

A DAHAB BOULDERING GUIDE

bouldering in Egypt's South Sinai

A BOULDERING GUIDE TO THE WADI QUNAI AREA OF DAHAB IN EGYPT

OVER 400 PROBLEMS & PROJECTS ACROSS 9 SECTORS

E-BOOK



A DAHAB BOULDERING GUIDE

Bouldering in Egypt's South Sinai

e-book edition

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Dahab, meaning gold in Arabic, is the name of a small coastal town in the South Sinai region of Egypt. Usually known for its year-round diving, freediving and kitesurfing, Dahab has a unique relaxed atmosphere infused with the Bedouin culture of hospitality which makes it a one-of-a-kind bouldering destination.

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INTRODUCTION

Bir Wadi Qunai is the name of a beautiful and serene bouldering area situated a few kilometers south of the small coastal town of Dahab, on the Red Sea coast of Egypt. The roots of the name are now unclear, but Qunai either means deep or arched in Arabic, and Bir refers to a secret fresh water well located just before you arrive at the boulders.

Climbing in the Sinai has been going on for many years now, mostly further inland around the St Catherine's area - a vast area of granite boulders, ancient history and epic multi pitch trad climbs.

Dahab is already a popular destination for travellers. With its own relaxed and colourful feeling, it is a million miles from the all inclusive resorts and shopping malls associated with Sharm-El-Sheikh.

With inexpensive flights to Sharm-EL-Sheikh airport just a taxi ride away, and being able to combine a bouldering trip with other activities, such as diving, freediving, kitesurfing, or simply lazing around on a beach, Dahab is also a great place to bring non climbing families, partners or friends. For those heading into St Catherine's for some trad climbing adventures, Dahab is the ideal stopover point to stay before and after heading out on an expedition.

Rest assured though, bouldering at Bir Wadi Qunai is such a good experience - you may not find time to do any of these other things!

FOREWORD

The Sinai has always been lucky with visitors who love adventure and getting close to the rocks! But around 1997, the climbers took it to a new level. I remember Enzo Ferrara taking his climbing rope into Wadi Qnai and coming back saying he had set up a route. Then came Erik Oostra with another route, and after that a lot of bumps and scrapes. At the time, I was leading Camel Diving Safaris and Desert Safaris, and I remember thinking that this was a seriously adventurous sport. So what better to add to the Desert Divers' portfolio when we launched in 2002?

The author, Fred Stone, has a special place in this story. We welcomed him to Dahab in 2005, and his name was enough to say that he was something to do with the rocks! He teamed up with Annelie Pompe, and together they helped us move our fledgling climbing operation to the fully equipped Sinai Rock Climbing Centre that we have today.

Since then, Saad and Am Abdullah have put many pots of tea in the fire for 'El Fred' and the boulderers. You have given us a new way to share our desert with adventurous, eco-minded travelers. You all adapt easily to the Bedouin life, and it is nice to share a piece of it with you. We are happy to welcome you and your friends, and to help anyone who would love to boulder, climb and discover the Sinai.

-Said Khedr

Desert Divers / Sinai Rock Climbing Centre

police checkpoint

DAHAB

wadi adshan
(mercure)

LAGUNA

off road track

← road to sharm

BIR-WADI-QUNAI

N 28°26'17.1

E 34°25'10.3

CLIMBING

The bouldering at Bir Wadi Qunai is on solid granite with occasional lines of black volcanic stone. Many of the boulders in the valley are blank. Where there are holds they are solid and mostly quite smooth to the touch.

The problems are found on standalone boulders dotted along the sandy floor of the valley, or on boulders dotting the terraces overlooking the valley bed. Quality lines on the sidewalls have also been included in the guide, usually only where there is an obvious finishing hold, downclimb or line of escape.

The problems in this guide tend not to be eliminates, but where any "rules" are mentioned in the description, it is where eliminating a feature increases the quality of the climb, rather than just the grade. The same goes for the starting holds - sit starts are used only where they add to the quality of the line. Worthwhile extensions, eliminates and sit starts may also be listed in problem descriptions purely for their own sake.

There are still an enormous amount of projects at all grades. These are noted in light grey in this guide. Favourite problems and projects are denoted by a small ★ symbol.

To check for updates to this guide, or to provide new route info, please visit the 'Sinai Climbing' section at www.davelucas.net

ACCESS / TRAVEL

From Sharm El Sheikh airport you are one hour's drive from Dahab. A pre booked transfer costs around €30-35 for a van, but can be much more if you pick up a taxi at the airport and your haggling skills are not good.

Bir Wadi Qunai is 12km South-West of the central Masbat bay area of Dahab.

If all you need is a lift to and from the boulders, you can hire a driver which will cost around €15 a day for 4-5 people.

Here are some numbers for local drivers who all speak english:

Barracuda (+20) 1064-673-909

Jumah (+20) 1020-410-663

Ziyad (+20) 1092-292-486

Another option is Desert Divers, who offer transport, crashpad hire & a guide, starting from €40.

Finally some people have been known to walk or cycle in from Dahab, which takes about 2-3 hours.

Access between sectors is straightforward as you just follow the valley floor by foot and it is impossible to get lost in Wadi Qunai. Walking from the Carpark sector up to the top of the Turkish Bathpump sector takes roughly 30-40 minutes. See individual sectors for more details.

ENVIRONMENT

Wadi Qunai is an outstandingly beautiful and peaceful place regardless of the climbing itself.

Most of the sectors in Bir Wadi Qunai are inaccessible except by foot. Where cars and quad bikes do arrive, down in the car park and lower Waterfall sector, and to a lesser extent the top of the Turkish Bathpump sector, there are often large amounts of rubbish and charcoal graffiti left behind either through mistake or ignorance by tourists and irresponsible guides. So please help lead by example: pick up your own rubbish, make any toilet visits very far away from the boulders and paths and burn/bag toilet paper, and if you have the inclination, pick up someone else's rubbish you might find lying around.

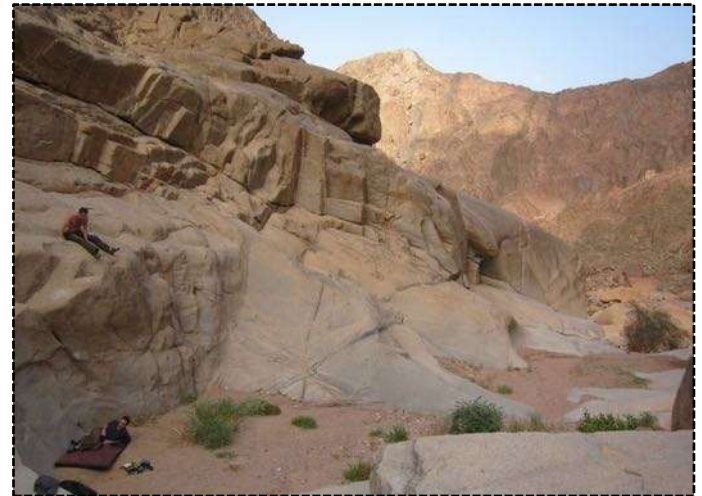
Vegetation growing in the desert faces a challenging task, so out of absolute respect for a fragile environment, please refrain from trampling or removing any live plants that may be blocking climbs.

Out in the wadi, there are always small signs of life. Birds passing on the sea breezes, a few lizards hiding, and beetles slowly making their way here and there. It has been mentioned by some of the older bedouins that there might be snakes around, which is worth remembering, but is nothing to worry about as the snakes seem to be both rare and shy of people.

ETHICS

It should go without saying, but aside from cleaning loose rock, please do not chip new or existing holds, and refrain from using wire brushes or generally doing anything that might change the nature of a climb.

Even though Bir Wadi Qunai is off the beaten track, people other than climbers do pass through here, both Bedouin & visitors. Out of respect for non-climbers and the otherwise pristine nature surrounding the climbs please brush excess chalk away from holds and clean off tick marks. This is especially important in an area with very little rain!





CULTURE / STAYING

Bedouin culture places a lot of value on guests and hospitality towards visitors. This culture goes well beyond the touting you see around the shops and restaurants in Dahab, and is a genuine desire to make guests feel at home.

The Bedouins of the Sinai region are the true locals of any climbing areas therein as they traditionally spend a lot of time growing up outdoors, and are used to the idea of both playing on the rocks and using unprotected steep cliff faces as track paths, or "Bedouin climbs" as they are known.

If possible, arrange a cooked evening meal, a nighttime session or even an overnight stay up at the boulders. Climbing on the lower sector boulders by a full moon or the light from a campfire is an amazing experience.

Drinking alcohol is totally accepted in Dahab, which now has a fair number of beachfront bars. If you do choose to enjoy the more local variety of entertainment, do be aware that despite it being cheap it is still illegal and that you could end up in lots of trouble with the police.

We recommend choosing Bedouin owned hotels & "Camps" (basic rooms) in Dahab wherever possible, close or in Masbat Bay. Accommodation is inexpensive, going from €5/night for the most basic up to €50/night. It is also possible to find entire houses to rent in Assalah (Bedouin district) on Airbnb.com and similar sites.

CONDITIONS

The climbing conditions can be generally divided into 3 seasons.

Winter: November, December, January, February

Spring/Autumn: September-October; March-May

Summer: June-September

Sunrise is generally around 6am & sunset around 6pm, although this varies by around one hour both ways depending on season.

It is possible to climb all day long in most sectors during winter; all day long during spring/autumn by choosing sectors and boulders based on conditions; and early mornings/nighttime during the summer, although climbing in the summer months is really not at all recommended. Winter can be surprisingly cold however throughout the year, rain is extremely rare!

Temperatures at Bir Wadi Qunai are usually a lot cooler than down at sea level, and there is often a beautiful cool sea breeze coming up the valley. Coupled with the high valley walls providing shade, you will need to pack a warm top in most seasons.

A recommended way of avoiding the warmest parts of the day during most seasons is to arrive at the boulders a little later in the afternoon, around 1 pm, and then climb until it gets dark.

It is possible to arrange night time and overnight stays too, although bear in mind that it can get really cold.

SAFETY & HEALTH

Climbing is inherently dangerous and holds, landings and the boulders themselves can change over time and without warning. Please do not take this guide, descriptions or grades as any indication of safety or suitability and use your own common sense at all times.

The majority of Bir Wadi Qunai is roughly an hour's walk away from the nearest road (the Sharm El Sheikh road at the top). Mobile phone reception drops off about 100 metres inside the wadi, so the best safety measure is to have a driver with you for the day in case of any accident.

Some useful contact numbers to have in case of an emergency are:

Dr. Ahmed Sadak: +(20) 12 3486 209

Emergency services: 123

Dahab hospital: (+20) 3640208

There are no vaccinations currently required for Egypt. Tap water in Dahab is not suitable to drink, and is luckily too salty anyway. Dehydration can sneak up on you especially when it's windy and feels cooler than it really is, so pack at least 2L water per person per day. Food tends to be very safe, as a rule of thumb just stick to the busier restaurants and cafes.

Before booking or travelling always check with the FCO or your own country's official travel advice on the South Sinai/Red Sea Resort areas.



SECTORS

OVERVIEW



CAR PARK SECTOR

Khaled Saba Mousa, Rockabye p.25



CAR PARK SECTOR

OVERVIEW

Car Park is the first sector you arrive at, usually driving right up in front of the first boulders. With lots of variety and no walk in, it is a great introduction to the bouldering on offer at Bir Wadi Qunai.

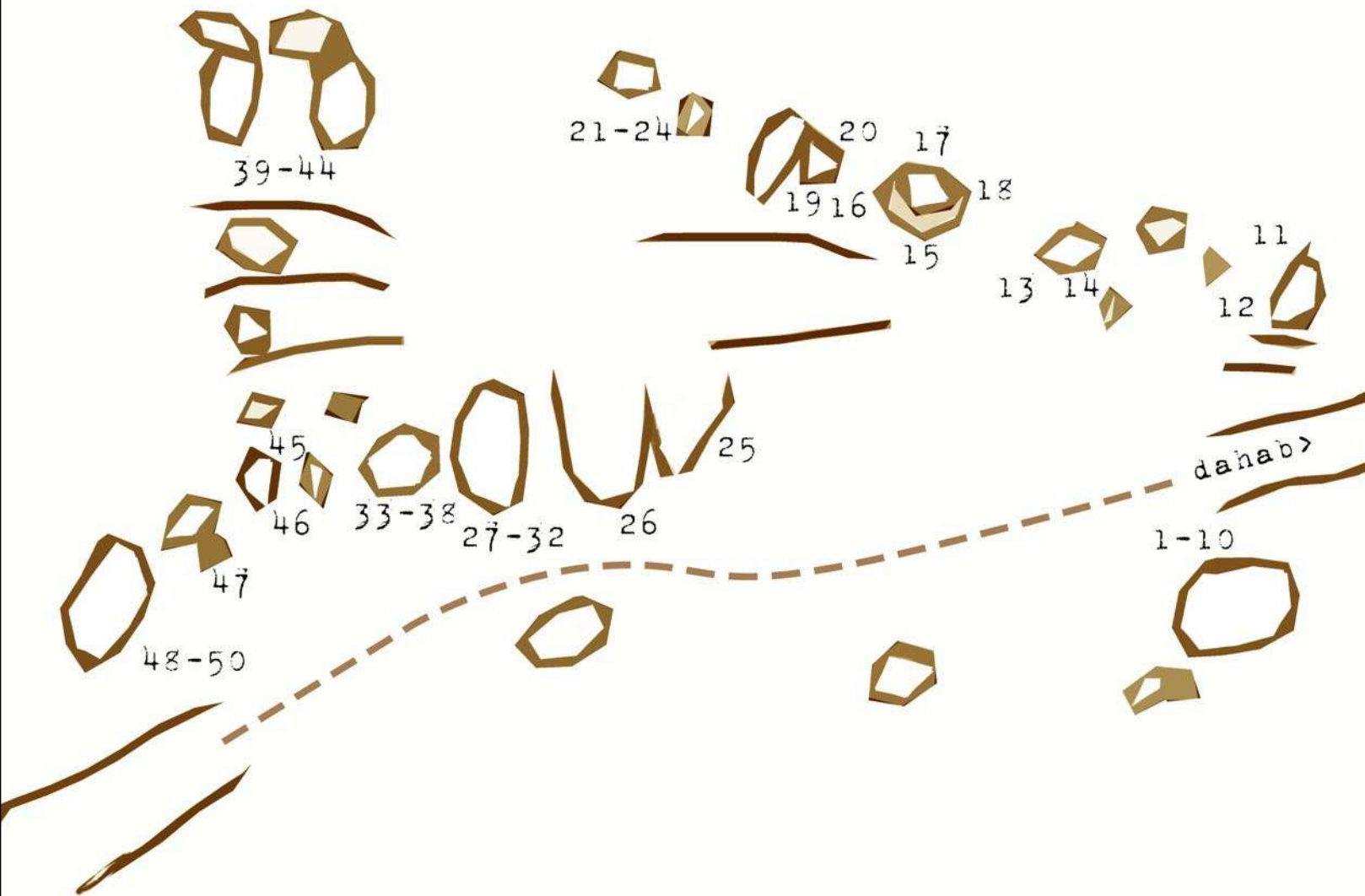
The Bedouin drivers tend to relax here throughout the day, making tea and food underneath the large Peace and Love boulder. If you plan on trying "Peace and Love Forever" (p24) then please ask them to make the fire elsewhere.

CLIMBING

The boulders are concentrated and close together. There is an excellent variety of styles and difficulties of climbs in the Car Park sector, mostly on medium sized boulders and light overhangs to slabs. No roof problems. Expect lots of small crimps and smooth footholds. The landings are all excellent with only a couple of exceptions. Even though this is the most frequented area, there are still plenty of unclimbed lines.

CONDITIONS

This area is exposed to the sun throughout morning and midday, so either get here early in the morning, or else from around 2:30-3pm in the afternoon when the sun is blocked out by the high valley walls.



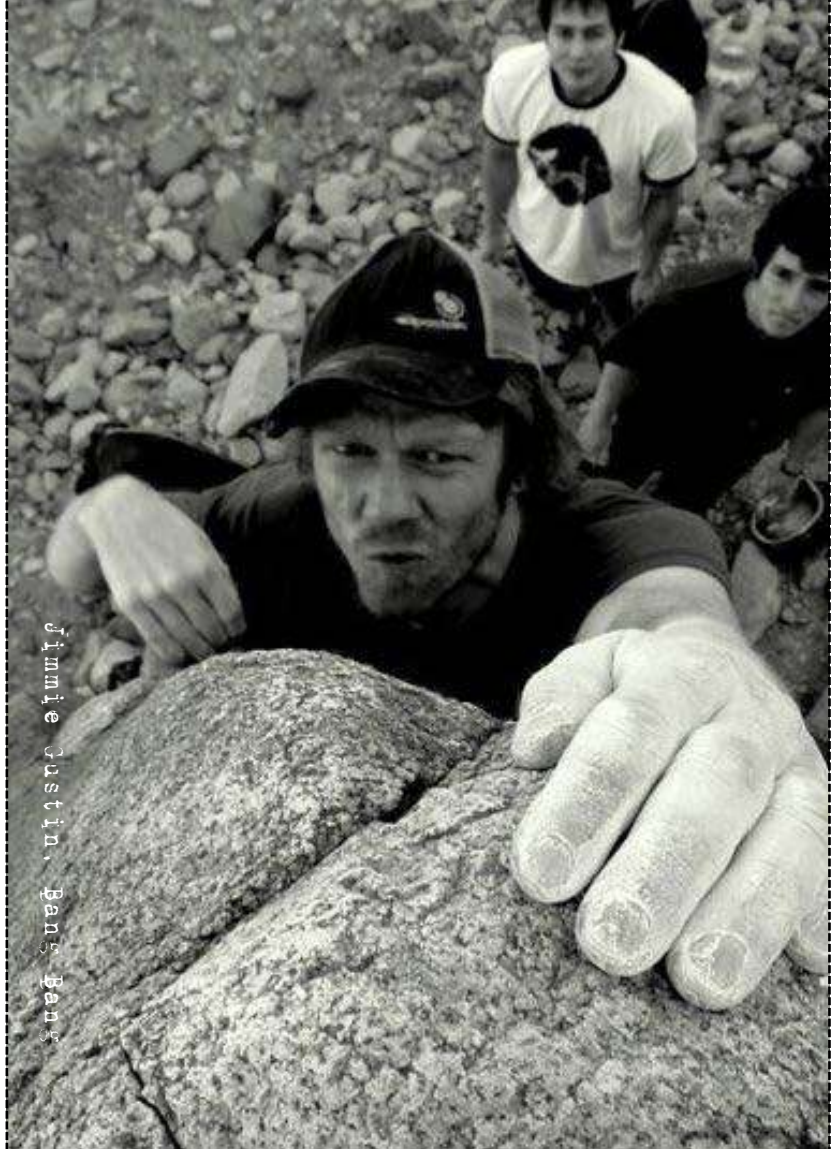


1 STORM IN A TEACUP 7A

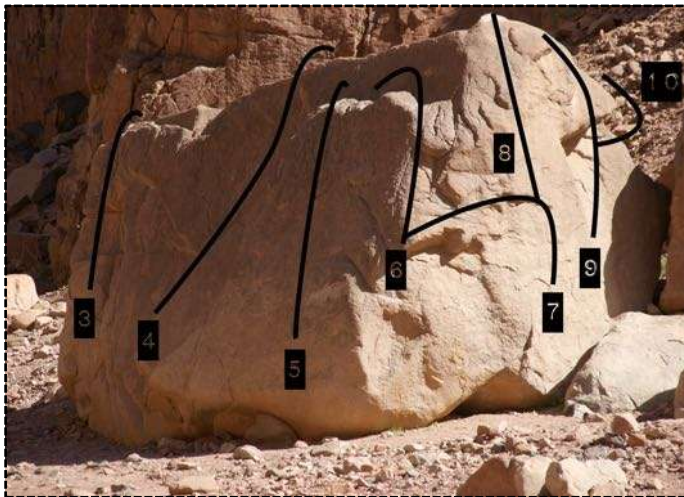
Follow ledge along to the most positive incuts then rock over.

2 BANG BANG 6C

Tricky sit start up into sidepulls then follow the arete on positive slopers.



Jimmie Justin, Bang Bang



3 WELCOME

3

Start on the good hand holds below the ledge.

4 WELCOME GROOVE

3 +

Follow the groove to an easy top out.

5

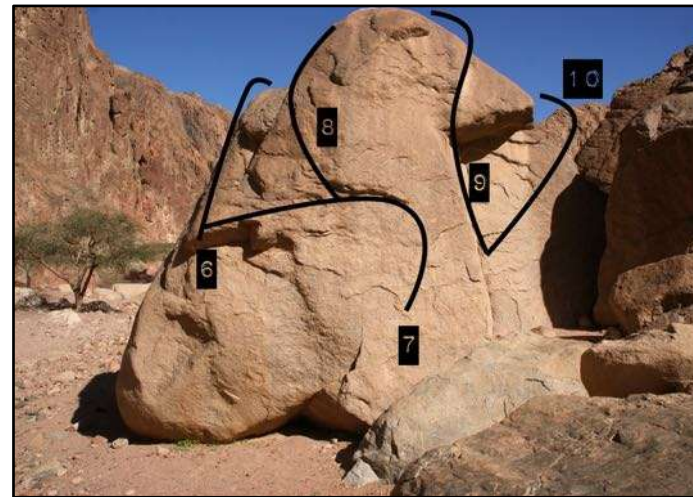
5 +

Crimpy slab on flaky holds.

6

6 A

Start on the undercut flake and follow up the arete.



7

Sit start then traverse left into 6.

8

Sit start then head up direct.

9

CORNER SHOP

6 A +

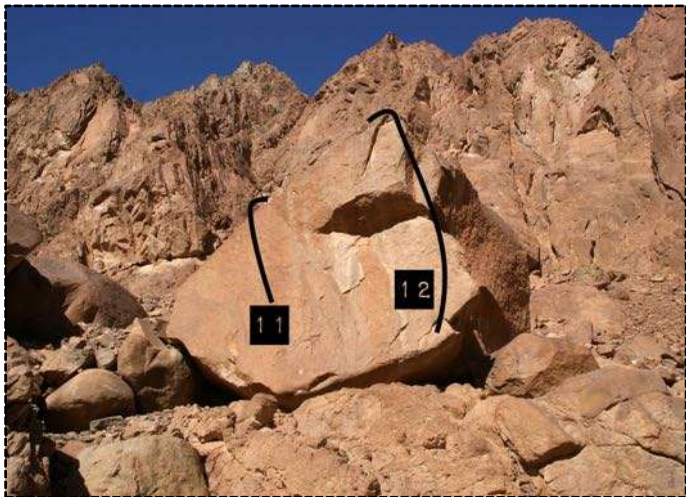
Sit start and move up and left through the small roof.

10

5 +

Same start as 9 but move to the right of the small roof for an easier low exit





11 AERODYNAMIQUE

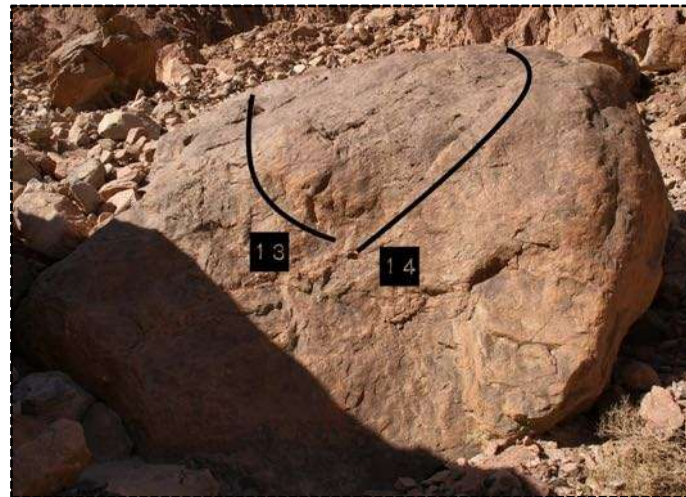
5+ ★

Follow small edges up the slab.

12 DIGITAL LIP

6B

Grapple the slightly overhanging vertical arete to a tall finish. Awkward landing.



13

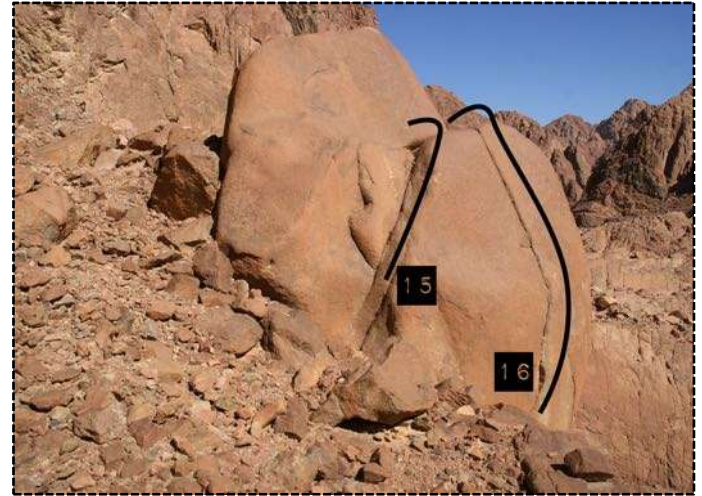
3

Short slab to the left.

14

3

Follow the short rail feature up and right.



15 BABAR

5+

Sit start and follow up to a sloping top out.

16



Beautiful highball line with a stand start on small crimps to gain obvious crack line and an easier finish. Good landing but spotters are needed! Hard.



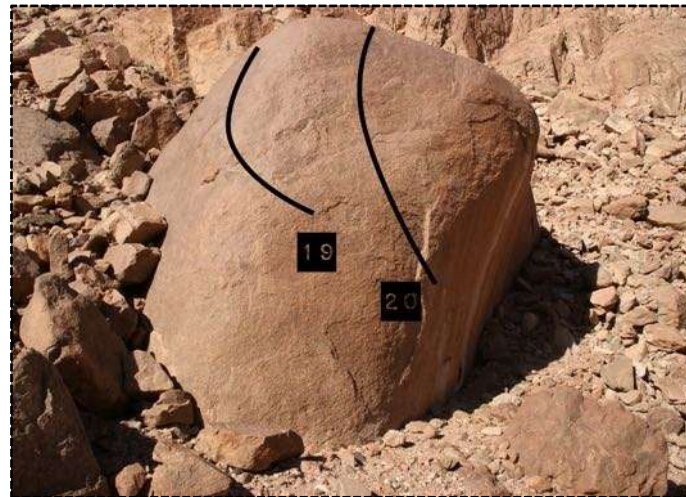
17

Stem up the blank groove on the slab.

18 ELEPHANTITIS

6A

Sit start and follow arete and slopers up to the top, on the back of the Elephant boulder.



19

ELEPHANTS NEVER FORGET

4+

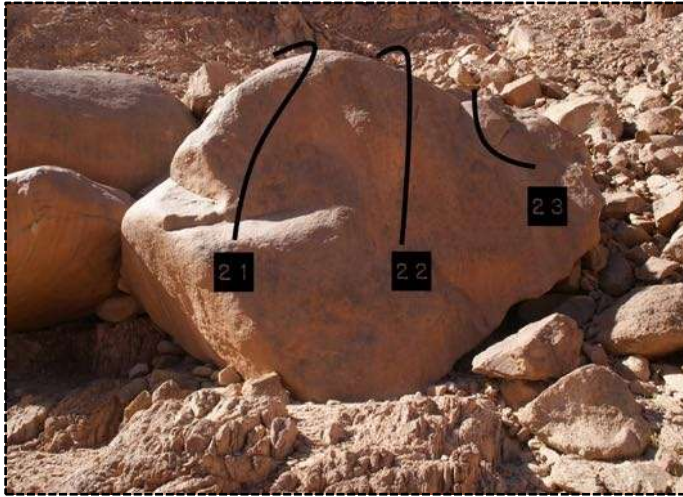
Low slab from the incut starting hold.

20

ELEPHANT SLAB

6B

Sit start on sidepull flake below slab.



21

6A

Start on the ledge feature.

22 CHICKEN SOUP MAN

5+ ★

Straight up the middle of the slab on sidepulls.

23 SOUPED

4

From the head high edge, follow up the short slab.

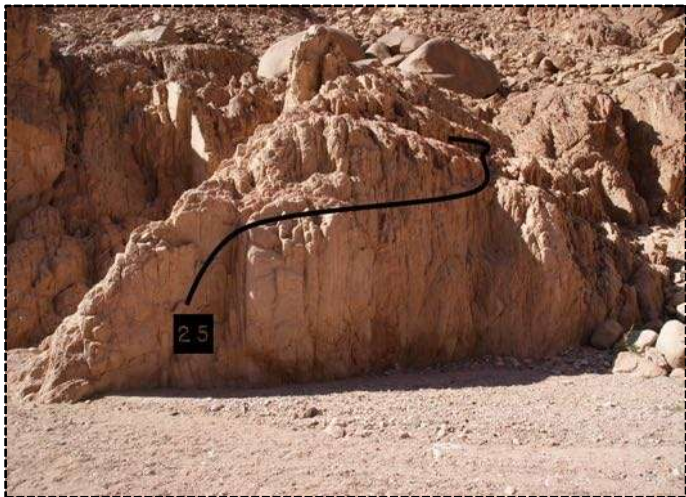


24 TO BE TAKEN AWAY

6C+

Low sit start using left hand hold and move around the overhanging prow.

It's supposed to bring good luck to replace the covering pebble to the start handhold afterwards!



25

5

Sit start on juggy edge.

26

3 +

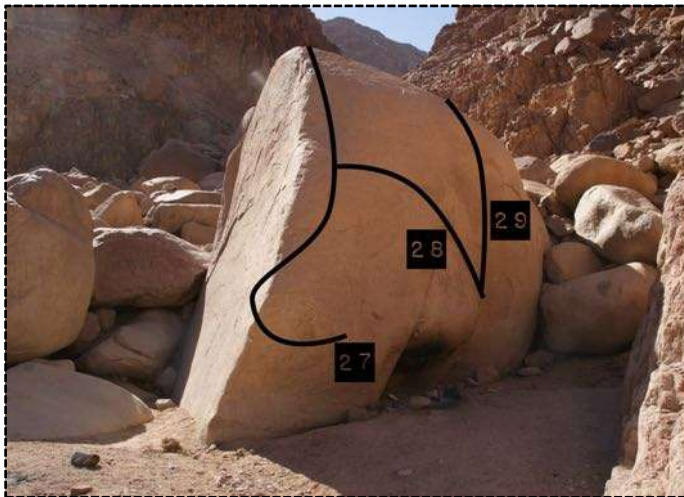
Follow the arete up through the series of ledges to a tall finish.



26

Matt Ralph, Storm in the teacup p15





27 SAKARA

7A ★

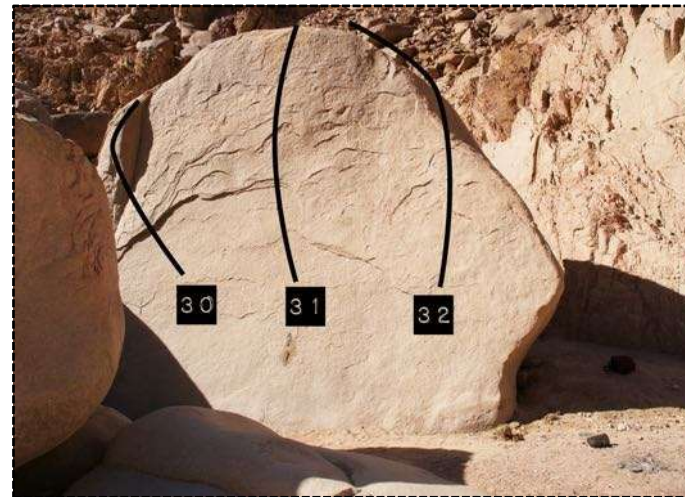
Compression moves from a sit start under the overhanging prow lead to a tall top out slab.

28 PEACE AND LOVE FOREVER 7B ★

Sit start on the A feature above the fire spot up to small crimps leading leftwards towards the arete.

29 ★

Head straight up the overhanging wall on small crimps.



30

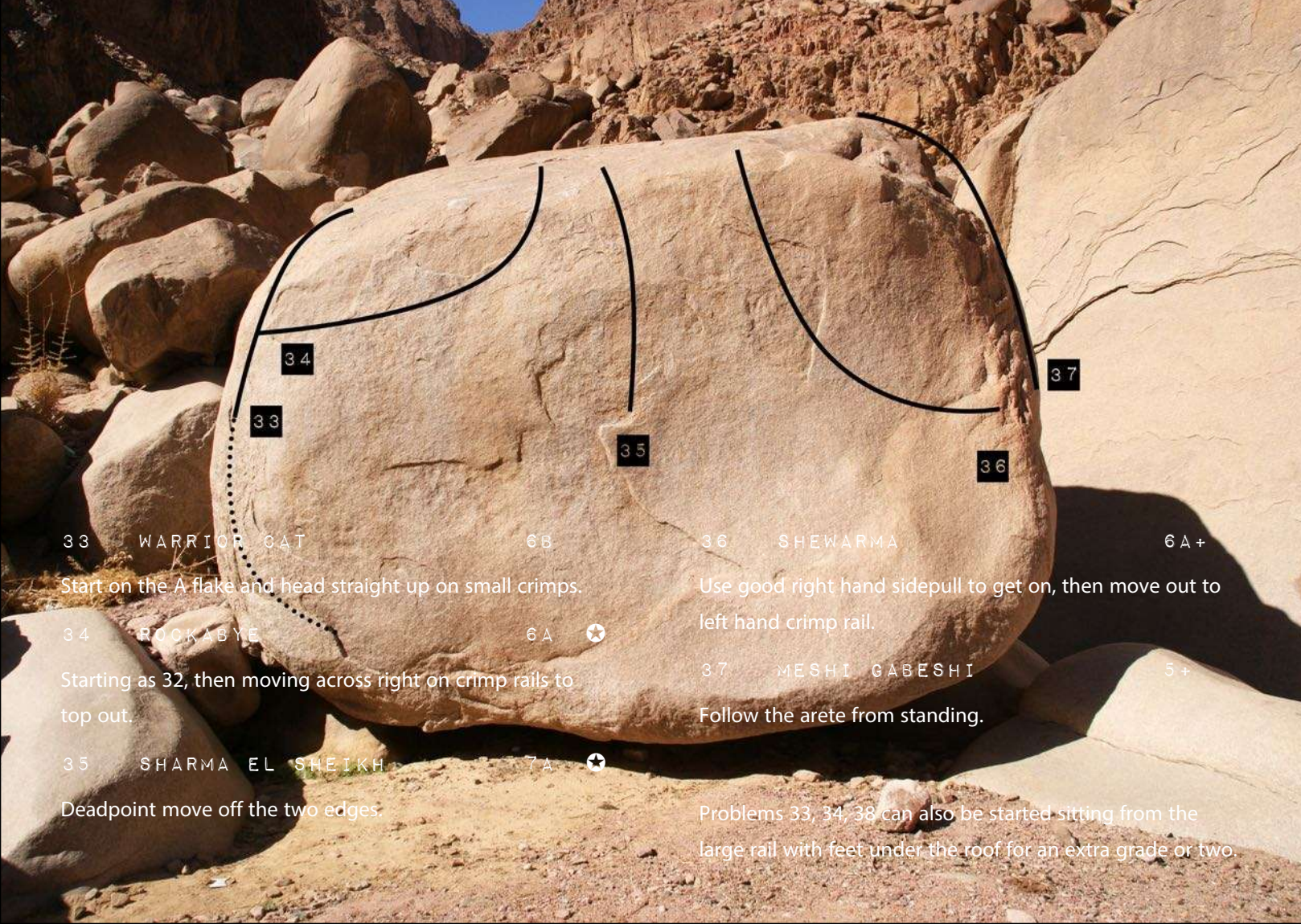
Get established on poor footholds on the slab to gain the undercut flake and the prominent arete feature.

31 ★

Small undercuts and crimps straight up the tall & imposing wave like slab. Hard.

32 CANDLE SLAB 7A ★

Small holds requiring balance and timing to gain the scoop on the arete.



34

33

35

36

37

33 WARRIOR CAT

6B

36 SHEWARMA

6A+

Start on the A flake and head straight up on small crimps.

34 ROCKABYE

6A ★

Use good right hand sidepull to get on, then move out to left hand crimp rail.

Starting as 32, then moving across right on crimp rails to top out.

37 MESHI GABESHI

5+

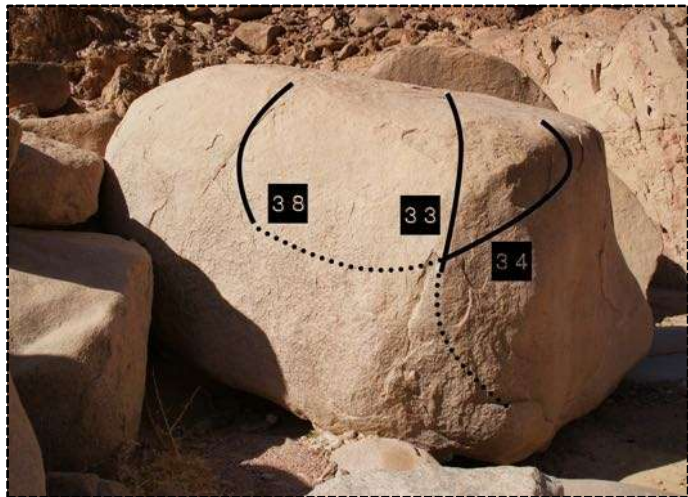
Follow the arete from standing.

35 SHARMA EL SHEIKH

7A ★

Deadpoint move off the two edges.

Problems 33, 34, 38 can also be started sitting from the large rail with feet under the roof for an extra grade or two.

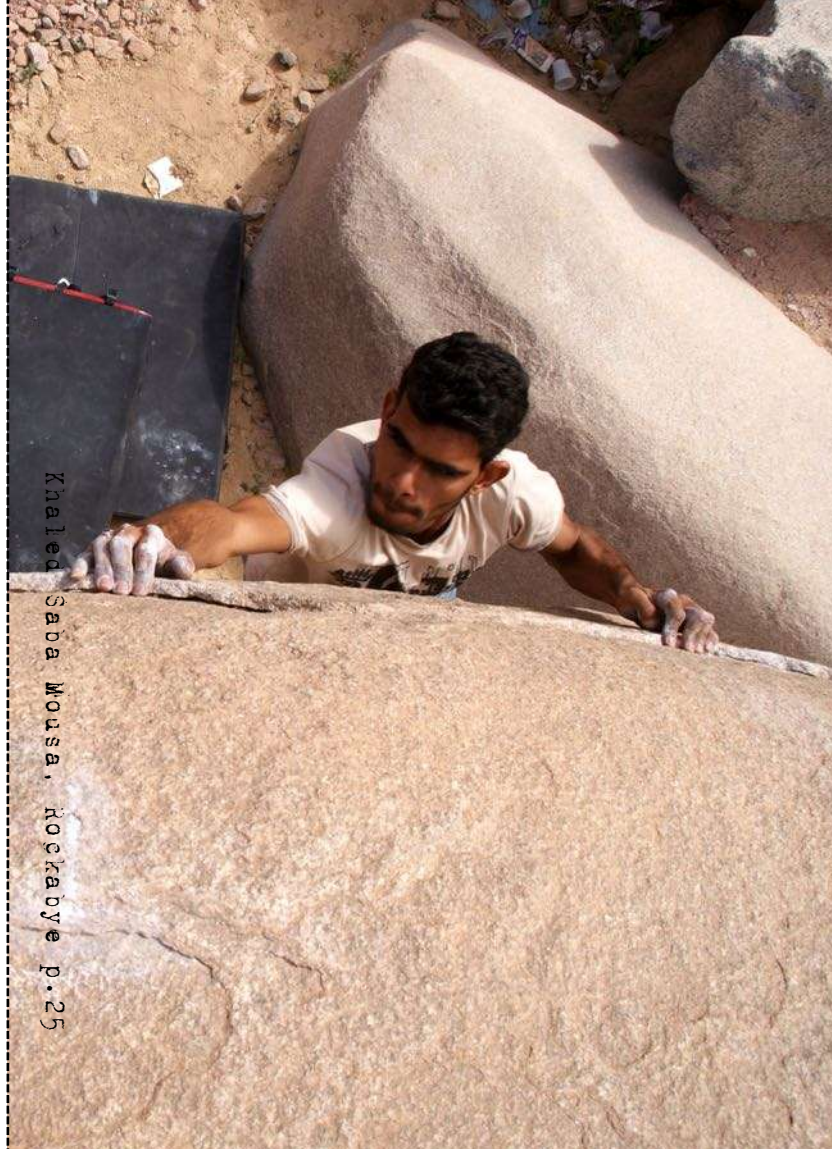


38 SAMA, SINA, LEILA

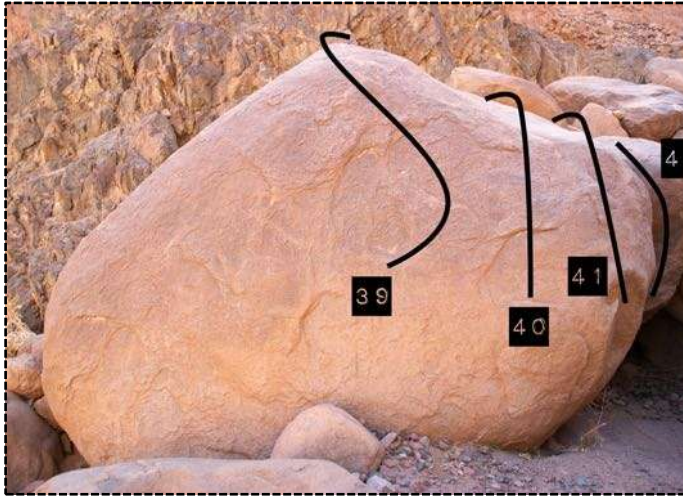
60

Standing start on crimps.

It is also possible to traverse in left from the start of Warrior Cat for 33 or even the low roof start extension for the full link.



Khaled Sada Mousa, rockabye p.25



39 MARMAREA SLAB 5

Slab on crimps and good feet.

40 MARMAREA RIGHT 5 +

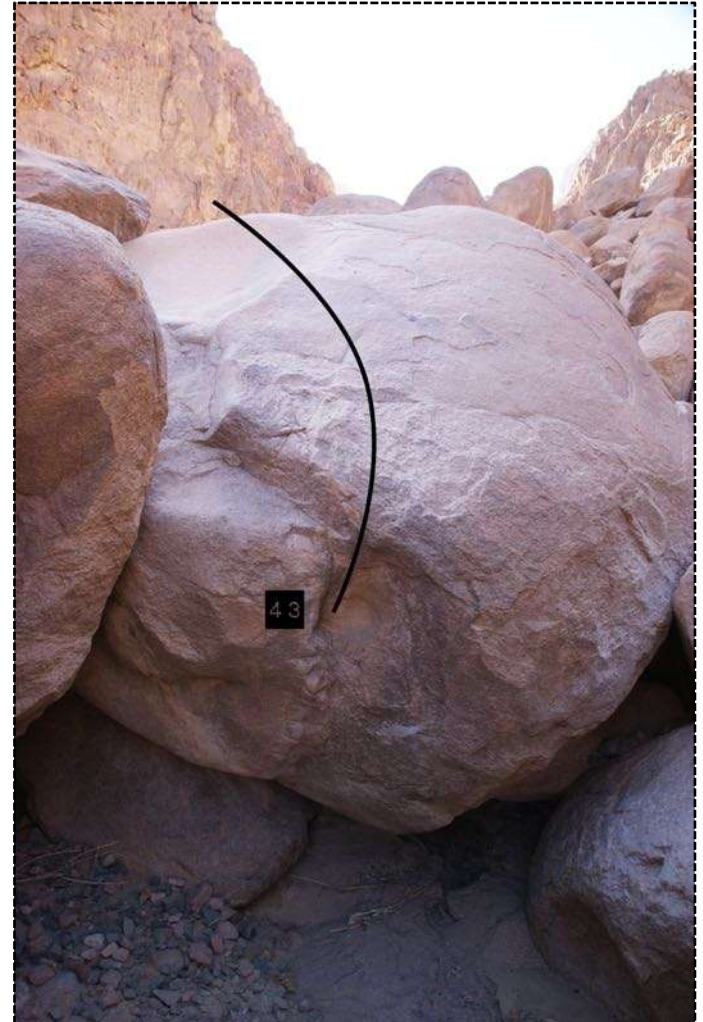
Crouch start and take direct line up slab.

41

Start low on the incut feature into a tricky sloper sequence.

