

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0203:
"When Playing a 'Difficult' 3NT Contract
And You Have 2 *Unlikely* But Necessary
'Lines of Play', You Gotta Do What You Gotta Do
If These Are Your Only Choices!"**

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 C-29**. 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, the purported ACBL Double Triple Emerald Gold Platinum LifeMaster with 20+ million ACBL MasterPoints, in fact is a hypothetical, and not a real person! So, this article was really, really written by Bruce Thompson.

BBO Bridge Master Level 2 Lesson C-29

Dealer: **SOUTH**

NORTH (6)

S: 4 2
H: 5
D: Q T 8 7 6
C: A T 9 8 7

WEST (7)

S: Q J T 9
H: 7 6 4
D: J 9 5 4
C: K 5

EAST (9)

S: K 8 7 6 5
H: Q J T 9 8
D: K
C: 6 4

SOUTH (18)

S: A 3
H: A K 3 2
D: A 3 2
C: Q J 3 2

Bidding

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 C	PASS	2 C	PASS
3 NT	PASS	PASS	PASS

WEST leads the Spade Queen on Trick #1 thus "promising" "long" Spades either the Spade Q,J,T or a Spade "tenace" (i.e., (Q,J,T,x or Q,J,9,x,x).

1. Once the Dummy comes down what should Declarer SOUTH play on Trick #1?
2. What "Danger Suit(s)" does Declarer SOUTH see? What "Danger Player(s)" does Declarer SOUTH see?
3. What "winners" can Declarer SOUTH see?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0203_a1.pdf