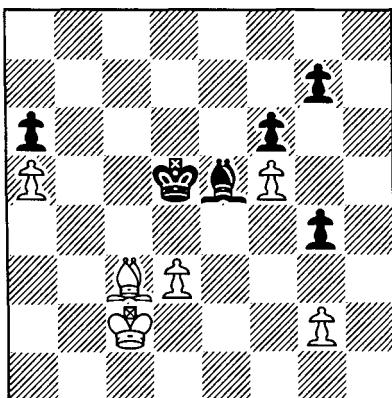
Chapter 5: Exercise 21

□ Arkell
■ S.Buckley
Swansea 2001

White to Play

Black is threatening to push the c-pawn and thus win back his piece, when the resulting rook and three versus rook and two scenario would be distinctly drawish.

What can White do to retain the advantage?

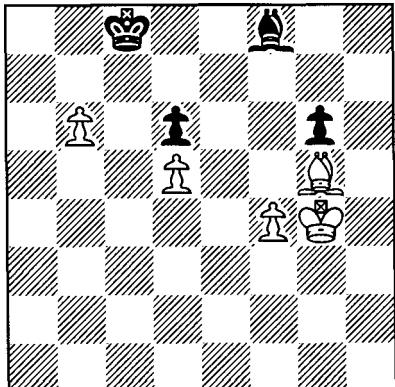


Chapter 5: Exercise 22

□ Fernandez Garcia
■ Khenkin
St.Vincent 2002

Black to Play

How should Black proceed?



Chapter 5: Exercise 23

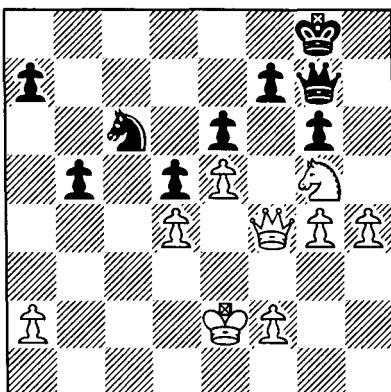
Gallagher

Krush

Hastings 2001/2

White to Play

How can White win?



Chapter 5: Exercise 24

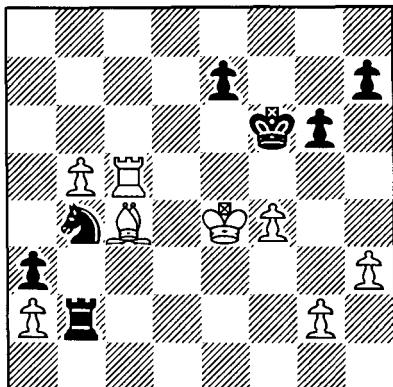
Matulovic

Cvetkov

Varna 1975

White to Play

White has an extra pawn and some pressure on the kingside, but can he make something from his advantage?



Chapter 5: Exercise 25

Flear

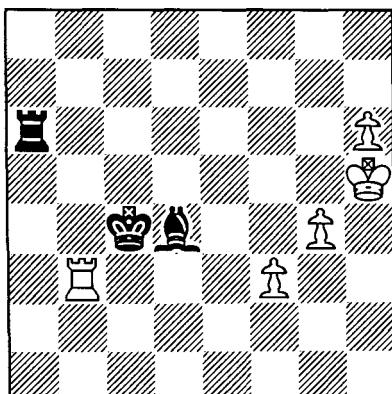
Cherniaev

Hastings Challengers 2001/02

White to Play

It looks complicated, but with White having the move he must be able to create some threats.

Analyse and determine if this is enough to win.



Chapter 5: Exercise 26

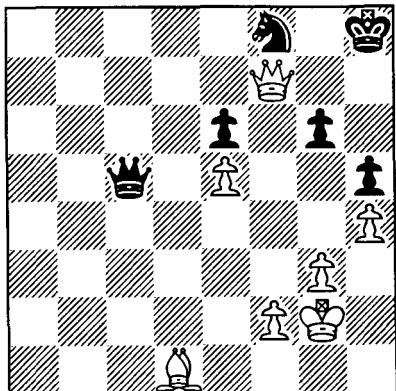
Stanojoski

Flear

Hastings Challengers 2001/2

White to Play

With three passed pawns for the piece White must have winning chances. Can you find his best chance of converting the advantage?



Chapter 5: Exercise 27

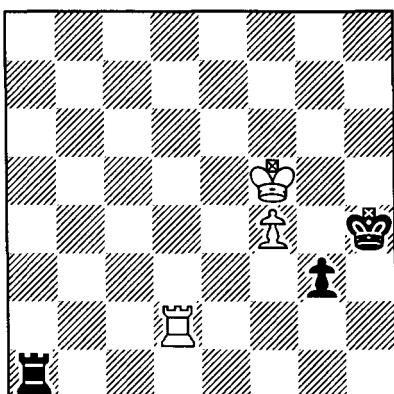
Kasparov

Karpov

Seville match 1987

Black to Play

At this point Black resigned in a crucial World Championship game.
Why?



Chapter 5: Exercise 28

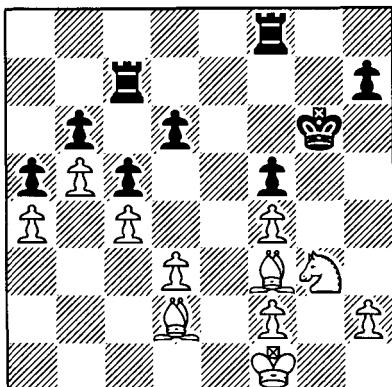
Geller

Fischer

Palma Interzonal 1969

White to Play

White to play. What's the best chance for a draw?

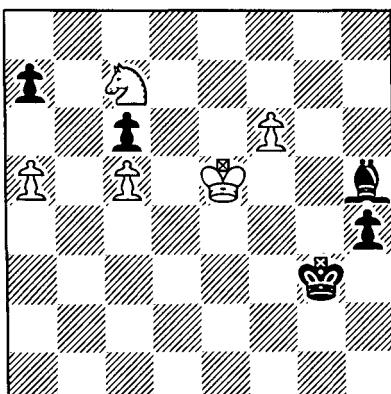


Chapter 5: Exercise 29

Capablanca
 Alekhine
Ostend 1936

White to Play

Black resigned at an adjournment.
Can you formulate a logical winning plan for White?

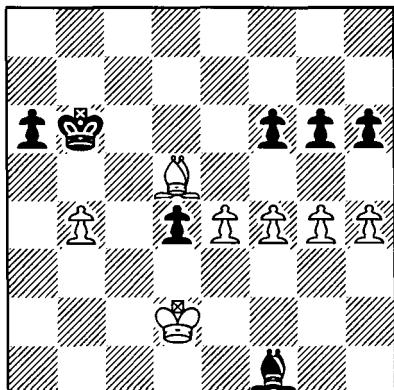


Chapter 5: Exercise 30

Bernstein
 Maroczy
San Sebastian 1911

White to Play

Analyse this position. Can you prove a win for White?



Chapter 5: Exercise 31

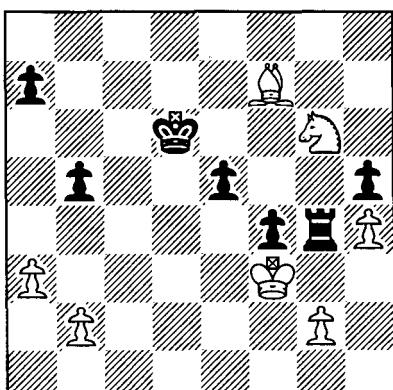
Goglidze

Bannik

Riga 1954

White to Play

How should White proceed?



Chapter 5: Exercise 32

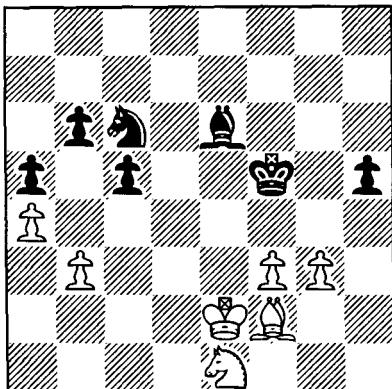
Flear

Kasimdzhanov

Villeneuve-Tolosane 1997

White to Play

Black has a dominant game. Find a way for White to organise his pieces to create practical problems and thus generate chances to hold?



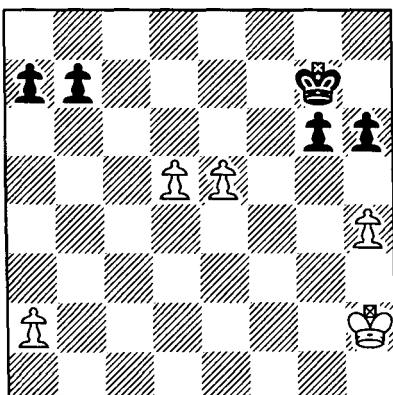
Chapter 5: Exercise 33

Flear
 Campos Moreno
Palma de Mallorca 1991

White to Play

White, to play, has a rotten position. However, if he is able to find a chink in Black's armour, perhaps he can present him with enough practical problems to earn drawing chances.

Any suggestions?

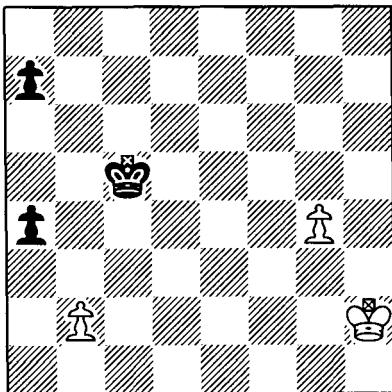


Chapter 5: Exercise 34

Pillsbury
 Tarrasch
Nuremberg 1896

Black to Play

A tricky looking position (Black to play). What result do you think is probable? Can you find a logical line of play to endorse your opinion?

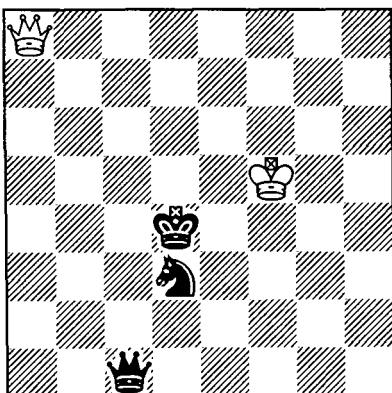


Chapter 5: Exercise 35

□ Tukmakov
■ Ubilava
USSR 1972

Black to Play

How should Black continue?

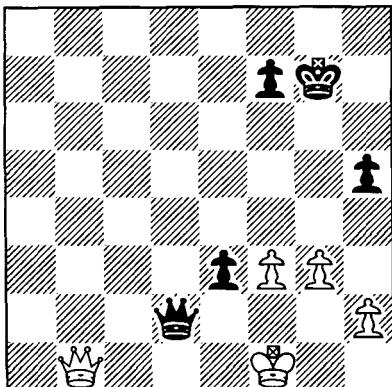


Chapter 5: Exercise 36

□ Lengyel
■ Levy
Cienfuegos 1972

Black to Play

Can you calculate how Black wins?

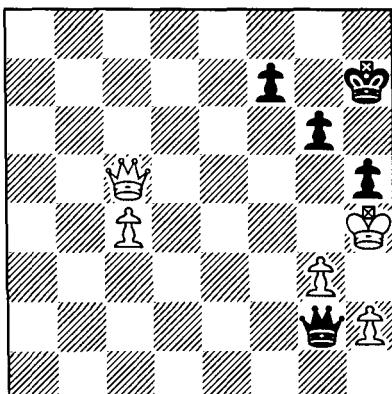


Chapter 5: Exercise 37

Izeta
 Flear
Seville 1987

White to Play

This looks unpleasant for White, but he was able to find a path that ultimately led to a draw. Can you do likewise?

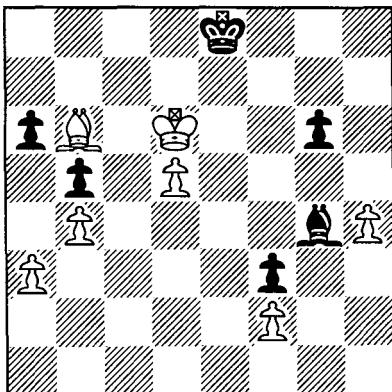


Chapter 5: Exercise 38

Zvonicky
 Hmelnicky
USSR 1988

White to Play

What should White do here?

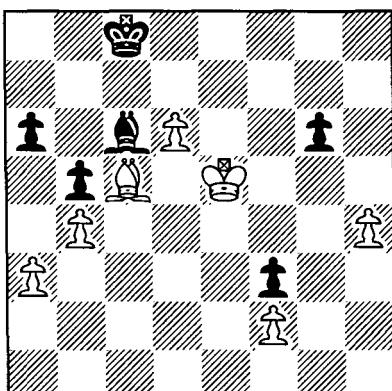


Chapter 5: Exercise 39

D.Howell
 Charleshouse
Southend 2001
(Analysis position)

White to Play

Can you find the way to win?



Chapter 5: Exercise 40

D.Howell
 Charleshouse
Southend 2001
(Analysis position)

White to Play

Can you find a way to break down Black's staunch resistance?

Hints can be found in Chapter Six.

Solutions and detailed endgames are to be found in Chapter Eleven.

CHAPTER SIX

Hints for Chapters Five and Six

Here I have included some useful pointers for the difficult questions in Chapters 4 and 5.

Hints for Chapter 4

Exercise 1: White's king is too exposed to hope to win, try and find a way to cop-out with a draw.

Exercise 2: A timely zugzwang will help.

Exercise 3: In queen endings passed pawns and centralised queens are important factors.

Exercise 4: In which ending do outside passed pawns really come into their own?

Exercise 5: zugzwang is simplest.

Exercise 6: Stalemate!

Exercise 7: Combining attack and defence is the key.

Exercise 8: zugzwang is inevitable.

Exercise 9: Any chance of getting a passed pawn?

Exercise 10: 1 $\mathbb{Q}a8+$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}h6$ is foiled by 2... $\mathbb{Q}f7!$ so White must take sufficient control of the g6-square in order to successfully advance the pawn.

Exercise 11: The white king must be denied shelter.

Exercise 12: Did you manage to solve Exercise 3 in Chapter 3?

Exercise 13: It's important to stop Black's king becoming too threatening.

Exercise 14: White draws easily without the b-pawns, do they make a difference?

Hints for Chapters Five and Six

Exercise 15: White needs to meet ...b6 or ...b5 by advancing the a-pawn.

Exercise 16: Think of Black's king.

Exercise 17: Can Black erect a permanent blockade?

Exercise 18: Restrict the black knight further.

Exercise 19: Find the right role for the king.

Exercise 20: The king must get to the corner. But how?

Exercise 21: Black must get counterplay immediately.

Exercise 22: Can Black avoid White's winning manoeuvre?

Exercise 23: Threats to create passed pawns on both wings can be tough to meet.

Exercise 24: Improve the prospects for White's king and limit Black's.

Exercise 25: An f-pawn gives better drawing prospects than an 'e' or g-pawn!

Exercise 26: White's king cannot stop the h-pawn alone. But for the knight to come across the king must first enter the square of the a-pawn. Have I said enough?

Exercise 27: Watch out for ... $\mathbb{Q}xg5$.

Exercise 28: Maintain the initiative!

Exercise 29: Activate!

Exercise 30: Think of the role of the black king in the king and rook versus king and pawn ending.

Exercise 31: Black's king must be denied an invasion route.

Exercise 32: If all else fails you can always play for stalemate!

Exercise 33: Two hints! zugzwang and the weakness of the g6-pawn.

Exercise 34: Create a second passed pawn.

Exercise 35: zugzwang must come into play somewhere. But at which point?

Exercise 36: Tie the black bishop down as much as possible.

Exercise 37: Stop White freeing his king.

Exercise 38: A typical time-gaining sequence is required.

Exercise 39: Keep Black as passive as possible.

Exercise 40: Don't let White get organised. Harass him!

Hints for Chapter Five

Exercise 1: Keep the initiative!

Exercise 2: Passed pawns must be pushed!

Exercise 3: Black must liquidate all the white pawns.

Exercise 4: Find a better way to get the g-pawn running.

Exercise 5: There must be another way of slowing the b-pawn.

Exercise 6: Black must get ready to capture the b-pawn if White's king is walking over to the kingside.

Exercise 7: Find how to invade with the black king.

Exercise 8: Who has the most dangerous majority?

Exercise 9: Any chance of invading with the king?

Exercise 10: Can White use his majority before it's too late?

Exercise 11: White needs to meet ... $\mathbb{Q}xa2$ with $\mathbb{Q}c2$ when the knight is blockading the e-pawn.

Exercise 12: Any chance of frustrating one of Black's typical defensive ploys?

Exercise 13: Use your imagination!

Exercise 14: With opposite bishops a second passed pawn is often required.

Exercise 15: How is Black's rook going to keep the b-pawn under observation?

Exercise 16: Activate the rook!

Exercise 17: White must combine threats by both the e- and h-pawns. But how?

Exercise 18: Negate the effectiveness of White's annoying h4-h5 push.

Exercise 19: A second passed pawn would do nicely!

Exercise 20: Think of the quality of the two majorities.

Exercise 21: White must create threats elsewhere.

Exercise 22: Pick the right moment to get into the race.

Exercise 23: Black seems to be holding everything intact, but is very restricted. Does this help?

Exercise 24: Try to create some threats in another sector.

Exercise 25: Did you find 1 g4! $\mathbb{Q}xa2$ 2 g5+ $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}c8$ h6 4 $\mathbb{Q}g8+$ $\mathbb{Q}h7$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}e8$? Well try from here – it is very forcing.

Hints for Chapters Five and Six

Exercise 26: Two passed pawns on the sixth generally defeat a rook.

Exercise 27: If Black ever loses the g6-pawn, then be on the look out for stalemate traps.

Exercise 28: Harass the Black king!

Exercise 29: First of all tie Black down to a weakness.

Exercise 30: Pawns are often more important than pieces.

Exercise 31: Concentrate your efforts on creating a dangerous passed pawn.

Exercise 32: You have to use what space is available to activate your pieces.

Exercise 33: How can White get a piece to attack Black's Achilles' heel?

Exercise 34: White is obliged to get his king into the black camp.

Exercise 35: After the preliminary 1... $\mathbb{Q}d5!$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}h4$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}h5$ $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}g5$ Black has a crucial decision. What is best here?

Exercise 36: If you're stuck, check it out to the end.

Exercise 37: The white queen must find a way to bother the black king.

Exercise 38: Careful! Isn't it a bit risky still playing for a win?

Exercise 39: Winning the a-pawn is a start, but White will eventually need to create a second passed pawn.

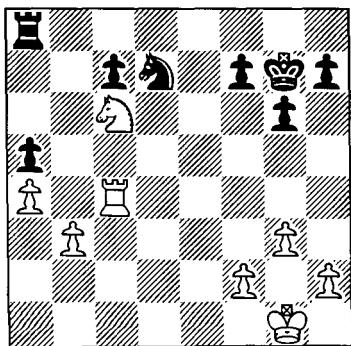
Exercise 40: zugzwang + inspiration = 1-0.

CHAPTER SEVEN

Solutions to Chapter One

This chapter is closely related to Chapter One, containing the same exercises plus the solutions within the context of the complete endgame.

Game 1 Razuvaev-Flear, Rome 1990



Exercise 1

Who is better and why?

What should each player be aiming to do over the next few moves?

Solution

Weaknesses in the pawn structure can oblige the defender to stay passive. As this is the case here, White is better.

He should maintain the bind and bring up his king to help keep Black tied up. White has slightly the better pawn structure and actively deployed pieces. It may not be enough to win, but can make the opponent's defensive task very unpleasant, in part because counterplay is not easy to find. Any move of Black's rook away from the a5-pawn not only loses the pawn but $\mathbb{Q}xa5$ for White protects the b3-pawn (the only weak point in White's position).

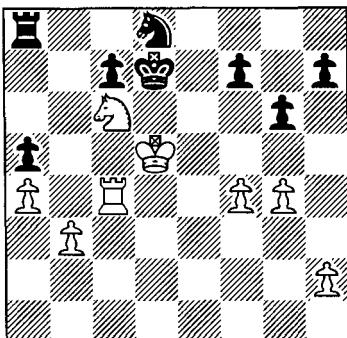
Black should aim to use his king to help bolster the c-pawn but, unfortunately, the immediate 1... $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}f1$ $\mathbb{Q}e6?$ is not possible as after 3 $\mathbb{Q}d4+$ $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}b5$ White wins the c-pawn.

1... $\mathbb{Q}a6$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}f1$ $\mathbb{Q}f8$

After 2... $\mathbb{Q}b6$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}c2$ (better than 3 $\mathbb{Q}c5?!$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$, when White cannot capture the a-pawn) Black still has difficulty in bringing his king over: 3... $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}d3$, and now 5... $\mathbb{Q}d6$ is met by 6 $\mathbb{Q}d8$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ (not 6... $f5?$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}b7+$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}c5+$ etc.) 7 $\mathbb{Q}b7$ $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}d4$ $\mathbb{Q}a7$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}e2+$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ $\mathbb{Q}b4$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}e8$, where Black holds things to-

gether for the moment, but the king cannot help out on the queenside.

If Black insists on going to the queenside with 9... $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}c5+$ $\mathbb{Q}c6$ (after 10... $\mathbb{Q}d6?$ simply 11 $\mathbb{Q}e4+$ wins a piece), then 11 $\mathbb{Q}e8$ leaves Black's kingside in danger, e.g. 11... $h5$ 12 $h4$ $\mathbb{Q}b4$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}e7$ $\mathbb{Q}c2+$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}c3$ $\mathbb{Q}xc5$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}xc2$ and White wins at least a pawn.
 3 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{Q}f8$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}e8$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ $\mathbb{Q}a8$ 7 $f4$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 8 $g4$ $\mathbb{Q}d8$



Exercise 2

Should White exchange knights?

Solution

There is no hard and fast rule in such positions. The stronger side should naturally take into account the relative 'activity' of the pieces remaining on the board. Active pieces are, however, not the final aim – White will be on the look-out for a chance to win material and create passed pawns. A pure rook ending generally gives the defender better chances, particularly if he can then activate his rook, for instance 9 $\mathbb{Q}xd8$ $\mathbb{Q}xd8$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ $\mathbb{Q}c8+$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}d2$ with counterplay.

9 $\mathbb{Q}e5+$!

So White keeps the knights.

9... $\mathbb{Q}c8$ 10 $f5$

Black's pieces are gradually denied any useful squares (note how passive his pieces are compared to White's, so simplification on move 9 would have eased the defence).

10... $\mathbb{Q}a6$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ $\mathbb{Q}a8$

Now 11... $\mathbb{Q}xc6$ is no good as after 12 $\mathbb{Q}xc6$ (following 12... $\mathbb{Q}xc6$ Black soon loses the a-pawn and the game) 12... $\mathbb{Q}a8$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ the kingside falls. Then 'counter-activity' with 13... $\mathbb{Q}b8$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}xf7$ $\mathbb{Q}xb3$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}xh7$ is clearly a case of too little, too late.

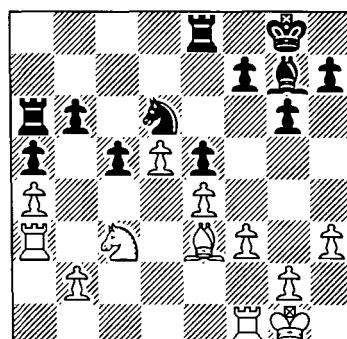
12 $\mathbb{Q}d4$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}e5$ $\mathbb{Q}a6$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}b5$ $f6+$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}c6$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}c3$ $\mathbb{Q}b6$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}d3+$ $\mathbb{Q}c8$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}h3$ $gxf5+$ 19 $gxf5$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 20 $\mathbb{Q}xh7$ $c6$ 21 $\mathbb{Q}d6+$ $\mathbb{Q}b8$ 22 $\mathbb{Q}h8+$ 1-0

After 22... $\mathbb{Q}c7$ (22... $\mathbb{Q}a7$ 23 $\mathbb{Q}c8+$) 23 $\mathbb{Q}e8+$ $\mathbb{Q}b7$, 24 $\mathbb{Q}xf6$ wins easily.

The conclusion that can be drawn from this experience is that weak points become more debilitating if the defending side cannot become active.

Game 2

Flear-Blot, Cap d'Agde 1998



Exercise 3

Why does White have the better

game?

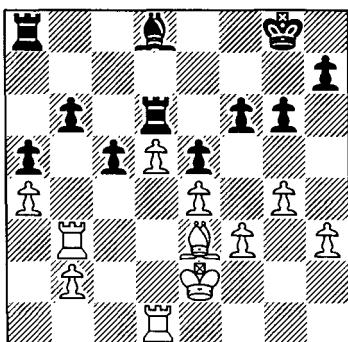
Which of Black's pieces should he aim to exchange?

Solution

Black has made some positional concessions in the middlegame and now is left with some weak light squares and a typical bad bishop. White has a protected passed pawn, whereas Black's three queenside pawns are held up by only two of White's.

White must exchange off the black knight, which is a useful defensive piece.

1 $\mathbb{B}b3 \mathbb{Q}f6$ 2 $\mathbb{B}d1 \mathbb{B}d8$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}f2 \mathbb{B}d7$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}e2 \mathbb{B}d8$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}b5 \mathbb{B}a8$ 6 $g4 f6$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}xd6 \mathbb{B}xd6$



Exercise 4

What should White do now?

Can you suggest a good role for his king?

Solution

8 f4!

With Black busy covering the queenside *White undertakes to open a second front*, creating extra problems for Black to solve.

8... $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 9 $fxe5$ $fxe5$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}f2 \mathbb{Q}e8$ 11

$\mathbb{Q}g3 \mathbb{Q}d8$ 12 $\mathbb{B}f1 \mathbb{Q}c7$ 13 $\mathbb{B}bf3 \mathbb{B}d7$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}d3$

(Solution) White has placed his pieces on ideal squares and is in no hurry to create direct threats. He intends to increase the pressure further by *putting the king on b5*, which provokes some action on Black's part...

14... $c4+!?$

A desperate try for counterplay since a continuation such as 14... $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}c4 \mathbb{Q}g8$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}b5 \mathbb{Q}g7$ 17 $\mathbb{B}f6 \mathbb{Q}g8$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ would be too much to bear!

15 $\mathbb{Q}xc4 \mathbb{Q}d6$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}b5 \mathbb{B}c7$

Black has some breathing space but White still has well-placed pieces, as well as a material lead. However, as the character of the position has changed he must be vigilant, so the following tactical exchanges have to be well calculated in advance.

17 $\mathbb{B}c3 \mathbb{Q}xc3$ 18 $bxc3 \mathbb{B}c8$ 19 $\mathbb{B}f6$

The slower 19 $\mathbb{B}f6$ is also good.

19... $\mathbb{B}xc3$ 20 $\mathbb{B}xd6 \mathbb{Q}xg3$ 21 $\mathbb{B}e6 \mathbb{Q}f7$ 22 $\mathbb{Q}xb6 \mathbb{B}xh3$ 23 $\mathbb{B}xe5$ 1-0

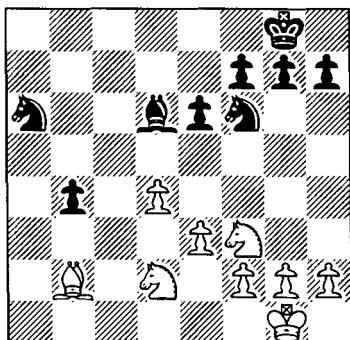
The two powerful connected passed pawns in the centre assure an easy victory.

By keeping control of events White was able to maintain and subsequently enhance early positional gains. In such games there is no obvious divide between the middlegame and ending, the game flowing towards a logical conclusion.

Game 3

Flear-Fontaine, St.Affrique 1999

Black offered a draw here which, White (to play) refused.



Exercise 5

What are the factors that justified his playing on?

What plan do you think he should employ?

Solution

I judged that the b-pawn was a weakness rather than a strength, and that Black has less chance to use his king actively. The course of the game illustrates White's plan: *blockading and pressurising the b-pawn* and the avoidance of any targets for Black on the other wing.

1 ♕f1 ♖d5 2 ♕e2

Bringing the king over is the first phase.

2...♗b6 3 ♖d3 ♖c7 4 ♖c4

Thus White obtains the c4-square for his king.

4...♖xc4 5 ♖xc4 f5 6 h3 h6 7 ♖c1

White redeploys his pieces in order to pressurize b4.

7...♕f7 8 ♖d2 ♖d5 9 ♖e1 g5 10 ♖d3

The pawn falls.

10...h5 11 ♖xb4!

11 ♖xb4 ♖xb4 12 ♖xb4 would give Black more hope as the knight is a useful defender.

11...♘xb4?!

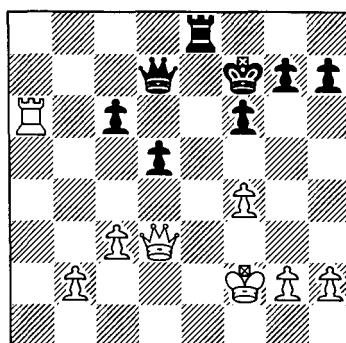
A poor choice. Black should try to keep pieces on to complicate White's task, e.g. 11...♗b8.

12 ♖xb4 g4 13 ♖d3 ♕e7 14 f3 gxh3 15 gxh3 h4 16 ♖e5 ♕f6 17 f4 ♗e7 18 ♖f3 ♕f7 19 d5 exd5+ 20 ♕xd5 ♕g6 21 ♕e6 1-0

The game continuation confirms that White had a clear advantage in the initial position.

Game 4

Bryson-Flear, Dundee 1991



Exercise 6

At first sight there doesn't seem to be very much in the position, with pieces and pawns being equal and little asymmetry. However, if we look more closely there might be one or more factors that favour Black. Can you see any?

Solution

With the white pawn committed to f4 the *e4-square is a useful outpost for Black's rook*, thus ensuring some cover for his own king whilst permitting pressure against White's.

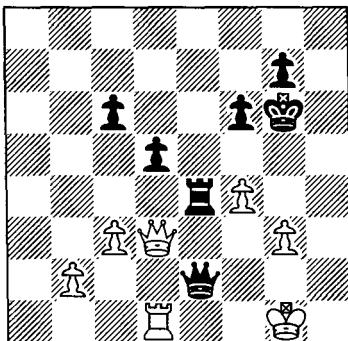
1...♜e4 2 ♜d2 h5

Aiming to use the h-pawn to accentuate the kingside threats.

3 ♜g1 ♜g6 4 ♜a1 ♜g4 5 g3

5 ♜f1 leads to the loss of a pawn after 5...♜e2 6 ♜d3+ ♜h6 7 g3 ♜xb2.

5...h4 6 ♜d3 hxg3 7 hxg3 ♜e2 8 ♜d1



Exercise 7

How should Black proceed?

Solution

Black needs to use his king actively to increase the pressure.

8...♚f5!

Simplification into a pure rook ending will be promising – White's king is restricted to the first rank and Black's king can advance on the light squares.

9 b4 ♜g4 10 ♜xe2+ ♜xe2 11 ♜d3 ♜h3!

The g-pawn falls. Now White does his best to complicate matters.

12 ♜f1 ♜g2 13 b5 cxb5 14 ♜xd5 ♜xg3 15 ♜xb5 ♜g4

Inaccurate is 15...♜xc3?! as after 16 ♜b7 ♜g3 17 ♜f2 White has excellent drawing chances because he holds on to the f-pawn. Any further simplification into the ending of rook and pawn against rook will be drawn.

Instead Black hopes to obtain two connected passed pawns, usually a decisive advantage, even if White retains a passed c-pawn (15...♜f3+ 16 ♜e2 ♜xf4 was another way to achieve this).

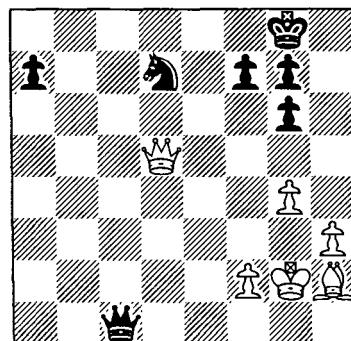
16 f5 ♜f3+ 17 ♜g2 ♜xf5 18 ♜b1 ♜c5 19 ♜c1 g5 20 ♜f2 ♜f4 21 ♜e2 ♜e4

Prudently preventing White's king from approaching the rook. However, the straightforward 21...g4 also wins, e.g. 22 ♜d3 f5 23 ♜d4 ♜a5 24 c4 g3 25 c5 g2 26 c6 ♜a8 etc.

22 ♜d2 f5 23 ♜e1+ ♜f3 24 ♜d3 f4 25 ♜d4 ♜c8 26 ♜g1 g4 27 ♜f1+ ♜g3 28 ♜g1+ ♜h3 0-1

Game 5

Flouzat-Flear, St.Affrique 2000



Exercise 8

In order to attempt to win this position Black will need a long term strategy. Try to formulate a stage-by-stage plan of action.