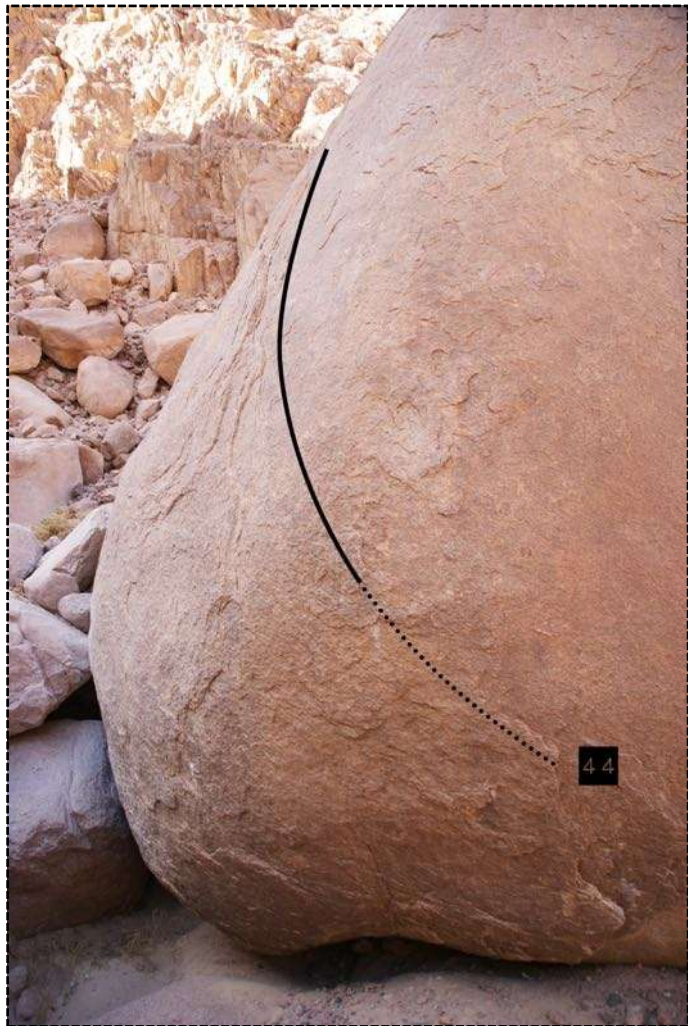
42 ★

Powerful sit start on low crimps through the overhang.



Car Park

27



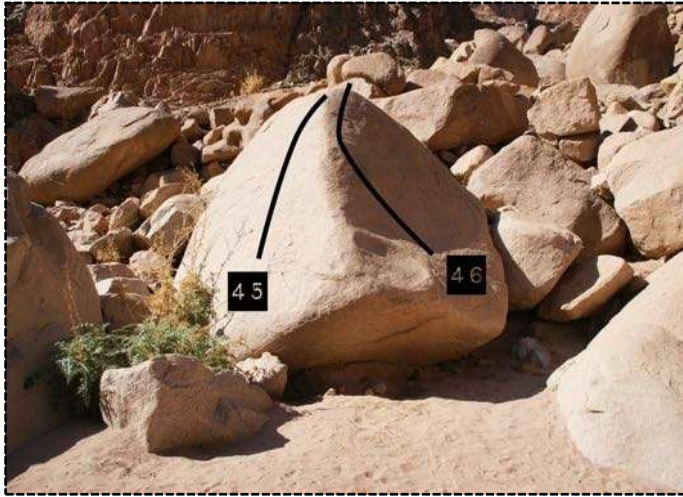
4 3 I S H T A

6 B ★

Pull on from undercuts then top out straight up avoiding the side boulder on the left.

4 4

Stand start on wide crimp sidepulls and make several hard moves up to rail and the top out. There is also a possible hard low start extension.



45 SAHARA SLAB

5+

Goes with or without the arete at roughly the same grade.

46 JUMPING SLAB

4+

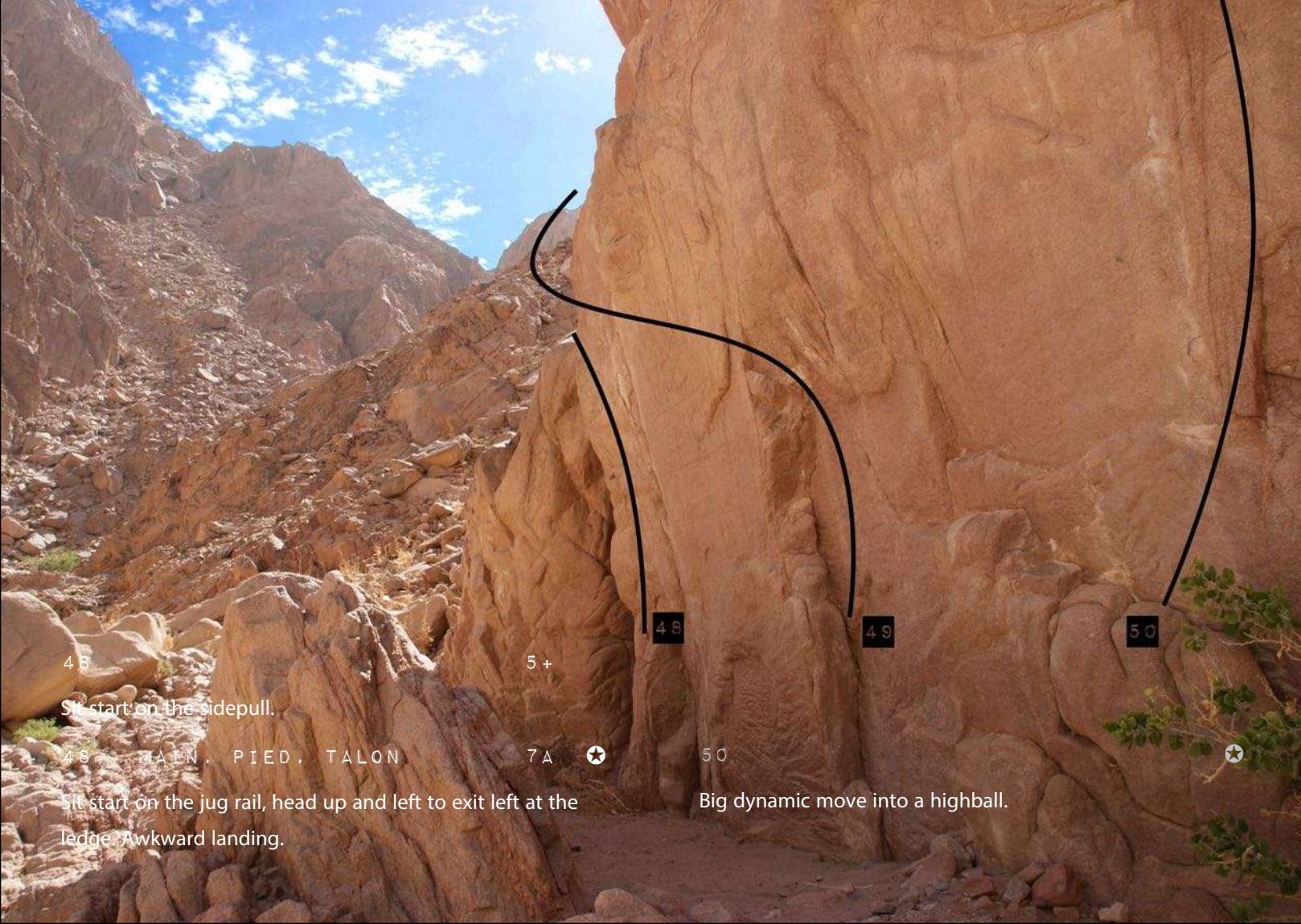
Get on with a jump from the low boulder opposite and use the arete.



47

Use sharp crimps for a low start then follow along the short hanging lip.





48

49

50

48

5+

Sit start on the sidepull.

48 MAIN, PIED, TALON

7A



50

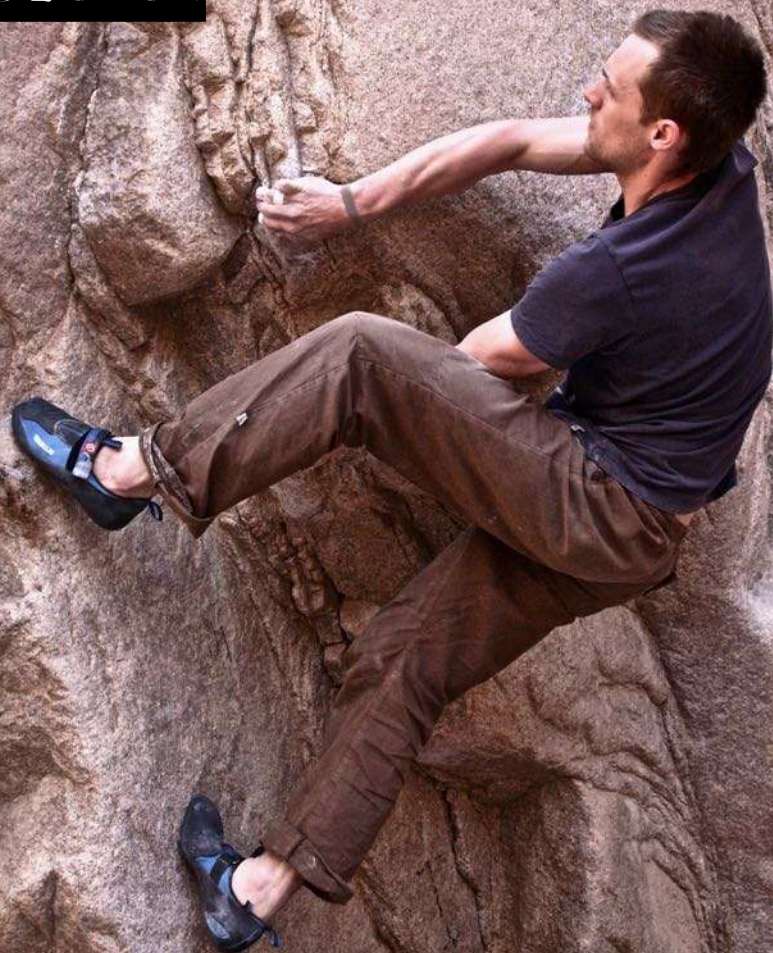


Sit start on the jug rail, head up and left to exit left at the ledge. Awkward landing.

Big dynamic move into a highball.

WATERFALL SECTOR

Matt Halpin, Waterfall p.46



WATERFALL SECTOR

OVERVIEW

Along with Turkish Bathpump sector, the lower Waterfall is one of the best areas in Bir Wadi Qunai, with lots of varied climbs including the local classic Holy Moses! (p46), good day round shaded conditions, and the smooth and beautiful white granite waterfall boulder itself. The area is visually striking, with high walls towering above and the smooth polished waterfall boulders pointing down the valley.

ACCESS

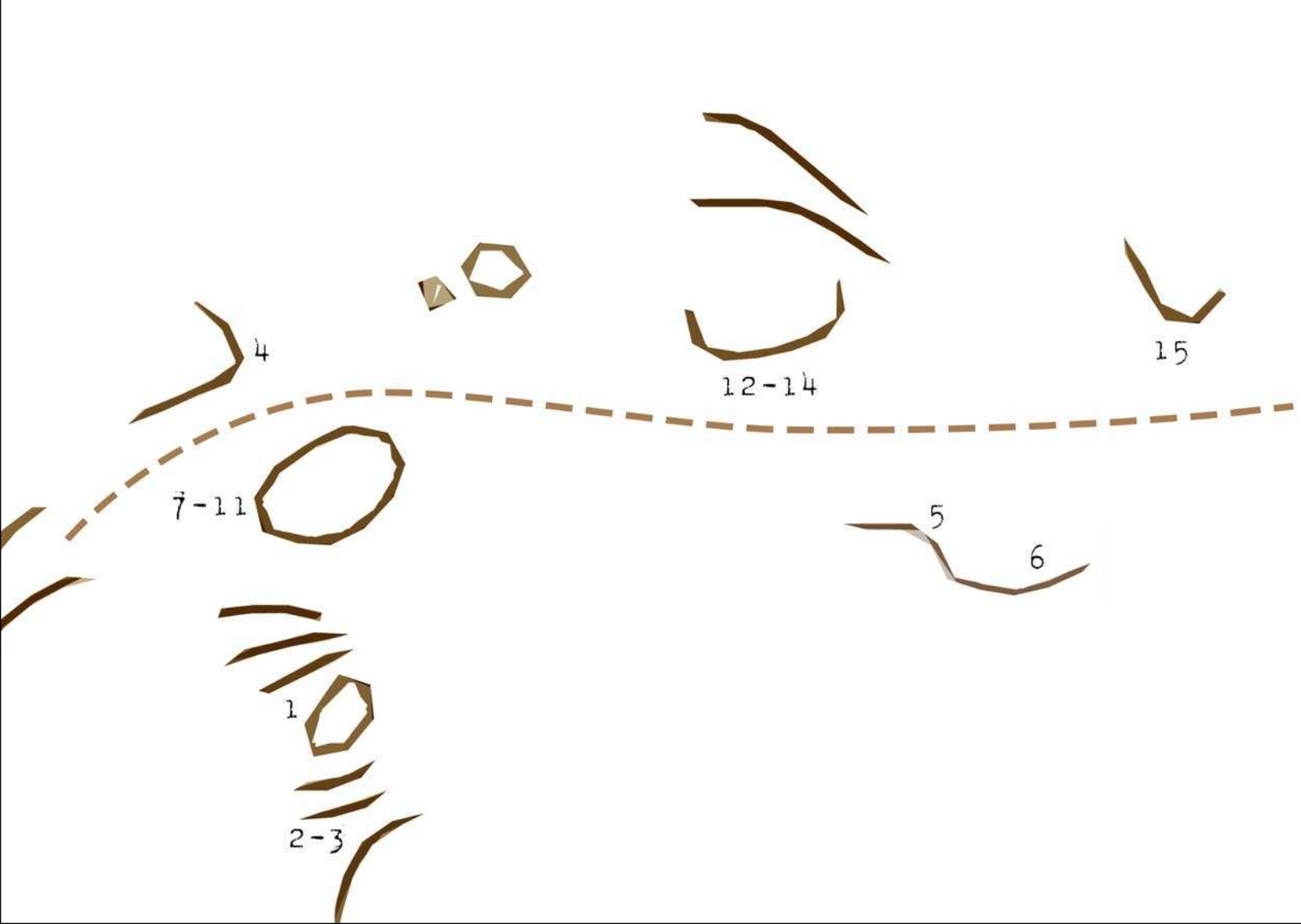
Waterfall is about 3 minutes walk from the Car Park. Getting up the waterfall boulder can be tricky for children or non climbers, in this case an easier but longer way up is to follow the easy slab to the right of Gumshoe (p42) and head up underneath the huge chock boulder to the beautiful hidden clearing and old campfire with a view overlooking the whole area.

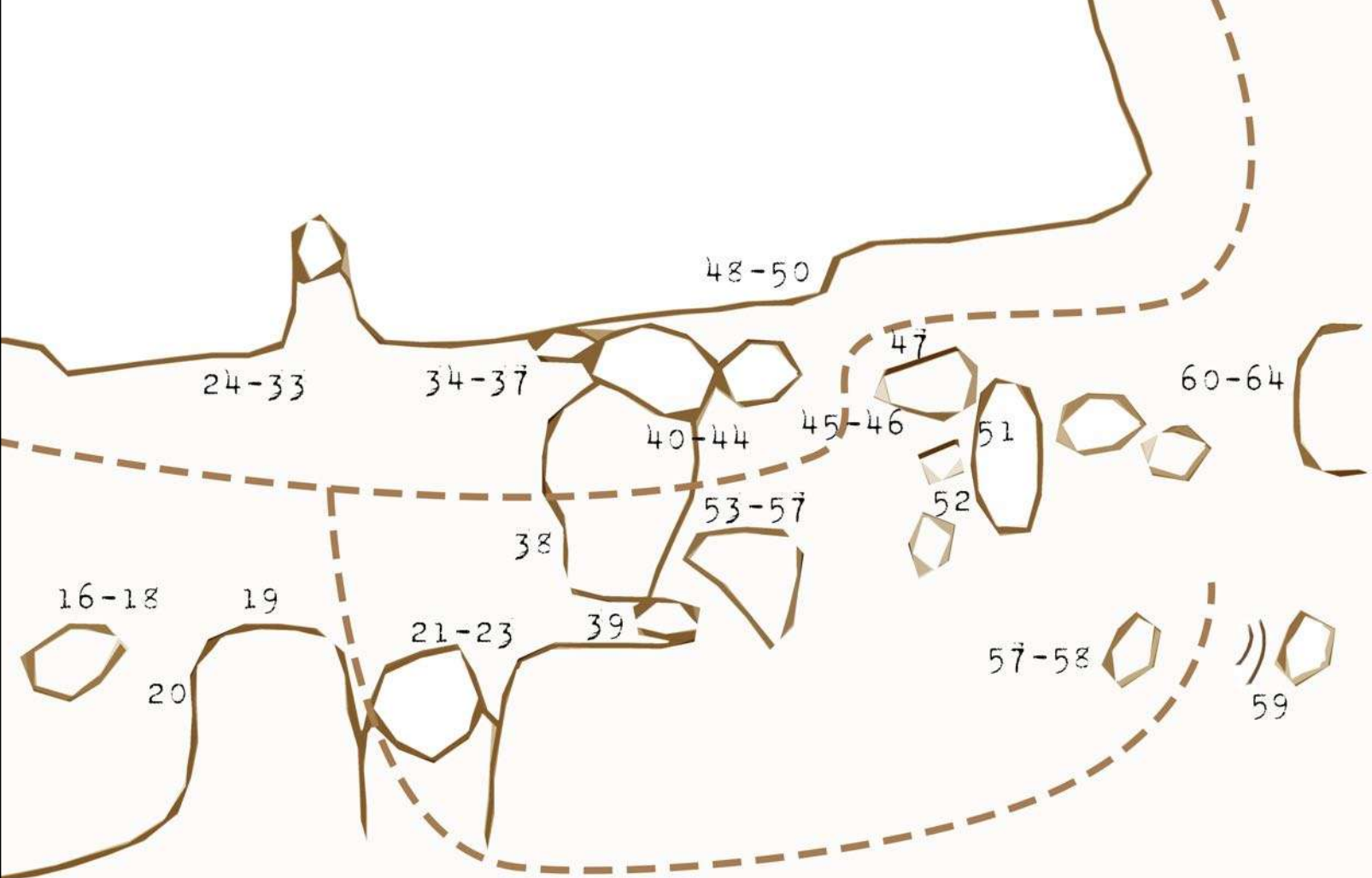
CLIMBING

The boulders are very concentrated and easy to find. There is an excellent variety of climbs, from high slabs to short and brutal overhangs. Top outs tend to be straightforward, but make sure that you are well spotted off problems like The Fly (p50) as the smooth waterfall boulder is unforgiving to land badly on. Most other landings are good. Complete beginners will be at home on the Cobblestone boulder (p57) at the end of the sector, which lead directly on to more easy climbs like Fruitcake around the corner in the Lower Corridor sector.

CONDITIONS

Most of this area, especially the problems on the large outcrop below the waterfall and the problems on that same side above the waterfall, are shaded from the sun throughout the day and the waterfall area seems to often catch a pleasant cooling onshore breeze. The lower area, with the Science Friction boulder has the same conditions as the Car Park sector.







1 HILLSIDE 4

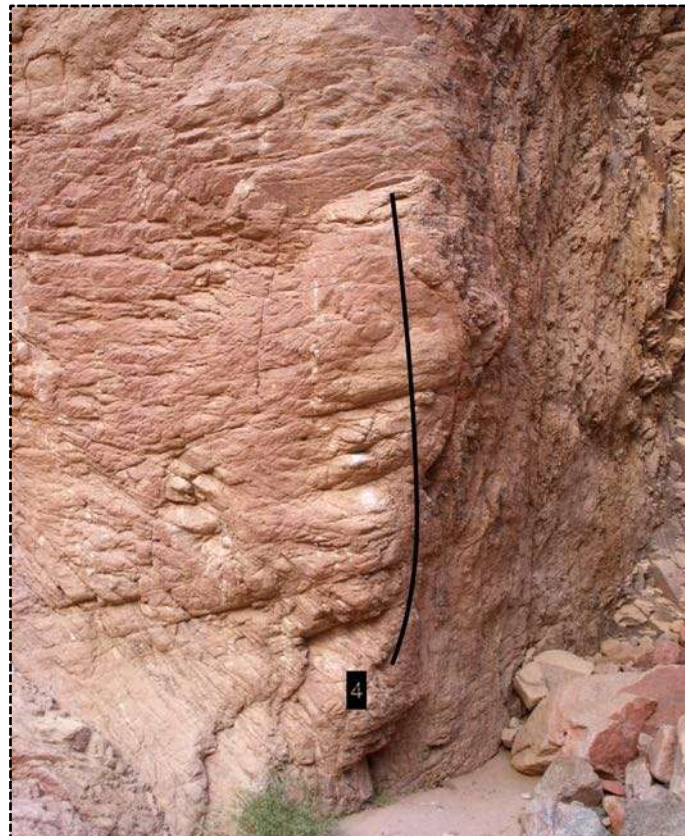
Sit start.

2 FLAKESIDE 3 +

Further right of Hillside, the left line on the slab offers easy climbing on juggy flakes.

3 CHOSS - SIDE 3

On the same outcrop as Flakeside, to the right, directly up the slab on positive holds.



4

From a sit start, tricky moves up to finish at the wide jug rail.

5 CRAZY

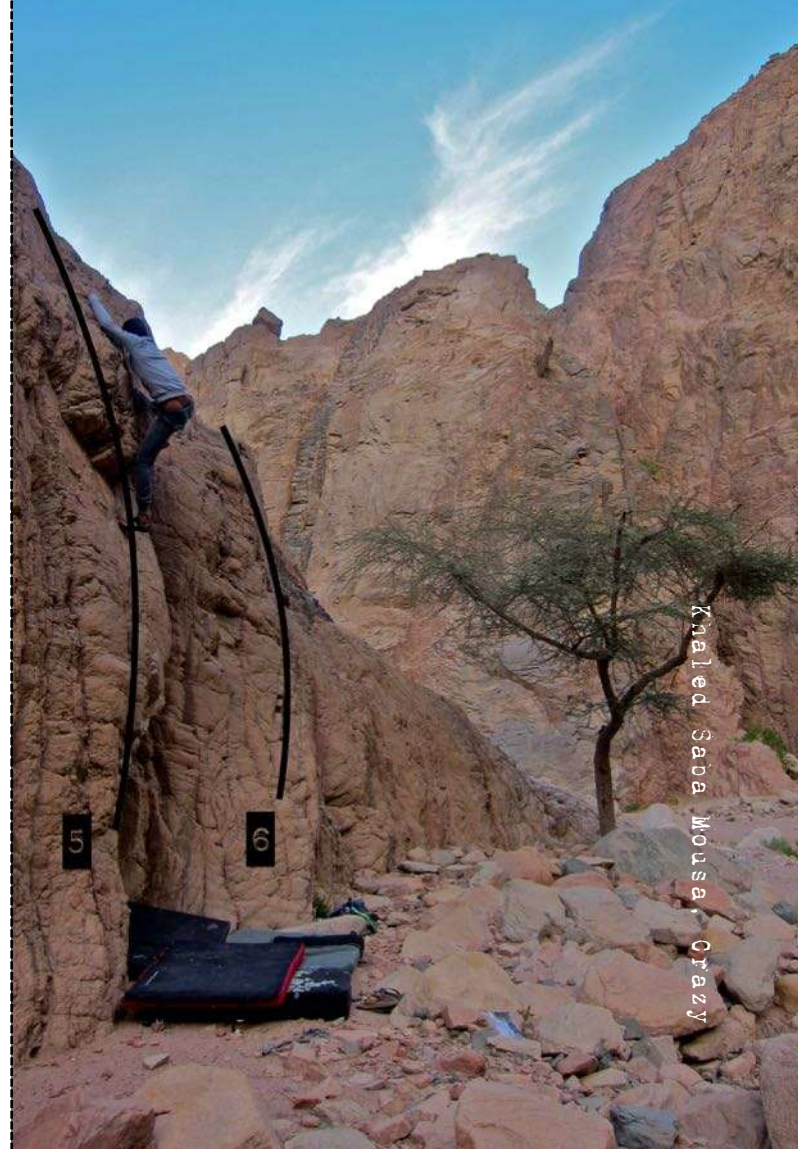
5

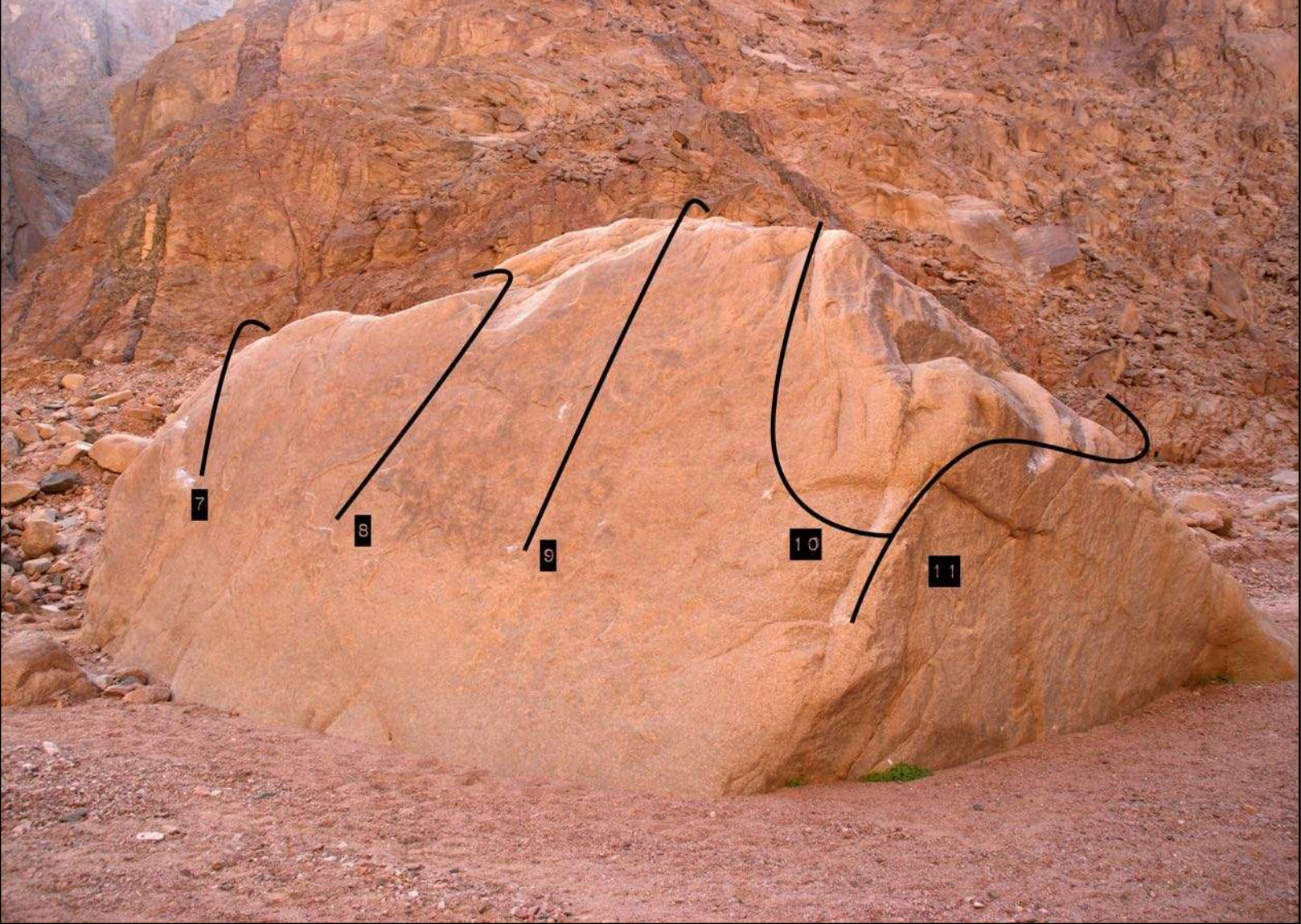
Tall problem from sit start on sidepull. Top out straight up.

6 CAMEL SLAB

3 +

Slab on rounded juggy holds from a stand start.





7 HALF SPOON

4

Start on the good rail. Low.

8 HALF MOON

5

Small edges lead up the main slab face.

9 SCIENCE FRICTION

6A ★

Enjoyable slab problem with poor feet.

10 GINA'S LINE

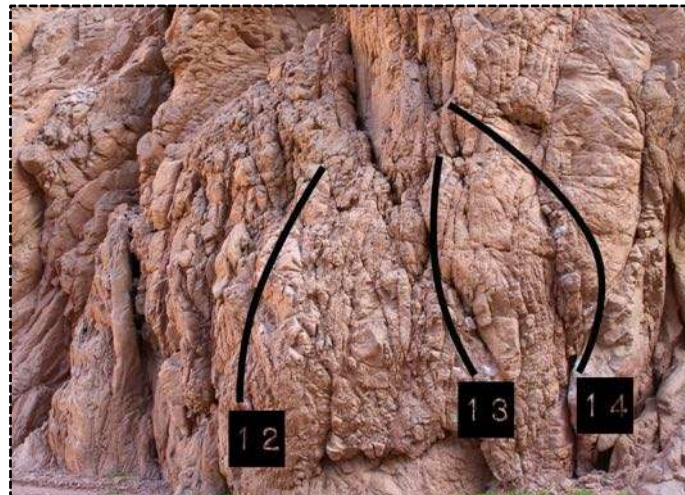
5+

Start sitting on the rounded sidepull and good right hand edge then head up and left, avoiding the ledge and arete.

11 BEDOUIN TRAVERSE

6C+

Enjoyable traverse problem from same sit start as Gina's Line. Top out onto the low slab on the far right.



12 EARL GREY

4

Sit start on the sidepull jug.

13 KARKADE

5

Sit start and follow the slightly overhanging line up and right of the seam.

14 SUGAR TEA

5+

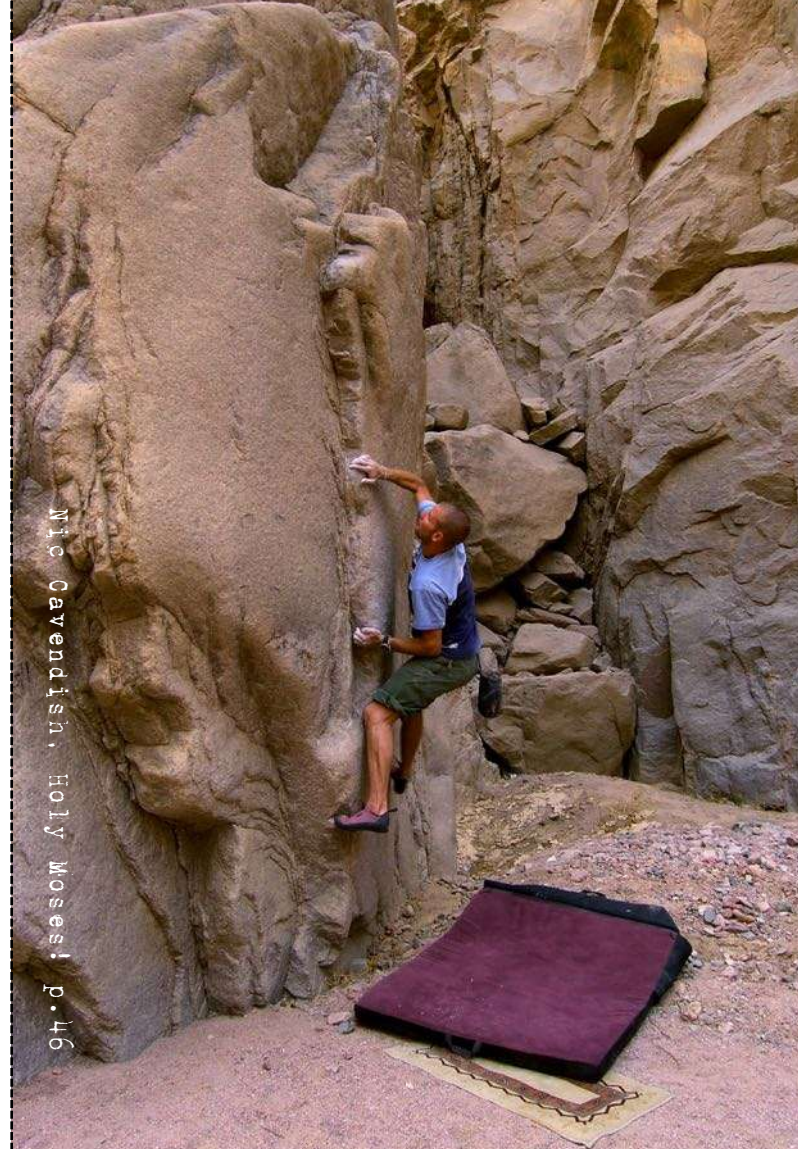
Sit start on the large flake jug and find your way up and left to a slightly trickier exit.



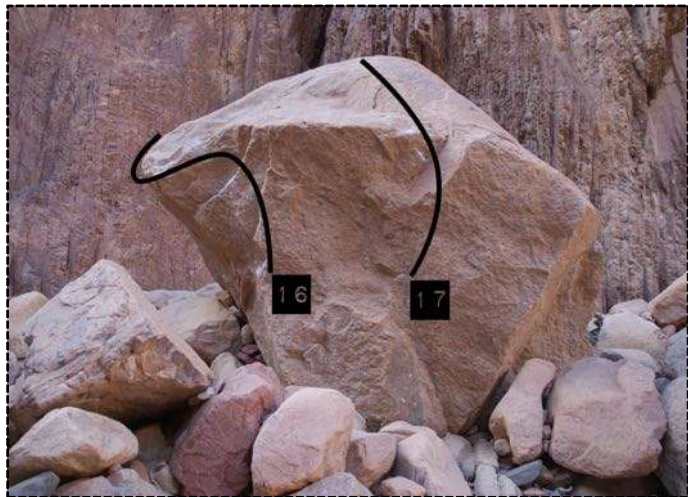
15

3

Follow the positive sidepull rail up over the step from the starting jug.



Nic Cavendish, Holy Moses! p.46



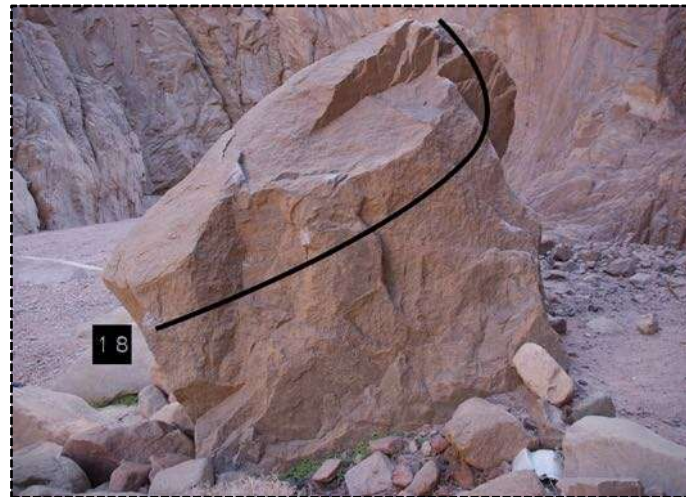
16 WANG TANG

6C ★

Dynamic sit start move off rounded blunt edge, then follow the lip left to exit straight up the middle of the overhanging prow.

17

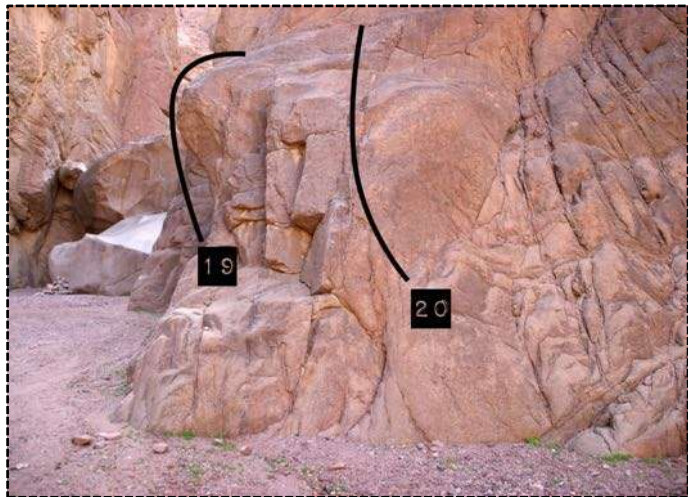
One hard sit start move from crimps up to good edge and the top out.



18

4

Sit start on the juggy pinch next to the arete. Low.



19

Crouching start on the light overhang to follow up the wide crack.

20 TURKISH COFFEE SLAB 3

Start on the rounded ledge.



21



Crouch start on the positive incut and follow powerful moves up to a seriously highball exit. Hard.

22

4 +

Start on the rounded feature and top out at big ledge. Jump across to side boulder to get down.

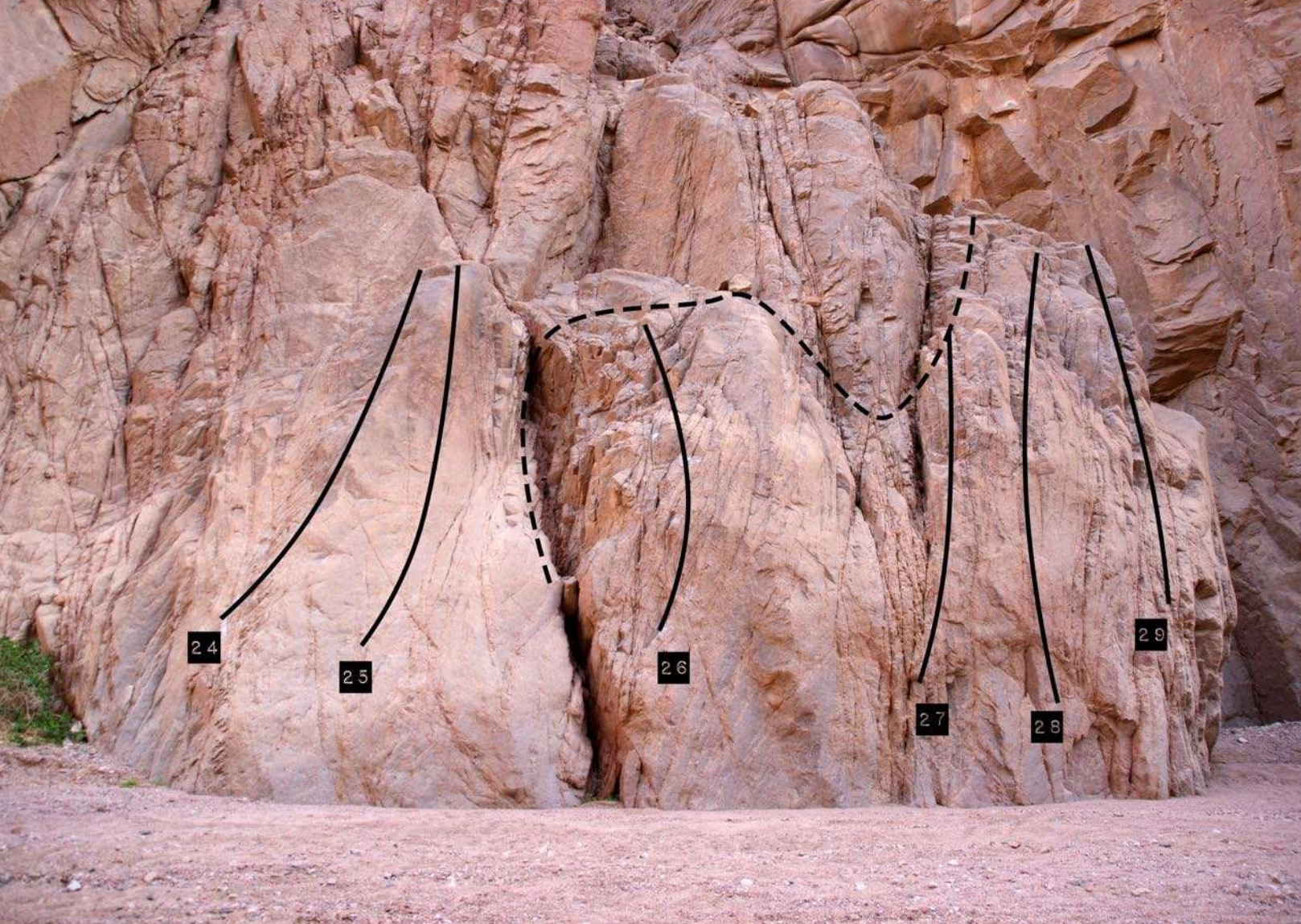
23

GUMSHOE

5

Start on right hand slab and and traverse left and up.





24

25

26

27

28

29

24 MAFHISH 5

Start on the good crimps and stay to the left of 25. Trickier moves right at the top!

25 HEYA MEYA 6A

Start on the left hand crimp and right hand thumb catch. Follow the blankish, steepening slab to a high finish.

26 MISHKELA 6A

Start crouching on the juggy hold, slap up to a smaller side crimp and move straight up, avoiding the groove around the left arete.

27 CHECK YOURS 6B+

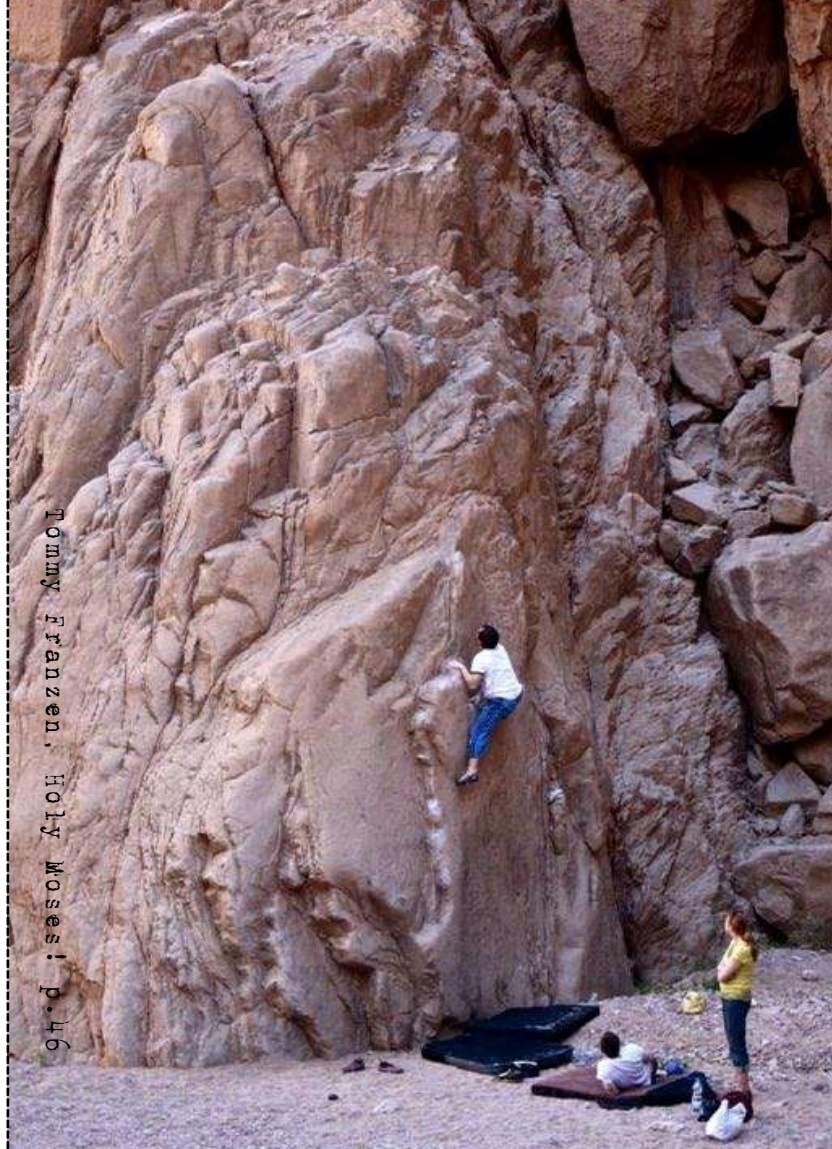
Sit start off the odd incut crack and head up into the easy groove after a tricky start.

28 SMALL FIN 6B ★

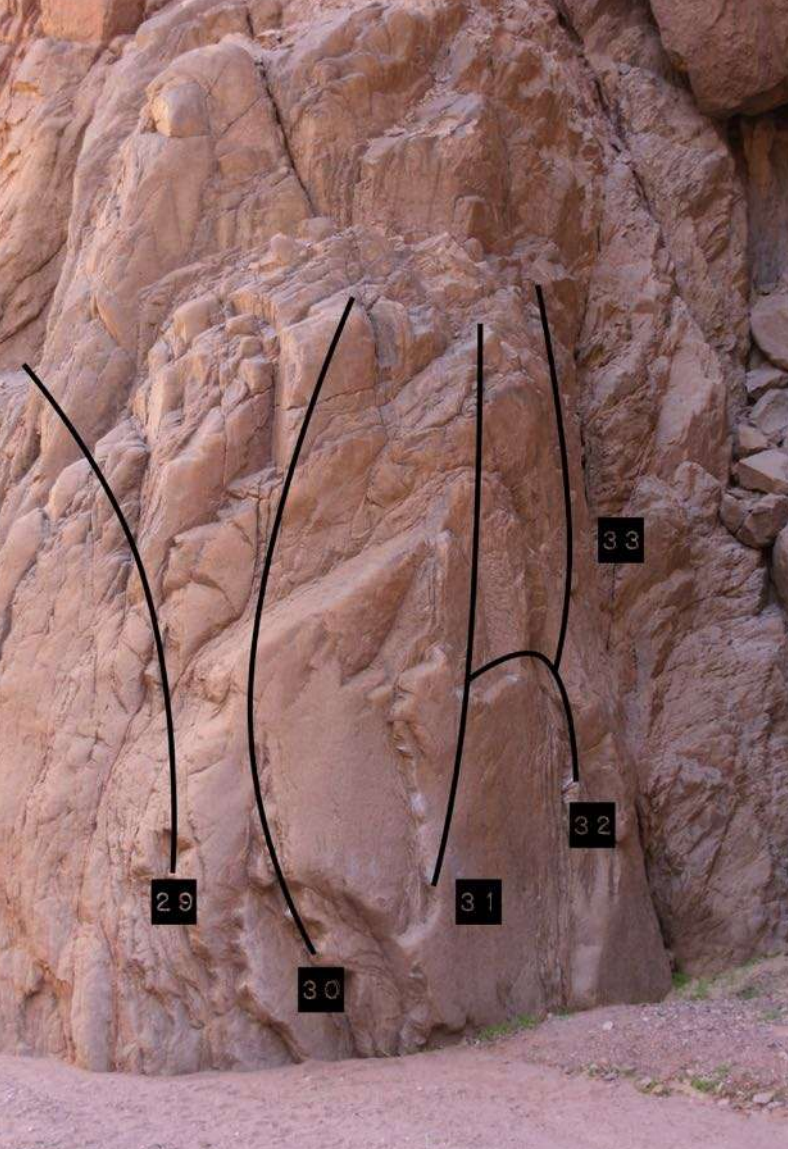
Start from sitting with an undercut and the small fin hold and head straight up.

