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Author

Topic: Yosemite Trial By Fire and Copper Penny (TR and pics) (Read 11 times)

mungeclimber

Bends it like
Scuffy
★★★★★
Posts: 220



Yosemite Trial By Fire and Copper Penny (TR and pics)

« on: Today at 12:54:40 AM »



Quote



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Split Topic



It starts back in the vague recollections of 2008. A night on a the Redwood Terror leads to an evening on the calf-lock size at Gary's, and then back again to the TerrAH! Armed with such skills as I could pick up from watching the BAWC I plan to test my skills.

Ubergoober calls me. He mentions a day at the Pinns to finish our project. But no one will ever find it, so no rush really. I tell him that's Halford and that we must suffer on wide in the Valley with the ultimate weather that will be happening.

He is convinced of my wisdom. And deservedly so as we come to find out.

A quick post on [Widefetish](#) and the guys kick down with some fodder for the trip. (Thx! great suggestions)

Trial by Fire looks like a winner due to it's grade and easy approach and proximity to a pub. As I peruse the menu (read: guidebook) noting Camp 4 wall as prime, Copper Penny jumps off the page. I'm curious. And rough plans are made to go from 5.8 to 10a in the span of 24hrs. I've seen it in the book but never been to this crag. Topropable to be able to practice technique not panic skills. You see, I've spent the better part of my adult life avoiding leading wide cracks. Sure I'll try stuff on the follow, and burl my way thru fist, but I've never had any real skill on stereotypical wide, aka offwidth. It turns out that, like anything, you have to practice and focus on it. So we do.

Alpine start: on the rock by 11:30 a.m.

How much gear does a noob need on a wide climb? LOTS



Trial By Fire 5.8 "flare"

Munge making his way up slowly but surely on lead. 1/3 of the way up still a good size fist with edges on the flare face.



hard to tell, but the new Kaukulators in action. Best wide shoe EVAR!

Now it's about here that the sun is beating down on my baseball hat, the air is getting hot, and the beer is getting flat. Offwidth heel toe being utilized throughout quite effectively.



Only about 10' higher, at the midway point, I am stumped by the start of the crux. Any enthusiams I had for the climb at the base have left me. My mind is puzzling out moves. The polish and the crack widening doesn't let me have a good heel toe. It bulges ever so slightly. I spin wheels trying left side in, right side in, try reaching in for a stack, but I can't seem to reach the crack without loosing my belly jam position and my shoulders are not ballerina small either. I roast and sweat for what seems like an hour, but was probably only 2 minutes. I have no idea. Time dialates at this speed.

Due to my crappy style I lower off. You see, back in the day, we used to offer a climb first to whomever could lead it in good style. And if you couldn't do it 'no falls' you had to give up the lead for the next guy to try in good style ground up. Not sure where that ethos came from but I can't shake it. I should persevere next time. Regardless it was good to be on the ground drinking beer again.

Next up Ubergoober... His body size is different. Shorter and more burly. He uses knee/heel up high under his but to ratchet to the high point on the rope.



He is stymied as well and the sweat is clearly seen on his forehead, but he dare not remove the long sleeves to protect the tricep area. Several false starts and maybe a bit of a taint on the route at some point by pulling on gear/resting, possibly higher, the memory fades on this point...

After much thrutching that leads upwards, [he finishes out of the top of the crux...](#)

But what's really going to bake your noodle, is he turns around...



More grunting til the chimney opens up. He's gassed. The TR is set (two rope mandatory), and I go up doing better than before not having gear on me to futz with. Still I have to hang twice. I finish on the outside of the upper block sticking my hand between the block and the wall hoping not to pull a "[Ralston](#)"

Ubergoober gets it clean on TR the second time and we call it a day just as the sun is going down and settle for détente instead of victory.

That evening it's cold, but not really freezing. Uber's pad leaks and sleeps on a forceful contortions in a leotard mat and ends up stiff as a board in the morning.

I'm ok after vitamin I.

The plan is Copper Penny and Keystone Corner. And rolling up at Reed's, who do we see? Our very own Ed H and Gary C hanging and chatting with folks. Their plan is Orange Juice Avenue. It is on their list so it must get done.

We drop down and feel the sun. Soooo good down there. After figuring out where to drop the line and rig a rope, Uber goes first...WITHOUT A SHIRT... into

the... CHIMNEY.



Two raspberries later he's down and I go up. You'll note the dearth of Munge pics here. Slacker Uber.

Then it's on to Copper Penny... STEEP... see rope...



Uber goes first...
it starts with a big jug move to a balance step across, then you gain the crack that angles up to the OW. It's not total cake walk down low.

spoiler alert



there is a crack on the inside that can help.

It's about there in the pic, that I face almost fully outward. Low you do straight in fist. Then about there I start using heel toe and pimp the edge with the left hand. At some point I get a chicken wing. We both hang on this. I more than Uber. We both agree we are worked and that is the day. No energy for a lap on 5 and dime, tho it looks awesome.

We spend the rest of the afternoon watching the show at Reed's



Ed and Gary show up with tales of success from OJA, naturally. 😊

We bail out earlyish just as, I think that was them??, Eric and Linda hit the parking area.

Minimal traffic, but the traffic that is on the way out is driving 20 mph in 40 mph zones. ugh.

Two LEOs patrolling the 120 corridor.

The bottom line: practicing 3 times on wood, does not an offwidth climber make... no matter how hard your wood is.

Seriously though, Wide is an art. It's [renaissance](#) has come and gone, and now it's time for the reformation. To remake the Wide into something greater. It is for me anyways.



Report to moderator 68.122.42.181 (?)

russwalling
Administrator
Wide King of all Media

Posts: 608

Re: Yosemite Trial By Fire and Copper Penny (TR and pics)

« Reply #1 on: Today at 08:32:55 AM »

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Hey Hey! Great TR Mungie! Thanks!



Report to moderator 67.49.224.182 (?)



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