

**Esther "Pop" Quiz #0196:  
"Running a 'Necessary' Finesse When You Know  
Where the 'Missing' Queen Lies  
as Well as 'Dumping' Your 'Loser' "**

**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. The present "Esther Bridge 'Pop' Quiz" question is drawn from "**BBO Bridge Master**" Level-2 **Lesson C-15**. Note that across repeated play "**BBO Bridge Master**" may change some Hands in given lessons. Esther may have altered some cards in some 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 2 Lesson C-1**

Dealer: **SOUTH**

NORTH (9)

**S:** A J T

**H:** T 9 8 7

**D:** 6 5 4 2

**C:** K J

WEST (8)

**S:** K Q 9 8 7

**H:** 4 3

**D:** Q J 9

**C:** 6 4 2

EAST (11)

**S:** 6 5 3

**H:** A

**D:** K T 8 7

**C:** A T 8 8 7

SOUTH (12)

**S:** 4 2

**H:** K Q J 6 5 2

**D:** A 3

**C:** Q 5 3

**Bidding**

SOUTH

1**H**

4**H**

WEST

PASS

PASS

NORTH

3**H**

PASS

EAST

PASS

PASS

WEST leads the Spade King on Trick #1.

1. Once the NORTH Dummy comes "down" what "losers" does Declarer SOUTH see?
2. Which "Line of Play" should Declarer SOUTH select?

To see Esther's **suggested answers**, CLICK:  
[https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0196\\_a1.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0196_a1.pdf)