

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0354:
"The Art of 'Placing' 'Missing' Honors When
Playing a Suit Contract as Bridge Declarer"**

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-2 **Lesson B-25** 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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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 2 Lesson B-25

Dealer: **WEST**

NORTH (9)

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

WEST (14)

S: A K J T
H: 8 6
D: Q T 9 8
C: A 8 7

EAST (5)

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

SOUTH (12)

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

Bidding

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1 D	PASS	2 D	2 H
PASS	3 H	PASS	PASS
PASS			

On Trick #1 WEST leads the Spade Ace thus (1) "promising" the Spade King and (2) asking Partner EAST to "signal" whether EAST can "win" a 3rd Spade Trick either by (a) playing the Spade Queen assuming the NORTH Dummy holds 3 Spades or (b) ruffing. On this Board E/W "win" 2 Spade Tricks "off the top".

1. Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed what "losers" can Declarer SOUTH see in his own "closed" (hidden) Hand?
2. Where should Declarer SOUTH "place" the "missing" E/W Club Ace?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0354_a1.pdf