Solution

I would divide the winning plan into four phases:

1. Consolidate.
2. Support the a-pawn and improve

the black pieces.

3. Push the a-pawn as far as possible to tie White down.

4. Switch over to a king side attack.

In this particular ending the passed pawn is not easy to push through on its own, but serves as a useful tool to distract White's pieces away from his king. First Black has to cover his loose position before going on the offensive.

1... $\mathbb{W}c8!$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}f4$ $a6$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 4 $\mathbb{W}e5$ $\mathbb{W}c6+$ 5 $f3$ $\mathbb{W}b5$ 6 $\mathbb{W}c7$ $a5$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}d4$ $\mathbb{W}e2+$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ $\mathbb{W}e1+$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $\mathbb{W}d2$ 10 $\mathbb{W}b8+$ $\mathbb{Q}h7$ 11 $\mathbb{W}a7$ $\mathbb{W}a2!$

Covering the sensitive f7-point and preparing to push the a-pawn.

12 $h4$ $a4$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}c5$

The a-pawn is stopped in its tracks, but White dare not lose control of the a3-square.

13... $\mathbb{W}b3$ 14 $\mathbb{W}e7$ $\mathbb{W}d5$ 15 $\mathbb{W}a7$ $\mathbb{W}d7$ 16 $\mathbb{W}b8$ $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}d6$ $\mathbb{W}c6$ 18 $\mathbb{W}f8$ $\mathbb{W}b6$

White's pieces stay in touch with a3 but are out of touch with their king. Indeed with Black's king sufficiently well covered by his pawns he can finally create some direct threats.

19 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ $\mathbb{W}a5$ 20 $h5$ $\mathbb{W}e1+$ 21 $\mathbb{Q}f2$

Or 21 $\mathbb{Q}h2$ $\mathbb{W}h4+$ 22 $\mathbb{Q}g1$ $\mathbb{W}g3+$ and the kingside collapses.

21... $\mathbb{W}e5+$ 22 $\mathbb{Q}g2$ $\mathbb{Q}f4+0-1$

In reply to 23 $\mathbb{Q}g1$ Black has 23... $\mathbb{W}a1+$ 24 $\mathbb{Q}h2$ $\mathbb{W}f1$ (or 24... $g5$ 25 $\mathbb{W}xf7$ $\mathbb{W}f1$ 26 $\mathbb{W}f5+$ $\mathbb{Q}h6$) 25 $hxg6+$ $\mathbb{Q}h6!$ (flashy, but 25... $fxg6$ 26 $\mathbb{W}xf4$ $\mathbb{W}xf2+$ 27 $\mathbb{Q}h3$ a3 is also winning) 26 $\mathbb{W}h8+$ $\mathbb{Q}xg6$, winning immediately.

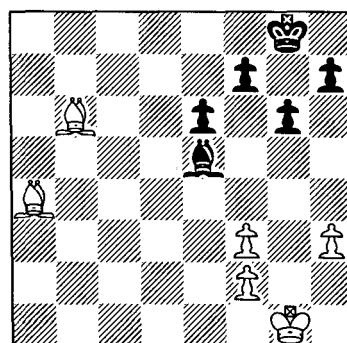
An afterthought: Some books point out that, in simplified positions, the combination of queen and knight is a superior force to that of queen and

bishop. In my opinion there are so many exceptions that it is difficult to repeat this rule with any confidence. Instead, keeping in mind the fact that knights can operate on both colour complexes, I have adjusted the rule to the following:

The combination of queen and knight is more flexible than that of queen and bishop

Game 6

Flear-Rotstein, St.Affrique 1999



Exercise 9

White has an extra piece but how can he hope to make progress against such a solid-looking position?

Where is Black's Achilles' heel?

Formulate a plan to exploit this weak point and decide where your king needs to be.

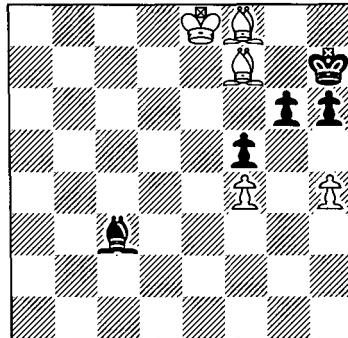
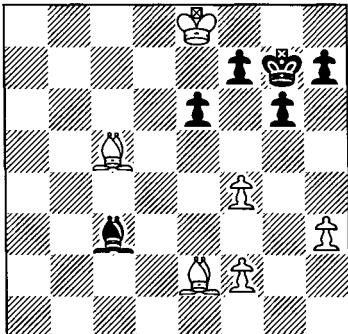
Solution

The f7-square can be defended only by the black king. In the long-term White will be able to attack this with both his king and his bishop. First the king heads for e8.

1... $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}b2$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}f1$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{Q}b2$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{Q}a3$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}d4+$ $\mathbb{Q}g8$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}c4$

$\mathbb{Q}d6$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}b5$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ $\mathbb{Q}b4$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}d7$
 $\mathbb{Q}f8$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}e8$

White cannot be denied this square.
12... $\mathbb{Q}c3$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}b5$ $\mathbb{Q}b2$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{Q}c3$
15 f4 $\mathbb{Q}b2$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ $\mathbb{Q}c3$



Solution

23 h5!

Otherwise Black can resist with ...h6-h5.

23...g5 24 fxg5 hxg5 25 $\mathbb{Q}g6+$ $\mathbb{Q}g8$

Exercise 10

How can the light-squared bishop support the king in exerting further pressure on f7?

Solution

17 f5!

Loosening the cement on the wall of pawns. Regardless of the reply White is able to pressurize them.

17...exf5

17...gxsf5 18 $\mathbb{Q}h5$, or 17... $\mathbb{Q}b2$ 18 fxe6 fxe6 19 $\mathbb{Q}e7$ e5 20 $\mathbb{Q}e6$ and the e-pawn soon falls. Finally 17... $\mathbb{Q}f6$ meets with 18 fxe6 fxe6 19 $\mathbb{Q}e7+$ $\mathbb{Q}g7$ (19... $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 20 $\mathbb{Q}f7$) 20 $\mathbb{Q}d7$ $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 21 $\mathbb{Q}c4$, picking off e6.

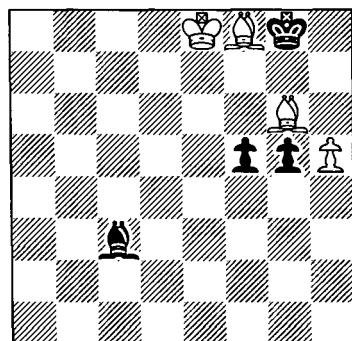
18 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 19 f4!?

Playing for a mating net.

19...h6 20 h4 $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 21 $\mathbb{Q}f8+$ $\mathbb{Q}g8$ 22 $\mathbb{Q}xf7+$ $\mathbb{Q}h7$

Exercise 11

Find an effective continuation to end all resistance.



26 h6! f4 27 $\mathbb{Q}h5$ $\mathbb{Q}d4$ 28 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ 1-0

White mates with $\mathbb{Q}c4+$, $\mathbb{Q}f7$, $\mathbb{Q}d3+$ and $\mathbb{Q}g7+$, e.g. 28... $\mathbb{Q}c3$ 29 $\mathbb{Q}c4+$ $\mathbb{Q}h7$ 30 $\mathbb{Q}f7$ f3 31 $\mathbb{Q}d3+$ $\mathbb{Q}h8$ 32 $\mathbb{Q}g7+$ $\mathbb{Q}xg7$ 33 hxg7 mate.

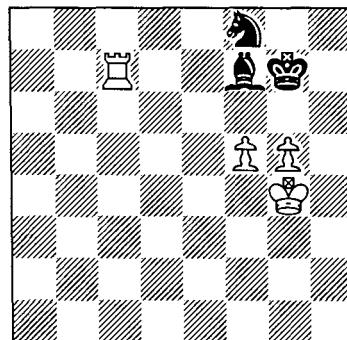
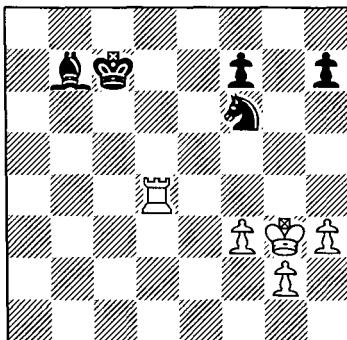
Game 7

Flear-Large, Uppingham 1989

Exercise 12

Which side has winning chances?

What are the factors that promise an advantage?



Solution

Black's pawns are isolated and his king is temporarily cut off from the kingside. White's king and pawns are well placed, so his rook will be able to switch to picking off the h-pawn.

1 ♜h4 ♜d5 2 ♜g4 ♜e3 3 ♜g5

Not 3 ♜g7?? in view of 3... ♜f5+.

3... ♜d6 4 ♜g3 ♜e6 5 ♜h5 ♜f6 6 ♜xh7 ♜g6 7 ♜h8 ♜g7 8 ♜e8 ♜f5+ 9 ♜f4 ♜h4 10 ♜e2 ♜f6

The game enters a new phase: White prepares to advance his pawns.

11 ♜b2 ♜g6+ 12 ♜e3 ♜c8 13 f4 ♜g7 14 g4 f5?

Trying to fix the pawns and create a blockade.

15 ♜c2 ♜e7 16 g5 ♜e6 17 h4 ♜d5+ 18 ♜d4! ♜f7

After 18... ♜xf4 19 ♜e5 ♜g6+ 20 ♜xe6 ♜xh4 21 ♜e5! (21 ♜c4 ♜g2 is less clear) 21... ♜g6 22 ♜f4 and wins.

19 ♜e5 ♜e7 20 ♜c7 ♜g6+ 21 ♜xf5 ♜xh4+ 22 ♜g4 ♜g6 23 f5 ♜f8

Exercise 13

How should White continue?

Solution

The game continuation!

24 ♜f4

White has to be careful not to push his pawns too soon. Getting them blockaded is generally not a good idea, and addressing the possibility of the sacrifice of either minor piece for both pawns will require careful timing and calculation.

24... ♜g8 25 ♜e5 ♜g7 26 ♜a7

zugzwang.

26... ♜g8 27 g6!

The breakthrough.

27... ♜xg6+

The alternative 27... ♜xg6 seems plausible, but after 28 fxg6 ♜xg6+ 29 ♜f6 ♜f4 (29... ♜f8 30 ♜a8 and 29... ♜h4 30 ♜a3 lose immediately) 30 ♜g7+! (30 ♜d7? allows the knight to come back to defend with 30... ♜h5+ 31 ♜g5 ♜g7) 30... ♜f8 31 ♜g5 Black loses as his knight is cut off from its king.

28 ♜f6! ♜h4

28... ♜h8 fails to 29 ♜a8+ ♜h7 30 ♜xh8+.

29 ♜a8+ ♜h7 30 ♜a7 ♜g8 31 ♜xf7 ♜xf5 32 ♜d7

The knight is unable to return.

32... ♜h4

32... ♜h6 33 ♜g6.

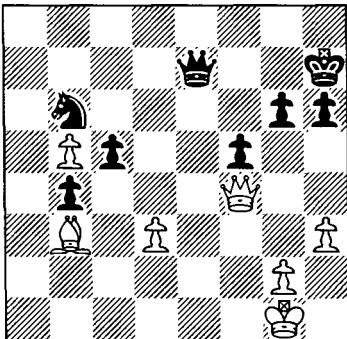
33 $\mathbb{B}g7+$

Or 33 $\mathbb{B}d3$.

33... $\mathbb{Q}h8$ 34 $\mathbb{B}g3$ $\mathbb{Q}h7$ 35 $\mathbb{B}h3$ 1-0

Game 8

B.Bujisho-Flear, Montpellier 2000



Exercise 14

Assess this position.

What is the most likely result?

Solution

Black has an extra pawn but the bishop has an active diagonal as well as blockading the passed pawn. If Black undertakes active operations with his queen then his king becomes exposed and, furthermore, the knight on b6 is limited in scope as well as being unprotected. Although Black is better I suspect that with best play he would struggle to win.

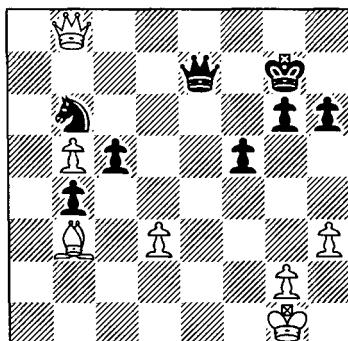
1... $\mathbb{Q}g7$

Nudging the king towards the centre, where it has more freedom of movement despite the risk of exposure.

2 $\mathbb{W}b8??!$

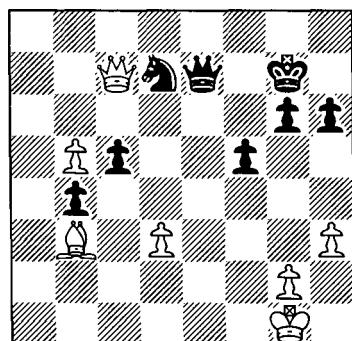
When defending it is always a good idea to ask oneself the question ‘How is my opponent going to progress if I do essentially nothing?’ and with this

in mind 2 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ is a better try (waiting patiently), whereupon after 2...h5 3 g3 White is ready for anything. 2...g5! is an interesting try, giving back the pawn to obtain a favourable knight against bishop endgame: 3 $\mathbb{W}xf5$ $\mathbb{W}f6$ 4 $\mathbb{W}xf6+$ $\mathbb{Q}xf6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 6 g3 $\mathbb{Q}d5+$ with some winning chances.



2... $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 3 $\mathbb{W}g8+$

After 3 $\mathbb{W}b7$ $\mathbb{W}d6$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $\mathbb{Q}f6!$ Black controls the centre. However, the position after 3 $\mathbb{W}c7!?$ deserves a diagram:



Exercise 15

Analyse and reach a conclusion.

Solution

3 $\mathbb{W}c7$ allows the exchange of queens with 3... $\mathbb{W}e1+$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}h2$ $\mathbb{W}e5+$ 5 $\mathbb{W}xe5+$

$\mathbb{Q}xe5$ 6 b6 $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 7 b7 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ when, despite having a passive knight, Black's king will become too strong, e.g. 8 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{Q}d4$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{Q}c3$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}e6$ $\mathbb{Q}b8$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ b3 13 $\mathbb{Q}d1$ b2 etc.

3... $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 4 $\mathbb{W}h8+$ $\mathbb{Q}g5$ 5 h4+

Playing to open up the black king and generate a perpetual. However, it fails to the following reply:

5... $\mathbb{Q}g4!$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}f2$

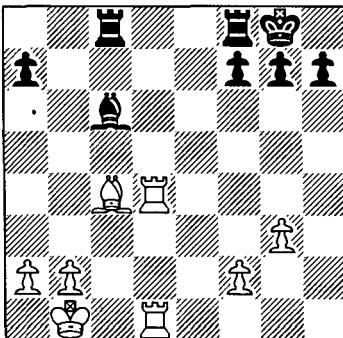
6 $\mathbb{W}xh6$ allows favourable simplification with 6... $\mathbb{W}e1+$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}h2$ $\mathbb{W}xh4+$.

6... $\mathbb{W}xh4+$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{W}e7+$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $\mathbb{Q}e5!$ 9

$\mathbb{W}a8$ $\mathbb{Q}xd3+$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}g1$ $\mathbb{W}e3+$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}h2$

$\mathbb{W}f4+$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}g1$ $\mathbb{Q}g3$ 0-1

In the initial position it was White's king that looked safest, and yet a mere 12 moves later, we have this situation! The power of an advancing king should never be underestimated!



Exercise 16

Assess this position.

Solution

White controls the d-file, has well centralized pieces and his queenside majority might be a little easier to advance than Black's kingside. However, there is nothing immediate as Black can, for the moment, cover any soft spots. All in all White can be adjudged to have a slight edge.

2...g6 3 b4 $\mathbb{B}fe8$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}b2$ $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}b3$

The white king is brought up to support the majority.

5... $\mathbb{Q}e5$

The main alternative 5... $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 6 b5 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}1d2$ h5 8 a4 $\mathbb{Q}g4$ 9 a5 also seems better for White.

6 a4 h5 7 b5 $\mathbb{Q}e8$

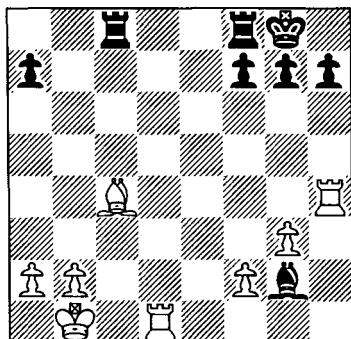
Black, naturally, wants to avoid a rook invasion on the seventh rank, but the bishop is very tied up here.

8 $\mathbb{Q}d8$ $\mathbb{Q}xd8$

Otherwise 8... $\mathbb{Q}ec5$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}xc8$ $\mathbb{Q}xc8$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}b4$ g5 is met by 11 $\mathbb{Q}d6!$, keeping Black rather passive.

9 $\mathbb{Q}xd8$ g5 10 $\mathbb{Q}b4$ h4

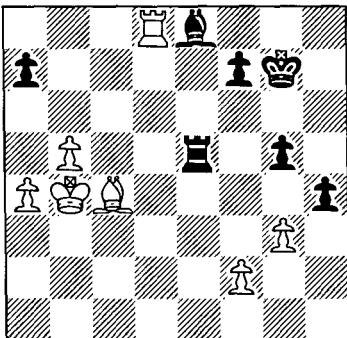
Black has managed to get his kingside advance underway.



1... $\mathbb{Q}c6?$!

This innocuous-looking move seems to be the source of Black's future problems. Instead 1... $\mathbb{Q}fd8$! 2 $\mathbb{Q}hd4$ $\mathbb{Q}xd4$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}xd4$ g5 4 b3 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ looks comfortable for Black.

2 $\mathbb{Q}hd4$



Exercise 17

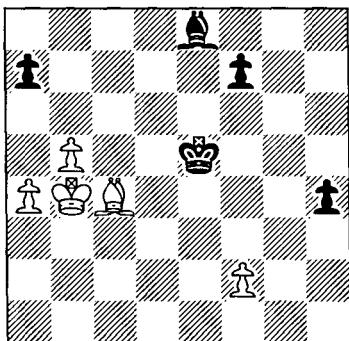
What should White do now?

Can he lay claim to some advantage?

Solution

After the exchange of rooks the white bishop can be positioned on the long diagonal, stopping the h-pawn. In contrast, the poorly placed black bishop will not be able to hold up the inevitable queenside advance.

11 $\mathbb{Q}d5!$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}xe5$ $\mathbb{Q}xe5$ 13 $gxh4$
 $gxh4$



14 $\mathbb{Q}c5!$

Stopping the black king from coming to the queenside and preparing $\mathbb{Q}d5$.

14... $f5$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ $f4$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}f3$

16 a5?? would throw it all away after 16... $\mathbb{Q}xb5$

16... $h3$ 17 a5 $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 18 b6 $axb6+$ 19 $axb6$ $\mathbb{Q}c8$ 20 b7 $\mathbb{Q}xb7$ 21 $\mathbb{Q}xb7$ $\mathbb{Q}f5$
22 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ 1-0

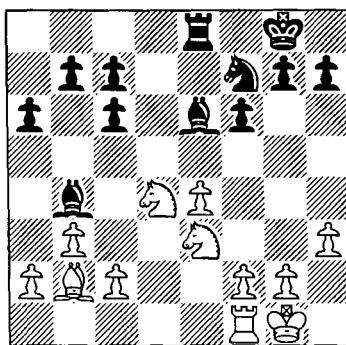
Game 10

Boudre-Flear

Montpellier Team Ch., 1996

Exercise 18

How would you judge this position?



Solution

A typical position from the Spanish exchange variation. Black has the bishop pair, which compensates for White's superior majority. The situation is more or less equal.

1... $\mathbb{Q}d2??$

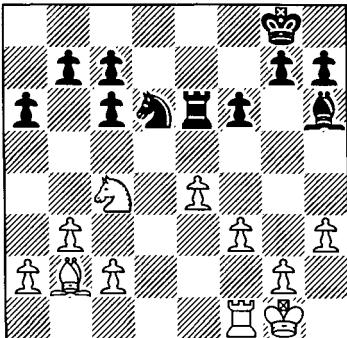
A dubious decision resulting from a miscalculation. Instead after 1... $\mathbb{Q}c8$ (retaining the bishop) 2 f3 Black should continue with the move 2...h5, which serves to restrain the kingside pawns.

2 $\mathbb{Q}xe6$ $\mathbb{Q}xe6$

2... $\mathbb{Q}xe3$ can be met by 3 $\mathbb{Q}xg7!$ etc.

3 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}h6$ 4 f3 $\mathbb{Q}d6$

Solutions to Chapter One



Exercise 19

How should White continue?

Solution

The game continuation is best!

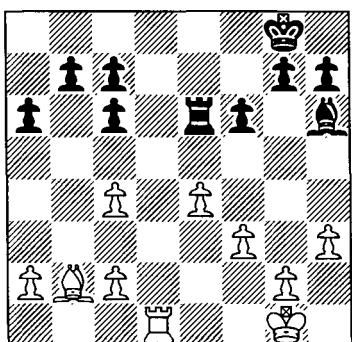
5 ♜d1!

A strong move. White is not too concerned with a broken queenside (as in any case Black will have difficulty making a passed pawn on that wing) and competes for the d-file.

5...♝xc4

Black could try $5\dots\mathbb{Q}f4$ 6 ♜xd6 ♜xd6, but in such a simplified position White's superior pawns give him a persistent edge.

6 bxc4



6...♚f7

Black has a couple of reasonable al-

ternatives but neither solves all his problems: $6\dots\mathbb{Q}f4$ 7 ♜d7+ ♚e7 9 ♜xe7+ ♚xe7 10 ♚f2, or $6\dots\mathbb{Q}d6$ 7 ♜d3! with the better chances for White in each case.

7 ♜d7+ ♚e7 8 ♜xe7+ ♚xe7 9 ♚f2 ♜f4 10 g3 ♜d6 11 f4 b5

After 11...g6, trying to move the black pawns off the dark squares, then 12 ♚f3 f5 (12...h5 13 f5 and the f6-pawn remains on a dark-square anyway) 13 exf5 gxf5 14 g4 ♜e6 15 h4! (not 15 g5?! ♜f7!, when Black has chances to blockade) 15...fxg4+ 16 ♜xg4 and White is making progress.

12 ♜e3!

Black can do nothing with his queenside and White continues to improve his position.

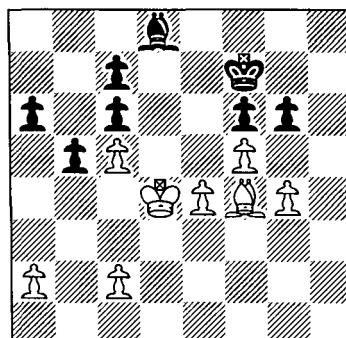
12...h5 13 ♜d4 ♜e6 14 c5!

This leads to Black having a distinct lack of space.

14...♜f8 15 f5+ ♚f7 16 ♜c1 ♜e7 17 ♜f4 ♜d8 18 g4 hxg4 19 hxg4 g6

Exercise 20

Find a winning plan for White.



Solution

White can win a queenside pawn, as shown by the game continuation.

Test Your Endgame Thinking

20 ♜c3!

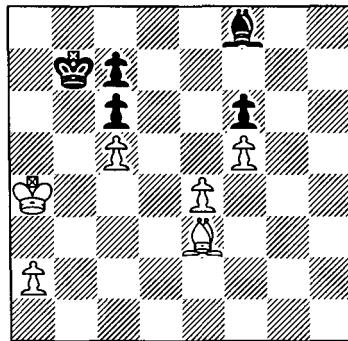
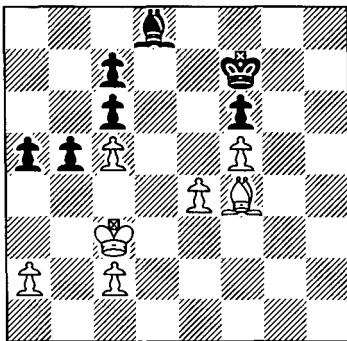
Threatening a winning march to a6.

20...gxf5 21 gxf5 a5

pawn.

26...bxc4 27 ♜xc4 ♜c8 28 ♜b4 ♜b7

29 ♜e3 ♜f8 30 ♜xa4 1-0



22 ♜d4

Coming back to defend c5 before provoking a further queenside pawn advance.

22...♜e8 23 ♜d2 a4 24 ♜c3 ♜d7 25 ♜b4 ♜e7 26 c4

This leads to the win of Black's a-

Now the win is straightforward, e.g.
30...♜a6 31 ♜d4 ♜e7 32 ♜b4 ♜b7
33 a4 ♜a6 34 e5 fxe5 35 ♜xe5 ♜b7
36 f6 ♜f8 37 ♜f4 ♜c8 38 a5 ♜b7 39
♜c4 ♜c8 40 a6 ♜b8 41 ♜b4 (Black is
again in zugzwang) 41...♜a7 42 ♜xc7
♜xa6 43 ♜d6 etc.

CHAPTER EIGHT

Solutions to Chapter Two

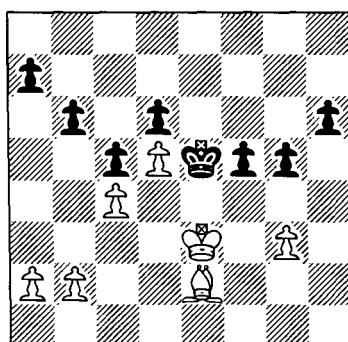
Despite one's knowledge of useful guidelines and generalisations there are positions that require fairly extensive analysis. A critical point in the game occurs and the only way forward is to analyse the various possibilities, reach some conclusions and, as a result, play the move that you have proved (in your mind's eye) to be the best. Occasionally an ending occurs which particularly stimulates one's interest. After the game the analysis may go on for hours until you feel satisfied that you have found the truth.

I used two of my most memorable efforts to obtain the exercises from Chapter Two, and working on them really tested my own endgame thinking. In this chapter I repeat these exercises along with their solutions and further analysis.

Game 11 Flear-Dunworth Cheltenham Team Ch., 1994

White has an extra bishop but Black has two pawns. There are no serious

pawn breaks and any invasion by the bishop isn't worrisome for Black as there is nothing to hit. Therefore the only way forward is to threaten invasion with the king. At the moment this looks optimistic as there is no way through in the centre or kingside, and any long march to the queenside can be met with a rapid counter-invasion via the centre. On the other hand, a problem for Black is that he can easily find himself in zugzwang as he is often reduced to king moves, whereas White can pass with his bishop.



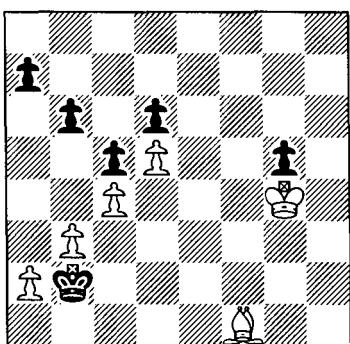
1 g4!

Fighting for control of some light-

squares, particularly e4.

1...f4+

Creating a protected passed pawn but allowing the kingside to become fixed. Instead after 1... $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 2 $\mathbb{g}xf5$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}f3!$ White hopes to either block and win the kingside pawns or wriggle through the defences to pick off the d-pawn and win the race. After the further continuation 3... $h5$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}d3+$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ (4... $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}e4$) 5 $\mathbb{Q}g6$ $h4$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}d3!$ (6 $\mathbb{Q}g4?$! $\mathbb{Q}d4$ 7 $b3$ $\mathbb{Q}c3$ is less convincing) 6... $h3$ (6... $\mathbb{Q}d4$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}f1$ $h3$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ is no improvement) 7 $\mathbb{Q}f1$ $h2$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}g2$ $\mathbb{Q}d4$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}xh2$ $\mathbb{Q}e3$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ $\mathbb{Q}d2$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}g4$ $\mathbb{Q}c1$ 12 $b3$ $\mathbb{Q}b2$ we reach the position in the following diagram:



Exercise 1

Can you show that White is winning?

Solution

White wins, and perhaps in more than one way.

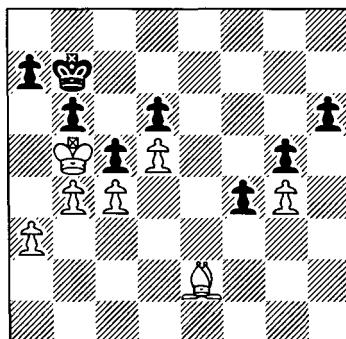
13 $\mathbb{Q}e2!$ (holding on to the $b3$ -square as long as possible, although 13 $\mathbb{Q}f5?$ also seems to work: 13... $\mathbb{Q}xa2$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}e6$ $\mathbb{Q}xb3$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}xd6$ $a5$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}e7!$ $a4$ 17 $d6$ $a3$ 18 $d7$ $a2$ 19 $d8\mathbb{Q}$ $a1\mathbb{Q}$ 20 $\mathbb{Q}xb6+$ $\mathbb{Q}c2$ 21 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ with a probable win) 13... $\mathbb{Q}xa2$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}d1$ $\mathbb{Q}b2$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}xg5$

$\mathbb{Q}c1$ (15... $a5$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{Q}c3$ is even slower – 17 $\mathbb{Q}e6$ $a4$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}xa4$ $\mathbb{Q}xc4$ 19 $\mathbb{Q}xd6$ etc.) 16 $\mathbb{Q}f6!$ $\mathbb{Q}xd1$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}e6$ $\mathbb{Q}c2$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}xd6$ $\mathbb{Q}xb3$ 19 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ $a5$ 20 $d6$ $a4$ 21 $d7$ $a3$ 22 $d8\mathbb{Q}$ and White wins. This is a deep variation that seems to prove that 1... $\mathbb{Q}f6$ fails to hold. In a practical game such a line would be difficult to calculate in its entirety! However, getting to grips with such positions represents an excellent training method.

2 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}f3$

White cannot directly induce zugzwang to invade into $f5$, for instance 3 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}d1$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}a4$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}e8+$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}h5$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$, and now 8 $\mathbb{Q}f5?$ fails to 8... $f3$. Therefore there needs to be a second point of attack to stretch the defence, hence White's plan to probe the queenside.

3... $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}c3$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 5 $a3$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 6 $b4$ $\mathbb{Q}e8$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}b3$ $\mathbb{Q}d8$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}a4$ $\mathbb{Q}c7$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}b5$ $\mathbb{Q}b7$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}e2$

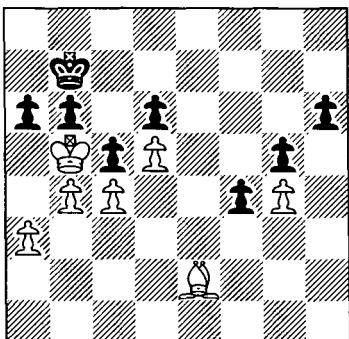


White passes with the bishop to test Black's intentions.

10... $\mathbb{Q}c7?$

This cedes too much ground and loses quickly. After the alternative 10... $a6+$ the entry squares on the

queenside are temporarily covered but this pawn is on a light-square. White can then employ a logical long-term plan to exploit this fact:



Exercise 2

How, in general terms (formulate a general plan with words – not analysis), would you go about making progress?

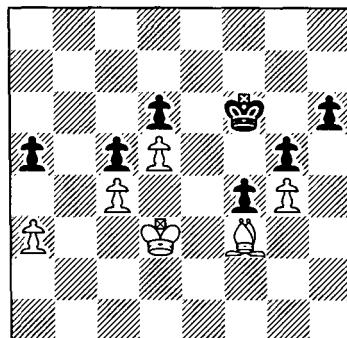
Solution

The king returns to hold the centre and kingside as well as oblige Black's king to follow. The bishop is then free to go round and attack the a-pawn (it's on a light square!), forcing it to advance and thus weaken the b5-square. A further switching of the roles of the king and bishop then leads to new threats on the queenside. The a5-pawn and the f5-square then prove to be too far apart for Black to successfully defend both.

Did you manage to think that one through!

Let's see how it plays out on the board: 11 $\mathbb{Q}a4$ (heading for e4 to draw away the black king) 11... $\mathbb{Q}c7$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}b3$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}c3$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 14 $b \times c5$ $b \times c5$ (14... $d \times c5$?! takes away the defender of the e5-square and so White wins

easily after 15 a4 $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ etc.) 15 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}d1$ (coming round to attack the a-pawn) 17... $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}a4$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 19 $\mathbb{Q}d7$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 20 $\mathbb{Q}c8$ a5 21 $\mathbb{Q}d7$ (returning to – again – switch roles with the king) 21... $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 22 $\mathbb{Q}a4$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 23 $\mathbb{Q}d1$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 24 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 25 $\mathbb{Q}d3$



Heading for the a4-square.

