

Award of Julia's Fairies, 2021/II

Another year, another fine set of problems in JF! This time there were only 37 entries, excluding 2 versions and No.1630 by the judge. Despite the smaller number, the quality of the problems was high and I have included around 65% of them in the award. The "likes" (♥), current up to 31-Dec, showed a propensity towards the popular and easily understood themes and fairy types! Different

schools of composition were well represented: Classical (single-phase!), Modern (multi-phase and cycles!), New-German (logical), Retro (Castling!) and even Bohemian (model mates!), in addition to the usual strategic complexes of current helpmates and helpselfmates.

As before, some statistics:

Julia's Fairies 2021/II										
Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	т	atal	е	able on	end
11	4	5	5	2	10		Jiai			
Problems						37		Priz	Honour Menti	u u
Composers						34				- E
Countries						- 1	21			Ŭ
Goal: Mate (#)							62 %	4	5	5
Goal: Stalemate (=)						3	8 %			2
Goal: Help Selfmate (HS#)						10	27%	4	3	1
Goal: En Passant (e.p)						1	3%			
Play: Direct						11	30 %	2	4	4
Play: Help						22	59 %	6	4	3
Play: Series						4	11%			1
With Fairy Pieces						12	32%	5	2	2
Without Fairy Pieces						25	68 %	3	6	6
With Fairy Pieces only						7	19 %	4	1	
With Fairy Conditions						23	62 %	3	6	6
Without Fairy Conditions						14	38%	5	2	2
With Fairy Conditions only						18	49 %	2	5	4
With both Fairy Pieces and Conditions						5	14%	1	1	2
With neither Fairy Pieces nor Conditions						7	19 %	1	1	2
Tanagra (5 pieces)						2	5 %			
Miniature (6-7 pieces)						4	11%		2	1
Gravure (8-10 pieces)						3	8 %			2
Meredith (11-12 pieces)						6	16%		2	3
Others (>12 pieces)							59 %	8	4	2
Selected							65 %	8	8	8
Not Selected							35%	22%	22%	22%

My congratulations to all the composers and my apologies to those whose problems were not selected. My thanks to Julia for inviting me again and my salutes for all her hard work in JF and WFCC! The table above and the diagrams in the award are hyperlinked to their original JF pages to facilitate easy viewing of the solution animations.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy New Year!

N.Shankar Ram Bangalore January 2022



1.Gxe3 LEd7 (A) 2.NHe6 LExb7# (B) 1.NHf6 LExb7+ (B) 2.Kxf5 LEh3# (C) 1.VAxd5 LEh3 (C) 2.Gg3 LExh7# (D) 1.NHd2 LExh7+ (D) 2.Kxe3 LEb3# (E) 1.VAxf5 LEb3 (E) 2.NHc4 LExe1# (F) 1.NHxd6 LExe1+ (F) 2.Kxd5 LEd7# (A)

An extension of the standard 2x2 HOTF to two sets of 3 matching solutions each. All the solutions being linked by a 6-fold cycle of white moves. One set showing capture of a white Leo and hurdle creation. The other showing distant self blocks and BK Y flights capturing a white Leo for the second time. A great task done with excellent construction. The few technical black fairy pieces are acceptable, considering the magnitude of the achievement.



 $\label{eq:linear} \begin{array}{l} 1...hRf4=nhR \ 2.hNa8(B) \ hGxa8 \rightarrow c4(W) \ 3.Kxc4 \rightarrow c1 \ hCAxf4 \rightarrow f2(W) \# \\ 1...hRg5=nhR \ 2.hGh4+(B) \ hCAxh4 \rightarrow d4(W) \ 3.Kxd4 \rightarrow c1 \ hNxg5 \rightarrow g3(W) \# \\ 1...hRh4=nhR \ 2.hCAd8(B) \ hNxd8 \rightarrow e5(W) \ 3.Kxe5 \rightarrow c1 \ hGxh4 \rightarrow f4(W) \# \\ \end{array}$

Complete abc/bca/cab cycle of function changes between the Half-neutral N/G/CA. The 5 half-moves in each solution show half-neutral colour changes at every move except B3 and T&M piece movements in the last 3. The BK reaches c1 by 3 different routes. Two of the four HN pieces are captured on W2 and B3, while the HN R is captured by the last HN piece to deliver mate. Fine economy, with just the four HN pieces available for white.

