

Bd3xh7+ and Nf3-g5+ followed by Qd1-h5. In every exercise today, White can play Bd3xh7+. The **question for each of today's puzzles is** whether White **should** play Bxh7+, and to figure out why it does (or does not work).

In our **example**, White erred with a mistimed Gift: **11. Bxh7+?? Kxh7 12. Ng5+ Kg8 13. Qh5** missing that Black can defend the h7-square with **13. ... Qd3!**, when they are up a piece. Instead, Black played 13.

... Nc2+?? As a **BONUS**, can you find which move wins for White here?



### GREEK GIFTS AND TRAGEDIES

When Black does not play sharp against the Alapin, White can often push e4-e5 and play Bf1-d3 to prepare the **Greek Gift** with

**# 1. WHITE TO PLAY**

A B C D E F G H

**# 2. WHITE TO PLAY**

A B C D E F G H

**# 3. WHITE TO PLAY**

A B C D E F G H

**# 4. WHITE TO PLAY**

A B C D E F G H

**# 5. WHITE TO PLAY**

A B C D E F G H

**# 6. WHITE TO PLAY**

A B C D E F G H

### SOLUTIONS

**1) 11. Bxh7+??** is wrong. The h7-square can be protected by **11. ... Kxh7 12. Ng5+ Kg8 13. Qh5 Bf5!** (ElisabethSchni – atreusvallhalla, *Lichess.org*, 2023) **2) 17. Bxh7+??** is wrong, as the queen can cover h7 after **17. ... Kxh7 18. Ng5+ Kg8 19. Qh5 Qd3!** (uu1422 – RG\_13, *Lichess.org*, 2023) **3) 11. Bxh7+!** This works! **11. ... Kxh7 12. Ng5+ Kg8** Although 12. ... Kg6 is more resistant, White's best play is: **13. Qg4 f5 14. exf6! Kxf6**

**15. Nce4+! Ke7** and many moves win, including **16. Nh7. 13. Qh5 Re8 14. Qxf7+ Kh8 15. Qh5+ Kg8 16. Qh7+ Kf8 17. Qh8+** (scan-dimalo – AngieTm, *Lichess.org*, 2023) **4) 11. Bxh7+ Kxh7 12. Ng5+ Kg8** While 12. ... Kh6 is tricky, White has **13. f5!** to reintroduce discovered checks! **13. Qh5 Bxg5 14. hxg5 f5** Did you expect this? Luckily, White "closes the coffin" with: **15. g6!** (rnav30z – Neidberg, *Lichess.org*, 2023) **5) 11. Bxh7+? Kxh7 12. Ng5+ Kg6! 13. Qg4?**

Even **13. h4** is too slow, as **13. ... Kf6! 14. Ne4+ Ke7** survives. **13. ... f5 14. Qh4 Rh8!** (kuanysh\_zharkinbekov – hessam\_wv, *Lichess.org*, 2023) **6) 13. Bxh7+?? Kxh7 14. Ng5+ Kg6 15. h4** is dangerous, but Black is up material after **15. Qg4 f5**; or **15. Qe4+ f5 16. Qh4 Rh8!** **15. ... Rh8!** as to meet **16. h5+** with **16. ... Rxh5 17. Qg4 Rxc5!** Winning. (catur1975 – sh\_gr, *Lichess.org*, 2023) **BONUS) 14. Ke2!** Not **14. Kf1? Qd3+** as in the game. (Primator – ylukin1973, *Lichess.org*, 2023)