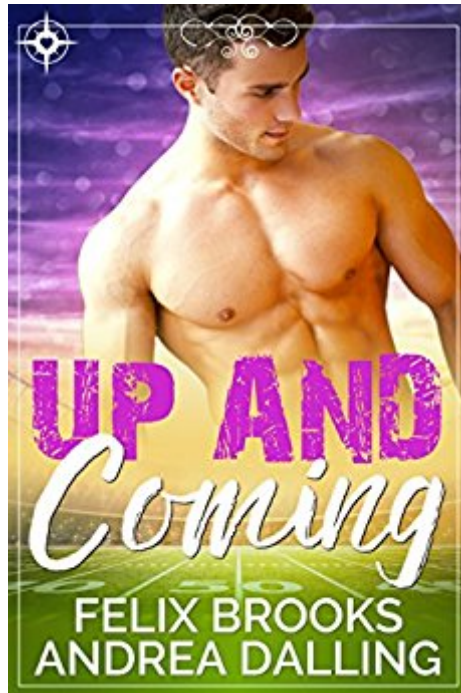




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# Up And Coming (Coastal College Football Book 1)



## Synopsis

Previously published "expanded edition" An unexpected love could cost him his dreams. Emmett Cross doesn't have time to date. A college quarterback on a path to turning pro, he can't afford distractions, especially with the academic challenges he faces. When he's blindsided by a growing attraction to his friend Jake, he fights it "rumors that he's bisexual could wreck his draft prospects. But he can't stop thinking about the cute blond with the warm heart and gentle smile. Biochem major Jake Schott has had a straight-boy crush on Emmett since freshman year. Emmett's cool logic is the perfect complement to Jake's sensitive nature. He's sure nothing can come of his longing "until a scorching kiss turns desire into hope. Although the tall, sexy athlete with the trim waist and thick biceps denies that there's a chance for them, his lustful looks and stolen touches tell a different story. Passion ignites between them, but Emmett insists on hiding the relationship. When their secret threatens to come out, will Emmett give up Jake to protect his career? Or will he risk everything for love? This steamy friends-to-lovers, straight-to-bi M/M romance is for a mature audience. It's a full-length novel with a happy ending and no cliffhanger.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Emmett Cross doesn't have time to date. A college quarterback on a path to turning pro, he can't afford distractions, especially with the academic challenges he faces. When he's blindsided by a growing attraction to his friend Jake, he fights it—rumors that he's bisexual could wreck his draft prospects. Biochem major Jake Schott has had a crush on Emmett since freshman year. Emmett's cool logic is the perfect complement to Jake's sensitive nature. He's sure nothing can come of his longing—until a scorching kiss turns desire into hope. Passion ignites between them, but Emmett insists on hiding the relationship so his draft chances are not hindered. He wants to help support his family and sees pro-ball as his only way. Emmett is also afraid of the hate groups that target him and they may target Jake and his family. He makes choices in their relationship without consulting Jake, hurting Jake and causing doubt in their relationship.

A great read well structured and was going to read real struggles that ppl can go through when change occurs unexpectedly in our lives and the issues that can cause and the healthy ways to overcome them and not so healthy. Thanks

Storyline is well written. I enjoyed this sweet love story between a jock and a nerd. They both had obstacles to overcome and their love is strengthened because of it. I received this book in exchange for an honest review.

Grwat story of young love

WHERE DO I START? Emmett thinks he straight. Then, realizes he's bisexual. When in reality, I would say, he actually REALLY IS GAY. (Reasons for that later-on.) I TRULY BELIEVE YOU WILL ENJOY THIS BOOK! IT DOES NOT PREACH ABOUT OR POLITICIZE THE ISSUES THE LGBTQ SOCIETY FACE AT THIS TIME. Plus, it's not just a "romp in the bed" type of book, either. It's got great wonderful characters who interact with all the different spheres and levels of society—Jake's parents were a cool surprise—the storyline is intriguing, the writing pulls you right along so easily, it's all disappointingly over way too quickly, and the heat level, the unstoppable pull, yearning and need between the two main characters is written so well you feel