2nd Prize



a) $1.Sxc5 \rightarrow c3 Qxc3 \rightarrow e2+ 2.Kxe2 \rightarrow a6 Rxe4 \rightarrow d6 3.Bxf2 \rightarrow a7 Bxa4 \rightarrow c4\#$ b) $1.Sxf2 \rightarrow e3 Qxe3 \rightarrow g4+ 2.Kxg4 \rightarrow g7 Bxe4 \rightarrow c3 3.Rxh4 \rightarrow h6 Rxe1 \rightarrow g3\#$

The theme of the 2021 Tzuica TT. 3 Pelle movement pairs (WSd3-c3/e3, BRe5-d6/g3, BBc6-c4/c3) with all 12 moves being T&M captures. The motivation for the WS Pelle moves is to provide a capture for the BQ which in turn provides a capture for the WK to enable it to move to its mating square. The motivation for the BB/BR Pelle moves is to set up and fire reciprocal B/R batteries.



4th Prize

1.LEb6! ~ 2.LEg1+ VAxg5 3.EQf1# 1...Sc4/b5 2.LEg6+ e3 3.EQd3# 1...VAxg5 2.EQf1+ Sb5 3.LEg1# 1...e3 2.EQd3+ ~ 3.LEg6# 1...PA~1 2.EQh5+ ~ 3.LEe3# 1...LEa6 2.EQf7+ ~ 3.LEd4#

Three pairs of battery/anti-battery variations featuring the white Leo and Equihopper. In the threat and 1st defence, the white Leo sets up an anticipatory anti-battery on the 1st rank and the diagonal g6-b1. In the second pair, the white moves are reversed with the Equihopper firing the Leo battery b6-b1. The third pair features "anti-unpins" by the black Leo and Pao, allowing the white Equihopper to move to the h-file and 7th rank, followed by an anti-battery mate by the white Leo. The 1st and 3rd pairs together also show the Zabunov theme (the firing piece of a battery becomes the rear piece of another battery) with reciprocal anti-batteries.



a) 1.VAd3 Sd5 2.PAxh6 LEc6 3.LEb8 LEb7# b) 1.LEh6+ Sg4 2.LEb5 LEg5 3.VAh7 LEg6#

Another example of the Tzuica 2021 TT, also with 3 Pelle movement pairs (VAf5-d3, LEb7-c6, LEc6-b7 and LEb6-b5, LEg6-g5, LEg5-g6). The last 3 half-moves also shows the Klasinc theme (Line opening for another piece followed by switchback). The white Pelle moves guard the BK flight f1. The BK flights on h1/h2/h3 are guarded by the PAc6 or LEg5 moving to h6, which also pin the BS on d5/g4. The twinning mechanism forces the order of the W1/W2 moves with an exchange of the corresponding W1/W2 motifs: In a) only the PAc6 can go to h6, which is possible only after 1...Sd5, so white plays the Pelle move 1.VAd3 first. In b) only the LEg5 can go to h6, and it has to be played immediately to prevent selfcheck by 1...Sg4.



1.LIb3 (Pc4 \rightarrow a2) Rd5 2.VAxd5 (Bf7 \rightarrow e6) LId7 (Be6 \rightarrow c8) 3.PAxd6 (VAd5 \rightarrow d3)+ LIxd3 (PAd6 \rightarrow d1)# / LId7xd3[PAd6-d2] # Not 4.g2-g4?? LId3xh3[LIe3-a3] which shows that wLIb3 has an essential role in the final position

1.LId7 (Pd6 \rightarrow d8) Bd5 2.PAxd5 (Rd2 \rightarrow d3) LIb3 (Rd3 \rightarrow a3) 3.VAxc4 (PAd5 \rightarrow e6)+ LIxe6 (VAc4 \rightarrow g8)# / LIb3xe6[wVAc4->f7]# Not 4.g2-g3?? LIe6xh3[LIf5-c8] which shows that wLId7 has an essential role in the final position

The Bul hoppers generate effects similar to T&M, with pieces flying all over the board. Petkov's "shifted Indian", requiring a critical move by the rear piece, followed by a two-step move of the front piece is condensed here into a single Bul hop on black's second move. In addition, there are double checks met with double checks, exchange of roles between the white PA/VA, BR/BB and the two black Lions, line openings by the BPs on c4/d6, and perfect ODT (right down to the dual movements of the white Vao and Pao to e1/e2 and f7/g8!).



7th Prize

1...Be7 b 2.Bxe7 [-c6]# B

1.Bc2+? Rxf6 [-c2]!

