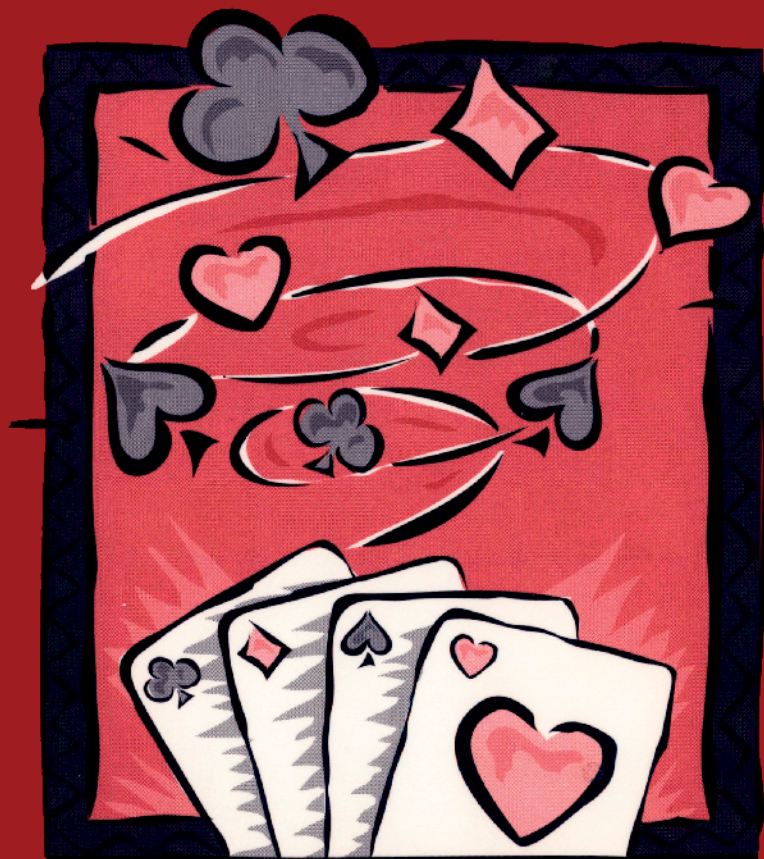


A N D R E W D I O S Y

THERE MUST BE A WAY

52 BRIDGE HANDS

*To Challenge Your Play
and Defence*



foreword by Eddie Kantar

A N D R E W D I O S Y

THERE MUST BE A WAY

*To the late and great Hungarian bridge writers,
Robert Darvas, Paul Lukaes, and Geza Ottlik,
whose work inspired many of the hands
appearing in this book.*



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Foreword by EDDIE KANTAR

(World Champion, WBF and ACBL Grand Master)

Do you like challenging bridge problems, some with a history? If you do, this book should be right up your alley. But first a warning: in the Introduction, it says that this book is for average club players and up; I would amend that to "above average club players", and make that "up", "way up".

Each hand highlights a beautiful offensive or defensive play. Many are such fierce battles between declarer and defender that it is almost like watching a mystery evolve. Who will triumph? Who will make the final brilliancy? The answer is "yc1" -- but you've got to "see" it.

Personally, I find it hard to believe that anyone interested in improving their game (at the same time picking up the finer points) won't enjoy this book. I did, in spades. Even though many of the hands have appeared in print elsewhere, only someone who has read a great deal of the advanced literature will have an edge. In any case, the author has such a clever way of turning the hand around with those *&%\$# questions that follow each problem that you will still be challenged even if, by chance, you happen to recognize the hand.

The format of the book also differentiates it from most other quiz books. In this book, you are shown all four hands, and then more or less told how the play went or might go. It all seems rather normal until you realize from the questions that follow that either the declarer or one or both of the defenders could have done something better. Now it is up to you to figure out what that "something" is. Always keep in mind "there must be a way".

In order to see what the author is driving at, you must have a certain degree of expertise. However, even if you don't but have a great love for the game, you will revel in the plays, mostly logical, that could have been made. Obviously, looking at all four hands allows you to make some plays that dreams are made of; it is exactly for this reason that I see "imagination development", a necessary quality for any aspiring player, as one of the big pluses of this work.

"There Must be a Way" should give you many hours of pleasure along with the inevitable occasional headache. However, any book worth its salt has a mixture of pleasure and pain, and I predict the pleasure will greatly outweigh the suffering. Therefore, my advice is to treat yourself to a gem of a book, as long as you don't try to digest it in one or two sittings. There aren't enough aspirins in the world for that!

