

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0168:
"Playing a 3NT Contract as Declarer
When There Is a '*Dangerous*' Suit,
Along With a Dash of the '*Rule of 7*'"**

Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen¹

To return to the "Esther Bridge Lessons," CLICK:

<https://esther-bridge.com/index.html>

To return to the "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quizzes", CLICK:

<https://esther-bridge.com/quiz.html>

Esther on her "**Esther Bridge Lessons**" website has previously recommended the "**BBO Bridge Master**" website:

<https://www.bridgebase.com/v3/anon/bridgemaster>

The "**BBO Bridge Master**" website allows you to declare your skill level, then shows a series of Hands and announces the final contract, each of which you then play as Declarer. At the end of play you can then request a solution in which the optimal "Line of Play" is discussed step by step. The present "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quiz" question is drawn from "**BBO Bridge Master**" Level-2 **Lesson D-07**. Note that across repeated play "**BBO Bridge Master**" may change some Hands in given lessons. Esther may have altered some cards in some Hands.

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¹ As noted in an article in the Winter/Spring, 2024 article in The American Bridge Teachers' Association (ABTA) Journal, https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/ABTA_1_24.pdf, Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen in fact is a hypothetical, and not a real person! So this article was really, really written by Bruce Thompson.

Dealer: **SOUTH**

Board D-07, Level 2

NORTH (10)

S: A 5 2

H: A 6

D: Q 4 3 2

C: 5 4 3 2

WEST (6)

S: K T 8 7

H: K 5 4 3

D: 8 7

C: 9 8 6

EAST (7)

S: Q 9

H: J T 9 8 7

D: T 9 8 5

C: A 7

SOUTH (17)

S: J 6 4 3

H: Q 2

D: A K J T

C: K Q J

Bidding

SOUTH

WEST

NORTH

EAST

1NT

PASS

3NT

PASS

PASS

PASS

WEST holds no "touching Suit Honors. So on Trick #1 WEST leads 4th from the "top" of his "longest and strongest" Suit, Spades, where holds the K,T.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy comes "down" what "winners" can Declarer SOUTH see?
2. What is the most "dangerous" Suit that must most concern Declarer SOUTH?
3. What cards should Declarer SOUTH play on Trick #1?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0168_a1.pdf