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My Favorite 52

Larry Cohen

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Larry Cohen : My Favorite 52 before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised My Favorite 52:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. "My favorite 52" is my favorite bridge book. By paulscott Some bridge books entertain you with a great story, i.e. books by Zia Mahmood, and any number of authors have very technical books that will make you a better bridge player. "My Favorite 52" does both. It's an extremely entertaining book that teaches what action to take in critical situations. First, Larry sets the scene which usually involves top level tournaments with famous players. Next he shows you the critical 13 cards and asks you what your bid would be. When

the bidding is complete he shows you the dummy and asks you what card to play. Then he explains the proper play. This sequence is usually repeated several times during the hand. Finally, he tells about the score the effect that it had on the tournament. Each hand is like a short story each hand stands alone, so you can put the book down, which is very hard to do, and you do not have to remember what has gone before, in the unlikely case other actions demand your time. While it's a close call, of all the several dozen bridge books that I have read, this is my favorite. Only two things about the book are disappointing. First, finishing it. Occasionally, when I read a book that I really enjoy, I'm disappointed when I reach the end there is no more. Secondly, Larry wrote that his next version won't come out until 2029. If you read this, Larry, I'll be 91 in 2029 if I make it. So you might not be able to count on me as a customer. Larry, also consider that you probably play, observe discuss over 100 hands a week. Surely, 1% of those would be worth writing about. You know how many weeks are in the year, so do the math... hire a secretary to take notes type up these hands. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Should be part of your bridge library. By MtiquesCohen is not just a great player...he is also a great teacher. Book contains some spectacular hands and plays, but most important is his ability to explain the thought processes in finding solutions to difficult problems and including a myriad of useful tips. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. excellent for average to expert bridge players. By Junerhoda Blanco this book is a must for bridge players who want to move to a higher level in their game. It is very didactic and Cohen also makes it enjoyable. I like him and I love his book.

Using an intimate 'over-the-shoulder' presentation, this book takes us through 50-plus bridge deals from the authors own experience - deals that were important to him in some way, technically interesting, or just plain fun. A former computer programmer and options trader, Larry Cohen was for many years a full-time bridge professional and part-time golfer. Now retired from serious competition, he travels from his home base in Boca Raton, Florida, to fulfill his numerous lecturing engagements, and he writes regularly for several magazines. He has twenty national championships to his name, as well as two world championship medals. He is perhaps best-known for his classic book, *To Bid or not to Bid*, which at the time was the best-selling book on the game since Charles Goren's heyday (it has since been surpassed by *25 Bridge Conventions You should Know*).

ed by Brent Manley Delicious As a consumer, I like to savor life's pleasures - especially good food and good books. That's my complaint about the new work from Larry Cohen: I couldn't put it down, leaving me feeling that it would be "used up" too quickly. I guess my only option is to read it several times. Life is tough. My Favorite 52 is unusual because it was originally published as interactive software. Linda Lee of Master Point Press adapted it to the softcover version. In most cases, the book comes first. Bridge players who prefer to study the game away from the computer should be overjoyed at the availability of this treasure trove from Cohen's vast archive of interesting deals. In fact, there are more deals than the title promises, but the alliteration was irresistible, not to mention the utility of having 52 in the title of a bridge book. It's the content that counts, after all, and Cohen manages to include a ton of instruction as part of his description of deals from real games, most of them in high-level competition (he played each one or was dummy). Each of the 52 has multiple parts, and Cohen offers a clock symbol to warn the reader to stop and think before proceeding. The book is nearly as interactive as the software and is ideal for someone striving to improve. Cohen "retired" last year from major tournament play, saying he will concentrate on teaching and writing for the foreseeable future (he will continue his column in this magazine). He will be missed at tournaments, but if Cohen has more time for writing, that can only be a good thing for his many fans. --The Bridge Bulletin, February 2010 About the Author Larry Cohen (Boca Raton, Florida) won his first National Championship at age 22 and went on to collect 25 more titles before retiring from competition in 2009. Director of the prestigious Bridge World Master Solvers' Club and a frequent contributor to bridge magazines around the world, he is a popular bridge lecturer on land and at sea. His book *To Bid or Not To Bid: the Law of Total Tricks* is one of the all-time bestsellers on the game. Aside from bridge, his passions are playing golf and watching sports, especially his beloved Yankees. Linda Lee (adaptor - Toronto, Canada) is a World Life Master. The author of four previous books, she conducts a popular bridge blog. Her most recent book was Barbara Seagram's *Beginning Bridge* (with Barbara Seagram).