Exercise 3

Can you find a win against 25... $\mathbb{Q}e7$ (heading over to defend the a5-pawn)?

Exercise 4

Can you find a win against the counter-attacking 25... $\mathbb{Q}e5$, or can Black obtain sufficient counterplay?

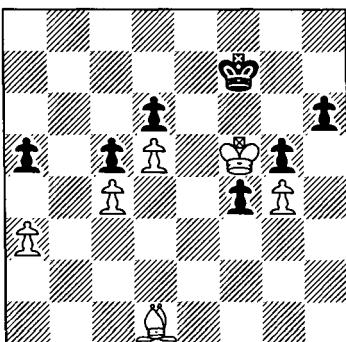
Solution to Exercise 3

After 25... $\mathbb{Q}e7$ White has two ways forward:

First there is 26 $\mathbb{Q}g2$, when Black must then switch to the active defence, e.g. 26... $\mathbb{Q}f6$ (26... $\mathbb{Q}d7$? 27 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 28 $\mathbb{Q}f5$) 27 $\mathbb{Q}c3$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ – see the solution to Exercise 4.

Secondly, 26 $\mathbb{Q}c3$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 27 $\mathbb{Q}b3$ $\mathbb{Q}c7$ 28 $\mathbb{Q}a4$ $\mathbb{Q}b6$ 29 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ (Black is obliged to move to a6 due to zug-

zwang) 29... $\mathbb{Q}a6$ 30 $\mathbb{Q}b3$ (coming back to f5 now that Black is further away) 30... $\mathbb{Q}b6$ 31 $\mathbb{Q}c3$ $\mathbb{Q}c7$ 32 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 33 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 34 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 35 $\mathbb{Q}d1$

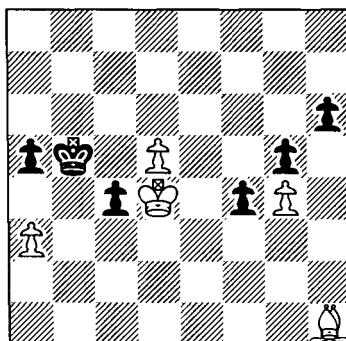


and, due to yet another zugzwang, White invades via e6 or g6. An elegant winning plan, illustrating perfectly the problems for the defence when there are *two targets*.

Solution to Exercise 4

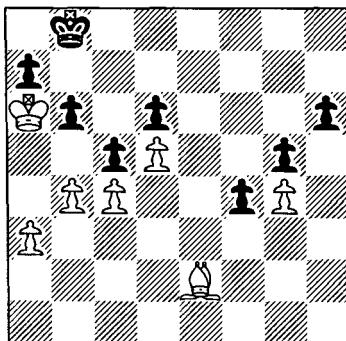
25... $\mathbb{Q}e5$ (crossing the plan of Exercises 2 and 3 with a counterattack!) 26 $\mathbb{Q}c3$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 27 $\mathbb{Q}g2!$ (a passing move, gaining/losing a tempo) 27... $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 28 $\mathbb{Q}h1!$ (another passing move, but settling on the least exposed square for the bishop; a race is coming but White needs to be well-prepared) 28... $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 29 $\mathbb{Q}b3$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 30 $\mathbb{Q}a4!$ $\mathbb{Q}d4$ 31 $\mathbb{Q}b5!$ (much better than 31 $\mathbb{Q}xa5?$ since after 31... $\mathbb{Q}xc4$ 32 a4 $\mathbb{Q}b3$ 33 $\mathbb{Q}b5$ c4 34 a5 c3 35 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ f3 White loses the race and with it the game; the text move gains a tempo on the way to the crucial d-pawn) 31... $\mathbb{Q}c3$ (after the continuation 31... $\mathbb{Q}e3$ 32 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ f3 33 $\mathbb{Q}xd6$ f2 34 $\mathbb{Q}g2$ it becomes clear why the bishop was best placed on h1) 32

$\mathbb{Q}c6$ (superior to 32 a4 $\mathbb{Q}b3$ 33 $\mathbb{Q}xa5$ $\mathbb{Q}xc4$ 34 $\mathbb{Q}b6$ $\mathbb{Q}b3$ 35 a5 c4 36 a6 c3, which is far from clear) 32... $\mathbb{Q}xc4$ 33 $\mathbb{Q}xd6$ $\mathbb{Q}b5$ (33... $\mathbb{Q}d4$ is not very practical as after 34 $\mathbb{Q}e6$ c4 35 d6 c3 36 d7 c2 37 d8 $\mathbb{Q}+$ White queens with check) 34 $\mathbb{Q}e5$ c4 (or 34... $\mathbb{Q}b6$ 35 d6 a4 36 $\mathbb{Q}e6$) 35 $\mathbb{Q}d4$ and wins.



How well did your analysis compare? If you varied at some point, then check again to see if you have found a valid alternative or simply went wrong.

11 $\mathbb{Q}a6$ $\mathbb{Q}b8$



Exercise 5

Find the way to finish Black off.

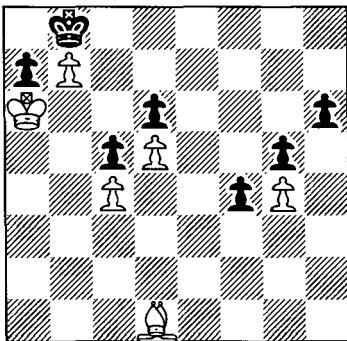
Solution

Follow the game continuation!

**12 b5! ♔a8 13 a4 ♔b8 14 a5 bxa5 15 ♔xa5 ♔b7 16 ♕f3 ♔a8 17 ♔a6 ♔b8
18 b6 ♔a8 19 b7+**

19 bxa7 is really asking for stalemate(!) but does in fact win after 19...h5 20 gxh5 g4 21 h6 gxf3 22 h7 f2 23 h8# mate.

19...♔b8 20 ♕d1



Zugzwang and 1-0

I hope that you enjoyed playing through this as much as I did analysing it. Did you note how the variations sometimes require ultra-sharp analysis and yet, on other occasions, general thinking and planning are appropriate. Endgame thinking is a diverse subject!

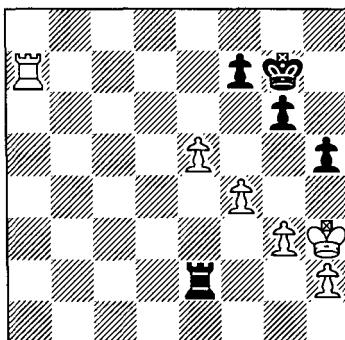
Game 12 Sellos-Flear, Hem 1984

In the old days games were played at a more leisurely pace, often with a break after forty moves and a resumption some time later. A few leagues and tournaments still use the once standard system of ‘adjournments’ but this is rare. Nowadays time limits are faster and games are almost always played to a finish.

Adjournments have their detractors

– and rightly so! However, they served the purpose of inducing players to get involved in the detailed analysis of endgames and, later, their efforts were tested in practical play.

Failing regular adjournments to get one focused, I suggest that you adopt the habit of analysing critical endgames with a couple of friends or team members.



Exercise 6

What would you play as Black?

Solution

Correct is 1...g5! 2 fxg5 ♔g6, drawing comfortably, e.g. 3 ♕e7 ♔xg5 4 ♕xf7 ♕xe5 which yields no realistic winning chances for White. I have to admit that I never considered the move! Later I discovered that in an almost identical position Mikenas played this way against Alekhine, and drew.

In the diagram position I had to seal my move, after which I had a break of an hour and a half before the adjournment. My chosen move is wrong but instructive.

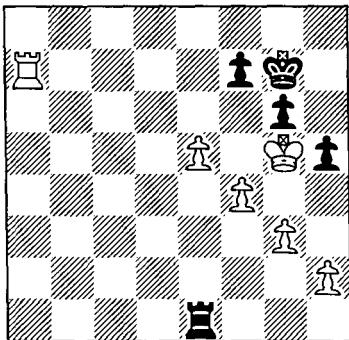
1...♔g8? 2 ♔h4!

Black has to decide between capturing on h2 or waiting. The task for a

player is which is the best practical chance to draw? For the analyst after the game it is what's the result with best play in each case?

Case 1: Passive Defence

2... $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}g5$ $\mathbb{B}e1$



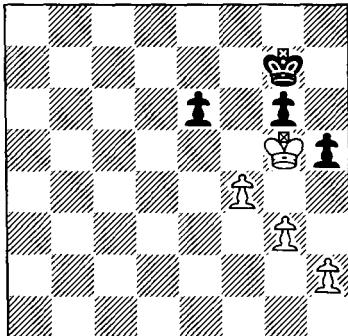
Exercise 7

Can you see a plan that might lead to a win for White?

Solution

White has a plan based on $\mathbb{R}e7$ and $e5-e6$, forcing a pawn endgame with the more active king.

4 $\mathbb{R}e7!$ $\mathbb{R}e2$ 5 $e6!$ $\mathbb{R}xe6$ 6 $\mathbb{R}xe6$ $fxe6$



Exercise 8

Can you now analyse to a clear win?

Solution

7 $h3!$ $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}h6$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 9 $g4$ $h4$

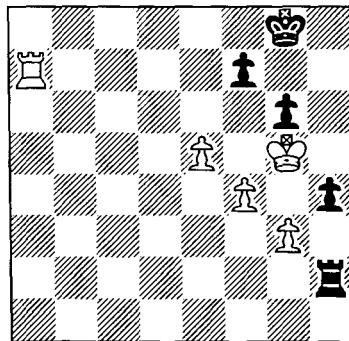
The inferior 9... $hxg4$ loses trivially to 10 $hxg4$ $e5$ 11 $g5+$ $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 12 $fxe5$.

10 $g5+$

10 $\mathbb{Q}h7??$ would even lose: 10... $g5$.
10... $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}g7$ $\mathbb{Q}xf4$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ $e5$ 13
 $\mathbb{Q}h5$ $e4$ 14 $g6$ $e3$ 15 $g7$ $e2$ 16 $g8\mathbb{Q}$
 $e1\mathbb{Q}$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}g5+$ $\mathbb{Q}f3$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}g4+$ $\mathbb{Q}e3$ 19
 $\mathbb{Q}e6+$ $\mathbb{Q}f2$ 20 $\mathbb{Q}xe1+$ $\mathbb{Q}xe1$ 21 $\mathbb{Q}xh4$
and wins. I later found the same finish in Stean-Hartston, Brighton 1972.

Case 2: Taking on h2

After 2... $\mathbb{B}xh2+$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}g5$ Black has the interesting counter 3... $h4!$ (3... $\mathbb{B}b2$ seems to be inadequate after 4 $e6$ $\mathbb{B}b5+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}h6$ $fxe6$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ $\mathbb{Q}f8$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}f6$)



Exercise 9

How should White proceed to obtain maximum winning chances?

Solution

Take some time to reach your own conclusions before reading on!

4 $e6!$

The natural 4 $gxh4$ is met by 4... $\mathbb{Q}g7!$, threatening mate and virtually forcing 5 $\mathbb{Q}g4$ $\mathbb{B}e2$ 6 $h5$ $gxh5+$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}xh5$, with some winning chances for

White but nothing concrete.

4...fxe6 5 ♔xg6 ♔f8

And now:

Exercise 10

Which is better: 6 g4 or 6 ♔f6?

Solution

6 ♔f6!

The key move. The game continuation, 6 g4?, is inferior – after 6...♜f2 7 f5 exf5 8 g5 the resource 8...♝b2 was good enough to hold: 9 ♔h7 h3 10 g6 ♜g2 11 ♜a8+ ♔e7 12 ♜a7+ ♔f8 and the game was agreed drawn in view of 13 g7+ ♜xg7+ 14 ♜xg7 h2 15 ♜g8+ ♔f7 16 ♜g7+ ♔f8. I was fortunate. My opponent told me that he had worked out the passive defence to a forced win, but hadn't quite calculated all the details in the h2-capture defence. One and a half hours wasn't quite enough time!

6...♔g8

Instead 6...♔e8 loses the e-pawn with tempo after 7 g4 ♜f2 8 ♔xe6.

7 g4 ♜f2 8 f5! exf5 9 g5!

This type of pawn sacrifice, to shield the white king, is worth remembering.

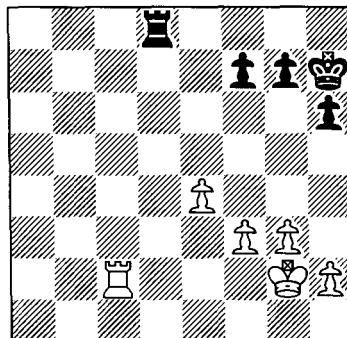
9...♝b2 10 ♜a8+ ♔h7 11 g6+ ♔h6 12 ♜h8 mate.

I recently noticed the following in *Fundamental Chess Endings*.

Game 13

Piket-Kasparov, Internet rapid 2000

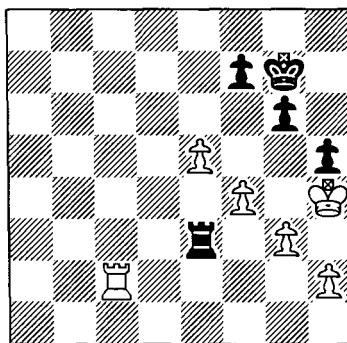
It is instructive to compare our own games with analogous examples from theory and practise.



1...h5! 2 f4 g6 3 e5 ♜d3 4 ♔h3

The continuation 4 ♜c7 ♔g8 5 ♔h3 ♜d2 6 ♔h4! should be familiar from the Sellos game.

4...♜e3 5 ♔h4 ♔g7



6 ♔g5?

I prefer 6 ♜c7!, which should win – as in my game against Sellos.

6...♜e1?

In *Fundamental Chess Endings* 6...♜a3! (a successful version of the side defence – compare with Kasparov's 8...♜a2, below) is given as an improvement, e.g. 7 ♜c7 ♜a6! 8 ♜e7 ♜a5! 9 h3 (John Emms points out that 9 f5 gxsf5 10 e6 f4+ 11 ♔xf4 ♔f6 12 ♜xf7+ ♔xe6 is also drawn) 9...♜a3 10 g4 hxg4 11 hxg4 ♜a5 12 f5 ♜xe5! 13

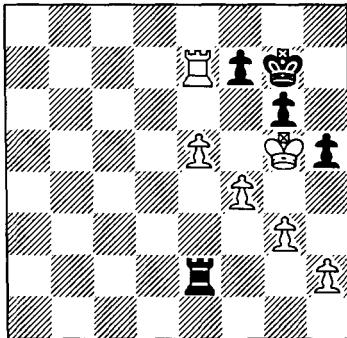
Test Your Endgame Thinking

$\blacksquare xe5 f6+$ 14 $\blacksquare f4 fxe5+$ 15 $\blacksquare xe5 gxf5$
16 $\blacksquare xf5 \blacksquare f7$ with a draw.

7 $\blacksquare c7 \blacksquare e2$ 8 $\blacksquare e7$

Transposes to the Sellos-Flear game, which is winning.

8... $\blacksquare a2$



Kasparov finds an alternative defence.

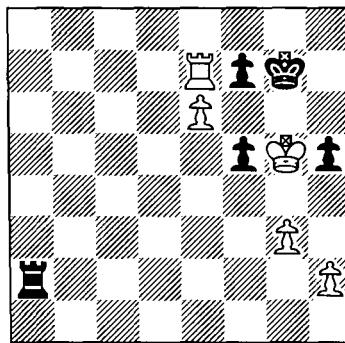
Case 3: The Side defence

Although this doesn't hold after Piket's reply, alternatives also fail:
8... $\blacksquare e4$ 9 $e6!$ etc. (see the analysis to Sellos-Flear) and 8... $h4$ 9 $e6$ $hxg3$ 10 $\blacksquare xf7+$ $\blacksquare g8$ 11 $hxg3$ $\blacksquare xe6$ 12 $\blacksquare f6$ etc.

9 $f5!$

Much better than 9 $e6?!$ $\blacksquare a5+$ 10 $\blacksquare h4 \blacksquare f6$ 11 $\blacksquare xf7+$ $\blacksquare xe6$, which is rather drawish.

9... $gxf5$ 10 $e6$



10... $h4$

Müller and Lamprecht give the line
10... $\blacksquare xh2$ 11 $\blacksquare xf7+$ $\blacksquare g8$ 12 $\blacksquare f6$ $\blacksquare a2$
13 $\blacksquare g7+$ $\blacksquare h8$ 14 $e7$ $\blacksquare a6+$ 15 $\blacksquare f7$ $\blacksquare a7$
16 $\blacksquare g5$ etc.

11 $\blacksquare xf7+$ $\blacksquare g8$ 12 $\blacksquare f6$ 1-0

It is only fair to point out that the instructive errors made on move six would probably have been avoided if the players had had more time.

CHAPTER NINE

Solutions to Chapter Three

Exercise 1

Silbermann-Lindner, Hungary 1954

1 $\mathbb{B}c8!$

The simplest, when Black hasn't any serious winning tries. Instead 1 $\mathbb{B}h8?$ allows the black king out of the corner: 1... $\mathbb{B}c3+$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}d2$ $\mathbb{Q}b2$ 3 $\mathbb{B}b8+$ $\mathbb{B}b3$ 0-1.

Also possible is 1 $\mathbb{Q}c2$, e.g. 1... $\mathbb{B}b4$ 2 $\mathbb{B}a8$ (again 2 $\mathbb{B}c8$ is good) 2... $\mathbb{B}c4+$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}d2$ $\mathbb{Q}b3$ 4 $\mathbb{B}b8+$ $\mathbb{B}b4$ 5 $\mathbb{B}xb4+$ $\mathbb{Q}xb4$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}c2$ and draws.

Exercise 2

Piankov-Prie, Laragne 2001

White has the hammer-blow 1 $\mathbb{Q}g5!$, as 1... $\mathbb{B}xg5$ (or 1... $\mathbb{Q}xg5$ 2 $\mathbb{g}8\mathbb{W}+$) is met by 2 $\mathbb{B}d5+!$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 3 $\mathbb{B}xg5$ $\mathbb{Q}xg5$ 4 $\mathbb{g}8\mathbb{W}+$. The game finished with the tame 1 $\mathbb{Q}xc5?$ $\mathbb{B}xg7$, when a draw was agreed.

Exercise 3

a) After 1... $\mathbb{Q}d7$ White's king wriggles out via c5: 2 $\mathbb{B}b8$ $\mathbb{B}h1$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}b7$ $\mathbb{B}b1+$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}a6$ $\mathbb{B}a1+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}b6$ $\mathbb{B}b1+$ 6

$\mathbb{Q}c5$ and wins.

b) If instead 1... $\mathbb{Q}d6$ the white monarch shelters behind his counterpart: 2 $\mathbb{B}b8$ $\mathbb{B}h1$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}b7$ $\mathbb{B}b1+$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}c8$ $\mathbb{B}c1+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}d8$ $\mathbb{B}h1$ 6 $\mathbb{B}b6+$ $\mathbb{Q}c5$ 7 $\mathbb{B}c6+$ $\mathbb{Q}b5$ 8 $\mathbb{B}c8!$ (8 $\mathbb{B}c1$ also works) and the win becomes clear.

Exercise 4

Nimzowitsch-Davidson
Semmering 1926

1... $\mathbb{h}6!$

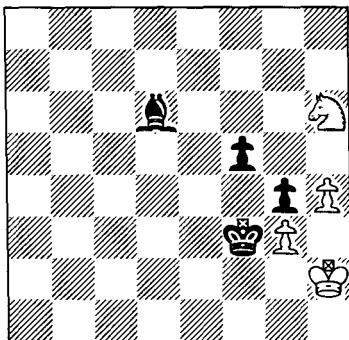
Kmoch's move, and the only way to win. The plausible 1... $\mathbb{Q}xg3?$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}xh7$ $\mathbb{Q}d6$ allows 3 $h5$ $gxh5$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{Q}e3$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}xh5$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}g2$, when Black's winning chances have clearly gone.

The game continued 1... $h5?$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ $\mathbb{Q}f2$ (alternatively 2... $\mathbb{Q}xg3$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}e7$ $\mathbb{Q}f2$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ $\mathbb{Q}c5$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}h8!$ and Black isn't really going to win, e.g. 5... $\mathbb{Q}e4$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}g6$ $f4$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}xf4$) 3 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{Q}xg3$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}e4+$ $fxe4$ stalemate!

2 $\mathbb{Q}g8$

After 2 $g4$ $f4$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}h2$ $\mathbb{Q}e2$ the passed f-pawn is decisive.
2... $g5$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}xh6$

No better is 3 hxg5 hxg5 4 ♜h6 g4+ 5 ♕h2 ♜xg3+ etc.
3...g4+ 4 ♕h2



4...f4!?

Black also has 4...♜xg3+ 5 ♕h1 f4.
5 ♜xg4 fxg3+ 6 ♕h3 g2 7 ♜h2+ ♜xh2 8 ♜xh2 ♕f2

Black queens by force.

Exercise 5

Philidor

1...♜b6! 2 f6 ♜b1 draws very easily as White can find no safe shelter for his king.

Exercise 6

Gligoric-Fischer

Stockholm Interzonal 1962

1...♕g8!

In rook endings, when in doubt, *the king should go to the short side* to allow the rook to defend from the long side. Indeed after the inferior 1...♕e8? 2 ♜a7 ♜f2 3 ♜a8+ ♕d7 4 ♜f8 ♜f1 5 ♜g7 White will obtain the standard Lucena position.

2 ♜d8+ ♕h7 3 ♜f8 ♜a1 4 ♜e8

4 ♕e7 gets nowhere as after

4...♜a7+ the rook gives checks until White retreats to the unfavourable g5-square.

4...♜f1! 5 ♜e4

5 ♕e6 is frustrated by 5...♕g7
5...♕g8 6 ♜d4 ♜f2 7 ♜d1 ♜f3 8 ♜d8+ ♕h7 ½-½

Exercise 7

Lucena

1 ♜d1+ ♕e7

1...♕c6 2 ♜c8 ♜h2 3 ♜c1+ etc.

2 ♜d4!

The so-called ‘building a bridge’ manoeuvre.

2...♜a1 3 ♕c7 ♜c1+ 4 ♕b6 ♜b1+ 5 ♕c6 ♜c1+ 6 ♕b5 ♜b1+ 7 ♜b4

White wins. Simple when you know how!

Exercise 8

M.Buckley - Arakhamia-Grant
Wroxham 2002

1 ♜f5 gxf5+ 2 ♜xf5 ♕d5 3 ♕g6!

3 ♕g4? loses in view of 3...♕e4 4 ♕h3 ♜f3 5 ♕h4 ♜g2 and the white king doesn’t reach the corner.

3...♜f4 4 ♜f5! ♜d6

Or 4...♜d2 5 ♕g4 ♜e4 6 ♕h3 ♜f3 7 ♜h2 with a draw.

5 ♕g6! ♜f8 6 ♜f5! and Black cannot progress.

Also drawn is 1 ♜g4 h5 2 ♜f6 h4 3 ♜f3 h3 4 ♜g4 as White will easily blockade the light-squares, e.g. 4...♕d5 5 ♜f2 h2 6 ♜g2 ♜d4 7 ♜g4 ♜f4 8 ♜f2 ♜e3 9 ♜g4+ ♜e2 10 ♜f6 ♜e5 11 ♜g4 ♜g3 12 ♜f6 and Black can’t do anything.

So both moves draw.

Exercise 9

Blackburne-Zukertort, London 1881

With White to play the win is as follows:

1 ♕f2 g5

After 1...♕e4 2 ♔g2! the pressure is off the g-pawn so that 2...g5 3 ♕g3 ♕d4 4 ♔e1 ♕e5 5 ♔f3+ ♕f6 6 ♕f2 ♕g6 7 ♕e3 will see White just squeeze Black away from the pawn on g5.

2 ♕e2 ♕g3

2...♕e4 loses quickly to 3 ♔g2.

3 ♕d3 ♕f3 4 ♕d4 ♕f4 5 ♕d5! ♕xe3

6 ♕e5 etc.

Exercise 10

Blackburne-Zukertort, London 1881

With Black to play he can maintain his pressure against the lone white pawn.

1...♕g3! 2 ♕e1 ♕f3 3 ♕d2 ♕f4 4 ♕d3 ♕f3 5 ♕d4 ♕f4

White is in zugzwang so Black draws, e.g. 6 ♕d5 ♕xe3 7 ♕e5 ♕f3 8 ♕f6! (rather than 8 g5? ♕g4 9 ♕f6 ♕h5 and Black wins) 8...♕xg4 9 ♕xg6 ½-½

Exercise 11

**Yermolinsky-Short
Tallinn/Parnu 1998**

1...♕g8!

Definitely the right choice, as 1...♕h8? fails to 2 ♕g6 ♕g8 3 h7+ ♕h8 4 ♔d3 a2 5 ♔e5 a1♕ 6 ♔f7 mate.

2 ♕g6 ♕h8 3 ♔a2 ♕g8 4 ♕g5 ♕h7 5 ♕c3 ♕g8 6 ♔a2 ♕h7 7 ♕h5 ♕h8!
½-½

It seems that with the knight on b4 or c3 the king (when forced to retreat) should go to g8. Consequently when the knight is on a2 the king needs to move to h8.

Exercise 12

Staunton-E.Williams, London 1851

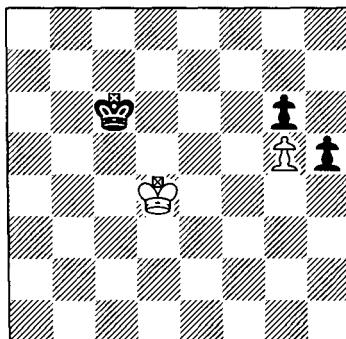
1 ♕e3! ♕e6

1...♕e7 2 ♕d3 ♕d7 doesn't get Black anywhere because when he moves to the third rank White can claim the opposition, e.g. 3 ♕e3 ♕d6 4 ♕d4, or 3...♕c6 4 ♕e4.

2 ♕e4 ♕d6 3 ♕d4

3 ♕f4 clearly fails as Black easily gets to the g-pawn: 3...♕d5 4 ♕f3 (the f5-square is of course unavailable) 4...♕e5 5 ♕g3 ♕f5 6 ♕h4 ♕f4.

3...♕c6



4 ♕e4!

Now the diagonal opposition is the right approach. In the game White went wrong with 4 ♕e5? ♕c5 5 ♕f6 h4 6 ♕xg6 h3 7 ♕f7 h2 8 g6 h1♕ 9 g7 ♕h7 10 ♕f8 ♕d6, while 4 ♕c4? loses immediately to 4...h4.

4...♕c5 5 ♕e5 ♕b5 6 ♕d5 ♕b6 7 ♕d4 ♕a6 8 ♕e4

White remains alert in order to re-take the opposition if Black approaches.

8... $\mathbb{Q}b5$

Or 8... $\mathbb{Q}a5$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}e5$ $\mathbb{Q}b4$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}d4$.

9 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ $\mathbb{Q}a5$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}e5$ and Black will draw.

Exercise 13

Voliani-Kosten

Latvian Training (e-mail) 2001

(Analysis position)

Black should avoid 1... $\mathbb{Q}b2??$

Correct is 1... $\mathbb{Q}g7$ (passing) 2 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}h8$ and so on, with a safe draw.

2 $\mathbb{Q}xb4$ $\mathbb{Q}xa2$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}b2$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}b1!$ and White wins! (Kosten). Black is powerless against the advance of the b-pawn: 4... $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}a4$ $\mathbb{Q}h8$ 6 $b4$, or 4... $\mathbb{Q}xb1$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}xa3$ $\mathbb{Q}c2$ 6 $b4$ $\mathbb{Q}c3$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}a4$ $\mathbb{Q}c4$ 8 $b5$ $\mathbb{Q}c5$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}a5$ etc.

Exercise 14

Olafsson-Kosten, Hastings 1990/1

Black is virtually reduced to the role of bystander while White queens his e-pawn. The game continued:

1 $\mathbb{Q}e7$ $\mathbb{Q}h2$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}d6$ $\mathbb{Q}g3$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}e7$ $\mathbb{Q}h2$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}f6+$ $\mathbb{Q}g8$ 5 $f5$ $gxf5$ 6 $gxf5$ $\mathbb{Q}g1$ 7 $e6$ $fxe6$ 8 $fxe6$

and Black resigned in view of 8... $\mathbb{Q}c5+$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}d7$ $\mathbb{Q}b4$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}e5$ $\mathbb{Q}f8$ (10... $\mathbb{Q}f8$ 70 $\mathbb{Q}d6$) 11 $\mathbb{Q}d6+$ $\mathbb{Q}xd6$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}xd6$ $\mathbb{Q}e8$ 13 $e7$.

Exercise 15

Degembe-Flear, St.Vincent 2002

1 axb4 axb4 2 e5!

Otherwise Black would play ... $\mathbb{Q}b5$

and take the initiative.

2... $\mathbb{Q}xe5$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}xe5$ $\mathbb{Q}xe5$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}b6$

White recuperates the b-pawn with a 'book' draw, although he still has to be vigilant.

4... $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}xb4$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}a4$ $\mathbb{Q}b5$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}a5$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}b4$ $\mathbb{Q}a1$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}b5$ $\mathbb{Q}h1$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}a5$ $\mathbb{Q}h3$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}b5??$

Much better is 11 $\mathbb{Q}a8!$, preventing Black from using the h6-square for his king.

11... $\mathbb{Q}h6$ and we have the position of Exercise 16.

Exercise 16

Degembe-Flear, St.Vincent 2002

Here my opponent made a fatal slip.

12 $\mathbb{Q}f5?$

Correct is the sequence 12 $g5+!$ $fxg5+$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}g4!$ and the two g-pawns don't win:

1) 13... $\mathbb{Q}h1$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}a5!$ (more precise than 14 $\mathbb{Q}b8?$ $\mathbb{Q}g1+$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}h3$ $g4+$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}h2$ $\mathbb{Q}a1$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ $\mathbb{Q}h5$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}b5+$ $g5$), which yields some practical winning chances for Black) 14... $\mathbb{Q}g1+$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}h3$ $g4+$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}h2!$ $\mathbb{Q}b1$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ $\mathbb{Q}b4$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ $\mathbb{Q}a4$ 19 $\mathbb{Q}b5$ $g5$ 20 $\mathbb{Q}b8$.

2) 13... $\mathbb{Q}a3$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}b6+$ $g6$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}xg6+!$ $\mathbb{Q}xg6$.

3) 13... $\mathbb{Q}h4+$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ $\mathbb{Q}a4$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}b8$ $g4$ (15... $\mathbb{Q}h5$ gets nowhere after 16 $\mathbb{Q}h8+$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}b8) 16 \mathbb{Q}h4!$ $g5+$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ $\mathbb{Q}h5$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}h8+$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 19 $\mathbb{Q}b8$ $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 20 $\mathbb{Q}b5+$ etc.

12... $g5+ 13 \mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{Q}h4$

14... $\mathbb{Q}xf3$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}xf3$ $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}e2!$ leads only to a draw.

15 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ $f5+$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $f4$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}g1$ $\mathbb{Q}h3+$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 19 $\mathbb{Q}g2$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 20 $\mathbb{Q}g1$ $\mathbb{Q}e4$ 21 $\mathbb{Q}g2$ $f3$ 22 $\mathbb{Q}g1$ $\mathbb{Q}f4$ 0-1

Exercise 17 Kosten-Adorjan, Esbjerg 1988

1... $\mathbb{Q}c3$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ b3 3 $\mathbb{Q}xf4$

And now, after the star move 3... $\mathbb{Q}d4!!$ White resigned, as 4 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ g2 is clearly hopeless.

Exercise 18 Euwe-Alekhine, Holland (match) 1935 (Analysis position)

1 $\mathbb{Q}f4$ $\mathbb{Q}f2+$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}e2+$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}f3$

Black doesn't have the checking distance.

3... $\mathbb{Q}b2$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}a7+$ $\mathbb{Q}g8$ 5 f6 and wins easily since, if necessary, White can indeed hide on h5 or g6. The a-pawn is not dangerous.

Exercise 19 Flear-Maurer, Nice 2000 (Analysis position)

After

1... $\mathbb{Q}e3!$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}xd4$

Black draws with 2... $\mathbb{Q}g4!$

Not 2... $\mathbb{Q}g4?$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}h8$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}e5$

$\mathbb{Q}g4+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ etc.

3 $\mathbb{Q}h7$ $\mathbb{Q}f5+$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}e5$ $\mathbb{Q}xh4$

Exercise 20 G.Buckley-D.Howell Hastings Challengers 2001/2

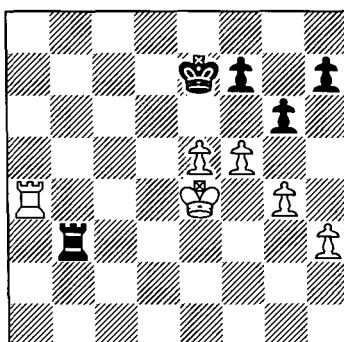
This example is a case of the more experienced player being able to make something out of virtually nothing. The most careful is...

