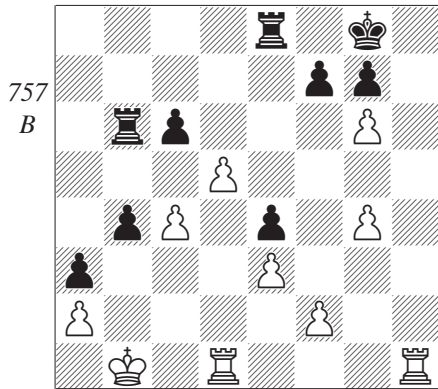
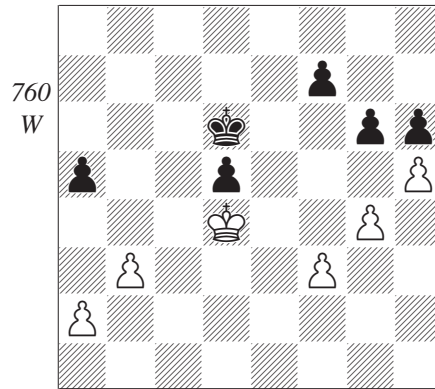


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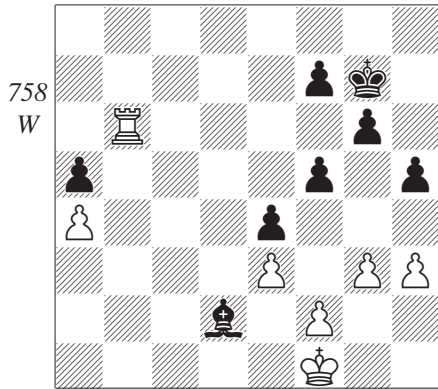
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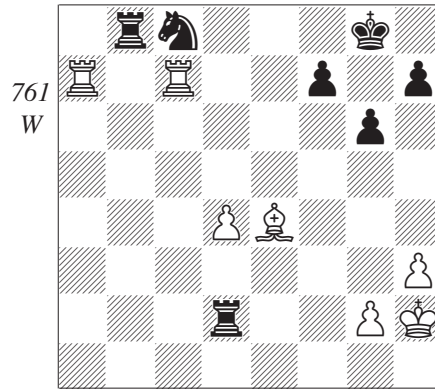
In this position Black made a mistake by playing **1...b3?**. How did White punish this move?



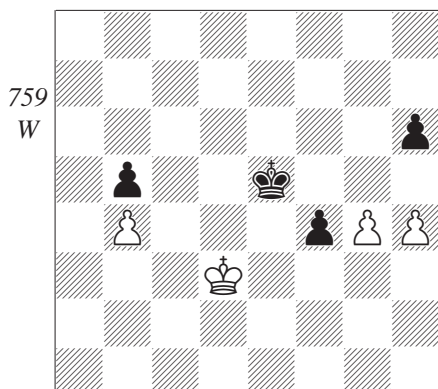
What is White's fastest route to victory?



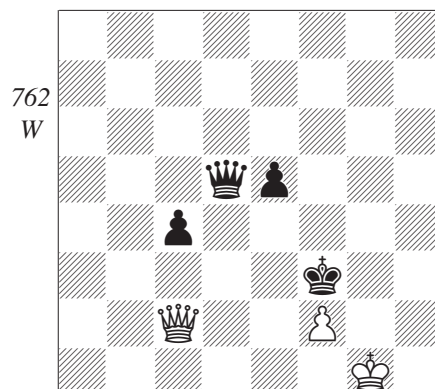
In the game White played **1 ♖e2** and eventually managed to win. However, there is a much quicker method. Can you spot it?



Black has just played **... ♞b6-c8**, attacking the rook on b7. What is White's best response?



White blundered with **1 h5?? f3!** **2 ♔e3 f2** **3 ♔xf2 ♔f4** and Black won the ending. Can you find a major improvement for White?



In this position White played **1 ♖c3+**. How was this punished and what should White have played instead?

White won with **2 ♖h8+!! ♗xh8 3 gxf7 bxa2++ 4 ♗xa2 1-0**. Black cannot deal with the double threat of ♖h1# and fxe8♞.

### 758) Beltran – Barros

*Cali 1999*

**1 ♖b3!** ('trapping' the bishop) **1...♗f6 2 ♗e2 ♗b4 3 ♖xb4! axb4 4 a5**. The passed pawn cannot be stopped.

### 759) Diaz Moron – Martin Canfran

*Paretana 1999/00*

White can win with **1 ♗e2! ♗e4 2 ♗f2 ♗d4** (or **2...f3 3 g5 hxg5 4 hxg5 ♗f5 5 ♗xf3 ♗xg5 6 ♗e4 ♗f6 7 ♗d5 ♗e7 8 ♗c5 ♗d7 9 ♗xb5 ♗c7 10 ♗a6** and White wins) **3 ♗f3 ♗e5 4 h5**, when Black is in zugzwang and must lose the vital f4-pawn.

