

"A KNOCKOUT THRILLER WITH ONE OF THE MOST SUSPENSEFUL COURTROOM SEQUENCES I'VE READ." —JAMES PATTERSON

# HOWARD ROUGHAN

A NOVEL BY THE COAUTHOR OF *HONEYMOON*



## The Promise of a Lie

*Howard Roughan*

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# **The Promise of a Lie**

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## **The Promise of a Lie Howard Roughan**

Nothing can prepare Dr. David Remler for the shocking phone call he receives from a patient named Samantha Kent. Stunned and anxious to help, he rushes out into the Manhattan night to keep a bloody act of violence from spinning further out of control.

He knows he is too involved, that he's crossed a line, and that his professional reputation is at stake. But he has no idea what awaits him at his destination...that he's become a pawn in a very deadly game of revenge.

Suddenly the focus of a criminal case that flares into an out-of-control media circus, David has only one shot to clear his name. But first he has to clear up the mystery of his patient, Samantha Kent. Just who is she? And why did she choose to involve David? Little by little, the outlines of a brilliant plot emerge and, with it, the horrifying power of a single lie...

In this richly textured tale of a man's battle against the mother of all manipulations, the perfect setup is even more diabolical than it looks.

## **The Promise of a Lie Details**

Date : Published March 1st 2005 by Vision (first published March 1st 2004)

ISBN : 9780446615358

Author : Howard Roughan

Format : Paperback 432 pages

Genre : Thriller, Mystery, Fiction, Mystery Thriller, Literature, American

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## **From Reader Review The Promise of a Lie for online ebook**

### **Carrie Kellenberger says**

New York psychologist David Remler is still recovering from the death of his beloved wife and unborn baby when Samantha Kent walks through the door of his office. During their first session together, Kent talks about her abusive relationship with her husband, expressing her desire to kill him.

Later, David runs into Kent at an evening soiree and can't deny his attraction to her. They end up returning to David's house to have dinner together, with the good doctor feeling very aware of the fact that he has crossed a line between doctor and patient by letting Kent into his personal life.

When Dr. Remler receives a late night phone call from Kent saying that she has followed through on her wish to see her husband dead, he doesn't think twice about rushing to her aid. Soon enough, he realizes the police are treating him as the prime suspect in the case. Knowing he has to prove his innocence, Remler then discovers that the woman he met with wasn't the 'real' Samantha Kent. So just who is the woman David met with, and why is she trying to frame him for murder? You'll have to read the book to find out!

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### **Fernanda Martinez says**

The Promise of a lie is a very interesting book. It has several Intriguing moments and has a little of suspense...i love it!

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### **Janet Stead says**

I've become of real fan of Howard Roughan's style. Didn't want to put it down. I really enjoy the plot twists.

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### **Bogdan Dobrescu says**

Promisiune mincinoasa--- review.

Its always nice when you just reach out for a unknown author,after a prolonged period of reading only famous and well-known novels.i mean,who can imagine something that can follow after psycho, lord of light(zelazny),stephen king and so on? So yeah,when my hands stop on promise of a lie by roughan,i didnt think i will be so pleased after 300 pages.because ,lets be serious,a story that center a woman that kills her concubine isnt a very interstting premise.well,at least for me.

But this book..hmm.the dialogue is actually very,very,very good.the author had the kindness of not filling this book with so many technical lingo, and still it feels like a very 'shrinky' book.

The story flows awesomely well, and the characters are good.well,yeah the 'character'.thats the only flaw here.

The author..didnt include any other characters to the action ,to put it simply.the lawyers are there,but they dont do anything for the story.the friends are there,but they just appear at the start and at the end of the book.the mistress is just a tool(i would just loved a bit of POV from her).and the wife is just your normal jack-in-a-box.

But overall , a nice experience.howard roughan,i approve your message.you got yourself a place in my hall of fame.

4.5 stars.

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### **J Barkess says**

I enjoyed this, it had a couple of twists, one I didn't see coming.  
I've taken one star off for the sickly sweet 'happy ever after' ending.

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### **Michelle says**

The protagonist Dr. David Remler,is a a compassionate, caring psychologist who is good at his work. Remler has a small social circle but is still mourning the loss of Rebecca, his wife and the mother of their pre-born child, in an accident some years before.

Remler was later framed for murder by a mysterious patient by the name of Samantha Kent, a beautiful woman who is trapped in a abusive relationship. Late one night, she calls to say she has killed her husband and gave clues that she may kill herself. Remler rushes to her home to find a dead man, but no one else. The police came to the house believing that he is the killer. Samantha Kent is alive and she is nothing like his patient. Remler is confuse as to who is the real Samantha Kent is and who is setting him up to take the blame.