29 NIC'S LINE 6A ★

Start matching on the crimp on the protruding head height blocky feature and follow the arete up and leftwards.



Tommy Franzen, Holy Moses! p.46



30 MAGADIR

6C ★

Sit start from the chunky undercut block and follow the line of holds up to a tricky reach move and exit on slopers.

31 HOLY MOSES!

6A+ ★

One of the classic problems of the whole area. From standing follow the sidepull feature and a small crimp to the topout.

32 DRESSED AS MEPHISTO

6B+ ★

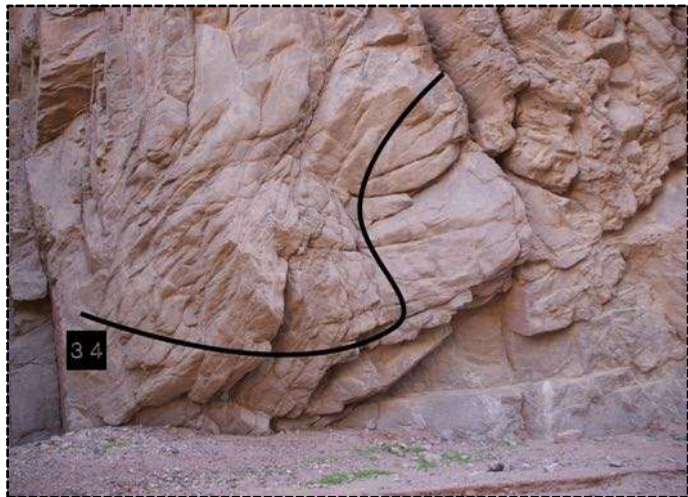
Dyno from the head high jug up and left to the the two holds on the right end of the rail, then traverse along to exit up problem 31.

33 STUCK UP

5 ★

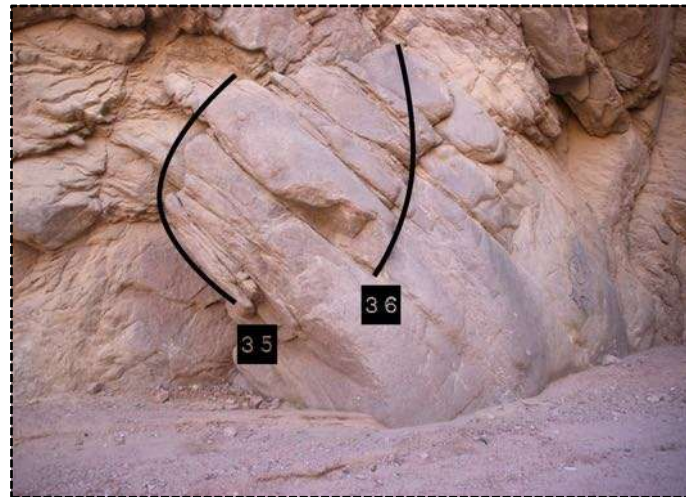
Same start as 32, but head up and right to top out high up. You can escape left to finish up Holy Moses! but staying right is more fun.

To downclimb problems 26-33, the easiest way is to traverse along to the groove between problems 25 and 26.



34 THROW THEM TO THE LIONS 7A ★

Traverse from stand start. Finish by topping out on to the large sidepull ledge.

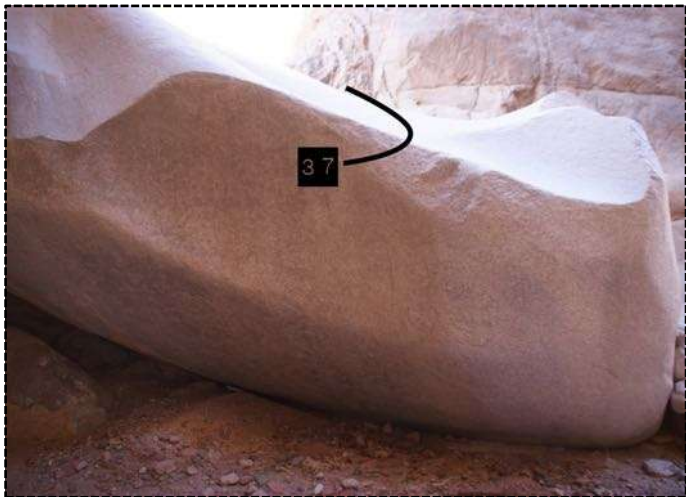


35 BINT 5+

Sit start and follow the low overhanging prow, avoiding the left sidewall.

36 KHALED'S LINE 5

Start on the undercut.



37 WATERFALL MANTEL !!

Mantel onto the glass smooth waterfall boulder.

38 THROWN TO THE LIONS !! ★

Get up the slide groove on the waterfall boulder. Can be done static or with a running start to make it easier. There is a Bedouin trick to this...



39

Start from the holds around the back of the chockstone boulder and follow up the offwidth using anything you can reach.

48 Lower Waterfall



Joe Whitfield, The Fly p50



40

41

42

43

44

40 THE FLY (LEFT) 7A+ ★

Start on the triangular hold and follow the left seam.

41 THE FLY 7A+ ★

Starting as 40, and move right with a big move to the start of the jug rail.

42 THE FLY (EASY) 5 ★

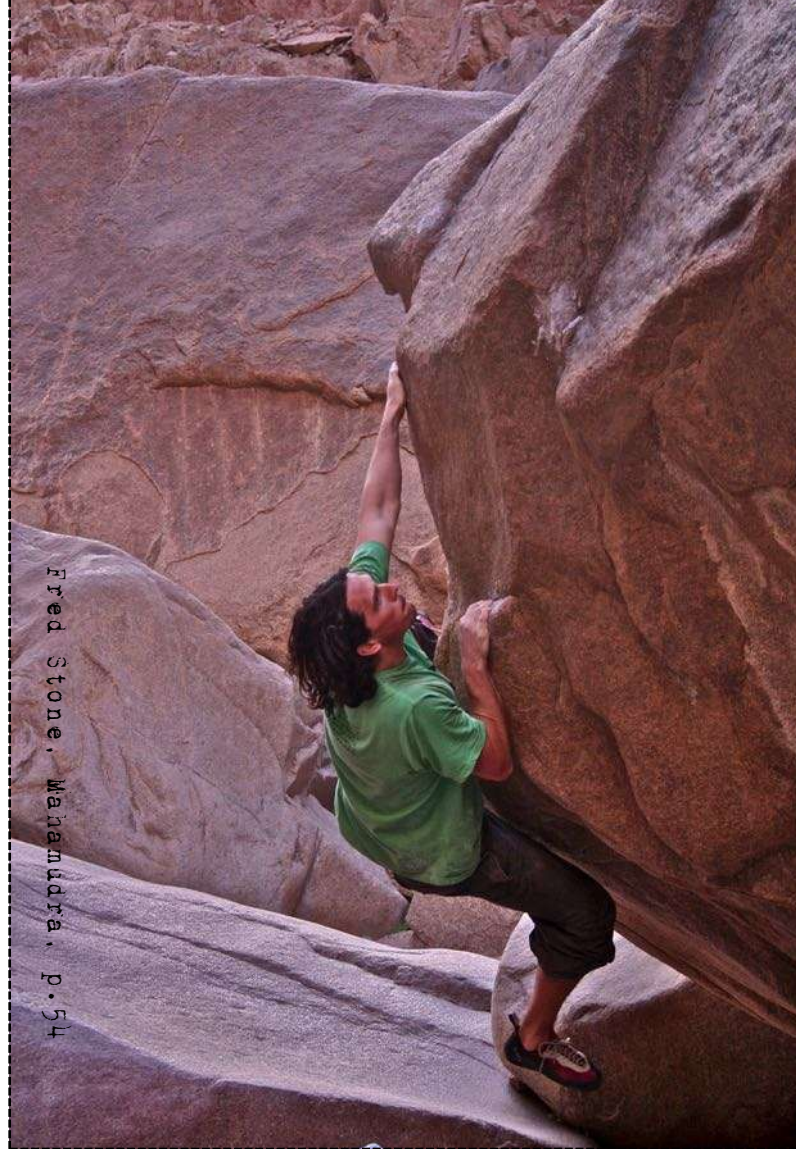
Jump start up to the jug rail. Make sure you have an attentive spotter if the top out feels at all sketchy.

43 BEAN 6A

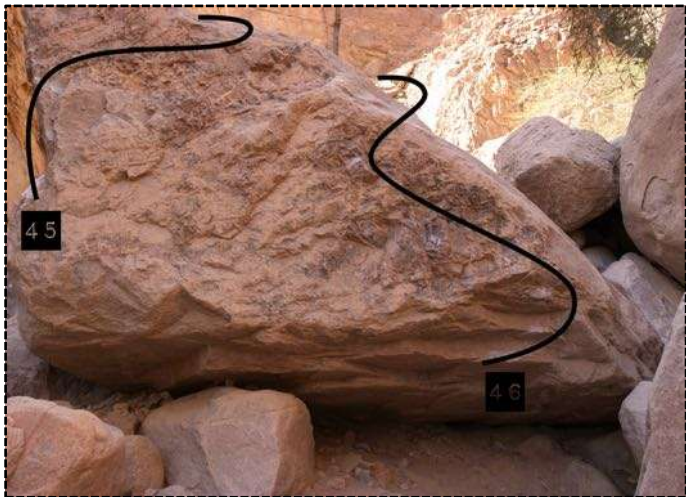
Start on the overhead incut edge and top out up and left.

44 COMPRESSION MIDGET 7B

Sit start from the lowest holds and follow some very smooth slopers.



Fred Stone, Mahamudra, p.54



45 MR MIYAGI

6B

From a standing start to the left of the arete, follow the arete. Awkward landing.

46 ZAPA

7A ★

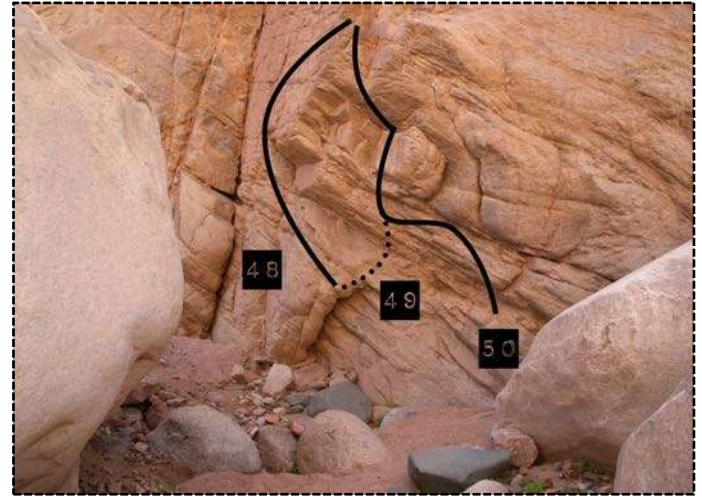
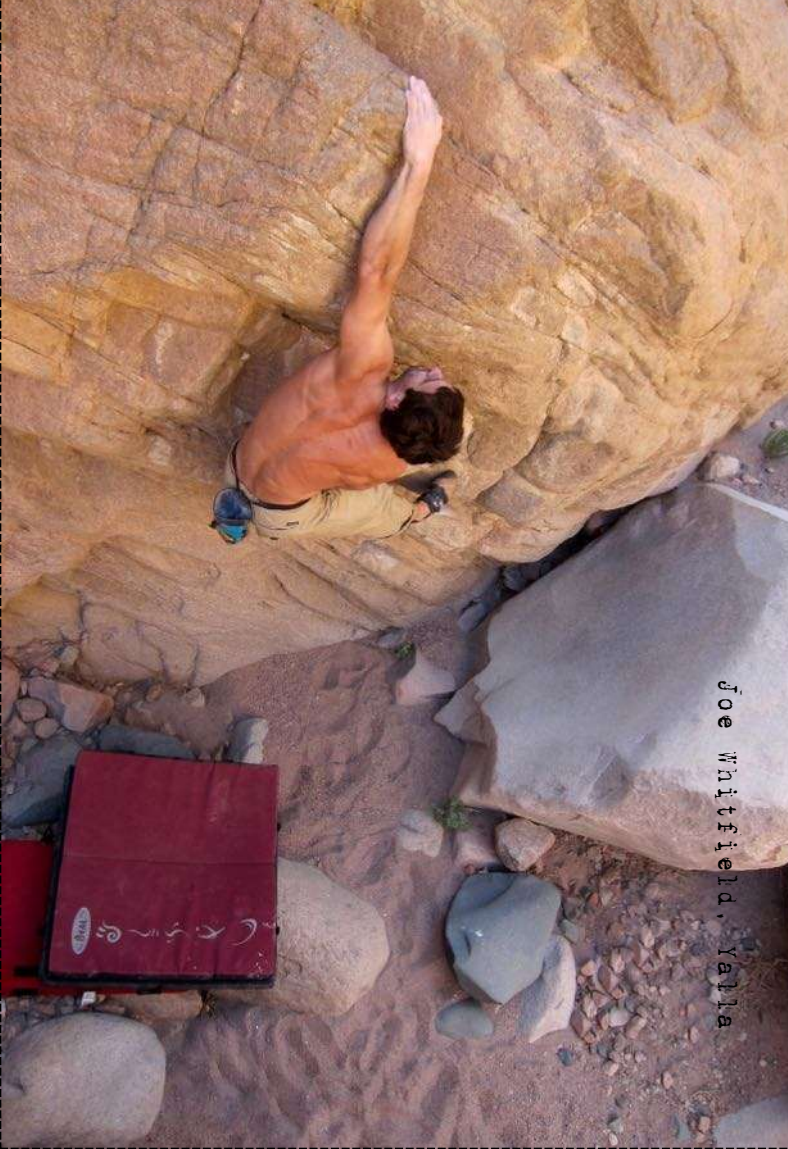
Sit start underneath the mini roof on low positive crimps and follow crimps up to the jumble of poor holds on the face and some smooth slopers on top.



47 WAX ON, WAX OFF

5

Crouching start from the rail. Top out at the right arete.



48 NERUAH 6B

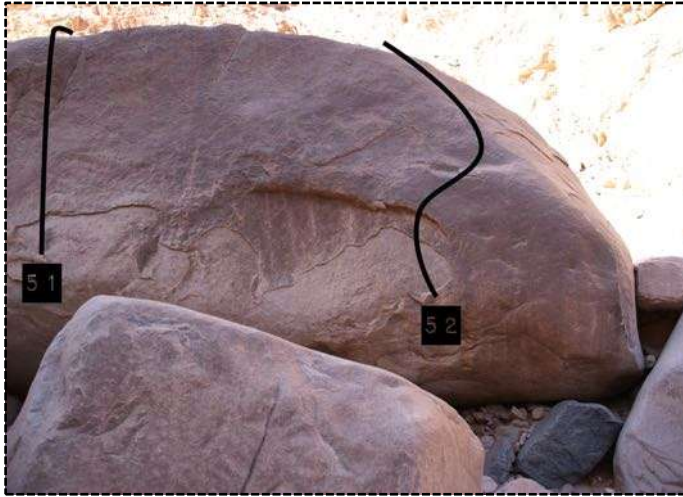
Sit start from the undercut feature and left.

49 YALLABINA 6A

Sit start from the undercut feature and move right.

50 YALLA 5+

Sit start from the jug rail.

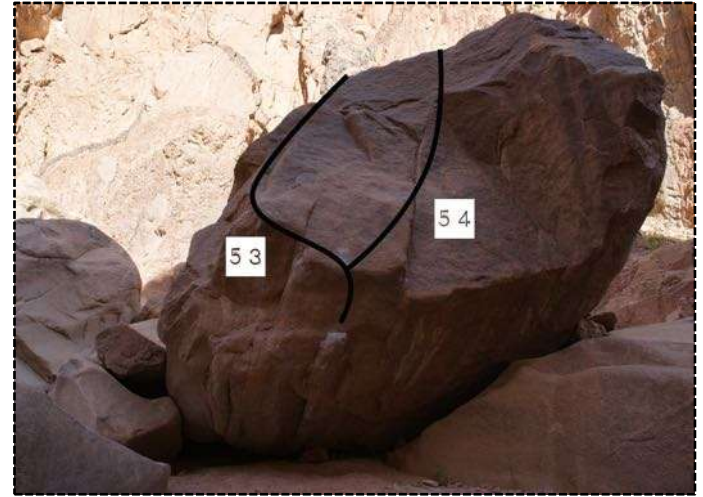


51 BELLEVILLE TRIPLETS 7A+ ★

Start from left hand sloper and right hand crimp. Possibility of hard low extension.

52 ANNELIE FROM MONTMARTRE 6A ★

Sit start from the lower crimp edges.



53 MAHAMUDRA 6C+

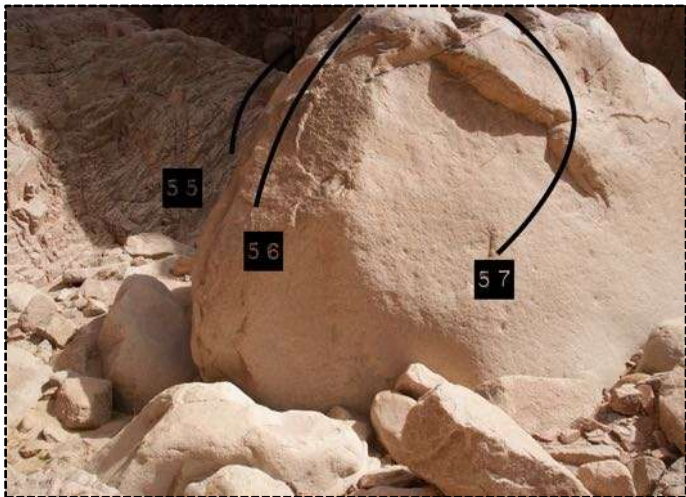
Sit start from the positive rounded holds.

54 MAHAMUDRA DIRECT 7A+ ★

Start the same as problem 53, but head straight up the tall slab feature.

There is also the possibility to add a lower start to problems 53 & 54 from the very low jugs.

54 Lower Waterfall



55

Stand start line off the vague pockets on the vertical back wall. Hard.

56 YOGI ARETE 4+

Follow the arete on sidepulls.

57 KAMASUTRA SLAB 5+

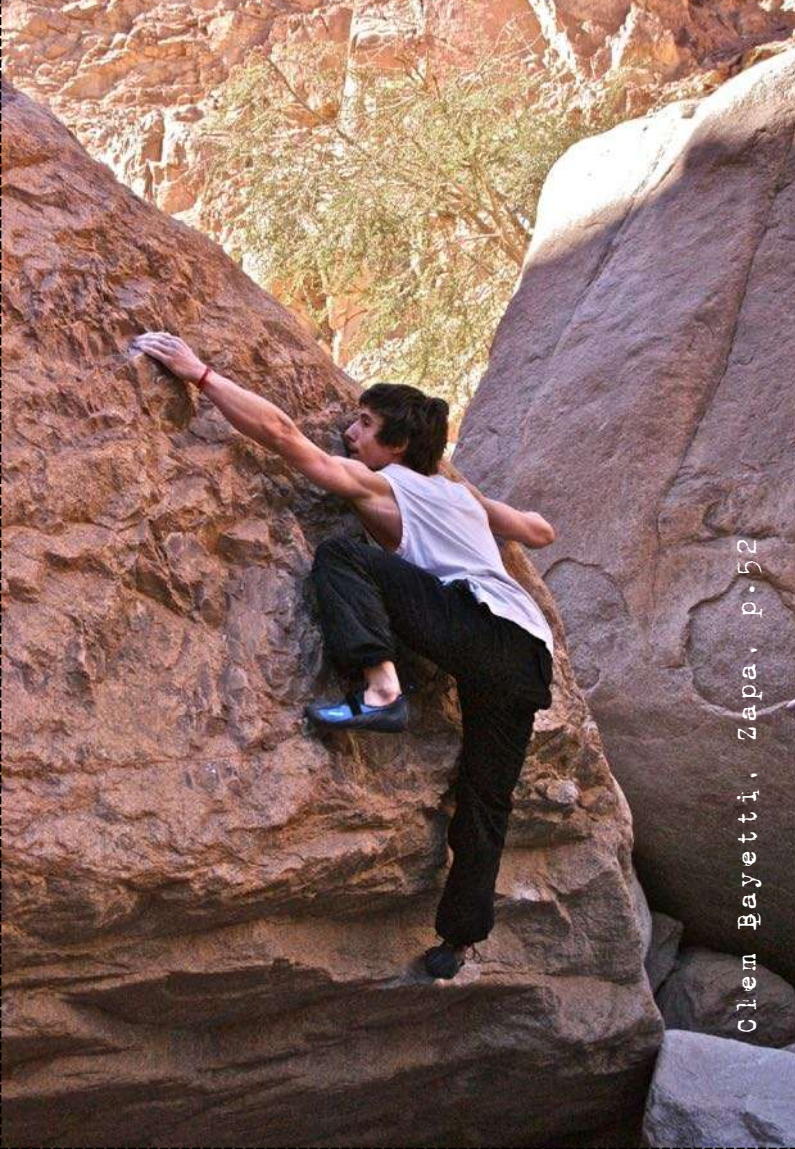
Head towards the break in the protruding feature. Awkward landing.



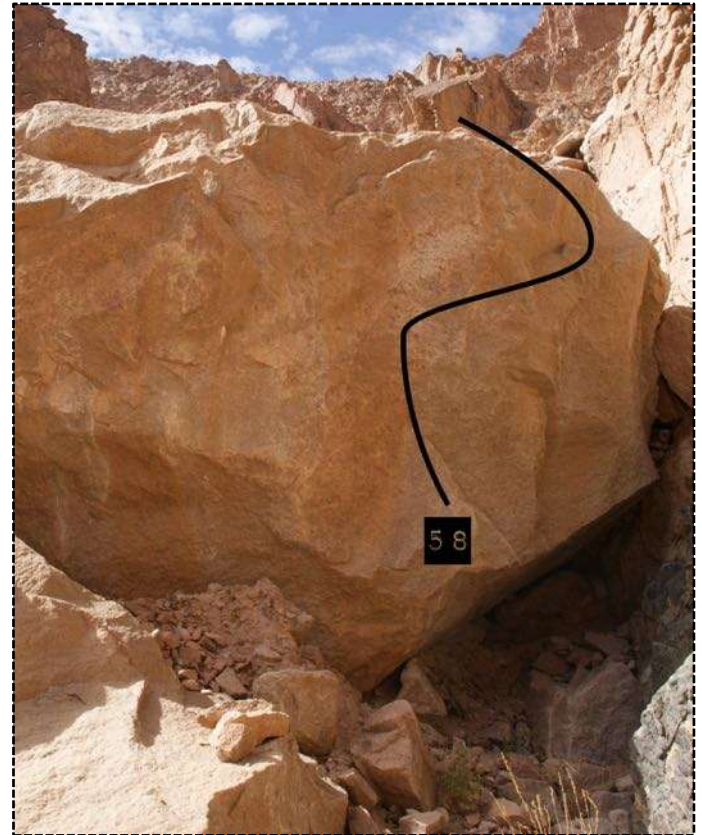
Hang the small crimps on the protruding block and head up.

59 JUICE MAN 6B

Sit start and move up and left on sloping holds and edges to an easier exit.

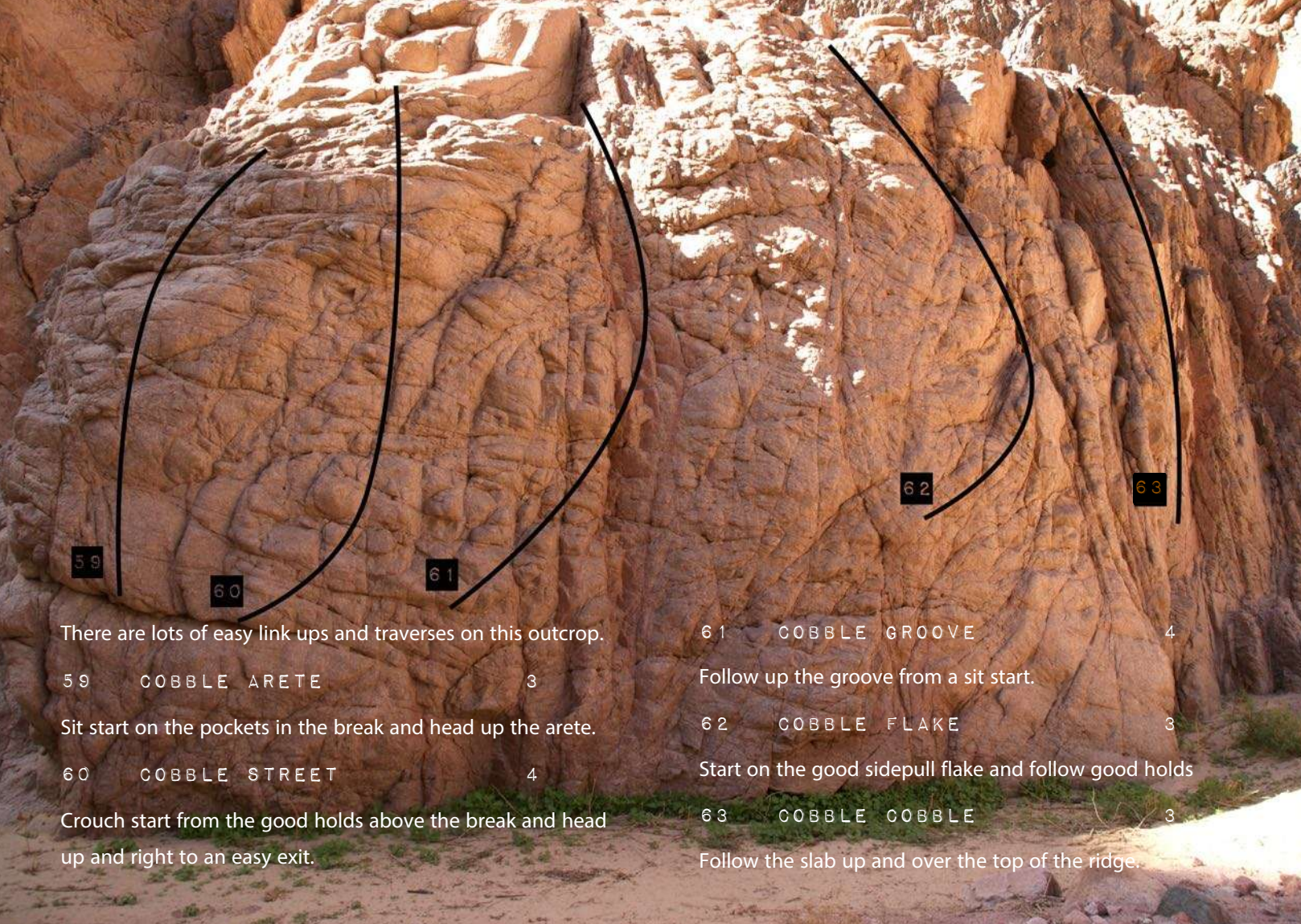


Clem Bayetti, Zapa, p. 52



59

Sit start from the sidepull and climb the overhanging face.



There are lots of easy link ups and traverses on this outcrop.

59 COBBLE ARETE 3

Sit start on the pockets in the break and head up the arete.

60 COBBLE STREET 4

Crouch start from the good holds above the break and head up and right to an easy exit.

61 COBBLE GROOVE 4

Follow up the groove from a sit start.

62 COBBLE FLAKE 3

Start on the good sidepull flake and follow good holds

63 COBBLE COBBLE 3

Follow the slab up and over the top of the ridge.

LOWER CORRIDOR SECTOR



LOWER CORRIDOR SECTOR

OVERVIEW

Lower corridor sector is typical of Bir Wadi Qunai, with medium sized boulders laying on a sandy floor and sidewalls with equally good lines, as well as the occasional terrace with larger boulders overlooking the valley.

ACCESS

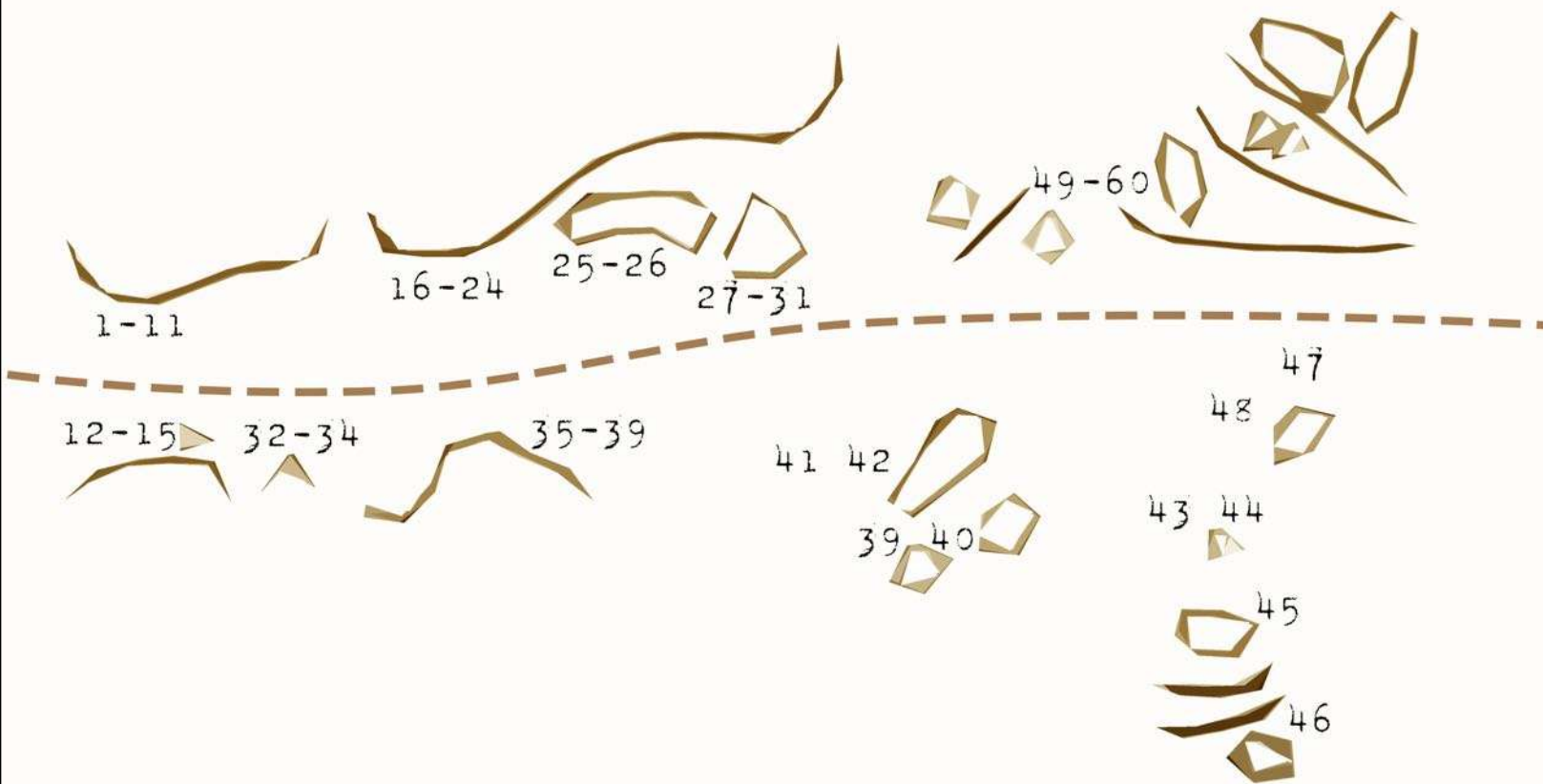
Lower Corridor is about 8 minutes walk from the Car Park sector, and starts around the corner on the end of the Lower Waterfall sector. There are no further changes in level in this sector so walking around is easy and safe for children, but from here until the end of Basins sector is totally inaccessible by car, quad bike, or even camel. The boulders start to spread out from here, and require a little walk from one to another.

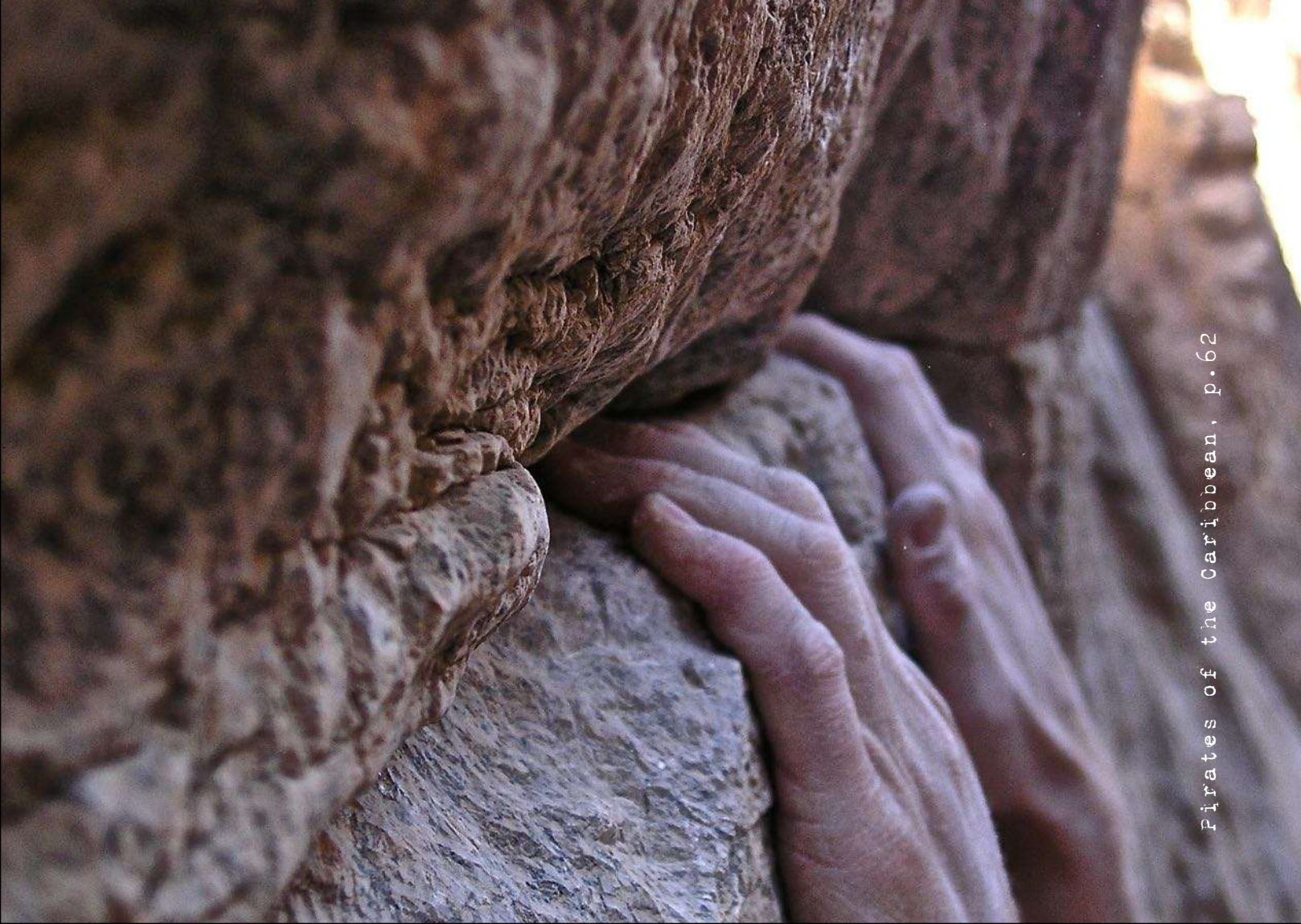
CLIMBING

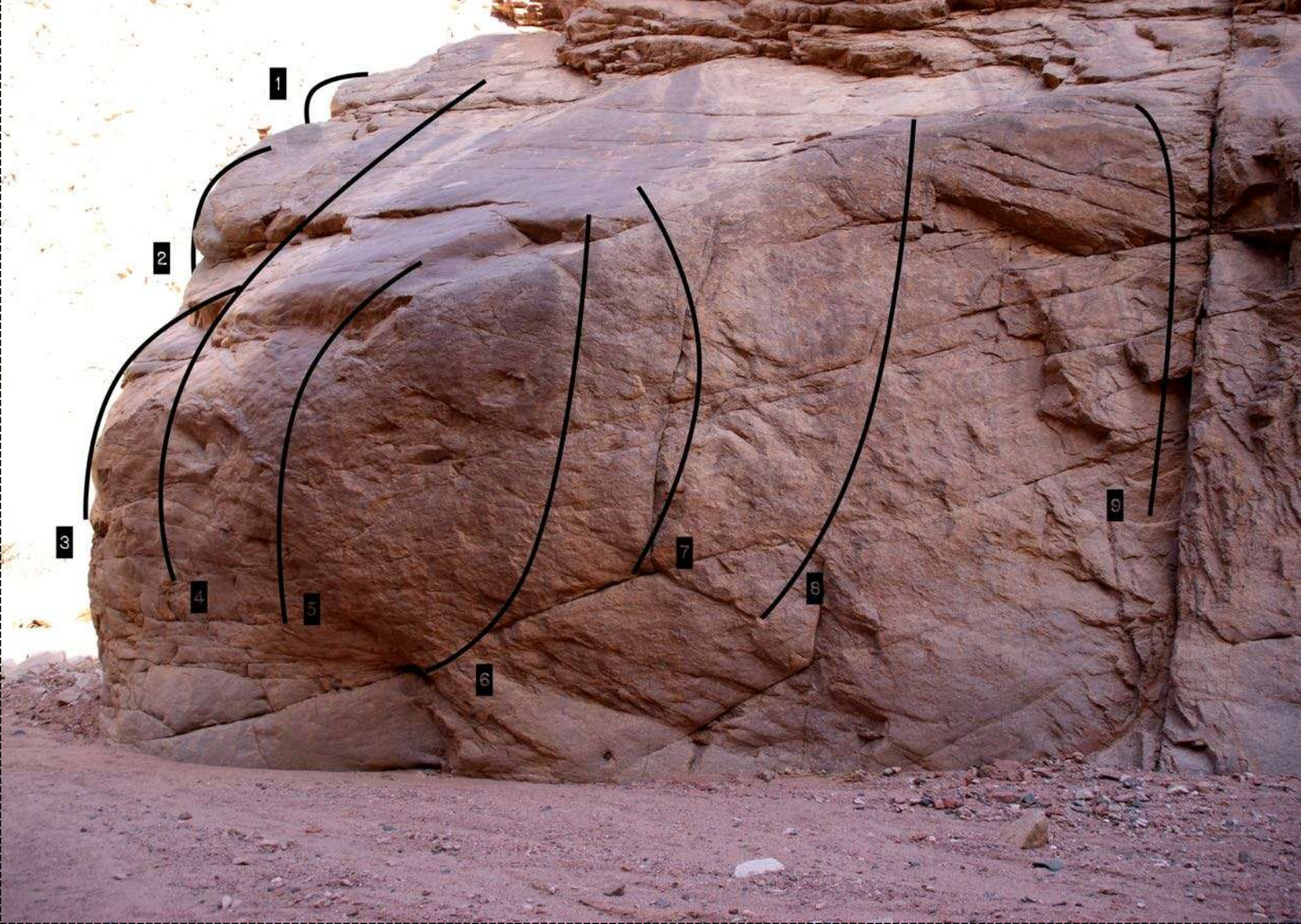
There is a good mix of styles, mostly in the intermediate to harder grades in this sector: hard fingery sidewall climbs to big roof climbs and overhangs like on p76 and some exciting slabs. The only downside is that the easier climbs here tend to be a bit short.

CONDITIONS

The majority of this area gets direct sun starting from late morning until the afternoon. Some of the climbs around Catcher in the rye, (p68) will stay shaded for longer though, and the large roof boulders also stay relatively shaded.







1 ★

Highball line up to flat top out, on far left.

2 ★

High, direct line just around corner from Same Same.

3 SAME SAME 6B

From head high holds, follow arete up to sloping top out.

4 BEDOUIN CIGARETTE 5+ ★

Start matching on the sidepull and edge feature and head straight up slight overhang. A local classic.

5 ★

Sit start on low holds. Big moves on crimps on the overhanging face. Hard.

6 ★

Sit start on low incut feature and head up on small crimps with a beastly deadpoint move off the undercut. Hard.

7 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN 7A+ ★

Start on the horizontal crack. High exit.

8 PIRATES OF THE ARABIAN 7B

Crouch start from the sidepulls and head up blank vertical wall avoiding ledge on the right.

9 THE PLANK 4

Head up the easy crack groove on the slab wall and exit high. Downclimb problems 1-11 this way.

10 KHALED'S MOVE 5

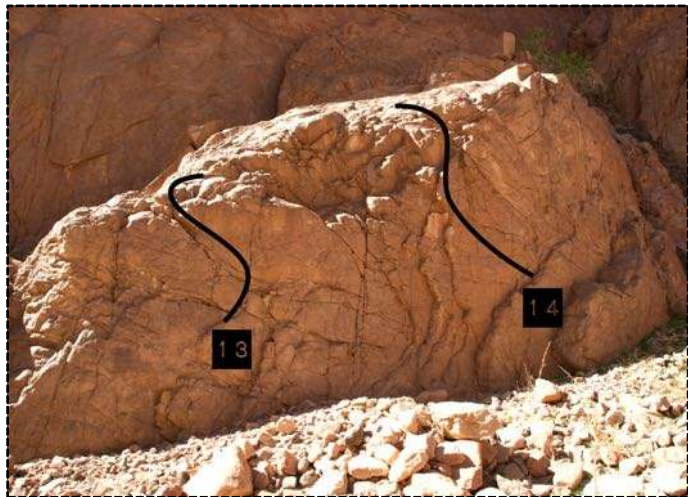
To right of 9. Follow the holds until you reach the ledge to top out leftwards.

11 ★

Next problem right of Khaled's move. Take the line to the right of 10 and top out directly up the blank looking slab. High.

12 ★

On the level above Tivo, there is a big overhang with a flat landing that just needs a clean on a top rope for a first ascent. High.



13 3

Sit start from the jug edge.

14 3

Start using the low flakes.

15 TIVO 4+

Sit start from the left hand edge with a slightly flaky starting foothold and follow the arete.

16

Start same as problem 17 but move left onto poor handholds to make tricky & tall exit onto slab.

17 SMISKAME 6B+

Sit start left hand edge jug. Follow seam up to a high exit.

18 JACK SPARROW 4+

Start left hand jug edge. Follow up and left to finish on jugs.

19 FALCO 5+

Start on block crimp and head straight up via ledge.

20 GOOSE WALL 6C

Layback sit start crimp, big move from undercut to ledge.

21 FELLAHIN 6A+

Start sitting, from layback off left hand holds.

