

Deal 1

North Deals	♠ K 5 4
None Vul	♥ A K Q 2
	♦ A K Q J
	♣ A K

♠ J 10 9 8	♠ 7 6
♥ J 10 9 8	♥ 7 6
♦ 10 9	♦ 8 7 6 5
♣ 10 6 5	♣ Q J 9 8 7



29	♠ A Q 3 2
2 3	♥ 5 4 3
6	♦ 4 3 2
	♣ 4 3 2

West	North	East	South
	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	3 ♦	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	7 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			
7 NT by North			
Lead: ♣ Q			

Never mind the bidding. North is to play 7 NT. East leads the ♣ Q.

But there is another possibility; if the same defender holds 4 ♥s and 4 ♠s you will be able to squeeze him in those two suits.

You win the ♣ K and play ♥ A K Q to test the ♥ suit, but East discards a ♣ on the ♥ Q. (You tested ♥s first because of dummy's limited entries to the ♠ suit.)

Next play your 4 ♦ winners, discarding a ♣ from dummy. West follows twice, then starts to feel the pressure. He cannot discard the ♥ J because it is guarding your ♥ 2, and since he can see those 4 ♠s in dummy he doesn't want to discard a ♠. He discards both his ♣s, trusting East to guard that suit.

Of course if West had discarded his ♥ J you would have cashed your ♥ 2 and then taken three ♠ winners.

You just executed a Squeeze Play and you didn't even have to try.

This time it is East who holds the only Guards in both ♠s and ♥s.

You play the ♣ A and he must give up one of those Guards.

Deal 2

East Deals	♠ Q J 10 3
None Vul	♥ J 9 7 5 4
	♦ 8 6
	♣ 5 2
♠ 9 7 5	♠ A K 4
♥ Q 8 6 3	♥ —
♦ Q 7 4 2	♦ A K 5
♣ 6 4	♣ A K Q J 9 8 7
	♠ 8 6 2
4	♥ A K 10 2
4 24	♦ J 10 9 3
8	♣ 10 3



West	North	East	South
2 ♦	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
5 ♣	Pass	4 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass	7 ♣	Pass
7 ♣ by East			
Lead: ♥ K			

East is to play 7♣. South leads the ♥ K.

You have 11 sure winners in your hand and dummy's ♦ Q makes 12. Your main hope is for a 3-3 ♦ split in which case dummy's fourth ♦ will be a winner.

But there is another possibility in case the ♦s don't split. Dummy's ♥ Q is a THREAT card which is GUARDED only by South's ♥ A. If it is South who has the 4 ♦s you will be able to squeeze him.

You ruff the ♥ K and play 5 more ♣ winners, being careful not to discard a ♦ or the ♥ Q from dummy.

Play the ♠ A K and South begins to feel the heat.

But now you play the SQUEEZE card, the ♣ A. South absolutely cannot throw away his ♥ A, so he discards a ♦ instead.

Since he still has the ♥ A you know dummy's ♥ Q is useless so you discard it. Dummy's fourth ♦ has become a winner.

North holds the only Guards in both red suits, but he cannot be squeezed.

You must play from dummy BEFORE North plays, so he just matches whatever you do.

If you discard the ♥ Q North will throw his ♥ A. If you discard dummy's fourth ♦, North will throw his fourth ♦.

Deal 3

South Deals

None Vul

♠ 9 5
♥ 10 7 5 2
♦ 10 3
♣ K Q J 4 2

17
6 2
15

West North East South
Pass 6 NT Pass 1 NT

Pass
6 NT by South
Lead: ♣ K

♠ A K 7 3
♥ Q 9 3
♦ A 6 5
♣ A 8 6

N
W E
S

♠ J 10 6 2
♥ 8 4
♦ J 9 8 4
♣ 9 7 3

♠ Q 8 4
♥ A K J 6
♦ K Q 7 2
♣ 10 5

South is to play 6 NT. West leads the ♣ K.

As you see, neither of them splits. However since one defender, East in this case, holds both Guards you should be able to squeeze him.

Visualize what would happen, though, if you win the first trick and then play your 4 ♥ winners. East would play his 3 ♣s and 2 ♥s on those 5 tricks and he would not be squeezed. The problem is that you have to RECTIFY THE COUNT.