1... $\mathbb{Q}d2!$

... for with the king restricted to the first rank White will have difficulty

progressing.

Instead the game continued 1... $\mathbb{Q}f8?!$ (Black's king is probably better placed on g7 anyway) 2 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}a4$ $\mathbb{Q}b5?$ (3... $\mathbb{g}5!$ exchanges a pair of pawns and reduces White's pressure: 4 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $gxsf4$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}xf4$ $\mathbb{Q}d2$ 6 h4 $\mathbb{Q}f8$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}a7$ h6 etc.) 4 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{Q}b3+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}b2$ 6 h3 $\mathbb{Q}b3$ 7 f5! and Black had problems. Note how in the last few moves White has achieved the ideal set-up whereas Black hasn't achieved anything.



There followed 7... $gxsf5+$ 8 $gxsf5$ $\mathbb{Q}b1$ (8... $\mathbb{Q}xh3$ meets with 9 f6+ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}a6+$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}a7+$ $\mathbb{Q}e8$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}a8+$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}f8$ and White picks off the f-pawn) 9 f6+ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}a6+$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}a7+$ $\mathbb{Q}e8$ 12 h4 h5 13 $\mathbb{Q}a8+$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}f8$ $\mathbb{Q}b7$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ (simplest is 15 $\mathbb{Q}xf7+$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}e7+$) 15... $\mathbb{Q}c6$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}e8$ $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}e7$ $\mathbb{Q}b1$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}d7+$ $\mathbb{Q}c6$ 19 $\mathbb{Q}xf7$ $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 20 $\mathbb{Q}d7+$ $\mathbb{Q}c6$ 21 $\mathbb{Q}d2$ 1-0.

2 h3

2 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}d4$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ can be well met by 3... $\mathbb{g}5$ or 3... $\mathbb{Q}e4$.

2... $\mathbb{Q}g7$

Also adequate is 2... $\mathbb{Q}f8$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}a4$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}a7+$ (4 f5 $gxsf4$ 5 $gxsf5$ $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}a7+$ $\mathbb{Q}e8$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}a8+$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 8 f6+ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}e8+$

$\mathbb{Q}f5$ 10 e6 and now the calm move 10... $\mathbb{Q}xf6$, or 6 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ f6) 4... $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}a6+$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 6 f5 gxf5 7 gxf5 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 8 f6+ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}a7+$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}e7+$ $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}xf7$ $\mathbb{Q}xe5$ and Black draws.

3 $\mathbb{Q}f1$ $\mathbb{Q}a2$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{Q}a4$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $\mathbb{Q}e4$ 6 h4

Or 6 $\mathbb{Q}g2$ g5!.

6...f6

Black simplifies to the more drawish 3 versus 2. White cannot win a king down!

Exercise 21

**Moreno Tejero-Flear
Villarreal Team Ch., 2001**

My opponent missed a clear win here.

1 $\mathbb{Q}xg8?$

1 $\mathbb{Q}f1!$ wins as White then emerges with a decisive advantage in material, e.g. 1... $\mathbb{Q}gd8$ (or 1... $\mathbb{Q}d6$? 2 $\mathbb{Q}xg8$ $\mathbb{Q}xg8$ 3 f7 $\mathbb{Q}xf7$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}xf7$) 2 f7 $\mathbb{Q}xf7$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}xf7$ $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 4 h3 and White shouldn't struggle to convert his advantage.

1... $\mathbb{Q}xg8$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}f1$ $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}d1$ $\mathbb{Q}d8$

Despite his two pawn disadvantage Black holds. He is able to blockade the f-pawn and then the e4-pawn is weak.

4 $\mathbb{Q}xd8$ $\mathbb{Q}xd8$ 5 a3 $\mathbb{Q}e8$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}g1$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 7 c3 $\mathbb{Q}xe4$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}f2$

Otherwise 8 f7+ $\mathbb{Q}xf7$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}xe5$ is clearly drawn.

8... $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 9 g3 a5 10 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}c2$ 11 b4 axb4 12 axb4 b5 13 $\mathbb{Q}h8$ $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ h5 15 $\mathbb{Q}g7$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 19 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$

Exercise 22

**Flear-Knott
Hastings Challengers 2001/2**

The game continuation, 1... $\mathbb{Q}g5$,

proved to be drawish: 2 $\mathbb{Q}f4$ $\mathbb{Q}h4$ 3 f3 $\mathbb{Q}xf3$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}xf3$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}c6$ and a draw was agreed.

Instead 1... $\mathbb{Q}d6$!? leads to interesting complications but is still equal – 2 $\mathbb{Q}xd6$ $\mathbb{Q}xd6$ and now there are two ways to draw:

1) 3 f3 $\mathbb{Q}xf3$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}xf3$ $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ e5 (5... $\mathbb{Q}c4$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}b3$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}e5$ $\mathbb{Q}xb2$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}xe6$ $\mathbb{Q}xa3$ 9 d5 $\mathbb{Q}b3$ 10 d6 a3 11 d7 a2 12 d8 \mathbb{W} a1 \mathbb{W} 13 $\mathbb{W}b6+$ $\mathbb{Q}c2$ 14 $\mathbb{W}c7+$ with a draw) 6 dx $\mathbb{Q}e5$ $\mathbb{Q}xe5$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}d3$.

2) 3 $\mathbb{Q}f4$ $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}xg4$ $\mathbb{Q}xd4$ (not 4... $\mathbb{Q}c4$? 5 $\mathbb{Q}g5$ $\mathbb{Q}b3$ 6 f4 etc.) 5 $\mathbb{Q}f4$ $\mathbb{Q}d3$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}e5$ $\mathbb{Q}c2$ (Black even loses after 6... $\mathbb{Q}e2$? 7 f4 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ 8 h4 as 8... $\mathbb{Q}g4$ meets with 9 h5, and 8...h5 with 9 f5) 7 $\mathbb{Q}xe6$ $\mathbb{Q}xb2$ 8 f4 $\mathbb{Q}xa3$ 9 f5 $\mathbb{Q}b3$ 10 f6 a3 11 f7 a2 12 f8 \mathbb{W} a1 \mathbb{W} 13 $\mathbb{W}f3+$ $\mathbb{W}c3$ 14 $\mathbb{W}b7+$ $\mathbb{W}b4$ 15 $\mathbb{W}xa6$.

Exercise 23

**Skripchenko-Lautier - H.Hunt
Leon 2001**

1... $\mathbb{Q}a7!$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}xa7$

2 $\mathbb{Q}b1$ $\mathbb{Q}e3$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}b3+$ $\mathbb{Q}d2$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}b2+$ $\mathbb{Q}d3$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}b1$ $\mathbb{Q}c2$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}e1$ $\mathbb{Q}d2$, or 2 $\mathbb{Q}e1$ $\mathbb{Q}e3$.

2... $\mathbb{Q}e1\mathbb{W}$ yields a technical win.

The actual game was played with neither player having much time on the clock, so being over-critical is unfair, but it is clear that both players would have been disappointed with their own play: 1... $\mathbb{Q}d3$? 2 $\mathbb{Q}a3+$ $\mathbb{Q}c2$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}a1$? (3 $\mathbb{Q}a2+!$) 3... $\mathbb{Q}d3$? (3... $\mathbb{Q}a7!$) 4 $\mathbb{Q}a3+$ $\mathbb{Q}d2$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}a2+$ $\mathbb{Q}e3$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}a3+$ $\mathbb{Q}d4$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}a1$? (7 $\mathbb{Q}a4+!$ $\mathbb{Q}c3$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}a3+$) 7... $\mathbb{Q}c3$? (7... $\mathbb{Q}a7!$) 8 $\mathbb{Q}b1$? (8 $\mathbb{Q}a3+$)

8... $\mathbb{Q}c2$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}a1$ $\mathbb{Q}b2$ (9... $\mathbb{Q}a7!$) 10 $\mathbb{Q}e1$ $\mathbb{Q}c3$ draw.

Exercise 24 Marshall-Maroczy, Ostend 1905

Black begins a forced series of moves that leads to White being totally paralysed.

1... $\mathbb{W}d1+$ 2 $\mathbb{W}e1$ $\mathbb{W}d3+$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}g1$

Or 3 $\mathbb{W}e2$ $\mathbb{W}b1+$ etc.

3... $\mathbb{W}c2!$ 4 $\mathbb{W}a1$ $a5!$

Better than 4... $\mathbb{W}e2?!$, which allows White to resist with 5 b4. After the text White has problems finding half-sensible moves with his queen so restricted.

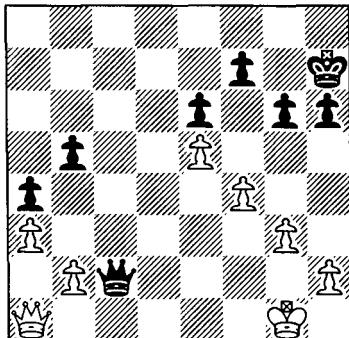
5 g3

After 5 b4 axb4 6 axb4 $\mathbb{W}e4$ the back rank is again the source of White's problems, for instance 7 $\mathbb{W}c3?$

$\mathbb{W}b1+$.

5...a4 6 f4

Defending the e-pawn but the loss of the seventh rank soon leads to the loss of a pawn.



6... $\mathbb{Q}g8$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}h3$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}h4$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}h1$

Or 9 $\mathbb{W}a2$ $\mathbb{W}d1+$ (note that the white queen is thus trapped!) 10 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $\mathbb{W}d2+$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{W}e1$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}g2$ $\mathbb{W}e2+$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}g1$

$\mathbb{W}f3$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}h2$ $\mathbb{W}f2+$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}h3$ $\mathbb{W}g1$ and mate is coming.

9... $\mathbb{W}f2$ 10 $\mathbb{W}g1$ $\mathbb{W}xb2$

White now made a fight of it but the game is lost.

11 $\mathbb{W}c5$ $b4$ 12 $f5$

The best chance to open up Black's king.

12...exf5

Also possible was 12...gxsf5 13 $\mathbb{W}e3$ $\mathbb{W}b1+$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}g2$ $\mathbb{W}c2+$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}g1$ $\mathbb{W}d1+$ (covering the d8-square to put a stop to any ideas of perpetual check) 16 $\mathbb{Q}h2$ $b3$ etc.

13 e6 bxa3 14 exf7 $\mathbb{Q}xf7$ 15 $\mathbb{W}c7+$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 16 $\mathbb{W}c6+$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 17 $\mathbb{W}xa4$ $a2$ 18 $\mathbb{W}e8+$ $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 19 $\mathbb{W}d7+$ $\mathbb{Q}e4$ 20 $\mathbb{W}c6+$ $\mathbb{Q}e3$ 21 $\mathbb{W}c5+$ $\mathbb{W}d4$ 22 $\mathbb{W}a3+$ $\mathbb{W}d3$ 23 $\mathbb{W}a7+$

Also hopeless is 23 $\mathbb{W}xa2$ $\mathbb{W}f1+$ 24 $\mathbb{Q}h2$ $\mathbb{W}f2+$.

23... $\mathbb{Q}f3$ 24 $\mathbb{W}xa2$ $\mathbb{W}f1+$ 25 $\mathbb{Q}h2$ $\mathbb{W}f2+$ 26 $\mathbb{W}xf2+$ $\mathbb{Q}xf2$ 27 $\mathbb{Q}h3$ $\mathbb{Q}f3$

27... $\mathbb{Q}g1!$ is more accurate.

28 $\mathbb{Q}h2$ $f4$ 29 $\mathbb{Q}h3$ $g5$ 30 $hxg5$ $fxg3$ 31 $\mathbb{Q}h4$ $g2$ 32 $g6$ $\mathbb{Q}f4$ 0-1

Exercise 25 Botvinnik-Lisitsin, Moscow 1935

1 $\mathbb{Q}e1$ $\mathbb{Q}d4$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}g2!$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}b4$ $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}a4$ $\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$

Black is tied down to the f-pawn and cannot support the advance of the passed b-pawn. Hence the draw.

Exercise 26 Sakharov-Vasiukov USSR ch (Alma Ata) 1968 (Analysis position)

Averbakh discovered the following:

1 ♜f6+ ♔h6 2 ♜g4+ ♔h5

2...♔g7 loses prosaically to 3 ♔xg5
d2 4 ♜f2.

3 ♔f6! d2 4 ♔g7 d1♛ 5 ♜f6 mate.

A pretty mate!

Exercise 27

Berger 1922

1 a6 ♕f5 2 ♔e3 ♕h3 3 ♔f3

3 ♔f2 ♕f5 repeats.

3...♕f1 4 a7 ♕c4 5 a8♛ ♕d5+ and draws.

Exercise 28

Szily-Karakas

World Championship Zonal 1960

Black prepares a surprising zugzwang:

1...♕f3 2 ♕c5 g1Q! 3 ♕xg1+ ♔g2
zugzwang!

4 a8♛ ♕xa8 5 ♔g4 ♕c6 6 ♔h4 ♕f3
and this time White should resign!

Exercise 29

Kotov-Botvinnik, Moscow 1947

1...dxc5!

Not 1...bxc5? 2 ♕e1! h3 3 ♕g3 and Black cannot improve his position in view of the weakness of his d-pawn.

**2 ♕e1 h3 3 ♕g3 b5 4 ♔d3 a5 5 ♕h2
a4 6 ♕g3 a3 7 ♕h2 b4 8 ♕c4 ♕xe4**
0-1

Exercise 30

D.Howell-Charleshouse,
Southend 2001

1 h5! 1-0

After 1...gxh5 2 ♕e6 Black no longer has the f5-square available for

his bishop, so the d-pawn goes all the way.

Exercise 31

Cheshkovsky-Flear,
Wijk aan Zee 1988

Black needs to maintain a blockade of the d7-square and avoid exchanging into a lost pawn ending, but otherwise the draw is straightforward.

**1...♔g6 2 ♜d6+ ♜f6 3 ♜d8 ♔d7+ 4
♔e5 ♜f7 5 ♜h4 ♔g7 6 ♜h5 ♔c8 7
♜g5+ ♔h7 8 ♜h4+ ♔g7 9 ♜g3+
♔h7 10 ♜h2+ ♔g7 11 ♜g3+ ♔h7 12
♜h2+ ♔g7 13 ♜g2+ ♜f8 14 d6 ♜f5+
15 ♔d4 ♔d7 16 ♜a8+ ♔g7 17 ♜d8
♜f4+ 18 ♔e5 ♜f5+ 19 ♔e4 ♜f7 20
♜g5+ ♔h7 21 ♔e5 ♔c8 22 ♜h4+
♔g7 23 ♜g3+ ♜f8 24 ♜h2 ♔g7 25
♜g2+ ♔h6 26 ♜g8 ♜f5+ 27 ♔e4
♔d7 28 ♔d4 ♜f4+ 29 ♔e3 ♜f6 30
♔e4 ♜f5 31 ♜b3 ♜f6 32 ♜g8 ♜f5
½-½**

Exercise 32

Flear-Emms

Hastings Challengers 1989/90

The game concluded as follows:

1 b8♛+! ♕xb8 2 ♜b7+ ♔c8 3 ♜e7
mate.

Exercise 33

Voitzikh-Tikhomirova, USSR 1960

The precise 1...♔d3! is required.

Not 1...c4? 2 ♜c1!, when 2...a1♛ is stalemate and 2...a1B 3 ♜xe2 simply drawn. The other try, 1...♔f3, is ineffective as 2 ♜a1 c4 3 ♜c2 c3 4 ♜a1
♔e3 5 ♜c2+ ♔d3 6 ♜b4+ ♔c4 7

$\mathbb{Q}xa2$ is not winning.

2 $\mathbb{Q}c1+$

2 $\mathbb{Q}a1$ also loses, in this case to 2...c4.

2... $\mathbb{Q}c2$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}xa2$ $\mathbb{Q}b2$

Trapping the knight and winning the game.

4 $\mathbb{Q}xe2$ $\mathbb{Q}xa2$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{Q}b3$ 0-1

Exercise 34

Spielmann-Capablanca

Moscow 1926

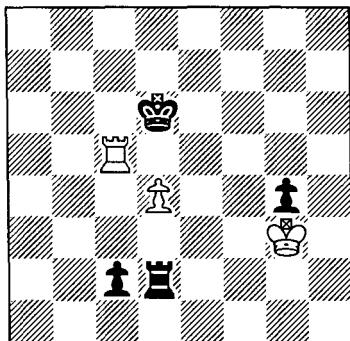
White can indeed draw, starting with 1 $\mathbb{Q}e2!$

A surprising defence, but the loss of the g3-pawn affords White's king some necessary freedom of movement. Instead 1 $\mathbb{Q}g2$ $\mathbb{Q}d2+$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}g1$ c2 and 1 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}c4?$ $\mathbb{Q}d5$ don't work.

1... $\mathbb{Q}xg3$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $\mathbb{Q}d3$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}g2$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$

Now 3... $\mathbb{Q}d2+$ is comfortably met by 4 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ as the g3-square has been freed!

4 $\mathbb{Q}h2$ $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}g2$ $\mathbb{Q}d2+$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ c2



7 $\mathbb{Q}h4!$

The only saving move.

7... $\mathbb{Q}g2$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}g5!$ $\mathbb{Q}g1$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}xc2$ $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}f4$ $\mathbb{Q}xd4$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}d2+$ $\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$

Exercise 35

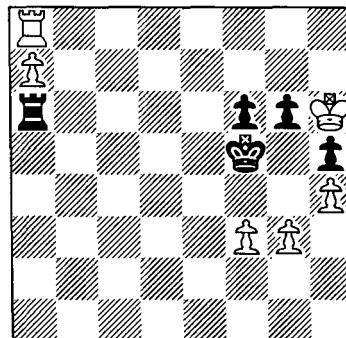
Unzicker-Lundin

Amsterdam Olympiad 1954

1 a7!

Tying down the black rook to defence along the a-file. Note that this idea works only if White's king has a shelter. The alternative 1 $\mathbb{Q}d2$ $\mathbb{Q}xf3$ 2 a7 $\mathbb{Q}a3$ allows Black sufficient counterplay thanks to his kingside majority.

1... $\mathbb{Q}a2+$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{Q}a1$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}d4$ $\mathbb{Q}a5$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}a3$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ $\mathbb{Q}a1$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}d6$ $\mathbb{Q}a3$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}e7$ $\mathbb{Q}a6$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}f7$ $\mathbb{Q}a3$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}g7!$ $\mathbb{Q}a6$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}h6$



An amazing journey! Now White can start to work on the kingside.

10... $\mathbb{Q}a3$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}b8$ $\mathbb{Q}xa7$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}b5+$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ $\mathbb{Q}a8$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}xh5$ $\mathbb{Q}g8$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}g4$ $\mathbb{Q}h8+$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 1-0

16... $\mathbb{Q}xh4$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}b6+$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}xf6$ is straightforward.

Exercise 36

1 $\mathbb{Q}xf1$ $\mathbb{Q}b8+$

Otherwise White simply wins with the Lucena bridge-building manoeuvre – see Exercise 7.

2 $\mathbb{Q}d7$ $\mathbb{Q}b7+$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}d8$ $\mathbb{Q}b8+$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ $\mathbb{Q}a8$

Threatening to check from even further away, but...

5 ♜a1!!

White wins after either 5...♜xa1 6 e8♛ or 5...♝e8 6 ♔d7 ♔f7 7 ♜f1+.

Exercise 37

Nimzowitsch-Tarrasch
San Sebastian 1911

1...a5 2 ♔e4 f5+!

Precise play. Instead 2...a4 3 ♔d4 f5 4 g3 leads to a draw.

3 ♔d4 f4! 0-1

White's kingside pawns can be picked off by the king.

Exercise 38

Polugaevsky-Psakhis
USSR ch (Moscow) 1983

1 g4! wins a second pawn.

It's true that 1 ♜b8+?! ♜xb8 2 ♜xa1 yields winning chances, but rook and four versus rook and three on the same side should only be drawn. Something like 2...g6 3 h4 ♜b7 4 ♔h2 ♔g7 seems a solid enough defence.

1...♜e5

Otherwise 1...♜f6 2 ♜b8+ ♜f8 3 ♜xf8+ ♜xf8 and the back rank weakness means that White wins a second pawn with 4 gxf5.

2 f4 ♜d6 3 gxf5 ♜f8 4 ♜d1 ♜c5 5 ♜d5

White should be able to win with his two extra pawns. The game concluded with the following:

5...♛c1+ 6 ♔g2 h6 7 ♜d3 ♜b2+ 8 ♔g3 ♜c1 9 e4 ♔h7 10 e5 ♜g1+ 11 ♔h3 h5 12 f6+ ♔h6 13 ♜g3 ♜f1+ 13...♜xg3+ 14 hxg3 gxf6 15 ♜d6. 14 ♔h4 gxf6 15 exf6 1-0

Exercise 39

Short-Bagirov, Baku 1983

1...♜a7!

Defending the h-pawn indirectly, and holding on!

2 ♜g7+ ♔e6 3 ♜g8+ ♜f7 4 ♜c8+ ♜d7 5 ♜g8+ ♜f7 6 ♜a8 ♜c7 7 ♔g3 ♜d7 8 ♜g8+ ♜f7 9 ♜c8+ ♜d7 10 ♜g8+ ♜f7 11 ♜a8 ♜d7 12 ♔f4 ♔f7! 13 ♜h8 ♔g6 14 ♜g8+ ♔h5 15 ♜g3 ½-½

Exercise 40

Colle-Alekhine, Paris 1925

1...♜h5

Keeping White tied down and preparing to switch flanks.

2 ♜f2

2 ♔e1 loses to 2...♜xf3 3 ♜xf3 ♔xf3 4 ♔f1 ♔e3 5 ♔e1 f3.

2...♜b5+ 3 ♔e1 ♜b1+ 4 ♔e2 ♜d3+ 5 ♔e1 ♜xf3 0-1

Preparing simplification into the pawn ending is the key.

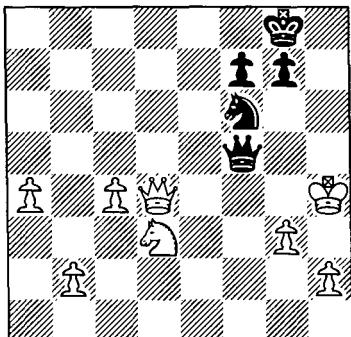
CHAPTER TEN

Solutions to Chapter Four

Exercise 1 Short-Nunn, Brussels 1986

1 ♜f4!

This is best, constructing a shield to prepare perpetual check. In the game Nigel Short underestimated the danger, and after 1 ♜xd4? ♛f1+ 2 ♜h4 ♛f5 resigned



because 3 g4 g5+ 4 ♛g3 ♜e4+ 5 ♛g2 ♛xg4+ loses the queen.

1... ♜e4

1... ♛f1+ 2 ♜h4 and White will escape.

2 ♛c8+ ♜h7 3 ♛f5+ ♛g8 4 ♛c8+ with a draw by perpetual check.

Exercise 2 Karpov-Timman, Tilburg 1977 (Analysis position)

1 ♛f3+ ♛g4 2 ♜h3 ♜aa4

Or 2... ♛ag5 3 g3 and zugzwang obliges mate next move.

3 ♛d5+ ♛g5 4 g4+! ♛axg4 5 ♛f3 and Black must move his rook and allow an immediate mate.

Exercise 3 Bogolyubov-Stahlberg, Kemerí 1938

1 ♛c2!

Preparing the advance of the c-pawn.

1... ♛xh5

Passive is 1... ♛c7. White can then play 2 ♛c4, intending ♛g2, ♛d5-d7.

2 ♛c4!

Controlling some important squares.

2... ♛f5+

After 2... ♛h2+ 3 ♜f3 ♛h1+ 4 ♜f4! Black has no worthwhile checks.

3 ♛g2 ♛c8 4 c7 a4 5 ♛c6 a3 6 ♛d6 ♛b7+ 7 ♜h2 a2 8 ♛f8+ ♛h7 9 ♛f5+

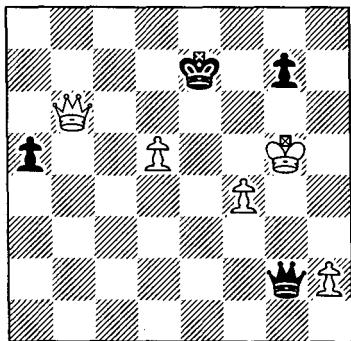
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Exercise 4 Marshall-Alekhine, Bradley Beach 1929

1...h5+!

Taking the initiative in view of threats to exchange queens into a winning pawn ending.

2 ♕xh5 ♘h3+ 3 ♕g5 ♘g2+



4 ♔h4!

The game continued 4 ♔f5? ♘xd5+ 5 ♔g6 ♘d6+ and Black was simply winning as he queened with check after 6 ♘xd6+ ♔xd6 7 ♘xg7 a4 8 f5 a3 9 f6 a2 10 f7 a1♕+ etc.

4...♘xh2+ 5 ♔g4 ♘g2+ 6 ♔h4 ♘xd5 7 ♔g3 ♔f7

As Botvinnik pointed out, Black has a clear advantage. He can aim to hide his king on the kingside and gradually get the a-pawn moving forward.

Exercise 5 Colle-Pirc, Frankfurt 1930 (Analysis by Grigoriev)

1...♔d1!

zugzwang! White must defend the f2-square and is therefore obliged to allow Black's king to cross the c-file.

This is better than 1...♘xb3?! 2 ♔g2!, which is not easy for Black. However, another strong move is 1...♘e4! (D.Howell) with the idea 2 ♘d6+ ♘d3 3 ♘c5 ♘f3, also producing zugzwang. 2 ♘d4+

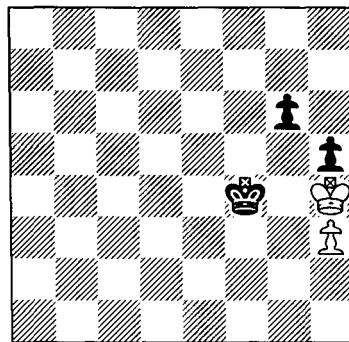
2 b5 axb5 3 b4 fails to 3...♘f2+ as the pawn ending is winning.

2...♔c2 3 ♘c4+ ♔b2 4 ♘d4+ ♔xb3 5 ♘c5 ♘f2+ 0-1

Exercise 6 Filep-Mariotti Reggio Emilia 1969/70

White draws by self-incarceration.

1 ♔g2 ♔e4 2 ♔g3 h5 3 h3! ♔e3 4 ♔h4 ♔xf4 Stalemate!



Black has the worst of the draw after 4...♔f3 5 ♔g5 ♔g3?! (5...h4 6 ♘xh4 ♔xf4) 6 ♘xg6 h4 (6...♔xf4 7 ♘xh5 ♔f5) 7 f5 ♘xh3 8 f6 ♔g2 9 f7 h3 10 f8♕ h2.

Exercise 7 Kostro-Filipowicz, Poland 1963

1...♔h7!

The only move. After 1...♔f8? 2 f6 neither king move is satisfactory:

Solutions to Chapter Four

2... $\mathbb{Q}g8$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}d6$ $\mathbb{Q}h7$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}d7$ $\mathbb{Q}h6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}e8$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}e7$, and 2... $\mathbb{Q}e8$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}d6$ $\mathbb{Q}d8$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}c6$. Otherwise 1... $\mathbb{Q}g8?$ loses to 2 $\mathbb{Q}d6$ $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}e7$, winning the f-pawn.

2 $\mathbb{Q}d6$ $\mathbb{Q}h6!$

A draw was agreed here. White's best is 3 $\mathbb{Q}c5$, leading to a drawn race as 3 $\mathbb{Q}e7?$ is bad after 3... $\mathbb{Q}g7$ and 3 $f6?$ loses the f-pawn and the game after 3... $\mathbb{Q}g5$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}e5$ (4 $\mathbb{Q}e7$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$) 4... $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}xf6$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}f4$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ $\mathbb{Q}c5$.

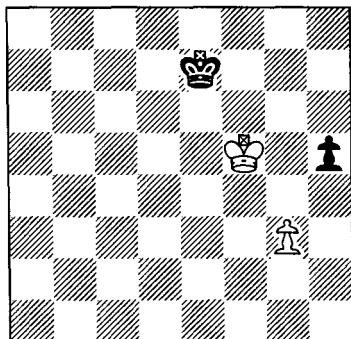
Exercise 8

Ilijin-Zhenevsky - Botvinnik

USSR 1938

1 $\mathbb{Q}f3!$

This leads to a quick zugzwang. Instead the game's 1 $\mathbb{Q}f4?$ allowed the future world champion to escape – 1... $g6$ 2 $hxg6+$ (2 $g3$ should be met with 2... $\mathbb{Q}g7!$ 3 $e6$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 4 $hxg6$ $\mathbb{Q}xe6$ 5 $g7$ $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}xf5$ $\mathbb{Q}xg7$ rather than 2... $gxh5?$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}xf5$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}g6)$ 2... $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ 3 $g3$ $h5$ 4 $e6$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 5 $e7$ $\mathbb{Q}xe7$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}xf5$



6... $h4!$ 7 $gxh4$ $\mathbb{Q}f7$ ½-½

1... $g6$

Neither 1... $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}f4$ nor 1... $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}f4$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 3 $g3$ escape the inevitable. 2 $hxg6+$ $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}f4$ $h5$ 4 $g3$ and White wins.

Exercise 9

Pomar-Cuadras, Olot 1974

1... $f4!$

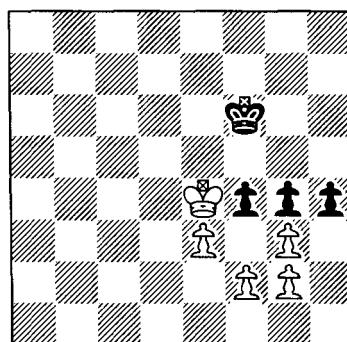
A classic breakthrough leading to an elegant win for Black.

2 $\mathbb{Q}d5$

Or 2 $exf4$ $h4$ 3 $gxh4$ $g3$.

2... $h4$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}xe4$

Alternatives fare no better, e.g. 3 $gxh4$ $g3$ 4 $fxg3$ $fxe3$ or 3 $gxh4$ $h3$.



3... $f3!$

The star move. White's king is denied access to the square of the h-pawn.

4 $gxf3$ $h3$ 0-1

Exercise 10

1 $\mathbb{Q}a8+$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}g8!$

The only way to win. White defends the g5-pawn and the g6-square at the same time, allowing him to advance his king to h7 followed by the pawn to g6. The immediate 2 $\mathbb{Q}h6$ leads no-

where in view of 2... $\mathbb{Q}f7!$ 3 $\mathbb{R}a7+$ $\mathbb{Q}g8$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}g6$ $\mathbb{Q}f8$.

2... $\mathbb{Q}g2$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}h7$ $\mathbb{Q}h2+$

Similarly 3... $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}g6$ + $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}f8+$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}f1$ etc.

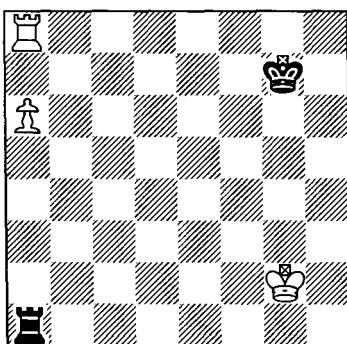
4 $\mathbb{Q}g7$ $\mathbb{Q}g2$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}g6$ $\mathbb{Q}h2$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}a8$

Having done it's job the rook comes back into play to prepare the typical Lucena win.

6... $\mathbb{Q}h1$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}g8$ $\mathbb{Q}h2$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}g7$ $\mathbb{Q}h1$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}a2$ $\mathbb{Q}h3$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}e2+$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}e4!$ $\mathbb{Q}h1$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}f7$ $\mathbb{Q}f1+$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}g6$ $\mathbb{Q}g1+$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{Q}f1+$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}g5$ $\mathbb{Q}g1+$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}g4$ etc.

A useful technique to remember!

Exercise 11



1... $\mathbb{Q}a5!$

The right approach, heading for defence along the ranks. Tarrasch instead suggested the following variation: 1... $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{Q}a4$ (2... $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}a7$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}h8$ loses to a well-known skewer; in many such positions the king is only really safe from this sort of thing on g7 and h7) 3 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}c3$ $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}b3$ $\mathbb{Q}a1$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}b4$ $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}b5$ $\mathbb{Q}b1+$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ $\mathbb{Q}c1+$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}b7$ $\mathbb{Q}b1+$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}a7$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}b8$ and White wins – as seen in Chapter 3 (solution in Chapter 9), Exercise 3.

2 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{Q}f5+$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}f6!$

White doesn't have a shelter for his king. This idea was found by Rauzer and Rabinovich.

