

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0326:  
"As Declarer Playing a 6H Contract  
What is the Best Time to  
Give Up Your *Inevitable* 'Loser'?"**

**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. Here we use the *free* "**BBO Bridge Master**" Level-1 **Lesson A-06** which gives you the opportunity to see and *repeatedly practice* playing a given bridge Board. Esther may have altered some of the cards in the 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 1 Lesson A-06**

Dealer: **SOUTH**

NORTH (10)

**S:** 6 4  
**H:** 5 3 2  
**D:** 3 2  
**C:** A K Q J T 9

WEST (7)

**S:** J T 9 7  
**H:** Q J T  
**D:** Q J T 9 7  
**C:** 4

EAST (5)

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

SOUTH (18)

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

**Bidding**

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
<b>1H</b>	PASS	<b>2C</b>	PASS
<b>2S</b>	PASS	<b>3H</b>	PASS
<b>6H</b>	PASS	PASS	PASS

WEST leads the Diamond Queen as the "top" of his "touching" Diamond Honors. Declarer SOUTH "wins" trick #1 with his own Diamond Ace.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed how many "losers" can Declarer SOUTH see?
2. What is the most likely "split" of E/W 4 Trump Hearts?
3. What "Line of Play" should Declarer initially plan?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:  
[https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0326\\_a1.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0326_a1.pdf)