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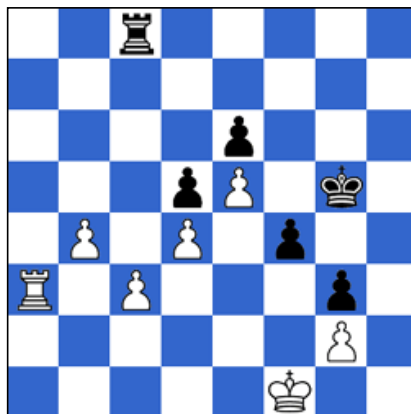
The Pearl in the Endings Part Two

Zdenko Krnic

In [June 2007](#), we announced the release of a new CD containing all the endgames published in *Informants* 5-98. However, we have managed to include the examples from [Informant #99](#) as well, so that the CD now offers 2,494 endings published over the span of forty years in *Informants* 5-99. This CD comes with fully searchable endgame classification keys that can be used in the training mode for testing yourself or a student. Here we have selected ten new examples for your enjoyment.

M.Chiburdanidze – I.Chikovani USSR 1976 – 21e/8 R 6/f

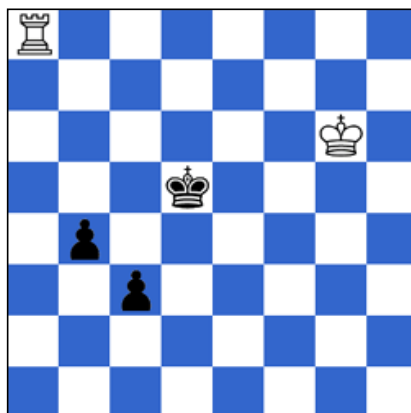
Ex-World Champion Maya Chiburdanidze is a pawn up in the rook ending, and 1.b5 would have forced Black to find the best possible moves to avoid defeat. However, she does not suspect that there are hidden dangers for White and she allows Black to weave a mating net after several brilliant moves.



1.Ke2?? [1.b5! Rh8! (1...Rb8 2.Rb3 Rb6 3.Ke2 Kf5 4.Kf3 Kg5 5.Rb2 Kf5 6.Rb1 Kg5 7.Ke2 Kf5 8.Kd3 with the idea c4 and White is winning) 2 Rb3 Rh1 3.Ke2 Rg1 4.b6 Rg2 5.Kd3 f3 6.b7 f2 7.Rb1 Rg1 8.b8Q Rb1 9.Qb1 g2 10.Ke2 g1Q 11.Qf1 and White is slightly better] **Rh8! 2.b5** [2.Ra7 Rh1 3.Rg7 Kf5 and Black is winning; 2.Ra1 Kg4! 3.b5 Rh2 4.Rg1 f3 and Black is winning] **Rh2 3.Kf3 Rh1 4.b6 Re1! 5.c4 dc4 6.b7 Rb1 7.Rc3** [7.Ke4 Kg4! 8.b8Q Re1 and Black is winning] **Kf5 8.Rc4 Rb2! 0-1** [E.Gufeld]

A.Petrosian – V.Tseshkovsky USSR 1976 – 22e/20 R 0/c1

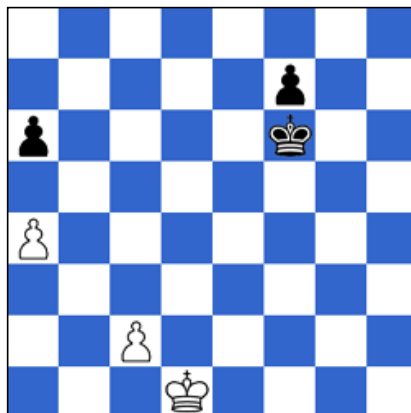
It often happens in tournament practice that one of the players errs in his calculations and resigns a game in a drawn position, or agrees to a draw in a winning position. In this next example, Arshak Petrosian played 1. Kf5 against Tseshkovsky and the players agreed to a draw, but later analysis proved that Black could have won via a knight promotion.



