

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0289:
"Playing a 6H Contract When You See 2 'Losers'
If You Retain the Lead:
Can a 'Strip Squeeze Play' Save You?"**

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. Here we use the *free* "**BBO Bridge Master**" Level-5 **Lesson A-03** which gives you the opportunity to see and *repeatedly practice* playing a given bridge Board.

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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 5 Lesson A-03

Dealer: **SOUTH**

NORTH (15)

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

WEST (9)

S: 3
H: 4 2
D: A J T 9 8
C: K J T 9 8

EAST (0)

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

SOUTH (16)

S: A 5 2
H: A Q J T 9 8
D: K 4
C: Q 3

Bidding

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 H	2 NT	3 C*	PASS
3 S*	PASS	4 C**	PASS
4 NT	PASS	5 H***	PASS
6 H	PASS	PASS	PASS

*These bids are showing Aces "up the line".

**This bid shows Heart "support".

***This "Roman Key Card 1430"² bid shows (1) 2 "key" cards from among the 4 Aces and the Trump Heart King and (2) not holding the Trump Heart Queen.

WEST leads the Spade 3.

1. What does WEST's Overcall bid of 2**NT** "show"?
2. Declarer SOUTH "wins" Trick #1 with the NORTH Dummy Spade Jack. On Trick #2 Declarer SOUTH leads the Trump Heart 5 from the NORTH Dummy to his own Trump Heart Ace and both EAST and WEST "follow". On Trick #3 Declarer SOUTH leads his own Trump Heart Queen, WEST follow, and EAST sluffs his Spade 6. What was WEST's initial card distribution?
3. How many "losers" should Declarer SOUTH have seen once the NORTH Dummy was exposed?

² Within the "Esther Bridge Lessons" see "Esther Convention Lesson #3: 'Roman Key Card 1430': https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/RKC_1430.pdf

4. What "Line of Play" can Declarer SOUTH follow in order to make his 6H contract?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0289_a1.pdf