East has no problems on the first 3, he just plays his 2 ♥s and 1 ♣.

You will toss dummy's ♣ 8 and East will have to decide whether it is better for him to throw a ♠ or a ♦. He doesn't know that discarding either one is going to hand you

the contract, so he will probably discard a ♦.

Deal 4

West Deals

None Vul

♠ A J 3
♥ 7 6 4
♦ K J 6
♣ A Q 10 7

8
15
o

West	North	East	South
1 NT	2 ♥	6 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

6 NT by West
Lead: ♠ K

♠ K Q 10
♥ Q J 9 8 5 2
♦ 10 3
♣ 9 5

N
W E
S

♠ 7 4 2
♥ A K 3
♦ A Q 7 4
♣ K J 3

♠ 9 8 6 5
♥ 10
♦ 9 8 5 2
♣ 8 6 4 2

West is to play 6 NT. North leads the ♠ K.

The first thing you should do is to duck the ♠ K. If North foolishly plays another ♠ your troubles are over. But he doesn't, he plays the ♥ Q instead which you win with dummy's ♥ K.

Next play off your 4 ♦ winners, discarding a small ♥ from your hand.

Play the ♣ K, ♣ J, then over to your ♣ Q.

When you now play your ♣ A, discarding a ♠ from dummy, North is squeezed.

If he discards the ♠ T, then his ♠ Q will fall underneath your ♠ A, establishing your ♠ J.

But if he instead throws the ♥ 9, both of dummy's ♥ s will become winners.

Deal 5
 North Deals
 None Vul

♠ J 9 4 3
 ♥ 5
 ♦ 8 6 5 2
 ♣ J 10 9 4

N
 W E
S

♠ A K Q 6
 ♥ 7 4 2
 ♦ K Q J 7
 ♣ K 5

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1♣	2♥	Dbl
Pass	2 NT	Pass	6 NT
ALL	Pass		
6 NT by North			
Lead: ♥K			

North is to play 6 NT. East leads the ♥ K.

For a squeeze to operate you will need to lose one trick and the time to do that is right now. Let East hold the ♥ K and win his ♥ continuation with your ♥ A.

You might as well find out about the ♠s right now. Play the ♠ A K Q.

Too bad, East discards a ♥ on the third round of ♠s.

Play the ♦ A, then ♦ K Q.

West will follow to all three ♦s.

Play dummy's ♦ J and discard your ♥T.

If West discards the ♠ J you will cash dummy's ♠ 6, then win the last 3 ♣ tricks.

So West will no doubt throw a ♣ instead. In which case you win the last 4 ♣ tricks.

Squeezes are so very satisfying.

Deal 6East Deals
None Vul

♠ Q 5 2
♥ A 8 2
♦ Q 8 6 4
♣ K Q 2

²
13 ¹⁷
8

West

2 NT
5 ♦
Pass
6 ♦ by East
Lead: ♥ K

♠ J 9 8 6 4

♥ 9 5 3

♦ 10

♣ J 8 6 3

W	N
E	S

♠ A
♥ J 7 4
♦ A K J 9 7 5
♣ A 7 4

♠ K 10 7 3
♥ K Q 10 6
♦ 3 2
♣ 10 9 5

North

Pass
Pass
Pass

East

1 ♦
4 ♦
6 ♦

South

Pass
Pass
Pass

East is to play 6 ♦. South leads the ♥ K.

At first things look hopeless, but remember this is a lesson on squeeze plays. From the opening lead you know that South must hold the ♥ Q. If he also holds the ♠ K you will be able to squeeze him in ♥s and ♠s.

You let the ♥ K win, (hoping he will play another ♥), but he plays a small trump instead which you win in your hand.

Then take your 3 ♣ winners, ending in your hand.

Discard the ♠ 5 from dummy on the third ♦.

But when you play the ♦ 7 he is squeezed.

He cannot dump his ♠ K because you would throw the ♥ 8 and dummy would be high.

So he will discard the ♥ T instead. At this point you know that the ♠ Q is worthless so you discard it. You win the final two tricks with the ♥ A and ♥ J.