4 $\mathbb{Q}d5$

Or 4 $\mathbb{Q}a7$ $\mathbb{Q}a6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ $\mathbb{Q}a1$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ $\mathbb{Q}a2$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}b6$ $\mathbb{Q}b2+$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ $\mathbb{Q}a2$. 4... $\mathbb{Q}h7$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}b5$ $\mathbb{Q}g5+$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}b4$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}a7$ $\mathbb{Q}a6$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}b5$ $\mathbb{Q}a1$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}b6$ $\mathbb{Q}b1+$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ $\mathbb{Q}a1$ with a well-known draw.

Exercise 12

Karstedt 1896

1 $\mathbb{Q}b8$

Instead 1 $\mathbb{Q}a8$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ leads to a draw. White should immediately get some manoeuvring space for his king.

1... $\mathbb{Q}c1$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}b7$ $\mathbb{Q}b1+$

2... $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}a7$ $\mathbb{Q}b1+$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}a6$ $\mathbb{Q}a1+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}b6$ $\mathbb{Q}b1+$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ and the king escapes.

3 $\mathbb{Q}a8$ $\mathbb{Q}a1$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}a7$ $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}b7$ $\mathbb{Q}b1+$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}c8$ $\mathbb{Q}c1+$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}d8$

Using the black king as a shelter.

7... $\mathbb{Q}h1$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}b6+$ $\mathbb{Q}c5$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}c6+$ $\mathbb{Q}b5$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}c8$

The book move, but 10 $\mathbb{Q}c1$ also wins. Most of this can be seen in Chapter 3 (Solution in Chapter 9), Exercise 3, but as this technique is so important it's worth seeing again!

Exercise 13

Grünfeld-Wagner, Breslau 1925

1 $\mathbb{Q}a8!$

The best move. White aims to stop Black's king invading via h5 and g4. Compare this line of defence with the

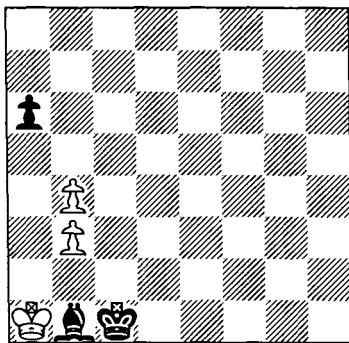
game continuation: 1 $\mathbb{B}b7?$ $f5+$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ $\mathbb{Q}g1+$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}h3$ $\mathbb{Q}a1$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}b8$ (4 $\mathbb{Q}b3$ $\mathbb{Q}h5$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}b4$ $\mathbb{Q}a3+$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}g2$ $\mathbb{Q}e3$ and ... $\mathbb{Q}e4$ is coming) 4... $\mathbb{Q}a3+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}h2$ $\mathbb{Q}h5$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}h8+$ $\mathbb{Q}g4$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}h6$ $\mathbb{Q}a6$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}g2$ $f4$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $f3$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}g3$ 0-1
 1... $f5+$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ $\mathbb{Q}g1+$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}h3$ $\mathbb{Q}b1$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}h8+!$ $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}a8$ $\mathbb{Q}b3+$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}g2$ $\mathbb{Q}h6$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}h8+$ $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}a8$ and Black cannot invade with his king.

Exercise 14

Short-Kasparov, Belgrade 1989

The game was won by the then-World Champion as follows:

1... $\mathbb{Q}g2$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}d1$ $\mathbb{Q}f3$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}d2$ $\mathbb{Q}e4$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}c3$ $\mathbb{Q}e3$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}c2$ $\mathbb{Q}e2$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}c1$ $\mathbb{Q}d3$ 7 $b3$ $\mathbb{Q}e1$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}b2$ $\mathbb{Q}d2$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}a1$ $\mathbb{Q}c2$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}a2$ $\mathbb{Q}c1$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}a1$ $\mathbb{Q}b1$ 0-1



Stalematting the king forces White to convert Black's 'wrong' rook's pawn into a b-pawn, when the win is trivial, e.g. 12 $b5$ $axb5$ (without the $b3$ -pawn it would still be stalemate, but here White has a move) 13 $b4$ $\mathbb{Q}d3$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}a2$ $\mathbb{Q}c2$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}a3$ $\mathbb{Q}c3$ etc.

So – bishop and wrong rook's pawn win against doubled pawns on the adjacent file.

Exercise 15

Paulsen-Metger, Nuremberg 1888

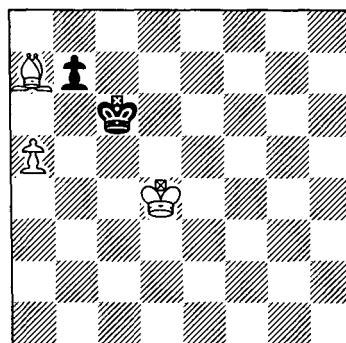
The right move is...

1 $\mathbb{Q}d4!$

1 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ $b6+!$ 2 $axb6+$ $\mathbb{Q}b7$ is a theoretical draw, while the game finished abruptly with 1 $\mathbb{Q}c4?$ $b5+!$, when a draw was agreed.

1... $\mathbb{Q}c6$

After both 1... $b6$ 2 $a6$ $\mathbb{Q}c6$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}b4!$ (4 $\mathbb{Q}b5$ $\mathbb{Q}c7$) 4... $\mathbb{Q}c6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}b8$ $b5$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}a7$ $\mathbb{Q}c7$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}xb5$ and 1... $b5$ 2 $a6$ $\mathbb{Q}c6$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}c3$ $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}b4$ $\mathbb{Q}c6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}a5$ White picks up the b-pawn and Black's king doesn't get into the corner.



2 $\mathbb{Q}b6!$

Another important moment as 2 $\mathbb{Q}c3?$ slips up in view of 2... $b6!$ 3 $a6$ (3 $\mathbb{Q}xb6$ $\mathbb{Q}b7$ and 3 $axb6$ $\mathbb{Q}b7$ are both equal and should be familiar by now!) 3... $\mathbb{Q}b5$.

2... $\mathbb{Q}d6$

After 2... $\mathbb{Q}b5$ Black is squeezed out: 3 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ $\mathbb{Q}a6$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}d6$ $\mathbb{Q}b5$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ $\mathbb{Q}a6$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}b8$ etc.

3 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}c6$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}b4$ $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}b5$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ $\mathbb{Q}c8$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}a7$ $\mathbb{Q}c7$

Naturally 7... $b6+$ is met by 8 $\mathbb{Q}xb6$.

8 ♕b5 ♔d7 9 ♘b8 ♔c8 10 ♘f4 ♔d7
11 ♘b6 ♔c8 12 ♘g3 1-0

Exercise 16 Flear-Andruet, Athens 1989

I surprised my opponent...

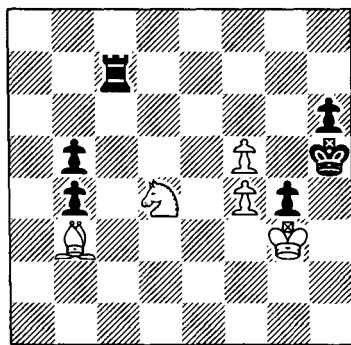
1 ♕g3!!
who immediately panicked with...
1...g5?

1...♝xd4 2 ♘e6 (and suddenly the threat of mate with ♘g4 forces Black to abandon his rook) 2...♝xf4 (2...♝d3+ 3 f3 and 3...♝xf3+ is forced) 3 ♔xf4 g5+ is somewhat humiliating but should probably lead to a draw.

2 f5

Now White has a passed pawn and Black is driven onto the defensive.

2...g4 3 f4 ♘c7



4 ♘c6!

Mate is still a theme!

4...♝a7!?

...as is stalemate!

5 f6 ♘a3

Others are no better: 5...♝a8 allows 6 ♘f7 mate and 5...♝c7 comes to the same sort of thing as the game – 6 f7 ♘c8 7 ♘e5 ♘c3+ 8 ♔g2.

6 f7 ♘xb3+ 7 ♔g2 ♘b2+ 8 ♔f1 ♘b1+

9 ♔e2 ♘b2+ 10 ♔e3 g3 11 f8♛ g2 12 ♘g7 1-0

Exercise 17 Azmaiparashvili-Flear Belgrade 1988

The advantage of queen against rook and minor piece is most noticeable if the defender needs to cover a wide area. On a limited front the queen may not be able to cause any damage. Black needs to hold on to the queen-side and then mutually protect his pieces.

1...♝e7 2 ♘xh6+ ♔f7 3 ♘d6 ♘d5

Black is able to maintain the blockade and, despite White's efforts, there isn't any way through.

4 ♔a2 ♘e6 5 ♘b8 ♘e7 6 ♔b3 ♘d7 7 ♔c4 ♘e7 8 ♔c5 ♘d7 9 ♔c4 ♘e7 10 ♘d8 ♘e8 11 ♘d7+ ♘e7 12 ♘f5+ ♔e8 13 ♘c8+ ♔f7 14 ♔c5 ♘c7 15 ♘d8 ♘e7 16 a4 ♔e6 17 ♘d6+ ♔f7 18 b4 ♘c3 19 ♘f4+ ♔e8 20 ♘b8+ ♔f7 21 ♘f4+ ♔e8 22 ♘g4 ♘e4+ 23 ♔b6 ♘d6 24 ♘g8+ ♔d7 25 ♘b8 ♔e6 26 ♘d8 ♔d5 27 ♔a7

27 ♘xe7?? ♘c8+.

27...♔e6 28 ♘g8+ ♔d7 29 ♔b6 ♘e8 30 ♘g4+ ♔d8 31 ♘g3 ♔d7 32 ♘h3+ ♔d8 33 a5 ♘e7 34 ♘h4 ♘c8+ 35 ♔c5 ♔c7 36 b5!? cxb5 37 ♘f4+ ♔d8 38 ♘f8+ ♔c7 39 d5 ♘d7 40 ♘f4+ ♘d6 41 ♘e5 ♔d8 42 ♘f6+ ♔c7 43 ♘e5 ½-½

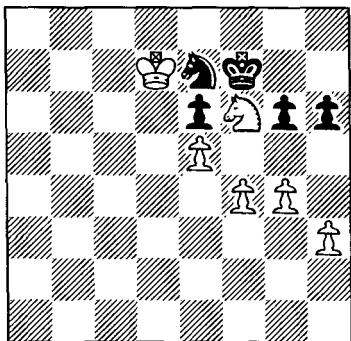
Exercise 18

Boleslavsky-Ragozin, Moscow 1947

The king needs to reach d7.

1 ♔c5 ♔f7 2 ♔d6 ♘c8+ 3 ♔c7 ♘a7

4 ♜b6 ♜c8+ 5 ♜b7 ♜e7 6 ♜c7 ♜f8
 6... ♜d5+ 7 ♜xd5 exd5 8 ♜d7.
 7 ♜d6 ♜f7 8 ♜d7



Zugzwang. Black only has pawn moves remaining.

8...g5
 8...h5 9 ♜e4 and the e6-pawn will fall.

9 fxg5 ♜g6

Activating the knight creates a few technical difficulties but, ultimately, to no avail. If, however, 9...hxg5, then 10 ♜e4 is again effective.

10 ♜d6 hxg5 11 ♜e4 ♜f4 12 ♜xg5+ ♜g6 13 h4 ♜g2 14 ♜f3 ♜e3 15 h5+ ♜f7 16 g5 ♜c4+ 17 ♜c6 ♜e3 18 h6 ♜d5 19 ♜h4 ♜f4 20 g6+ 1-0

Exercise 19 Capablanca-Janowsky, New York 1916

As Black is unable to get his king to b7 he should play for the second best option: *behind the pawn*.

1...♜f4! 2 ♜d4

In the event of 2 ♜e5+, then 2...♜e3 3 b5 ♜d3 4 ♜c6 ♜c4! arrives in time.

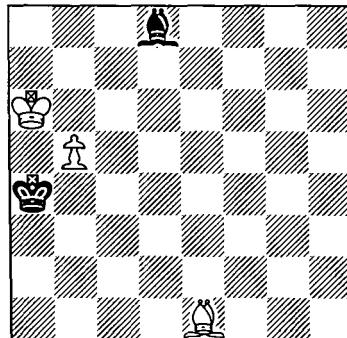
2...♞f3! 3 b5

3 ♜c5 ♜e2 4 ♜c6 ♜d3 5 ♜d7 ♜g5
 6 b5 ♜c4 7 ♜c6 ♜d8 and Black defends.

3...♛e2! 4 ♜c6 ♜d3 5 ♜b6 ♜g5 6 ♜b7

Tricky is 6 ♜c7 ♜e3 7 ♜d5 (7 ♜d6 ♜c4 etc.), when Black needs to find 7...♜d2!, intending to meet 8 b6 with 8...♜a5.

6...♛c4 7 ♜a6 ♜b3! 8 ♜f2 ♜d8 9 ♜e1 ♜a4!



White cannot make progress!

Exercise 20 Fischer-Taimanov, Vancouver 1971

1...♞d3!

Best. Taimanov went astray with 1...♜e4? 2 ♜c8 ♜f4 (2...♞f3 3 ♜b7+) 3 h4 ♜f3 4 h5 ♜g5 5 ♜g6 ♜f3 6 h6 ♜h4+ 7 ♜f6 1-0.

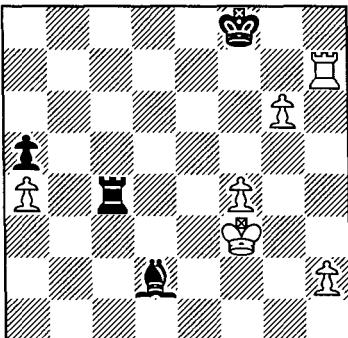
2 h4 ♜f4 3 ♜f5 ♜d6! 4 ♜xf4 ♜e7 5 ♜g5 ♜f8 6 ♜h6 ♜g8 and once the king is in the corner the draw is assured.

Exercise 21 Delchev-Flear, Creon 2001

My opponent played:

1 g5+

This led to a draw, but straight after the game he pointed out the immediate 1 $\mathbb{Q}d5!$, which he thought was winning. However, Black then has 1...c4!!, e.g. 2 g5+ $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}e7+$ $\mathbb{Q}f8$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}f7+$ $\mathbb{Q}e8$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}xh7$ c3 6 $\mathbb{Q}f7+$ $\mathbb{Q}f8$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ c2 8 $\mathbb{Q}xc2$ $\mathbb{Q}xc2$ 9 g6 $\mathbb{Q}c4$

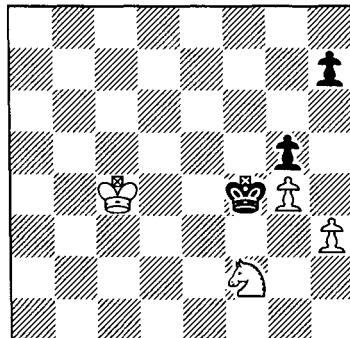


and Black shouldn't lose. Indeed 10 $\mathbb{Q}f7+$ $\mathbb{Q}g8$ 11 h4 $\mathbb{Q}xa4$ 12 h5, for instance, even loses to 12... $\mathbb{Q}xf4+!$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}xf4$ $\mathbb{Q}xf4$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}xf4$ a4 etc. Alternatively there is 2 $\mathbb{Q}xc4$ $\mathbb{Q}b4$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}e6+$ $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}e7+$ $\mathbb{Q}f8$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ $\mathbb{Q}xa4$ when, although White arguably has an edge, a draw is most probable.
 1... $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ $\mathbb{Q}f8$ 3 h4 $\mathbb{Q}c3$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}e6$ $\mathbb{Q}b4$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ $\mathbb{Q}xa4$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}xc5$ $\mathbb{Q}d2$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}a3+$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}e3+$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}c8+\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$

Exercise 22 Nimzowitsch-Sämisch Copenhagen 1923 (Analysis position)

After 1 g4 f3 2 $\mathbb{Q}d2$ f2 3 $\mathbb{Q}e4+$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}xf2$ $\mathbb{Q}f4$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}c4$

(see following diagram)



Black should not play 5... $\mathbb{Q}g3?$ in view of 6 $\mathbb{Q}e4+$ $\mathbb{Q}xh3$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}f6$, but rather 5... $\mathbb{Q}f3!$ (K.Müller), which draws because Black will be able to eliminate both of White's pawns.

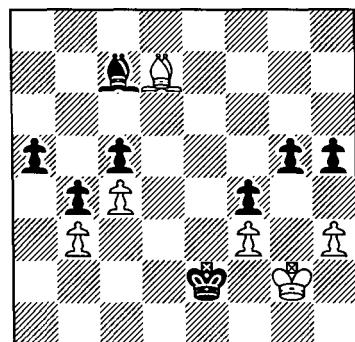
Exercise 23 Motzer-Trabert, St.Vincent 2002

Black won by creating threats with both majorities.

1... $\mathbb{Q}d4+$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}g2$

2 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{Q}g3$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}d7$ f4 4 $\mathbb{Q}g4$ (4 $\mathbb{Q}e8$ $\mathbb{Q}xh3$) 4... $\mathbb{Q}h4$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ h5 6 $\mathbb{Q}d7$ $\mathbb{Q}g3$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{Q}g2!$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ g4 9 $\mathbb{Q}hg4$ h4 and Black wins.

2... $\mathbb{Q}e3$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}d7$ f4 4 $\mathbb{Q}e8$ $\mathbb{Q}e2$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ h5 6 $\mathbb{Q}d7$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ $\mathbb{Q}c7$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}d7$



8...g4!

The white bishop on d7 is overloaded.

9 hxg4 hxg4 10 ♜c6

After 10 ♜xg4 a4! 11 bxa4 b3 Black creates a passed pawn that costs White his bishop and the game, e.g. 12 ♜f5 b2 13 ♜e4 ♜d2 14 ♜f2 ♜c1 15 ♜e2 b1♛ 16 ♜xb1 ♜xb1 17 ♜d3 ♜b2 18 ♜e4 ♜b3 19 ♜d5 ♜b4 etc.

10...a4 11 bxa4 g3 12 ♜e4 b3 0-1

Exercise 24

Kosten-M.Gurevich, France 1991

1 ♜c6?, as played in the game, looks reasonable enough but it failed to draw: 1...c4 2 ♜c7 ♜e6 3 ♜c6+ ♜d7? (not 3...♜xf7? 4 ♜d6 with equality) 4 ♜a6 ♜xf7 5 ♜e3 ♜f1 6 ♜d4 ♜d1+ 7 ♜c3 ♜d3+ 8 ♜c2 ♜c7 0-1

1 ♜f3! is, in fact, correct.

1...♜e6 2 ♜c3 c4 3 ♜e3+! ♜xf7

Or 3...♜d7 4 ♜f3 ♜d6 5 ♜c3 ♜c5 6 ♜f5 and Black can't improve.

4 ♜e5

4 ♜c3 is less good after 4...♜e8. After the text 4...♜d8 5 ♜c3 ♜f6 6 ♜d4 ♜c8 7 ♜e1 is comfortable for White. Instead more challenging is

4...d4

but White still holds.

5 ♜c5 c3+ 6 ♜d3 ♜d8 7 ♜e5! ♜f6

In response to 7...♜e8, 8 ♜c5 obliges 8...♜d8, repeating.

8 ♜e1 ♜f5 9 ♜c2 ♜f4

9...♜d5 10 ♜d3 ♜e5 fails to 11 ♜f1+.

10 ♜d3 ♜f3 11 ♜f1+ ♜g2 12 ♜c1 ♜f2 13 ♜c2+ ♜e1 14 ♜c1+ and Black isn't progressing.

Exercise 25

Najdorf-Vinuesa, Mar del Plata 1941

It looks suspicious for Black but he can hold.

1...♝h3!

Neither 1...f4? 2 ♜e2 ♜g3 3 ♜f1, nor 1...♜g3? 2 b5 f4 3 b6 f3 4 b7 f2 5 b8♛+ ♜g2 6 ♜g8+, are any good.

2 b5

2 ♜e3 leads to both players queen-ing: 2...♜g3 3 b5 f4+ 4 ♜e2 (4 ♜d2 f3 5 b6 f2 is also equal) 4...♜g2 5 b6 f3+ 6 ♜d2 f2 7 b7 f1♛ 8 b8♛ with a draw.

2...f4 3 ♜e4 ♜g3

Not 3...♜g4? 4 b6 f3 5 ♜e3 ♜g3 6 b7 f2 7 b8♛+ etc.

4 b6 f3 5 b7 f2 6 b8♛+

White queens with check but his king is too far away to win.

6...♜g2 7 ♜g8+ ♜h2 8 ♜f7 ♜g2 9 ♜g6+ ♜h2 10 ♜f5 ♜g2 11 ♜g4+ ♜h2 12 ♜f3 ♜g1 13 ♜g3+ ♜h1 and there is no way to win.

Exercise 26

Hector-Levitt, Graested 1990

The white king cannot stop the h-pawn without help from the knight. However, for the knight to come across White's king must first get inside the square of the a-pawn.

1 ♜f6 ♜g4 2 ♜e5 h5 3 ♜d4 h4 4 ♜c4 ♜f3 5 ♜e5+ ♜g3 6 ♜c4!

An excellent square, enabling the knight to have a choice of d2, e3 or e5, depending on circumstances.

6...♞f2

6...h3 7 ♜e3 (not, however, 7 ♜d2? due to 7...♜g2) 7...h2 8 ♜f1+ ♜g2 9

$\mathbb{Q}xh2$ with a draw.

7 $\mathbb{Q}e5!$

This time 7 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ fails to 7...a3! etc.

7... $\mathbb{Q}g3$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ a3 9 $\mathbb{Q}c3$ $\mathbb{Q}f3$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}e5+$ $\mathbb{Q}g3$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}f2$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}e5$ $\mathbb{Q}g3$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ a2 14 $\mathbb{Q}b2$ $\mathbb{Q}f3$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}e5+$ $\mathbb{Q}g3$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}f3$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}e5+ \frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$

Exercise 27

Serebrjanik-K.Müller

Linares 1994

(Analysis position)

The choice of the first move is important as 1 $\mathbb{Q}g3?$ $\mathbb{Q}e6!$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ $\mathbb{Q}xg5$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}f4+$ $\mathbb{Q}h6$ leads only to a draw.

1 $\mathbb{Q}g2!$ $\mathbb{Q}f5$

Or 1... $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}f4+$ $\mathbb{Q}xh4$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}xe6$ etc.

2 $\mathbb{Q}f4$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$

Clearly 2... $\mathbb{Q}xh4$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}xh4$ $\mathbb{Q}xh4$ 4 g6 is hopeless.

3 $\mathbb{Q}e5$ $\mathbb{Q}g6+$

Or 3... $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}f4+$ $\mathbb{Q}h7$ 5 h5 etc.

4 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{Q}f8$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}f4+$ $\mathbb{Q}g4$

5... $\mathbb{Q}xh4$ loses to 11 $\mathbb{Q}g6+$.

11 g6 $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ $\mathbb{Q}h5$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}g7$ etc.

Exercise 28

Karpov-Kavalek

Nice Olympiad 1974

(Analysis position)

With opposite-coloured bishops the presence of an extra pair of rooks often offers additional winning chances, as is the case with this example.

1 c5! $\mathbb{Q}xc5$ 2 d6 $\mathbb{Q}a3+$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{Q}xf3$

It is not just that the rook was in danger on the a2-g8 diagonal, since after 3... $\mathbb{Q}xd6$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}d5+$ $\mathbb{Q}h8$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}b8$

Black loses his king.

4 d7 and White wins (Karpov and Zaitsev).

Exercise 29

Kasparov-Short, London 1993

Black has just enough time to activate his rook in order to grab the e-pawn and return to stop the a-pawn.

1... $\mathbb{Q}c5!$

The game continued 1... $\mathbb{Q}e6?$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}d6$ (or 2... $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}d3$) 3 $\mathbb{Q}d4$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}c6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}b4$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}c1+$ $\mathbb{Q}b6$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}c4$, and Short threw in the towel.

2 a5

Both 2 $\mathbb{Q}a3$ $\mathbb{Q}c4$ 3 a5 $\mathbb{Q}xe4$ 4 a6 $\mathbb{Q}f4+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}f8$ and 2 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}c4$ 3 a5 $\mathbb{Q}xe4+$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 5 a6 $\mathbb{Q}e8$ are equally drawn.

2... $\mathbb{Q}c3+$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}g4$ $\mathbb{Q}xe4$ 4 a6 $\mathbb{Q}c8$ 5 a7 $\mathbb{Q}g8+$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}h5$ $\mathbb{Q}a8$ and the black king will head for b7.

Exercise 30

Alekhine-Bogoljubov, The Hague 1929

An instructive moment.

Going to the e-file is correct. In that case Black is better placed to hold off the opposing king in the imminent king and rook versus king and pawn ending.

1... $\mathbb{Q}e4!$

Instead Bogolyubov chose the wrong way with 1... $\mathbb{Q}g4?$ and soon lost: 2 b7 f5 3 b8 \mathbb{Q} $\mathbb{Q}xb8$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}xb8$ f4 (the white king now can come back unopposed) 5 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ f3 6 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ f2 7 $\mathbb{Q}f8$ $\mathbb{Q}g3$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ 1-0

2 b7

Solutions to Chapter Four

After 2 $\mathbb{E}e1+$ $\mathbb{Q}f4$ 3 $\mathbb{E}f1+$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 4 b7 f5 5 $\mathbb{E}e1+$ $\mathbb{Q}f4$ 6 $\mathbb{B}b1$ $\mathbb{Q}e3$ 7 $\mathbb{E}b3+$ $\mathbb{Q}e4$ 8 b8 \mathbb{W} $\mathbb{E}xb8$ 9 $\mathbb{E}xb8$ f4 10 $\mathbb{E}e8+$ $\mathbb{Q}d4!$ Black is OK.

2...f5 3 b8 \mathbb{W} $\mathbb{E}xb8$ 4 $\mathbb{E}xb8$ f4 5 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ f3 6 $\mathbb{E}f8$ $\mathbb{Q}e3$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ f2 8 $\mathbb{Q}c3$ $\mathbb{Q}e2$ 9 $\mathbb{E}e8+$ $\mathbb{Q}d1$

with a book draw.

Exercise 31 Lutikov-Taimanov, Moscow 1955

1 $\mathbb{E}a3?$

Too passive! The correct choice is 1 $\mathbb{E}b8!$ g4+ 2 hxg4+ hxg4+ 3 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{E}c2+$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}f1$ $\mathbb{E}c1+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{Q}g5$ 6 $\mathbb{E}h8!$, the point being to stop the king infiltrating on g3.

1...g4+ 2 hxg4+ hxg4+ 3 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $\mathbb{E}c2+$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}f1$ $\mathbb{E}c1+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}e2$

5 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ g3+ 6 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{E}g1$ 7 $\mathbb{E}a2$ is flashy but fails to 7... $\mathbb{Q}g4$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ f3, e.g. 9 $\mathbb{E}a4+$ $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 10 $\mathbb{E}a5+$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 11 $\mathbb{E}a6+$ $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 12 $\mathbb{E}a5+$ $\mathbb{Q}c6$ 13 gxf3 g2 14 $\mathbb{E}g5$ $\mathbb{E}d1+$.

5... $\mathbb{Q}g5$ 6 $\mathbb{E}b3$ $\mathbb{Q}h4$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ g3+ 8 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{E}f1+$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ f3!

An instructive breakthrough.

10 $\mathbb{E}xf3$ $\mathbb{E}f2$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}e3$

11 $\mathbb{E}f4+$ is met by 11... $\mathbb{Q}g5$.

11... $\mathbb{E}xg2$

White's king will remain fatally cut off from the g-pawn.

12 $\mathbb{E}f8$ $\mathbb{E}a2$ 13 $\mathbb{E}h8+$ $\mathbb{Q}g4$ 14 $\mathbb{E}h7$ g2 15 $\mathbb{E}g7+$ $\mathbb{Q}h3$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{Q}h2$ 17 $\mathbb{E}h7+$ $\mathbb{Q}g1$ 18 $\mathbb{E}b7$ $\mathbb{E}a3+$ 19 $\mathbb{Q}g4$ $\mathbb{E}e3$ 20 $\mathbb{E}f7$ $\mathbb{Q}e8$ 21 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{E}h8$ 1-0

Exercise 32

White has a clever resource...

1 $\mathbb{E}a3!$ $\mathbb{Q}g5$

1... $\mathbb{E}xg3+$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}f4$ $\mathbb{E}g1$ (the main point is that 2... $\mathbb{E}xa3$ is stalemate) 5 $\mathbb{Q}a6+$ $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}xf5$ g3 7 $\mathbb{Q}g4$ is equal. 2 $\mathbb{Q}d4$ f4 3 $\mathbb{E}a5+$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 4 $\mathbb{E}a6+$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 5 $\mathbb{E}a7+$ $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 6 $\mathbb{E}a6+$ $\mathbb{Q}c7$ 7 gxf4 and White has escaped.

Exercise 33 Botvinnik-Pachman Leipzig Olympiad 1960

1... $\mathbb{E}a5$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}c7$

zugzwang.

2... $\mathbb{Q}g7$

In the event of 2...g4 White can win with 3 $\mathbb{Q}d7$ $\mathbb{Q}g5$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}e6$ $\mathbb{Q}h5$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}g5$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{Q}h5$ 7 h3, or (instead of 4 $\mathbb{Q}e6$) 4 $\mathbb{Q}d6$ etc.

3 $\mathbb{Q}d6$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}xg6!$ $\mathbb{Q}xg6$

If Black doesn't capture then White will soon create a passed pawn on the kingside with decisive effect, e.g. 4... $\mathbb{Q}b4+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ $\mathbb{Q}a5$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ $\mathbb{Q}c3$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ $\mathbb{Q}a5$ 8 h4 gxf4 9 gxf4 $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 11 h5 $\mathbb{Q}g5$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}xe5$ $\mathbb{Q}xh5$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}xd4$.

5 $\mathbb{Q}xe5$ $\mathbb{Q}c3$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}e6$ g4 7 e5 $\mathbb{Q}b4$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}d7$ $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 9 e6+ $\mathbb{Q}f8$ 10 a5! etc.

Exercise 34 Farago-Zimmerman Zalakaros 1992

1 a4!

The more obvious 1 a3 $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 2 b4 doesn't work since after 2...cxb4 3 axb4 axb4 4 c5 dxc5 5 d6 $\mathbb{Q}xd6$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}xd6$ c4 7 $\mathbb{Q}xe5$ b3 8 $\mathbb{Q}d1$ $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ White has run out of pawns.

1... $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 2 b4! cxb4

2...axb4 loses to 3 a5.

3 c5 dxc5 4 d6 $\mathbb{Q}xd6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}xd6$ e4

After 5...c4 6 ♜xe5 b3 7 ♜d1 ♜xg6 8 ♜d4 White picks off Black's remaining pawns and is then left with the 'right' rook's pawn.

6 ♜xe4 1-0

Exercise 35 Centurini 1847

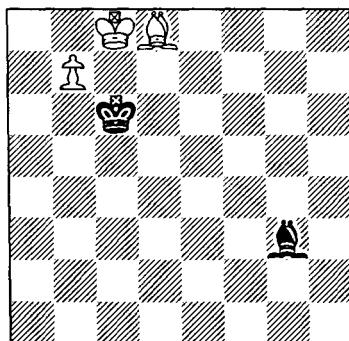
1 ♜h4 ♜b6 2 ♜f2+ ♜a6 3 ♜c5!

zugzwang. Black must move his bishop onto an exposed square. Note that the plausible 3 ♜e3 ♜d6! 4 ♜g5 ♜b6 5 ♜d8+ ♜c6 6 ♜e7 runs into 6...♜h2.

3...♜g3

Naturally 3...♜b5 fails to 4 ♜a7 ♜a6 5 ♜b8 ♜g1 6 ♜g3 ♜a7 7 ♜f2.

4 ♜e7 ♜b6 5 ♜d8+ ♜c6



Back to the starting position, except that the bishop is now on g3.

6 ♜h4! ♜h2 7 ♜f2

White now gets his bishop to b8 and wins as in the note to 3...♜b5.

Exercise 36 Polugaevsky-Mecking Mar del Plata 1971

Polugaevsky's technique is instruc-

tive. First he improves his pawns...

1 h4 ♜f3 2 b4 ♜h1

Then the bishop...

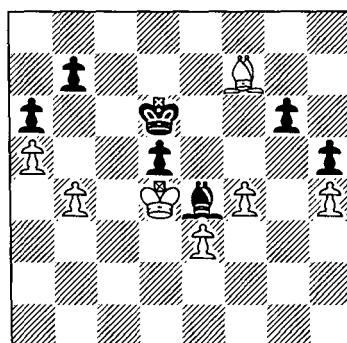
3 ♜e2 ♜g2

3...♜e4 4 ♜g4 ♜f5 5 ♜f3 ♜e6 6 e4! (another way of targeting the b7-weakness) 6...dxe4 7 ♜xe4 ♜c8 8 ♜f3 and Black is in zugzwang (after 8...♜e7 9 ♜e5 White invades).

