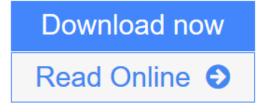


# **Gold Digger**

Aleksandr Voinov



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**Gold Digger** Aleksandr Voinov Not all that glitters is gold.

Nikolai Krasnorada leads the life of a corporate nomad. Working for a gold explorations company, he's never put down roots, and he likes it that way. Roots can be dangerous, as everyone from his "man-hating" sister to his manipulative mother to his war-traumatized father has proven. But when his CEO sends him to Toronto to strike a deal with LeBeau Mining, Nikolai meets Henri LeBeau, crown prince to the resources conglomerate and inveterate flirt. Sparks fly immediately, despite the business deal that threatens to go sour and Nikolai's own reluctance to give Henri false hope about him being Mr. Right. He's barely come to terms with his bisexuality, and getting involved with Henri would get messy. When LeBeau Mining launches a hostile takeover bid, Nikolai and Henri find themselves on opposite sides of the negotiating table. But fortunately – or perhaps unfortunately – for Nikolai, Henri's not nearly as interested in his company as he is in his heart.

# **Gold Digger Details**

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Genre : Romance, M M Romance, Contemporary, Gay Romance, Gay For You

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#### Download and Read Free Online Gold Digger Aleksandr Voinov

# From Reader Review Gold Digger for online ebook

# Gigi says

This was my second read of this fantastic book and I loved it even better the second time around. A lovely story of a lonely man with no sense of family other than his military and business buddies who falls in love with the man he is in the process of doing a high powered deal with. It was heartbreaking, passionate, dirty, sad, happy and romantic. I can **absolutely recommend** this story to any and all M/M romance fans. I'm quite sure I'll read it a third time some day.

# Emanuela ~plastic duck~ says

### Sweeeeet!

If you read this book expecting the gut-wrenching intensity of Special Forces, this book is a whole different beast - it's more like your house pet - but if you're looking for a pick-me-up contemporary romance, which makes you want to strip the next man in a suit you meet, it's for you AND you'll get to see a mature Vadim that you'd love to tend to like that poor waiter in the book.

The story is in the point-of-view of Nikolai and while we got to see his side of the story and know his motivations, learning how a sane, loyal and good guy he is, his love/lust interest, Henri LeBeau, remained a bit out of reach. I really wanted to find a connection with him and I couldn't, but still I liked him. He was a man with something to prove, but also a man probably dissatisfied with his life. I saw a sort of desperation in his seduction - maybe desperation is too strong a word, maybe resignation, and it appealed to me a lot and I guess it appealed to Nikolai's decent chore. I think it was what prompted that incredible tenderness Nikolai couldn't help feeling and that gave emotions to their sexual encounters.

Nikolai was a bit too perfect, I think, he did all the right things, especially when compared to his sister and her vengeful email. Now I don't know at which point this becomes a spoiler. Maybe in the context of this book if you haven't read Special Forces everything is, so let's tag it. (view spoiler) There are a lot of feelings that were hinted at, but not really explored, and really, what's a romance-romance without a bit of drama?!

The corporate setting was interesting and it was done very well. I loved the contrast between Nikolai's more blue-collar origins and the corporate environment he was thrown in, this contrast between appearances and substance.

A very quick and sweetly romantic read.

# Julio Genao says

A fun, compact read with plenty to titillate wistful Special Forces victims grappling with survivor's guilt.

Gently framed and smoothly executed. The sex was both sweet and hot, and the characters were appealing.

Although the dramatic impediments natural to globe-trotting industrialists weren't quite difficult or highstakes enough to really spin a yarn as long as I'd have liked (it's my only complaint, you know—I liked these characters too much to be satisfied with random vignettes in various hotel suites), the resolution was still a satisfying conclusion to an elegant and understated story.

A worthy addition to the Voinov catalogue.

#### **Blacky \*Romance Addict\* says**

This was my first book by Aleksandr Voinov and I really liked it :) Although, I'll do a re-read after I finish (get the nerve to actually start reading) Soldiers, I think I'll understand some things better :)

"Henri stood and moved in front of him. Nikolai glanced up from his hands, and there was a whole lot of impressively flat, naked midriff in front of him. He leaned forward, pressed his face into it, and was oddly relieved when Henri ran his fingers through his hair. He did like those touches, and this embrace was no different than what he might have done if Henri were a woman."