Deal 7

East Deals	♠ A K J
None Vul	♥ K 7 3
	♦ A 6 5 2
	♣ 8 6 4
♠ 6 5 4 2	♠ Q 10 9 3
♥ J	♥ 10 5 4
♦ 9 8 4 3	♦ K J 10
♣ J 10 9 3	♣ A K Q

15	♠ 8 7
2 15	♥ A Q 9 8 6 2
8	♦ Q 7
	♣ 7 5 2

West	North	East	South
		1 NT	2 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			
4 ♥ by South			
Lead: ♣ J			



South is to play 4 ♥. West leads the ♣ J. East wins ♣ A K Q then switches to a trump.

You must win the next T tricks but you only have 9 winners.

East opened 1 NT, showing 15-17 points, and West has already produced 2 Jacks. So both the ♠ Q and ♦ K are with East and you will have to put the squeeze on him.

Since you need all the tricks the count is already rectified.

You plan to squeeze East by running the long ♥s in your hand, but the problem is that the ♦ Q is not a Threat card yet. To make it a Threat you need to unblock dummy's ♦ A. So play the ♦ A, then pull trumps with the ♥ A Q.

With 6 cards left to be played you are ready to apply pressure to East.

Play the ♥ 9 8, discarding ♦s from dummy. East is not troubled yet, he can discard the ♦ J and the ♠ 3.

Play the ♥ 6 and throw dummy's ♦ 6.

East can choose his fate. If he throws the ♠ 9 you will know that his ♠ Q will drop since his third card MUST be the ♦ K. So you would just play to the high ♠s and the ♠ J would be good.

Or, he can throw his ♦ K which makes your ♦ Q a winner.

Let's back up and pretend you had NOT unblocked the ♦ A. We will just add one ♦ to everybody's hand and look at the ending.

Now when you play your ♥ 6 as a squeeze card you have a problem. You are squeezing dummy, not East.

If you discard the ♦ 6 East will throw his ♦ J, then sit back and wait for his ♠ Q trick.

But if you discard dummy's ♠ J instead, East will match that by throwing his ♠ 9, then sit back and wait for his ♦ K trick.

Only by visualizing the ending and using the Vienna Coup can this hand be made.

Deal 8

West Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 7
♥ A 4
♦ Q 5 4
♣ A J 9 7 3 2

7
13 16
4

West
1 ♣
3 ♣
4 ♥
6 ♣
6 ♣ by West
Lead: ♥ K

♠ J 10 6 5
♥ K Q J 7 5
♦ 9 2
♣ 8 4

	N		♠ A 2
W		E	♥ 9 3
	S		♦ A K 8 6
			♣ K Q 10 6 5
			♠ K 9 8 4 3
			♥ 10 8 6 2
			♦ J 10 7 3
			♣ —

North East South

Pass 2 ♦ Pass
Pass 4 ♣ Pass
Pass 4 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass Pass

West is to play 6 ♣. North leads the ♥ K.

In case the squeeze becomes necessary you should rectify the count, so you win the first trick, pull trumps in two rounds, then give up a ♥ trick.

You now make the key play of taking dummy's ♠ A before running three rounds of ♣s.

As you see, South was able to find discards on your first three trump leads, but when you play the ♣ 7 and discard dummy's ♠ 2 he is squeezed.

He can see that if he discards a ♦ dummy will be high, so he will probably throw the ♠ K in hopes that his partner holds the ♠ Q. But you have that card and you make the slam.

The only difference would be that to rectify the count you would have to hold up once on the opening ♥ K.

Deal 9South Deals
None Vul

♠ J 10 8 6
 ♥ 9 7
 ♦ 10 8 3
 ♣ J 9 8 4

26
2 3
9

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ 4 3
 ♥ A K Q J
 ♦ A K
 ♣ A K Q 5 2

♠ 9
 ♥ 10 5 3 2
 ♦ Q J 9 6 4 2
 ♣ 10 7

♠ A K Q 7 5 2
 ♥ 8 6 4
 ♦ 7 5
 ♣ 6 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			2 ♠
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	7 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

7 NT by North
 Lead: ♦ Q

South's 3 NT rebid shows 6 ♠s headed by A K Q and nothing else. North is to play 7 NT. East leads the ♦ Q.

