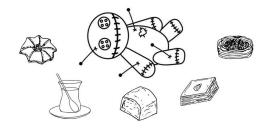


HYPERGLYCEMIA



During a few days in March 2023 we opened a new route in the Jebel Rum massif in Wadi Rum. This previously unclimbed wall is not visible directly from the village, yet the approach is not much longer than for the busy walls of Jebel Rum's East Dome. What struck us about this face is the impressive black wall in it's upper half. From far, it looked smooth, solid and vertical and it indeed turned out to be the biggest challenge we faced during opening the route. It offers beautiful climbing on pockets and edges in an almost vertical solid black wall.

The route is equipped with bolts in the difficult parts and otherwise unprotectable bits and on the belays, but a set of cams and nuts has to be brought for the easier pitches. Having climbed *Rock Empire* 8a, *The Glory* 7c and *L'Ame est amorphe, ose!* 7c, we believe the crux pitch of our new route is similar in difficulty and a grade of 7c is appropriate. Any feedback is welcome though and it is only a suggestion.

All of the pitches were opened ground-up without previous inspection, except pitch 3, which was initially climbed from the right, then left variation was inspected from rappel and then established ground-up. A few of the bolts were added later from rappel (all in pitch 1 and 2 and last bolt in pitch 4) to make the route safer. The route is suitable for hotter days as it is in shade from around 11:30. At almost the same place as our route, at a big cairn slightly left, starts the route *Roumi soit qui mal y pense!* (6b, 250m, Guillaume, Ravier, 2003) and heads diagonally left. We found old slings with maillon for rappel near belay 1 and 2, but no other gear higher up the wall.

The pitches:

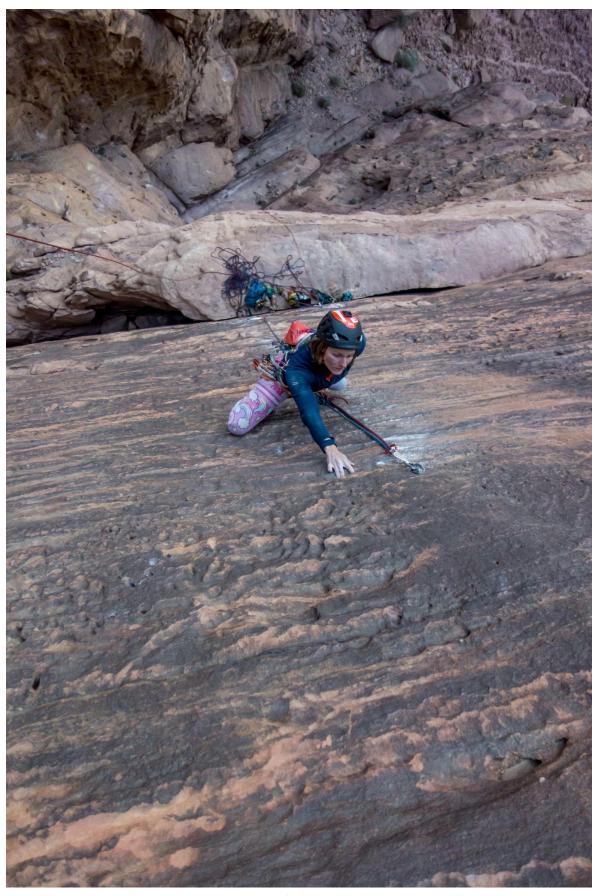
- 1. 6a, 50 m, 3 bolts + thread. Nice warmup in a chimney, a bit of jamming and more chimneying leads to a big ledge. One bolt at the end of the chimney and two bolts in an easy wall. From thread traverse right to reach a belay in a corner.
- 2. 6b+, 30 m, 2 bolts, friends. Long corner offers surprisingly nice handjamming. First bolt protects tricky climbing around a little bulge. After clipping the second bolt traverse left to a belay.
- 3. 6b, 30 m, threads, 3 bolts. Step a few meters left from the belay and climb between tufas to a bolt. Nice face climbing leads to a big ledge.
- 4. 7c, 50 m, 8 bolts, #1, #0.75, #0.3, nuts. This is THE pitch! Great climbing in a black wall. Cams and nuts are useful for the upper part which is easier, but the bolts are fairly spaced.
- 5. 6c+, 40 m, 3 bolts. Step left from the belay and climb short, but tricky black corner (bolt). Above the corner the climbing gets easier but the rock gets worse. Look for a logical easiest way up, placing a few friends and clipping two more bolts.
- 6. 6a+, 55 m, 1 bolt. From the belay go for the obvious corner crack on the left. When the crack turns left, step right to a short black wall (bolt). Fight through a little bush and follow easier corners to the top of the route. In the corner, staying slightly right most of the time should be easiest.



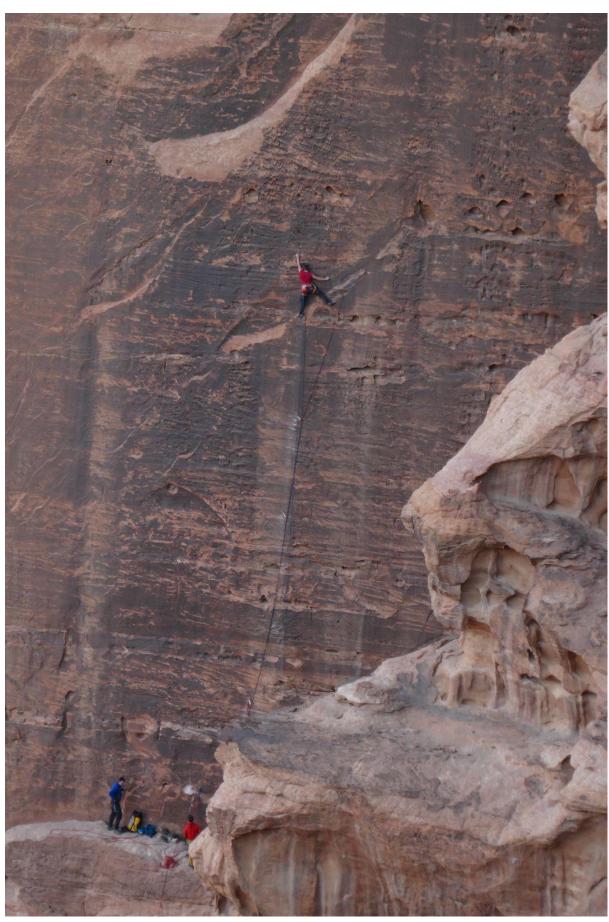
Anna sending pitch 4



Mario on pitch 2



pitch 4



during the first ascent of pitch 4