1.Kf5 [1... b3! 2.Rd8 Kc5! 3.Rc8 Kd4 4.Rd8 Ke3 5.Rb8 b2 6.Ke5 Kf3! 7.Kf5 Ke2 8.Ke4 Kd1 9.Kd3 c2 10.Rh8 c1N!! and Black is winning] $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ [A.Kapengut]

E.Mnatsakanian – L.Vogt
Stary Smokovec 1979 — 29e/1
P 1/a3

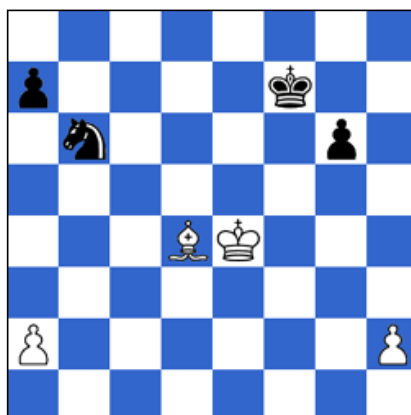
Mnatsakanian resigned, thinking that the distant passed f-pawn would ensure Black's victory. Yet, he was wrong, because the white king had time to stop the promotion of the a-pawn.



0-1 [1. Ke2 Ke5 2. Kd3 Kd5 (2...f5 3.c4 equal) 3.c4! Kc5 4.Kc3 a5 5.Kd3 f5 (5...Kb4? 6.Kd4 Ka4 7.c5 Kb5 8. Kd5 and White is winning) 6.Kc3 f4 7.Kd3 f3 8.Kc3 Kc4 (8...Kb4 9.c5 equal) 9.Kf3 Kb4 10.Kc3 Ka4 11. Kd2 Kb3 12.Kc1 equal] [N.Minev]

Z.Krnic – G.Flear
Wijk aan Zee II 1988 — 45e/27
NB 5/b

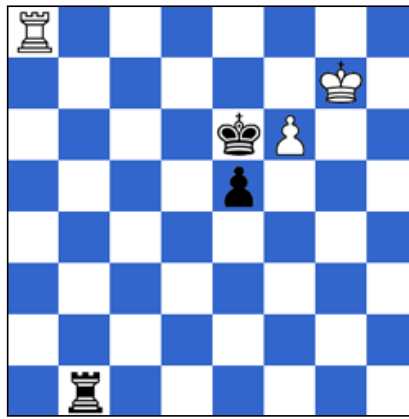
The author of this article accepted a draw offer from the English grandmaster Flear at the reserve grandmaster tournament in Wijk aan Zee in 1988 after Black played 1...Ke6. However, during the post mortem, with the help of legendary champion Mikhail Tal, we found that White could have won.



1...Ke6 [2.Kf4! (only move) Nc8 (2...Kf7 3.Ke5 and White is winning) 3.Kg5 Kf7 4.Kh6! a) 4...Nb6 5.Kh7 Nc8 (5...Nd5 6.Ba7 Nf6 7.Kh8 and White is winning) 6.a4! Nb6 (6...a6 7.Bc5 and White is winning, see 4... a6) 7.a5 Nc8 (7...Nc4 8.a6 and White is winning) 8.h4 and White is winning, zugzwang; b) 4...a6 5.Bc5 Kf6 6.h4 Kf5 (6...Kf7 7.Kh7 a5 8.a4 zugzwang Kf6 9.Kg8 Kf5 10.Kf7 Kg4 11.Ke8 Kh4 12.Kd7 Kg4 13.Kc8 Kf5 14.Kb7 Ke6 15.Bb6 and White is winning) 7.Kg7 Kg4 8.Kf7! Kh4 9.Ke6 Kg4 10.Kd7 Kf5 11.Kc8 Ke6 12. Kb7 Kd5 13.Be7 a5 (13...Ke6 14.Bb4 and White is winning) 14.a4 and White is winning] ½-½ [G.Flear]

L.Shamkovich – M.Ginsburg
USA 1976 — 23e/6
R 5/a

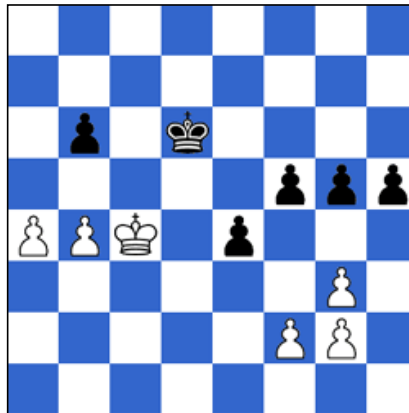
It is obvious that White must check the black king, but from which square? GM Shamkovich chose the wrong one; however, his opponent erred in turn and White won the game.