**The story** - Nikolai's boss sends him to Toronto to make a business deal with a powerful company - LeBeau Mining. He meets Henri LeBeau and sparks fly Even though Nikolai's straight, he reacts to Henri's flirting and accepts a no-strings-attached blow job That turned out well because he went back for more hahah and the first sex was HOT

When the business deal with LeBeau fails because they planned a take-over, Nikolai goes to visit his father in New Zealand to deal with some personal family issues. And who does he see there? Why Henri, of course

"I'm not some crazy stalker. I have a reason to be here." "I bet that's what every crazy stalker tells himself."

LOVE this quote hahahah

**Nikolai** - I have to say, I was really surprised that he's bisexual, and I just love it! But from what I could gather, he comes from an all-kinds-of-sexual family, and is open and tolerant (LOVE THAT). He's attracted to Henri and decides to see where it goes, and it goes to some hot sex . His family, hmmm not the best in the world. His sister is pretty much a b\*tch, and he doesn't have that good a relationship with his mother. He goes to visit Vadim, his father, I just loved their bonding, and Nikolai asking for advice regarding Henri and his attraction to men/being bisexual.

Henri - I wanted more of him! I think I just maybe liked him better than Nikolai Don't kill me

Soldiers/Vadim/Nikolai fans I just loved the way he was so direct! That Chandler pic down below my review describes perfectly how I reacted to most of his lines He knew what he wanted, and went after it, although in a stalkish kind of way XD Loved the way he helped Nikolai in the end, being an ultra good guy

#### The writing style's great, so I know I'll be coming back for more, yay :)

#### **Ingie says**

Written March 3, 2014

# **4.3** Stars - stylish, sexy and powerfully told about new opportunities and choices - both in business and private

This is my very first Aleksandr Voinov read. I've heard so many great words about the epic tale Special Forces (about Vadim who pops up in this book) and was of course very curious to read something by Mr Voinow. Then yesterday I saw and read Lisa's review (great) for this quite short novel (around 135 pages) and took a quick decision to pick it up and start to read it at ones.

**Did I feel that special thing? Well Yes, it actually did.** This author really made all my feelings to start to process. Quickly and at ones. The writing breathed by a very masculine and reserved style. *Gold Digger* is in fact a quite nice and cute story, and not in any way rough or tough to read. It's just a romance about love, family and business. But it never ever felt a tiny bit sweet or sugary.

~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~

Nikolai Krasnorada (Vadim's son) is a corporate nomad working for the gold explorations company, *Cybele Exploration*. On a business trip to Toronto in Canada to strike a deal with *LeBeau Mining*, he meets Henri LeBeau, the crown prince of this poverful mining company, owned by Henri's uncle.

"If I ever got into the privileged position to call you my boyfriend, I'd make damn sure you wouldn't turn into an *ex*."

#### Henri is charming, outgoing and a sexy gay man.

(Loved him, he is gorgeous.) Henri isn't the shy, slowgoing type and he immedetly start to flirt with Nikolai. Nikolai in turn becomes a bit charmed (who shouldn't?) and can not help but be attracted to Henri's

straightforward style. Pretty soon he gets a shamelessly tempting offer. ...and I don't mean that hostile takeover bid.

#### Is it possible to mix plesaure and business?

...and Nikolai isn't even gay.

~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~

*Gold Digger*, is, in the romantic love parts, **a GFY story without angst** or a lot of hassle in that particular issue. Nikolai accept relatively simple that he actually enjoys and likes what he shared with Henri. Too easy?

"Holy shit, you're the most accomplished stalker I've ever met." "It's not stalking if you like it."

**The story itself is pretty simple and straightforward**. We follow a business transaction from A to Z and we get some glimpses from Nikolai's unusual family and their relationships. (view spoiler) It's a lot of traveling back and forth across the globe and everything is nice and structured told. Yet it felt both brazenly sexy, tender sweet, quite subtle and slightly melancholy in the same time.

**The story is told in a very strong, powerfully** and also sometimes fun way. ~ I believed in what I was reading although it all really went way too fast. Or? ~ The end felt a bit abrupt and a little too much maybe, but otherwise this was an excellent fairly quick read CR romance. A great one!

I have by now acquired a taste for more Aleksandr Voinov stories. ...and I loved this huge, introvert, older *Vadim*-man. I didn't see a lot of him but it was just enough to know that he is the yummiest kind.

