

Mirror Mirror on the Wall

N Robot			
♠Q9843			
♥982			
♦AJ76			
♣Q			
W	N	E	S
			1♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
S jakenow			
♠AK1052			
♥AK7			
♦KQ54			
♣6			

You are bound to encounter hands where the dummy “mirrors” your hand with identical suit length. This proves awkward as you are unable to ruff losers in either hand or establish a longer suit. In this hand, it appears you have a certain heart and club loser. On a singleton diamond lead by west, you win, draw trumps. Plan your play.

7 D		N Robot		E Robot	
		♠Q9843		♠J	
		♥982		♥63	
		♦AJ76		♦9832	
		♣Q		♣AK9832	
W Robot		W	N	E	S
♠76					1♠
♥QJ1054		Pass	3♠	Pass	4NT
♦10		Pass	5♦	Pass	6♠
♣J10754		Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
		S jakenow			
		♠AK1052			
		♥AK7			
		♦KQ54			
		♣6			
				6♠	South
				0	0

You look in the mirror and think about a layout of your opponent hands where you might bring the slam in with their help. You start by cashing two hearts and then proceed to eliminate diamonds ending in hand. When you lead a club to the queen, east wins and returns a club (creating a ruff sluff) allowing you to play your losing heart from hand and ruff it in dummy. Six spades making. Mirror mirror on the wall, who is the luckiest declarer of all?

John Jarman