Dummy
♠AK1063
♥106
♦753
♣AQ10

You
♠Q
♥K9432
♦K86
♣9865

RHO	You	LHO	Partner
1N	P	2H	P
2S	P	3N	P
P	P		

The opponents are playing weak 1NT openers (12-14).

You lead the 3 of hearts, partner plays the Q and declarer the A. Declarer plays the J of spades, you play the Q, dummy wins the K, partner following low. Dummy cashes the K of spades, partner and declarer following low, and you throw a diamond. Declarer leads a low diamond off dummy and plays the Q. Plan the rest of the defense.

Send your answers to me: bilpuzzles@bridgesights.com

The Answer

Dummy
♠AK1063
♥106
♦753
♣AQ10

You
♠Q
♥K9432
♦K86
♣9865

It is not likely that declarer has 2 hearts, because he opened 1N and is very likely to have a doubleton spade, so he would not likely have a doubleton heart as well. It is also likely declarer has the J of hearts, because with just the Ace, he would probably duck a round or two.

You have to hope partner started with 3 hearts, and will get in with another entry before declarer can take nine tricks. Therefore, play a low heart. If partner gets in and has another heart, you will beat the contract, because partner can lead a heart to you, and you will cash 3 hearts in addition to the 2 tricks you already have.

When I made this play at the table, partner got in with the ace of diamonds and returned his third heart. Any other return by me would have allowed declarer to establish 9 tricks before we could cash 5.