

## Esther "Pop" Quiz #0333:

**"As Declarer Playing a NT Contract Your *Primary* Duties Include (1) Preserving 'Entries' and (2) Taking 'Winners' 'Off the Top', When You Can!"**

**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-15** 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.

© Copyright, Bruce Thompson, 2026. All rights reserved.

---

<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-15**

Dealer: **SOUTH**

NORTH (6)

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

WEST (1)

**S:** J T 9 8 6  
**H:** 9 8 6  
**D:** T 9 8  
**C:** 4 2

EAST (12)

**S:** 7 5 4 3  
**H:** K Q J T  
**D:** K Q J  
**C:** 5 3

SOUTH (21)

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

**Bidding**

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
2 <b>C</b>	PASS	3 <b>NT</b>	PASS
PASS			
PASS			

WEST leads the Spade Jack on Trick #1 thus promising (1) "touching" Spade Honors and (2) "long" Spades.

1. What is Larry Cohen's recommended "3-Step System" for playing **NT** contracts as Declarer?
2. Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed what certain "winners" can Declarer SOUTH see?
3. What Spade **must** Declarer SOUTH play from his own "closed" (hidden) Hand on Trick #1?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:  
<https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0333 a1.pdf>