#### I LIKE - pretty impressed, actually

# **Christina says**

I didn't realize how much I missed SF, especially Vadim until I picked up Gold Digger. I really think Mr. Voinov did a great job intertwining both the Nikolai/Henri and the Nikolai/Vadim storylines. In Gold Digger, we get to delve deeper into Nikolai's life. Nikolai is a man who never really fit in with his cut-throat family. He's kind, forgiving, a loyal friend and colleague but he's constantly on the run. He never settles down anywhere or allows himself to get close to anyone. That is until he meets Henri. Although Nikolai denied and fought his feelings for Henri, there was still a connection and passion that came through. However, even with the pull Nikolai and Henri had, I still think the relationship developed too quickly. I thought Nikolai started off with the right amount of distance and questioning but by the end I did a double take at the changes that took over him. I'm glad Nikolai took a risk to be with Henri but the fact that Nikolai (view spoiler)

At times, I also thought Nikolai was a bit too awkward and naïve about his sexuality. Considering his family dynamics, I wouldn't have expected this. I understood the doubts. It was completely believable that Nikolai would have a problem with being intimate with a man but he seemed to dismiss his feelings far too quickly and the reason for that didn't come through for me.

This book would have been perfect if it was a bit longer. There was a lot going on. I felt many issues needed more time to develop. Mainly, I wanted more of Nikolai dealing with (view spoiler) That was a major issue in the book and it also brought Nikolai and Vadim closer together so I think it deserved a bit more page time. Overall, I think Nikolai took things far too well. He even got over his conflict with Anya fairly quickly. I would have liked to have seen more of them.

This brings me to Vadim! I absolutely loved how Nikolai and Vadim's relationship came together. To see them develop a father/son bond was so touching and heartfelt. The time they spent together in New Zealand was priceless and filled me with so much warmth. Vadim finally opened up and became the father Nikolai needed. This was a very intense and fulfilling moment. Can you tell how I feel about Nikolai and Vadim? Ok, end of gushing.

This is a great SF spin-off especially for all you Vadim fans out there.

# **Aleksandr Voinov says**

Audiobook available.

Has been re-edited and re-launched.

## **Christelle says**

Another foray into Aleksandr Voinov writing world. This time, it's a romance with a low angst level (actually almost sweet compared to what I previously read), with a few protagonists from his previous series "Special Forces" (it's a "spin-off" where Vadim and his kids are present, Nikolai, his son, being one of the MCs).

The main characters are Nikolai and Henri, meeting during a business deal on the opposite side of the negotiating table, with Henri totally set into "wooing" Nikolai and Nikolai not that averse to the idea, while reflecting on his bonds with his family and on his future.

The intrigue was set in the corporate world, which brutality is less physical than in the "war" world. As this author has a way to take me right into a story, that was a good thing for my stomach.

My niggle : I would have loved more of Nikolai and Henri settled as a couple. That's a niggle that is also the force of Aleksandr Voinov's talent : I can't help being fascinated by his characters.

# Lisa Arbitrary - AttentionIsArbitrary M/M Blog says

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A very fine stand-alone as well as a must-read for established Special Forces fans. I would also nominate this as an excellent first male/male romance book.

Aleksandr Voinov's voice takes on a fresher, lighter tone yet remains sophisticated in this highly enjoyable romance. I've been anxiously awaiting this new look at the next generation of his Special Forces characters. While it's possible that this book was written purely to indulge his fan's wanton pleading, I honestly believe this project was something the author enjoyed pursuing.

For the past eight months I have been rereading, buddy reading, quoting and praising the epic Special Forces. It's kind of like that first rock album you really connected with and had to share it with everyone willing to listen, in an effort to keep it alive and valid. So, when I heard that Aleks would continue the story, I was thrilled. When I heard the story would be contemporary and revolve around Nikolai, Vadim's son, I was intrigued. When I found that it would be a "sweet romance", I was apprehensive. How could the tragic, physically invasive SF be turned into anything sweet? Duh, I've said this before; I trust Aleks writing and I trust his vision. What he created here was a new day, a new path, while simultaneously easing my soul and giving much needed comfort. Well done.

#### THE CHARACTERS

There's much better than me out there for you.

<u>Nikolai Krasnorada</u> - Strong, gorgeous, open-minded and introverted. Nikolai is a surprising character to develop from the madness that is Special Forces. He feels normal, average and yet leads a lifestyle many would envy. An explorer by nature or just seeking something he's never known, he works hard to keep a birds-eye-view of his family's, uh, unique quirks.

"The harmless one"

Henri LeBeau - Smooth, rich, flirtatious and the enemy. Wow, what's not to like there?

*Vadim sat...back to the wall, seemingly playing with his smartphone -- or really plotting who to kill first...with nothing more than a coctail umbrella.* 

<u>Vadim Krasnorada</u> - I had instant concern for Vadim in this story. The god-like strength is subdued, vulnerable and he fears losing someone he loves deeply. His brilliance, cunning and protective nature are completely intact. I love him more than ever.

<u>Anya</u> - So like her mother. Competitive, manipulative, a bitch.