1.Bg7? A ~ 2.Bxf8 [-c6]# 1...Bxg7 [-f5] a 2.Qg4# C 1...Be7 b 2.Bc2# D 1...dxe5 [-d5] 2.Qd1# 1...dxe5 [-f7]!

1.Be7! B ~ 2.Bxf8 [-c6]# 1...Bg7 a 2.Bc2# D 1...Bxe7 [-f5] b 2.Qg4# C 1...dxe5 [-f7] 2.Ra3# 1...dxe5 [-d5] 2.Qd1# 1...Bb5 2.Bxf8 [-b5]# 1...Bxd7 2.Bxd7 [-f8]#

3x2 Zagoruyko over set/try/key with reciprocal change between try and key and the set mates reappearing as the try and key. The Breton Adverse condition is well used in all the variations, to create line openings for the mates by white, and after black unguards a white piece – the capture of which would have stopped a mate.



8

1.Bh5 Bg1 2.Bxf7 Rf2 3.Kxa7 Rg8 4.Ra6+ Rxf7# 1.Rf6 Rh5 2.Rf2 Bg5 3.Kxa5 Rxa3 4.Ba6+ Bd2#

Mutual peri-critical play (Herlin) by WB/WR and mutual critical play (Indian) by BB/BR. In both cases to form batteries aimed at both the Ks. Plus two WK flights, battery checks and selfblocks on a6 by WR/WB, and battery double check mates by BR/BB.

1st Honourable Mention



1...nhQxe4=bhQ+ 2.nhRxe4=whR# 1...nhRxc3=bhR 2.nhQxe4=whQ# 1...hRxa6=nhR+ 2.nhRa4=whR# 1...hRb5=nhR 2.nhRb4=whR#

4 pairs of related variations, all using half-neutral pieces. The first two doubling the theme of the Superproblem 232 TT (A half-neutral piece is moved twice by black to defend, and twice by white to mate).



Reciprocal change in Meredith form, using an Anti-Mars specific mechanism. In the try, the WR and WQ do not observe a6 and d7, but they can move to these squares via their home squares, after the BS unguards these squares. Dual avoidance is achieved by the BS blocking each square. After the key, the WQ and WR cannot move to a6 and d7 through their home squares, but they observe a6 and d7 directly and so can capture on them after the BS arrives there. The try and key also utilise the fairy condition and show a reversal of white 1st move and threat. The BS defences also utilise the condition to move to a6 and d7 to prevent the threats via g8-f6.



Main Plan: 1.b4 axb4[+wPb2]# ? 1...cxb4 ep. (+Pb2)!

1.g4 ? 1...fxg4 (+Pg2) 2.Be2 ! g3 3.b4 axb4 (+Pb2)# 1...c3 !

Fore Plan: 1.b4 !! 1...cxb4 ep. (+Pb2) 2.Bxb3 (+Pb7) (Kxb3/axb3?) bxc6 (+Rh1) 3.Rh6 cxd5 (+Pd2) 4.Bc4+ ! dxc4 (+Bf1)

Main Plan: 5.b4 axb4 (+Pb2)# Byplay: 1...c3 2.Bb3 c2 3.Bc1 f4 4.Rf6 ! f3 5.gxf3 (+Pf7) axb4 (+Pb2)#

En Passant refutation of main plan is overcome by a maneuver involving allowing the e.p capture, followed by Circe rebirths of both W & B Ps and a return to the initial position. But now main plan works due to rebirth of the WB on f1 which pins the BP.

3rd Honourable Mention



1.Qd4 (a) Rc4 2.Qf4 (b) exf4 3.Rf1+ Bxf1# 1.Rf4 (b) Bd5 2.Rd4 (a) exd4 3.Qd2+ Rxd2#

Line opening, Sacrifice, Exchange of functions between WQ/WR and BR/BB, Exchange of arrival squares of W1 and W2, Changed guards of c3 (BR/BP) and e4 (BR/BB), ODT: all achieved in a perfect miniature setting.



1.Bc6 dxc6 \rightarrow a8=S 2.Rb6 cxb6 \rightarrow b8=B# 1.Sc6 dxc6 \rightarrow b8=S 2.Sb6 cxb6 \rightarrow a8=B#

A Meredith position, showing Reciprocal S/B promotions on a8/b8 with 4 black sacrifices on b6 and c6 and battery mate from Bf2. The BK flights on a8/b8 can only be prevented by blocking them with promoted pieces. Promotions to Q/R allow the BK to capture them and move away. Only promotions to B/S work and their order is forced with some intricate logic.