1.Re8? [1..Ra6! Kf5 2.f7 Rb8 3.Rf6! Kg4 4.Re6 Kf4 5.Re8 Rb7 6.Kf6 Rf7 7.Kf7 e4 8.Ke6! e3 9.Kd5 and White is winning] **Kf5 2.f7 Rb7??** [2...Rg1 3.Kf8 Rh1! equal] **3.Kg8 Rf7 4.Kf7 e4 5.Re7!! Kf4 6.Ke6! e3 7. Kd5 Kf3 8.Kd4 1-0** [*L.Shamkovich*]

N.Weinstein – M.Rohde Lone Pine 1977 – 24e/14 P 3/c2

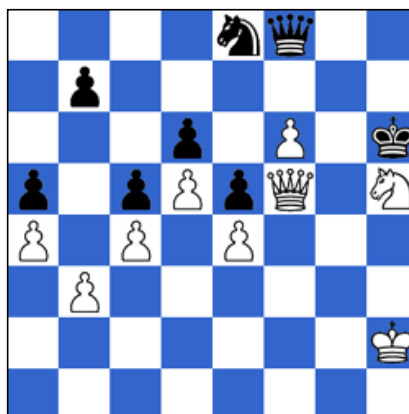
In the 1970s, one of the most popular and biggest open tournaments was in Lone Pine. The pawn ending in the game between Weinstein and Rohde was not so complicated, but Black chose the wrong breakthrough 1...h4??, instead of the correct 1...f4!!, and lost the game.



1...h4?? [1...f4!! 2.gf4 (2.a5 ba5 3.ba5 h4 and Black is winning) gf4 3.Kd4 e3! 4.fe3 f3 5.gf3 h4 and Black is winning] **2.gh4 gh4 3.Kd4 Ke6 4.a5 ba5 5.ba5 Kd6 6.a6 Ke6 7.Ke5 Kb6 8.Kf5 Ka6 9.Ke4 1-0** [*J.Acers*]

G.Moehring – Z.Kaikamdzhov Zamardi 1978 – 25e/2 Q 8/c

It does not seem as if White should have problems realizing the advantage of his passed pawn. However, in order to win, he must sacrifice both his pieces (2.Qf6! and 9.Qh3!!).

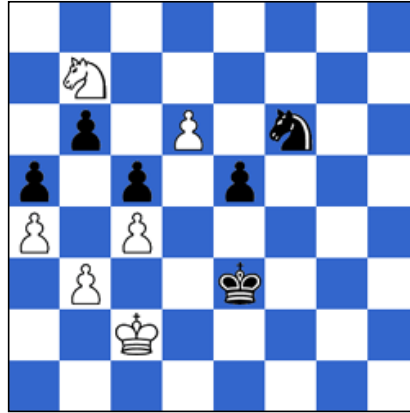


1.f7! Ng7 2.Qf6!! [2.Ng7 Kg7 equal] **Kh5 3.Kh3 Ne8** [3...Qc8 4.Kg2! Qf8 5.Kg3 and White is winning, zugzwang] **4.Qf5** [4.fe8Q Qe8 5.Qd6 Qh8 and White is winning] **Kh6 5.Qe6 Kh7!** [5...Kg7 6.fe8N! and

White is winning] 6.f8Q Qf3 7.Kh4 Qf2 8.Kh5 Qh2 9.Qh3!! Qh3 10.Kg5 Qg3 11.Kf6 Qf3 12.Ke7 Qb3 [12...Qe4 13.Kd6 with the idea Qe5 and White is winning] 13.Qh5 Kg7 14.Qg4! [14...Kh7 15.Kf7 and White is winning] 1-0 [Z.Kaikamdzhozov, G.Moehring]

L.Alburt – K.Lerner
USSR 1978 – 25e/15
NB 2/k

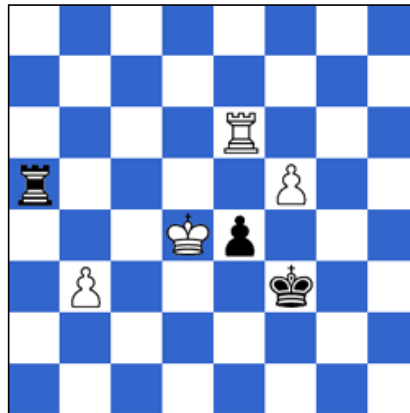
Danger lurks in knight endings when one side can sacrifice his piece to create a passed pawn. In this example, grandmaster Alburt sacrificed his knight (1.Nc5) and a pawn (2.b4!) and then won the game in a queen ending by the effective 16.Qd1!.



