

## Esther "Pop" Quiz #0408:

**"As a Declarer Playing a Suit Contract, Which Is Better: (1) Running an 'Unmarked Finesse' When Opponents Hold a 'Missing' King or (2) Executing a 'Loser-on-Loser Play' Against the Opponent Holding the 'Missing' King?"**

### 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-4 **Lesson D-19** 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 4 Lesson D-19**

Dealer: **SOUTH**

NORTH (8)

**S:** T 9 4 2  
**H:** 3 2  
**D:** A Q 4  
**C:** Q 8 7 6

WEST (5)

**S:** J 5 3  
**H:** Q J T 9 8  
**D:** J T 9 7  
**C:** 2

EAST (5)

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

SOUTH (22)

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

**Bidding**

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
2 <b>S</b>	PASS	1 <b>D</b>	PASS
3 <b>C</b>	PASS	3 <b>D</b>	PASS
3 <b>NT</b>	PASS	5 <b>C</b>	PASS
6 <b>C</b>	PASS	PASS	PASS

On Trick #1 WEST leads his Heart Queen thus "promising" "touching" Honors and "long" Hearts. Declarer SOUTH "wins" Trick #1 with his Heart Ace.

1. What pedagogical benefit is there for having a bridge lesson about playing a 6**C** contract?
2. Should Declarer SOUTH execute an early Diamond finesse in order to "win" 2 Diamond Tricks with the NORTH Dummy's A,Q?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:  
<https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0408 a1.pdf>