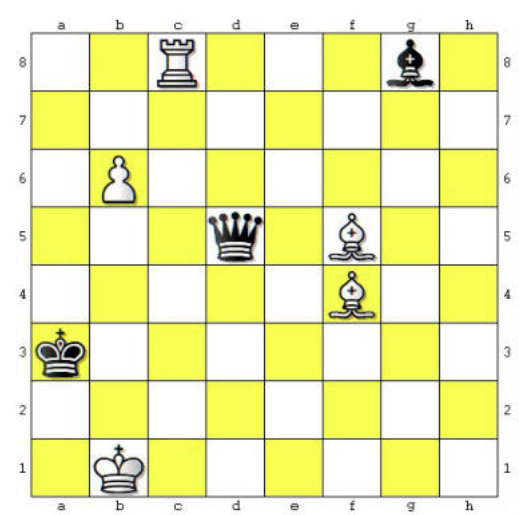




Pavel Arestov & Anatoly Skripnik

White to move and draw

8th Commendation

Few pieces, the most of them in reciprocal tension. Striking coordinations. Unexpected and engaging moves (6. Kb1!! - 9. Bd3!!).

Coherent and double pointed finale.

A nice and energetic study that only asks to be solved with fun and effort together.

Solution: **1. Bc1+**

(1. Kc1 ? Qxf5 2. Bd6+ Ka2 ! 3. Ra8+ Kb3 4. Ra3+ Kc4 5. b7 Qf1+ 6. Kd2 Qg2+ ! -+)

1. .. Kb4 (1. .. Kb3 2. Bc2+ !)

2. Bd2+ ! (2. Rc2 ? Qxf5 3. b7 Qb5 4. Rb2+ Bb3 -+) **2. .. Qxd2** **3. b7 Ba2+ !**

(3. .. Qe1+ 4. Kb2 ! Qe5+ 5. Kc1 Qf4+ 6. Kb2 Qd4+ 7. Kc1 Qg1+ 8. Kd2 ! Qf2+ 9. Kc1 {positional draw.})

4. Ka1 Qd4+ ! 5. Kxa2 Qd5+ 6. Kb1 {!! Pointe}

{Try: 6. Kb2 ? Qxb7 7. Kc1 Qf3 ! 8. Bc2 Ka3 ! 9. Re8 Qf4+ 10. Kd1 Kb2 ! 11. Re2 ?! Qc1#}

6. .. Qxb7 !

(6. .. Qxf5+ 7. Rc2 ! Qf1+ 8. Ka2 ! Draw)

7. Rc2 ! Ka3+ 8. Kc1 Qf3 !

(8. .. Qh1+ 9. Kd2 Qd5+ 10. Bd3 ! Draw)

(8. .. Qd5 9. Bd3 {! - main line})

9. Bd3 {!! with 2 lines:

MAIN A

9. ... Qxd3 10. Ra2+ ! Kb4 (10. .. Kxa2 {stalemate}) **11. Rb2+ Kc3 12. Rb3+ ! Kxb3** {echo-stalemate.})

MAIN B

9. ... Qe3+ 10. Rd2 Kb3 11. Kd1 Kc3 12. Rc2+ ! Kxd3 13. Rc3+ ! Kxc3 {echo-stalemate.}