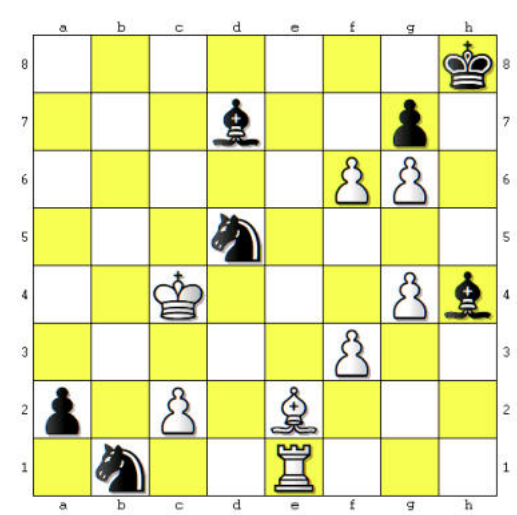




Luis Miguel González

White to move and win

6th Honorable Mention

Another study built around the gradual discovery of a seemingly inaccessible refuge for the white King. At first glance the King's journey appears almost arbitrary, yet every step proves to be dictated by precise tactical necessities. The highlight is clearly the impressive manoeuvre in which the King

repeatedly changes direction before finally reaching the unexpected haven on f8. The artistic strength of the study, on the other hand, lies in its sustained foresight effect. Although the underlying idea has appeared before in more ambitious settings, and this realization is not immune to drawbacks (like the poor activity of some pieces or the "obvious" keymove, or maybe the density and length of the analytical lines) this appears as a convincing entry.

Solution: **1. f7 Nb6+! 2. Kc5!**

(2. Kd3 ? Bb5+ ! 3. Ke4 Bc6+ 4. Kf5 Bd7+ {! perpetual check})

2. .. Bf2+ 3. Kd6 Bg3+ 4. Ke7 !

{Thematic try:} (4. f4 ? Bxf4+ 5. Ke7 Bg5+ 6. Kd6 Bf4+ 7. Kc5 Be3+ 8. Kb4 Bd2+ 9. c3 ! Bxc3+ 10. Kb3 ! (10. Kc5 Bd4+ ! 11. Kd6 Be5+ ! 12. Ke7 Bf6+ 13. Kd6 (13. Kf8 {? without f3-pawn!} Bc6 {!!}) 13. .. Be5+ !) 10. .. Be6+ 11. Kc2 Bxe1 ! 12. f8=Q+ Bg8 13. Qd6 Bd2 14. Qh2+ Bh6 15. Kb2 Na4+ 16. Ka1 Nbc3 ! 17. g5 Nc5 ! 18. Bd1 Nxd1 19. gxh6 Nc3 ! 20. hxg7+ Kxg7 21. Qe5+ Kxg6 22. Qg3+ Kf5 ! 23. Qf3+ Kg6 ! 24. Qg3+ Kf5 25. Qxc3 Ne4 26. Qf3+ Ke5 27. Qh5+ Kf4 ! 28. Qh2+ Kf5 {! positional draw})

4. .. Bh4+ 5. g5 ! Bxg5+ 6. Kd6 ! Bf4+ 7. Kc5 Be3+

(7. .. Na4+ 8. Kd5 ! Nbc3+ 9. Kd4 Nxe2+ 10. Kd5 ! Nac3+ (10. .. Nb6+ 11. Kc5 Be3+ 12. Kb4 Nd5+ 13. Kc4 Nb6+ 14. Kd3!) 11. Kc5 Na4+ 12. Kb4 Bd6+ 13. Ka5 a1=Q 14. Rxa1 Ng3 15. Re1 !)

8. Kb4 Bd2+ 9. c3 !

(9. Kb3 ? Be6+ ! 10. c4 Nd7 11. Rh1+ Bh6 12. Kb2 Nf8 !)

9. .. Bxc3+ 10. Kc5 !

(10. Kb3 ? Be6+ 11. Kc2 Bxe1 ! 12. f8=Q+ Bg8 13. Qd6 Bd2 14. Qh2+ Bh6 !)

10. .. Bd4+ ! 11. Kd6 ! Be5+ ! 12. Ke7 ! Bf6+ 13. Kf8 {! with f3-pawn!} Bh3 14. Rh1 Nd7+ 15. Ke8 Bg5 16. Rxh3+ 1-0