22 CORRIE 5+

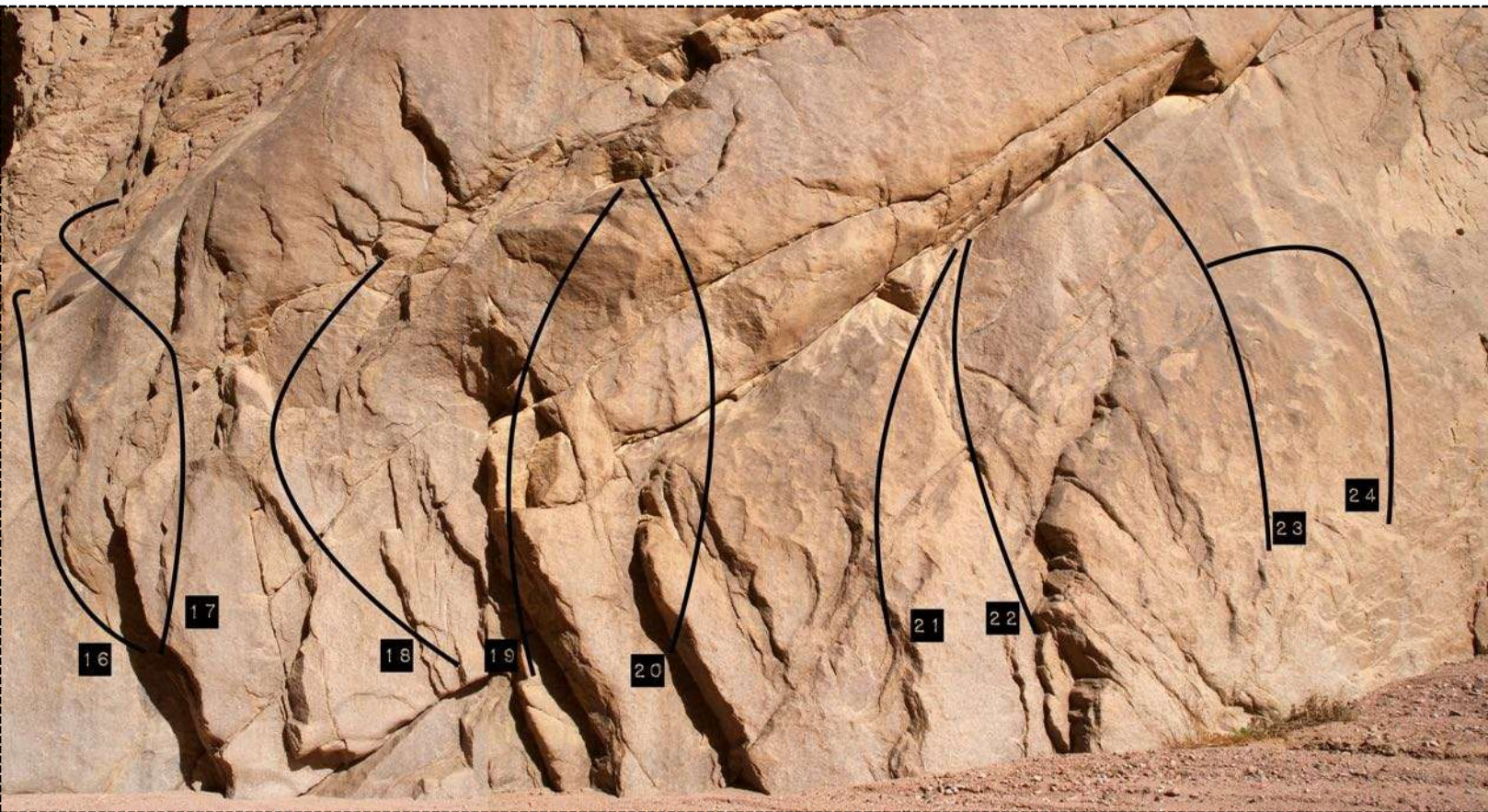
Sit start off right hand knobble.

23 EASTENDERS 6B

Sit start on crimps below vague shelf feature.

24 GOOSED 6C

Dynamic first move from jugs to crimp edge.



From problems 18-20 downclimb 18, Problems 21-24 downclimb 22.



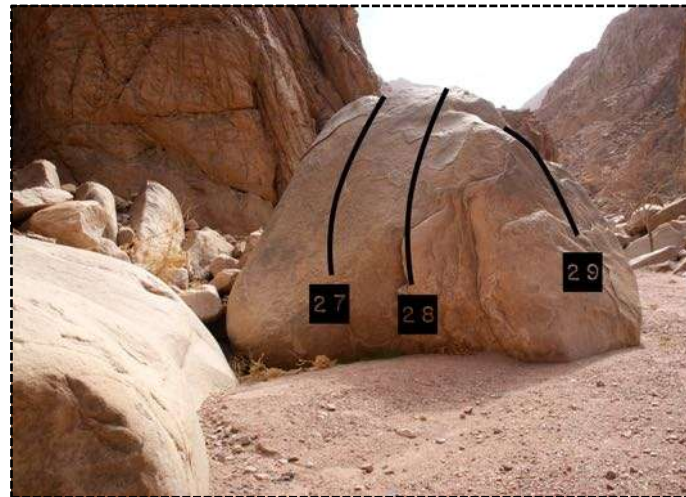


25

Sit start from the flake edge and follow the lip left.

26

Very short but tricky sit start off the good incut crimps.



27 ELVIS SLAB

7A ★

Follow the tall slab up across the feature of "The King" through increasingly committing moves. Awkward landing.

28 DOROTHY

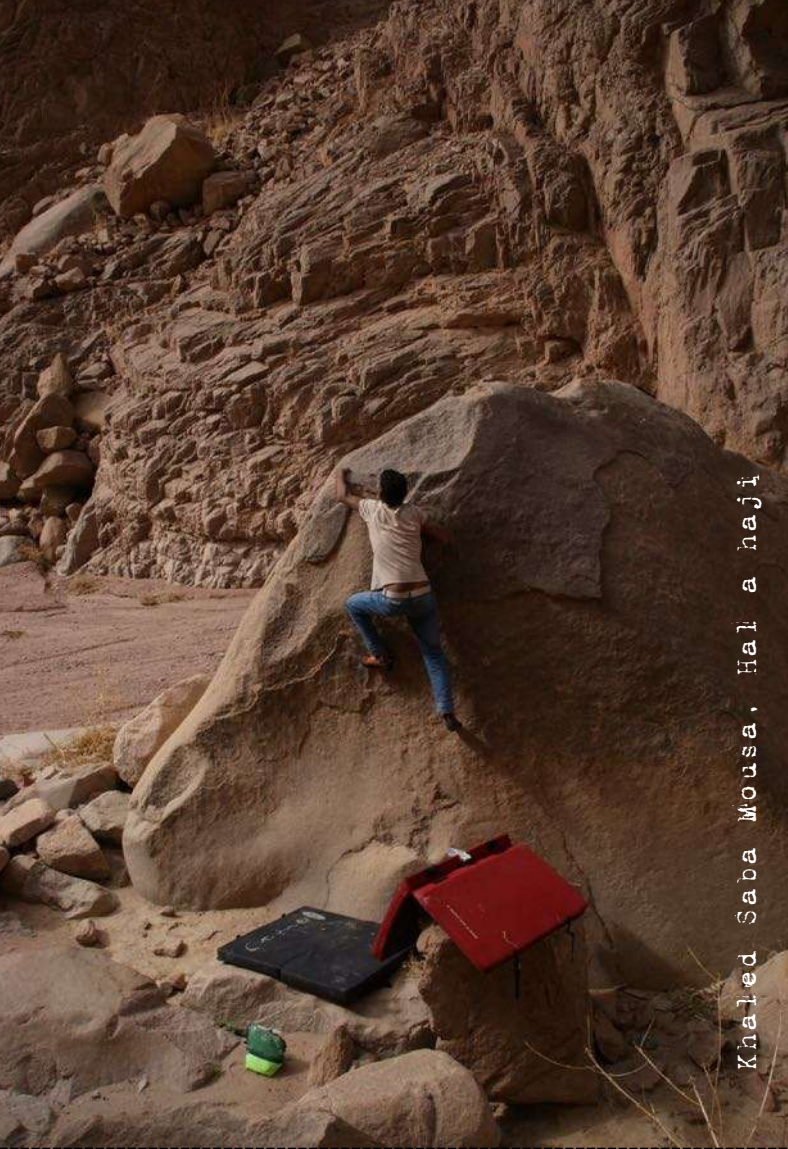
5+

Start from sitting using the crack and block, then avoid the large ledge on the right.

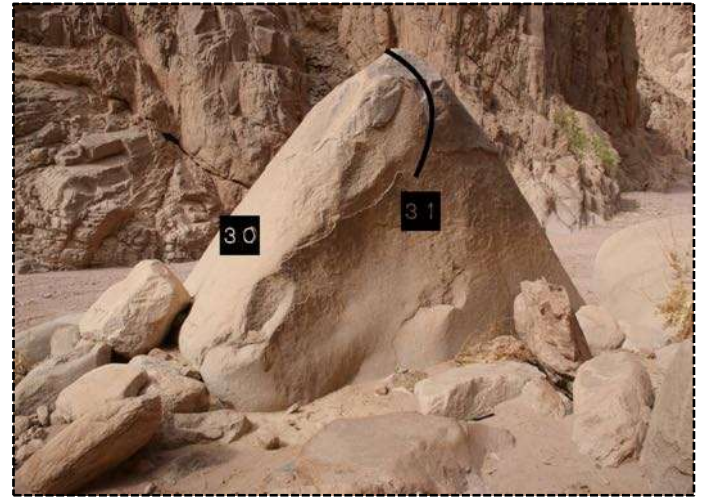
29 RAINBOW SLAB

3

Follow the good juggy rails.



Khaled Saba Mousa, Hal a haji



30

Climb the blank looking face of the rear slab around the corner from 29. One for a cool day!

31

HAL A HAJI

4+

Start off the A shaped hold. Could be extended to a low start further left.



3 2



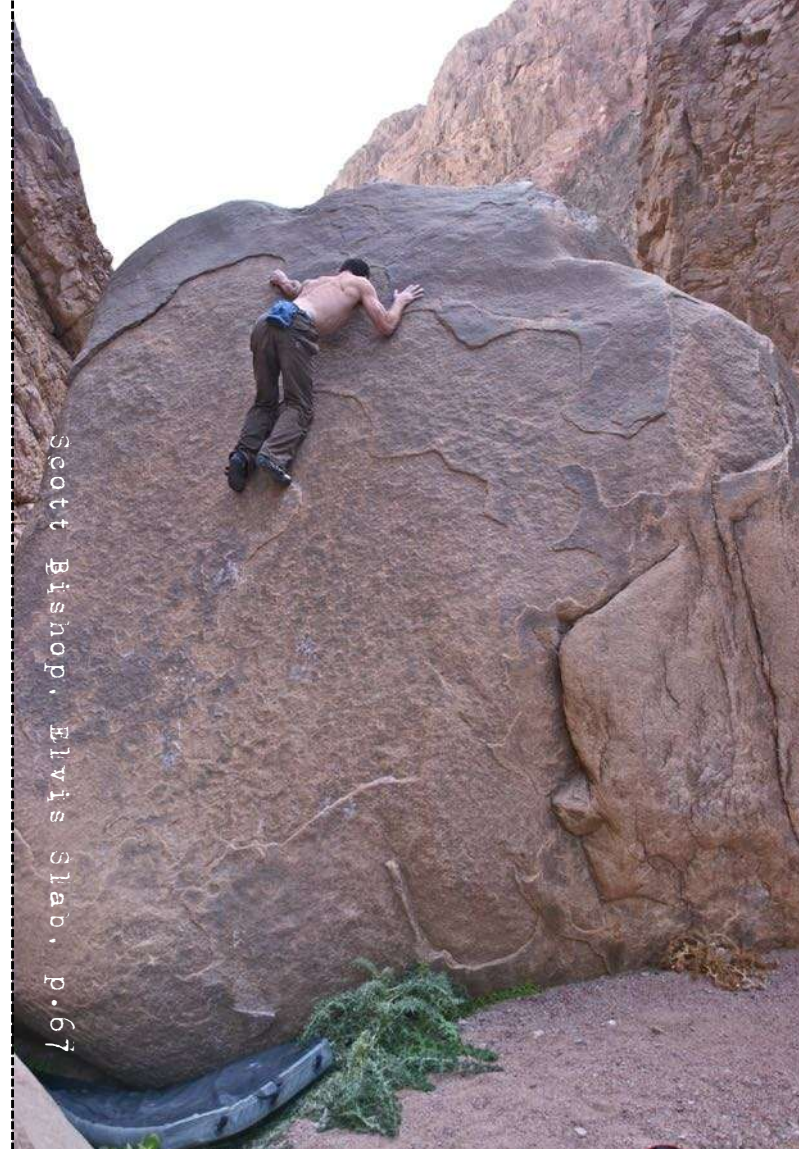
Blank looking slab. Hard.

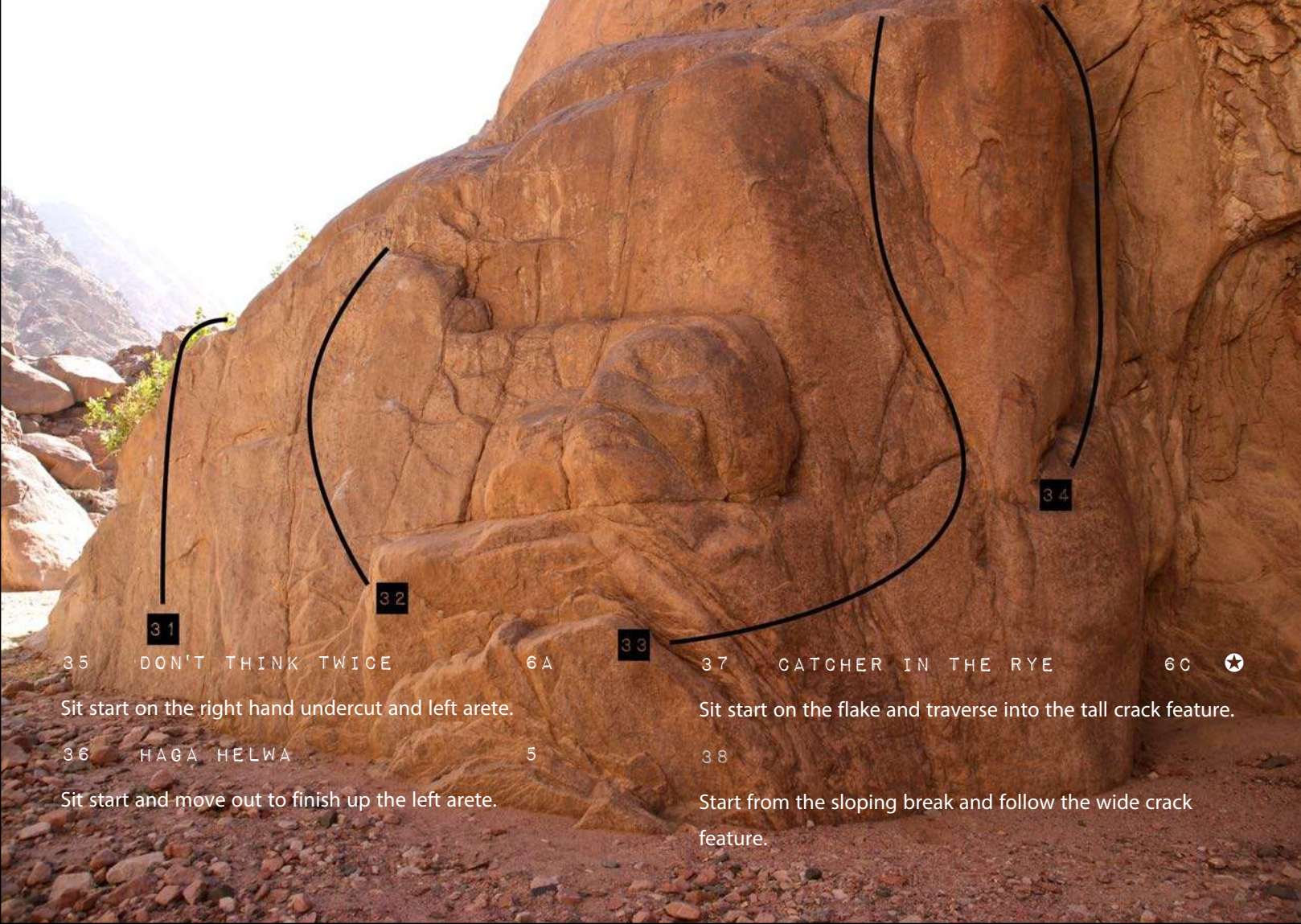
3 3

Stand start and follow the finger crack up to the top.

3 4

Start off the sidepull and make a few awkward moves to easier higher ground.





31

35 DON'T THINK TWICE

Sit start on the right hand undercut and left arete.

36 HAGA HELWA

Sit start and move out to finish up the left arete.

32

6A

33

37 CATCHER IN THE RYE

Sit start on the flake and traverse into the tall crack feature.

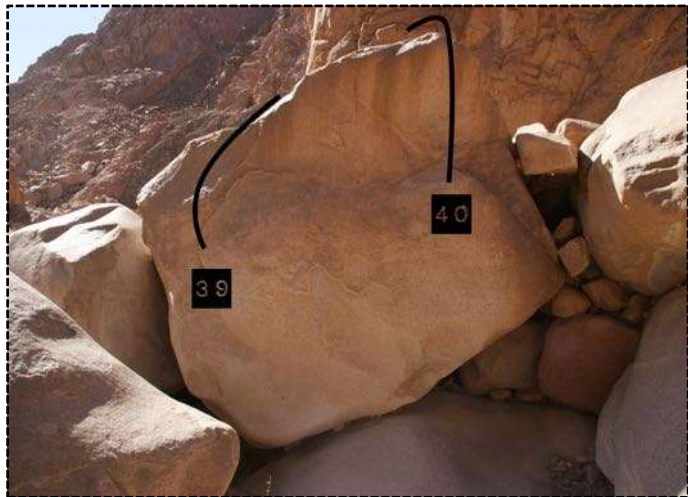
38

Start from the sloping break and follow the wide crack feature.

34

6C





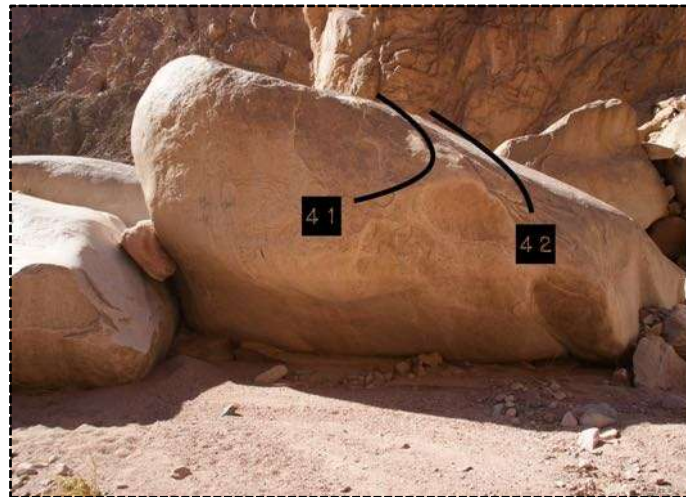
39

Start using left edge and right hand crimp.

40 JULIAN'S LINE

4+

Mantel out from the crimpy edge.



41 MOBY DICK

7A+

Hang the crimps to start.

42 CAPTAIN AHAB

5+

Top out from the sidepull jug.



4 3

3 +

Crouch start on the jug. Low.

4 4

4 +

Sit start. Low.



4 5

GOA

6 B

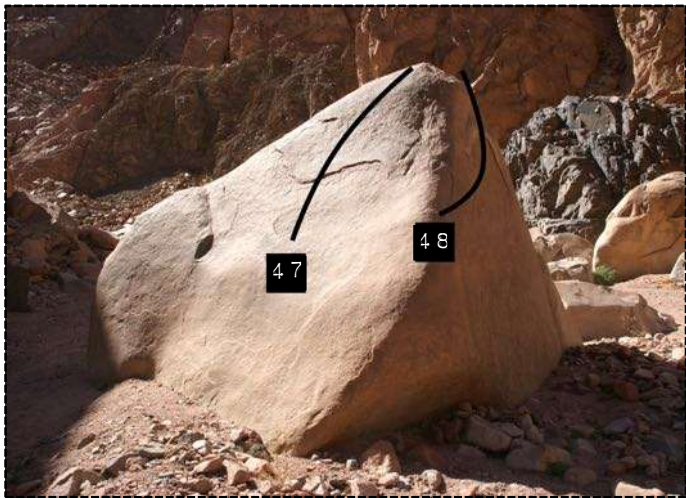
Sit start using the two crimpy holds, then reach the lip to traverse up and top out.

4 6

DAHAB DRIFT

6 A +

2 terraces above Goa. Start hanging juggy feature then move up arete above awkward landing.



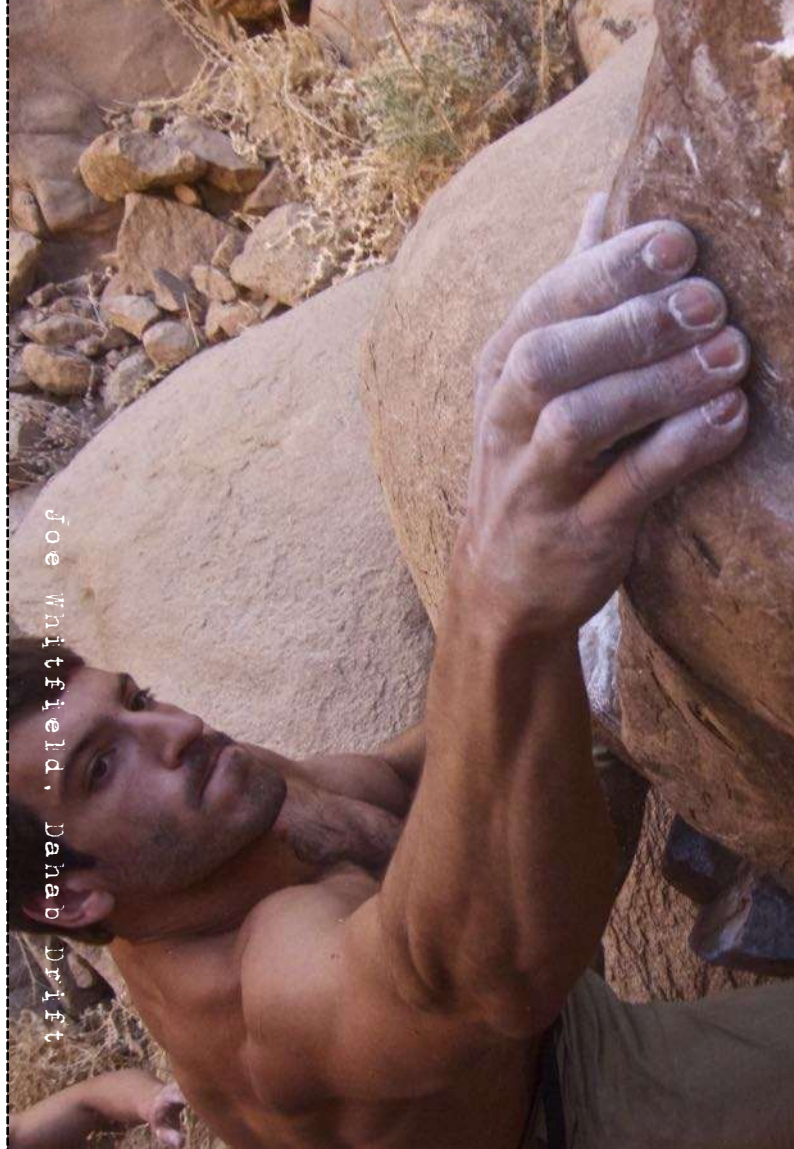
47 CRESCENT SLAB

3+

Start on the crescent hold and move up to a quick scramble over the top.

48

Surprisingly tricky start off the arete to move up via the sloping dish.





59

60

57

58

56

50-53

49

54

55



49 FLAKE EDGE

6B

Sit start on the good edges and left hand undercut to follow the crimpy rail.

50 BAREFOOT BEDOUIN

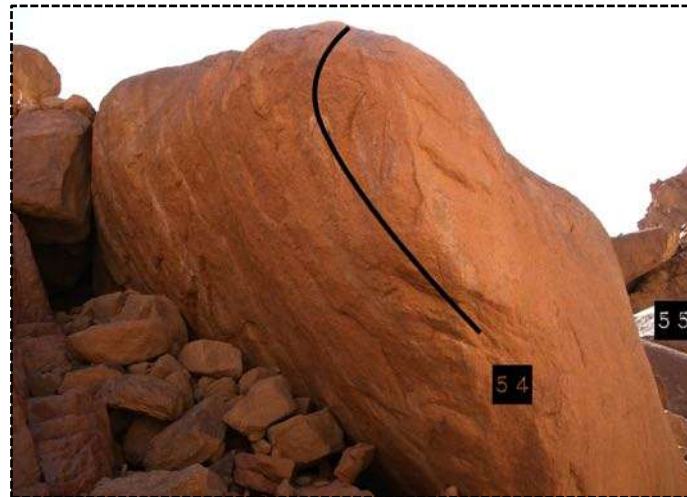
4+

Start on good edges. Bad landing from the top.

51 DAHAB DAZE

7A+ ★

Right hand on undercut, left hand on low hold. Start with left hand on second hold up for 6B+



52 HAZED

5+

Start on sloper rail. Head left into Dahab Daze topout.

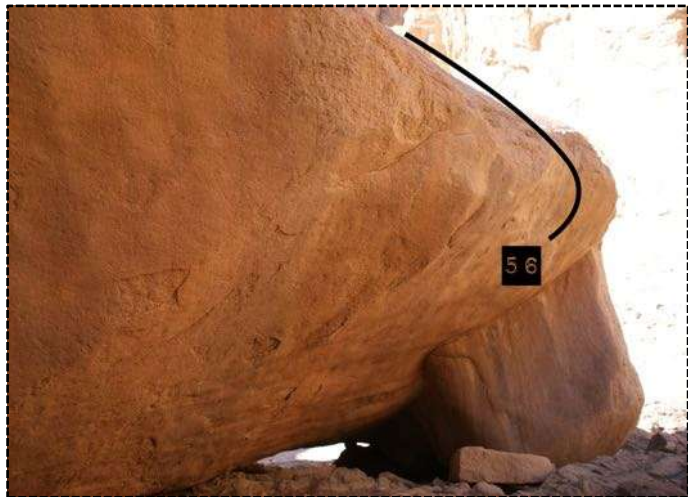
53 IT'S NOT OVER YET!

6A

Start as Hazed, but head right into the slab above a bad landing.

54

Start from sitting and follow hard crimps and the blunt arete.

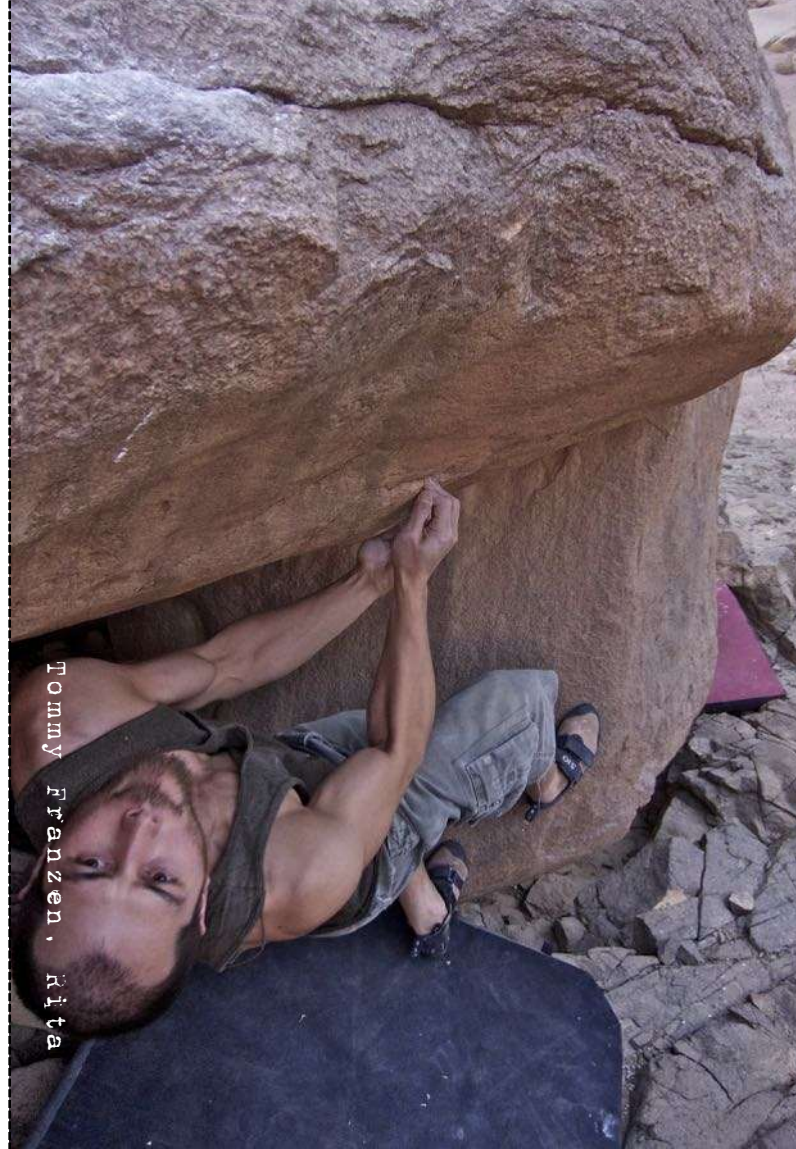


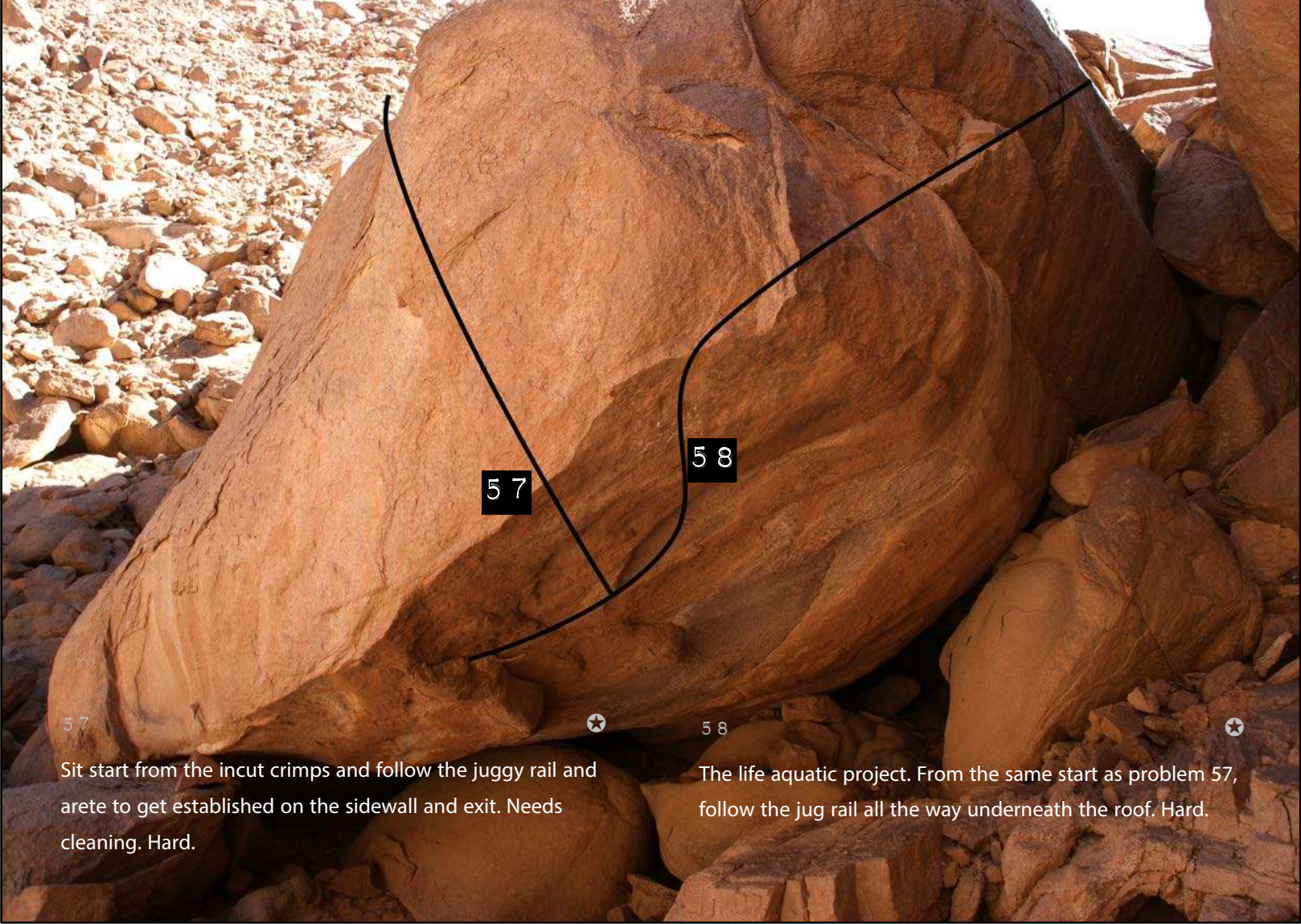
55 NANA 4+

Hanging on the crimp and juggy edge, traverse along the seam to top out over the slab at the double rail.

56 RITA 5+

Sit start matching on the low edge with feet on the side wall.





57

58

57



Sit start from the incut crimps and follow the juggy rail and arete to get established on the sidewall and exit. Needs cleaning. Hard.

58



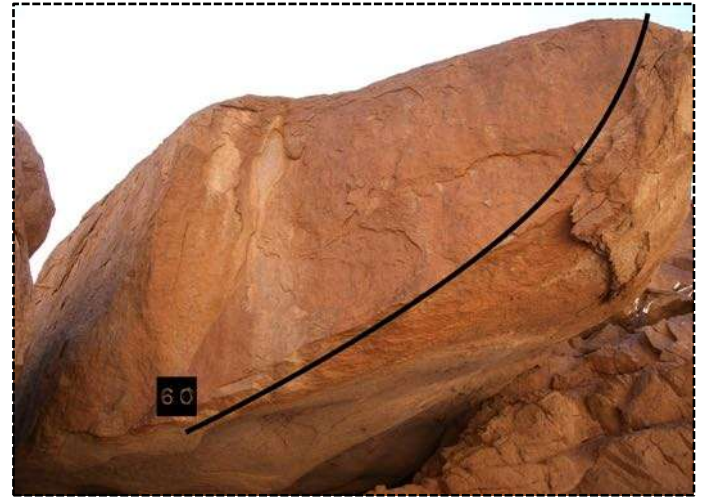
The life aquatic project. From the same start as problem 57, follow the jug rail all the way underneath the roof. Hard.



59

59

Start from rail, follow hard crimps and edges to a highball finish above a bad landing. Needs cleaning.



60

60

Start from crouching on the good edge and the juggy break under the roof. Follow the massive lip rightwards to it's conclusion. Needs cleaning. Hard.



UPPER CORRIDOR SECTOR

Tommy Franzen, Dahab dab, p.26



UPPER CORRIDOR SECTOR

OVERVIEW

The Upper Corridor sector is a long valley connecting the Lower Corridor to the base of the Big Waterfall sector and the start of the next plateau up. With a 10 minute walk through, high sun exposure and a lesser concentration of boulders, it can feel a bit like a no man's land, but it is well worth stopping off, especially on the way back down from the upper sectors once the sun has gone down a bit.

ACCESS

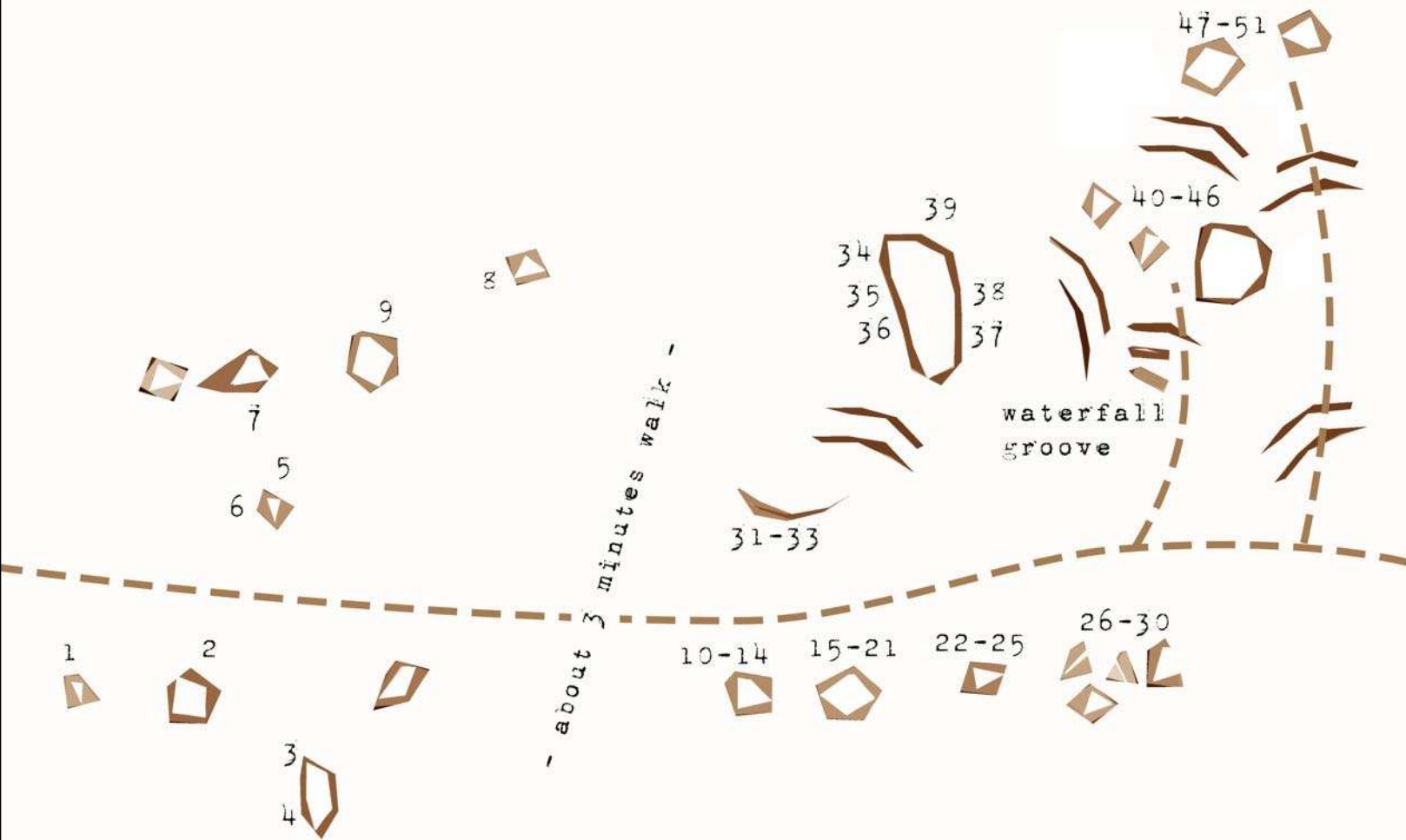
The start of the Upper Corridor is about 13 minutes walk from the Car Park sector. There are no further changes in level in this sector so walking around is easy and safe for children. The walks to and from the two terrace areas are quite tricky underfoot, and trying to shortcut between them is not recommended. The only way in and out of this entire sector is by foot.

CLIMBING

There are some great harder climbs in this sector, especially the overhanging terrace with some of the classic projects like the Mayol project (p.94) that all tend to stay well shaded, as well as some excellent slabby and vertical climbs around the Rat slab area. This sector can feel a little bit like a throughfare between the surrounding sectors, but taking a bit of time out and making a few stops along the way is well worth it.

CONDITIONS

The majority of this area gets direct sun starting from late morning until the afternoon. Some of the climbs on the two terrace areas tend to stay shaded, but the valley floor boulders are best in the late afternoon to evening, or on cloudier winter days.





1 DANCING SLAB

!!

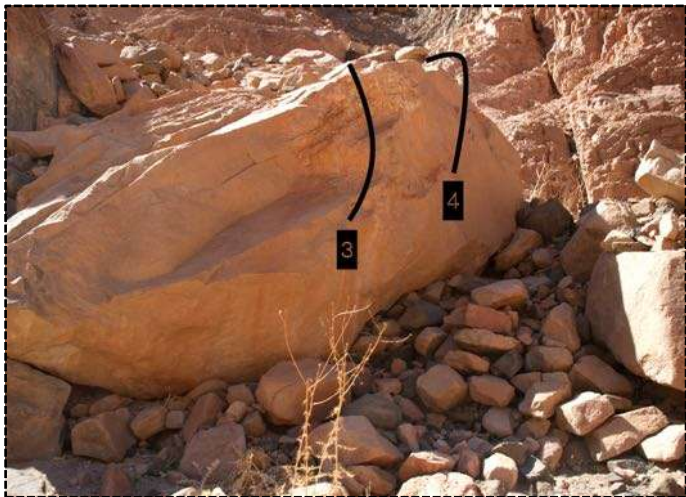
Footless slab following up the vague features for some easy friction and balance fun.



2 MAHAKALA'S MANTRA

6C

Follow the lip around the arete, then across to the jug and top out.



3

4

Traverse along the ledge and up.

4

4 +

Short problem off the sidepull and crimp.



5

EEYORE SLAB

3

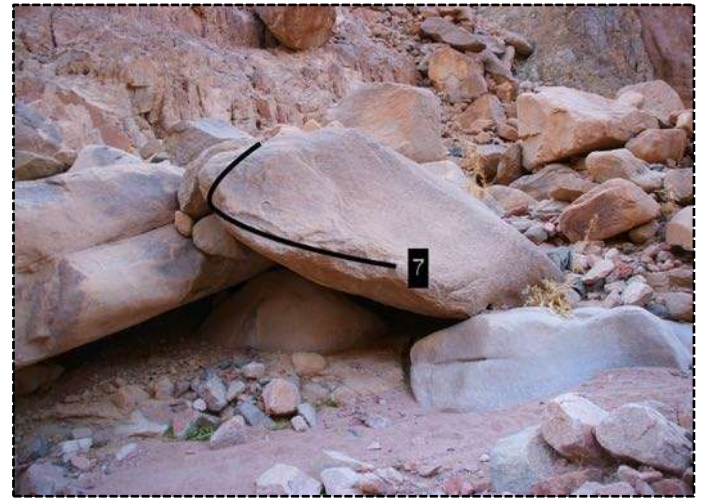
Very easy slab.

6

EEYORE ARETE

3 +

Sit start then follow the arete.

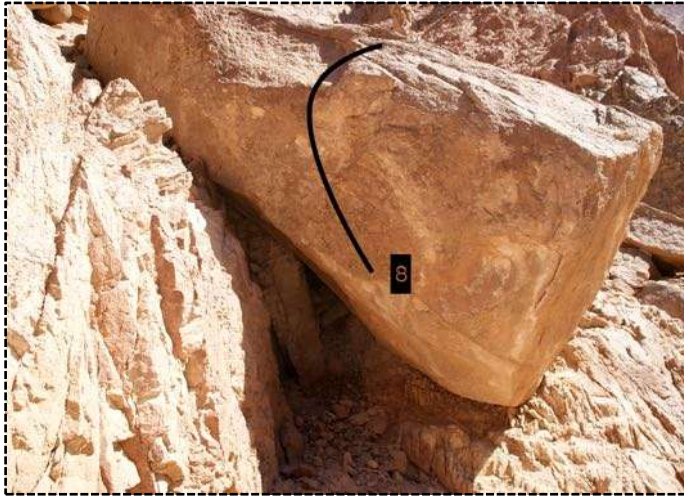


7

PIRANHA

6C+

Start on the lowest edge on the lip and pull through the short but enjoyable roof lip on fingery edges.



8

Start from the large undercut flake. Needs cleaning.



9

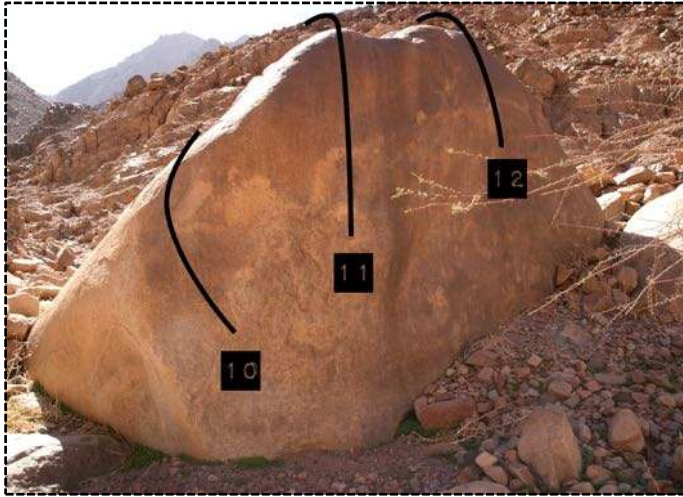
DAHAB DAB

6C



Sit start into lip traverse on slopers.





10

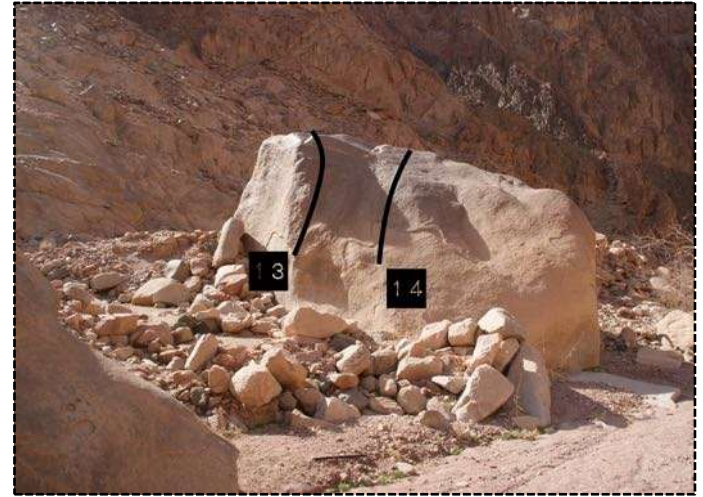
Sit start to move up and around the arete.

11

Direct line from stand start.

12

Direct line from stand start.