5th Honourable Mention



Set: 1...Gxd6 \rightarrow d2 (f1=rR) 2.rRd1 Re2 3.rRxd2 \rightarrow f2 (b7=rG) rGb2# 1...Gxd6 \rightarrow f6 (f1=rR) 2.rRxf6 \rightarrow d4 (b7=rG) Ra5 3.rRb4+ Rb5#

1.Kf2 (tempo) Gxd6 \rightarrow f6 (f2=rR) (Gxd6-d2?) 2.rRxf6 \rightarrow d4 (b7=rG) Ra5 (R~?) 3.rRb4+ Rb5# 1.Kg1 (tempo) Gxd6 \rightarrow d2 (g1=rR) (Gxd6-f6?) 2.rRd1 Re2 3.rRxd2 \rightarrow f2 (b7=rG) rGb2# 1.Rc6 Kxc6 \rightarrow c4 (f1=rR) (Kxc6-c3?) 2.rRa1 Ga3 3.rRxa3 \rightarrow a5 (c4=rG) rGa2#

The two set solutions are separated by the WK tempo moves and a new solution is added. All the solutions show Madrasi style paralysis of the WK converted to a R and mates by the BK converted to a G. In each solution, there are two captures which utilise T&M and also do the Kobul King conversion. A perfectly balanced blend of 3 different fairy elements in a miniature!

6th Honourable Mention

No. 1638 Bruno Kampmann & **Michel Caillaud** France original - 30.07.2021 Ŵ Ŷ 费 ģ ¥ 贫 ŧ İ ŝ ĝ ŧ ŝ Ŧ ĝ Ť ŝ #3 12+8 **Breton Chromatique** 5

Black is in stalemate in the diagram position. 1.Qe7? z 1...Qd8 (Q~) 2.Qd7# 1...Qxe7 [e7=w]! 2.Qe8# 1...Qxc7! 2.Qd7+ Kd5!

1.e4! z 1...fxe4 [e6=w] 2.h8=Q e3 3.Qxd7 [h8=b]# 1...fxe4 [b4=w] 2.h8=R e3 3.Rxc5 [h8=b]# 1...fxe4 [a6=w] 2.h8=B e3 3.Bxb7 [h8=b]# 1...fxe4 [e4=w] 2.Qe7 Qd8 (Q~) 3.Qd7# 2...Qxe7 [e7=w] 3.Qe8#

Promotion to Q/R/B on h8 after the BP capture on e4 changes the colour of the BPs on e6/b4/a6. The WPs on these squares guard d7/c5/b7 and allow white to mate by capturing on these squares. The colour of the mating piece is retained by opting to change the colour of the newly promoted piece on h8 instead.

7th Honourable Mention



8th Honourable Mention

a) 1.h8=R+ Bc8 2.Qa1+ Qxa1 (+Qd1)# b) 1.e8=S g5 2.Qb1+ Qxb1 (+Qd1)# c) 1.h8=B Bf5 2.Qc1+ Qxc1 (+Qd1)#

3 underpromotions by white to facilitate Circe Assassin specific mates of the WK. In these mates, the BQ cannot be captured, as after its rebirth on d8, it can capture a white piece which could be reborn on the square occupied by the WK, "assassinating" it.



1.Kb6 Kb8 2.Kc6 Kc8 3.Kd6 Kd8 4.Ke5 Ke8 5.Kf4 Kf7 6.Kg3 Kg8 7.Kh2 Kxh7 8.Kg2 Kxg7 9.Kf2 Kxf6 10.Ke2 Kxe6 11.Kd2 Kxd5 12.Kc1 Kxc5 13.Kb2 Kxb5 14.Sd2 Kxa5 (+Pa2) 15.Sb3+ Kxb4 16.Kb1 Kxb3 17.Ka1 Kc2 =

A WK Rex Solus, showing a total of 4 edge to edge trips (a-file \rightarrow h-file, h-file \rightarrow a-file) by the Ks, 10 captures by the WK and 8 rebirth square blocks by the BK preventing 9 rebirths.

1st Commendation



2nd Commendation

1.dxe3 2.Kd2 3.Kc1 (+Pd2) 4.dxc3 5.Kd2 6.Kxd1 (+Pd2) 7.d4 8.Kd2 9.Ke2 (+Pd2) 10.d3#

A white K+P Minimal, showing consecutive WP4 type moves from d2, all with different WPs.

