

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0261:  
" 'BBO Bridge Master' Let's You Repeatedly  
Practice the Bridge 'Elimination Endplay'  
Which Can Often Help You  
Whenever Things Look Desperate  
for Your Suit Contract"**

**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:

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As noted in Esther's web posting, "**Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Duplicate Bridge!**"<sup>2</sup>, the "**Elimination Endplay**" was popularized by **George Sturgis Coffin** (1903 - 1994) who in 1932 published the first of numerous editions of his hugely influential bridge book, Endplays: Eliminations, Squeezes, Coups. Esther has previously posted an "Esther Bridge Lesson" about the "**Elimination Endplay**":

<https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/endplay.pdf>



Often when things look desperate to you as Declarer the "**Elimination Endplay**" can come to your rescue. You "strip" your Opponents of (usually) 2 Suits, and

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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.

<sup>2</sup> See: [https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/br\\_hist.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/br_hist.pdf)

**force** an Opponent into the lead in which *any* choice the Opponent makes then works to your favor. “Esther Bridge Lesson #142”: “**Practicing the ‘Elimination Endplay’ Using BBO Bridge Master: The Declarer’s *Salvation* When He Confronts One ‘Danger Opponent’ and Things Look Bleak**” is all about the “**Elimination Endplay**”:

[https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/BBO\\_elim.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/BBO_elim.pdf)

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. Here we use the *free* “**BBO Bridge Master**” Level-4 **Lesson B-05** which gives you the opportunity to see and *repeatedly practice* running an “**Elimination Endplay**”. Esther may have altered some of the cards in the Board.

Note. The present lesson uses a Suit contract as an example but the “**Elimination Endplay**” can also be employed when you are playing as Declarer in a **NT** contract.

**BBO Bridge Master Level 4 Lesson B-05**

Dealer: **SOUTH**

NORTH (11)

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

WEST (5)

**S:** 2  
**H:** Q J T 9 8 6  
**D:** Q 7 5  
**C:** 8 6 5

EAST (12)

**S:** 4 3  
**H:** A K 7 5 4  
**D:** 9 8 6  
**C:** K Q 7

SOUTH (12)

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

**Bidding**

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 <b>S</b>	PASS	2 <b>C*</b>	PASS
2 <b>D*</b>	PASS	4 <b>S</b>	PASS
PASS	PASS		

\*N/S's 2<sup>nd</sup> bids are "showing" their Aces.

On Trick #1 WEST leads the Heart Queen, the "top" of "touching" Honors in an unbid Suit. After WEST's Heart Queen holds WEST on Trick #2 shifts to a Trump Spade lead. On Trick #3 Declarer SOUTH "draws" a 2<sup>nd</sup> Round of Trump.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed what "losers" can Declarer SOUTH see?
2. Where does Declarer SOUTH hope the "missing" Diamond Queen and Club King and Queen lie?
3. How can Declarer SOUTH play to still "make" the 4**S** contract even if all 3 of his Minor-Suit finesses fail?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:  
[https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0261\\_a1.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0261_a1.pdf)