

Esther "Pop" Quiz #0453:
"As a Declarer Playing a 4S Contract and
You Are Missing the Trump Spade K,Q,J,T,x,
Can You Successfully 'Make' Your Contract?"

Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen¹

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<https://esther-bridge.com/index.html>

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About Richard Pavlicek

Richard Pavlicek (1945-) has won **11** North American Bridge Championships, including a record-setting **3** straight wins in the Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams, 1982-84, and again in 1990. He won the 1973 inaugural Grand National Teams tournament and repeated a win there in 1997. He has written or co-authored several bridge books, including with co-author William S. Root their 1981 book, Modern Bridge Conventions. From 1984 until 1990 Pavlicek was the Bridge Columnist for the Fort Lauderdale News and Sun-Sentinel. Esther particularly likes the Bridge Simulation Studies presented on his bridge website:

<https://www.rpbridge.net/rpsi.htm>

and his re-posts of his newspaper bridge columns:

<https://www.rpbridge.net/rpcr.htm>

The present "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quiz" is based on the 8/11/85 Pavlicek newspaper bridge column, "Lousy Trump Suit Gets Bum Rap".

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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.

Dealer: **WEST**

Vul: **NONE**

NORTH (11)

S: A 7 6 2

H: --

D: A 8 5 4

C: K T 8 7 5

WEST (9)

S: K 3

H: K Q J 9 8 6

D: T 7 3

C: 6 2

EAST (10)

S: Q J T

H: T 7 3

D: K J 9 6

C: Q J 9

SOUTH (10)

S: 9 8 5 4

H: A 5 4 2

D: Q 2

C: A 4 3

Bidding

WEST

2H*

PASS

PASS

NORTH

DBL

4S

EAST

PASS

PASS

SOUTH

3S

PASS

*E/W are playing a Partnership Agreement that a **2H** preempt opening bid "shows" (1) a "weak" Hand and (2) **6** Hearts including either (a) **2** of the "top" **3** Hearts or (b) **3** of the "top" **5** Hearts.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy is "exposed" what "losers" can Declarer SOUTH see?
2. What is the most-likely E/W Trump Spade "split"? How are the "missing" E/W Trump Spade cards likely to lie?
3. What "Line of Play" should Declarer initially follow?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0453_a1.pdf