No. 1658 Gerhard Maleika Germany original - 09.10.2021 ŝ ĝ ġ Ï ĝ 贫 ٣ E ŵ Ŵ ¢ 10+2 =2 vvv

3nd Commendation

• 4

1.Rb8? Bc8/Bf7/Bg8 2.Rbxc8/f8/g8= 1...Bd5! 1.Rh8? Bc8/Bf7/Bg8 2.Rhxc8/f8/g8= 1...Bxg4! 1.a8=Q? Bc8/Bf7/Bg8 2.Qxc8/f8/g8= 1...Bd7! 1.a8=R! Bc8/Bf7/Bg8 2.Raxc8/f8/g8= 1...Ba2+/Bb3/Bc4/Bd5/Bxg4/Bf5+/Bd7 2.Kxa2/Rxb3/Sxc4/Rxd5/Rxg4/gxf5/Rxg8=

Grab theme with 4-phase change of stalemating moves after 3 moves of the black Bishop. Plus 6 more grabs of the BB in the byplay.

9 5

1.Bc5+? (BRG flight b5) Be5! (Closes BRG line f5-b5)

1.Bxf7+? Kxf7+ 2.Rf3! (Closes WRG line e2-h5)

1.Rh2! (unguards f3, guards h3)

~ 2.Bxf7+ (BRG flight f7) rGxf7# (WRG flight h5) 1...Rb3 (closes line a2-f7 preventing Bxf7, Closes line a2-d5. d5 now a flight for BRG so now Bc5+ works as Be5 not possible, Provides new defence Rb5 [which blocks BRG flight] for Bc5+, which however gives flight a6 for WRG) 2.Bc5+ Rb5# 1...Sxf8 (blocks f8 flight for BRG. Now, 2.Bxf7+ Bf6~! removes flight h8

for BRG so that it can move to h3) 2.Rxh3+ (BRG flight h3) rGxh3# (WRG flight h5)

Complicated motivations for every move in the try, threat and the two variations. The Brunner-Dresden New-German theme is shown for the defence 1...Be5. I hope the detailed solution given here will help more viewers to understand and look at more SAT+Royal G problems!

4th Commendation



Doubling in Meredith, of both King side and Queen side castlings. Both the castlings are not initially possible as it cannot be proved that BK/BR have not moved (one them should have moved). But after capture and rebirth of the BR on a8/h8, the castlings are now possible with the freshly reborn BR!



A white Rex Solus position, with a combination of Double Gs and Breton Chromatique Inverse to show 3 different model mates in the full length variations and 3 more in the short length ones.



Main Plan: 1.Rh2+? Qh4 2.Qxh4 (+Qd8)+ Kg6 3.Qf6+ Qxf6 (+Qd1)+ 4.K~

1.Qg6+! Kh4 2.Rg4+ Kh3 3.Qh7+ Kxg4 (+Rh1) 4.Qf5+ Kg3 5.Rh3+ Kg2 6.Qf2+ Kxf2 (+Qd1) 7.Rh2+ Ke3 8.Qd2+ Kf3 9.Qg2+ Ke3 10.Qf2+ Kd3 11.Qc2+ Ke3 12.Qc3+ Sxc3 (+Qd1) 13.Qd2+ Kf3 14.Qd3+ Kg4 15.Rg2+ Kh5 16.Qg6+ Kh4 17.Qg3+ Kh5 and now Main Plan 18.Rh2+ Qh4 19.Qxh4 (+Qd8)+ Kg6 20.Qf6+ Qxf6 (+Qd1)#

(15...Kh4 16.Qg3+ Kh5 17.Rh2+ Qh4 18.Qxh4 (+Qd8)+ Kg6 19.Qf6+ Qxf6 (+Qd1)#)

(7...Kg3 8.Qg1+ Kf3 9.Qg2+ etc..)

Familiar long range maneuvers to get the BS to c3, and a return of other pieces to the diagram position.



1...d1=R 2.Sb6 Rg1 3.Sc4 Rg7 4.Rg5 Qf6 5.Rg1+ Rxg1# 1...d1=B 2.Rd5 Bb3 3.Rd2 Bg8 4.Sc5 Qf8 5.Sb3+ Bxb3#

Two underpromotions followed by battery formations of the BQ and the promoted piece, and an exchange of functions between the WSd7 and the WR.