Win the ♦ K and (IMPORTANT!) test the ♣s first by playing ♣ A K Q. Darn. East discards a ♦ on the ♣ Q.

Play your 4 ♥ winner's next. East follows suit while West follows twice, then discards 2 ♦s.

Play your ♦ A. West must give up.

If he throws the ♣ J, you win. But if he throws a ♠ you also win. This is what is called a Win-Win bridge play.

Deal 10

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 6
♥ A K 8 6
♦ 9 7 3
♣ A K Q J

5
17 15
3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	Pass	1 NT	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
6 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass
6 NT by East			
Lead: ♦ J			

♠ 9 7 4 2	♦ A 6 5 2	♣ 9 5 2
♥ J 4		
	♦ K Q	
	♣ 10 8 7 4	

♠ 8 5 3
♥ Q 10 7 2
♦ J 10 8 4
♣ 6 3

♠ A K Q J
♥ 9 5 3
♦ K Q
♣ 10 8 7 4

East is to play 6 NT. South leads the ♦ J. North takes the ♦ A and returns the ♦ 2.

With all those high ♦s falling on the first two tricks dummy's ♦ 9 has become a threat against South. If it should happen that South also holds the only ♥ stopper you can squeeze him in the red suits.

On the last 2 ♣s South discards a ♦ and a ♥.

You discard a small ♥ from dummy while South follows suit three times.

Play your ♠ J and watch what South discards.

If he holds on to the ♦ T you will discard dummy's useless ♦ 9 and hope the ♥s all fall under the ♥ A K.

If he discards the ♦ T then you throw dummy's small ♥ and dummy wins the last three tricks.

Deal 11

North Deals

None Vul

♠ A K Q 5

♥ 7 5

♦ 10 7 2

♣ A 10 7 5

♠ 7 4 2

♥ J 10 9 6 3

♦ 8 6 4

♣ J 6



♠ J 10 8 6

♥ A 8 4 2

♦ 5

♣ K 9 4 2

♠ 9 3
 ♥ K Q
 ♦ A K Q J 9 3
 ♣ Q 8 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	1 ♣	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	6 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

6 NT by South

Lead: ♥ J

South is to play 6 NT. West leads the ♥ J. East wins the ♥ A and returns the ♥ 2.

No matter how the ♠s split only one defender will hold the Guard because only one defender can have as many as 4. IF (it's a big IF) that same defender holds the ♣ K then you can squeeze him.

Can you see how the squeeze is going to work?

The solution is the Vienna Coup. Play a ♣ to the ♣ A at trick 3.

Then start running the ♦ suit.

So far neither defender is hurting, but that is about to change.

You play your ♦ 3 and discard dummy's ♣ T.

East is squeezed. He can't throw his ♣ K without letting your ♣ Q become a winner. But if he discards a ♠ dummy's ♠ 5 will win the last trick. This is soooo much fun.

Deal 12

West Deals

None Vul

♠ K 7	♦ Q J 10 6 4
♥ A Q J 7 5 2	♦ 10 9 7 4 2
♦ J 5	♣ 8 2
♣ 7 6 4	

3	♠ A 8 5 2
11 16	♥ 4
10	♦ K Q 8 3

♣ J 10 9 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 ♥	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	6 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

6 ♥ by West
Lead: ♠ Q

N	E
W	S

♠ 9 3	
♥ K 9 8 6 3	
♦ A 6	
♣ A K Q 5	

West is to play 6 ♥. North leads the ♠ Q. South wins the ♠ A and plays the ♦ K.

In this hand dummy's fourth ♣ is an obvious Threat, so you should ask yourself if you can find another Threat for when ♣s don't split 3-3. Another thing you have probably noticed is that although 3-3 splits happen about 40% of the time in real life, they NEVER happen in these pages!

Play 5 ♥ winners and the ♠ K.

Play your ♥ 2 and dump dummy's ♦ 6.

South has no answer.

