

Lost Cause

ANSWER: ACTOR

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You can hide but you can't run.

We'll make our move and then you're done.

Want escape? There is none.

*Because, right now, it's **Mate In One***

The Black King is hidden, and it turns out there is a unique position it can be in that allows for mate in one. This king position can be indexed into the chessboard with letters to reveal a hidden phrase. The King positions and mating moves are listed below. Boards are numbered across then down.

Board	King Position	Mating Move	Letter
1	G7	Kxf5	S
2	A8	Nxc7	W
3	F5	N4e3	A
4	F8	Bd6	M
5	F1	Re1	P
6	E6	Qxf7	O
7	F6	Nd5	F
8	A4	Qxb4	S
9	F5	Qxd5	A
10	B6	Nd5	D
11	H8	Qh7	N
12	D6	Qxc6	E
13	D8	Ra8	S
14	C5	Qxd4	S

So the revealed phrase is SWAMP OF SADNESS. Googling this reveals that it is the location where the **horse**, Artax, **dies** in *The Neverending Story*. This hints to look at the location where the knight (which looks like a horse), is killed by the mating move.

These are:

Board 1 - F5 (A)

Board 2 - C7 (R)

Board 6 - F7 (C)

Board 12 - C6 (H)

Giving us the final answer of **ARCH!**