

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0233:**  
**"When as Declarer You Face a 'Danger Opponent':**  
**Another BBO Bridge Master Opportunity to**  
**Practice an 'Elimination Endplay'"**

**Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen<sup>1</sup>**

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>

The present "**Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quiz**" used a "**BBO Bridge Master**" example Board to illustrate the execution of an "**Elimination Endplay**". 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-3 **Lesson C-28**. 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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<sup>1</sup> 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](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 3 Lesson C-28**

Dealer: **SOUTH**

NORTH (9)

**S:** K T 8 7 4  
**H:** 4 2  
**D:** A Q  
**C:** 5 4 3 2

WEST (11)

**S:** Q J 9  
**H:** K J T 9  
**D:** K J T 9 8  
**C:** T

EAST (0)

**S:** --  
**H:** 8 7 6 5 3  
**D:** 7 6 5 4  
**C:** 9 8 7 6

SOUTH (20)

**S:** A 6 5 3 2  
**H:** A Q  
**D:** 4 2  
**C:** A K Q J

**Bidding**

| SOUTH      | WEST | NORTH      | EAST |
|------------|------|------------|------|
| 1 <b>S</b> | PASS | 3 <b>S</b> | PASS |
| 6 <b>S</b> | PASS | PASS       | PASS |

On Trick #1 WEST leads the Club Ten, either the "top" of a "touching" card sequence, or the "top" of a Club doubleton, or a Club singleton. Declarer SOUTH "wins" Trick #1 in his "closed" Hand with his Club Ace.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed Declarer SOUTH can see that N/S together hold  $5 + 5 = 10$  Trump Spades. E/W together hold  $13 - 10 = 3$  Trump Spades. What is the most likely E/W Trump "split"?
2. If the Trump Spades "split" 2-1 what will determine whether Declarer SOUTH can "make" his 4**S** contract? If the Trump Spades "split" 3-0 what will determine whether Declarer SOUTH can "make" his 4**S** contract?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:  
[https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0233\\_a1.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0233_a1.pdf)