I have to say that it was quite interesting to watch Voinov work with the more "normal" characters of Nikolai

and Henri. As a fan, I've seen him develop and present some fascinating, unique and complex characters, so seeing his ability with regular guys was enlightening.

# THE STORY

It turns out, for me, this was the perfect contrast to Special Forces. A modern story reflecting a more progressive, yet far from perfect world. Opening within the exciting and fast-paced corporate world, Nikolai and Henri are in high-level discussions relating to corporate mergers and takeovers. The two men are both successful in business but have each forestalled their personal lives. The tentative attraction is acknowledged, but Nikolai is not one to be pinned down. His family has not given him much reason to seek anything long term.

There are glimpses of the parents and family who have worked to achieve certain levels so that their children can have a different type of life. For all that parents strive to make their children's lives easier, smoother, those children must still attain their own sense of self via pitfalls and success.

A strong and necessary undercurrent in the book revolves around Nikolai and Vadim's incomplete relationship. I found myself crying for Vadim. I think you will too.

The Anya twist is reminiscent and surprising. Voinov's genius was showing when he developed this plot line. I have to wonder how long he was sitting on *that* idea.

### THE WRITING

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The chemistry and the banter.

This is why I think Voinov found enjoyment in these characters. It was clear in the writing style that he liked both Nikolai and Henri and I found it delightful that he could interest me in such normal, warm and "real" guys.

The story was quick, lively and well written. Again, I would say this would also be an excellent introduction into male/male romance. The pace, tone and visuals are easy to sink into.

... you never know what kind of memory will keep you going when you need it.

The longer I digest this book the more satisfaction I'm taking from it. If this is Aleks' attempt to appease his fans, fine. I say more power to his fans for causing this revisit.

There are several plot lines that would be very interesting to pursue. In a very vain attempt to color Aleks' mind, I would *love* to see more of these characters.

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#### Take a look at my Male/Male Romance Book Blog:

http://www.attentionisarbitrary.blogspot.com

### J \*deep in the heart of Texas\* says

#### 4.5 Stars!

Thank you to my GRs friends for alerting me to this gem! I've read one other AV book and I quite enjoyed it too. Still trying to work up the courage to read Special Forces....maybe some day.

But for now, this one was great. Fantastic writing. You can't help but get immersed in the setting and scene.

Really great main characters. Low angst. Off the charts sex. And even some laughs.

Winner winner chicken dinner.

### **Rachel says**

My first instinct was to give this book four stars, not because I didn't think it deserved more, but because I had it in my head that Voinov's *Special Forces: Soldiers* was so epic, so powerful, how could a spin off on it be on par with it? Then I realized *Gold Digger* wasn't on par with *SF: Soldiers*, it exceeded it. If I could I would give *SF: Soldiers* a four and half stars in comparison to it's spin off. *Soldiers* is Voinov's cult classic hit. *Gold Digger* is brilliant. Most enjoyable Voinov I have read so far. It is also the only Voinov I have read that is not a collaboration with another author. Should I make any speculation on that fact and it's correlation to a piece I find so successful? No, well I will at least say that you shine on your own, Mr. Voinov.

Nikolai is poised, intelligent, thoughtful and genuine. Henri is classy, witty and reminiscent of Keir Warrick in *The Administration Series*. The politic professional who is confident in his particular sexual desires. Both were simply likeable. The banter was quick witted and engaging. The unfolding relationship was beautiful to read. Henri's unexpected and undemanding directness mixed with Nikolai's awkward, but unabashed curiosity in their first sexual encounter unfolded one of the hottest scenes I have ever read. Their chemistry was impeccable.

This was an all around enjoyable read, where the characters were too smart to fall into the usual traps romance authors often set for them and yet the book continued to entertain without any absurd drama. It is simply smartly written. Cleary developed genuinely likeable characters who lost nothing by easily resolving the tension.

That being said, I don't believe that *Gold Digger* will be as popular as *Soldiers*. It lacks the outrageous drama that is eaten up by the masses, even though that is where I believe it succeeds. It is smart in it's subtleness. As enjoyable as the banter is in this book, the silence between them is capable of conveying as much as their dialogue. A nice skill of Voinov's. Nikolai and Henri manage to keep it real, there are no drama queens here (and I hope none to come in *Pure Gold*). Looking forward to *Pure Gold* and keeping my fingers crossed that Nikolai and Henri are not led astray from who they are intrinsically by any soap opera plot detours in their sequel.

# Lena♥Ribka says

From 3,8 to 4,2 stars.

Let me tell first- it is an absolute **MUST READ** for all fans of **SF**. You won't be able to avoid this short novel if you have read SF. It tells us about **Nicolai**, the son of Vadim

and Henri LeBeau, the nephew of the CEO of LeBeau Mining.

