

## Esther "Pop" Quiz #0382:

**"As a Declarer Executing an 'Unblocking Play', a  
'Marked Finesse' Against One Opponent, and a  
'Semi-Marked Finesse' Against the 2nd Opponent"**

**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-3 **Lesson D-08** 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 3 Lesson D-08**

Dealer: **SOUTH**

NORTH (6)

**S:** A 9 8 7  
**H:** 7 5 4 3 2  
**D:** Q 5 2  
**C:** 2

WEST (8)

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

EAST (9)

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

SOUTH (17)

**S:** K Q T 2  
**H:** --  
**D:** A 3  
**C:** A K J T 9 7 5

**Bidding**

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 <b>C</b>	PASS	1 <b>H</b>	PASS
2 <b>S</b>	PASS	4 <b>S</b>	PASS
5 <b>NT</b>	PASS	6 <b>S</b>	PASS
7 <b>S</b>	PASS	PASS	PASS

On Trick #1 WEST leads his Heart King at the "top" of a "touching" card sequence.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed what "losers" can Declarer SOUTH see?
2. What opportunities does Declarer have to sluff Dummy "losers"?
3. SOUTH can "win" Trick #1 by ruffing from his own Hand. On Trick #1 with what Trump Spade card should Declarer SOUTH ruff?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:  
[https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0382\\_a1.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0382_a1.pdf)