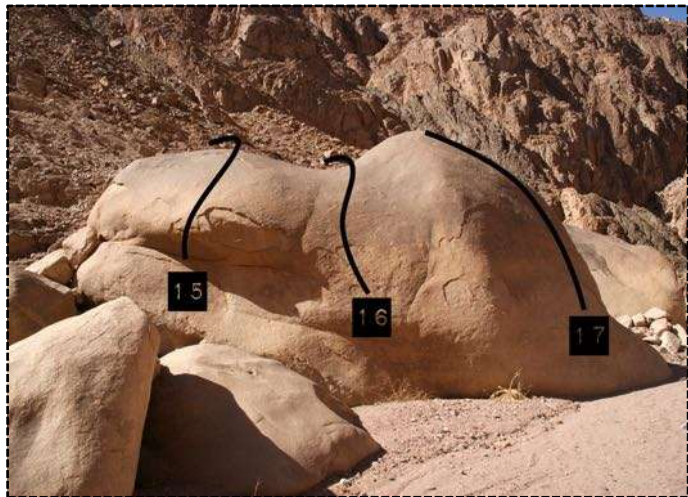


13

Low start off the side pull and move up the arete.

14

Up the slabby groove.



15

Standing start. Hard.

16



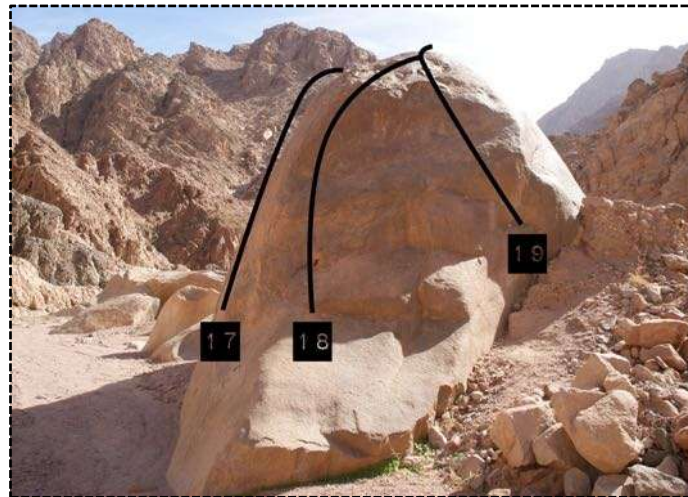
Steep slab with small crimps and a sustained high finish up the groove. Hard.

17 RAT SLAB

7A



Excellent high slab starting on the rat shaped feature and moving up on crimps.



18 HORNY SLAB

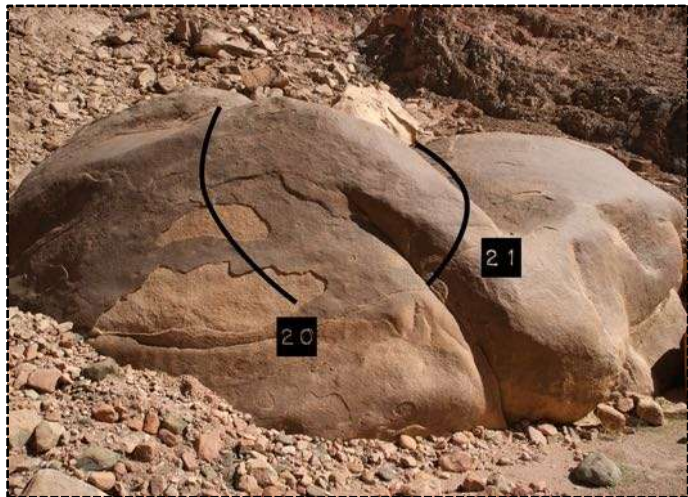
5+

Get onto the slab via the pocket. Named after the old goat horn that used to be stuck in the first pocket.

19 LITTLE HORN

5

Low start off the good edge.

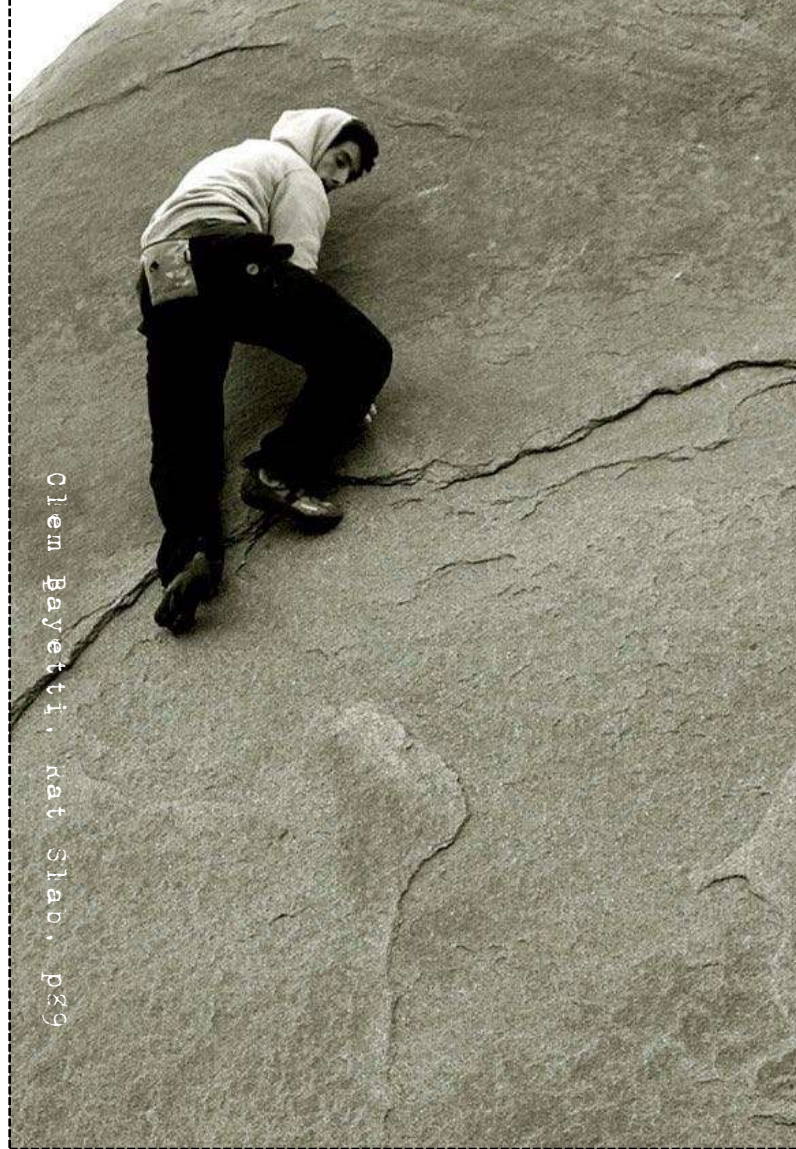


20 CALAROMANTICA 5+

Start from the lower flake edge. Watch out for slightly creaking flake higher up.

21 5+

Sit start using the crimpy seam and make some ungraceful moves around the low rounded ridge.





22 CHIPSHOP 6A

Sit start on crimps, move left to top out at short arete.

23 PORKCHOP 3

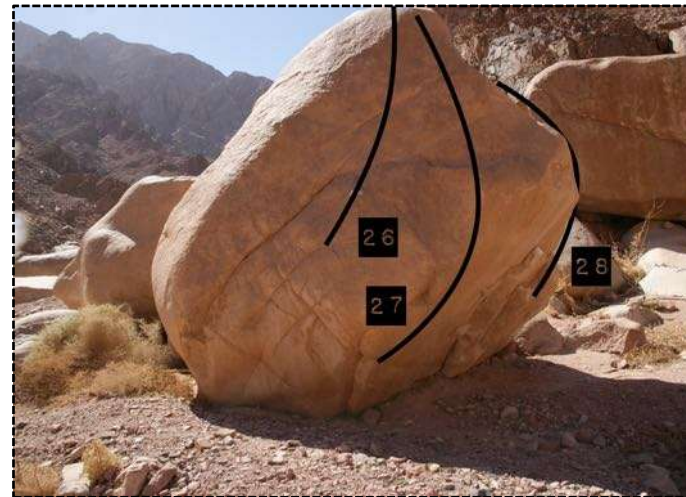
Short slab starting off undercut.

24 CHOPPY SLAB 3+

Short slab.

25 CHOPPY CHOP 4+

Sit start using the good edge.



26 PALM TREE SLAB 6B

Tricky start to get up to the slabbier top.

27 ★

Sit start on the undercut and incut edge into big move.
Hard.

28 ★

Sit start on the lowest of the positive sloper ledges. Hard.



29 CORRIDOR ARETE

5+

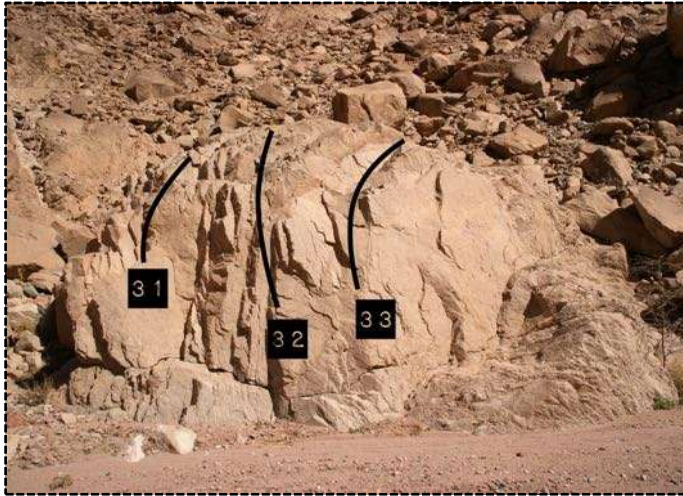
Start from sitting and follow the arete.



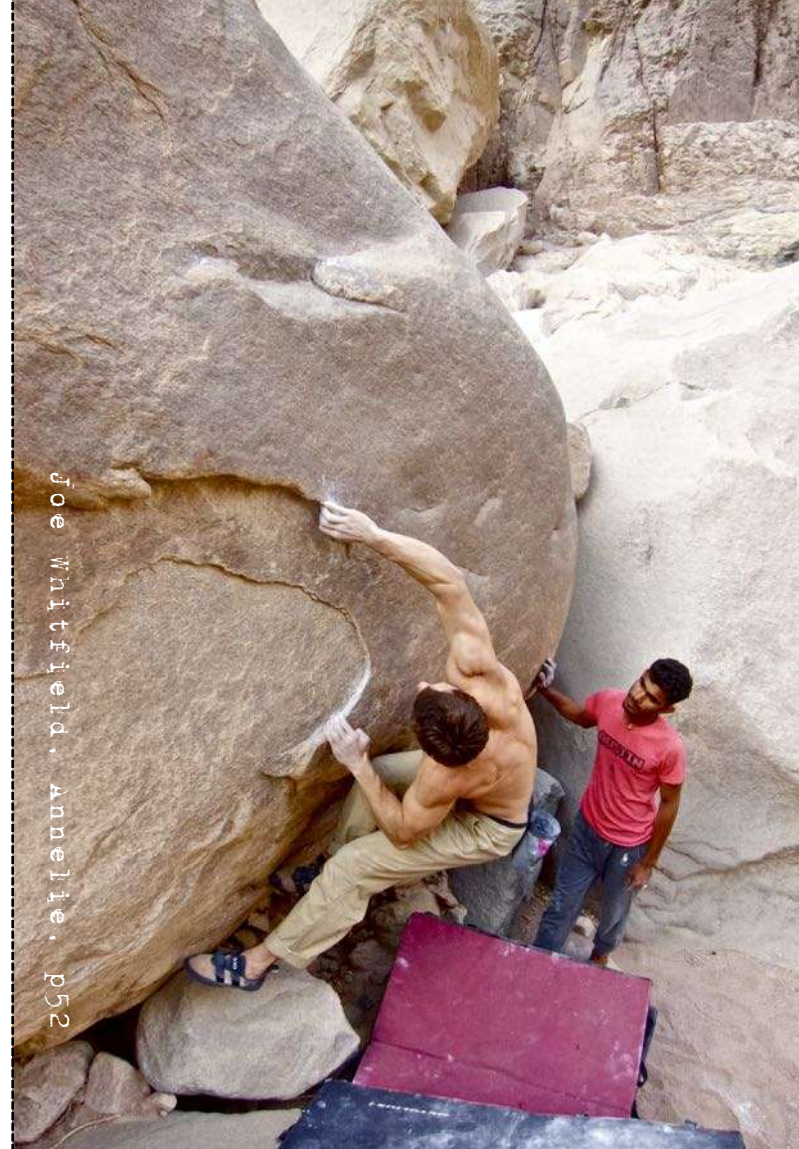
30 TINGLE TANGLE GROOVE

6B+

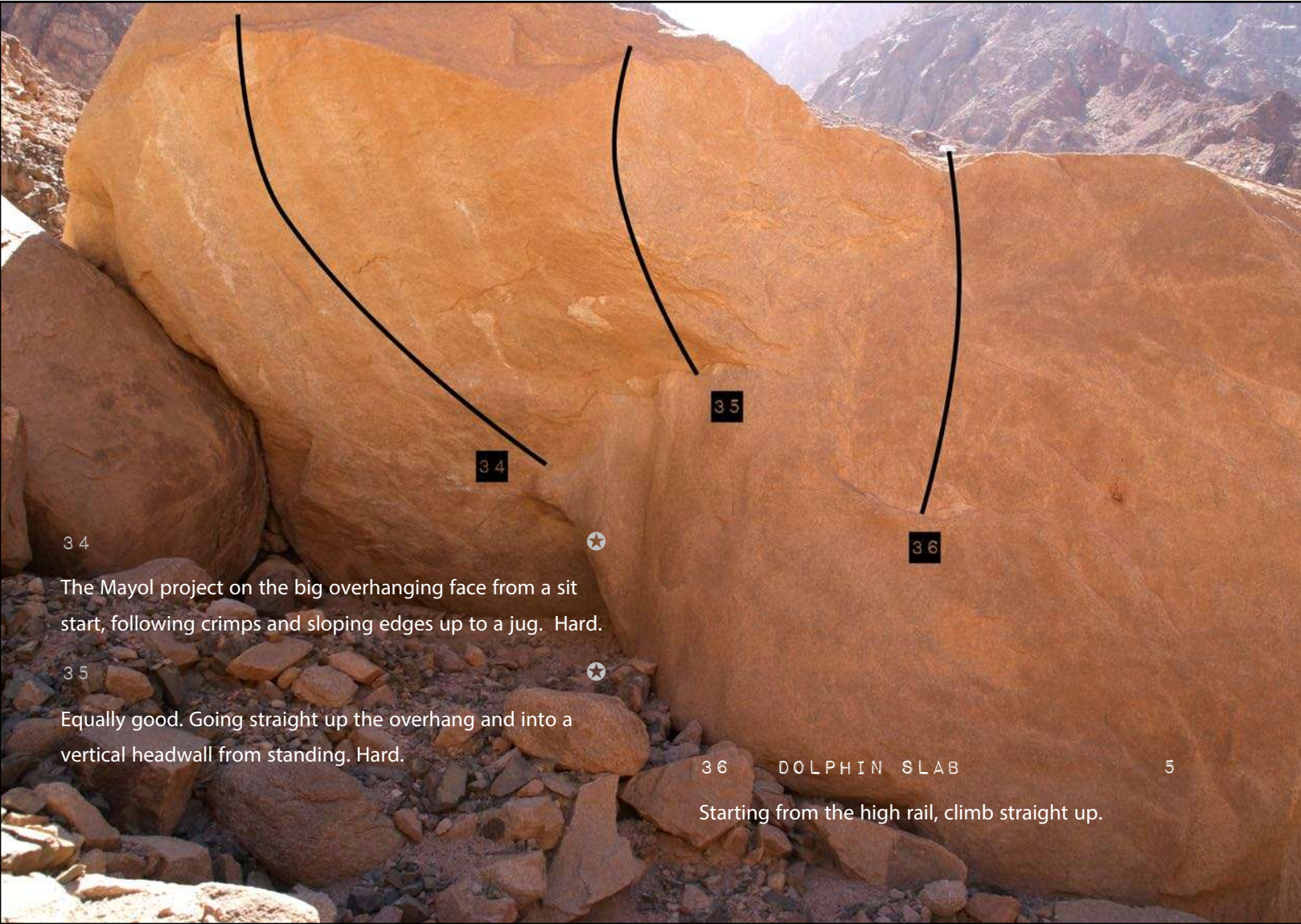
Start from sitting with a crimp and a pinch on the left arete of the cutaway groove. Move up and along the lip.



- | | |
|--|---|
| 3 1 | 2 |
| Start on sharp juggy ledge and rock over to top out. | |
| 3 2 | 3 |
| Follow the blocky positive holds. | |
| 3 3 | 3 |
| Slab from standing. | |



Joe Whitfield, Annelie, p52



3 4

3 4

The Mayol project on the big overhanging face from a sit start, following crimps and sloping edges up to a jug. Hard.

3 5

3 5

Equally good. Going straight up the overhang and into a vertical headwall from standing. Hard.

3 6

3 6

DOLPHIN SLAB

5

Starting from the high rail, climb straight up.



37

Tall slab.

38

Tall slabby groove.

39 SUNSET ARETE

6A ★

Sit start on the left then move up the double arete.



All the rock in this area needs more cleaning.

40 LEANING

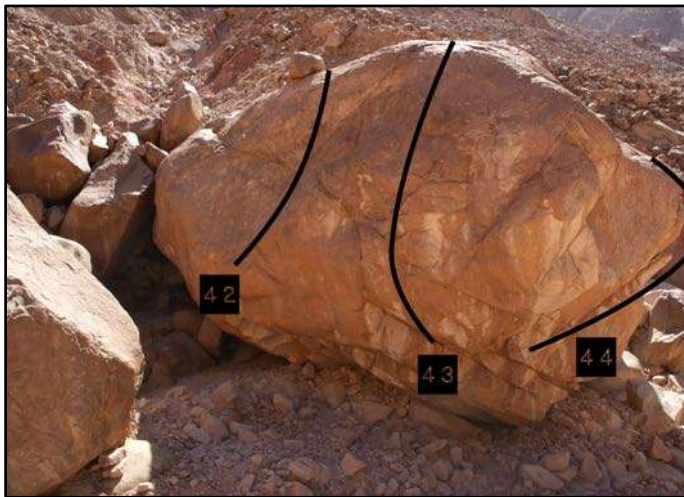
6A

Sit start and follow the sloping shelf.

41 LEAN ARETE

6B

The blunt arete from a sit start.



42 LONG WALK HOME

60

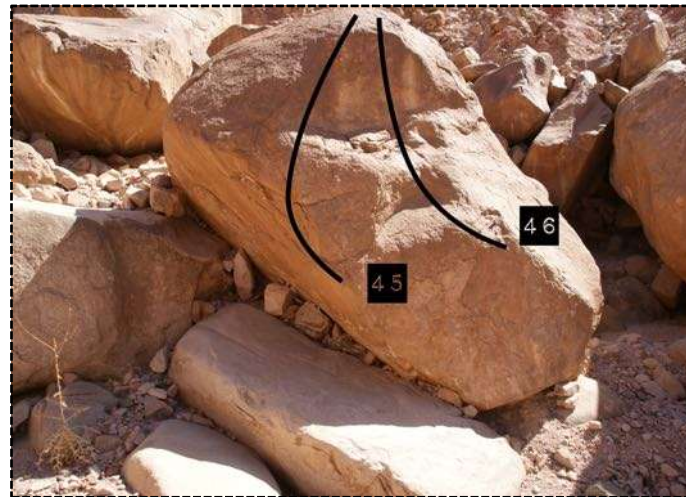
Start at the lip of the hanging slab. Sit start extension waiting to go.

43

Sit start on the tall overhanging face.

44

Burly sit start problem on the steep overhanging face.
Awkward landing. Hard.



45 BLUE SKIES

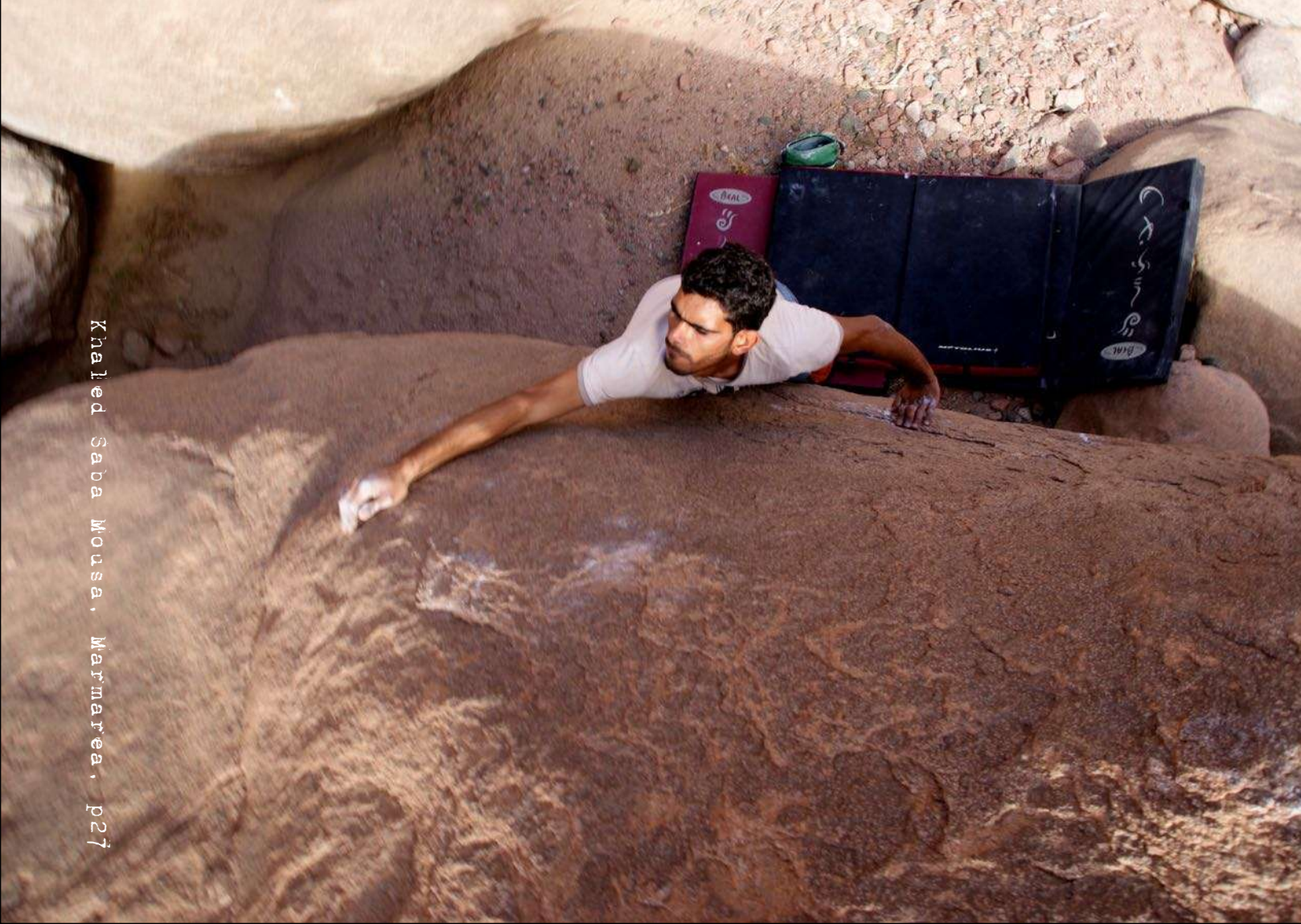
7A

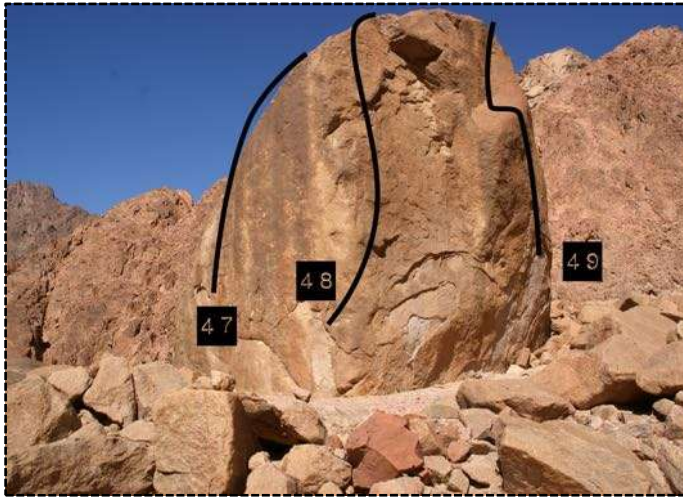
The short blunt overhanging arete from a sit start on the right hand crimp.

46

Tricky slab on slopers starting off the right hand edge.







47 THE NOSE

6A

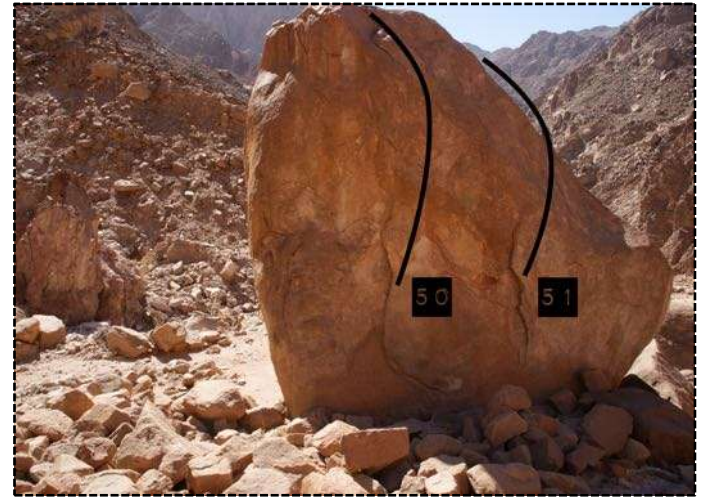
Rising lip traverse on the rounded arete.

48

The rounded arete on vague scoops and side pulls. Sit start.

49

Sit start from sidepull, head up to sloping shelf.



50

Sit start off the side pull.

51

Sit start off the far right side pull.

BIG WATERFALL SECTOR



BIG WATERFALL SECTOR

OVERVIEW

Finishing at the base of the large waterfall, much like the Upper Corridor the Big waterfall sector is one of the areas that is often overlooked on the way to or from larger sectors up on the next plateau, but there are some great problems at most grades here, as well as a great cluster of beginner problems in one area, and the boulders closer to the waterfall come into the shade relatively early in the afternoon.

ACCESS

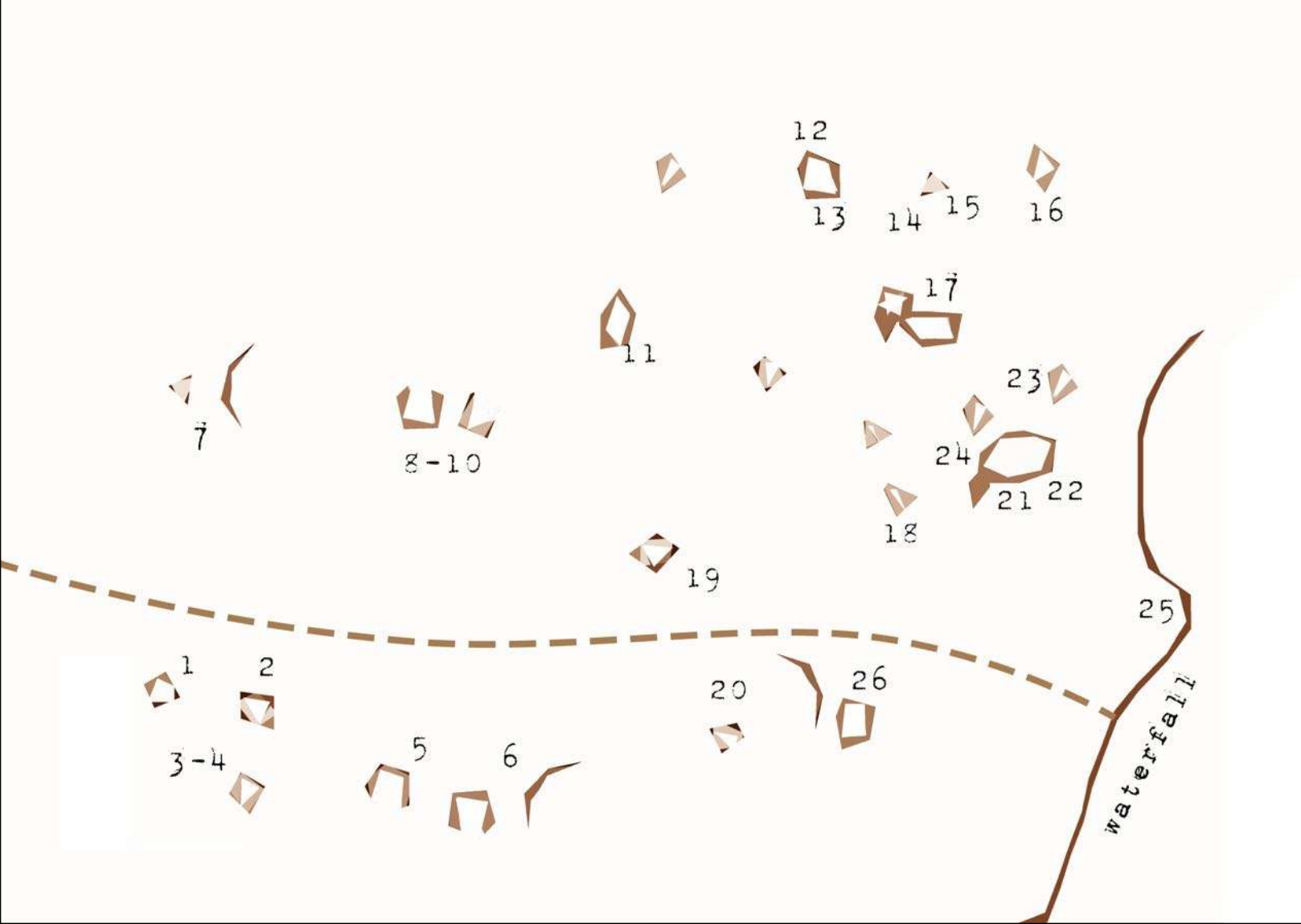
Big Waterfall sector is about 20 minutes walk from the Car Park sector. There are no changes in level in this sector up until the big waterfall so walking around is easy and safe for children.

CLIMBING

The first boulders in the sector start off on the small side, but get larger albeit blanker as you approach the waterfall. There is a cluster of very easy problems at the beginning of the main area, including the enjoyable Postman (p104), making this one of the best complete beginner areas, as well as having a concentrated area of hard projects, like the 36th Chamber project (p109).

CONDITIONS

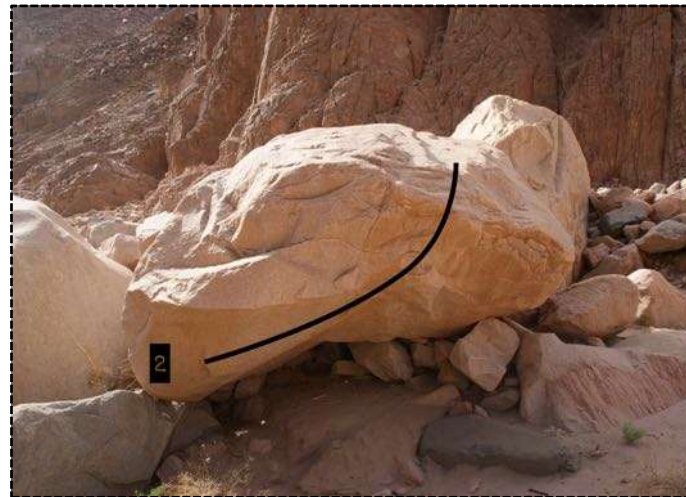
The majority of this area gets direct sun starting from early morning until mid afternoon but the boulders closer to the waterfall come into the shade relatively early in the afternoon.





1

The first of the short boulders that opens up the sector.
Start from the undercut below the roof. Hard.



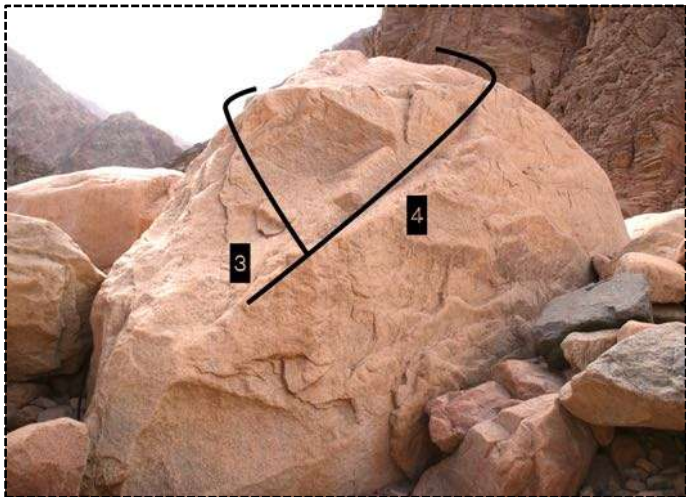
2

KEELHAUL

6 A



Enjoyable low overhang from the sit start undercut, with
starting feet on the dark side boulder.



3

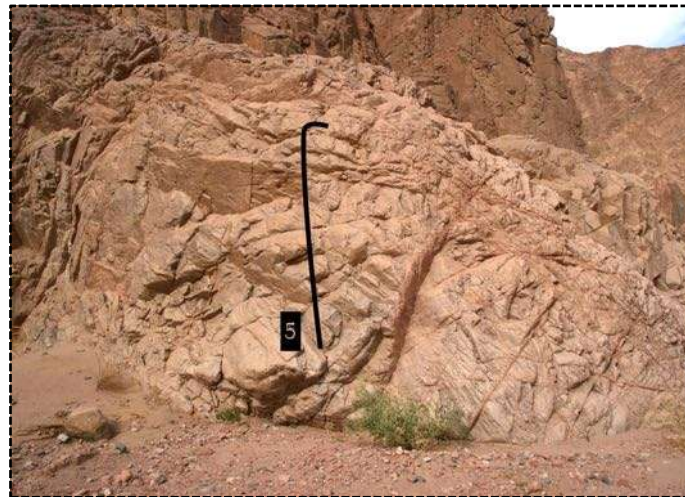
2

Short.

4

2 +

Follow the ramp. Short.



5

DR JONES

4

Sit start off the big flake jug.

6

POSTMAN

3



Tall slab facing towards 5 on the next outcrop. Easy vertical climb on letterbox jugs.



7

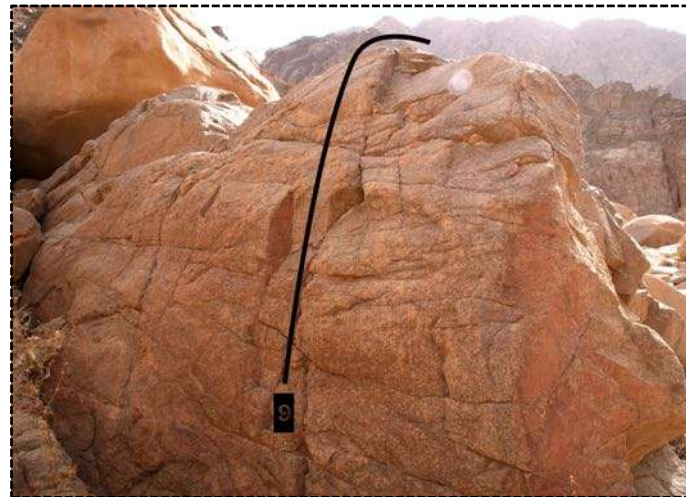
2 +

Slab starting from the raised platform ledge around the back.

8

4

Start from jug rail and traverse across to climb the right side of the arete.



9

3

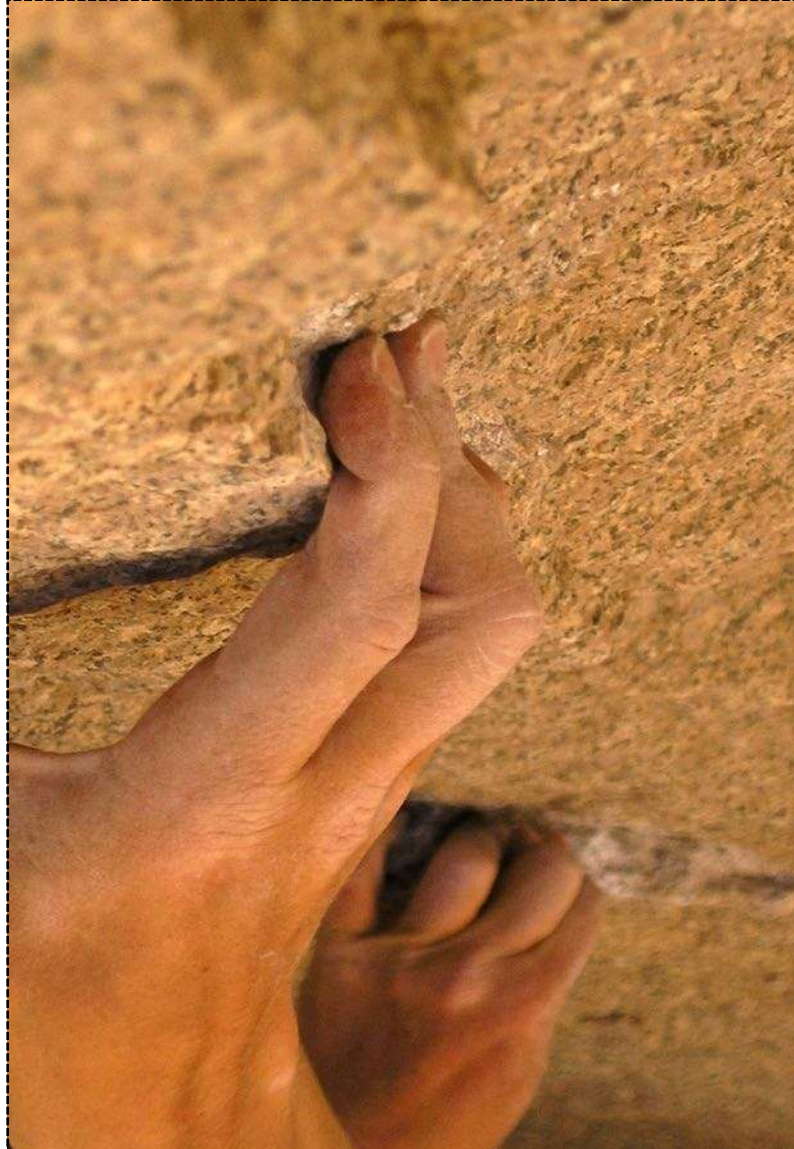
Sit start off the sidepull hold up into a short, easy slab.

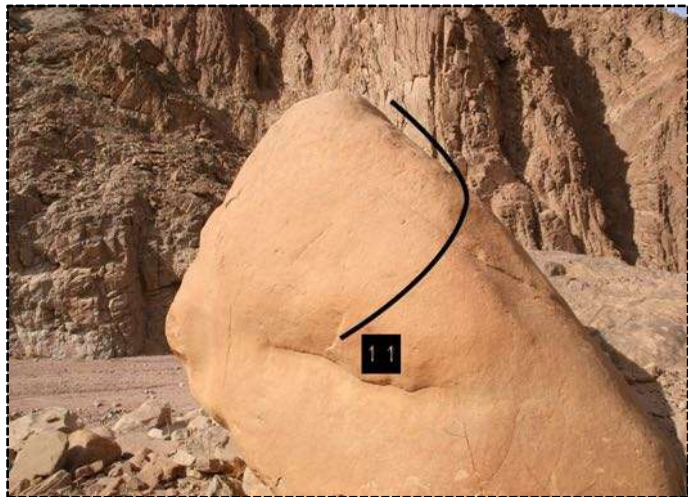


10

3

Sit start using the large flake and climb the arete.

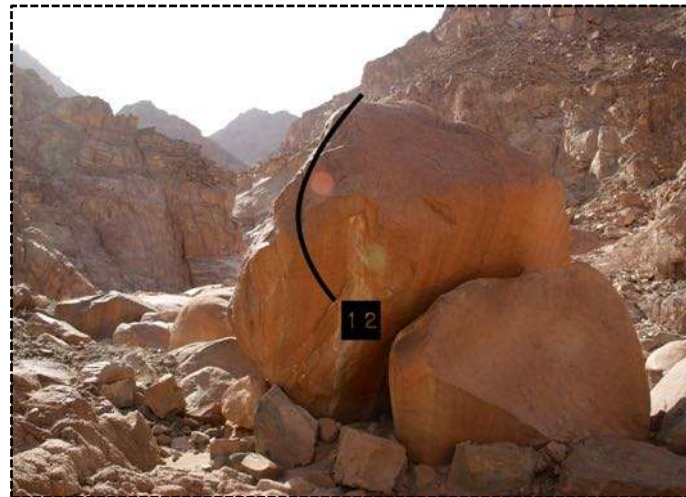




11



Tricky moves on slopers and glassy feet from standing.



12

WHAT YOU KNOW

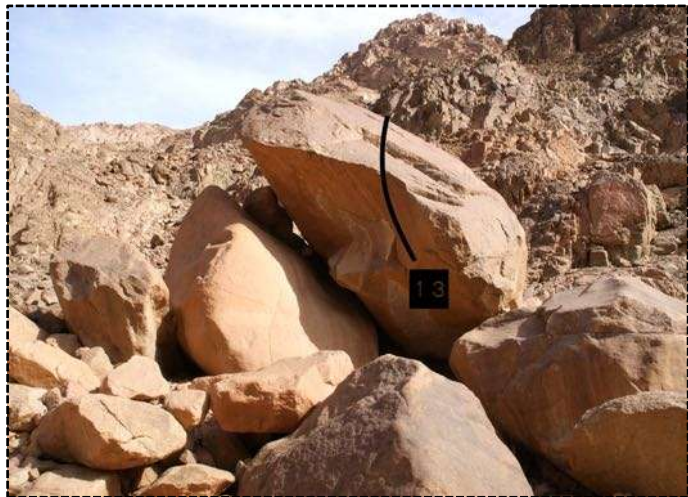
6B+



Start crouching on sidepull and blocky crimp. Make a big move to the good edge out left.

Matt Ralph. Mayol project p94





13



Opposite side of 12. Start off the good edges, then make some difficult moves up to the lip.



14

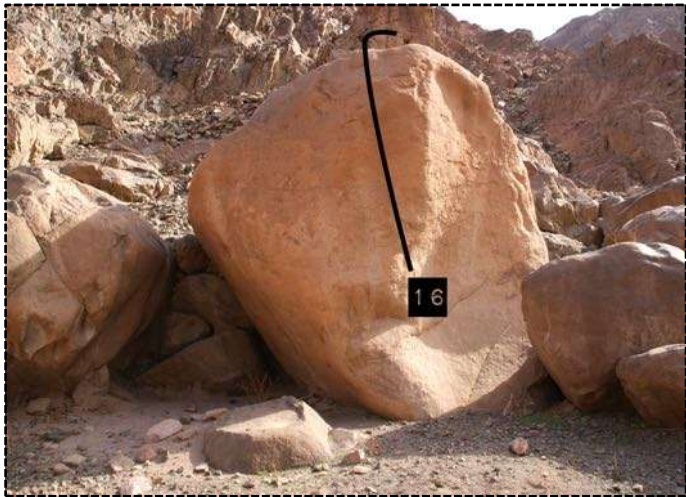


The 36 chambers project. Sit start from edge and pinch up to sloping holds. Hard.

15



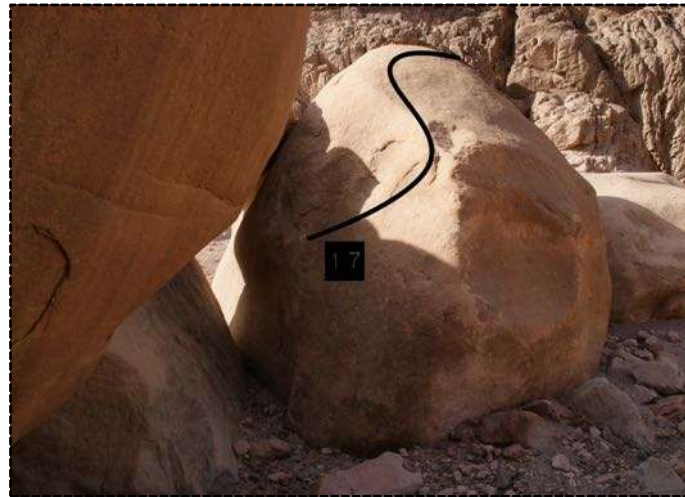
Big powerful move from matching wide undercut hold to start. Hard.



16



High scooped slab on micro-crimps and poor feet. Hard.



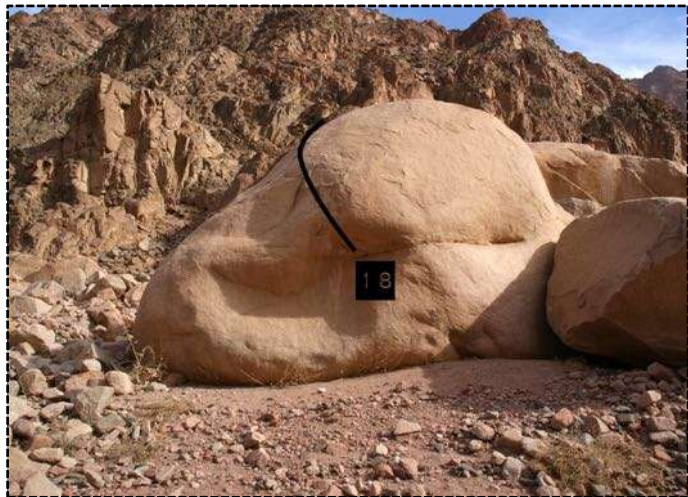
17

THE POOCH

6A



Follow the sloping lip via the circle hold.