These physcological thriller really creeps me out since you don't know wh the manipulator is and why they did this. These mind games make people go crazy sometimes. The way people's mind work is pretty scary. The idea that a perfect murder starts with a perfect lie, which to some extend I agree with it. A murder could not be solve if you don't find any loopholes in the lie. This is the scary part where lies could be as powerful as putting an innocent person in jail.

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### **Rita says**

Slow starting, but it picked up as the reader tries to figure out why character was framed and how his defense will try to prove his innocence, and if/how they'll capture the real murderer. Some twists and turns with one after the apparent ending.

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### **Marcy says**

Dr. David Remler is a widowed psychologist who falls for a married patient who wants to kill her husband. Then a late-night phone call convinces him that the worst has happened. What follows next is an elaborate

frame-up, which although dependent on coincidence, luck and the many "too stupid to live" actions of the main character, makes for a well-written, fun, fast-moving thriller with likable characters. I read this book on the recommendation who assured me that the Howard Roughan stand-alone books are nothing like his collaborations with James Patterson and she was definitely right.

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### **Ramona says**

A fost o poveste destul de interesantă care m-a înținut cu sufletul al gurii. Pot să îl încadrez în categoria romanelor polițiste, dar și în categoria thrillerelor psihologice cu destule întoarsături de situație.

Dialoguri dintre personaje au fost la obiect și inteligente, poate mai ales pentru că personajul principal este psiholog. Pe alocuri mai întâlnеai și câte o frază ironică sau care te face să râzi.

Personajele au fost bine conturate, frumoase prea multe descrierii inutile ale vieții trecute, prezentându-se tot felul de caractere.

Cartea a avut ca inspirație o discuție purtată cu o femeie care mergea la psiholog, iar autorul a început să se întrebe dacă un om care consideră că poate citii persoane poate fi prostit de cineva care pretinde să fi altcineva.

Romanul se citește foarte ușor, nu numai datorită dialogului căruia datorită povestii captivante și bine conturate, care nu se abate de la cursul normal al acțiunii. Dacă închizi ochii și îți imaginezi acțiunea ai senzației că stai în fața televizorului. Aș vrea să văd cartea ecranizată și să văd vedea în rolul psihologului pe Tim Roth din "Lie to me" sau Hugh Laurie din "House MD".

Acțiunea căreia îi se învârtă în jurul unui psiholog văduv de 3 ani – David Rember – și a pacientei lui misterioase – Samantha Kent. Aceasta din urmă vine la David Rember pentru o consiliere psihologică.

Aceasta și folosește farmecul său dr. David începe să se întreacă cu pacienta lui.

În una din cărțile lor Samantha îi dezvăluie doctorului că simte nevoie să-și ucide soțul, care nu-i dădea dreptul la divorț, amenințând-o cu reînerea copilului lor în vîrstă de 2 ani.

[...]

<http://www.imforeveryoung.info/promis...>

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### **Sam says**

I understand why James Patterson coauthored with Howard Roughan....he's an awesome writer!

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### **Robert Spillman says**

A mystery thriller that is well-written to keep your attention. Written from the perspective of the main character, a psychologist, it offers interesting insights into human behaviors as the book starts with a lineup of his patient appointments for the day. The reader is immediately drawn in by the frailty of human nature for all but one of his appointments. The last appointment is a new patient, and eventually the focus of the book. But as events unfurl, both the doctor and the reader are confounded and challenged to explain a series of events that lead to the mystery. Eventually, the events lead to a trial. Throughout, but especially in the trial, we are introduced to some of the psychology involved in the various criminal and legal actions. Fascinating insights in how people think, combined with a good story with plenty of mystery.

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**Lavana Sanchez says**

myestry events, lies, and untruthful and helpful poeple

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**Carmen says**

Good plot. I really enjoyed it.

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**Tessa Nadir says**

I-as fi dat mai multe stele daca nu mi-ar fi adus aminte la un moment dat de "Chipul fara masca" al lui Sidney Sheldon, o carte publicata in anii '80. Desigur ca exista o evolutie de atunci in ceea ce priveste acest subiect doar ca nu atat de mare cat m-as fi asteptat eu. Autorul putea sa faca mult mai mult cu aceasta poveste, sfarsitul este unul grabit si previzibil. Personajul principal ridică mari semne de intrebare... Este de necrezzut ca un psihiatru sa fie atat de labil, naiv si nesigur sentimental. Alt lucru care nu mi-a placut este faptul ca totul este ori negru ori alb. Avocatii sunt toti foarte inteligenti, femeile sunt toate foarte frumoase, procurorul este mereu stangaci si psihiatrul este credul pana in panzele albe. Mi-ar fi placut sa vad si putin gri.. :)

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**Fatima Z'hra says**

This is nothing but an averagely interesting novel, some details are to be admired, such as the psychologist's personality and thoughts even his lawyers' plus the little surprises, but on the other hand, some details are just too useless, I got really bored during several chapters, mainly in the trial.

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