

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0356:
"When Playing a 6S DOUBLED Contract as Declarer
'Unblocking' a Long 'Side' Suit and
Taking a 'Marked Finesse' "**

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 C-21** 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.

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 C-21

Dealer: **SOUTH**

NORTH (9)

S: A 2
H: 6 5 3
D: K Q T 5 3 2
C: 3 2

WEST (1)

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

EAST (9)

S: 7 6 5 3
H: K Q J T
D: --
C: Q J T 9 7

SOUTH (21)

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

Bidding

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
2 C	PASS	3 D	PASS
3 S	PASS	4 S	PASS
6 S	PASS	PASS	DBL
PASS	PASS	PASS	

On Trick #1 WEST leads the Diamond 6. Declarer SOUTH plays "low" from the NORTH Dummy. EAST ruffs.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed what "losers" can Declarer SOUTH see in his own "closed" (hidden) Hand?
2. What card **must** Declarer SOUTH play on Trick #1?
3. What Diamond cards does Declarer know that WEST initially held?
4. What "Line of Play" should Declarer SOUTH follow after gaining the lead on any E/W return on Trick #2?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0356_a1.pdf