Introduction

This is a book of “post-mortem” bridge problems for average club players and up. Unlike most “double-dummy” problems where the position of all the cards is known, these hands do not usually call for esoteric and outlandish plays or defences; indeed, many of them actually occurred at the table. But they will test your ingenuity and your powers of analysis.

Approach each hand as though you had just played it. You know the contract, and the opening lead. Now.... do you want to play or defend? What is the optimum result, given best play and defence? Can the contract be made, or is there a fiendish stratagem that will defeat it?

Many of these hands present multi-level difficulties, where each twist and turn by declarer can be countered by the ingenuity of the defence, until one or the other runs out of resources. Which side will succeed? The final solution (and in some cases, even the problem itself) will not be obvious at first glance. We have therefore presented the hands in groups of four, with the first part of the solution for each appearing on the following page. When you have reached your analytical conclusion, turn the page and read this partial solution: you may find there is a path you have yet to follow. The page after that contains the complete analysis.

Since we do not tell you at first whether a given hand *can* be made on best play and defence, you will find yourself inevitably revisiting these problems. Surely, *there must be a way.....*

S E C T I O N 1

NOT TOO HARD



6 • THERE MUST BE A WAY

HAND 1 • *Bravo, Professore!*

		NORTH		
		♠ Q 6 4		
		♥ 9 4		
		♦ A Q J 9 6		
		♣ A Q 9		
WEST		<div style="position: absolute; top: 5px; left: 15px;">W</div> <div style="position: absolute; top: 5px; right: 15px;">E</div> <div style="position: absolute; bottom: 5px; left: 15px;">N</div> <div style="position: absolute; bottom: 5px; right: 15px;">S</div>	EAST	
♠ K J 10 5 2			♠ A 9 8 7 3	
♥ 2			♥ A K 6	
♦ 10 4 2			♦ K 5	
♣ 10 6 5 4			♣ K J 2	
		SOUTH		
		♠ ---		
		♥ Q J 10 8 7 5 3		
		♦ 8 7 3		
		♣ 8 7 3		
		Contract: 4♥		
		Opening Lead: ♠J		

HAND 2 • *Quiet Please*

		NORTH		
		♠ A Q 7		
		♥ 5 3 2		
		♦ 6 5 3 2		
		♣ 8 5 3		
WEST		<div style="position: absolute; top: 5px; left: 15px;">W</div> <div style="position: absolute; top: 5px; right: 15px;">E</div> <div style="position: absolute; bottom: 5px; left: 15px;">N</div> <div style="position: absolute; bottom: 5px; right: 15px;">S</div>	EAST	
♠ J 10 4			♠ K 9 8 3	
♥ J 9 7			♥ K 10 8	
♦ 8 4			♦ 10	
♣ A K 9 6 2			♣ Q J 10 7 4	
		SOUTH		
		♠ 6 5 2		
		♥ A Q 6 4		
		♦ A K Q J 9 7		
		♣ ---		
		Contract: 5♦		
		Opening Lead: ♣K		

NORTH											
♠ J4											
♥ A76											
♦ 1083											
♣ AQJ76											
WEST	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		EAST
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♠ A109853		♠ K7									
♥ 843		♥ J1092									
♦ 42		♦ J976									
♣ 82		♣ K54									
SOUTH											
♠ Q62											
♥ KQ5											
♦ AKQ5											
♣ 1093											

Contract: 3NT

Opening Lead: ♠10

HAND 33 • *Mighty Strange*

Let us assume that as East you make the obvious play of hopping up on the ♠K and returning a second spade at trick two. It doesn't matter if your partner ducks or wins the spade, declarer will finesse a club into your king and unfortunately you will have no more spades to return. Can you see a better approach to the defence? Look what happens if you duck the spade at trick one. Declarer wins the ♠Q, but now when declarer finesses into the ♣K you return the K, partner overtakes, and declarer will be defeated. Have you found the perfect solution for the defence? (See Hand 33 for the answer.)



DR. ANDREW DIOSY (1924-2012) was a physician specializing in internal medicine, whose hobbies included bridge and chess. Born in Hungary, he moved to Canada after the Hungarian uprising in 1957 and lived in Toronto, Ontario.

“Each hand highlights a beautiful offensive or defensive play... Treat yourself to a gem of a book.”

— from Eddie Kantar's foreword

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