4 ♜g4 ♜e4 5 ♜c8 ♜c7 6 ♜e6 ♜d6 7 ♜g8 h6 8 ♜f7

It is more or less zugzwang.

8...h5 9 ♜e8 ♜c2 10 ♜f7 ♜e4



11 f5!

The mini-combination gives the White bishop more freedom while tying down Black's.

11...♜xf5

After 11...gxsf5 12 ♜xh5 the h-pawn will be decisive.

12 ♜xd5 ♜c8 13 e4

13 ♜e4 would also win.

13...♜e7 14 ♜e5

And finally the king moves up. In zugzwang again, Black resorts to a desperate try, but to no avail...

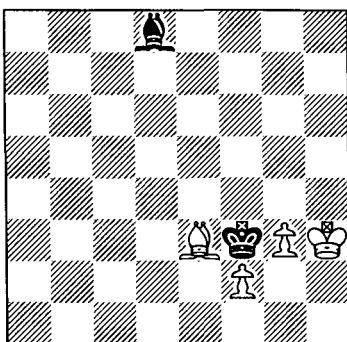
14...g5 15 hxg5 h4 16 g6 h3 17 g7 h2 18 g8♛ h1♛ 19 ♛f7+ ♜d8 20 ♛f8+ 1-0

Exercise 37 Cekro-Todorovic, Tuzla 1990

1... $\mathbb{Q}d8!$

1... $\mathbb{Q}xe3$ 2 fxe3 $\mathbb{Q}xe3$ loses to 3 h4! and 1... $\mathbb{Q}c7$ is inferior to the text because after 2 h3 gxh3+ 3 $\mathbb{Q}xh3$ $\mathbb{Q}f3$ White has 4 $\mathbb{Q}h4$ and the g-pawn is free to advance.

2 h3 gxh3+ 3 $\mathbb{Q}xh3$ $\mathbb{Q}f3$



Surprisingly, White cannot progress! For instance...

4 g4 $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 5 g5 $\mathbb{Q}xg5!$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}xg5$ $\mathbb{Q}xf2$ and Black draws.

Exercise 38 Hamdouchi-Topalov Cap d'Agde (rapid) 1994

1... $\mathbb{Q}g2+!$

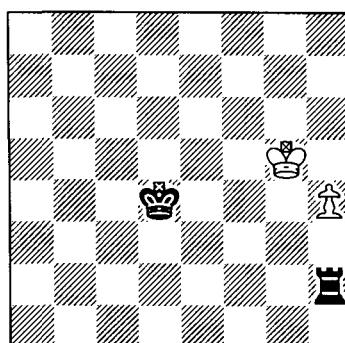
In the game Black erred with 1... $\mathbb{Q}d4?$ 2 h5 $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 3 h6 $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}g7$ (not 4 h7? $\mathbb{Q}g2+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}h6$ $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 6 h8N+ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}h7$ $\mathbb{Q}g1$, which is winning for Black) 4... $\mathbb{Q}g2+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}f8!$ $\mathbb{Q}f2+$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}g7$ $\mathbb{Q}g2+$ with a draw.

2 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ $\mathbb{Q}h2$

A typical manoeuvre that wins time to come behind the pawn.

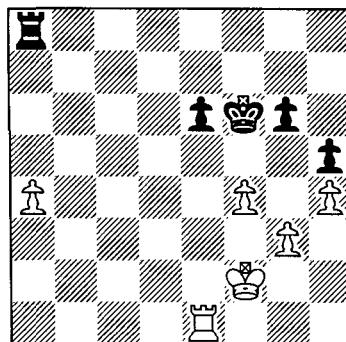
3 $\mathbb{Q}g5$ $\mathbb{Q}d4$

Now the king retreat wins easily.



4 h5 $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}g6$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 6 h6 $\mathbb{Q}g2+$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}h7$ $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}h8$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 9 h7 $\mathbb{Q}a2$ and mate next move.

Exercise 39 Yusupov-Timman Linares 1992



1 $\mathbb{Q}e4!$

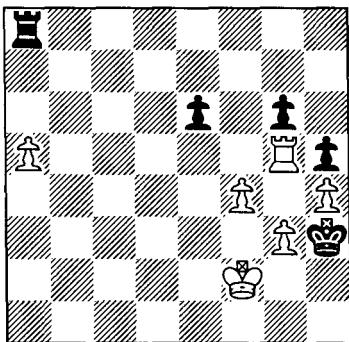
The game continued 1 $\mathbb{Q}a1?$ (putting the rook behind the pawn ties down the opposing rook, but here it allows the black king to activate with a timely push of the e-pawn) 1... $\mathbb{Q}a5$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ e5 3 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ exf4 4 $\mathbb{Q}xf4$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ g5 6 hxg5 $\mathbb{Q}xg5$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{Q}a5$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}e1+$ $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ (going to the fourth rank after all, but after too much sim-

plification) 9... $\mathbb{E}c5!$ 10 $\mathbb{E}e3$ $\mathbb{E}a5$ 11 $\mathbb{E}a3$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 15 $\mathbb{E}e3+$ $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 16 $\mathbb{E}a3$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ h4 18 g4 (18 gxh4 $\mathbb{E}h5$ 19 a5 $\mathbb{E}xh4$ 20 $\mathbb{E}a1$ $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 21 a6 $\mathbb{E}h8$ is also drawn) 18... $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 19 $\mathbb{Q}f4$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 20 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{Q}g5$ 21 $\mathbb{E}a2$ h3 $\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$.

1... $\mathbb{Q}f5$

Or 1... $\mathbb{E}a5$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{E}a6$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 4 $\mathbb{E}e5+$ $\mathbb{Q}g4$ 5 $\mathbb{E}g5+$ $\mathbb{Q}f3$ 6 a5 e5!? (desperate stuff, but 6... $\mathbb{E}a8$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{E}a7$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}b5$ goes down without a fight) 7 fxe5 $\mathbb{E}xa5$ 8 e6 $\mathbb{E}a1$ 9 $\mathbb{E}xg6$ and White wins easily.

2 $\mathbb{E}e5+$ $\mathbb{Q}g4$ 3 $\mathbb{E}g5+$ $\mathbb{Q}h3$ 4 a5



White's rook protects everything and the king is able to calmly advance to the queenside.

In rook endings there is an oft quoted cliche 'rook behind the pawn' – here this was not correct, so beware of blindly following generalisations! I suppose 'in general' that the rook needs to go where it most ties down the opponent (which is frequently, but

not always, behind the pawn).

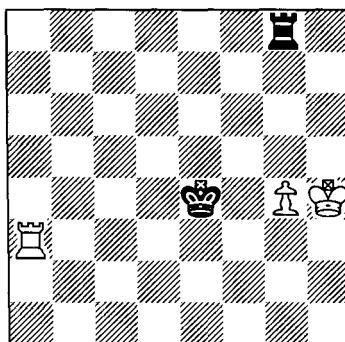
Exercise 40

Taimanov-Larsen

Palma de Mallorca Interzonal 1970

Black must pacify the white king and then harass his opponent.

1... $\mathbb{E}g8+$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}h5$ $\mathbb{E}h8+$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}g5$ $\mathbb{E}g8+$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}h4$



4... $\mathbb{Q}e5?$

A bad mistake. Instead Müller points out two ways to draw: 4... $\mathbb{E}h8+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 6 $\mathbb{E}a6$ $\mathbb{E}h1$ and 4... $\mathbb{Q}f4$ 5 $\mathbb{E}a4+$ $\mathbb{Q}f3$.

5 $\mathbb{E}a6!$

Cutting the king off along the rank and enabling the rook to be used as a shield.

5... $\mathbb{Q}f4$

5... $\mathbb{E}h8+$ now fails to 6 $\mathbb{Q}g5$ $\mathbb{E}g8+$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}h5$ $\mathbb{E}h8+$ 8 $\mathbb{E}h6$.

6 $\mathbb{E}f6+$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}g5$

Black resigned as White has a version of the Lucena position.

CHAPTER ELEVEN

Solutions to Chapter Five

Exercise 1
Kasparov-Karpov
London/Leningrad match 1986
(Analysis position)

1 e4!

Bringing the passed e-pawn into play as well as the queen and rook battery proves too much for Black. This is the stronger of the two as after 1 $\mathbb{Q}xh7?$ Black can put up a decent defence in 1... $\mathbb{Q}f8$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}h6$ $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}e6+$ $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}xg6+$ $\mathbb{Q}h7$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}h6+$ $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}d6$ $\mathbb{Q}d8$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}xd8$ $\mathbb{Q}xh6$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}h4+$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$, and White is only slightly better.

1... $\mathbb{Q}c1+$

The odd looking 1... $g5$ allows 2 $e5$ to be met with 2... $\mathbb{Q}b1+$, defending the $h7$ -pawn; instead after the preparatory 2 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ $\mathbb{Q}a8$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}h2!$ $\mathbb{Q}d4$ 4 $e5$ there is no defence.

2 $\mathbb{Q}h2$ $\mathbb{Q}h6$ 3 $e5$ $\mathbb{Q}f8$

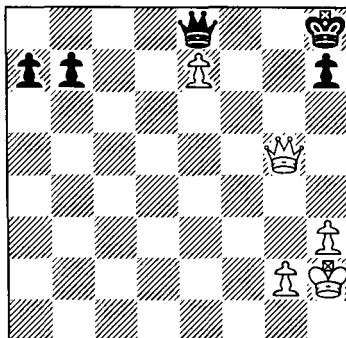
3... $\mathbb{Q}b8$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}f6$, followed by pushing the e-pawn.

4 $e6$ $g5$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}xf8+$

5 $\mathbb{Q}d7?$ is inaccurate thanks to 5... $g4!$.

5... $\mathbb{Q}xf8$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}xg5+$ $\mathbb{Q}h8$

Or 6... $\mathbb{Q}g7$, when 7 $\mathbb{Q}d8+$ $\mathbb{Q}f8$ 8 $e7$ wins immediately.
7 $e7$ $\mathbb{Q}e8$



8 $h4!$ $h5$ 9 $g4$ $hxg4$ 10 $h5$ $\mathbb{Q}h7$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}g6+$ and wins (Kasparov).

Exercise 2
Flear-Mitkov, Toulouse 1996

The game continued as follows:

1 b5 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 2 b6 e4 3 b7 g2 4 b8 \mathbb{Q}
4 $\mathbb{Q}f2?$ loses to 4... $e3+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}g1$ $e2$ 6 $b8\mathbb{Q}$ $e1\mathbb{Q}+$ etc.
4... $g1\mathbb{Q}+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{Q}g4+$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}g1+$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{Q}g2+$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}f3+$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}d4$ $\mathbb{Q}d3+$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}e5$ $e3$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}e8+$ $\mathbb{Q}g5$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}e7+$

Test Your Endgame Thinking

$\mathbb{Q}h5$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ $\mathbb{W}e4+$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{W}xe7+$ 15
 $\mathbb{Q}xe7$ $\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$

15...e2 16 $\mathbb{Q}g3+$, followed by 17
 $\mathbb{Q}xe2$.

The game was played correctly.

Exercise 3 **King-Flear** **Cheltenham Team Ch., 1994**

Correct is...

1... $\mathbb{Q}e6!$

...holding off the white king's approach.

2 $\mathbb{Q}f4$

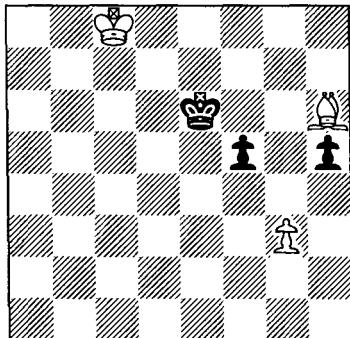
Instead 2 $hxg6$ allows Black an easy route to g4, e.g. 2... $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}d7$ $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}e6$ $\mathbb{Q}h5$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}f4$ (or 5 $\mathbb{Q}xf5$ stalemate) $\mathbb{Q}g4$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ h5 7 $\mathbb{Q}g6$ h4, while 2 $\mathbb{Q}d8$ $gxh5$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}e8$ f4! 4 $\mathbb{Q}xf4$ $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}xh6$ $\mathbb{Q}g4$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}f4$ h4 is another easy draw.

2... $gxh5$

Now capturing on h5 is fine as the white king cannot enter the fray so quickly.

3 $\mathbb{Q}xh6$

Or 3 $\mathbb{Q}d8$ $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}e7$ $\mathbb{Q}e4$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ $\mathbb{Q}f3$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{Q}g4$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}g6$ h4 with equality.



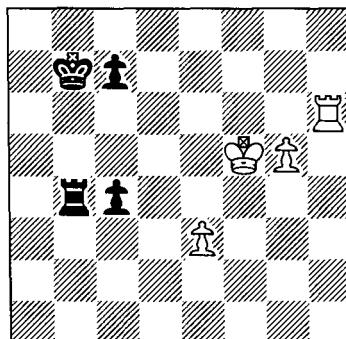
3... $f4!$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}xf4$ $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ $\mathbb{Q}g4$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}d7$ h4 and draws.

Instead the game continued 1... $gxh5?$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}d7$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}f4$ h4 4 $gxh4$ $\mathbb{Q}h5$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ $\mathbb{Q}g4$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}e1$ 1-0. White holds onto his last pawn and marches his king to capture the h6-pawn: 6... $\mathbb{Q}h5$ is easily refuted by 7 $\mathbb{Q}e6$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ $\mathbb{Q}h5$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{Q}g4$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}e1$ $\mathbb{Q}h5$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ f4 12 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ f3 13 $\mathbb{Q}f4$) 7 $\mathbb{Q}e6$ $\mathbb{Q}f3$ (or 7...f3 8 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{Q}h3$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}g6$ $\mathbb{Q}g2$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}xh6$ $\mathbb{Q}f1$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}a5!$) 8 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ $\mathbb{Q}e2$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}xf4$ $\mathbb{Q}xe1$ 10 h5 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ $\mathbb{Q}e3$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}g6$ $\mathbb{Q}e4$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}xh6$ $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}g7$ $\mathbb{Q}g5$ 15 h6.

Exercise 4 **Baklan-Flear** **Montpellier Team Ch., 1999**

My opponent missed Black's saving resource in his calculations, so the 9th move, below, was an error.

1 $\mathbb{Q}f7$ $\mathbb{Q}e8$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}d4$ $\mathbb{Q}d8+$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}h8$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}xg7$ $\mathbb{Q}xh2$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ $\mathbb{Q}b2$ 6 g5 $\mathbb{Q}xb4+$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ c5 8 $\mathbb{Q}h6$ c4



9 $\mathbb{Q}h4?$

White should have played 9 g6!, e.g. 9...c3 (or 9... $\mathbb{Q}b1$ 10 g7 $\mathbb{Q}f1+$ 11

$\text{g}6 \text{h}1 12 \text{f}7) 10 \text{g}7 \text{c}2 11 \text{h}1$
 $\text{b}1 12 \text{g}8 \text{xh}1 13 \text{d}5+$.

9... $\text{b}5+ 10 \text{f}6 \text{c}3 11 \text{h}1$

My opponent originally intended 11 $\text{c}4$ but this fails to 11... $\text{b}6+$ 12 $\text{f}7$ $\text{c}6$.

11... $\text{b}2 12 \text{g}6 \text{f}2+ 13 \text{e}7 \text{g}2 14$
 $\text{f}7 \text{f}2+ 15 \text{g}8 \text{c}2 16 \text{g}7 \text{h}2 17$
 $\text{c}1 \text{c}8 18 \text{f}7 \text{f}2+ 19 \text{e}6 \text{g}2$
 $20 \text{xc}2 \text{yg}7 21 \text{e}4 \text{d}8 22 \text{f}6$
 $\text{h}7 23 \text{e}5 \text{h}6+ 24 \text{f}7 \text{h}7+ 25$
 $\text{g}6 \text{h}1 26 \text{f}6 \text{h}6+ \frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$

So 9 $\text{g}6!$ was the missed win.

Exercise 5

Duncan-Flear

Hastings Challengers 1993/4

There are two possible improvements, of which the second is clearest.

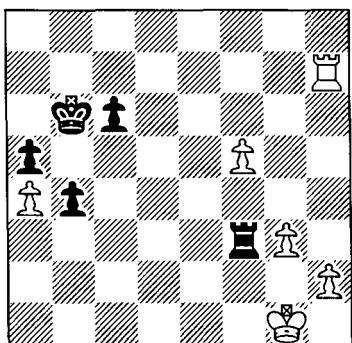
1 $\text{g}8 \text{b}2 2 \text{xf}6$

Not 2 $\text{d}3?$ $\text{h}3+$ 3 $\text{f}1$ (3 $\text{h}1$ $\text{f}2+)$ 3... $\text{f}2+$ 4 $\text{e}1 \text{xf}5$ etc.

2... $\text{xb}3 3 \text{hxh}7$

3 $\text{h}4!?$ looks reasonable as 3... $\text{yg}3+$ 4 $\text{f}2 \text{f}3+ 5 \text{e}2 \text{xf}5$ 6 $\text{hxg}5 \text{yg}5$ 7 $\text{hxh}7$ seems playable. Alternatively, 3... $\text{f}3+$ 4 $\text{g}2 \text{e}5$ 5 $\text{hxh}7$ is also far from clear.

3... $\text{hxh}7 4 \text{hxh}7 \text{f}3$



5 $\text{g}4?$

The right way to defend is 5 $\text{f}7!$ $\text{b}3$ 6 $\text{f}8!$ because the rook is well placed here, both defending the f-pawn and preparing to come behind the dangerous b-pawn, e.g. 6... $\text{c}7$ 7 $\text{f}7+$ $\text{d}6$ 8 $\text{b}7 \text{e}5$ (not 8... $\text{c}5?$ 9 $\text{g}2 \text{xf}5$ 10 $\text{xb}3$, which even favours White) 9 $\text{g}2 \text{c}3$ 10 $\text{g}4 \text{c}4$ 11 $\text{xb}3 \text{g}4+$, which is very drawish, while after 6... $\text{c}5$ 7 $\text{g}2 \text{c}3$ 8 $\text{f}6 \text{d}5$ 9 $\text{g}4$ White isn't worse.

5... $\text{f}4 6 \text{h}3 \text{b}3 7 \text{h}8 \text{c}5 8 \text{b}8$
 $\text{b}4 9 \text{d}8 \text{b}2 10 \text{d}1 \text{c}4 0-1$

So 5 $\text{f}7!$ is a clear improvement that should have saved the game.

Exercise 6

Eliskases-Capablanca

Semmering/Baden 1937

Capablanca got it wrong!
 1... $\text{c}6?$

Correct is 1... $\text{b}8!$ 2 $\text{b}4 \text{b}7!$, challenging White's control of the b7-square. 3 $\text{b}5 \text{h}5$ 4 $\text{a}5 \text{xa}6$ 5 $\text{xa}6 \text{a}8$ and 3 $\text{xb}7 \text{xb}7$ 4 $\text{c}5 \text{h}5$ both draw, for when White captures on h5 Black will be able to get back to f8 in time. After 3 $\text{e}2 \text{g}2$ 4 $\text{c}5 \text{b}7$ White has no check on the a8-h1 diagonal, so when he runs towards the h-pawn Black's king is able to immediately capture on b6, e.g. 5 $\text{d}6 \text{xb}6$ 6 $\text{e}6 \text{c}6$ 7 $\text{f}6 \text{d}6$ 8 $\text{g}6 \text{e}7$ 9 $\text{h}6 \text{f}8$ with an easy draw.

2 $\text{c}8 \text{f}1$

Otherwise $\text{a}6$ would be immediately decisive.

3 $\text{g}4 \text{d}3$

The alternative 3... $\text{b}7$ 4 $\text{f}3+$ $\text{b}8$ 5 $\text{b}4 \text{a}6$ 6 $\text{c}5 \text{b}7$ is too

slow in view of 7 $\mathbb{Q}xb7$ $\mathbb{Q}xb7$ 8 h5!, and White will capture the h-pawn and take control of g7.

4 $\mathbb{Q}f3+$ $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}b7!$

The start of a manoeuvre to pacify the opposing bishop.

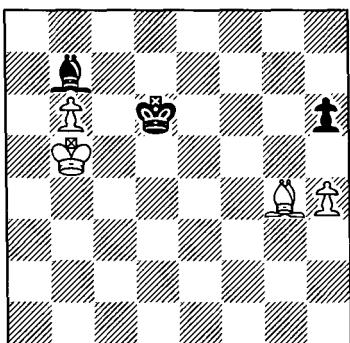
5... $\mathbb{Q}e2$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}a6$ $\mathbb{Q}f3$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}f1$ $\mathbb{Q}b7$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}h3$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$

8... $\mathbb{Q}c5$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}g4!$ $\mathbb{Q}c4$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}e2+$ $\mathbb{Q}c5$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}a6$ $\mathbb{Q}f3$ (once again 11... $\mathbb{Q}c6$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}xb7+$ $\mathbb{Q}xb7$ fails to 13 h5) 12 $\mathbb{Q}c8$, followed by $\mathbb{Q}a6$.

9 $\mathbb{Q}b5$

Starting to move towards the h-pawn with Black still far from organising a counter-attack against b6.

9... $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}g4$



Zugzwang! White obtains access to c5 or a6 for his king.

10... $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ $\mathbb{Q}g2$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}c8$ $\mathbb{Q}d8$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}a6$ $\mathbb{Q}f3$

Alternatively, 13... $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}c8$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ $\mathbb{Q}xd5$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}xd5$ $\mathbb{Q}b7$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}e5$ etc.

14 $\mathbb{Q}d6$ $\mathbb{Q}g2$

Without the h-pawns the position would be drawn, as one can see from pages 148-9 of *Improve Your Endgame Play*.

15 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}c8$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ $\mathbb{Q}f1$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}e6$

$\mathbb{Q}e2$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 19 $\mathbb{Q}g6$ h5 20 $\mathbb{Q}g5$ $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 21 $\mathbb{Q}f7$ $\mathbb{Q}c6$ 22 $\mathbb{Q}xh5$ 1-0

Surprisingly, the passive looking 1... $\mathbb{Q}b8$ followed by the fight for the b7-square (the pawn ending is in this case drawn) allows Black to stay in touch with the b-pawn, whereas after 1... $\mathbb{Q}c6$ Black's king is forced away and is unable to put pressure on b6 in time.

Exercise 7

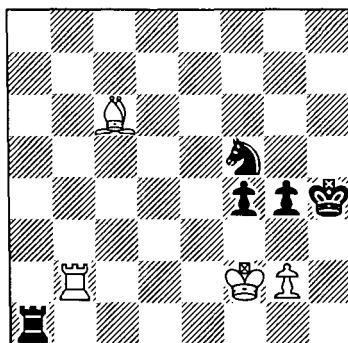
Yanofsky-Fischer

Stockholm Interzonal 1962

1... $\mathbb{Q}f5!$

1... $\mathbb{Q}g3+?$ is tempting but this takes away an important square from the black king: 2 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{Q}a1$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{Q}f1$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}b7!$ $\mathbb{Q}g5$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}a8$ $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}b7$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}a8$ $\mathbb{Q}f2+$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}e1$ $\mathbb{Q}c2+$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}d1$ $\mathbb{Q}d4$ (9... $\mathbb{Q}xd2+$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}xd2$ is not winning) 10 $\mathbb{Q}e1$ $\mathbb{Q}xd2$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}xd2$ f3 12 $gxf3$ $\mathbb{Q}f4$ (12...g2 13 f4+) 13 $\mathbb{Q}e1$ is only drawn, as analysed by Kasparov.

2 $\mathbb{Q}b2$ $\mathbb{Q}a1$



3 $\mathbb{Q}b4$

Alternatives are no better: 3 $\mathbb{Q}d2$ $\mathbb{Q}g3$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}b5$ (to prevent mate) runs into 4... $\mathbb{Q}e4+$, while after 3 $\mathbb{Q}c2$ $\mathbb{Q}d4$

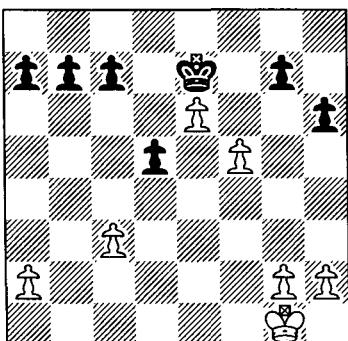
Black threatens mate with ...g3 and the rook. 3 ♜e4 goes down to 3...♛e3 4 ♜d2 ♜f1+ 5 ♛e2 ♛g3, soon winning the g-pawn, and there is also 3 ♜d5 ♜e3 4 ♜a2 (or 4 ♜d2 ♜xd5 5 ♜xd5 ♜a2+ 6 ♛f1 ♛g3 7 ♜d3+ f3 8 gx f3 gx f3 9 ♜d1 ♜h2) 4...g3+ 5 ♛f3 ♜f1+ 6 ♛e4 ♜xd5 7 ♛xd5 f3.
 3...♜a2+ 4 ♛e1 ♛g3 5 ♜b3+ ♜e3 6 ♜e4 ♜h2 7 ♜b4 ♜xg2+ 8 ♜xg2 ♛xg2 9 ♜xf4 g3 10 ♜g4 ♛f3 11 ♜g8 ♜a1+ 0-1

Exercise 8

Leygue-Flear, Creon 1999

1...♛e7 2 f5 d5

White has a protected passed pawn, an important asset in king and pawn endings. However, Black can force two self-supporting isolated passed pawns on the queenside. Black has an extra trump in that he can pass with his king, but he may not even need zugzwang to win!



3 g4

There is no hope with either 3 ♛f2 h5!? 4 ♛e3 b5 5 ♛d4 ♛d6 6 e7? c5+ 7 ♛e3 ♛xe7 or 3 a4 a5! 4 ♛f2 b5!.
 3...b5 4 ♛f2 c5 5 ♛e3 a5 6 h4

Or 6 ♜d3 a4 7 a3 (7 h4 b4 8 cxb4 cxb4 9 ♛c2 d4 10 g5 hxg5 11 hxg5 a3 and Black queens by force even without zugzwang) 7...b4 8 cxb4 cxb4 9 axb4 a3 10 ♛c3 d4+ etc.

6...a4 7 g5 hxg5 8 hxg5 b4 9 ♛f4

Desperate, but all is lost in any case.

9...b3 10 ♛e5 b2 11 f6+ gxf6+ 12 gxf6+ ♛e8 0-1

Exercise 9

Alekhine erred with...

1 ♜c8+?

Correct was 1 ♜a8! ♜h4, and only now 2 ♜c8+, as Black can only use his rook to shield his king on the unfavourable fifth (rather than seventh) rank, e.g. 2...♛b3 3 ♛d3 ♜b4 (the most testing, as 3...a3 4 ♜b8+ ♜b4 5 ♜xb4+ ♛xb4 6 ♛c2 is already dead drawn) 4 ♜d2 a3 5 ♜c3+ ♛a4 6 ♛c2 ♜b2+ (6...a2 7 ♜c8 a1N+ wins a piece but this ending is not difficult for White to draw, e.g. 8 ♛c3 ♜b3 9 ♜c4) 7 ♛c1 ♜b5 8 ♜c2 ♛b3 9 ♛b1 ♜h5 10 ♜b2+! is drawn.

1...♛b2 2 ♜b8+ ♛c1 3 ♜c8+

3 ♜a8 fails to 3...a3! 4 ♜xa3 ♜h3+.

3...♛b1 4 ♜b8+ ♜b2 5 ♜a8 ♜b3+ 6 ♛d4 a3 7 ♛c4 ♛b2 8 ♜h8 ♜c3+ 0-1

Exercise 10

Guliev-Tukmakov, Nikolaev 1993

White has a beautiful win with...

1 a4!

... but in the game he lost prosaically: 1 ♛e3? ♛d6 2 ♛e4 c4 3 a4 c3 4 ♛d3 ♛xd5 0-1 (5 ♛xc3 ♛c5 6 ♛d3 ♛b4 7 ♛e4 ♛xa4 8 ♛xe5 ♛xb5 etc.)

1... $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 2 a5 c4

2... $\mathbb{Q}xd5$ loses to 3 a6! c4 4 b6, queening by force.

3 a6! $\mathbb{Q}c5$ 4 d6! $\mathbb{Q}xd6$ 5 b6 and wins.

Exercise 11

Spassky-Botvinnik

USSR Team Ch., 1966

Averbakh found an improvement on Spassky's play that could have saved the game: 1 $\mathbb{Q}f1!$ $\mathbb{Q}c7$ (after 1... $\mathbb{Q}c3$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ e3 3 $\mathbb{Q}d1$ $\mathbb{Q}b2$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{Q}xa2$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}c2$ Black cannot make progress) 2 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ f4 3 $\mathbb{Q}g4$ $\mathbb{Q}c3$ (or 3... $\mathbb{Q}g5$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}g4+$ $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $\mathbb{Q}c1$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}h3$ b2 8 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{Q}d4$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}g5$ $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}f7$ and again Black is going nowhere) and now 4 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ threatens both the e-pawn and the fork on d5, e.g. 4... $\mathbb{Q}b2$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ $\mathbb{Q}d6$ (5... $\mathbb{Q}g5?$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}xb4$) 6 $\mathbb{Q}d1$ (White can also draw with 6 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{Q}xa2$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}xe4$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{Q}xb3$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}d2+$ $\mathbb{Q}a3$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ with the intention of simply shuffling the knight to and from the blocking b3-square) 6... $\mathbb{Q}xa2$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}c2$ $\mathbb{Q}a3$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ f4 9 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ e3 10 $\mathbb{Q}d4$, or 4...e3 5 $\mathbb{Q}d5+$ $\mathbb{Q}b2$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}xf4$ $\mathbb{Q}xa2$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ $\mathbb{Q}xb3$ 8 b6 axb6 9 $\mathbb{Q}xb6$ etc.

The game continued:

1 $\mathbb{Q}c4?$

Even worse is 1 $\mathbb{Q}b1?$ since after 1...e3 2 a3 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ the knight is fatally trapped.

1... $\mathbb{Q}c3$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}d1$

2 $\mathbb{Q}d2$ e3 3 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}d4$ is an immediate zugzwang, e.g. 4 $\mathbb{Q}d6$ $\mathbb{Q}b2$ or 4 $\mathbb{Q}d1$ $\mathbb{Q}d3$.

2... $\mathbb{Q}d4$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ e3 4 $\mathbb{Q}a5$

The pawn ending after 4 $\mathbb{Q}xe3$ $\mathbb{Q}xe3$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}xe3$ $\mathbb{Q}b2$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{Q}xa2$ 7

$\mathbb{Q}c2$ $\mathbb{Q}a3$ is hopeless.

4... $\mathbb{Q}b2$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ $\mathbb{Q}c5$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}e5$

Giving up the knight with 6 $\mathbb{Q}xb4$ $\mathbb{Q}xb4$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}xe3$ $\mathbb{Q}xa2$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{Q}xb3$ fails because it is the 'right' rook's pawn, so there is no stalemate defence in the corner.

6... $\mathbb{Q}xa2$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 0-1

White resigned in view of 8 $\mathbb{Q}xe3$ $\mathbb{Q}xb3$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}d2$ $\mathbb{Q}g5+$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}d1$ $\mathbb{Q}c3$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ $\mathbb{Q}e3$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}e4+$ $\mathbb{Q}d3$ when, not only is the white b-pawn very weak, but the black b-pawn is heading for touchdown.

Exercise 12

Lerner-Dorfman, Tashkent 1980

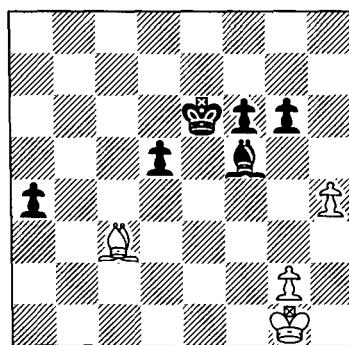
1 $\mathbb{Q}f2!$

The black king is then unable to hold off the white king's retreat.

1... $\mathbb{Q}h6$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}b7$ g4 3 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ $\mathbb{Q}g5$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ g3 5 $\mathbb{Q}f8$ $\mathbb{Q}g4$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ g2 7 $\mathbb{Q}g8+$ $\mathbb{Q}h3$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ and wins.

Exercise 13

Topalov-Shirov, Linares 1998



1... $\mathbb{Q}h3!!$

Not just a spectacular move but the only way to win! The point is that

Black gains time and space for his king to enter the white camp. Inadequate are 1... $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $\mathbb{Q}c5$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ and 1... $\mathbb{Q}e4$ 2 $g3$ $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $a3$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}e3!$ (simplest) 4... $\mathbb{Q}g4$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}xf6$ $\mathbb{Q}xg3$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $d4$ (or 6... $a2$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}f3$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}d2$ d4 9 $\mathbb{Q}xd4$ $\mathbb{Q}xh4$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}c1$, heading for a1, when White draws by trading in the bishop for the g-pawn) 7 $\mathbb{Q}xd4$ $\mathbb{Q}xh4$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}d2$ $g5$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}f6$.

