

87a) Devil's Right Hand *** 5.11b/c, 170m

Andy Genereux, Rope Solo, April 2007, Mt. Yamnuska

This is an excellent climb, that over all has superb rock quality and consistent climbing. The route basically ascends a direct line up the middle of the amphitheater formed by the Bowl Area. This climb is mostly bolt protected and only requires a small rack of gear which should include; a set of medium wires, a single set of TCU's, and a set of medium cams 2" to 3.5" along with 12 quick draws. Like it's modern neighbor located out to the left on this same wall called "Grey Scale", this climb was bolted on rappel and rope soloed after undertaking a rudimentary cleaning to remove loose rock and a few dangerous blocks lurking for the unwary.

The name for the route is derived from a Steve Earl song that denotes the gun as being the devil's right hand. In the case of this route and "Grey Scale" to the left, the bolt gun or drill was employed on rappel dispatching some of the more traditional ethics from the past with the devils right hand. These past tendencies would have included the of minimal use of bolts. When used, bolts would have been installed using hand drilling off hooks to aid in their placement. Bolts in the old days would have been installed only by means of ground up advancement. Some say that using these new modern methods for establishing routes will ruin the climbing on Mt. Yamnuska. All I can say towards that reasoning is that this is only the latest methodology that I have personally used on the mountain over a thirty plus years of scaling up climbs on her south facing rock. I grew up and learned my craft on this mountain. Coming from this strong traditional background I have experienced both the old and the new visions on how routes should be established on Mt. Yamnuska. Both methodologies have their merits. By employing these latest modern top down methods has allowed me to have relative safety and it has ensured better speed and efficiency when putting up a climb using rope soloing techniques. I make no apologies for using this methodology to achieve what I feel should prove to be a very popular climb. Just maybe the devil did have something to do with it! The gun/drill has spoken, I hope you enjoy the results.

To find this climb locate a bit of stepped ground leading up to a pedestal roughly halfway between the starting pitches of the climbs "**#85 Grey Scale**" and "**#86 Excalibur**" as detailed in the latest guide **Yamnuska Rock**.

P1: 5.11a/b, 30m. Climb up onto a block and move up and rightward to gain a groove on the right-hand side of the pedestal. Climb the shallow corner past bolts to the top of the pedestal. Make difficult and devious moves to enter the shallow groove above. After two bolts the climbing eases somewhat past more bolts on sustained face climbing to arrive at a small foot rail with ring bolts to belay. (fixed protection)

P2: 5.9, 20m. Move right past a bolt to gain a shallow corner. Climb this corner onto easy stepped ground. Move past two more bolts to a bolted belay on a ledge at the base of a corner. Note: This pitch can be combined with pitch 1, but requires a few longer slings to avoid drag. (fixed protection)

P3: 5.11a, 30m. Climb the easy corner to a ledge. Move left onto the bulging wall. climb past four bolts on sequential face climbing to reach a sloping foot wide ledge. Mantel onto the ledge and continue face climbing above past two more bolt. The climbing eases as a stepped traverse left is taken. Climb directly up onto a good ledge and move right to a ring bolt belay. (fixed protection)

P4: 5.10b, 30m. Climb the groove and corner directly above the belay. This pitch requires some gear including a 3.5" cam. At the top of the corner move out right to a bolt and make positive moves right to gain a good ledge and ring bolts to belay.

P5: 5.11a, 30m. Climb directly above the belay to enter a shallow right leaning corner. Sustained climbing up the corner leads to a bulge. Devious moves overcome the bulge entering a short left facing shallow corner. At the top of this second corner the climbing eases onto stepped ground move up and leftward to

a bolted belay located just left of the bottom of a shallow right facing corner. (pitch has fixed protection with an optional TCU placement)

P6: 5.10c, 30m. Climb a shallow right facing corner immediately right of the belay (on gear) to reach a bolt while gaining the top of a small pedestal. An awkward move off this feature into a shallow groove to a small ledge. Positive holds lead up under a large roof. Delicate face climbing traverses left below the roof to jugs at the left edge (awesome position). Several strenuous but positive lie-back moves work left to overcome steep ground. Mantel onto a ledge, then enter a easy corner groove. Climb the corner using intermittent cracks for protection to reach a good ledge with ring bolts just below the lip of the wall. **Note:** The climb "The Bowl" has its final belay off gear to the right on this same ledge.

Decent: Walk off on the backside trail or another option if you have two 60m ropes is rappelling the route in three longer rappels; from #6 to #4 a 57m rappel, #4 to #2 a 55m rappel, and #2 to the ground a 50m rappel. **Note:** That all belays are fixed with ring bolts and all pitches but pitch 6 can be rappelled using a single 60m rope. Pitch 6 will require the use of several back-clips to successfully retreat past the roofs using a single rope.

The BOWL AREA

84) PROJECT

88) THE BOWL *** 5.10b, 215 m

85) GRAY SCALE *** 5.11d, 167 m

86) EXCALIBUR *** 5.10c, 240 m

90) DEVIL'S RIGHT HAND *** 5.11b/c 170m