Deal 13

West Deals	♠ K Q 7 3
None Vul	♥ A 4
	♦ Q 9 6 2
	♣ A 8 4

♠ J 10 9 6 4	♦ —	♣ Q 10 6 3
♥ 9 8 3 2		
♦ —		
♣ —		

15	♠ A 5 2
3 6	♥ J 6
16	♦ A K J 7 5 3
	♣ K 7

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Pass	1 NT	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	7 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

7 NT by North
Lead: ♥ K

	♠ 8 ♥ K Q 10 7 5 ♦ 10 8 4 ♣ J 9 5 2
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You start playing dummy's ♦ winners.

When you play the ♦ 5 West must keep both ♠s to guard against your ♠ 7. So he discards the ♣ 6, hoping partner can stop that suit.

Your ♠ 7 is now worthless so you throw it.

East has no problem, (yet), he discards the ♥ T.

Play dummy's ♠ 5 to your ♠ K.

East MUST keep his ♥ Q so he releases his ♣ 5.

And you win the last three tricks with ♣ K, ♣ A, ♣ 8.

This is called a Double Squeeze.

North is to play 7 NT. East leads the ♥ K.

Then, your second thought should be that dummy's ♥ J is a Threat against East's ♥ Q, so if it is East who holds 4 ♠s you will be able to squeeze him.

Since the contract is 7 NT you take the first trick with the ♥ A.

You continue with the ♦ Q and ♦ K, West discarding a ♥ and a ♣.

To find out for sure you play ♠ A, then ♠ Q. Sure enough East discards a ♥ on the second round.

But now a completely new possibility shows up. Say to yourself, over and over, "East must guard ♥s, and West must guard ♠s. Nobody can guard ♣s."

Deal 14East Deals
None Vul

♠ 9 5 2
♥ 6
♦ A J 9 7 4
♣ Q 8 4 3

7
3
26
4

West
3 ♦
5 ♦
Pass
7 NT by East
Lead: ♠ Q

♠ 6
♥ Q 9 8 4 3
♦ 8 5 2
♣ J 9 7 5

♠ A K 7 4
♥ A K 5
♦ K Q 10
♣ A K 2

♠ Q J 10 8 3
♥ J 10 7 2
♦ 6 3
♣ 10 6

North
Pass
Pass
Pass

4 NT
7 NT

2 ♣
Pass

East is to play 7 NT. South leads the ♠ Q.

So take the ♠ K and play ♣ A K Q.

South discards a ♠ on the third ♣.

Before tackling ♦s, see what you can discover about ♣s.

Play the ♠ A. North discards a ♥.

South guards the ♣s. Nobody can guard the ♥s.

Play 4 rounds of ♦s.

You discarded a small ♠. South discarded a ♠ on the third ♦ and a ♥ on the fourth.

Play dummy's ♦ 4. North cannot throw the ♣ J or he will set up dummy's ♣ 8, so he discards a ♥.

You discard the ♠ 7.

Now South is squeezed. He cannot discard the ♠ J or he will set up dummy's ♠ 9, so he discards a ♥.

You win the last three ♥ tricks with another Double Squeeze.

Deal 15South Deals
None Vul

♠ A K J 9 4
 ♥ 6 4
 ♦ 10 7 2
 ♣ Q 10 2

♠ 10 8 7 3

♥ Q 10
 ♦ K Q 6

♣ A 9 7 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ Q 6 2
 ♥ 7 5 2
 ♦ J 9 8 4 3
 ♣ J 4

♠ 5
 ♥ A K J 9 8 3
 ♦ A 5
 ♣ K 8 6 3

West North East South

1 ♠	2 ♣	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♦	Pass	6 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

6 ♥ by South

Lead: ♠ A

South is to play 6 ♥. West leads the ♠ A, then ♠ K.

Even looking at all four hands here it is still very difficult to come up with a plan.

Here's a hint: If West holds 3 ♣ s, (and you see that he does), can you squeeze him in ♣ s and ♠ s?

The big problem with trying to squeeze West in the black suits right now is that East actually holds a ♠ guard. But you can fix that.

Play dummy's ♥ Q and ♥ T, then ruff a ♠, then pull the last trump.

Then lead dummy's ♣ 7 to your ♠ K.

Only West can guard dummy's ♠ T, and only West can guard dummy's ♣ 9.

