You are sitting in the South seat and your partner opens the bidding. You hold:

South
♠K87652
♥A9
♦KJ
♣987

West	North	East	South
	1♣	1♥	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	??

After an overcall of a major by your RHO, it is common practice to show 5+ card in the other major by bidding the suit. To show only a 4-card major, you double. This is a "negative double." It says you have enough points to compete (6+) put don't have five cards in the unbid major. Your partner raises to 2♠ and it's up to you. You have a 6-card spade suit, so even if partner has only 3 spades, you hold at least 9 trump. You also have two doubletons. These positives boost your 11 HCP's to at least 13. You should jump to 4♠.

West leads his partner's hearts – the ♥4.   When leading a suit partner has bid and you haven't supported, it's usually best to show count – a low card when holding three. This helps clarify the holdings for your partner. You see this uninspiring dummy:

North
♠AQJ
♥852
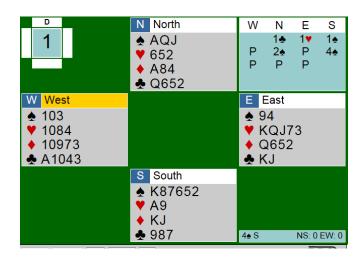♦A84
♣Q652

West
♥4

South
♠K87652
♥A9
♦KJ
♣987

What would be your plan? How are you going to hold your losers down to three?

You notice you have 1 heart loser and 3 clubs losers. Your only hope is to create 3 diamond winners and discard one of your losers on the 3rd diamond winner in the dummy. The only way this works is if the ♦Q is in East. You must plan to finesse the ♦Q against the ♦J in your hand after you pull trump.

You win the ♥A and lead a low spade up to dummy. It turns out that you can pull trump in two rounds so you end in the dummy. You lead a low diamond to your ♦J and hold your breath.

This is the complete board:

D	N North	W N E S
1	♠ AQJ ♥ 652 ♦ A84 ♣ Q652	1♣ 1♥ 1♠ P 2♠ P 4♠ P P P

W West	E East
♠ 103 ♥ 1084 ♦ 10973 ♣ A1043	♠ 94 ♥ KQJ73 ♦ Q652 ♣ KJ

S South
♠ K87652 ♥ A9 ♦ KJ ♣ 987

4♠ S   NS: 0 EW: 0

Yes, finesses sometimes do work. You go back to the dummy with the last trump and discard the ♥9 on the winning ♦A. Four spades bid and made!

You found that the only way to make the contract is on a 50% finesse. You must risk the play or certainly go set.

If you would like to see the whole hand played out, click on this link: http://tinyurl.com/n2wfbvx . Or copy and paste it into your browser. Click on the "Next" button on the bottom to advance through each trick.