### 760) Ferčec – Zunić

*Zadar 1999*

**1 g5! ♗e6** (1...hxg5 2 h6 and the pawn promotes) **2 gxf6 ♗f6 3 hxg6 ♗xg6 4 a3 ♗xh6 5 b4 1-0**. The black king cannot stop White's b-pawn.

### 761) Kasparov – Shirov

*Linares 2000*

**1 ♖ab7! ♖xb7** (or **1...♖a8 2 ♖b4** and the knight is lost) **2 ♖xc8+ ♗g7 3 ♖xb7** and White won.

### 762) St. Brown – Emms

*English National Club Ch 1994/5*

First let's see the game continuation: **1 ♖c3+? ♖d3! 2 ♖xe5 ♖g6+** (now White is lost) **3 ♗f1 ♖b1+ 4 ♖e1 ♖d3+ 5 ♗g1 ♖g6+ 6 ♗f1 ♖g2# (0-1)**.

However, White could have forced a draw with **1 ♖f5+! ♗e2 2 ♖c2+ ♗e1 3 ♖c1+ ♗e2 4 ♖c2+ ♗f3 5 ♖f5+**, when Black has nothing better than to allow the perpetual check.

### 763) Ehlevest – Bologan

*Tallinn rpd 2000*

No it wasn't! Ehlevest played **2 ♗d1 ♗f6 3 ♖a1** and Black had no good answer to the threat of ♗c1. Bologan tried **3...♗xc4 4 bxc4** but White converted his material advantage into victory.

### 764) Emms – Franklin

*London (Mind Sports) rpd 1997*

I played **2 axb5** and eventually won, but **2 ♗xc6!** finishes Black off far more quickly, as after **2...bxc6 3 a5** the a-pawn cannot be stopped.

### 765) Balabaev – Ursić

*Nova Gorica 2000*

**1 ♖e8+ ♖xe8 2 ♖xe8+ ♗h7 3 ♖e4!** (the king and pawn ending is winning for White) **3...♗g6 4 c5! ♖xe4 5 fxe4 ♗f6 6 d6! cxd6 7 cxb6 1-0**

### 766) Lobron – Blatny

*Erevan OL 1996*

**1...♗xb6! 2 ♗xb6 ♗c7!** (obviously not **2...axb6 3 a7** and the pawn promotes, but Black shows that the knight does not need to be taken) **3 ♗d5+ ♗b8 4 ♗b5 ♗a8 5 ♗c6 ♗b8** (White can make no progress as the black king cannot be forced out of the corner – it's a positional draw) **6 ♗b6 axb6 7 ♗xb6 ♗a8 8 a7 1/2-1/2**

### 767) De Vreugt – Malakhov

*Lausanne blitz 2000*

**1...c4!** traps the bishop on d3.

### 768) Short – M. Gurevich

*British League (4NCL) 1999/00*

**1...♗xd5!** (the king and pawn ending is drawn) **2 ♗xd5 ♗d7 3 c6+ ♗c7 4 ♗c5 ♗b8!** (4...♗d8 also draws, but 4...♗c8? loses to 5 ♗d6 ♗d8 6 a4 a5 7 ♗c5!) **5 ♗d6** (or **5 a4 ♗c7 6 a5 ♗b8 =**) **5...♗c8 6 c7 a6! 7 ♗c6** (7 a4 a5 doesn't help) **7...a5 8 ♗b6 a4 9 ♗c6 1/2-1/2**

### 769) Eingorn – Bobrowska

*Bydgoszcz 2000*

Yes. The game ended **1...h5? 2 ♗h2 ♗c3 3 ♗g2 ♗e5 4 ♗g1 1/2-1/2** since ...h4 is answered by g4 and ...g5-g4 is met by h4. However, Black could have won by **1...♗g5! 2 ♗f1 ♗h5 3 ♗g2 g5 4 ♗h2 g4 5 h4 ♗c3 6 ♗g2 ♗f6 7 ♗h2 ♗xh4 8 g4 ♗xh4 9 ♗g2 h5 10 ♗h2 ♗g5 11 ♗g2 h4 12 ♗h2 h3 13 ♗g3 ♗h5 14 ♗h2 ♗h4**, etc.

### 770) R. Vasquez – Rozentalis

*Elista OL 1998*

**1...♖g5!** (but not **1...♗xg2? 2 ♗c1!**, when White fights on) **0-1**. Black wins after **2 ♗e4**