2 $gxh3$

Declining the offer with 2 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ doesn't fare any better: 2... $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{Q}xg2+$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}xg2$ $\mathbb{Q}e4$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $\mathbb{Q}d3$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}b4$ (6 $\mathbb{Q}xf6$ $d4$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}e7$ $\mathbb{Q}c2$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}e1$ $d3$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}b4$ $a3$ and the bishop is overloaded) 6... $d4$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}e1$ $\mathbb{Q}c2$ etc.

2... $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $\mathbb{Q}e4$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}xf6$

After 4 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $f5$ the third passed pawn starts to roll.

4... $d4$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}e7$ $\mathbb{Q}d3$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ $\mathbb{Q}c4$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}e7$ $\mathbb{Q}b3$ 0-1

The game might end 8 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ $d3$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}c2$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}b4$ $a3$ etc.

Exercise 14

Kotov-Botvinnik, USSR ch (Moscow) 1955

Botvinnik won with an instructive combination.

1... $g5!$ 2 $fxg5$ $d4+!$ 3 $exd4$ $\mathbb{Q}g3$

Black has obtained two dangerous passed pawns. Note that White's pawns are both stopped in their tracks by Black's bishop.

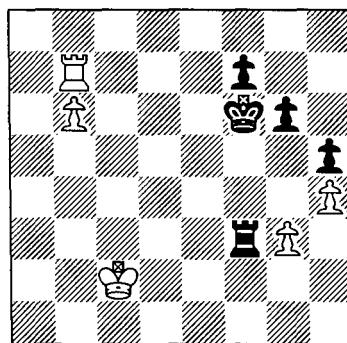
4 $\mathbb{Q}a3$ $\mathbb{Q}xh4$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{Q}xg5$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $h4$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{Q}d5+$ 0-1

The bishop will guard the h-pawn whilst the black king saunters over to win the bishop for the b-pawn. The h1-square is a light-square, so the end-

ing with bishop and h-pawn versus lone king is winning.

Exercise 15

Hollis-Florian, Correspondence 1979



There are three main lines of which the first two seem to hold:

a) 1... $\mathbb{Q}e3$ (aiming for a defence based on a passive rook and an active king) 2 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ $\mathbb{Q}e8$ 3 $b7$ $\mathbb{Q}b8$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}xf7+$ $\mathbb{Q}g4$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}f4+$ $\mathbb{Q}xg3$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}b4$ $g5!$ 8 $hxg5$ $h4$ 9 $g6$ $h3$ 10 $g7$ $h2$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}b1$ $\mathbb{Q}g2$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $h1\mathbb{Q}$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}xh1$ $\mathbb{Q}xh1$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ $\mathbb{Q}g2$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ $\mathbb{Q}g8$ and draws.

b) 1... $\mathbb{Q}xg3$ (described by Müller and Lamprecht as 'very risky') 2 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ (2 $\mathbb{Q}xf7+$ is tempting but after 2... $\mathbb{Q}xf7$ 3 $b7$ $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 4 $b8\mathbb{Q}$ $\mathbb{Q}f3$ Speelman points out that Black can blockade and draw by putting his rook on f5 and then simply playing with his king) is the most testing: 2... $\mathbb{Q}g2+$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}b3$ $\mathbb{Q}g1$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}b2$ $\mathbb{Q}g4$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}c3$ $\mathbb{Q}xh4$ 6 $b7$ (or 6 $\mathbb{Q}a3$ $\mathbb{Q}e4$ 7 $b7$ $\mathbb{Q}e8$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}c8$ $\mathbb{Q}e3+$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}b2$ $\mathbb{Q}e2+$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}c3$ $\mathbb{Q}e3+$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}e4+$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ $\mathbb{Q}e5+$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}b6$ $\mathbb{Q}e1$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}c6+$ $\mathbb{Q}g7!$) 6... $\mathbb{Q}b4+$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}b3$ $\mathbb{Q}xb7$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}xb7$ and this complicated looking position is apparently drawn (Müller & Lamprecht).

c) Black played...

1... $\mathbb{B}f5?$

...but eventually lost by one tempo.

2 $\mathbb{B}c7 \mathbb{B}b5$ 3 $b7 \mathbb{B}e6$

Alternatively 3... $\mathbb{B}f5$ 4 $\mathbb{B}c3 \mathbb{B}g4$ (or 4... $f6$ 5 $\mathbb{B}c4$ $\mathbb{B}b1$ 6 $\mathbb{B}c5+$ $\mathbb{B}g4$ 7 $\mathbb{B}b5$) 5 $\mathbb{B}c4+$ $\mathbb{B}xg3$ 6 $\mathbb{B}b4 \mathbb{B}xb7$ 7 $\mathbb{B}xb7 \mathbb{B}xh4$ (7... $f5$ is too slow after 8 $\mathbb{B}g7$ f4 9 $\mathbb{B}xg6+$ $\mathbb{B}xh4$ 10 $\mathbb{B}d3$) 8 $\mathbb{B}xf7$ and all roads lead to Rome: 8... $\mathbb{B}g4$ 9 $\mathbb{B}d3$ h4 10 $\mathbb{B}e2$ h3 11 $\mathbb{B}f1$, 8... $g5$ 9 $\mathbb{B}h7$ g4 10 $\mathbb{B}d3 \mathbb{B}g3$ (or 10... $g3$ 11 $\mathbb{B}e2$) 11 $\mathbb{B}xh5 \mathbb{B}f3$ 12 $\mathbb{B}f5+$ $\mathbb{B}g2$ 13 $\mathbb{B}e2$ g3 14 $\mathbb{B}g5 \mathbb{B}h2$ 15 $\mathbb{B}f3$ or 8... $\mathbb{B}g3$ 9 $\mathbb{B}g7$ h4 10 $\mathbb{B}xg6+$ $\mathbb{B}f3$ 11 $\mathbb{B}h6 \mathbb{B}g3$ 12 $\mathbb{B}d2$ h3 13 $\mathbb{B}e2 \mathbb{B}g2$ 14 $\mathbb{B}g6+$ $\mathbb{B}h1$ 15 $\mathbb{B}f3$ h2 16 $\mathbb{B}a6 \mathbb{B}g1$ 17 $\mathbb{B}a1$ mate (the same finish as in the game).

4 $\mathbb{B}c3$ f6 5 $\mathbb{B}c4$ $\mathbb{B}b1$ 6 $\mathbb{B}c5 \mathbb{B}f5$ 7 $\mathbb{B}d7 \mathbb{B}c1+$ 8 $\mathbb{B}d6 \mathbb{B}b1$ 9 $\mathbb{B}c7 \mathbb{B}c1+$ 10 $\mathbb{B}d8 \mathbb{B}b1$ 11 $\mathbb{B}c8 \mathbb{B}g4$ 12 $\mathbb{B}d6!$ g5 13 $\mathbb{B}xf6$ $\mathbb{B}xh4$ 14 $\mathbb{B}xh4 \mathbb{B}xh4$ 15 $\mathbb{B}g6!$

A star move, keeping the opposing king restricted.

15... $\mathbb{B}h3$ 16 $\mathbb{B}c7$ 1-0

Black resigned in view of 16... $\mathbb{B}xb7+$ (or 16... $h4$ 17 $\mathbb{B}b6$) 17 $\mathbb{B}xb7$ h4 18 $\mathbb{B}c6 \mathbb{B}h2$ 19 $\mathbb{B}d5$ h3 20 $\mathbb{B}e4 \mathbb{B}h1$ 21 $\mathbb{B}f3$ h2 22 $\mathbb{B}a6 \mathbb{B}g1$ 23 $\mathbb{B}a1$ mate.

Difficult but instructive!

Exercise 16 Schlechter-Lasker Vienna match 1910

Schlechter played the fine...

1... $\mathbb{B}e4!$

...ditching a second pawn. In compensation White's rook has to go woefully passive and Black's is well

placed. Analysis suggests that this constitutes the best defence.

2 $\mathbb{B}c5 \mathbb{B}f6$ 3 $\mathbb{B}xa5 \mathbb{B}c4$ 4 $\mathbb{B}a6+$ $\mathbb{B}e5$ 5 $\mathbb{B}a5+$ $\mathbb{B}f6$ 6 $\mathbb{B}a6+$ $\mathbb{B}e5$ 7 $\mathbb{B}a5+$ $\mathbb{B}f6$ 8 $\mathbb{B}a2 \mathbb{B}e5$ 9 $\mathbb{B}b2 \mathbb{B}c3+$ 10 $\mathbb{B}g2 \mathbb{B}f6$ 11 $\mathbb{B}h3 \mathbb{B}c6!$

Not falling for 11... $f4?$, which fails to 12 $\mathbb{B}b3 \mathbb{B}xc2$ 13 $\mathbb{B}f3$.

12 $\mathbb{B}b8 \mathbb{B}xc2$ 13 $\mathbb{B}b6+$ $\mathbb{B}g7$ 14 $h5$ $\mathbb{B}c4$ 15 $h6+$ $\mathbb{B}h7$ 16 $\mathbb{B}f6 \mathbb{B}a4$ $\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$

Black has two other moves that are worth looking at in some detail. 1... $\mathbb{B}g7$ is feasible but seems to be insufficient: 2 $c4$ $\mathbb{B}a3+$ 3 $\mathbb{B}f4 \mathbb{B}c3$ 4 $\mathbb{B}xf5 \mathbb{B}xg3$ 5 $\mathbb{B}e5!$ (the c-pawn needs support) 5... $\mathbb{B}g4$ 6 $c5 \mathbb{B}xh4$ 7 $\mathbb{B}a6 \mathbb{B}f8$ 8 $\mathbb{B}d5 \mathbb{B}e8$ 9 $\mathbb{B}c6$ a4 (or 9... $\mathbb{B}h6+$ 10 $\mathbb{B}b5 \mathbb{B}xa6$ 11 $\mathbb{B}xa6$ a4 12 c6 a3 13 c7 a2 14 $c8\mathbb{B}+$ with check!) 10 $\mathbb{B}b6$ $\mathbb{B}b4+$ 11 $\mathbb{B}c7 \mathbb{B}e7$ 12 c6 $\mathbb{B}e6$ 13 $\mathbb{B}c8$ is decisive (Müller/Lamprecht), e.g. 13... $\mathbb{B}d6$ 14 c7+ $\mathbb{B}e7$ 15 $\mathbb{B}a8 \mathbb{B}e8$ 16 $\mathbb{B}b8$.

Instead, after 1... $\mathbb{B}a1$ ECE gives 2 $\mathbb{B}a6$ a4(?) 3 $\mathbb{B}f4 \mathbb{B}f1+$ 4 $\mathbb{B}g5 \mathbb{B}f3$ 5 $\mathbb{B}xa4 \mathbb{B}xg3+$ 6 $\mathbb{B}xf5$, but this doesn't hold water as surely Black should come back with 2... $\mathbb{B}a4!$.

More dangerous is 2 $\mathbb{B}f4$ (given by Müller/Lamprecht as 'unpleasant for Black') 2... $\mathbb{B}f1+$ 3 $\mathbb{B}e5$ (3 $\mathbb{B}g5$ comes to the same thing) 3... $\mathbb{B}f3$ 4 $c4$ with a clear advantage. They give a possible line leading to a win for White: 4... $\mathbb{B}xg3$ 5 $\mathbb{B}xf5 \mathbb{B}f3+$ 6 $\mathbb{B}e5$ $\mathbb{B}h3$ 7 $\mathbb{B}h6 \mathbb{B}g7$ 8 $\mathbb{B}a6 \mathbb{B}xh4$ 9 c5 $\mathbb{B}f7$ 10 $\mathbb{B}a7+$ $\mathbb{B}e8$ 11 $\mathbb{B}d6 \mathbb{B}d4+$ 12 $\mathbb{B}c7$ a4 13 c6. I spent some time trying to save Black's position with 4...a4 5 c5 (5 $\mathbb{B}c7+$ $\mathbb{B}g6!$) 5...a3 6 $\mathbb{B}a6 \mathbb{B}xg3$ 7 $\mathbb{B}xf5!$ (as White gets nowhere after 7 c6 $\mathbb{B}c3$ 8 $\mathbb{B}xf5$ a2 etc.) 7... $\mathbb{B}c3$ 8 $\mathbb{B}a7+$

Solutions to Chapter Five

$\mathbb{Q}g8$ (or 8... $\mathbb{Q}e8$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}e6$ $\mathbb{Q}d8$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}d6$ and White wins) 9 $\mathbb{Q}g6$ $\mathbb{Q}f8$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}a5$ a2 11 $\mathbb{Q}a8+$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}xa2$ $\mathbb{Q}xc5$ 13 h5 $\mathbb{Q}c1$, but White wins with a neat trick in the shape of 14 $\mathbb{Q}a7+$ $\mathbb{Q}f8$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}a8+$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 16 h6 $\mathbb{Q}g1+$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ $\mathbb{Q}h1$ 18 h7!. Consequently I suspect that 1... $\mathbb{Q}a1$ loses.

Exercise 17

G.Timoshchenko-Stephenson
Hastings Challengers 1996/7

Most of the following analysis is by Rosen.

1 g6!

This is the only way to win. The game continued 1 $\mathbb{Q}xf7?$ $\mathbb{Q}xf7$ 2 e6+ $\mathbb{Q}xe6?$ and Black resigned after 3 g6. Rosen points out that Black could draw with 2... $\mathbb{Q}g8!$ 3 g6 $\mathbb{Q}h5$ 4 g7 $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 5 e7 $\mathbb{Q}e8$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}xf5$ $\mathbb{Q}h5$, and if White ever goes to d8 and promotes on e8 to a queen this leads to stalemate after ... $\mathbb{Q}xe8$ and $\mathbb{Q}xe8$.

1...fxg6 2 $\mathbb{Q}g8$ $\mathbb{Q}f8$

2... $\mathbb{Q}h5$ doesn't resist for very long, e.g. 3 $\mathbb{Q}xh7$ $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}g5$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}xg6$. 3 $\mathbb{Q}xh7$ $\mathbb{Q}d1$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ $\mathbb{Q}b3$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}xf5$ $\mathbb{Q}g8$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{Q}h8$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}f7$ $\mathbb{Q}a4$ 8 e6 $\mathbb{Q}h7$ 8... $\mathbb{Q}b3$ 9 e7 $\mathbb{Q}a4$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}g6$ etc. 9 $\mathbb{Q}g5$ $\mathbb{Q}b3$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}g6+$ $\mathbb{Q}g8$ 11 e7 $\mathbb{Q}a4$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{Q}b5$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}e5$ $\mathbb{Q}a4$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}d6$ $\mathbb{Q}b5$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ $\mathbb{Q}a4$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}d8$ $\mathbb{Q}b5$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ and White wins with $\mathbb{Q}d7$ etc.

Exercise 18

Tolstikh-Zakharevich
Ekaterinburg 1997

Black found a neat win. First he brought his king back to h6, keeping

an eye on White's h-pawn, and then he forced decisive concessions using zugzwang.

1... $\mathbb{Q}f6!$

Not 1... $\mathbb{Q}e4?$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}h3$ $\mathbb{Q}f3$ 3 g4 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ 4 g5 $\mathbb{Q}d8$ 5 h5.

2 $\mathbb{Q}h3$ $\mathbb{Q}g7!$ 3 g4 $\mathbb{Q}h6!$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}g3$

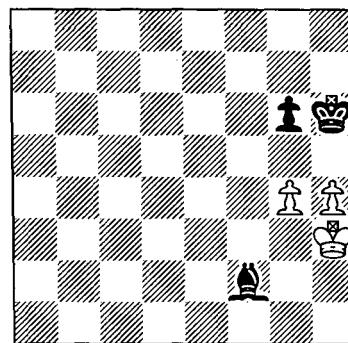
In the event of 4 g5+ $\mathbb{Q}h5$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ both 5... $\mathbb{Q}xg5$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}xg5$ $\mathbb{Q}xg5$ and 5... $\mathbb{Q}c7+$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}h3$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ win.

4... $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}h3$

At any moment h4-h5 is met by ...g6-g5.

5... $\mathbb{Q}b4$ 0-1

White resigned due to 6 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ $\mathbb{Q}e1+$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}h3$ $\mathbb{Q}f2!$ (zugzwang!)



8 h5 g5 9 $\mathbb{Q}g2$ $\mathbb{Q}c5$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ $\mathbb{Q}f8$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}d4$ $\mathbb{Q}h6$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}f8$ etc.

Exercise 19

Alburt-Lerner, Kiev 1978

1 $\mathbb{Q}xc5!$

This seems to do the trick!

1... $bxc5$ 2 b4 axb4

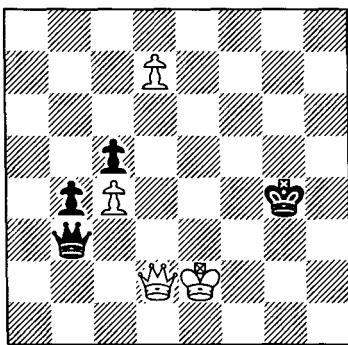
There are some other tries but White seems to be winning in each case: 2... $cxb4$ 3 c5 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ 4 d7 b3+ 5

$\mathbb{Q}b2$, 2...e4 3 bxc5 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ 4 c6 e3 5 d7 $\mathbb{Q}xd7$ 6 cxd7 e2 7 d8 \mathbb{W} e1 \mathbb{W} 8 $\mathbb{W}d2+$ and, finally, 2... $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 3 bxa5 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ 4 a6 e4 5 a7 e3 6 a8 \mathbb{W} e2 7 $\mathbb{W}e4$ e1 \mathbb{W} 8 $\mathbb{W}xe1+$ $\mathbb{Q}xe1$ 9 a5 (here we go again!) 9... $\mathbb{Q}b8$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}b3$ $\mathbb{Q}e2$ 11 a6 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ 12 d7 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ 13 a7, and touchdown follows.
 3 a5 e4 4 a6 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ 5 a7 e3 6 a8 \mathbb{W} e2 7 $\mathbb{W}f8$ e1 \mathbb{W} 8 $\mathbb{W}xf6+$ $\mathbb{Q}g3$ 9 $\mathbb{W}g5+$ $\mathbb{Q}h3$

No better is 9... $\mathbb{Q}f3$ 10 $\mathbb{W}d5+$ $\mathbb{Q}g3$ (10... $\mathbb{Q}g4$ is even easier for White after 11 $\mathbb{W}d1+$) 11 $\mathbb{W}d3+$ $\mathbb{Q}h4$ 12 d7 $\mathbb{W}f2+$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}b3$ etc.

10 $\mathbb{W}d2$ $\mathbb{W}a1$

Equally hopeless are 10... $\mathbb{W}e4+$ 11 $\mathbb{W}d3+$ and 10...b3+ 11 $\mathbb{Q}c3$ $\mathbb{W}a1+$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}xb3$ $\mathbb{W}b1+$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}a4$.
 11 d7 $\mathbb{W}a2+$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}d1$ $\mathbb{W}b3+$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}c1$ $\mathbb{W}a3+$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}d1$ $\mathbb{W}b3+$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{Q}g4$



16 $\mathbb{W}d1!$ 1-0

Vigilant! Instead after 16 d8 \mathbb{W} ? $\mathbb{W}f3+$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}e1$ $\mathbb{W}h1+$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $\mathbb{W}h2+$ 19 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{W}f4+$ 20 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{W}f5+$ there isn't any escape from the checks.

Exercise 20

Rigo-Wagman, St. Vincent 2002

1...d3!!

The magic move, which corrupts

White's queenside/central majority. The game continued 1...g5?! 2 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ and was eventually drawn. Although White's king is tied down to the square of the forward f-pawn, his pawns are self-supporting, e.g. 2... $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}xd4$ $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 4 c4 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 6 c5+ $\mathbb{Q}c6$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{Q}b5$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}e4$, and Black cannot make progress. It seems that 1...f5? doesn't work due to 2 $\mathbb{Q}xf4$! $\mathbb{W}xf4$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}xg4$ $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}f4$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}g5$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}xd4$ $\mathbb{Q}f4$ 7 c4 g5 8 c5 g4 9 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{Q}f3$ 10 c6 g3 11 c7 g2 12 c8 \mathbb{W} g1 \mathbb{W} 13 $\mathbb{W}f5+$ and White even wins.

2 $\mathbb{Q}xd3$

2 c3 $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 5 b3 g5 6 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ $\mathbb{Q}e4$ 7 c4 f3 8 c5 d2 is hopeless for White.

2...g5

White cannot resist the invasion of Black's king. For instance 3 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 6 d4 $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 7 b3 $\mathbb{Q}d6$ 8 d5 f6 9 $\mathbb{Q}d4$ f3 10 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}xd5$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}xf3$ $\mathbb{Q}d4$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{Q}e4$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}d2$ $\mathbb{Q}f4$ etc.

Exercise 21

Arkell-S.Buckley, Swansea 2001

Most of the following analysis was by Gallagher.

White needs to push his f-pawn. Either he will be able to release the pin with a rook check or cause disruption in the black ranks.

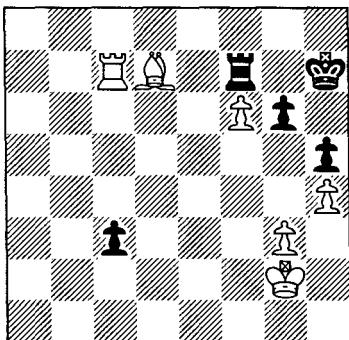
1 $\mathbb{Q}f4!$ c3 2 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ $\mathbb{Q}h7$

Black has two alternative tries: 2...c2 3 $\mathbb{Q}xc2$ $\mathbb{Q}xd7$ is met by 4 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{Q}h7$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ 7 $\mathbb{W}xf6+$ $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}e4$!, obtaining the opposition, while 2... $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 3 f6+ $\mathbb{Q}xf6$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}c6+$ releases the pin, and after the

Solutions to Chapter Five

further 4... $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}c8$ $\mathbb{Q}d4$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}a6$ $\mathbb{Q}e3$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ Black has no useful moves and may as well resign.

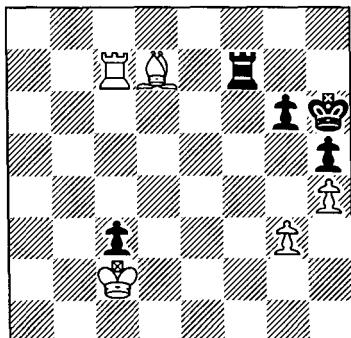
3 $\mathbb{F}6$ $\mathbb{F}7$



4 $\mathbb{Q}f3?$

An imprecision from the well-known English endgames expert. Instead 4 $g4!$ $hxg4$ (or 4... $c2$ 5 $g5$ and, despite losing back the piece after 5... $xd7$ 6 $xc2$, the rook ending is winning) 5 $h5!$ wins against all defences – 5... $gxh5$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}f5+$ $\mathbb{Q}g8$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}e6$, or 5... $\mathbb{Q}h6$ 6 $hxg6$ and now both 6... $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ and 6... $\mathbb{Q}xf6$ are met by 7 $\mathbb{Q}e8$ or, finally, 5... $\mathbb{Q}xf6$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}e8+$ $\mathbb{Q}h6$ 7 $hxg6$ $\mathbb{Q}f3$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}h7+$ $\mathbb{Q}g5$ 9 $g7$.

4... $\mathbb{Q}xf6+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}e2$ $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}d1$ $\mathbb{Q}h6$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}c2$

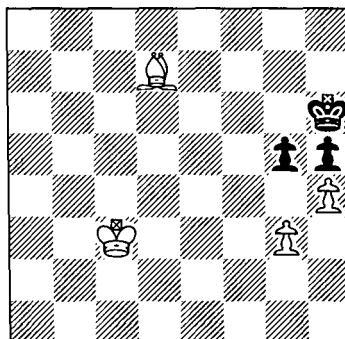


7... $\mathbb{Q}f3?$

Better is 7... $\mathbb{Q}e7$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}xc3$ $\mathbb{Q}e3+$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}d4$ $\mathbb{Q}xg3$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}b3!$ (not 10... $g5?$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}f5$ $gxh4$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}f4$) with some drawing chances.

8 $\mathbb{Q}xc3$ $\mathbb{Q}f7$

In the event of 8... $\mathbb{Q}xc3+9\mathbb{Q}xc3$ $g5$ White wins as follows:



10 $hxg5+$ $\mathbb{Q}xg5$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}h3!$ $h4$ 12 $g4!$ $\mathbb{Q}f4$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}d4$ $\mathbb{Q}g3$ 14 $g5$ $\mathbb{Q}xh3$ 15 $g6$ $\mathbb{Q}h2$ 16 $g7$ $h3$ 17 $g8\mathbb{Q}$ $\mathbb{Q}h1$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}d5+$ $\mathbb{Q}g1$ 19 $\mathbb{Q}g5+$ $\mathbb{Q}f2$ 20 $\mathbb{Q}h4+$ $\mathbb{Q}g2$ 21 $\mathbb{Q}g4+$ $\mathbb{Q}h2$ 22 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $\mathbb{Q}h1$ 23 $\mathbb{Q}f2$ and mate next move.

9 $\mathbb{Q}c8$ $\mathbb{Q}f6$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}d2$ $g5$ 11 $hxg5+$ $\mathbb{Q}xg5$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}c5+$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}e3$ $h4$ 14 $g4$ $h3$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}h5$ $\mathbb{Q}b6$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}f5+$ $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}xh3$ $\mathbb{Q}b3+$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ 1-0

Exercise 22

Fernandez Garcia-Khenkin
St.Vincent 2002

1... $\mathbb{Q}d4!$

Keeping up the pressure and preparing ... $\mathbb{Q}e5$. The pawn ending is probably not winning after 1... $\mathbb{Q}xc3$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}xc3$, e.g. 2... $\mathbb{Q}c5$ 3 $g3!$ (not, however, 3 $d4+?$ $\mathbb{Q}b5$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}d3$ $\mathbb{Q}xa5$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}b6$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ $\mathbb{Q}c7!$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}e6$ $\mathbb{Q}d8!$ etc.)

3... $\mathbb{Q}b5$ (or 3... $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 4 d4 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}xf5$ 6 d5) 4 $\mathbb{Q}d4$ $\mathbb{Q}xa5$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ and White is not worse, or 2... $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}xf5$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ $\mathbb{Q}g6$ 5 d4 $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ f5 7 d5 f4 8 d6 f3 9 gxf3 gxf3 10 d7 f2 11 d8 \mathbb{Q} f1 \mathbb{Q} 12 $\mathbb{Q}d5+$, which should be drawn.

2 $\mathbb{Q}b3$ $\mathbb{Q}e5$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}e1$

3 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ is too slow as after 3... $\mathbb{Q}xc3$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}xc3$ $\mathbb{Q}xf5$ Black wins easily.

3... $\mathbb{Q}xf5$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}c4$ $\mathbb{Q}e3$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ $\mathbb{Q}f4$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ $\mathbb{Q}d4!$

Now the king infiltrates on either e3 or g3.

7 $\mathbb{Q}b7$ $\mathbb{Q}e3$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}xa6$ $\mathbb{Q}xd3$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}b5$ f5 10 $\mathbb{Q}g3$ g5 11 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ f4 12 $\mathbb{Q}b6$ f3 13 gxf3 gxf3 14 a6 f2!

Possible is 14... $\mathbb{Q}xb6$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}xb6$ f2 16 a7 f1 \mathbb{Q} 17 a8 \mathbb{Q} $\mathbb{Q}f6+$, which offers reasonable winning chances, but the text wins easily.

15 a7 f1 \mathbb{Q} 16 a8 \mathbb{Q} $\mathbb{Q}b1+ 0-1$

It's not just a piece – White loses his queen or his king.

Exercise 23

Gallagher-Krush, Hastings 2001/2

The analysis below is largely based on Gallagher's. Did you see that the win comes through triangulation!?

1 $\mathbb{Q}h4!$

1 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{Q}h6$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}e7$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ gets nowhere as 3 b7 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}xd6+$ $\mathbb{Q}xb7$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}f3$ $\mathbb{Q}c8$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}e4$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ looks drawn.

1... $\mathbb{Q}d7$

1... $\mathbb{Q}b7$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}d8$ $\mathbb{Q}h6$ (or 2... $\mathbb{Q}c8$ 3 b7! $\mathbb{Q}xb7$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}g5$ and White wins, e.g. 4... $\mathbb{Q}c8$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ $\mathbb{Q}e8$ 7 f5 $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}g5$ $\mathbb{Q}e8$ 9 f6 $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 10 f7) 3 $\mathbb{Q}g4$ $\mathbb{Q}a6$ (Black is in zugzwang after 3... $\mathbb{Q}c8$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}b8$) 4 f5!

$\mathbb{Q}xf5+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}xf5$ $\mathbb{Q}e3$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}e6$ $\mathbb{Q}c5$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ $\mathbb{Q}b7$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}d7!$ and White is winning in all lines: 8... $\mathbb{Q}a6$ (8... $\mathbb{Q}f2$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}xd6$ and 8... $\mathbb{Q}a3$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}xd6$ $\mathbb{Q}c1$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ are no better) 9 $\mathbb{Q}c8!$ $\mathbb{Q}xb6$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}xb6$ $\mathbb{Q}xb6$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}d7$ $\mathbb{Q}c5$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}e6$.

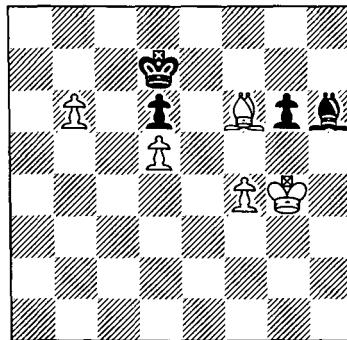
2 $\mathbb{Q}g3!$ $\mathbb{Q}c8$

2... $\mathbb{Q}g7$ is defeated rather more routinely: 3 $\mathbb{Q}g4$ $\mathbb{Q}d4$ 4 b7 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}e7$ $\mathbb{Q}xb7$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}g5$ $\mathbb{Q}b6$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}xd6$.

3 $\mathbb{Q}g4$

We now have the same position as three moves ago but now with Black to move!

3... $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{Q}h6$



5 $\mathbb{Q}e7!!$

Black cannot capture the bishop as the b-pawn queens. In this zugzwang position Black would like to defend the d6-pawn and the g5-square simultaneously but, because he has the move, something has to give.

5... $\mathbb{Q}g7$ 6 b7 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}xd6+$ 1-0

7... $\mathbb{Q}xb7$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}g5$ is now easy.

Exercise 24

Matulovic-Cvetkov, Varna 1975

1 $\mathbb{Q}c1!$

Switching to the other wing.

1...Qxd4+

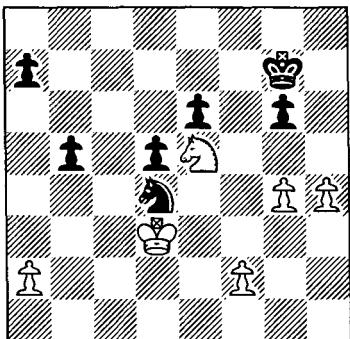
If Black doesn't take the bait White invades: 1...Qe7 2 Qc7 Qf8 3 Qxa7 and it's already looking grim for Black.

2 Qd3 Qxe5 3 Qc8+ Qg7 4 Qh8+!

A well-known theme, but here there is a twist at the end...

4...Qxh8 5 Qxf7+ Qg7 6 Qxe5

Black's knight is trapped!



6...Qf5 7 gxf5 gxf5 8 Qc6 a6 9 Qd4 Qf6 10 f4 1-0

A delightful combination!

Exercise 25 Flear-Cherniaev Hastings Challengers 2001/2

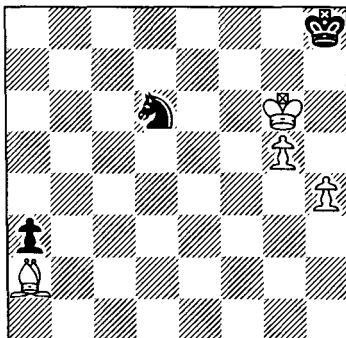
1 g4!

Offering excellent practical winning chances.

1...h6?