18 ADMIRAL BUSTER 6A+

Start from below the lip on the undercut hold.

19 HANSOLO 6B

The low boulder by the main path. Tricky top out from standing start.

20 5+

Short overhanging boulder around the outcrop from 26.



21 MINCE LEFT 6B

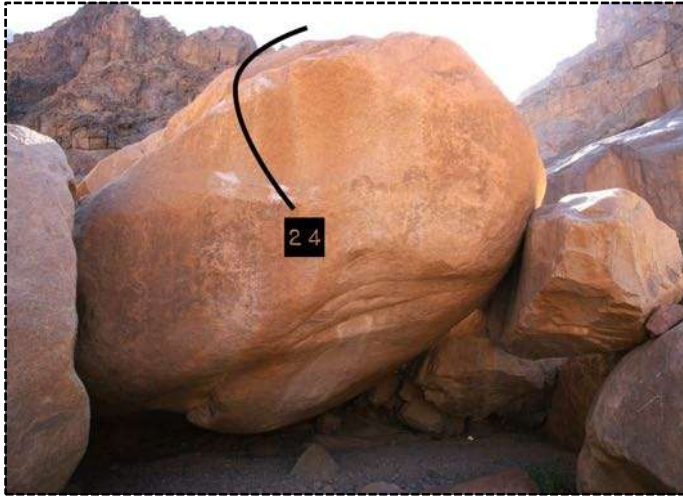
Start hanging the beginning of the rail and move left until the lip is in reach for a tricky top out.

22 MINCE RIGHT 6A ★

Start from sitting then head up and right for a shorter, more powerful problem.

23 ★

Around the back of the Mince boulder, start with crimps and heelhook from standing and follow the overhang right.



24 MINCEY'S PROSTATE

6C+

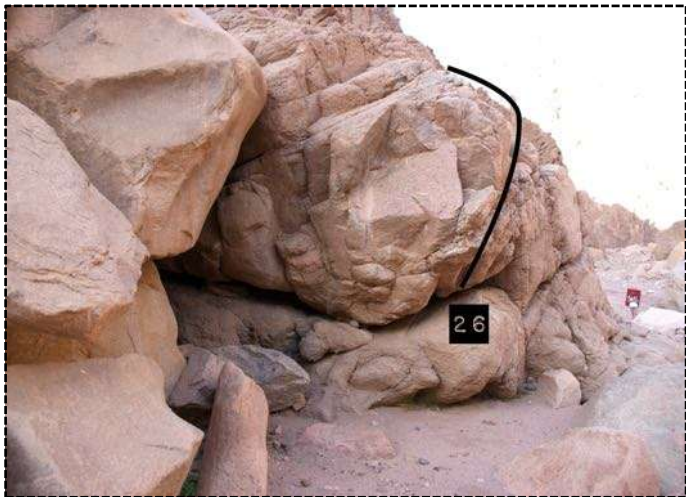
Jump start to hang the edge.



25 TRAINSPOTTING

5

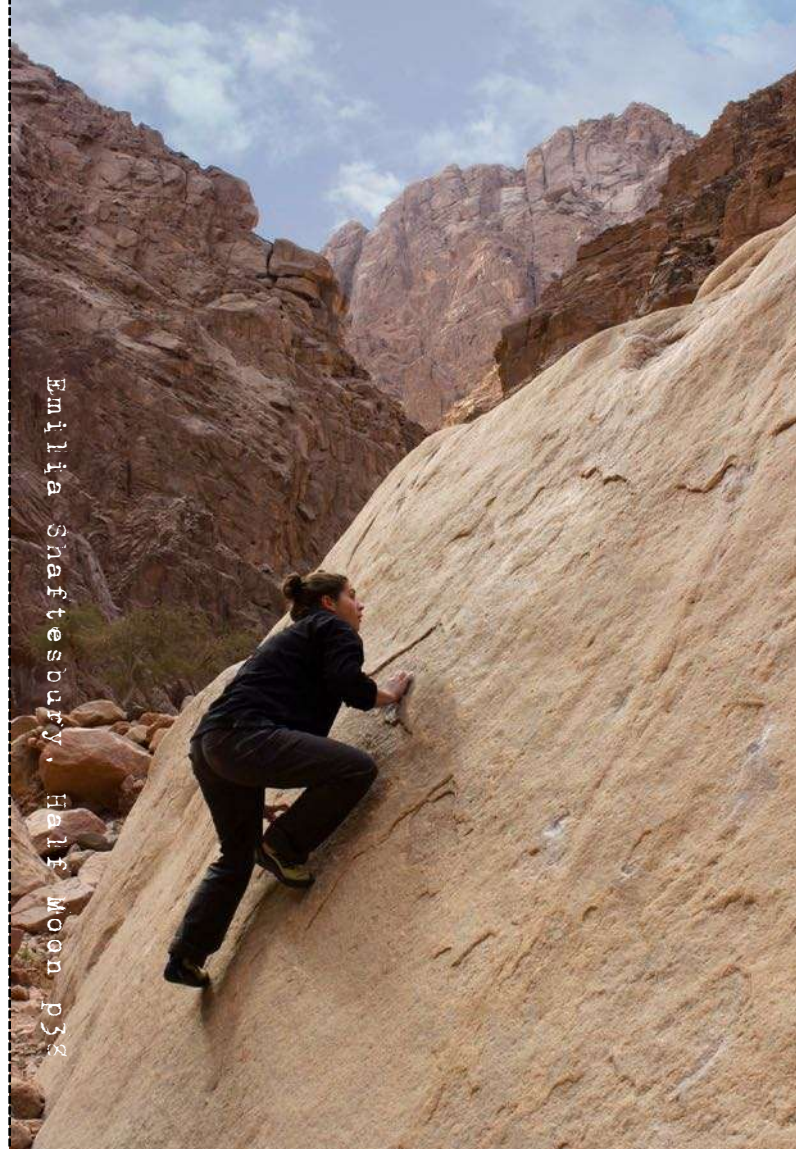
Low start using the crack and smooth footholds.



26

3+

Crouch start on good incut edge and follow blocky holds around the overhanging face.



BASINS SECTOR

Jerome Mowat, Watchtower, p136



BASINS SECTOR

OVERVIEW

Basins sector is an extensive sector that begins at the top of the big waterfall. Lots of boulders, both free standing and sidewall problems at all heights and across most grades, along with a good view over the big waterfall sector.

ACCESS

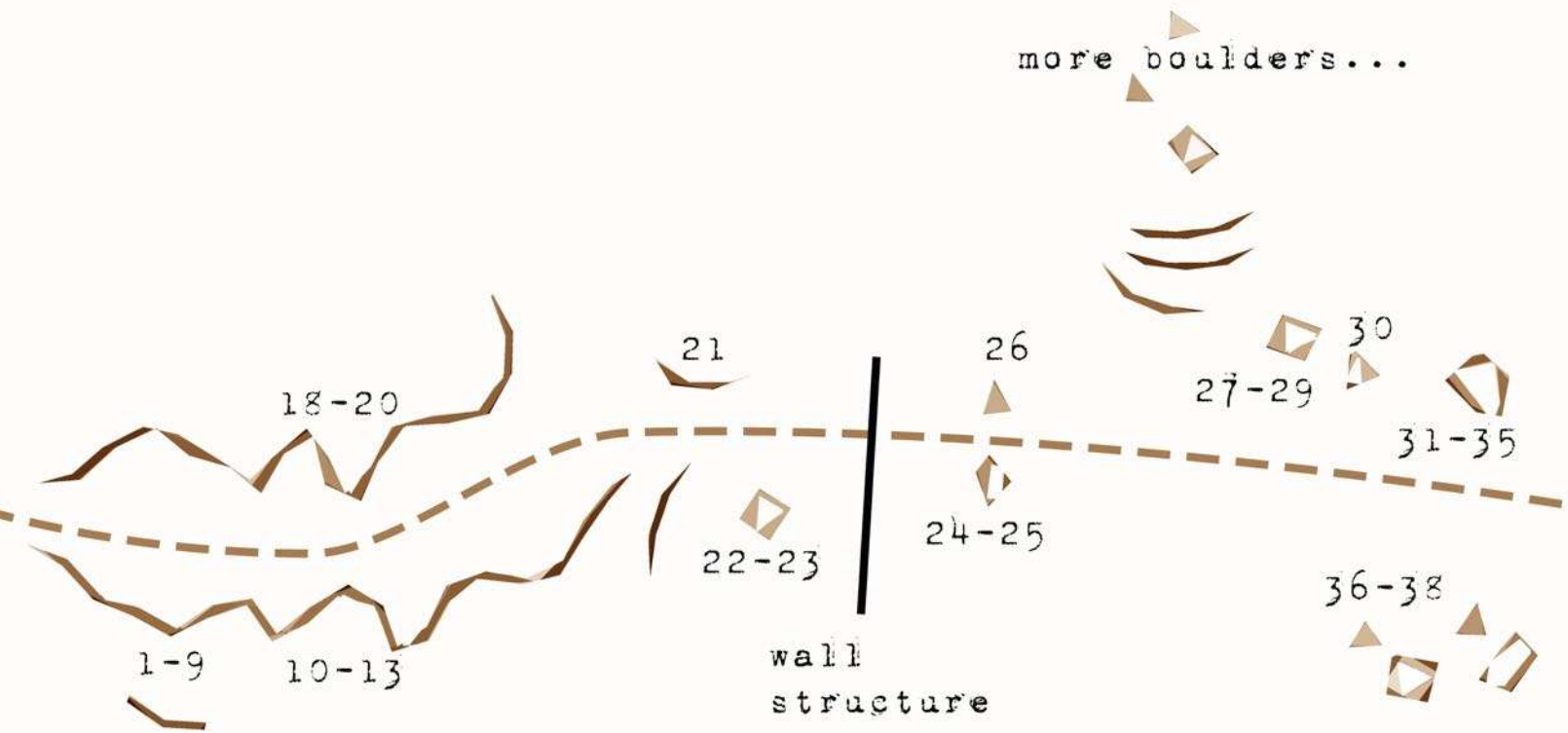
Basins is about 20 minutes walk from the Car Park sector. To get to the Basins sector from Big Waterfall sector, you need to scramble up the right hand side of the waterfall. This is straightforward for climbers but could be tricky for non climbers or children. There is one drilled bolt and hanger at the top of the waterfall in case of emergencies. There are only small further changes in level in this sector so walking around is easy and safe for children, but make sure they are safe on the very smooth rock floors and well away from the waterfall edge.

CLIMBING

The boulders are spread out in concentrated clusters, and require a few minutes walk from one to another. Some of the best problems here are on the sidewall climbs at the top of the waterfall and then on the fairly high boulders towards the very end of the sector. This is a sector with lots of unclimbed problems to still have a go at for all grades and styles, although some of the mid-sector climbs can be a bit short.

CONDITIONS

Most of this area gets direct sunlight from mid morning through to mid afternoon, but there are usually some sidewall problems or some of the more overhanging boulders in the shade.





40-42

47

48

49-52

63

53

64-66

78

39



46

43-44



54-60



61-62

70-77





6

7

8

9

1

2

3

4

5

1 L A Y B A C K C R A C K 4 ★

Layback up the positive crack feature to a high finish over an awkward landing.

2 S T U K 5 +

Start crouching on juggy break and follow crack. Bad landing.

3

Sit start problem 3, then head across the lip on edges to top out problem 5.

4

Sit start on the finger crack and follow up to a juggy exit.

5

Starting from the jug in the break, move up via the shallow seams to an easy top out. Bad landing.

6

Starting from the deep sidepull flake.

7

From a crouching start on the break.

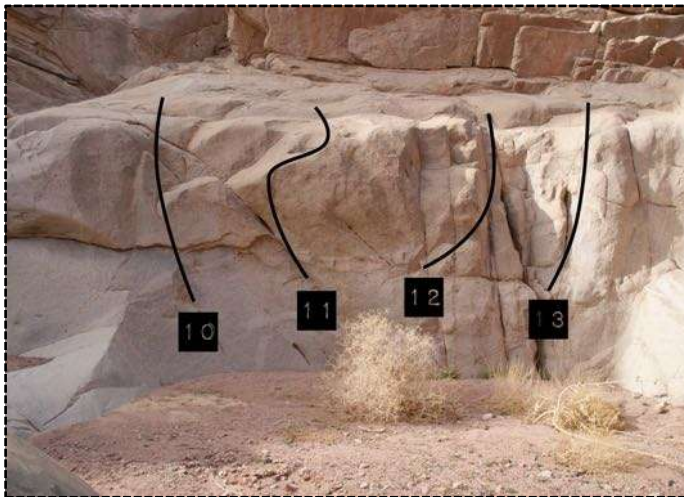
8

From a crouching start on the break to the right of 7.

9

From the incut crack.

Problems 6-9 are on the next terrace up, accessible further left.



10 BUSHED 6A

Low start off the smooth edge, follow sloping rail up.

11 BUSHWHACKER MAN 7A

Sit start then make a difficult move off the crack feature.
Front cover photo of the guidebook.

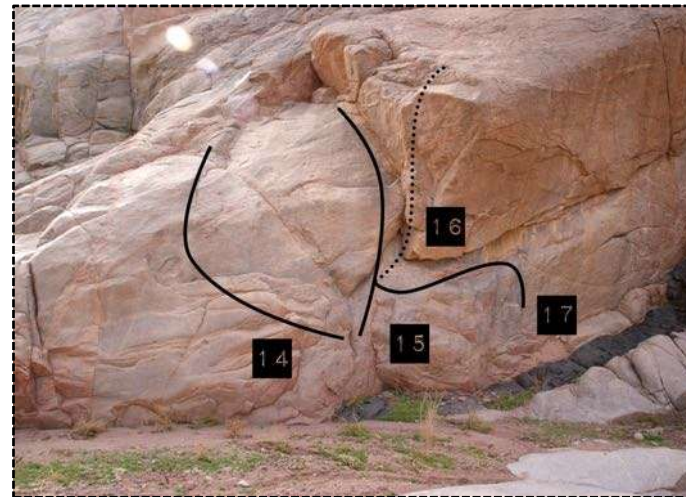
12 BASIN SLAB 5+

Low start, climb up and right.

13 4

Low start, follow crack feature.

120 Basins



14 LEMON SLAB 4+

Sit start and climb leftwards up the slab along the rails.

15 MANGO JUICE 5+

Sit start from the sidepull jug and up into the layback feature.

16 ★

Climb the hanging arete. Tall.

17 MANGO SMOOTHIE 5+

Sit start and traverse left into 16.



18

18

Slabby arete.

19

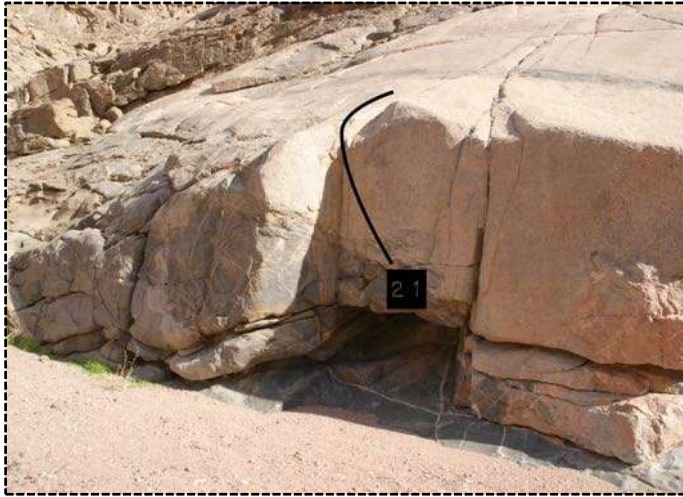
19

Following the finger crack from standing.

20

20

Start from the juggy flake then move up the slabby face.



2 1

Sit start off the incut break. Short.



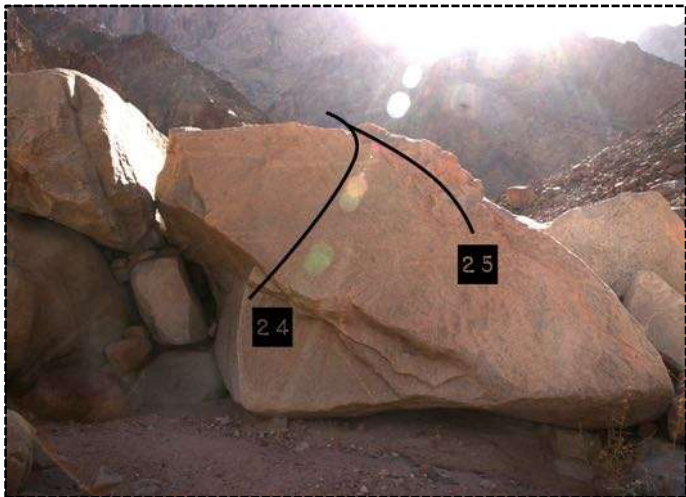
2 2

Deceptively tricky sit start off the vague sideways edges.

2 3 T O T A

3

Crouching start on the side pull holds.



2 4

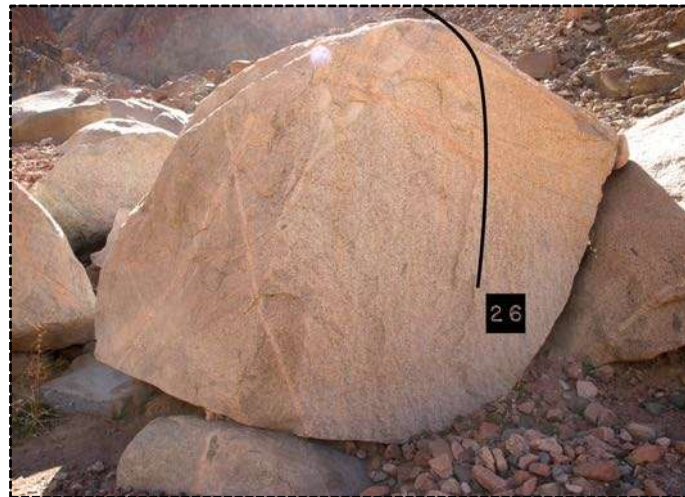
4 +

Sit start on the arete. Low.

2 5

5

Start on the edges and traverse into the same low exit.

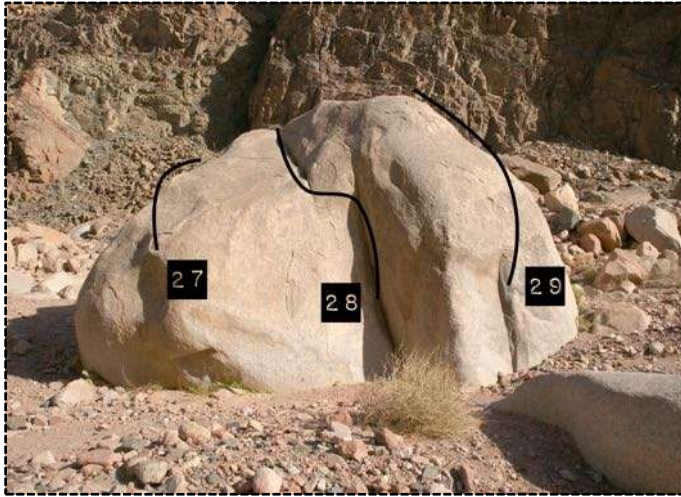


2 6

5

Sit start and move up the short vertical face on side pulls.





27

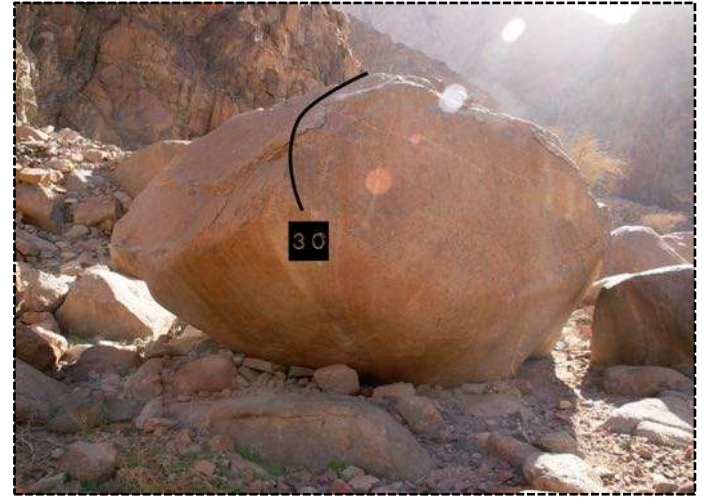
Short problem starting on incut flake edge.

28

Follow the short layback crack.

29

Sit start on the sidepull and arete. Short.



30

Start hanging crimpy edges on the prow leading upwards to a tricky mantel.



31

31

Sit start from around the small cave roof.

32

32

Sit start from the flake..

33

33

Sit start from the right hand sidepull

34

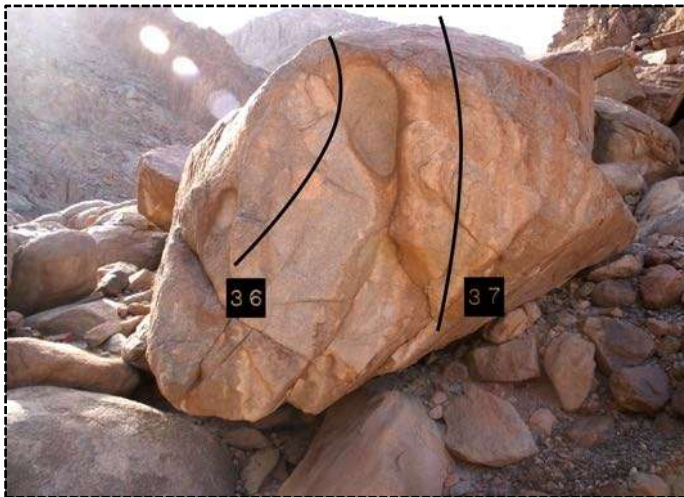
34

The right arete from standing.

35

35

The slab.

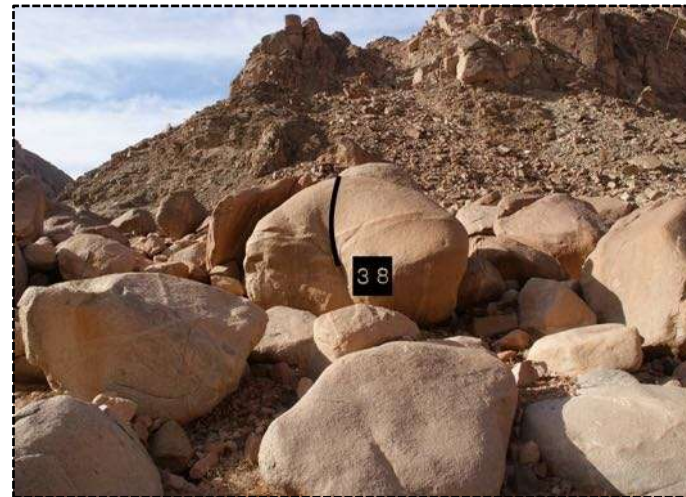


36

Start crouching from the sidepull. Short.

37

Sit start on incut crimp edges. Short.



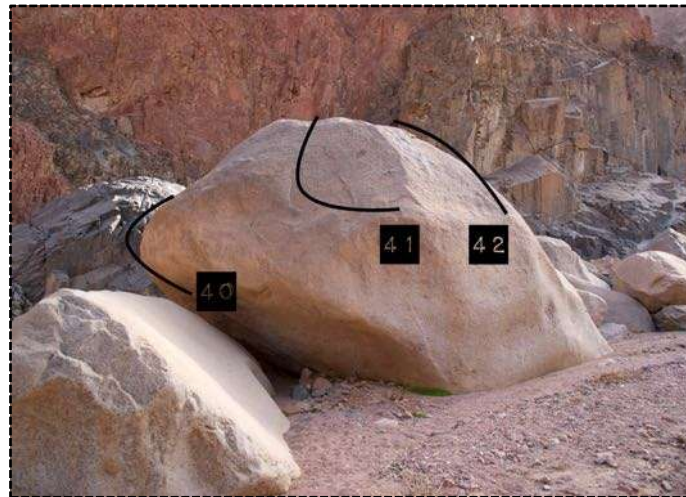
38

Sit start into the groove. Short.



39

Sit start using the fist jam crack and move up to a low top out.



40

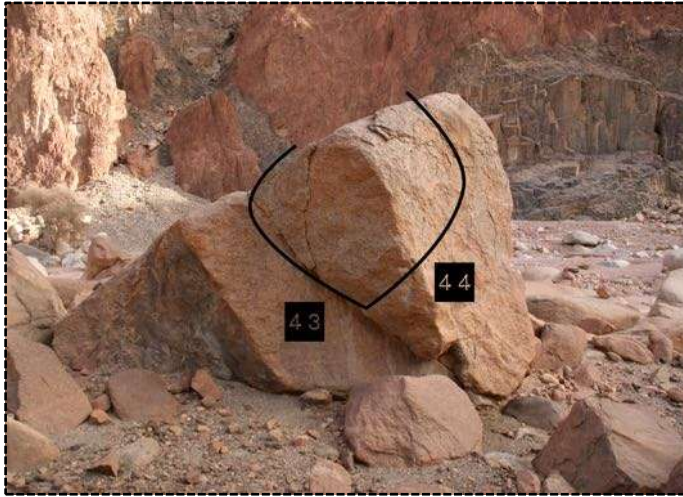
Sit start the far side of the low overhanging prow using the pocket and arete.

41

Short slab leftwards.

42

Short slab straight up.



4 3

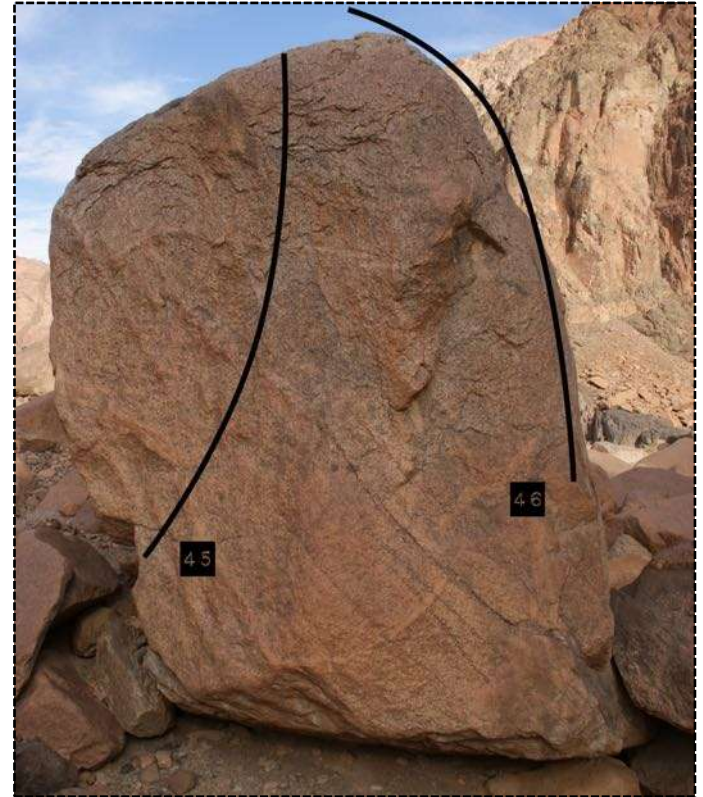
Sit start into the short undercut crack.

4 4

Follow around the arete and up the short vertical face.

4 5

Sit start from left hand sidepull.



4 6

From crouching, head up the arete.



47

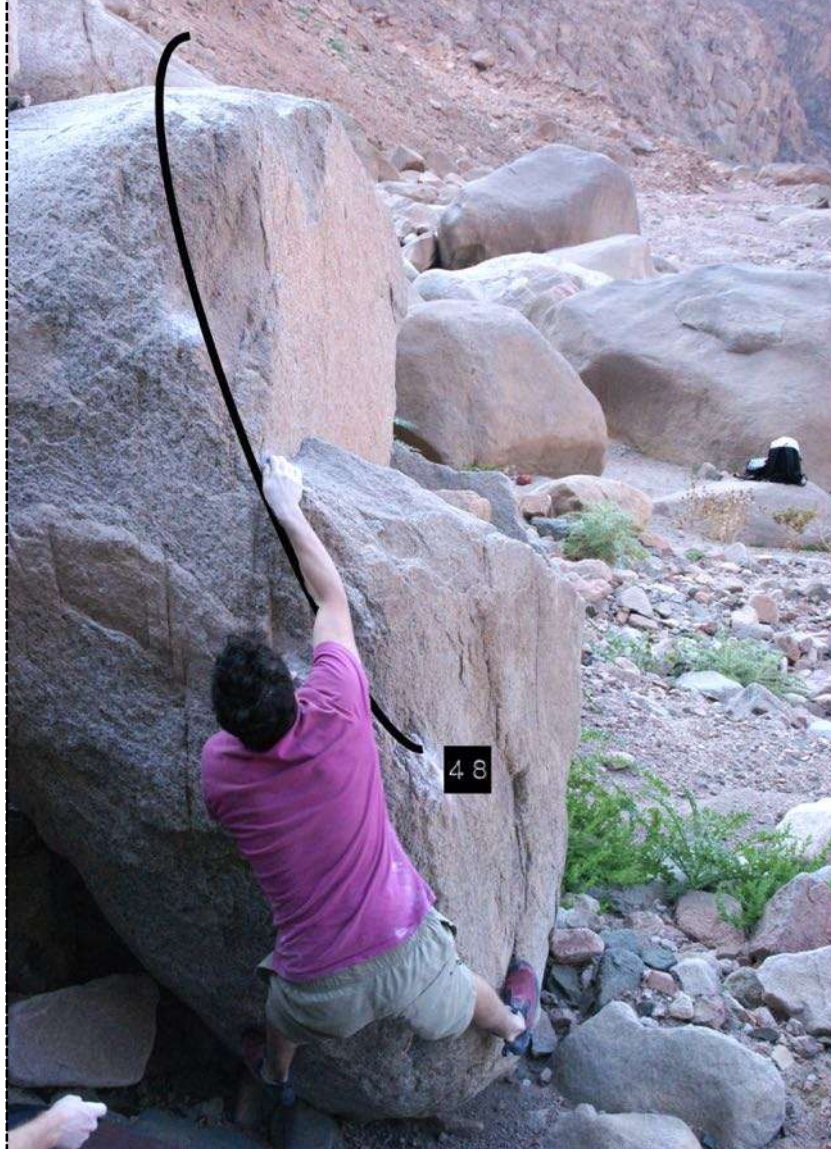
4 +

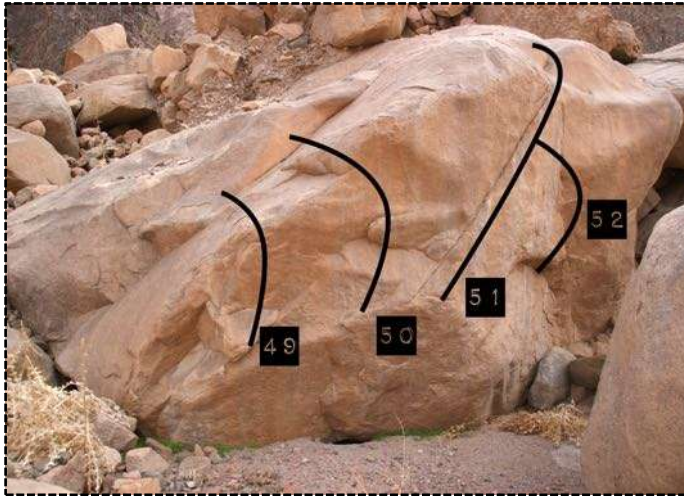
From the undercut. Short.

48 QUEEN TANGLE

5 +

Sit start from the right hand edge, then follow up and left to a low top out.





49 BARE NECESSITIES 5+

Short problem off the low undercut flake.

50 KING TANGLE 6A

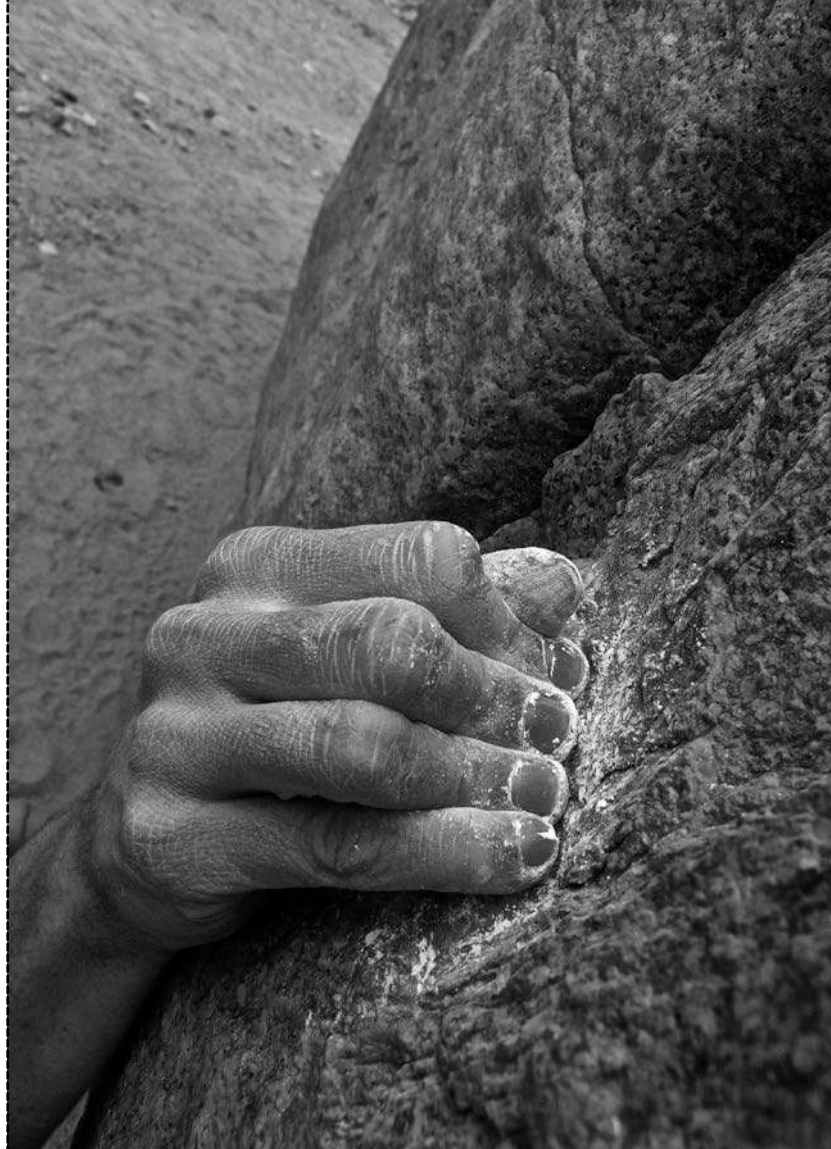
Sit start on the rounded edge.

51

Follow the shallow fingery seam up and left from a low start.

52

Climb into Tangle Crack from the undercut sit start.





54

Sit start then follow the fingery crack. All 3 lines on this overhanging face need cleaning.

55

Sit start.

56

Sit start.



55

57 MOWGLI

The vertical arete from sitting.

58 SHERE KHAN

The vertical wall right of Mowgli, from sitting.

59 KING LOUIE

Mantel problem to the right of Shere Khan, from standing.

60 BACHERA

Sit start problem on far right end of the boulder.

58

57

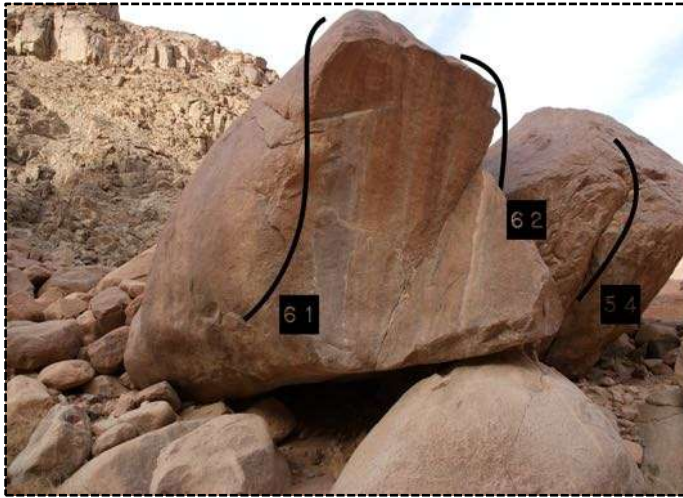
56

5

5+

5

4

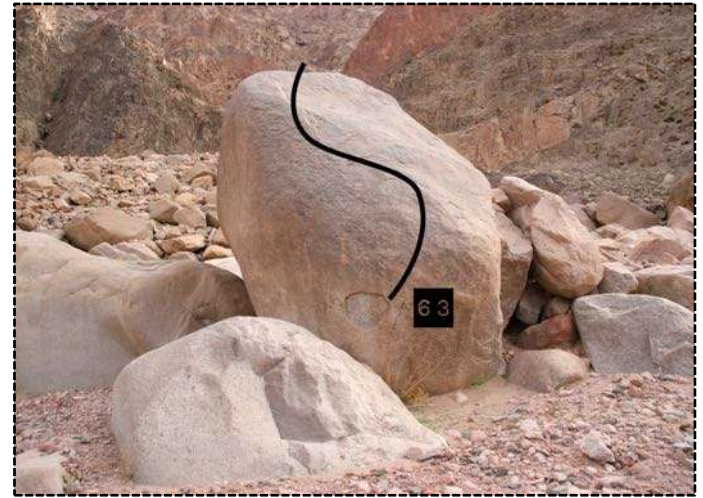


6 1

Start on the rail and follow the arete up to a tall exit. Hard.

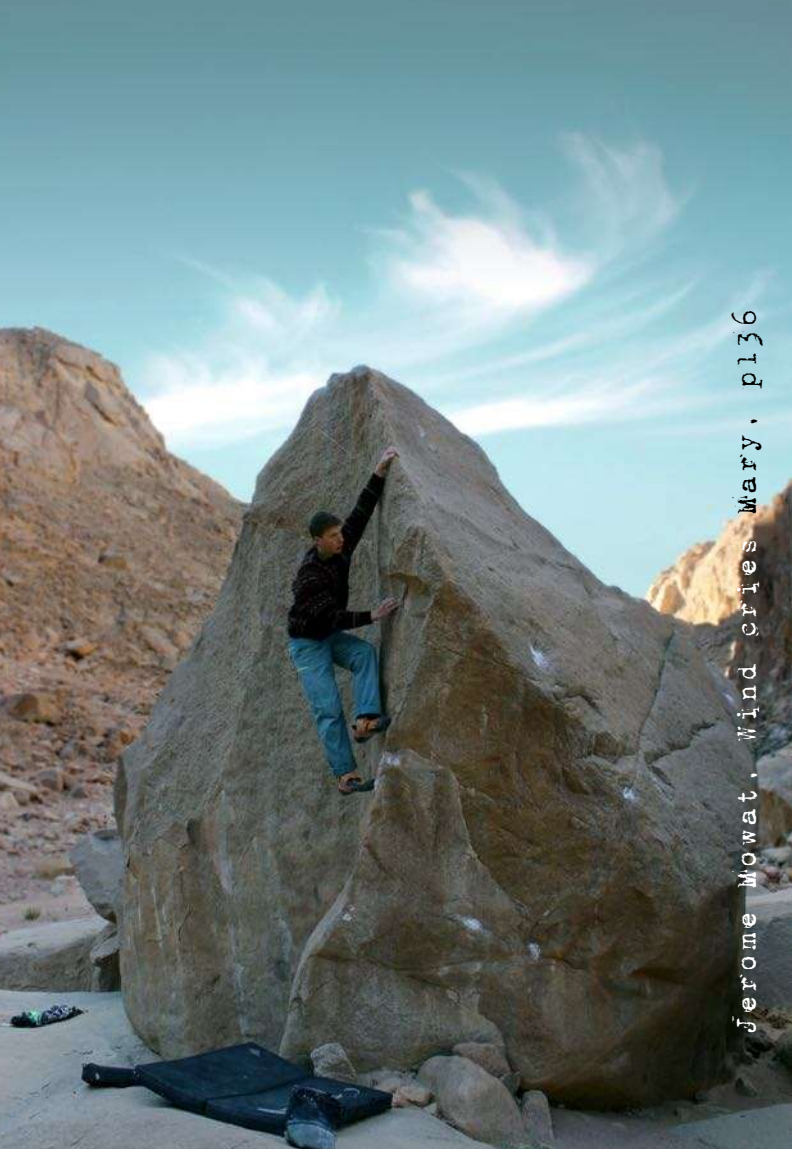
6 2

Start on the top edge of the protruding fin feature and follow the arete up and over to a tall top out. Easier but committing.

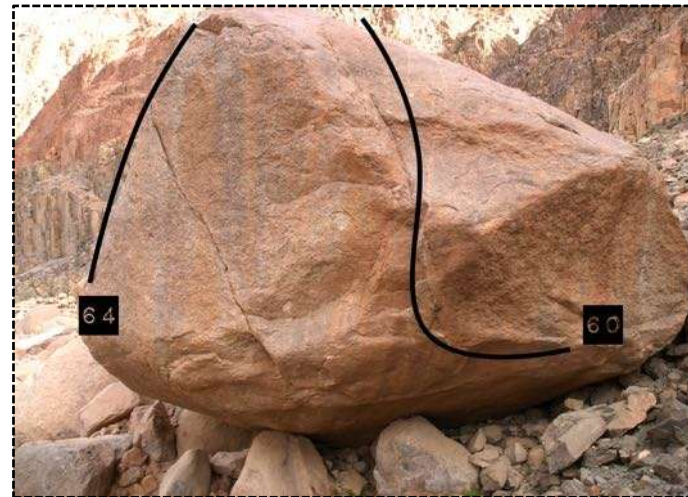


6 3

Sit start on the circular edge feature and a right hand crimp. Follow up the sloping arete.



Jerome Mowat, Wind cries Mary, p136



64



Stand start to follow arete. Possible hard low start too.

65

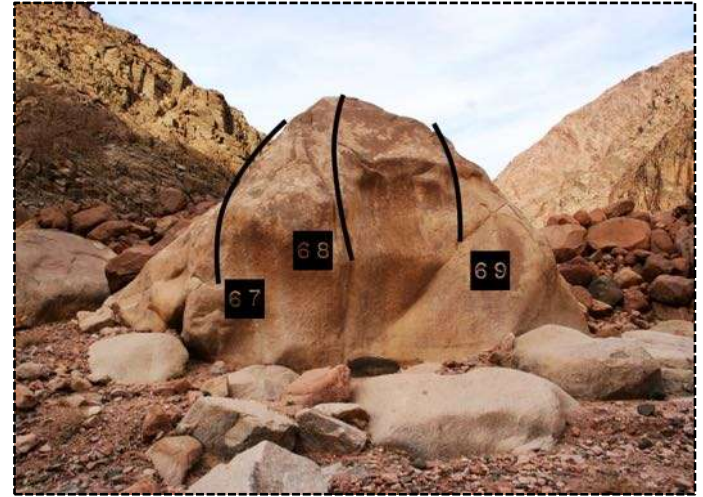


Sit start and move left and then up the line of crimpy edges.
Hard.



66

Low start, then move up the slightly overhanging face.



67

Sit start on the rail and head straight up.

68

Follow the vague seam. Tall.

69

Head up the slab and vertical face.

All problems on this face need light cleaning.



70 ALL ALONG THE WATCHTOWER 4+ ★

Start on the arete and follow the lip and surrounding holds all the way up to a tall finish.

71 ★

Sit start as for Castles made of sand, and move left into the vague groove feature up the middle of the tall, slightly overhanging face.

72 WIND CRIES MARY 5

The left side of the right hand arete from sitting.



73 CASTLES MADE OF SAND 6C+ ★

Sit start from the arete and sidepull, head up the tall overhanging arete to top out on the pocketed slab.

74

Starting from the crimp edge and pocket, slap up for the sloping edges and the top slab.



75

76

77

76 BARNACLE

4+

The crimpy slab straight up.

75

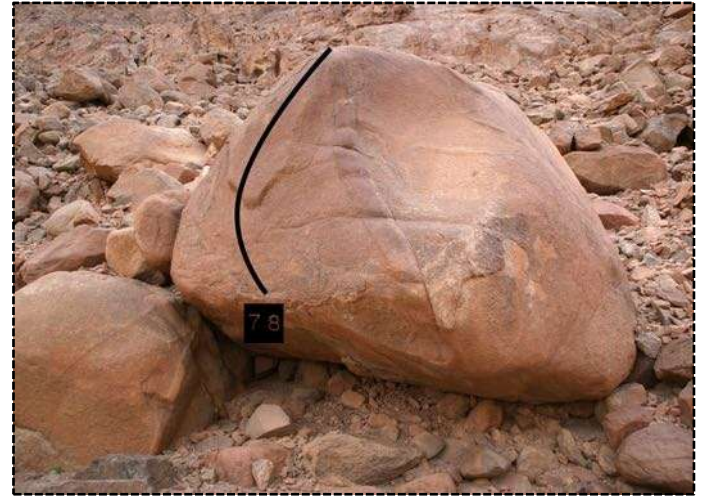
6B

77 BOLD AS LOVE

7A+

Sit start from the arete and sidepull crimp.

