



The Blind Spy

Alex Dryden

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“Alex Dryden is a writer who can please everyone from fans of old le Carré to students of current affairs.”
—James Grippando, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Afraid of the Dark*

“Ex-KGB Colonel Anna Resnikov is a terrific heroine.”
—Phillip Margolin, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Supreme Justice*

“Alex Dryden is the real thing. If he got any realer, he would step out of the pages and physically punch you, with both elegance and regret.”
—Hugh Laurie, star of “House”

An author whom the *Richmond Times Dispatch* calls, “the next John le Carré,” Alex Dryden returns with *The Blind Spy*—the third book in his critically acclaimed espionage fiction series featuring Anna Resnikov, formerly of the KGB in Moscow. One of the most intriguing female protagonists in contemporary fiction, Anna is back in the rifle sights of her former masters as she races to expose Russia’s plot to destabilize the Ukraine and retake their former territory. A story almost literally ripped from the headlines, *The Blind Spy* is a gripping, smart adventure that crackles with authentic modern spycraft—an absolute must-read for fans of John le Carré, Alex Berenson, Martin Cruz Smith’s Arkady Renko series, spy novel and geopolitical thriller devotees, and for any readers interested in what’s really going on in the “new Russia.”

The Blind Spy Details

Date : Published March 20th 2012 by Ecco

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Author : Alex Dryden

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Genre : Fiction, Thriller, Spy Thriller, Espionage, Cultural, Russia

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From Reader Review The Blind Spy for online ebook

Peter Smith says

Kind of disappointing

I'm very comfortable with spy novels but somehow this one missed the mark. Plot was weak as was character development. Read it to the end as that is my rule but it didn't redeem itself.

Leonard says

Fun book looking at Russia's relationship to Ukraine. Too bad the present situation (March, 2014) will not turn out as good. Some good plot twists, a spy who is blind but can get around very well. An image of a train running down the tracks on a wharf, hitting an aircraft carrier, and then capsizing.

Tim says

I persevered with this book but it could have quite easily been the second book to not complete.

Kenneth says

These novels progressed on a steady downward slant of quality. Still, I read it through to the end out of curiosity. The first novel, Red to Black, was the best of the bunch so far; this one really felt as if the author were meeting a contractual obligation.

Lkelly6 says

Oh wow! I liked this book even better than MOSCOW STING. I loved learning more about Anna and I loved the layers of this book, beginning with the title. The idea of what = blindness is one to ponder -- not just while reading this book but in MY LIFE.

Nice romance adds to the enjoyment. Who wouldn't want Anna to find some happiness? And also Balthasar!

Last night I re-read this book while we watched college football. I loved it even more than the first time.

Kirsteen says

It started as a slog and remained a slog. Narrative drifted about a lot which made me feel irritated rather than

intrigued.

Adrian says

Well-written and well-paced spy thriller with lots of delicious twists. It almost seems to look into the mind of the likes of Vladimir Putin. Do put this in your holiday bag, you won't be disappointed.

Jacki (Julia Flyte) says

I picked up this book not realising that it's the third in a series. Nothing obvious to tell me that. Consequently I spent a large part of the book trying to figure out the relationships between various characters. Some valuable pieces of back history are finally given, but not until near the end. So if you are new to Alex Dryden, this is not the place to start. Start with Red to Black instead.

Anna Resnikov is an ex-KGB agent who defected several years ago when she fell in love with a Western agent (now deceased). She is one of the main characters in this book, but she's an enigmatic character who is only sketchily described. I never felt that I understood her or her motivations. She works for a US-based black ops group. They are concerned about Russia's increasing aggression towards the Ukraine, trying to engineer an excuse to invade the country. Anna is sent into the Ukraine undercover to retrieve evidence.

The "Blind Spy" of the title is a Russian agent who is also sent to the Ukraine by his country. He is blind, but he has a credibility-stretching talent for knowing things at a psychic level, to the point where he can apparently tell what colour clothing people are wearing or how many seagulls are flying past. He and Anna have a long and complicated back history.

There are a couple of stand out action sequences when Anna is in the field, but otherwise this is a tedious read with a lot of posturing in conference rooms between characters whom I felt absolutely no involvement with. Towards the end there is a big development which would probably mean significantly more to anyone who has read the previous novels in the series. Not having done that, I can't recommend it.

Robin says

The premise is that Putin's Russia is planning to undermine Ukraine's independence and re-absorb it. Out to thwart the plot are Alex Dryden's now familiar heroes, ex-KGB agent Anna Resnikov and the American agent Logan Halloran. Dryden is an expert on Russia and his novel's depiction of the country as macho bully plotting to subjugate its neighbour is chilling. But while the book has many interesting ideas, the characters are flat and never come to life, and the twists in the narrative are irritating at times.

Heather says

I tried SO hard to get into this book. The first chapter was good... the second chapter was a little long. I

found my eyes glazing over. Too much detail. Yeah, I know, I'm weird that way. I wanted to like it. I forced myself through a few chapters. I found myself reading and re-reading the same paragraphs and ended up skimming through the rest of the book. I never got hooked, but that doesn't mean someone else won't love it. It just wasn't for me.

Ann says

I picked this book up on a whim while at the library looking for a book that was a quick read with a fast moving plot ! The only disappointment was that I picked up Book #3 in a series of three books by this author without realizing it was the third in a series ! The book does well as a "stand alone" however and was just a great read ... exciting plot! The author provides a commentary on Russian President Putin's designs on Ukraine and other formerly Soviet Union states. It's no surprise that the author is convinced that Putin is working towards re-gaining land lost by the independence movement that was the "break up" of the Soviet Union.

Petesea says

I felt that this book was somewhat wordy, but did not get into the detail that I expected. It was pretty tiresome that one character was the perfect female spy and another was the perfect male spy who was blind and had supernatural powers and another was the perfect spymaster who knew everything that was happening around the globe and why. Where were the imperfections? Oh, there was a character like that who was bad, then good, then bad, then good – again rather tiresome.

Robert Dunn says

This book starts very slow and takes more than half of the book before the story starts to get interesting. Red to Black is the best of the books to date while Moscow Sting is good. Anna moves at will amongst people who are after her, which is one of the biggest problems with the story. This aside from sinking an aircraft carrier and literally running off to save a young girl in a military hospital/ prison.

Angela says

I wanted to like this book - it's all about spies in Ukraine. I loved coming across descriptions of events (Orange Revolution), people (Timoshenko, Yanukovich), places (Kiev, Sevastopol) that I had been to, experienced, or heard of in my time in Ukraine. But the prose got really slow and I wasn't pulled in by what should have been intriguing or thrilling. I have to admit, I gave up and skipped to the end about 2/3 of the way through.

Eric Jolly says

My goodness, this book was painful reading. It was full of crosses and double crosses...very typical spy book. I typically like spy books, but I couldn't, for the life of me find any interest in the main characters of this book.

This book had made me black out with sleep every night for the last month. I could never read more than 10 pages in a single sitting. Sorry, I can't recommend this book to any reader.
