

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0253:  
"Playing a Suit Contract as Declarer: Can a  
'Loser-on-Loser' Play Save Declarer's Day?"**

**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>

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-4 **Lesson A-16**. 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 4 Lesson A-16**

Dealer: **WEST**

NORTH (8)

**S:** A K T  
**H:** 8 7 6 4  
**D:** J 3 2  
**C:** 6 5 3

WEST (13)

**S:** Q J 9 8 6  
**H:** A 3 2  
**D:** 8  
**C:** K Q J T

EAST (4)

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

SOUTH (15)

**S:** 3 2  
**H:** K Q J T 9  
**D:** A K Q T  
**C:** 4 2

**Bidding**

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
<b>1S</b>	PASS	<b>2S</b>	<b>3H</b>
PASS	<b>4H</b>	PASS	PASS
PASS			

On Trick #1 WEST leads the Club King which "wins". On Trick #2 WEST switches to a Diamond lead.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed what "losers" can Declarer SOUTH see?
2. How should Declarer SOUTH interpret WEST's switch to Diamonds on Trick #2?
3. What should Declarer SOUTH lead on Trick #3? Should SOUTH begin to "draw" Trump?
4. How can Declarer SOUTH "dump" 1 of the 2 Club "losers" in his own "closed" Hand?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:  
[https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0253\\_a1.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0253_a1.pdf)