So you play your ♥ A and West must give up one of his guards. If he holds on to the ♠ J then you toss dummy's useless ♠ T. If he throws the ♠ J then you toss dummy's ♣ 9.

Deal 16
 West Deals
 None Vul

♠ J 7 4
 ♥ A 7
 ♦ K 7 5 2
 ♣ A K 7 3

9
 15 11
 5

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A K 9 3 2
 ♥ 10 4 2
 ♦ J 9
 ♣ J 6 4

♠ Q 10
 ♥ K Q 5 3
 ♦ A 8 6 3
 ♣ 8 5 2

♠ 8 6 5
 ♥ J 9 8 6
 ♦ Q 10 4
 ♣ Q 10 9

West North East South
 1 NT Pass 2 ♣ Pass
 2 ♦ Pass 3 NT Pass
 Pass Pass
 3 NT by West
 Lead: ♠ 3

West is to play 3 NT. North leads the ♠ 3. South plays the ♠ 5.

You have 8 winners, and if South holds 4+ ♥s AND 3+ ♦s then only he can guard the two suits.

But how can you squeeze him?

But maybe you can make his partner do the job for you.

At trick 2 you play a ♠.

And he will no doubt continue with the ♠ A and ♠ 9.

You discard 2 ♦s from dummy and a ♣ from your hand.

South cannot spare either a ♥ or a ♦ so he

also throws a ♣.

North will almost surely cash his ♠ 2.

You and dummy both discard a ♣ and South also must discard a ♣.

It doesn't matter what North plays next, lets say it is a ♣.

South is truly squeezed. If he discards a ♥, dummy's ♥ 5 will become a winner. but if he discards a ♦ then you will get a third ♦ trick and the contract.

Since it was North who started the squeeze by cashing his last ♠, this is called a Suicide Squeeze. BUT, what if North had not cashed that ♠?

Suppose North is a really expert defender and avoids the Suicide Squeeze by just refusing to cash his winning ♠. It doesn't matter what else he plays instead, so let us assume it is a ♣.

You win in your hand and establish a ♦ winner by playing ♦ A, ♦ K, and a small ♦. South wins but cannot reach his partner's hand for that good ♣.

So you establish a ♦ winner and make your contract.

Deal 17

North Deals

None Vul

♠ 10 7 5 4 2

♥ J 10 2

♦ Q 10 4 3

♣ 4

♠ A

♥ A 6 3

♦ K 5

♣ A K Q J 9 8 7



♠ K Q 9 6 3

♥ Q 9 8 5

♦ 9

♣ 10 6 2

♠ J 8

♥ K 7 4

♦ A J 8 7 6 2

♣ 5 3

²¹
 3 7
 9

West

North

East

South

2 ♣

Pass

3 ♦

Pass

4 NT

Pass

5 ♦

Pass

5 NT

Pass

6 ♦

Pass

7 ♣

Pass

Pass

Pass

7 ♣ by North

Lead: ♣ K

North is to play 7 ♣. East leads the ♣ K.

So you take the ♣ A, pull three rounds of trumps and play ♦ K.

But when you lead to the ♦ A East discards a small ♠.

Think squeeze instead. Ruff a ♦. This turns the ♦ J into a Threat card against West's ♦ Q.

But, the ♠ J is already a Threat card against East's ♠ Q.

East can afford to discard the ♠ 9 and the ♦ 5.

West can spare his two ♠s.

East cannot throw the ♠ Q, so he gives up the ♦ 8. Dummy's ♠ J is of no further value so you dump it.

West cannot throw the ♦ Q, so he gives up the ♦ 2.

And you take the last three tricks with the ♥ suit. There were only two defenders; one of them had to guard ♠s and the other had to guard ♦s. There was nobody left to guard ♥s.

Deal 18

East Deals

None Vul

♠ Q 4
♥ J 9 7 3
♦ K 7 5
♣ 8 6 5 2

4
6 22
8

West
Pass
6 ♥
6 ♥ by East
Lead: ♠ A

♠ 10 9 7

♥ 4

♦ Q J 9 4 2

♣ J 10 9 3

W	N	E	S
♠ —	♥ A K Q 10 5	♦ A 8 6 3	♣ A K Q 4

♠ A K J 8 6 5 3 2

♥ 8 6 2

♦ 10

♣ 7

West	North	East	South
		2 ♣	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	5 ♥	Pass
6 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

East is to play 6 ♥. South leads the ♠ A.