Start left hand on small cut out block with foot on pedestal feature.



78

Hanging start from the lip.



Jerome Mowat, Bold as Love, p137

GREAT WHITE SHARK / BLACKFACE SECTORS

Tommy Franzen, project p159



GREAT WHITE SHARK / BLACKFACE SECTORS

OVERVIEW

Named after the large shark shaped rock that starts off the sector, Great white shark and Blackface are really two smaller sectors joined together with a small walk to reach the striped Blackface boulder and the start of that sector. There are lots of sidewall problems at all heights and across most grades, along with a good view over the big waterfall sector and some of the harder overhanging problems that characterize the top sectors.

ACCESS

Great white shark is about 25 minutes walk from the Car Park sector. There are only small further changes in level in this sector so walking around is easy and safe for children. The boulders in the two sectors are relatively spread out so some walking is required.

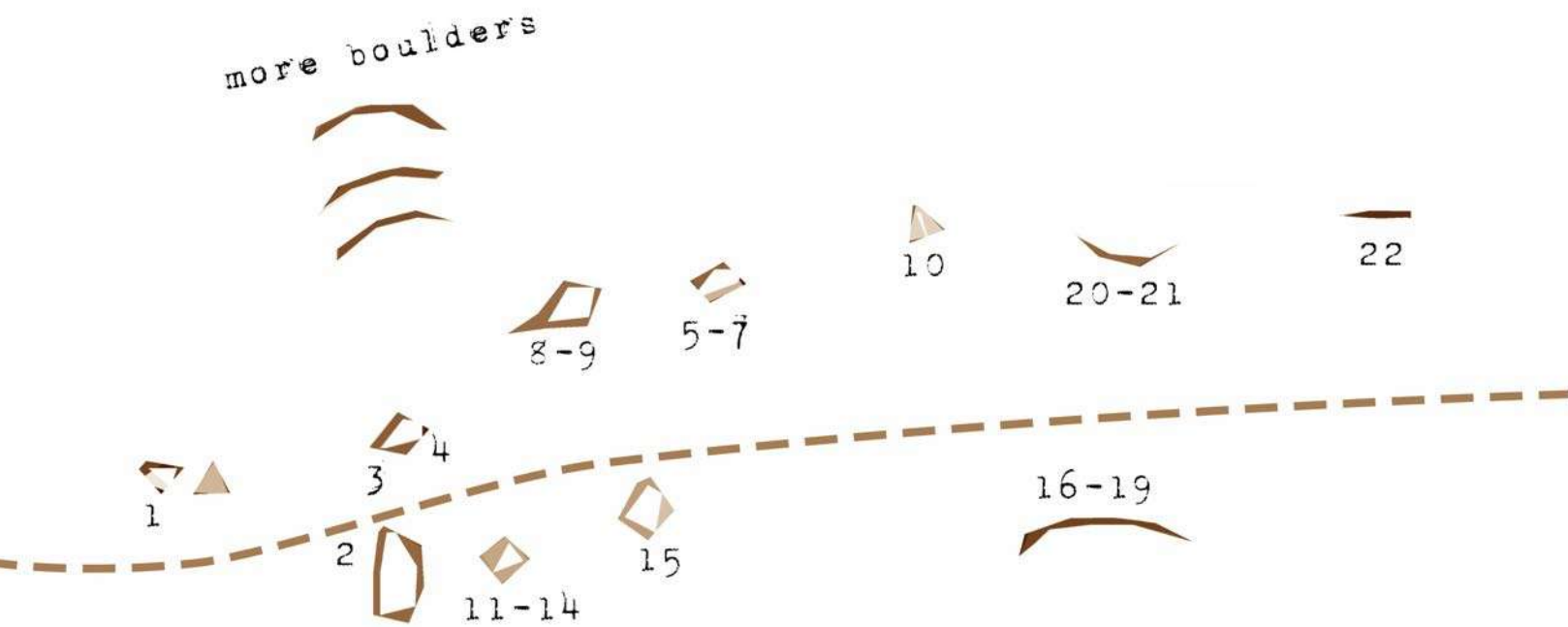
CLIMBING

Some of the best problems here are on the sidewalls and the steeper freestanding boulders towards the end of the Blackface sector. The Lucky Strike boulder (p 156) has some great climbs, including some atypical finger pockets. There's also one very steep & long boulder with some stand out extremely hard projects like the Atshan project (p 164).

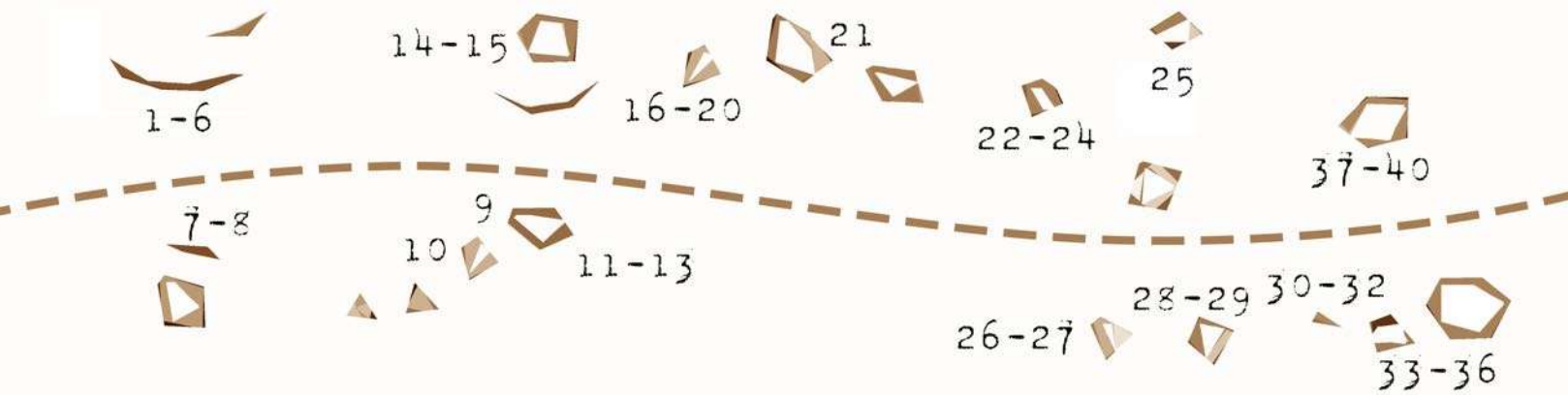
CONDITIONS

While some of the problems around the middle of the Blackface sector and the steeper boulders stay in the shade for a large part of the day, most of the free standing boulders are in the sunlight from late morning until mid afternoon.

GREAT WHITE SHARK SECTOR



BLACKFACE SECTOR

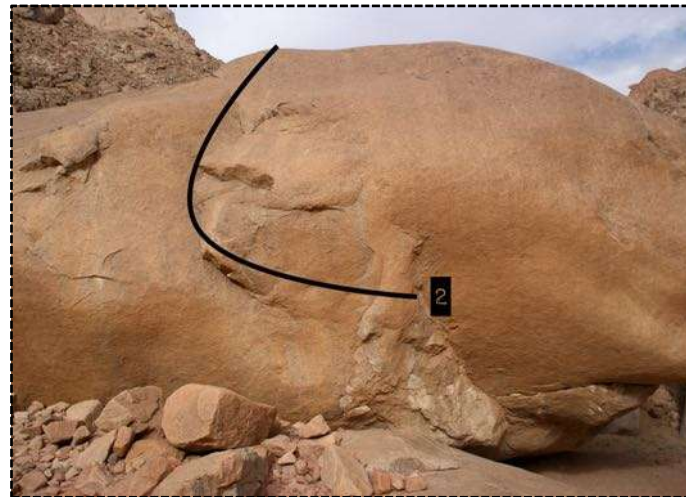




1 BONKERS

7 A

Start hanging the edge on the lip of the roof and make some odd moves on sloping rails.



2

On the side of the big Great White Shark boulder. Sit start on sidepull feature.

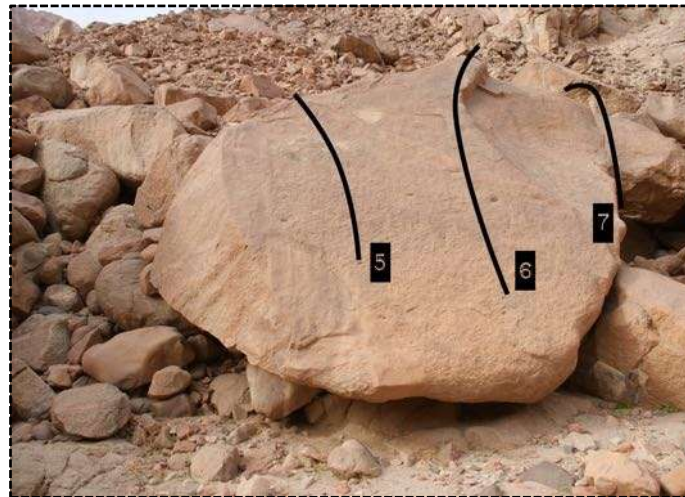


3

Start from sitting using the arete with feet on the low arete block. Short.

4

Sit start on the left hand edge and crack. Short.



5

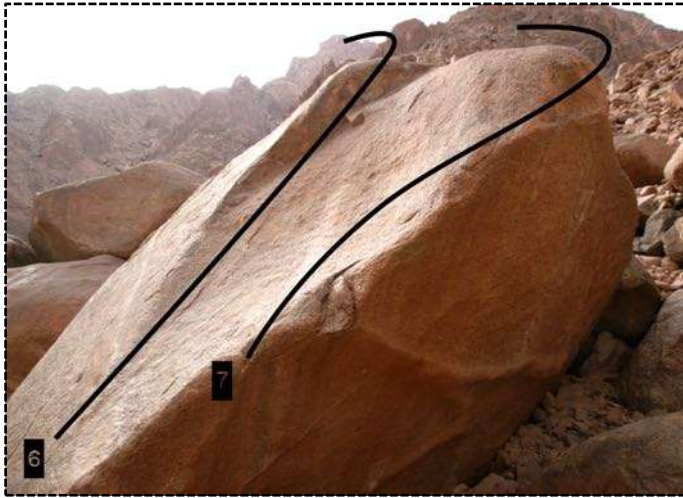
Follow the line of vague holds up the blank looking slab.

6

Climb the scoop on the right hand of the slab via the pocket.

Joe Whitfield, Bowling alley p156

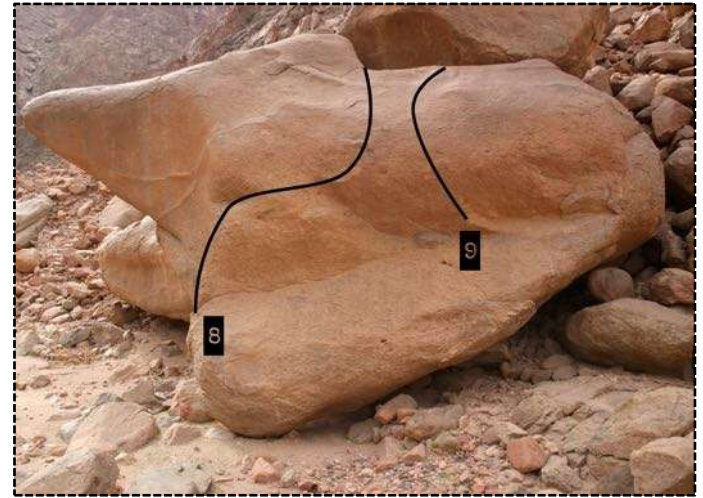




7



Start from sitting, follow the slightly overhanging arete.

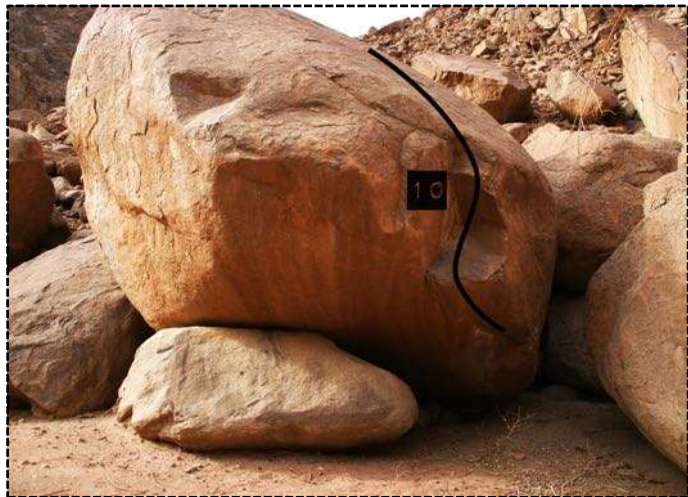


8

Sit start on the incut hold under the prow. Short.

9

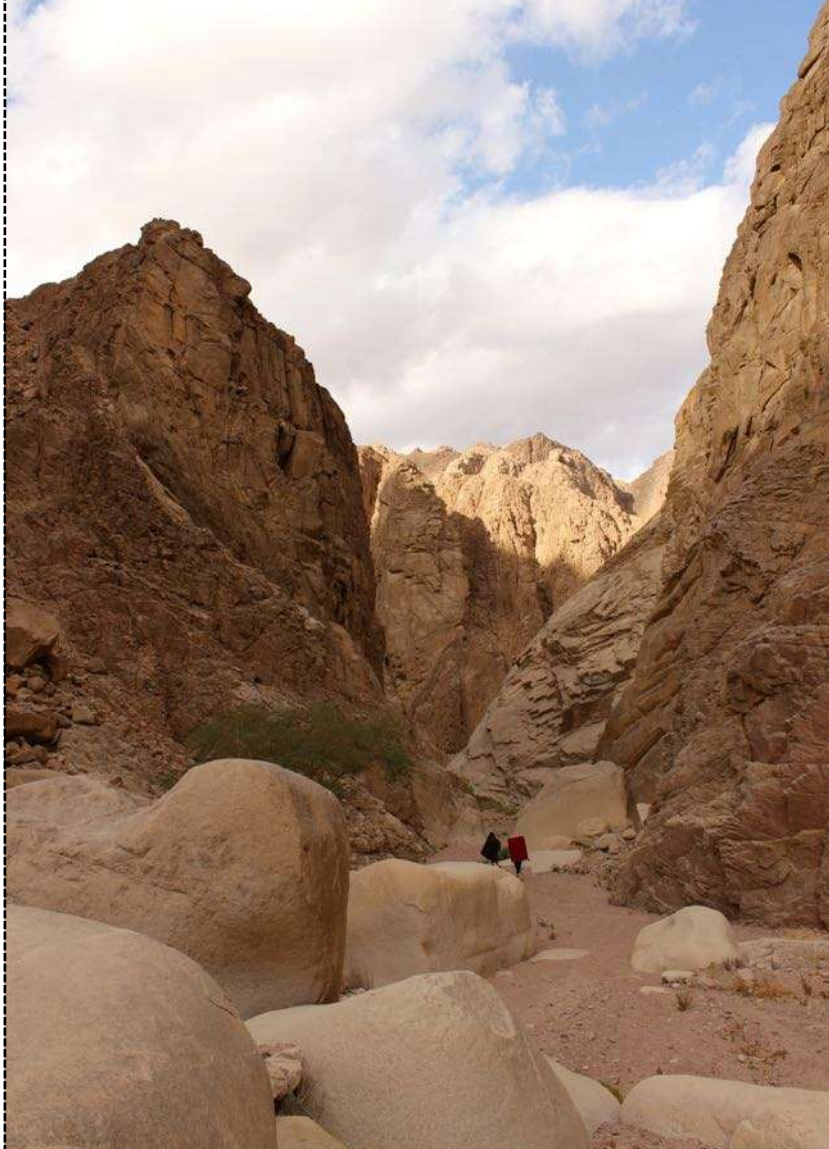
Start using the sidepull hold. Short.



10



Start on the two incut crimp flakes under the overhang to reach the ledge and the slab above. Hard.





11

11

Slab from standing.

12

12 CHALKLESS SLAB

5

Starting on the sidepull rib, Follow the flake edge.

13

13 THE MUTT

5+

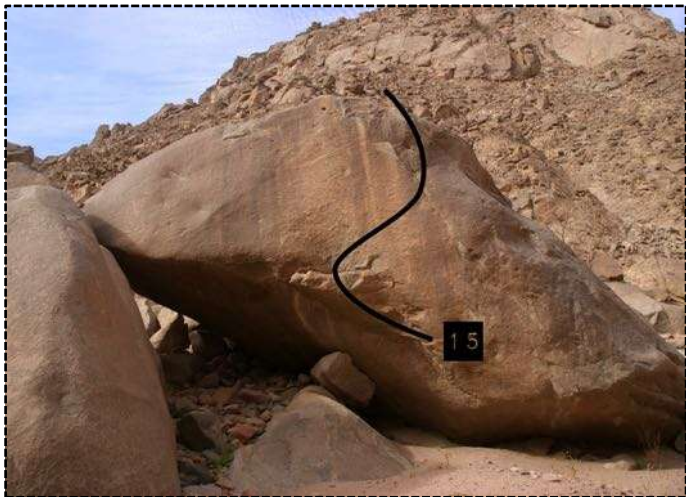
Sit start underneath the right hand flake edge.

14

14 BRITTLE BONES

6A

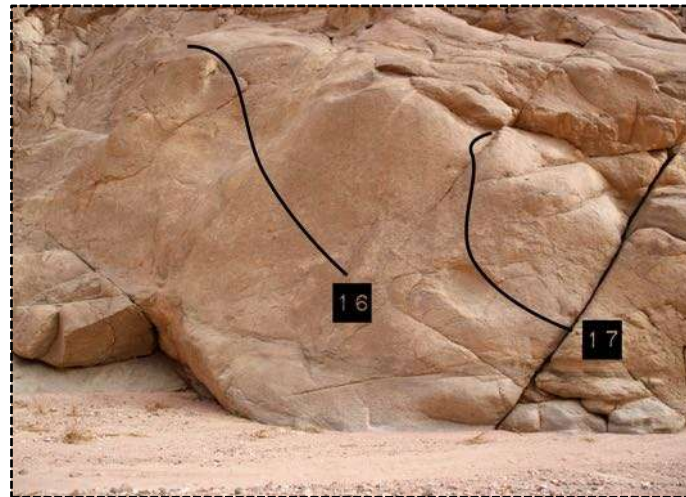
Start from sitting using the incut crimps and gain the slightly gritty slab on crimps.



15



Start from the rail feature or even add an extension from sitti. Hard.

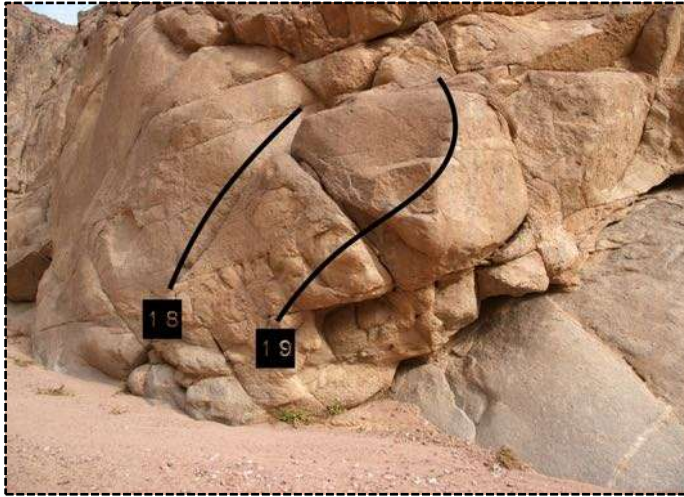


16

High steep slab on vague edges.

17

Crouching start off the positive rail, head left and up the scoop feature.



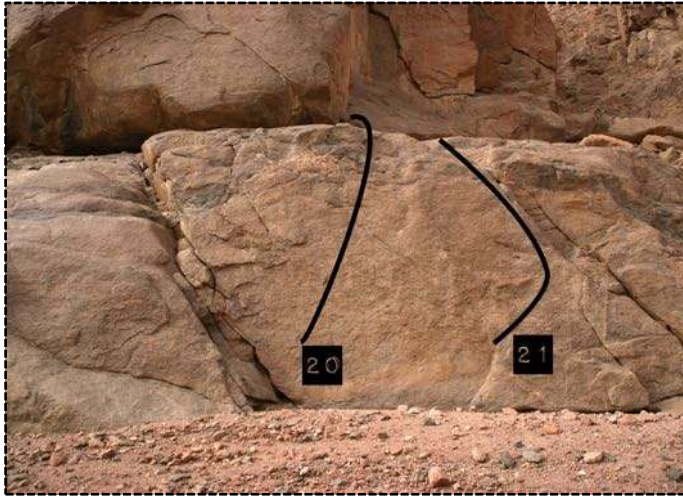
18

Follow the crack from a sit start.

19

Start from sitting off the incut sidepull then follow positive holds around the overhanging prow.





20

Sit start on crimps and follow small holds up the vertical sidewall.

21

Sit start from the sidepull flake and follow the rail.



22

Sit start from the undercut flake.



Fred Stone, Wax on Wax off p52

BLACKFACE SECTOR



1 3 +

Sit start on positive holds then follow jugs up the low overhanging arete.

2 TWO FACE 4 +

Sit start then climb up and left.

3 PAINT IT BLACK 4

From the same starting holds as problem 2, move right on undercuts and positive sidepulls leading up. Low.

4 4

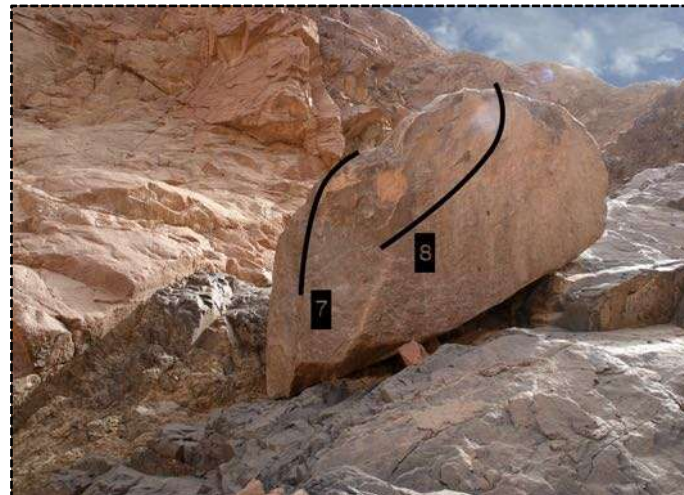
From crouching start follow the low groove up and left.

5 BLACKHEAD 5

Climb up the slightly harder incut ledge.

6

The short roof from sitting on sidepulls. Bad landing.

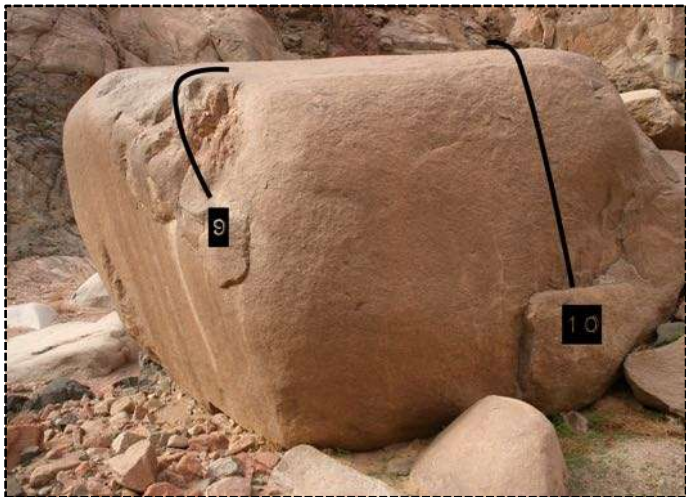


7 4 +

From crouching off the long sidepull.

8

Starting from the crimping ledge, move right around the arete to top out up the face.

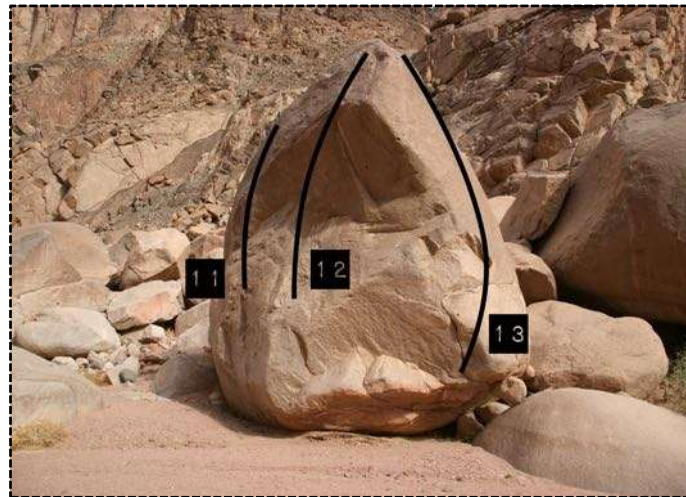


9

Start high up and mantel out the smooth top of the boulder.

10

Sit start using the ledge.



11 BOWLING ALLEY

6A ★

Crouch start on good edges then follow the finger pockets.

12 SPLIT

5+

The middle of the face via the rib feature from standing.

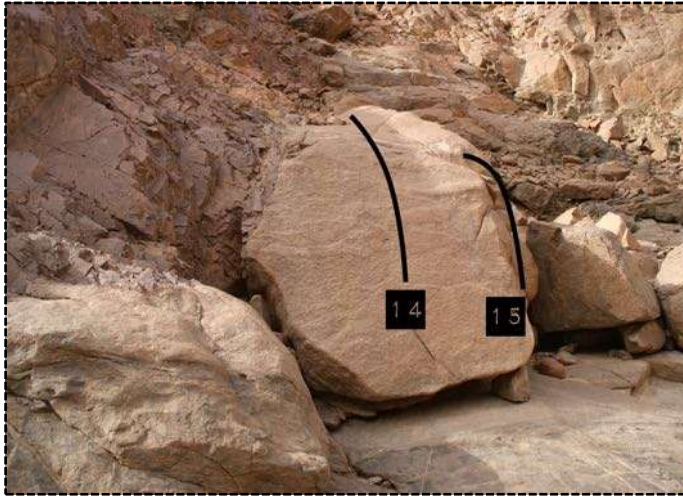
13 LUCKY STRIKE

6C ★

Sit start on the sidepull crack and climb the excellent arete on small pockets and edges.



Jerome Mowat, Frostbit left pl63



14 LOVE SLAB 3

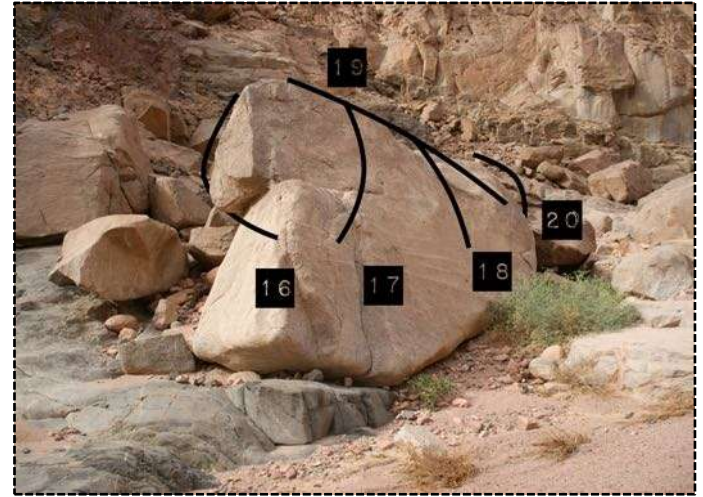
Easy pleasant low slab on good edges.

15 4

Sit start on the short incut left hand crack and top out onto the slab.

16 SMOKING JACKET 5+

Crouch start then move up and left around the arete.



17 NO SMOKING 4+

Crouching start off the good vertical crack, follow good holds up via the ledge.

18 SMOKE SIGNALS 5

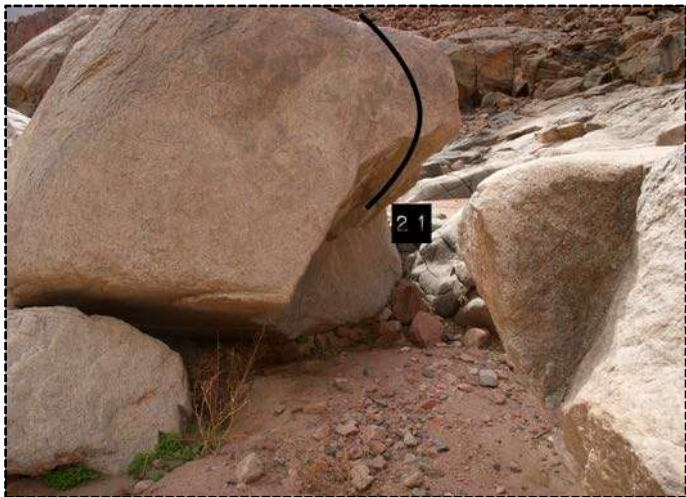
Start on the smooth dark pocket holds and up the slab.

19 SMOKE TRAVERSE 3+

Start on the foot ledge and traverse R-L to top out 17.

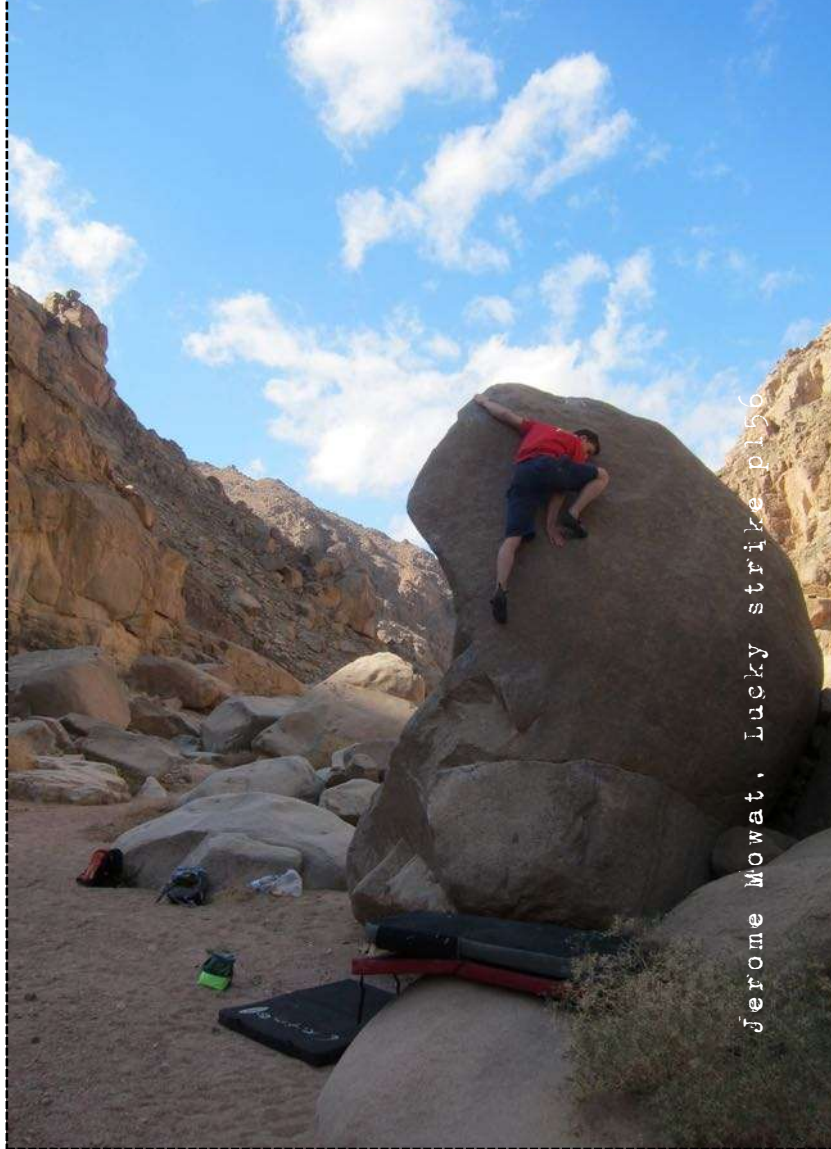
20 SMOKED SALMON 3+

Sit start on the rounded jugs on the short sidewall.

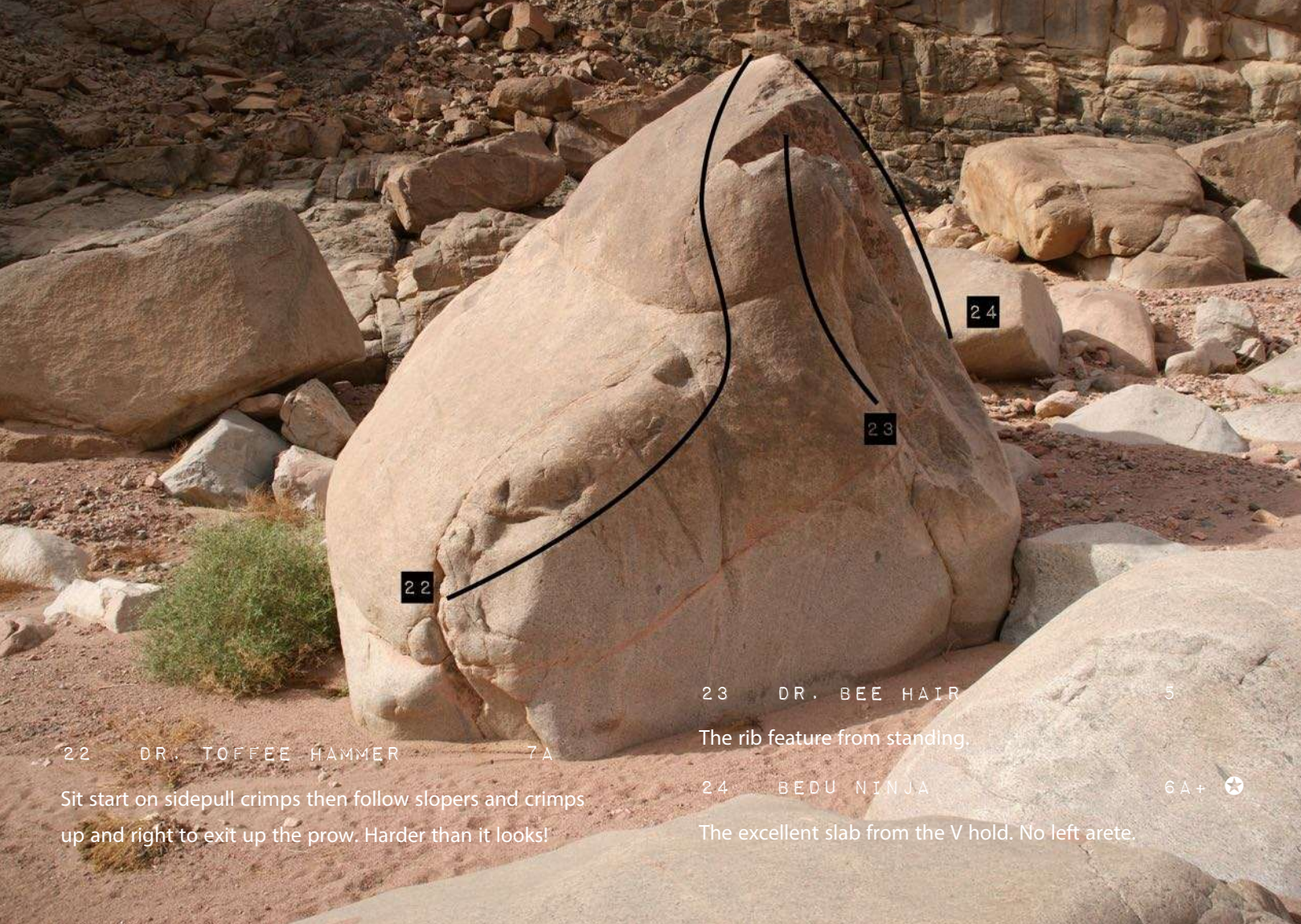


21

The low overhang starting crouching from the right undercut then round the lip on crimps. See photo p140.



Jerome Mowat, Lucky strike p156



22

22 DR. TOFFEE HAMMER 7A

Sit start on sidepull crimps then follow slopers and crimps up and right to exit up the prow. Harder than it looks!

23

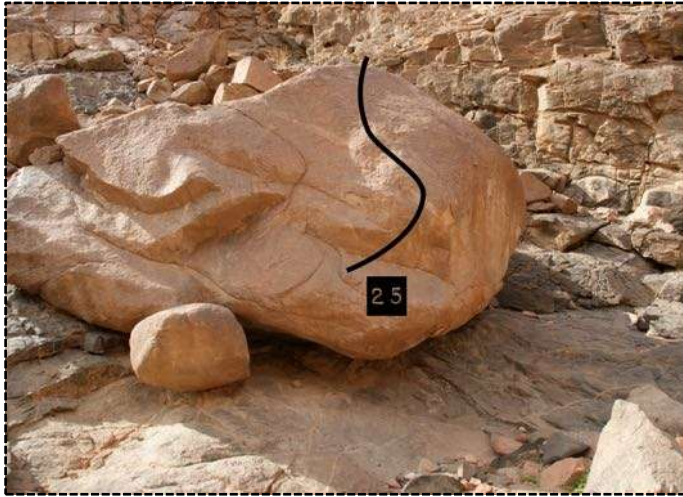
23 DR. BEE HAIR 5

The rib feature from standing.

24

24 BEDU NINJA 6A+

The excellent slab from the V hold. No left arete.



25 B'RAD

5 +

Start crouching from the sidepulls.



Be careful of the huge central flake on this boulder, which seems solid but could come off.

26 FLAKEY LEFT

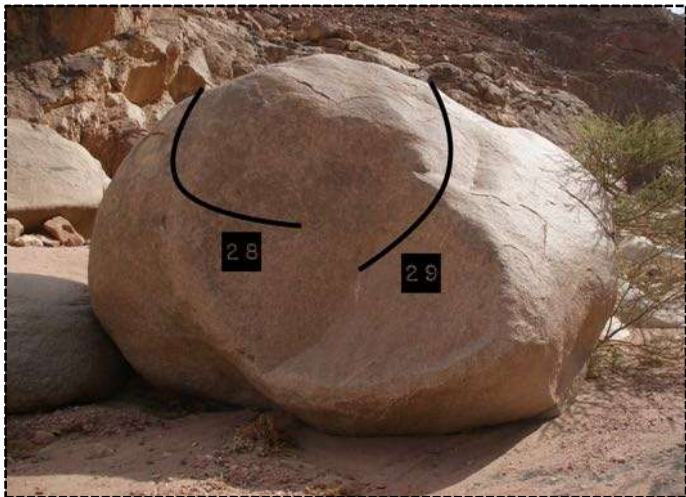
6A +

Sit start matching on the sharp left flake then up and around the arete.

27 FLAKEY

5

Sit start matching on the good right flake and up the slight overhang on juggy flake holds.



28

Starting on the standing ledge, move left and across the rounded slab on crimps to the positive circular hold.

29 FLIP FLOP

3

The low blank looking slab up and right. Can also be done without using hands.



30

Sit start on the left jug under the roof and make a hard move to the sloping lip.

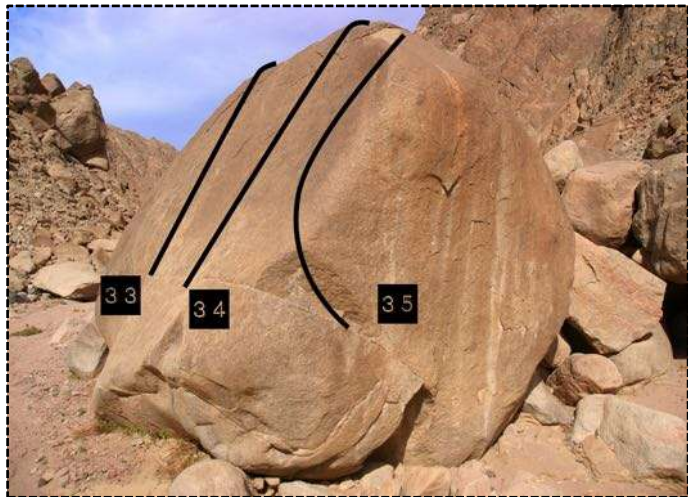
31

Sit start from the jug on the right.

32 PUMP'S ARETE

6A

Sit start on the arete flake and traverse leftwards to exit at the vague crack line.



33 FROSTBITE SLAB LEFT 6B+ ★

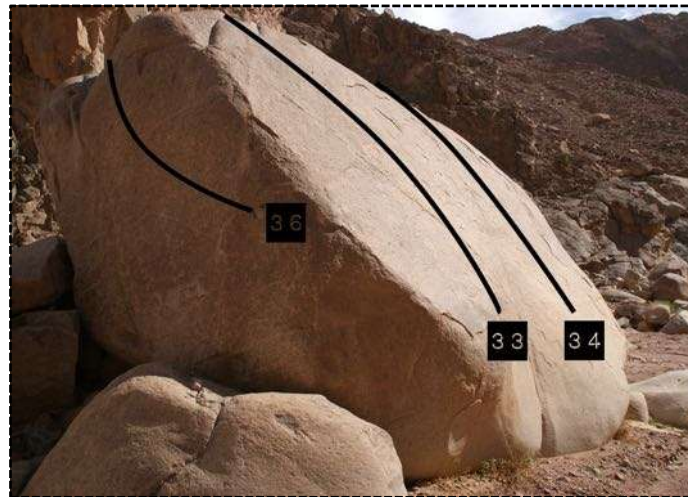
The tall crimpy slab from standing on the left hand side.

34 FROSTBITE SLAB RIGHT 5 ★

The excellent right hand line.

35 EN-NOUR 6B

Start on the ledge, then get established on slab and head up the arete.



36

Start from standing.



37

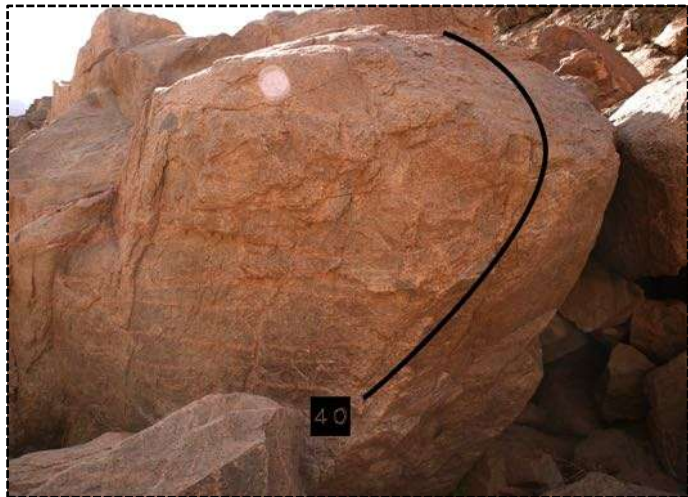
Crouching start matching on the edge then follow the long steep arete and holds on the face. Hard.

38

The Atshan project. Sit start on crimps and head up the long steep overhang on small edges to top out via the juggy block above the lip. Hard.

39

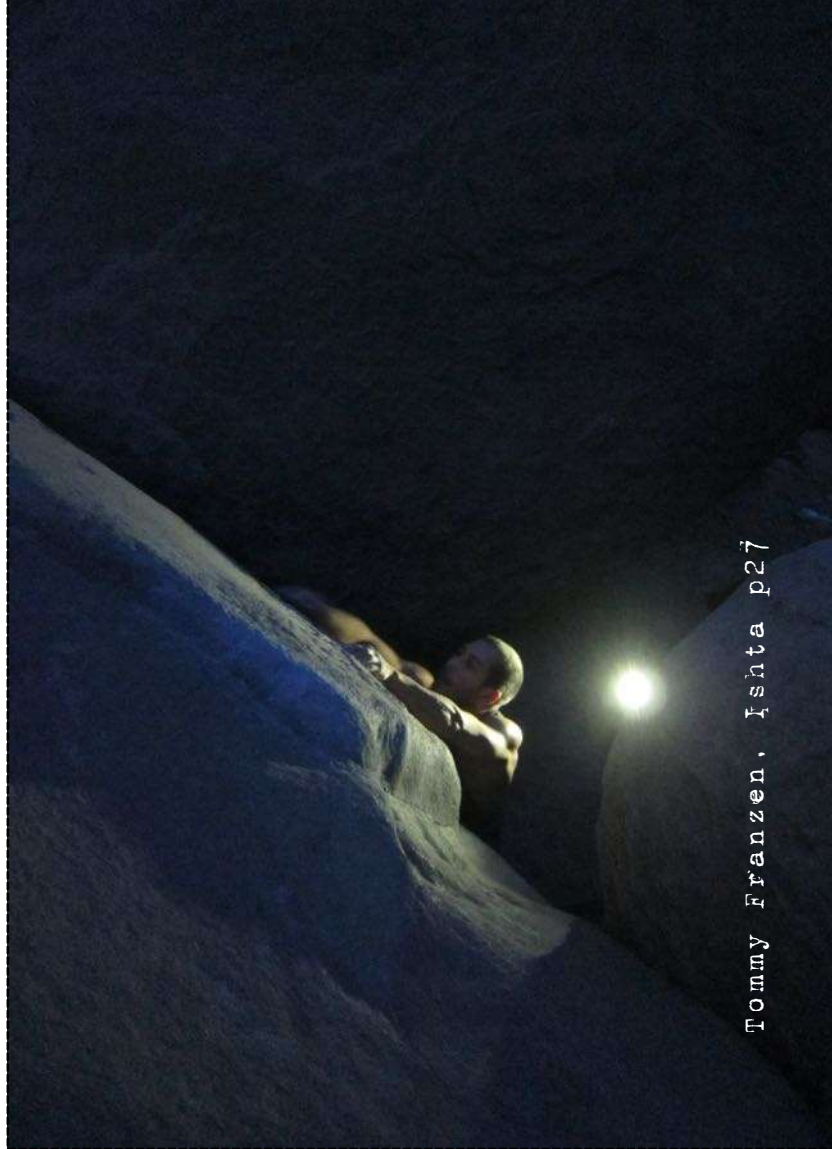
Sit start and follow edges and sidepulls on the face and the sloping arete. Hard.



