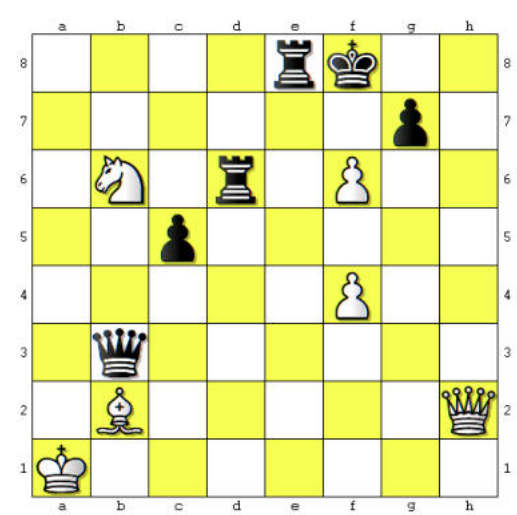




Antonio Garofalo

White to move and win

Special Commendation

A highly unusual entry, based on a mating sequence reportedly discovered by the Author in practical play and later reshaped into endgame-study form. Particularly noteworthy is the fact that the Author, primarily known for his work in the field of helpmates and with extremely rare appearances in the endgame-

study genre, succeeded in transferring a distinctly problemistic attacking vision into study form. Although the construction remains deliberately close to its tactical source and therefore does not pursue the economy or strategic sophistication typical of the highest-ranked studies, the work retains considerable charm thanks to its energetic forcing play, accessible setting, a secondary mating line with a surprising pawn finale, repeated King-hunting motifs and an elegant final mating picture. The transformation of an over-the-board combination into a coherent study setting gives the composition a somehow distinctive character.

Solution: **1. Qh8+! Qg8**

(1. .. Kf7 2. Qxg7+ {!} Ke6 3. Qg4+ {!} Kf7 4. Qh5+ {!} Kf8
5. Qh6+ {!} Kf7 6. Qh7+ {!} Ke6 7. f5# {!})

2. fxg7+ Ke7 3. Qh4+ Kf7 4. Qh5+ Ke7 5. Qg5+ Kf7 6. Qf5+ Ke7 7. Bf6+ Kf7
(7. .. Rxf6 8. Qd7# {!})

8. Be5+ Ke7 9. Bxd6+ Kxd6 10. Qd7#
[[All minor duals are time wastes]]