every desire and need they have as if you were experiencing it with your own special someone and not on the outside looking in, just observing someone else's love, dreams and/or aspirations. This book focuses a lot on the troubles, worries and everything else encompassed by being a popular, Straight, college football quarterback, who's hoping to soon be drafted into the pro football leagues, and what the world-view of him will be, as it becomes known he is bisexual. This all happens just as he is transitioning from straight to "bi" and struggling to come to terms with it, himself. No, that's NOT ACCURATE. HE ACCEPTS that he's bisexual. He's struggling to come to terms with what Might Happen to not only to his future pro football aspirations because, as he put it, "The sports world IS changing. Football ISN'T there yet." • Pro football is one of the last sports groups to really be accepting of gay players. But he also worries about the danger it Might put his boyfriend, and his boyfriend's family, in when - AND IF - fans/fanatics don't react well to this news. Emmett had planned on revealing his sexual orientation it at a particular point in his career. He had even written the "reveal" date on a piece of paper and had given it to his 'already out-of-the-closet' boyfriend Jake to hold, and to keep, as a promise to him that he really would do it when he believes his career can take the news without it also taking 'a hit' along with it. But then, of course, someone makes sure the college, the press, the VIP pro-football folks and just about anyone that's an important figure in his life and/or his future - find out all about him, Right Now while it could hurt both him and his boyfriend Jake, the most. And, to make matters worse, the trader is someone in Emmett's (and Jake's) Inner Circle of "so-called" Friends. These two men fit each other like Form-Fitting-Gloves. Their undeniable Want and, most of all NEED of each other is so Palpable, you can Nearly Taste It. Ms. Dalling's writing style and ability is so phenomenal that it pulls you right in to their situation so much so, that you feel like you're there Wanting and Needing and Aching, right along with them. You really can just Feel the Angst they're going through. You can feel how it's eating away at them every minute and how tormented they are by what is, or what will be, going on in their life and how they struggle with what they can and/or can not control. THIS IS NOT A HEAVY READ. It only brings these things up as THEY come across them in their every day lives. IT DOESN'T PREACH OR POLITICIZE OR OVER EMPHASIZE these problems, views or morales of our SOCIETY it only mentions them when they come up in these men's lives as just a part of the storyline. NOTHING MORE. I do think, however, that Emmett really was Gay-not just Bisexual-as he keeps saying, right up to the very end. I felt the author just kept giving us all these clues because she was leading up to Emmett finally realizing that he really was GAY. That the "signs" had been there all along for Emmett and he just never recognized or paid any attention to them. I.E.: Just because he had had one long-term relationship, with a girl in the past, doesn't mean he's bisexual,

now that he's with a man. Obviously, the past relationship was very, very unfulfilling because he just wasn't into women. Any woman, not just Tawna, his ex-girlfriend. Listen to what he has to say about his relationship with her. Especially the SEXUAL part—First he thinks: "Sex with his ex-girlfriend was—OKAY. Enjoyable, but NOT necessarily better than GETTING OFF ALONE." Second, he thinks: "He can't remember ever feeling this way with Tawna, THIS HIGH like the rest of THE WORLD HAS COMPLETELY FALLEN AWAY." But yet it seems that, accidental as it may be, wrapping up this point WITH EMMETT, HIMSELF was forgotten about. You know he just keeps saying he's "bi" because it sounds better to him, than fully admitting he's completely gay. Also, if he truly was "bi" then Amber, the hottest, sexiest girl at school with a crush on him that kept pouring herself into his arms, lap, lips and,,,well,,,you get it. But, not once, not even in the slightest, does he give her a second look-let alone a first look. So, that too should tell him he's more than just "bisexual" and he should just accept the situation as inevitable—that it was ALWAYS this way—that.HE.ALWAYS.WAS.GAY!THIS TRULY REALLY IS A GREAT READ! It's not as heavy as I made it sound. IT MN REALLY IS A LOT OF FUN! It really has good "first-time," gay sex. And, just plain ol', good ol' sex!! I really think you'd enjoy this book! It's not just a "romp in the bed" type of book. It's got a great storyline to go along with it, too.It has the best of all worlds—GREAT STORY AND GREAT FUN AND GREAT SEX!! I am voluntarily reviewing this free Advance Reader Copy of "UP AND COMING" which I received from the author ANDREA DALLING.MTULIPK

Jake and Emmett had been friends, or they knew each other, for three years. With only months until they both graduate, Emmett realizes that although he'd never been attracted to a man before, he can't keep his eyes and hands off Jake. The first time they kiss is explosive, but Emmett can't reconcile his feelings for Jake and pulls away. There's a lot of push and pull between the two of them. Emmett physically pulls back, while Jake thinks about how their relationship will survive all the obstacles they have in their path.Their ups and downs are a little heartbreaking, but the ending and the possibilities of their future together is perfect. I can't wait to read the next in the series!

A wonderful book, it really puts the spotlight on how it is for gay/bi men in collegiate and professional sports. Emmett is a college football player being scouted by the pros, everything is going fine until he falls for and starts dating Jake then his world is turned upside down. Emmett is torn between the man he loves and the football career he and his family worked so hard for. Emmett is a good guy with a learning disability who has sacrificed and worked extra hard to get where he's

at, he's never been attracted to men until Jake. Jake is a sweetheart who has been in love with Emmet for years. He never imagined in million years that straight Emmet would return his feelings. Its hard coming out let alone coming out in the national spotlight and having it possibly ruin your career is extremely challenging. Emmet and Jake went through hell but they do find their HEA, 4.8 stars. I voluntarily reviewed an advance reader copy of this book.

Going places football star Emmett has suddenly discovered new feelings for an old friend, out and proud Jake. Jake has had a HUGE crush on Emmett for as long as he has known him and he cannot believe that Emmett is into him. Unfortunately, Emmett is terrified to come out and the straight guy hanging with gay friend lie is breaking Jake's heart. Emmett has very good reasons for staying in the closet until he gets drafted, and his family is depending on him to bring in the big money, but what if it costs him the love of his life? Sweet series with lovely characters and entertaining storylines.\*\*I voluntarily chose to review a copy of this book and I have not been compensated in any way\*\*

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