40 NIHILIST ARETE

6C+

The overhanging arete on small crimps and a powerful pinch from a sit start.



Tommy Franzen, Ishta p27

TURKISH BATHPUMP SECTOR

Joe Whitfield, Shark Fin Soup p176



TURKISH BATHPUMP SECTOR

OVERVIEW

Turkish Bathpump sector is the final sector in Bir Wadi Qun'ai. With lots of quality problems close together, and a concentration of harder overhanging projects, this is possibly the best sector overall.

ACCESS

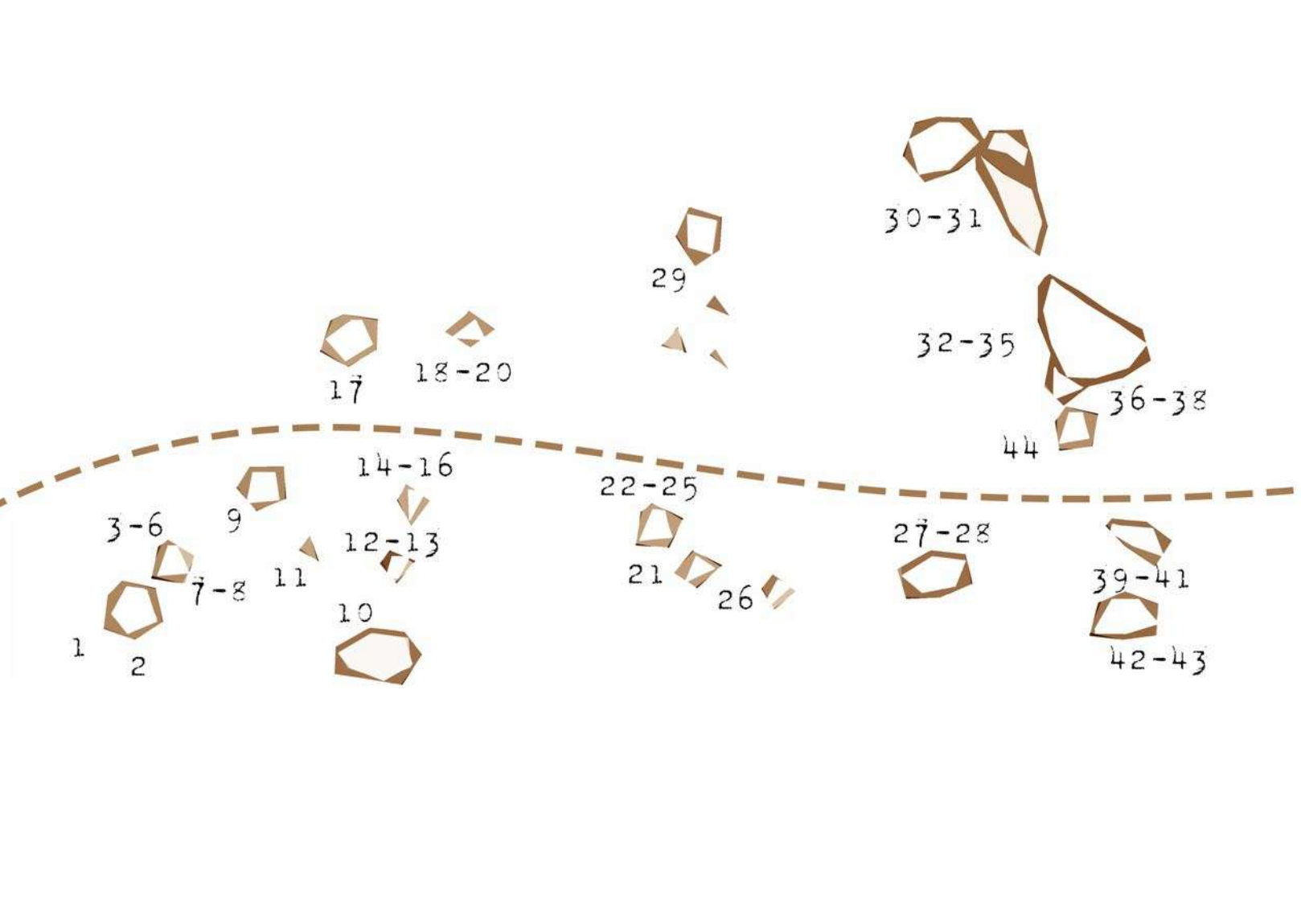
The start of the sector is approximately 35 minutes walk from the Car Park sector. If you keep walking on past the last of the problems at the end of the sector, there is a large overhanging wall on the right which would make a hard sport crag, then the road to Sharm El Sheikh appears. Although it is possible to arrive by car to this end of Bir Wadi Qun'ai, the police checkpoint at the edge of Dahab, along with vehicle restrictions leaving the Dahab checkpoint, make this less practical than it sounds at first. If you do arrange a car ride up this way, it takes around 25 minutes and you turn off-road left, just south of the Mercure/Wadi Atshan turn off.

CLIMBING

Perhaps the most variety of all the sectors. Harder overhanging boulders, some tall vertical walls and a variety of slabs. Most of the easier problems tend to be on the slightly shorter boulders. Right at the end of the sector, there are some unusual highball problems with multiple roof sections that will need an abseil and clean to open.

CONDITIONS

Turkish Bathpump sector tends to receive fairly little shade, so it is generally best to climb here in early mornings, or from mid to late afternoon onwards. Some of the steeper boulders, as well as some of the sidewall problems will stay shaded through most of the day however.



waterfall



53-54

55

56-57

62

51

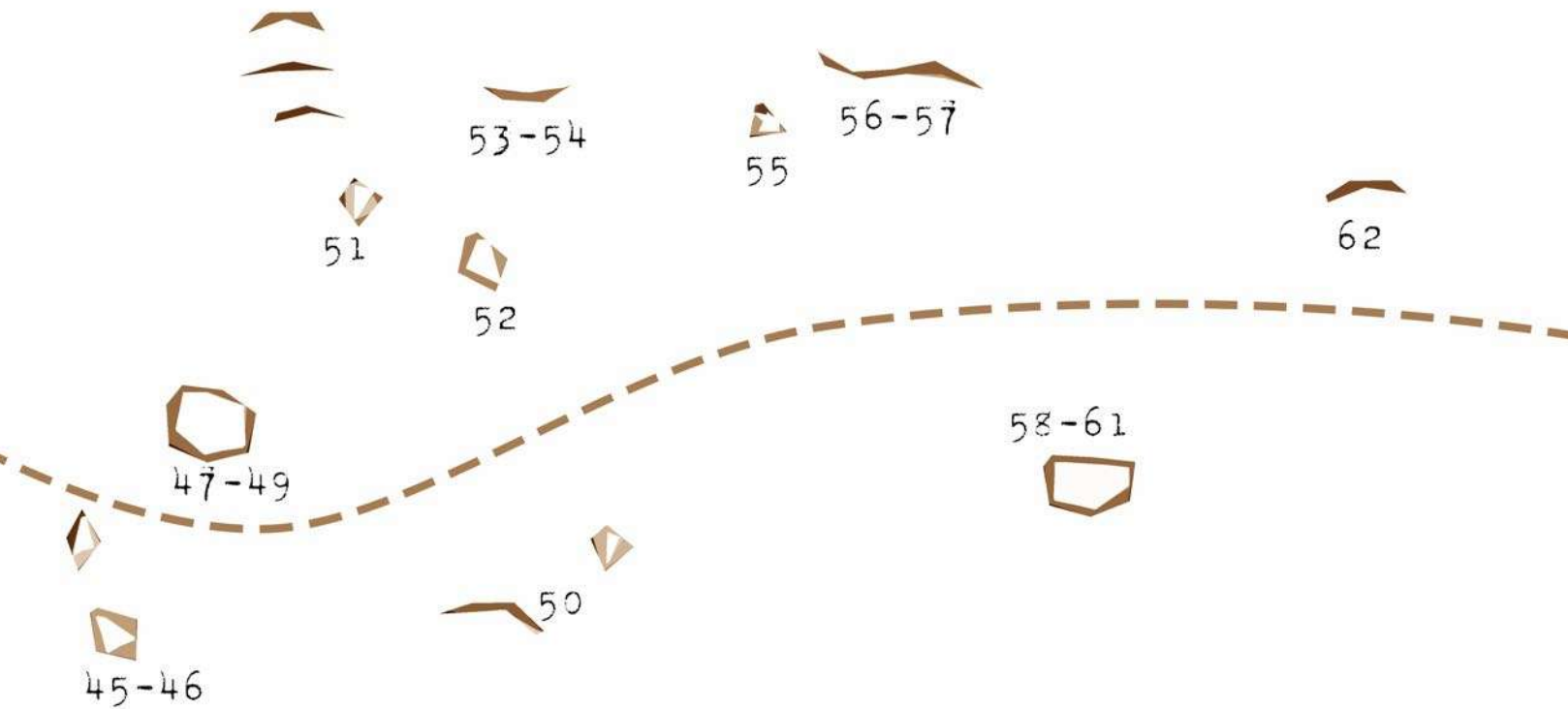
52

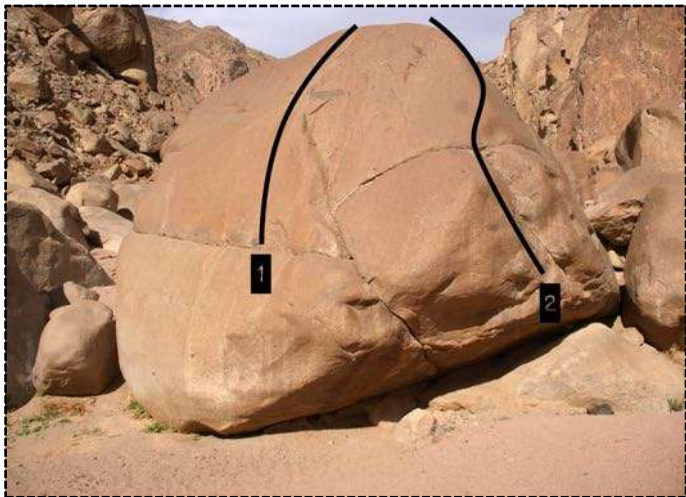
58-61

47-49

50

45-46





1 RUNNING MAN SLAB 4 +

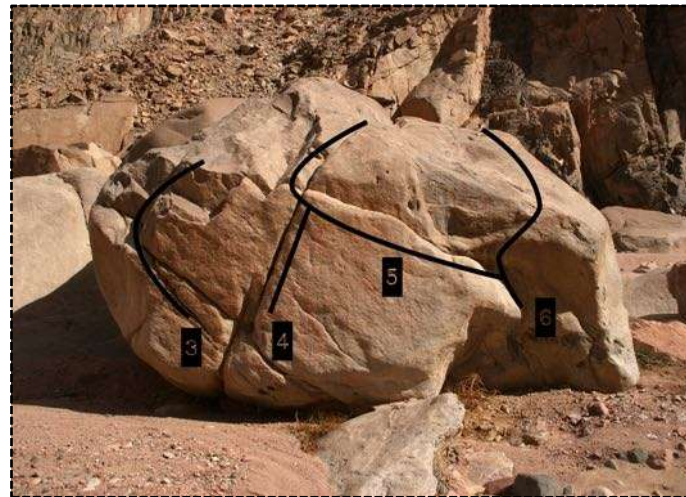
Running start up the tall slab.

2 DO YOU RIDE THE SPINE? 7 A +

Low start on the short overhang, finishing right up the middle of the glassy arete. Find the Bedouin trick if needed!

3

Sit start on the left crack. Short.



4

Sit start and follow up the short right hand crack.

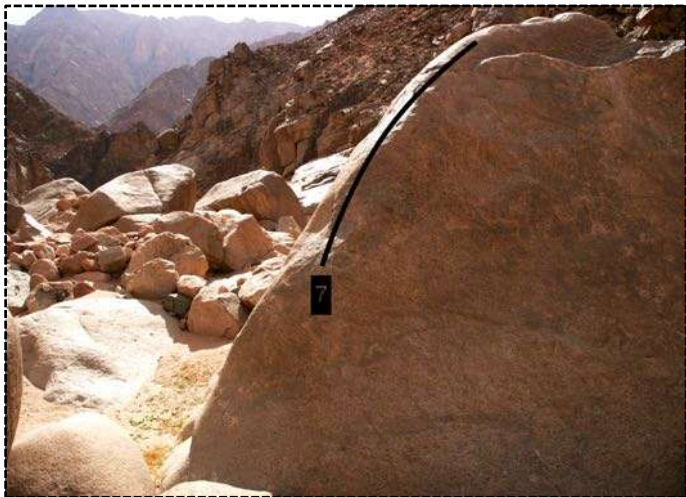
5

Sit start problem 6 then traverse left along the rail and exit problem 4.

6

5 +

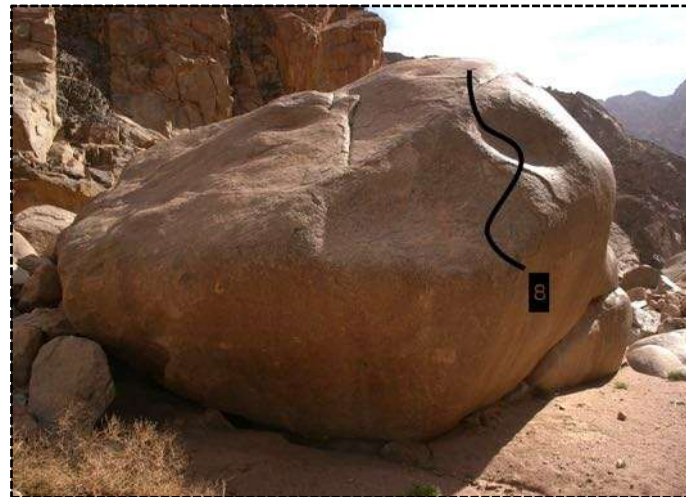
Sit start on the overhang and follow up to a slightly tricky low top.



7 LEDGE ARETE

5

Start on the chest high edge then follow the arete above a stepped landing.



8

Hang the crimp rail then follow the blank looking prow on crimps and a big sloper dish.



9

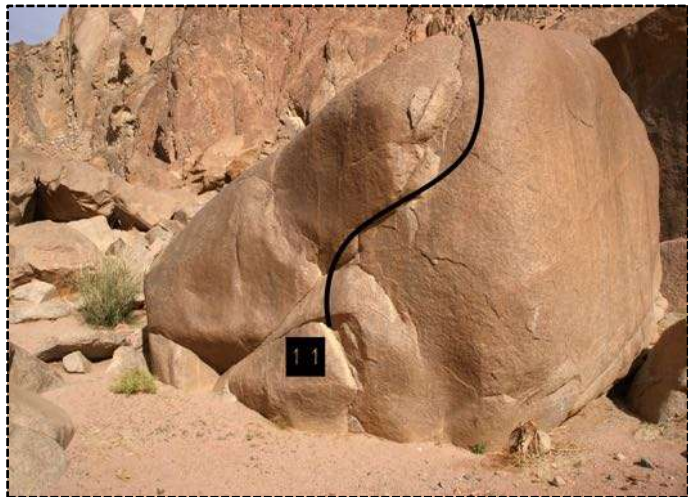
5

Sit start into low overhanging traverse.



10

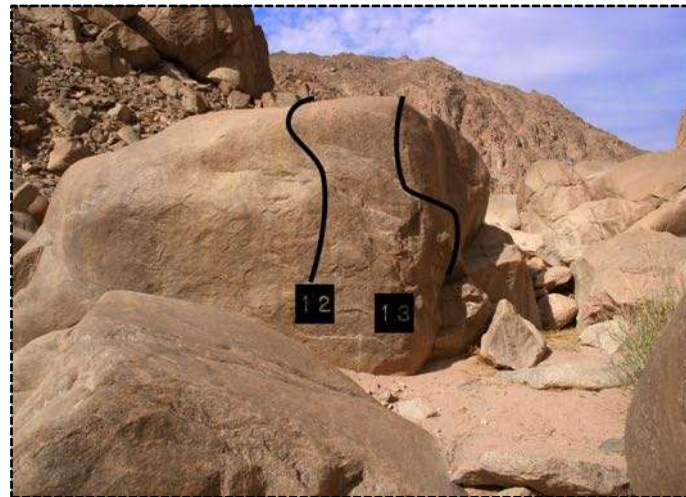
The tall boulder following a rounded arete up and left from standing.



11 HOTEL TULIP

6B

Sit start then up and right.



12 BLINK

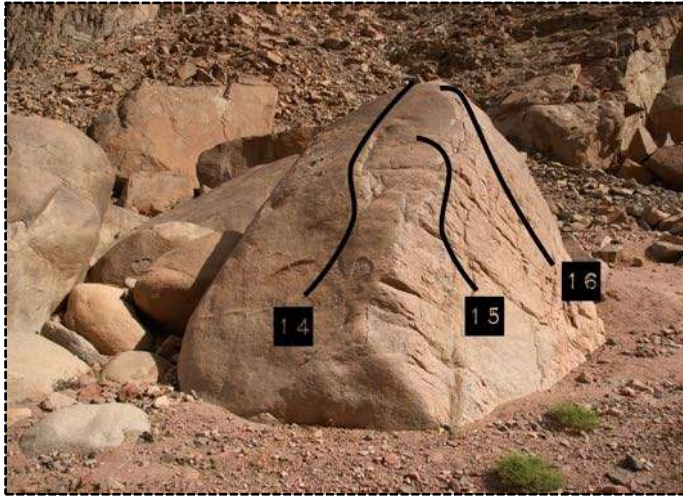
6A+

Sit start on small crimps then climb the vertical wall.

13 NO SOUTH WIND

6A

From a sit start, move left and up the arete.



14 SEASHORE SLAB 4

Long polished slab on good holds from standing.

15 EEL GARDEN 4+

Crouch start on the sideways crack and climb up and over the arete to top out up problem 14.

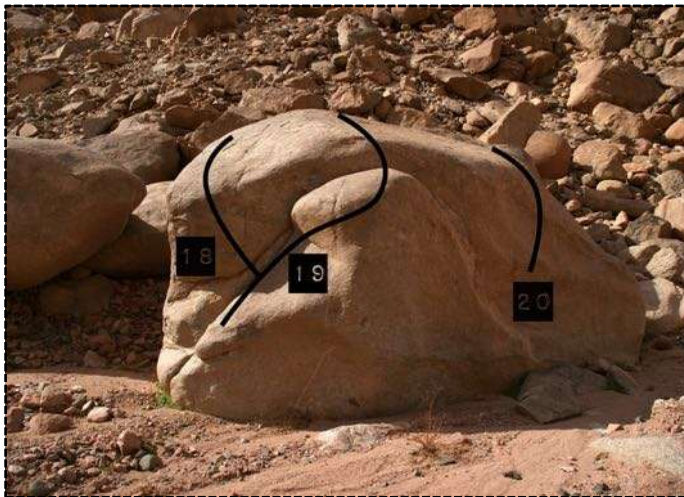
16 5+

Crouching start above the V shaped foot ledge. Follow up the slab on small edges to an easier exit.



17 ORSOLA 4+

Sit start using the blunt undercut flake and climb up the short slabby boulder.



18

Sit start on the juggy crack then use the undercut to move left onto the rounded arete and top out.

19

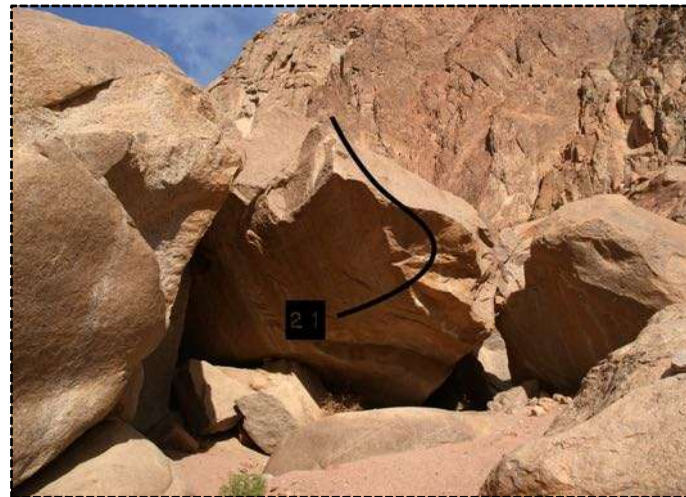
5

Sit start as problem 18. Follow the jug crack up and rightwards to top out.

20 LITTLE GREY CELLS

5+

Follow up the sloping features on the slab.



21

DAVE LOVES MINCE

7A

Crouching start on crimp rail under the overhanging face. Possible hard sit start extension.



2 2 SHARK FIN SOUP

6 B ★

Enjoyable problem on the tall vertical wall. Start from standing, then follow crimps and sloping edges. Add a low sit start off the incut edges for 6 C . Possibility of hard variation towards the left.

2 3

Follow left on sloping edges.

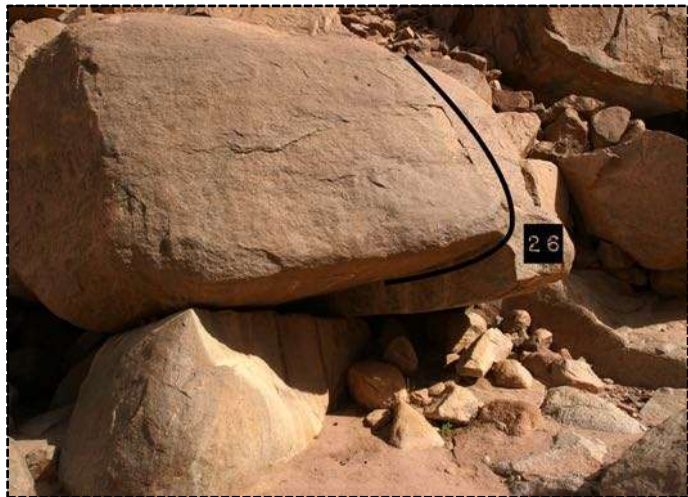


2 4

Sit start from the flat right hand sidepull.

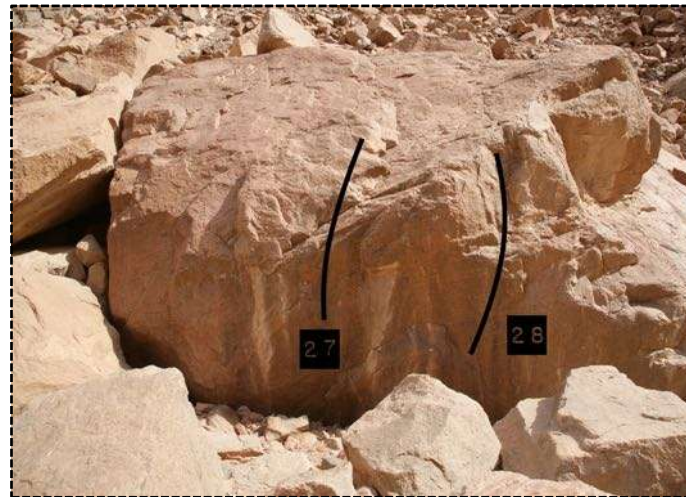
2 5

Sit start using the layback crimps then palm and smear up the groove.



26

Sit start under the short roof along a finger crack.



27

Sit start on the overhanging face.

28

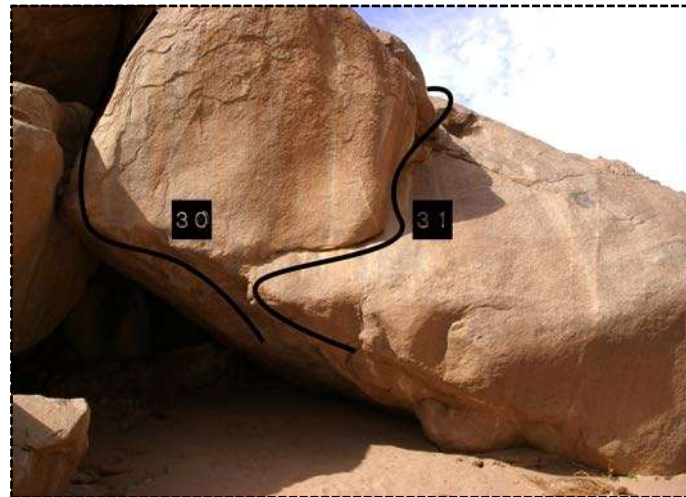
Sit start on the overhanging face.



29

5

Sit start.



30

Futuristic sit start project on good edges towards the back of the cave. Follow crimps and edges out through the roof and towards the rounded hanging arete. Hard.

31

Sit start from the sideways incut flake. Head up the overhanging arete and use the undercut crack. Hard.



32

32

Sit start and follow the steep overhanging arete. Hard.

33

Sit start on the incut edges and follow undercuts through the overhang up to the same exit as 34. Hard.

33

34

SWEDISH BATHROBE

Sit start and head right on good holds through the overhang, heading back left at the incut crack and topping out the ramp feature.

35

Same start as problem 34. At the incut crack head right to top out above the side boulder. Awkward landing off the top out.

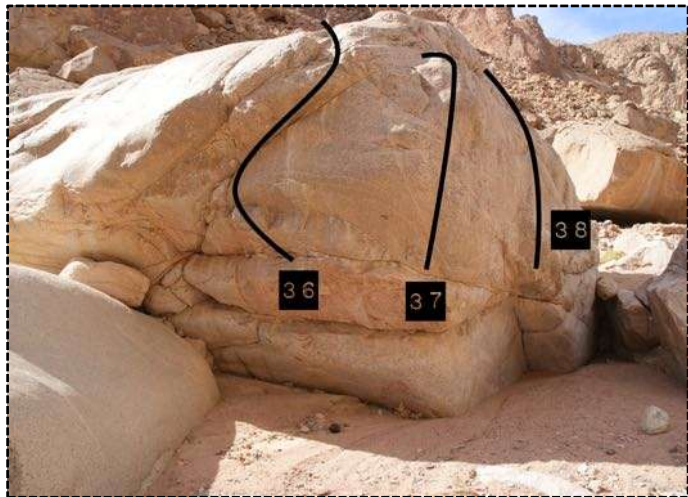
35

7A



Joe Whitfield, Makhtab p134





36 MORE THAN A FELIX

6B+ ★

Sit start and head straight up.

37 BATHPUMP ARETE

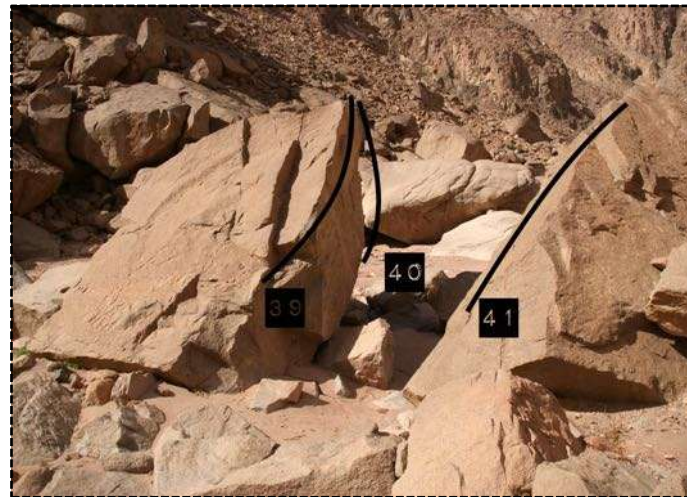
6C ★

Sit start and move up the blank arete on slopers.

38 THE MINCE MOVE

6B

Sit start from the low break.



39 LIGHT UP

4+ ★

A rising arete traverse from standing, top out at the high right corner.

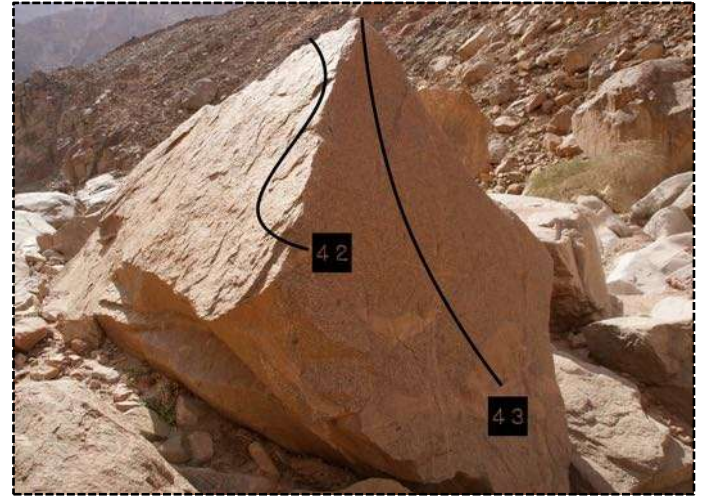
40

From a sit start underneath the cave, move up through the roof on the blocky jug to reach the blank arete. Hard.

41 LIVELY UP YOURSELF

5+

Tall slab on good edges from a standing start.



42 BISCUIT ARETE

5

Hang the right hand edge on the arete, make a couple of tricky moves and finish up the left hand slab using the arete.

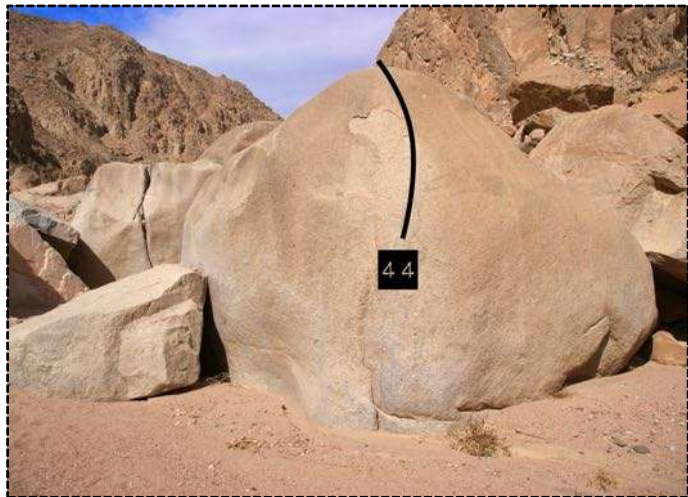
43 BISCUIT SLAB

5 +

Straight up the middle of the slab. Can avoid the aretes as an eliminate.

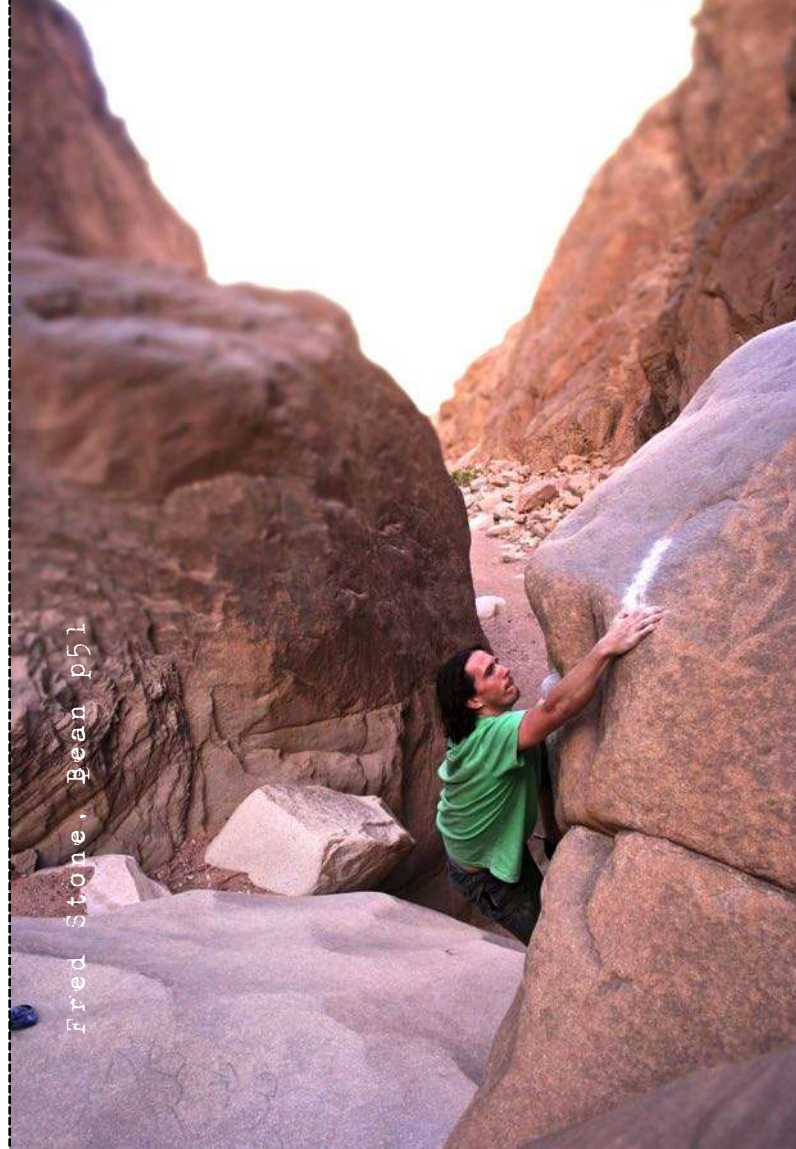


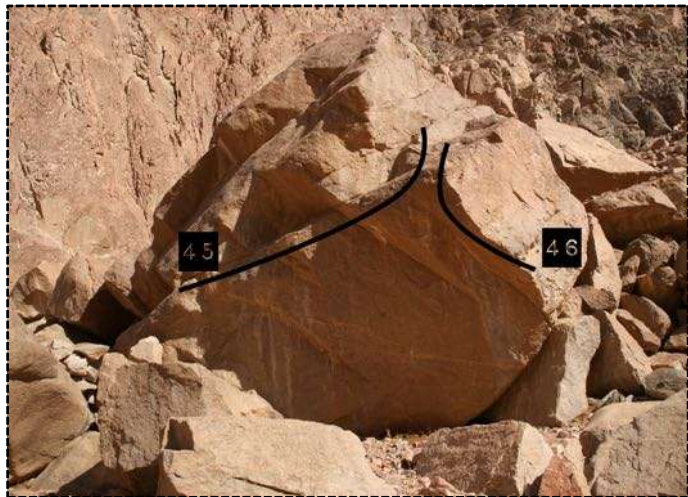
Fred Stone, Shark Fin Soup p176



44

Short vertical wall from standing start on painful crimps.





45 KITA'AB

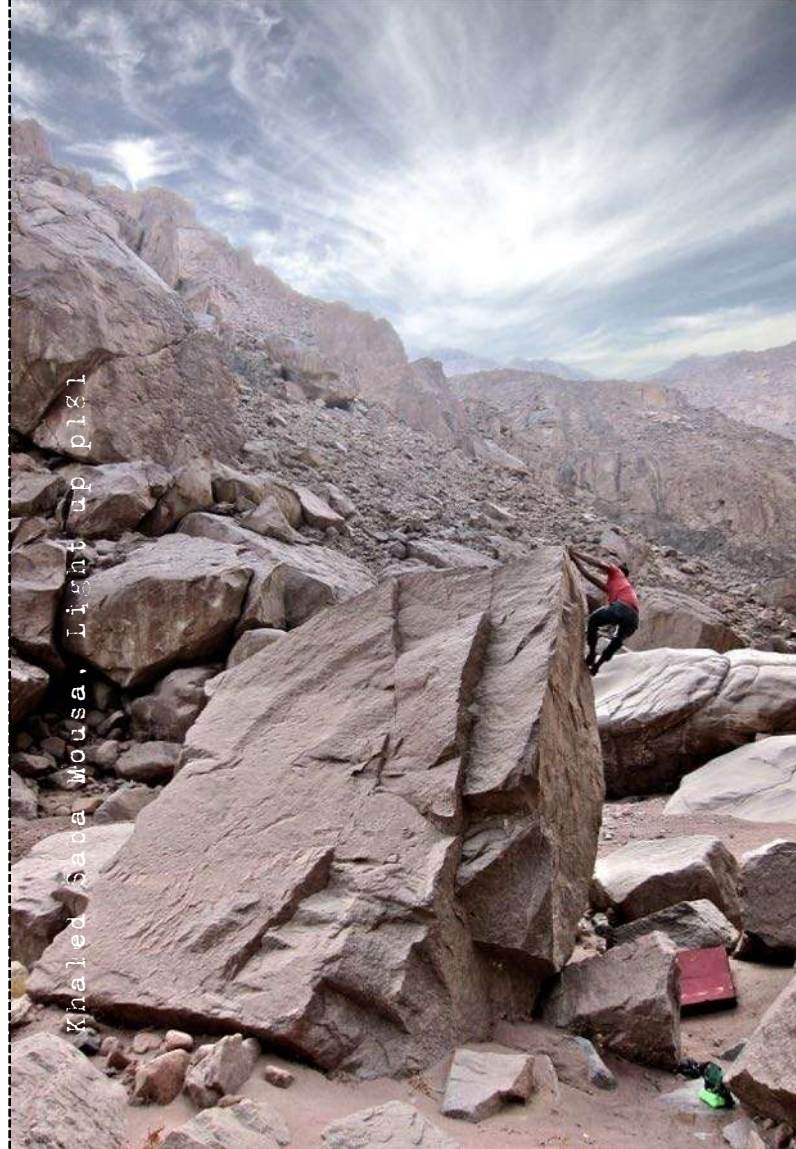
6A

Left to right along the sloping break.

46 MAKHTAB

6C+ ★

Starting on sidepull and feet on side boulder, make big move.



Khaled Baba Mousa, Light up plxl



Matt Ralph, The mince move, p181



47

Crouching start on the undercut flake under the roof. Needs cleaning.

48

Get established on hanging arete from standing.

49

Start on shelf feature. Possibility of sit start extension too.



50

The slab from a stand start.



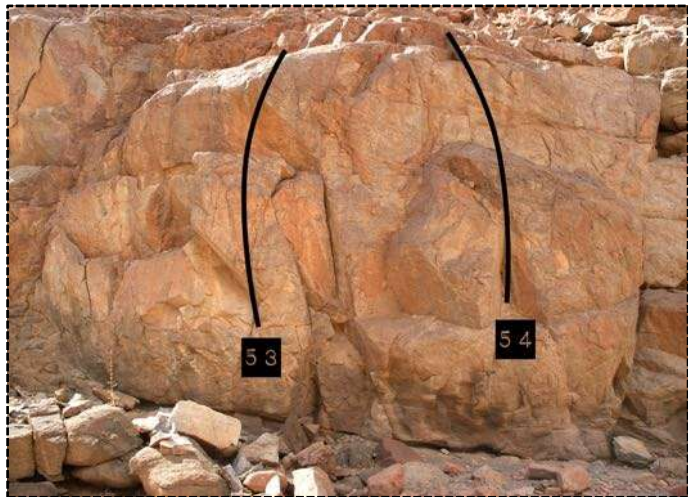
5 1

Sit start on the good edge under the short roof. Follow the arete and a juggy edge.



5 2

Sit start underneath and follow the short hanging lip on compression moves.



5 3

Left face from sitting or standing.

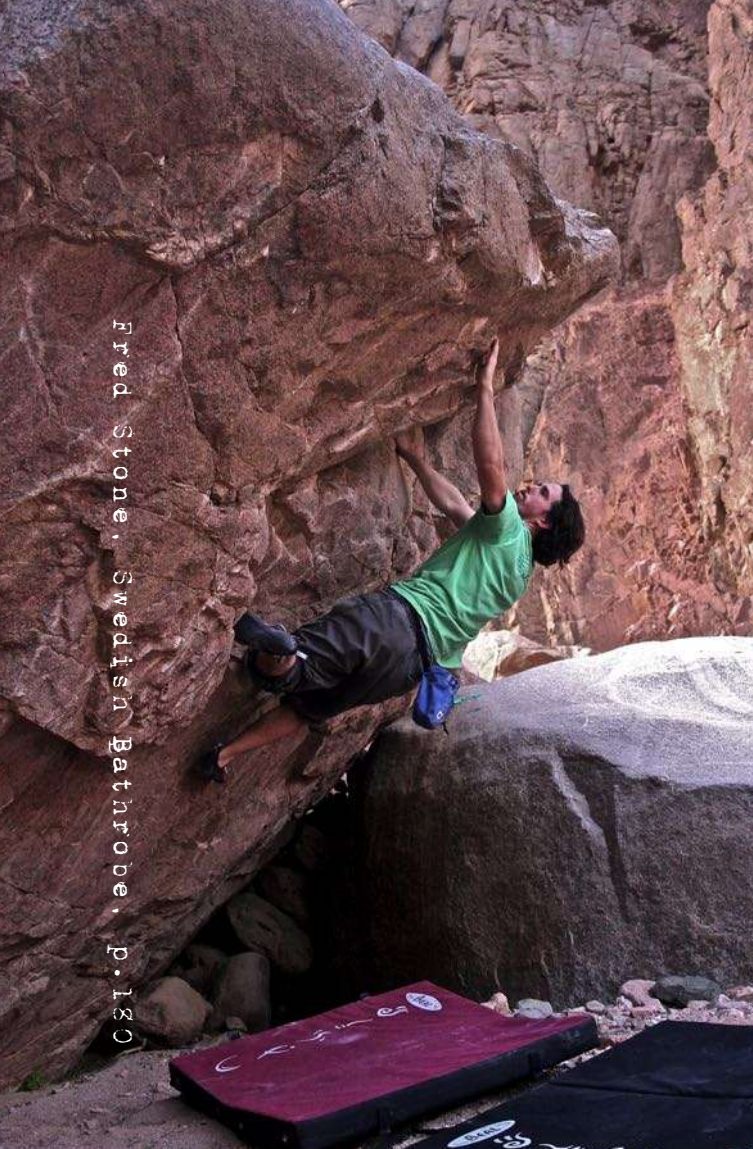
5 4

Standing or sitting start up and over the ledge.



5 5

Sit start on the left hand arete. Low.



56

Head directly up through the roof. Top out high onto the left hand ledge.

57

Low start on the dark incut flake and follow sloping edges through the right hand roof. High.

For problems 56 & 57, scramble over the top then downclimb the gully 20 metres further to the right.



58

58

Start hanging the crimp edge on the lip. Follow up the face via large flake.

59

Stand start.

59

60

Head up the groove from standing.

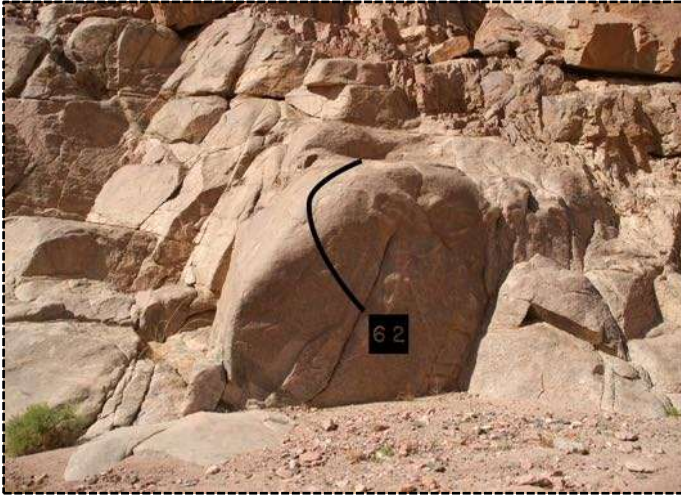
61

Sit start using the blocky aretes.

60

61

NOTES



62

Sit start using the crack and sidepull to the left. Low.



BASIC

EGYPTIAN

Hello: Salamalekum

Good day: Saba el khir

Please: Min fadlak

Yes: Aywa

I am: Ana

Where is (x)?: Fayn (x)?

Like/good: Kwayissa

I want: Ana Awiz (m)

I want: Ana awza (f)

We go: Yallabina / Nehrua

When is (x)?: Issa (x)?

Tomorrow: Bokra

(my) **Friend:** Saadiqi

Hotel: Funduq

Coffee: Ahwa

Milk: Laban

With: Ma

Tired: Tabern

Stop: Halas

Valley: Wadi

Mountain/hill: Gebel

Goodbye: Maassalama

Good day (reply): Saba en nour

Thank you: Shukran

No: La

You are: Inta

Here: Henna

Don't like/not good: Mish kwayissa

I don't want: Ana mish awiz (m)

I don't want: Ana mish awza (f)

How much is (x)?: Bikam (x)?

Today: Ennaharda

Sorry: Malesh

Restaurant: Maatham

Tea: Shay

Sugar: Sukkar

Water: Mya

Without: Mish

Thirsty: Atshan

Empty: Mafhish

Climbing: Tessalok

Egypt: Misr

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This guidebook has come about in order to provide another place for people to come together and share in the great fun of bouldering. Thank you for reading and I hope you have some great times here.

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A secondary scope of this guide is that visiting climbers might provide a small extra resource for the local Bedouins, in order to help them preserve their land, and to assist them in earning a sustainable living from it.

