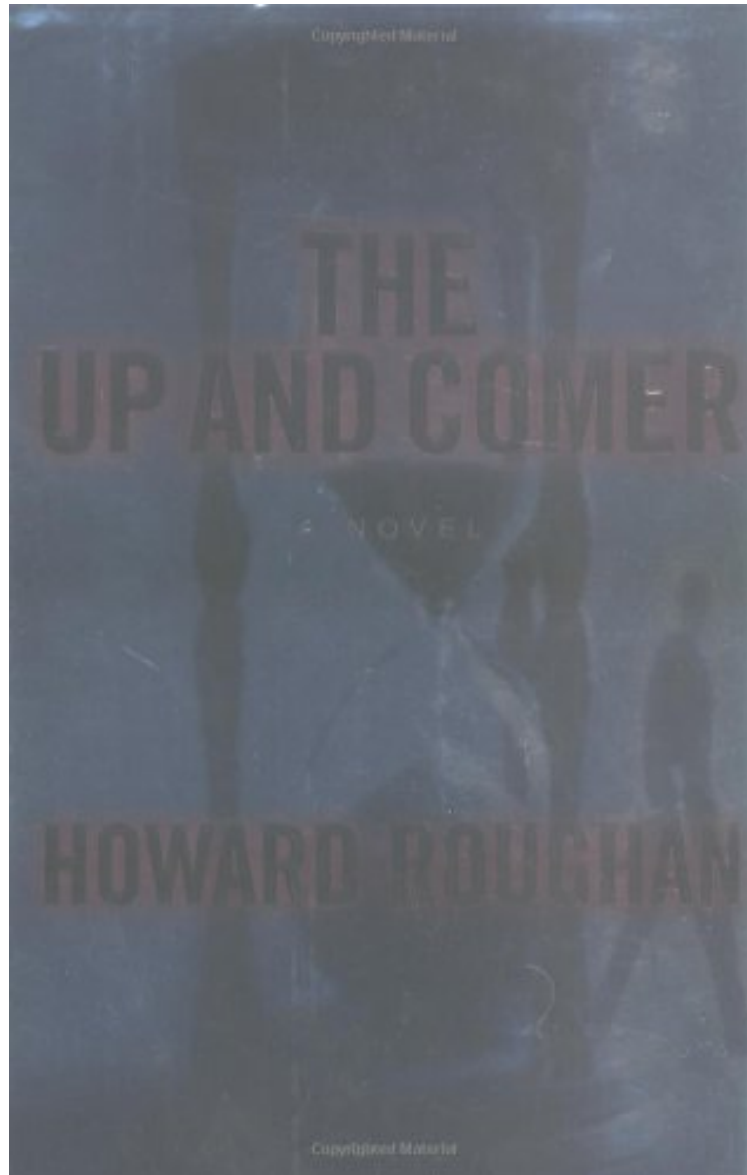


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## The Up and Comer

*Howard Roughan*

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**Howard Roughan : The Up and Comer** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Up and Comer:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. What a great ride!By Astrida M.I'm excited that I found another excellent thriller writer!! Thank you, Mr. Patterson (Honeymoon). I read this book in one day!! I honestly couldn't put it down. It appealed to my dark side....LOL!. I like books that are written in the first tense. It involves me more. Philip

had the world by its tail but he blew it. Too much arrogance and confidence destroyed him. I loved the build up and the take down. What a ride! I am now going to start Roughan's next book. Don't miss out on this book! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Read - Many Laugh Out Loud Moments at this Dark Comedy By James Jetter Great read - the first page hooks you, and I literally laughed out loud numerous times at this dark comedy. I wish Roughan would write more solo novels - but he has hit the James Patterson gravy train, so why bother. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent! By SJWA great thriller... very entertaining a 10 on my "can't put downable" scale. I was late to the party with this book.....I am so glad I found it! Now on to read whatever else Mr. Roughan has written. Highly recommend!

