

# A Little White Lie

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On defense, sometimes a little white lie is necessary in order to point partner in the right direction. No more clues, here's your problem:

**Board 1**  
 North Deals  
 None Vul

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| ♠ | K 8 6      |
| ♥ | K Q 6      |
| ♦ | K Q J 10 6 |
| ♣ | 7 6        |

  

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| ♠ | 9 7 3 2  |
| ♥ | 10 9 8 2 |
| ♦ | A 8      |
| ♣ | 8 4 3    |

  

|          |       |      |       |
|----------|-------|------|-------|
| West     | North | East | South |
|          | 1 ♦   | Pass | 1 ♥   |
| Dbl      | 2 ♥   | Pass | 4 ♥   |
| All pass |       |      |       |

You are sitting East, trying to beat 4♥. Partner leads the ♣A. Where can you find four defensive tricks? Declarer probably has the ♠A and ♥A, so at first glance it may appear that the best the defense can do is to take its two club tricks and the ♦A. Any ideas for an extra trick? OK, now that you've solved the problem, the full hand:

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| ♠ | K 8 6      |
| ♥ | K Q 6      |
| ♦ | K Q J 10 6 |
| ♣ | 7 6        |

  

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| ♠ | Q J 10 5   |
| ♥ | --         |
| ♦ | 7 4 3 2    |
| ♣ | A K 10 9 5 |

  

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| ♠ | 9 7 3 2  |
| ♥ | 10 9 8 2 |
| ♦ | A 8      |
| ♣ | 8 4 3    |

  

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| ♠ | A 4         |
| ♥ | A J 7 5 4 3 |
| ♦ | 9 5         |
| ♣ | Q J 2       |

That's right, at trick one East false-cards with the ♣8, showing a doubleton! East's plan is to conjure up a trump trick out of thin air. Look what happens. West next cashes the ♣K, and East completes his fake high-low. Then West plays a third round of clubs and who can blame declarer for ruffing that trick high in dummy? Obviously he doesn't want to get overruffed by East, and, anyway, squandering that high trump costs nothing if the trumps are 3-1 or 2-2. But they are 4-0, so East gets a trump trick and it's down one.

It was necessary to fool partner as well as declarer. If East had signaled honestly in clubs, then, at trick three, West would no doubt have shifted to the ♠Q, hoping that East has the ♠A, trying to grab a couple of spade tricks before they disappear on the diamonds.