1.Nc5! bc5 2.b4! ab4 [2...cb4 3.c5 b3 4.Kb3 Ne4 5.Kc4 and White is winning] 3.a5 e4 4.a6 Kf2 5.a7 e3 6.a8Q e2 7.Qf8 e1Q 8.Qf6 [Q 4/j] Kg3 9.Qg5 Kh3 10.Qd2 Qa1 11.d7 Qa4 12.Kb1 Qb3 13.Kc1 Qa3 14.Kd1 Qb3 15.Ke2 Kg4 16.Qd1! [16.d8Q? Qf3 17.Ke1 Qh1 equal] Qc4 17.Ke3 1-0 [M.Yudovich sr.]

Y.Estrin – G.Zaichik
USSR 1978 – 27e/11
R 5/e

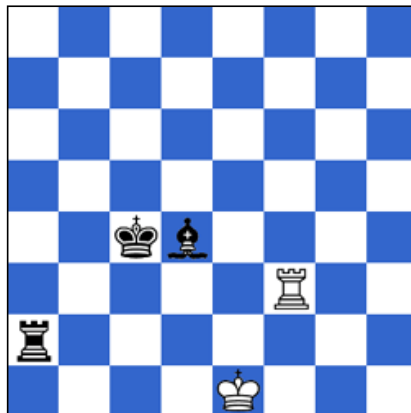
This rook ending seems very difficult for Black. 1...Rf5 is no good because of 2.Re4 and the b-pawn will decide the game. One of the rules in such endings is that weaker side defend by moving the rook as far as possible from the opponent's passed pawns. So Black played 1...Ra8?, but lost the game. The correct defense was to stop the passed f-pawn by 1...Ra7! and 5...Rd6! to achieve a draw.



1...Ra8? [1...Ra7! 2.f6 Rd7 3.Ke5 e3 4.Kf5 e2 5.Kg6 Rd6! 6.Re8 Rb6 7.Kg7 Rb3 8.f7 Rb7 equal] 2.f6 Rd8 3.Ke5 Rf8 [3...e3 4.f7 e2 5.Kf6 and White is winning] 4.Re7 1-0 [E.Ubilava]

Mi.Knezevic – R.Vaganian
Yerevan 1980 – 30e/17
R 8/g1

It is well-known in the theory of rook endings that rook and bishop against rook should be a draw. Yet, it is also known that in practice the stronger side always attempts to realize the advantage hoping for a mistake from the opponent. The next example is a fine illustration of this. In order to play such endings precisely great theoretical knowledge is necessary.



1...Kd5 2.Kf1 Ke4 3.Rh3 Be3 4.Rh4 Kf3 5.Rh3 Kf4 6.Ke1 Ke4 7.Kf1 Rf2 8.Kg1 Kf4 9.Rh7 Ke4 10.Rh3 Kd3 11.Rh2 Ra2 12.Kh1 Bf2 13.Kg2 Ke2 14.Rh7 Ra1 15.Re7 Be3 16.Rf7 Rg1 17.Kh3 Bf2 18.Rf5 Rg8 19.Rf7 Rg3 20.Kh2 Kf1 21.Rf4 Ra3 22.Rf5 Ra4 23.Rf3 Rh4 24.Rh3 Rf4 25.Kh1?? [25.Rh7 equal] Bg3! (and Black is winning) 26.Rh7 [26.Rg3 Rh4 and Black is winning] Ra4?? [26...Rg4! 27.Rf7 Bf4 with the idea Rg1 mate] 27.Rf7 Bf4 28.Ra7! (equal) Rd4 29.Ra4! ½-½ [Mi.Knezevic]

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