

(Mobile library) Misplay These Hands with Me

Misplay These Hands with Me

Mark Horton

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Mark Horton : Misplay These Hands with Me before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Misplay These Hands with Me:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. very good book for advanced to expert players By J. M. Lawniczak This book starts with the title pun, which is indeed quite clever. The fact that the author is recognizing Terrence Reese's book "Play These Hands With Me" in his title suggests, and correctly so, that a reader who has not yet read the Reese book should start there. Indeed, the Reese book is the classic bridge over the shoulder book on

declarer play and a must read for someone trying to advance to expert bridge play. However, although not quite up to the Reese standard (and that would be almost impossible), this is nonetheless quite a good book. It will be very helpful to the advancing to near expert player, and probably even to an expert player, as a reminder of certain themes. It does contain quite a few squeezes, so that an intermediate player not yet familiar with squeeze positions could easily get lost. Although the book focuses on a "misplay" on each hand, that is not detracting to the enjoyment of the hands and the learning experience, as the correct play for each hand is given. For example, on one hand in the book, the declarer errs early in the play by ruffing low (as would normally be the rote play) from a trump holding like AK872, thus later (after an opponent has ruffed in with the high Q of trumps from an original holding of Qxx) leaving an entryless dummy, whose remaining trump is lower than declarer's remaining 87, with 2 marooned diamond tricks. I like the over the shoulder approach that this book, like the Reese book, takes. The reader is given the hand and then watches both the bidding (although the learning emphasis is not on bidding) and the play from the declarer's perspective. It is a worthwhile investment for an advanced player.

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. There are better books out there.

By B. Einhorn
I have read over 250 bridge books, mostly on card play and defense, some 2 or even 3 times. I held off buying this book for a few years because I was disappointed with the author's other books such as *Bridge Master vs Bridge Amateur* (its mediocre, there are many better books available). This book also disappointed me. I don't agree with the author's analysis of a number of the hands, his suggested play is not always the best, it's results oriented. There is a hand where the obvious play is to try for a 3-3 split but instead the author shows the correct play as depending on one defender holding a very specific (and unlikely) card holding. On another hand a squeeze would be a legitimate attempt, yet is not suggested. The book is mediocre, and instead I suggest "Find the Mistake" by Eric Jannersten. It's not like you won't get anything out of this book, but for an intermediate /advanced bridge book on declarer play published in the last 20 years, it's lacking, compared to other recently published books.

8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. enjoyable, amusing, but a bit depressing.

By David W. Straight
This is a very well written book of bridge hands played by the author, and he misplays every one. The title, of course, is a takeoff on Reese's book in which Reese explains proper technique for making one's contracts. Horton has a flair for writing, and a good self-deprecating humor. For the average bridge player, Horton's play of the cards would seem reasonable, and most of us would be happy to do that well. But Horton demonstrates that with a little bit more thought, the contracts could have been made, or at least you wouldn't have been off as many tricks. Interestingly, after a while, I found the book a little depressing. You've been reading through some of the problems, and you go to the next, and you know it's a 100% certainty that he's going to blow the contract. It's rather like reading about people in a group who are about to die in a terrible plane crash, with a well-written description of the last seconds of each of the people. Perversely, I found that I wanted to see a few hands where he made the contract, but without taking the available overtrick: at duplicate, this can be as bad as going down--but at least the contract would be made. If I were playing the hand against experts I'd no doubt be delighted to even make my contract. This book also reminded me of Mollo's fabulous menagerie: his menagerie books presented you with perfectly reasonable ways of playing hands, but which turned out to be wrong ("Curious hand: both sides can make 4 hearts"). So if you enjoy this book, as you should, and you have not yet discovered Mollo, discover him!

The late Terence Reese introduced the instructional 'over-the-shoulder' style of writing in his classic bridge book 'Play These Hands With Me'. In this wry homage to the master, Mark Horton leads the reader through a logical line of play on each instructive deal - but it's usually a line that ends in failure.