Philip Randall has it all: youth, looks, wealth. He's got a successful career with a prestigious Manhattan law firm, a luxurious downtown loft, a filthy-rich wife, and a gorgeous mistress who also happens to be his best friend's wife. Self-satisfaction suddenly turns deadly, however, when a prep school classmate appears with an eye on Philip's bank account, and telling photographs of Philip and his mistress together.

From Publishers Weekly The strain of living an excessive, brazen, lavishly upper-tier Manhattan life in an "incredibly self-centered, every-man-for-himself world" takes a disastrous toll on the narrator of Roughan's supremely hip, brazen debut. Right from the opening pages, married 30-something cutthroat attorney Philip Randall shamelessly admits to enjoying an extramarital affair with Jessica, his best friend Connor's girlfriend. He's definitely not a likable guy, especially when spewing smug commentary on just about every aspect of city life, and when socializing with wife Tracy's haughty Greenwich, Conn., family. But enter penniless "stoner" Tyler Mills, a prep school buddy of Philip's, who has unexpectedly blown into town, and this time Philip's arsenal of designer labels and street-smart manipulation fails him. Tyler, flashing his "Manson Family grin," has been busy spying on his school chum's secret rendezvous with Jessica and predictably proceeds to blackmail him. Outraged at his friend's audacity and escalating threats, Philip hatches a double-crossing scheme. As Roughan wraps his crafty plot around some impressively tense moments, the novel morphs into an engaging, cinematic page-turner. Auxiliary characters, particularly Philip's robust boss, Jack Devine, and Jack's kind, innocuous wife, Sally, are well-drawn and convincing, adding the depth and humanity necessary to counteract Philip's almost robotic duplicity. The novel's atypical conclusion, awash in wincing retrospection and a refreshing comeuppance, offers a satisfying and sentimental balance. Time-Warner audio book. (June 5) Forecast: Already optioned by USA Films, with the movie version slated to be produced by Michael Douglas, this derivative but slickly vibrant book will doubtless trade on the hype. Targeted marketing transit advertising in the New York area and Wall Street giveaways should help, and jacket blurbs by Bret Easton Ellis, among other yuppie dignitaries, will heighten the buzz. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. From Booklist It's hard to like Philip Randall. He has a gorgeous, perfectly appointed Manhattan penthouse; a beautiful (and rich) wife; a partner-track position with a prestigious downtown law firm; and plenty of disposable income (thanks to the rich wife). But that's not enough for Philip. He doesn't merely want the good life, he wants the best life, and his cavalier affair with his wife's best friend adds just the right amount of danger--or "Risk Factor 5," as Philip calls it--to give his perfect life an extra kick. But when an unstable friend from his past shows up and threatens to blow the lid off of Philip's secret, the cocky attorney faces Risk Factor 10. Can he manage his personal crisis and successfully defend his boss' wife, who is charged with drunk driving? The somewhat shallow characters are a stumbling block, but Roughan's debut novel is fast moving and involving; mercifully, Philip emerges as at least partially sympathetic in the end. Mary Frances Wilkens Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved "...engagingly written, with some sly satire tucked into its edges..." -- Entertainment Weekly "...touches all the bases--great beginning, lots of laughs, airtight plot, rational conclusion...a great read...the suspense never rests." -- John Lescroart, author of The 13th Juror "Beyond the sheer speed and undiluted excitement...lie a cruel comedy of manners about overprivileged, spoiled New Yorkers...sleek entertainment..." -- Bret Easton Ellis, author of American Psycho "Fast-moving and involving." -- Booklist "First-timer Roughan knocks one out of the park with this satisfyingly lean and propulsive thriller...an impressive debut." -- Kirkus "Howard Roughan is a natural. He tells a story with deceptive ease, making you compulsively turn pages...a winner...a terrific debut." -- Douglas Kennedy, author of The Big Picture "With pitch-perfect ear and dialogue...Roughan has written a funny, smart, and start-to-finish riveting chronicle of life...among...upwardly mobile, urban young Americans..." -- Jerry Stahl, author of Permanent Midnight...a screamer. Fast, fun and dead-on compelling. A great ride of a book." -- Robert Ferrigno, author of The Horse Latitudes