So you ruff the ♠, pull trumps in three rounds, then play ♣ A K and get the bad news when South discards a ♠.

And since South had 3 ♥s and a very long ♠ suit it is pretty likely that North guards the ♦s also. You will try to squeeze North in ♣s and ♦s, but first you must lose a trick to rectify the count.

So you play a low ♦ from each hand.

He will then play the ♠ K, which you must ruff in your hand.

Play dummy's ♥ J.

North gets to choose his own fate - discarding a protector in one of the two suits. Of course, whichever suit he discards you will throw the opposite one.

Yet another slam, courtesy of the Squeeze Play!

Deal 19	♠ K 10 4		
West Deals	♥ 10 6 4		
None Vul	♦ A 8 7 5		
	♣ Q 5 3		
♠ A Q 9 7 6 3	♠ J 8 5 2		
♥ 3	♥ 8 7 2		
♦ K Q 10 2	♦ 9 4		
♣ 9 7	♣ 10 8 4 2		
	♠ —		
9	♥ A K Q J 9 5		
11 1	♦ J 6 3		
19	♣ A K J 6		
West	North	East	South
1 ♠	Pass	Pass	Dbl
2 ♦	2 NT	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	6 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			
6 ♥ by South			
Lead: ♦ K			

South is to play 6 ♥. West leads the ♦ K. Perhaps you wouldn't have bid slam with North's cards, but he has been watching you pull off some fantastic squeeze plays and he has every confidence you will do it again.

And you are 99.9% sure he also has the ♠ A, so dummy's ♠ K will also be a Threat card against him.

You should be able to squeeze him in the two suits. What is your first act?

But not this defender, not this time.

He exits with the ♥ 3 which you take with your ♥ Q.

You throw a ♠ from dummy and West discards ♠s and ♦s.

Discard the ♠ T and ♦ 7 from dummy.

West discards the ♠ Q and ♠ 9.

He obviously is not going to throw his ♠ A and make dummy high, so he will instead bare his ♦ Q.

So you dump dummy's ♠ K and win the last two tricks with the ♦ A and then the ♦ J.

Deal 20	♠ 6		
South Deals	♥ A 6 3		
None Vul	♦ 6 5 4		
	♣ 9 8 7 5 3 2		
♠ K Q J 8 7 4 2	♠ 10 9 5		
♥ Q J 10	♥ 7 5		
♦ J 3	♦ A Q 10 7 2		
♣ Q	♣ A J 4		
	♠ A 3		
4	♥ K 9 8 4 2		
12 11	♦ K 9 8		
13	♣ K 10 6		
West	North	East	South
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
4 ♠ by West			
Lead: ♥ A			

East's 2 ♥ cue-bid shows ♠ support and at least a limit-raise or better. West is to play 4 ♠. North leads the ♥ A, then a ♥ to South's ♥ K. South plays a third round of ♥s.

The reason you are seeing it like this is that you must do some deducing first.

You saw the bidding and you know that North started with the ♥ A and South started with the ♥ K.

Before you can make a good Plan you need to figure out where the ♠ A, ♦ K and ♣ K are located.

Now on with the plan. South/North took the first two ♥ tricks and then played a third ♥ which you won, discarding the ♦ 2 from dummy.

This pulls all the trumps and also serves to rectify the count for your upcoming squeeze.

**By the way, notice that if South had played any other way he would have handed you the contract.

So dummy's ♦ Q cannot be one of the Threat cards. Instead you must make the ♦ J in YOUR hand a Threat. You do that by playing the ♦ A immediately, a Vienna Coup.

Overtake dummy's ♠ T and run three more ♠s.

Discard all three ♦s from dummy.

South will discard his 2 ♥s, the ♦ 9 and the ♣ 6.

Play your ♠ 2 and discard dummy's ♣ 4.

Poor South will squirm and try to figure out which discard is best because he doesn't actually KNOW what two cards you have left.

But you aren't squirming because you know that whichever card he throws it will give you your contract.