

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0293:
"As Declarer Can You Protect Against an
Unlikely But Dangerous 'Split'
by Executing a '*Distribution Safety Play*'?"**

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-11** 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-11

Dealer: **EAST**

NORTH (6)

S: 5 3 2
H: 7 5 4
D: Q J 9
C: K 6 4 2

WEST (1)

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

EAST (15)

S: 9 8 7
H: A K Q
D: K T 8 7
C: Q J T

SOUTH (18)

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

Bidding*

EAST	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
1NT	DBL**	PASS	2NT
PASS	4S	PASS	PASS
PASS			

*The bidding has been altered by Esther.

N/S by Partnership Agreement are playing this **DOUBLE as (1) not a "Demand/Takeout DOUBLE" and can indeed be left "in" for penalty and (2) as being equivalent to SOUTH having opened 1NT.² All conventions (e.g., Stayman, Jacoby transfers) are "on".

WEST leads the Heart Jack thus "promising" a "long" Suit headed by 3 "touching" Honors or a tenace. E/W "cash" 2 Rounds of Hearts. On Trick #3 E/W lead a 3rd Round of Hearts and Declarer SOUTH ruffs from his "closed" (hidden) Hand.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed what "losers" can Declarer SOUTH see?
2. After 3 Tricks what does EAST's Hand hold?
3. Is there a "**Danger Player**" that must draw Declarer SOUTH's attention?

² Within the "Esther Bridge Lessons" see: "Esther Bridge Conventions Lesson #26: 7 'Not-for-Penalty' DOUBLES": <https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/double.pdf>

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0293_a1.pdf