

## ♠♥♦♣ AN UNLIKELY SLAM ♠♥♦♣

Your RHO dealt and passed. You hold this hand:

S	South
♠	Q109542
♥	5
♦	Q
♣	J10943

You are non-vulnerable with only 5 HCP. But you do have a 6-card suit. Normally, this hand is too weak and the suit is too deficient in honors to open. But I would disagree with this particular hand.

You have six Spades and 5 Clubs. There is a saying in bridge: 6-5: Come alive! Passing is too cowardly and opening at the 1-level misrepresents this hand to your partner. A compromise is to open 2♠. You do have 2 honors in the Spade suit and your two singletons increase the likelihood of early ruffs. It wouldn't take much from your partner to make some number of Spades.

Your LHO passes and your partner, after studying her hand for a while, raises you to 6♠. After the shock recedes, West leads the ♥J and you see this dummy.

N	North
♠	AJ63
♥	KQ832
♦	A83
♣	A

West Leads: ♥J

S	South
♠	Q109542
♥	5
♦	Q
♣	J10943

What do you think about North's jump to slam? He expected you to have the ♠KQ for your bid and saw no reason to ask about keycards. He knew about your reputation for expert dummy play and just bid what he assumed you could make 😊

Now, to the task at hand. East won her ♥A and returned a Club to dummy's ♣A. In addition to the Heart you just lost, you have a possible Spade loser, and 3 or 4 Club losers. Luckily, you have a lot of ruffing possibilities.

After winning the ♣A, you cash your ♦A and ♥K, discarding a Club. Now cross ruff the dummy's Diamonds and Hearts, with your Clubs. If East chooses to ruff a Heart, your trump can overruff.

Finally lead a Spade up to the dummy and cover West's singleton ♠K to make your 6♠ contract. Well done!

This is the entire deal:

	<b>N North</b>	<b>W N E S</b>
	♠ AJ63	P P 2♠
	♥ KQ832	P 6♣ P P
	♦ A83	P
	♣ A	
<b>W West</b>	<b>E East</b>	
♠ K	♠ 87	
♥ J10964	♥ A7	
♦ K102	♦ J97654	
♣ Q876	♣ K52	
<b>S South</b>		
♠ Q109542		
♥ 5		
♦ Q		
♣ J10943		
	6♠ S	NS: 0 EW: 0

You can see how this hand should be played by clicking on this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/y1f3un8t>, or copy and paste it into your browser. Click on the "Next" button on the bottom to advance through each trick. If you don't want to see the opponents hands, click on the white area in the South hand before you start.

Alternatively, by clicking on "Play" you can play all four hands and see if you can make the hand on your own. <https://tinyurl.com/2p3hmb44>