1...Qxa2! is the best chance and may even scrape a draw, e.g. 2 g5+ Qg7 3 Qc8! (better than 3 Qc7?! Qc3+ 4 Qe5 Qb4 5 Qxe7+ Qf8 6 Qf7+ Qe8 etc.) 3...h6 4 Qg8+ Qh7 5 Qe8 hxg5 6 fxg5 Qc3+ 7 Qe5 Qxb5 8 Qxe7+ Qh8 9 Qf6 Qd6 10 Qxg6 Qb7! (avoids mate, unlike 10...Qxc4

11 Qe8 and 10...Qb6 11 Qh7) 11 Qxb7 Qxb7 12 h4 Qd6 13 Qa2



This long forcing line has led us to the above position. Stalemates abound and the passed a-pawn, as well as the presence of the wrong rook's pawn, seem to give Black a draw, e.g. 13...Qc4 (or 13...Qe4, which might even be simpler, for instance 14 Qh6 Qf6 15 g6 Qg8+ 16 Qg5 Qg7 17 h5 Qh6) 14 Qh6 (or 14 Qf6 Qd6 15 Qd5 Qe8+ 16 Qf7 Qg7 17 Qg6 Qe6 18 Qa2 Qf4+ 19 Qh6 Qg6 20 h5 Qe5 21 g6 Qxg6) and now instead of 14...Qd6? 15 g6 Qf7+ 16 Qxf7 a2 17 g7 mate, or 14...Qe3? 15 g6 Qf5+ (15...Qg4+ loses to 16 Qg5 Qe5 17 h5) 16 Qg5 Qg7 (16...Qd6 17 h5 Qe8 18 h6 is zugzwang) 17 h5 Qe8 18 h6, Black has the precise 14...Qe5! 15 h5 (15 Qd5 Qf7+) 15...Qf7+! 16 Qxf7 (16 Qg6 Qxg5) 16...a2 17 Qxa2 etc.

2 g5+ hxg5 3 fxg5+ Qg7 4 Qc7 Qxa2

After the alternative 4...Qf8 5 b6 Qxa2 6 b7 Qc3+ 7 Qd3 a2 8 Qxa2 Qxa2 9 Qc8+ Qf7 10 b8Q Qc1+ 11 Qe3 Qxb8 12 Qxb8 Black's knight is corralled.

5 Qxe7+ Qf8 6 Qf7+ Qe8 7 Qf3! Qc2 8 Qd4 1-0

Exercise 26

Stanojosić-Flear

Hastings Challengers 2001/2

My opponent immediately went astray and I was able to grovel a draw.

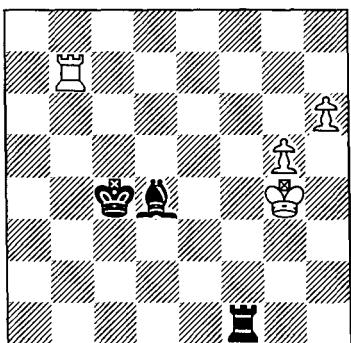
1 $\mathbb{B}b7?$

1 $\mathbb{B}b1!$ was correct – 1... $\mathbb{B}f6$ 2 $\mathbb{B}f1$ $\mathbb{B}e3$ 3 $g5$ $\mathbb{B}f5$ 4 $f4!$ $\mathbb{B}xf4$ 5 $\mathbb{B}xf4+!$ $\mathbb{B}xf4$ 6 $g6$ and the two pawns beat the rook.

1... $\mathbb{B}f6$ 2 $g5$ $\mathbb{B}xf3$ 3 $\mathbb{B}g4$

White could try 3 $h7$ $\mathbb{B}h3+$ 4 $\mathbb{B}g6$ $\mathbb{B}a1$ 5 $\mathbb{B}g7$ (a nice idea, but why take immediately?) 5... $\mathbb{B}d5!$ 6 $\mathbb{B}f7$ $\mathbb{B}xg7$ 7 $\mathbb{B}xg7$ $\mathbb{B}e6$ 8 $g6$ $\mathbb{B}f5$, but Black draws.

3... $\mathbb{B}f1$



4 $h7$

4 $g6$ allows the white king to be booted out of play after 4... $\mathbb{B}g1+$ 5 $\mathbb{B}f5$ $\mathbb{B}f1+$ 6 $\mathbb{B}e4$ (not 6 $\mathbb{B}e6$ $\mathbb{B}f6+$ 7 $\mathbb{B}e7$ $\mathbb{B}xg6$) 6... $\mathbb{B}e1+$ 7 $\mathbb{B}f3$ $\mathbb{B}f1+$ 8 $\mathbb{B}e2$ $\mathbb{B}f2+$ 9 $\mathbb{B}e1$ $\mathbb{B}g2$ 10 $g7$ and now the cheeky 10... $\mathbb{B}d3$ forces a repetition by 11 $\mathbb{B}b3+$ $\mathbb{B}c4$ 12 $\mathbb{B}b7$ (12 $\mathbb{B}b8$ $\mathbb{B}xg7$) 12... $\mathbb{B}d3$ etc.

4... $\mathbb{B}a1$ 5 $\mathbb{B}a7$ $\mathbb{B}b2$ 6 $\mathbb{B}a2$

Here 6 $g6$ $\mathbb{B}d5$ 7 $g7$ $\mathbb{B}g1+$ 8 $\mathbb{B}f5$ $\mathbb{B}xg7$ 9 $h8\mathbb{B}$ $\mathbb{B}g5+$ 10 $\mathbb{B}xg5$ $\mathbb{B}xh8$ leads to lone rook versus lone bishop –

a draw.

6... $\mathbb{B}g7$ 7 $\mathbb{B}a8$ $\mathbb{B}h1$ 8 $\mathbb{B}f5$ $\mathbb{B}b2$ 9 $\mathbb{B}c8+$ $\mathbb{B}d5$ 10 $\mathbb{B}d8+$ $\mathbb{B}c6$ 11 $\mathbb{B}d2$ $\mathbb{B}a1$ 12 $\mathbb{B}a2$ $\mathbb{B}h8$ 13 $g6$ $\mathbb{B}f1+$ 14 $\mathbb{B}e6$ $\mathbb{B}f6+$ 15 $\mathbb{B}e7$ $\mathbb{B}b7$ 16 $g7$ $\mathbb{B}xg7$ 17 $\mathbb{B}g2$ $\mathbb{B}h8$ 18 $\mathbb{B}g8$ $\mathbb{B}f1$ 19 $\mathbb{B}xh8$ $\mathbb{B}h1$ 20 $\mathbb{B}f7$ $\mathbb{B}a7$ $\frac{1}{2}-\frac{1}{2}$

21 $\mathbb{B}g6$ $\mathbb{B}g1+$ 22 $\mathbb{B}f7$ $\mathbb{B}h1$ is an easy draw.

Exercise 27

Kasparov-Karpov, Seville 1987

Rather than with resignation, 1 $\mathbb{B}g2$ could have been met by...

1... $\mathbb{W}b4$ 2 $\mathbb{B}f3$ $\mathbb{W}c5$ 3 $\mathbb{B}e4$ $\mathbb{W}b4$

...with a trap in mind.

4 $f3!$

Not 4 $\mathbb{B}xg6??$ $\mathbb{B}xg6$ 5 $\mathbb{W}xg6$ $\mathbb{W}b7+$ 6 $\mathbb{B}h2$ $\mathbb{W}g2+!$ etc.

4... $\mathbb{W}d2+$ 5 $\mathbb{B}h3$ $\mathbb{W}b4$

After 5... $\mathbb{W}h6$ 6 $f4$ $\mathbb{W}g7$ 7 $\mathbb{W}xg7+$ $\mathbb{B}xg7$ 8 $\mathbb{B}c6$ White wins by bringing up his king to c7 and then playing $\mathbb{B}e4$ to hit g6. zugzwang enables White to get his king to d6 and then, by targeting the e6-pawn (K on d6, B on c4) Black, with a king on f7 and knight on f8, has no ‘pass’ moves and is thus obliged to surrender the pawn and the game.

6 $\mathbb{B}xg6$ $\mathbb{B}xg6$ 7 $\mathbb{W}xg6$ $\mathbb{W}xh4+$ 8 $\mathbb{B}g2!$

It is no longer stalemate. Black must abandon the h-pawn, leaving White with two extra pawns and a win.

I do think that most mortals would have played on up to here just to see!

Exercise 28

Geller-Fischer, Palma Interzonal 1969

1 $\mathbb{B}d8$

Coming behind is the most straightforward method. In the game the oversight 1 ♕e5?? allowed 1...♕g4 2 f5 ♜a5+ and White resigned. Instead 1 ♕g6!? leads to complications (where the king paradoxically comes back in front of the g-pawn to defend!) after 1...♜a6+ 2 ♕f5 ♜a8 3 ♜d7! ♜f8+ (3...g2 4 ♜g7 ♘h3 5 ♕e6 ♜e8+ 6 ♕d6! ♜f8 7 ♕e5 ♘h2 8 f5 g1♛ 9 ♜xg1 ♕xg1 10 f6 ♕f2 11 ♕e6 ♕f3 12 ♕e7 is a comfortable draw) 4 ♕e4! (rather than 4 ♕e5 ♜g8 5 ♜d1 ♕g4 6 f5 ♜e8+) 4...♜g8 5 ♕f3! ♜h8 6 ♕g2 etc.

1...g2

1...♜a5+ 2 ♕e4!.

2 ♜h8+ ♕g3 3 ♜g8+ ♕f3 4 ♕e6! g1♛

Black can play for a trick with 4...♜e1+ 5 ♕d7 (or 5 ♕d6, which comes to the same thing) 5...♜e4, when unfortunate would be 6 f5?? ♜g4! 7 ♜xg4 ♘xg4 8 f6 g1♛ 9 f7 ♘c5 with an eventual win for Black. Instead 6 ♜xg2! ♘xg2 7 f5 is level.

5 ♜xg1 ♜xg1 6 f5 and the draw is assured.

Exercise 29

Capablanca-Alekhine, Ostend 1936

Alekhine resigned this adjourned position. Capablanca stated that he would proceed as follows: ♜c3 followed by h4-h5. Black would have had to react with ...h7-h6 to allow the king to drop back to h7. White then brings his other bishop to h3 to force both black rooks to protect the f-pawn (meanwhile Black has nothing better than to temporise with ...♕g8-h7). White then plays his king to f3 (and when the

black king is on g8) and the manoeuvre ♜g3-f1-e3-d5 attacks the b-pawn. Once a rook moves to either b7 or b8 (to protect b6), then ♜f6+ either wins the exchange or the f-pawn. If Black ditches the exchange White can position his bishops on d5 and f6, when Black (with only a rook and king) will not be able to hold onto both b6 and f5. Once White wins a pawn the rest becomes trivial. Such long-winded plans are not difficult to employ in practice if your opponent can undertake nothing positive.

Exercise 30

Bernstein-Maroczy

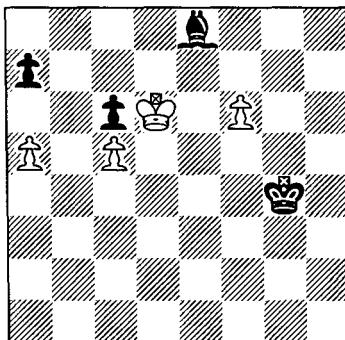
San Sebastian 1911

White has to first challenge the h-pawn.

1 ♜e6 h3 2 ♜f4 ♜e8

After 2...h2 3 ♜xh5+ ♕g4 4 f7 h1♛ (or 4...♕xh5 5 f8♛ h1♛ 6 ♛h8+) 5 ♜f6+ ♕g5 6 f8♛ White maintains the extra piece.

3 ♜xh3 ♕xh3 4 ♕d6 ♕g4



Then White must decide on his priorities.

5 ♜c7!

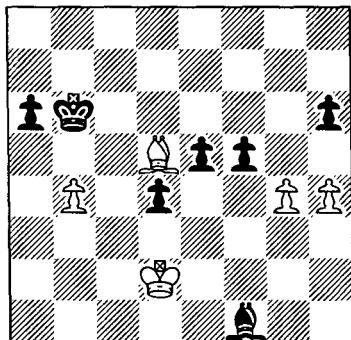
A surprising choice, but much better than 5 ♜e7? ♜g6 6 f7 ♜xf7 7 ♜xf7 ♜f5 8 ♜e7 ♜e5 9 ♜d7 ♜d5 10 ♜c7 ♜xc5 11 ♜b7 ♜b5 12 a6 c5 13 ♜xa7 c4 14 ♜b7 c3 15 a7 c2 16 a8♛ c1♛, which is only drawn.

5...♜f5 6 ♜b7 ♜xf6 7 ♜xa7 ♜f7 8 ♜b7 ♜c4 9 a6 ♜xa6+ 10 ♜xa6 1-0
10...♜e5 11 ♜b7! ♜d5 12 ♜b6 wins. Did you find all this!?

Exercise 31 Goglidze-Bannik, Riga 1954

1 e5! is analysed by Averbakh as leading to a win.

Play saw 1 g5? fxg5 (1...hxg5?! is also okay as 2 f5 meets with 2...gxg5 3 h5 fxe4 4 h6 e3+ 5 ♜e1 ♜d3) 2 fxg5 (2 h5 fails to 2...gxh5 3 f5 ♜c7 4 f6 ♜d7 5 e5 ♜h3) 2...hxg5 3 hxg5 ♜b5 4 ♜f7 ♜xb4 5 ♜xg6 ♜c5 6 ♜h7 (6 ♜f7 ♜d6 7 g6 ♜e7) 6...♜c4 7 g6 ♜d6 with an eventual draw.
1...fxe5 2 f5! gxg5



3 g5!

After 3 gxg5 ♜c7 Black is inside the square of the f-pawn.

3...hxg5 4 hxg5 e4

A final try...

5 g6 e3+ 6 ♜e1 ♜b5 7 g7 d3 8 g8♛ d2+ 9 ♜d1 ♜a4+
...but after
10 ♜b3
White wins easily.

Exercise 32 Flear-Kasimdzhanov Villeneuve-Tolosane 1997

I managed to find the surprising...

1 ♜h8!

White attacks the h5-pawn and the knight toys with the idea of coming back into play via f7. In this way White reorganises his pieces and obtains definite counterplay. In the post-mortem we couldn't find a win for Black.

1...♜e5

Or 1...♜xh4 2 ♜a2 ♜g4 (after 2...♜c5 3 ♜g6 or 2...e4+ 3 ♜xe4 ♜g4 4 ♜f7+ ♜e7 5 ♜f3 ♜g3+ 6 ♜f2 ♜d3 7 ♜e2 Black loses his advantage) 3 ♜f7+ ♜e7 4 ♜xe5 and White is fine.
2 ♜e4 ♜xg2 3 ♜xh5 ♜xb2 4 ♜xe5 a5

The race is sharp but not unfavourable for White.

5 ♜g6 ♜b3 6 ♜xf4 ♜xa3 7 ♜f7 ♜e3+ 8 ♜f5 b4 9 h5 b3 10 h6 b2 11 ♜a2 ♜b4 12 h7 ♜e8 13 ♜d5+ ♜a3 14 ♜c3!

Everything holds together nicely!

14...b1♛+ 15 ♜xb1 ♜b2 16 ♜a2 ♜h8

Not 16...♜xc3? in view of 17 ♜g8.

17 ♜g6 ♜xh7 18 ♜xh7 ½-½

Exercise 33 Flear-Campos Moreno Palma de Mallorca 1991

1 g4+!

An astonishing move that many people struggle to find until I point out the weakness of the b6-square.

1...hxg4 2 ♕g3 gxf3+ 3 ♔xf3 ♖xb3 4 ♖c7 ♕e6 5 ♖xb6 ♕d5 6 ♕d2 ♖xa4

The two extra pawns are not enough to win, particularly as a1 is the wrong colour for Black's bishop and a-pawn.
7 ♕c3 ♖d1 8 ♔d2 a4 9 ♔c4 ♔b4 10 ♔e3+ ♕c6 11 ♖xc5 ♕xc5 12 ♔xd1 ♔d5+ 13 ♕c2 ♕b4 14 ♔b2 ♔e3+ 15 ♕b1 ½-½

Exercise 34

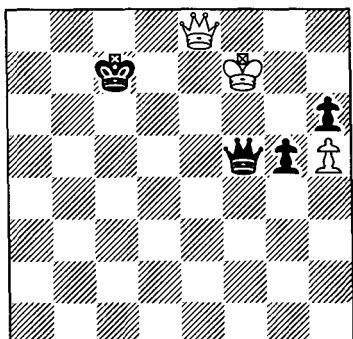
Pillsbury-Tarrasch, Nuremberg 1896

1...b5

Compare 1...♕f7 2 h5! with the main line.

2 h5

Ineffective is 2 d6? in view of 2...♕f7 3 d7 ♕e7 4 e6 a5 5 h5 g5 6 ♕g3 b4 7 ♕g4 a4 8 ♕f5 b3 9 axb3 axb3 10 ♕g6 b2 11 d8♕+ ♕xd8 12 ♕f7 b1♕ 13 e7+ ♕c7 14 e8♕ ♕f5+!



Black will eventually win. The technique is instructive, so read on! 15 ♕g7 ♕d7+ 16 ♕xd7+ ♕xd7 17 ♕xh6 g4 18 ♕g7 g3 19 h6 g2 20 h7 g1♕+ 21 ♕h8 ♕c5 22 ♕g7 ♕g5+ 23 ♕h8

♕h5 24 ♕g7 (or 24 ♕g8 ♕e7 25 h8♕ ♕f7 mate) 24...♕e7 25 h8♕ ♕g5+ 26 ♕h7 ♕f7 with a quick mate.

The game itself continued with 2 ♕g3?! and contained a number of errors: 2...b4? (2...a5! is better: 3 ♕f4 ♕f7 4 h5 gxh5 5 ♕f5 h4 6 d6 h3 7 e6+ ♕e8 8 ♕f6 h2 9 d7+ ♕d8 10 ♕f7 h1♕ 11 e7+ ♕xd7 12 e8♕+ ♕d6 13 ♕d8+ ♕e5 with the better game for Black according to Tarrasch, although this last move can't be right as White can then repeat with 14 ♕f6+, so Black should maintain the advantage with 13...♕c5!) 3 ♕f4? (3 h5 is drawn according to Botvinnik) 3...g5+?? (3...♕f7 leads to an advantage, whereas the text move loses – 4 h5 gxh5 5 ♕f5 h4 6 d6 h3 7 e6+ ♕e8 8 ♕f6 h2 9 d7+ ♕d8 10 ♕f7 h1♕ 11 e7+ ♕xd7 12 e8♕+ ♕c7 with winning chances for Black!) 4 hxg5 hxg5+ 5 ♕xg5 a5 6 d6 ♕f7 7 ♕f5 a4 8 e6+ ♕e8 9 ♕f6 b3 10 axb3 axb3 11 d7+ ♕d8 12 ♕f7 and Black resigned.

2...gxh5

After 2...g5? 3 ♕g3 a5 4 ♕g4 b4 5 d6 ♕f7 6 ♕f5 a4 7 e6+ White is first. 3 ♕g3 a5 4 ♕h4 b4 5 d6 ♕f7 6 d7 ♕e7 7 e6 a4 8 ♕xh5 b3 9 axb3 axb3 10 ♕g6 b2 11 d8♕+ ♕xd8 12 ♕f7 with a draw (Fine).

Have you noticed how much interest the initial position has generated amongst top players? Analysing such complex positions is great training.

Exercise 35

Tukmakov-Ubilava, USSR 1972

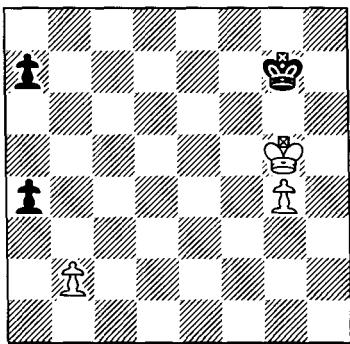
Correct is...

1...♔d5!

...coming back to defend the g-pawn.

Not 1... $\mathbb{Q}b4?$ as the race is doomed to failure: 2 $g5 \mathbb{Q}b3$ 3 $g6 \mathbb{Q}xb2$ 4 $g7$ $a3$ 5 $g8\mathbb{Q}$ $a2$ 6 $\mathbb{W}g2+$ $\mathbb{Q}b1$ 7 $\mathbb{W}e4+$ $\mathbb{Q}b2$ 8 $\mathbb{W}b4+$ $\mathbb{Q}c2$ 9 $\mathbb{W}a3 \mathbb{Q}b1$ 10 $\mathbb{W}b3+$ $\mathbb{Q}a1$ 11 $\mathbb{W}c2$ (the presence of the superfluous a7-pawn means that there is no stalemate) 11... $a5$ 12 $\mathbb{W}c1$ mate.

2 $\mathbb{Q}g3 \mathbb{Q}e5$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}h4 \mathbb{Q}f6$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}h5 \mathbb{Q}g7$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}g5$



5... $a6!$

Best. Bad is 5... $\mathbb{Q}f7?$, which allows 6 $\mathbb{Q}h6 \mathbb{Q}g8$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}g6$ when White wins. Less obvious but equally losing is 5... $a5$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}f5 \mathbb{Q}f7$ (6... $a3$ 7 $bxa3$ $a4$ fails to 8 $\mathbb{Q}g5$, taking the opposition and promoting by force) 7 $\mathbb{Q}e5 \mathbb{Q}g6$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}d5 \mathbb{Q}g5$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}c5 \mathbb{Q}xg4$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}b5$ $a3$ 11 $bxa3 \mathbb{Q}f5$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}xa5 \mathbb{Q}e6$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}b6 \mathbb{Q}d7$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}b7$, occupying the critical b7-square in time. Compare this with the game continuation, where the a-pawns are on a4 and a6, which means that White needs more time to round them up and thus Black can get back to c8.

6 $\mathbb{Q}f5 \mathbb{Q}f7$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}e5 \mathbb{Q}g6$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}d5 \mathbb{Q}g5$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}c5 \mathbb{Q}xg4$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}b6$

After 10 $\mathbb{Q}b4 \mathbb{Q}f4$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}xa4 \mathbb{Q}e4$ 12

$\mathbb{Q}a5 \mathbb{Q}d4$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}xa6 \mathbb{Q}c4$ Black arrives just in time!

10... $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}xa6 \mathbb{Q}e6$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}b5$ a3!

With an a-pawn White is unable to win.

13 $bxa3 \mathbb{Q}d7$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}b6 \mathbb{Q}c8$ ½-½

Exercise 36

Lengyel-Levy, Cienfuegos 1972

White is gradually forced into the corner.

1... $\mathbb{W}f4+$ 2 $\mathbb{Q}e6$

Or 2 $\mathbb{Q}g6 \mathbb{Q}e5+$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}g7 \mathbb{W}f7+$ and it's mate next move.

2... $\mathbb{Q}c5+$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}e7 \mathbb{W}h4+!$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}f7 \mathbb{W}h7+$ 5 $\mathbb{Q}f6 \mathbb{Q}e4+$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}e6 \mathbb{W}g6+$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}d7 \mathbb{W}f7+$ 8 $\mathbb{Q}c8$

Naturally 8 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ loses the queen after 8... $\mathbb{W}d5+$.

8... $\mathbb{Q}d6+$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}b8 \mathbb{W}e8+$ 10 $\mathbb{Q}a7 \mathbb{Q}b5+$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}b7 \mathbb{W}e4+$ 12 $\mathbb{Q}b8 \mathbb{W}e5+$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}b7 \mathbb{W}d5+$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}b8 \mathbb{W}d8+$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}b7 \mathbb{Q}d6+$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}a7 \mathbb{W}a5+$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}b8 \mathbb{W}b6+$ 0-1

Exercise 37

Izeta-Flear, Seville 1987

1 $\mathbb{W}a1+$!

An important intermediate move, since 1 $\mathbb{W}e1 \mathbb{W}xh2$ 2 $\mathbb{W}xe3 \mathbb{W}xg3$ 3 $\mathbb{W}d4+$ (with the pawn on f6 White has $\mathbb{W}e7+$ etc.) 3... $\mathbb{Q}h7$ 4 $\mathbb{W}e4+$ $\mathbb{W}g6$ offers Black serious winning chances.

1... $f6$

The only way to shield the king from checks. 1... $\mathbb{Q}g8$ 2 $\mathbb{W}a8+$ $\mathbb{Q}h7$ 3 $\mathbb{W}e4+$, or 1... $\mathbb{Q}h7$ 2 $\mathbb{W}b1+$ $\mathbb{Q}h6$ 3 $\mathbb{W}e1 \mathbb{W}xh2$ 4 $\mathbb{W}xe3+$.

2 $\mathbb{W}e1 \mathbb{W}xh2$ 3 $\mathbb{W}xe3$

3 f4? is favourably met by 3...h4!.

3... $\mathbb{W}xg3$

Now if the f-pawn stood on f7 White would quickly run out of checks. Here, however, the white queen keeps Black in check until he can pick up the f-pawn.

4 ♕e7+ ♔g6 5 ♕e8+ ♔g5 6 ♕g8+ ♔f4

6...♔h4 7 ♕c4+ ♔h3 8 ♕e6+ ♔h2 escapes but allows 9 ♕xf6 with sufficient counterplay.

7 ♕c4+ ♔xf3 8 ♕c3+ ♔g4 9 ♕xf6 ½-½

The ending is drawn. Queen and rook's pawn versus queen, even in favourable conditions, is difficult to win, but here, with White's king so close, even most pawn endings yield nothing.

Exercise 38

Zvonicky-Hmelnicky, USSR 1988

White played the natural...

1 h3?

...but this quickly landed him in trouble.

Instead 1 ♕c7! (my move), giving up the h-pawn to liberate the king, is the best chance. Then 1...♕f3 is met by 2 ♕f4, and 1...♕e4+ 2 ♔h3 ♕g4+ 3 ♔g2 ♕e2+ draws but that is all. This leaves 1...♕xh2+ 2 ♔g5 ♕d2+ 3 ♔f6 ♕d4+ 4 ♕e7 (4 ♕e5? ♕xc4) 4...♕g7 5 c5 when, in this double-edged position, Black has arguably the better chances but is probably not winning. He can try 5...g5, 5...h4 or 5...♕f6+, which after 6 ♔d7 g5 7 ♕d6 h4 8 gxh4 gxh4 9 c6 ♕xd6+ 10 ♔xd6 h3 11 c7 h2 12 c8 ♕h1 ♕ 13 ♕g4+ leads to a draw by perpetual check.

1...♕e4+ 2 g4

Hmelnicky points out 2 ♕g5 ♕g7 3 ♕c7 ♕e3+ 4 ♔h4 ♔h6 5 ♕f4+ g5+.

2...♕f4!

Now White's king is in a fix.

3 ♕e7

No better are 3 ♕d5 ♕f2+ 4 ♕g5 f6 mate or 3 ♕c6 ♕g7 4 ♕c5 hxg4 5 hxg4 ♕h2+ 6 ♕g5 f6 mate.

3...hxg4 4 hxg4 ♕h2+ 5 ♕g5 ♕h6+ 6 ♕f6 ♕f4 mate.

Exercise 39

D.Howell-Charleshouse

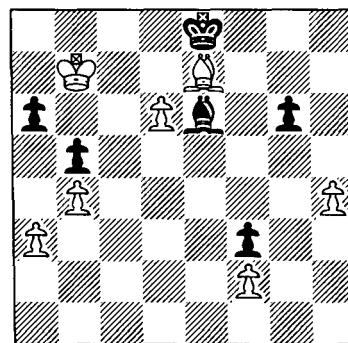
Southend 2001

(Analysis position)

1 ♔c6 ♕c8 2 d6 ♕f5

White can force the win of the a-pawn at will but first improves the position of his bishop.

3 ♕e3 ♕e6 4 ♕g5 ♕f5 5 ♕e7 ♕c8 6 ♕c7 ♕e6 7 ♕b7



So the a-pawn falls. Black can put up some resistance but should lose in the end.

7...♔d7

The bishop manoeuvre 7...♗b3 8 ♕xa6 ♕a4 quickly fails to zugzwang: 9 ♕b6 ♔d7 10 ♕c5 etc.

8 ♕xa6 ♕c4

In reply to 8... $\mathbb{Q}c6$ there are a couple of ways to win.

a) 9 a4!? seems to work, but only by one tempo: 9...bxa4 10 b5+ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 11 b6 $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 12 b7 $\mathbb{Q}xb7+$ 13 $\mathbb{Q}xb7$ a3 14 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{Q}xd6$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}b6$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ (15... $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}b5$) 16 $\mathbb{Q}c3$ $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}c5$ $\mathbb{Q}g4$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}b4$ a2 19 $\mathbb{Q}b3$ $\mathbb{Q}xh4$ 20 $\mathbb{Q}xa2$ $\mathbb{Q}h3$ 21 $\mathbb{Q}e5$ $\mathbb{Q}g2$ 22 $\mathbb{Q}g3$...phew!

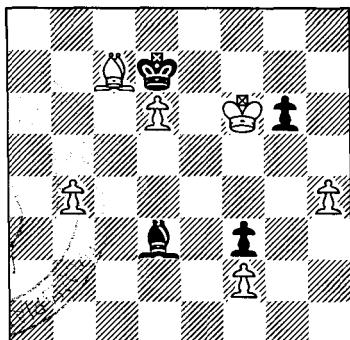
b) 9 $\mathbb{Q}f8$ $\mathbb{Q}b3$ (after 9... $\mathbb{Q}d7$ White wins by starting with 10 a4!, e.g. 10...bxa4 11 b5+ $\mathbb{Q}d5$ 12 b6 $\mathbb{Q}c8+$ 13 b7 $\mathbb{Q}xb7+$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}xb7$ $\mathbb{Q}e6$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ etc.) 10 d7 $\mathbb{Q}xd7$ 11 $\mathbb{Q}xb5$ $\mathbb{Q}c7$ 12 a4 $\mathbb{Q}b7$ 13 a5 $\mathbb{Q}d1$ 14 a6+ is convincing.

9 $\mathbb{Q}a5$ $\mathbb{Q}c6$ 10 a4 bxa4 11 $\mathbb{Q}xa4$ $\mathbb{Q}b6$

12 $\mathbb{Q}d8+$ $\mathbb{Q}a6$

12... $\mathbb{Q}c6$ loses in similar fashion: 13 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ $\mathbb{Q}b5+$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}a5$ $\mathbb{Q}d3$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}b8$ $\mathbb{Q}f1$ 16 b5+ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ (16... $\mathbb{Q}xb5$ drops the bishop to 17 d7 $\mathbb{Q}xd7$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}xb5$) 17 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ $\mathbb{Q}e2$ 18 b6 $\mathbb{Q}c6$ 19 $\mathbb{Q}b4$ $\mathbb{Q}a6$ 20 $\mathbb{Q}c3$ $\mathbb{Q}c8$ 21 $\mathbb{Q}d4$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 22 $\mathbb{Q}e5$ $\mathbb{Q}b7$ 23 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{Q}e4$ 24 $\mathbb{Q}f7$ zugzwang!.

13 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ $\mathbb{Q}f1$ 14 $\mathbb{Q}b3$ $\mathbb{Q}b5$ 15 $\mathbb{Q}c3$ $\mathbb{Q}b7$ 16 $\mathbb{Q}d4$ $\mathbb{Q}c6$ 17 $\mathbb{Q}e5$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 18 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{Q}d3$



19 $\mathbb{Q}f7!$

Forcing Black to yield terrain.

19... $\mathbb{Q}c8$

19... $\mathbb{Q}e4$ 20 b5.

20 b5 $\mathbb{Q}xb5$ 21 $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ $\mathbb{Q}e8+$ 22 $\mathbb{Q}g5$ $\mathbb{Q}d7$

Or 22... $\mathbb{Q}f7$ 23 h5.

23 $\mathbb{Q}g4$ and three(!) passed pawns will win.

Exercise 40

D.Howell-Charleshouse

Southend 2001

(Analysis position)

White has to find how to generate zugzwang. The analysis below is by Flear, H.Richards and D.Howell.

1 $\mathbb{Q}e6$ $\mathbb{Q}e8$

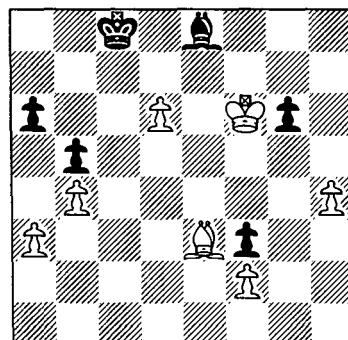
1... $\mathbb{Q}d8$ is less resistant – 2 $\mathbb{Q}b6+$ $\mathbb{Q}e8$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}c7$ $\mathbb{Q}d7+$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}f6$.

2 $\mathbb{Q}e7$ $\mathbb{Q}c6$ 3 $\mathbb{Q}e3$

3 $\mathbb{Q}f7$ $\mathbb{Q}e4$ holds on for now.

3... $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 4 $\mathbb{Q}f6$ $\mathbb{Q}e8$

Or 4... $\mathbb{Q}f5$ 5 h5.



5 $\mathbb{Q}g7!!$ $\mathbb{Q}d8$

The main point is that after 5... $\mathbb{Q}d7$ 6 $\mathbb{Q}f8!$ the bishop is trapped, while 5... $\mathbb{Q}b7$ 6 d7! is winning.

6 $\mathbb{Q}b6+$ $\mathbb{Q}c8$ 7 $\mathbb{Q}a5!$ $\mathbb{Q}b7$

Again 7... $\mathbb{Q}d7$ meets with 8 $\mathbb{Q}f8$.

8 d7! $\mathbb{Q}xd7$ 9 $\mathbb{Q}xg6$ and the h-pawn will net the bishop.

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