West leads 4♠ against 3NT, East puts J♠.

\*\*\*

We take the lead with the king. If W has the  $A \heartsuit$ , we can easily take two  $\heartsuit$  tricks, as defenders won't have time to get to the spades. However, if ace is with E, playing hearts on the second trick will doom the contract. Note, that W is now our 'safe' opponent, as we have double spade stopper against him. Therefore, we should play the diamond from dummy before trying the hearts. If  $K \diamondsuit$  falls to W's ace, we can simply take the next trick and play  $K \heartsuit$ . Now  $A \heartsuit$  being with E is not a threat anymore. There is still danger that E has JTxxx $\diamondsuit$  together with  $A \heartsuit$  and W will return a diamond after winning with  $A \diamondsuit$ , but the chances that this is not the case are much better then simply hoping for  $A \heartsuit$  to be with W.

The complete hand:

$${}_{11} \bigstar 7 \ \bigvee \text{KQ93} \ \bigstar \text{Q982} \ \bigstar \text{KJ64}$$

$${}_{6} \bigstar \text{Q9642} \ \bigvee \text{T87} \ \bigstar \text{AT6} \ \bigstar 73 \ \ \mathbf{W} \qquad \mathbf{E} \qquad {}_{7} \bigstar \text{J853} \ \bigvee \text{AJ2} \ \bigstar \text{J753} \ \bigstar 82$$

$${}_{16} \bigstar \text{AKT} \ \bigvee \text{654} \ \bigstar \text{K4} \ \bigstar \text{AQT95}$$