

Esther "Pop" Quiz #0491:
**"As Declarer Can You Find a 'Missing' Queen for
an Overtrick That Can Have a Big Impact at
MatchPoints on Your Pair's Final Ranking?"**

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 4/22/90 Pavlicek newspaper bridge column, "Subtle Logic Helps Find a Queen".

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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: **SOUTH**

Vul: **N/S**

NORTH (11)

S: A J 8 3

H: K 9 5 2

D: K 8 2

C: T 2

WEST (8)

S: K 5

H: Q 8 7

D: 7 6 5

C: Q J 9 7 4

EAST (8)

S: T 9 7 6 2

H: --

D: J T 9 3

C: A K 8 6

SOUTH (13)

S: Q 4

H: A J T 6 4 3

D: A Q 4

C: 5 3

Bidding

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1 H	PASS	3 H	PASS
4 H	PASS	PASS	PASS

WEST leads the Club Queen thus "promising" the Club Jack. EAST sees the NORTH Dummy's Club doubleton and so on Tricks **#1** and **#2** immediately "cashes" his Club A,K. On Trick **#3** EAST "leads toward weakness" by playing his Diamond 9 and Declarer SOUTH "wins" with the NORTH Dummy's Diamond King.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy is exposed what "losers" can Declarer SOUTH see?
2. How many HCPs do E/W together hold and how are these E/W HCPs most likely distributed?
3. What are the probabilities of all the possible E/W Trump Heart "splits"?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:
https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0491_a1.pdf