**Gold Digger** is an enjoyable sweet light read with some really steamy hot scenes and can be read also as a stand alone. The father-son moments were great- I was so happy to meet Vadim again; the scenes with him were like a balm for my soul. The writing is just so how I expected it to be, if you have already read Aleksandr Voinov I don't need to explain anything. If not, you have to start **NOW**.

At the same time though you have to accept that you won't build this deep and strong connection to the characters the way it was in **SF**. It is understandable- **SF** is an epic work; we accompany Vadim and Dan through 25 years of their life full of highs and depths, pains and love, wars and peace.

I am completely agreed with my GR friend Kelleanne: This rating is not a problem of the author, it is our problem, because we compare all characters coming after Vadim and Dan and, sorry, but I can't help myself-I'm just badly missing these two guys...and need urgently something that can take my mind off them.

Lena, shut up, and please do not talk about SF every minute, it is another book here! (That was my inner voice)

#### Lenore says

All right. I've been typing and deleting the first couple of paragraphs of this review for at least half an hour now so I'll just cut to the chase.

## The things I loved:

• Vadim. Vadim. Vadim. Vadim. I've said it many times already but allow me to say it one more time: I love Vadim to pieces and I will always be grateful to A. Voinov for creating him. This story was worth reading if only for the Vadim parts.

• The premise. The corporate world and men in tailored suits? Sign me up.

• The sex. I know it's Voinov we're talking about so great sex scenes are kind of a given but still; holy hotness Batman!

#### The things I liked:

• The references to Greek mythology and Greek food. I kept reading "*mezze*" as "*métze*" instead of "*mezé*" but I guess I should blame my Italian influences.

• How easily the plot moved from Toronto, to Wellington, to London. It also explained that airplane on the cover of the book!

### The things I wondered about:

• Why Tamás didn't know what a *white knight* was even though he was one of Ruslan's top guys. Since he elaborated most of their presentation to LeBeau Mining and was even sent to Toronto along with Nikolai to make it, shouldn't he know this kind of financial jargon?

• Nikolai calling people around the world without thinking about the time difference. He was in Canada and he called Vadim in New Zealand, his mother/sister in Hungary and Ruslan in Armenia. Shouldn't he calculate the time difference first? He certainly wouldn't want to wake his family/friends in the middle of the night.

• Why Jean and Solange had to be mentioned so many times in the story. I admit I hate Jean's guts but, honestly, what did mentioning him and his wife offer to this story? They liked this hotel and/or that restaurant when they last visited New Zealand. So? Why should their opinion matter to Nikolai? Or to Vadim for that matter?

• Nikolai first reassuring Vadim he could deal with the check saying "*I do part-own a gold company, you know*" (Kindle location 1416) and then a little later (Kindle location 1484) providing practically the same info to his father ("*You know I'm in gold exploration. I'm one of the partners of a company called Cybele...*") The first reference was fine. It came across as Nikolai joking with his father about information they were both privy to. Maybe it's just me but I didn't think that second reminder was necessary.

#### The things that didn't sit well with me:

• That the parts of the story I liked best were the ones involving Vadim. Since this was Nikolai's story, shouldn't I have focused on him and his evolving relationship with Henri? Before you start with the "it was to be expected; you got tunnel vision the moment you learned Vadim was going to be in this story," let me elaborate a little. I liked the Vadim parts especially because they involved Nikolai; because they showed how Nikolai and Vadim's father/son relationship was fortified, how they learned to respect and understand and listen to each other. I didn't notice this kind of dynamic in Nikolai's interaction with Henri. There was

nothing really profound there.

• Nikolai's sexuality. It wasn't the first time I read about a straight man discovering he liked gay sex but in Nikolai's case everything happened with lightning speed. One week he was straight (who hadn't even thought of experimenting with other men); the next, he was talking about the possibility of marriage with a guy he barely knew. The same went for Henri, by the way. One week he was the crown prince of a multi-billion dollar company; the next he was abandoning everything and moving from a luxurious condo in downtown Toronto to backwater Armenia for a straight guy he'd just met.

• And this is where the length of the story comes into play. I'm sure that, if it were longer, Mr Voinov would have made the whole thing work beautifully; Nikolai's relationship with Henri would have evolved more smoothly and their HEA would have been more solid and more believable.

• Nikolai's lukewarm reaction to the news his sister had about their family and parentage and how it later played out with Vadim. That was another point in the plot that would have benefitted had the story been longer.

• My impression was that Gold Digger was a little rushed. Not only because of the length. It was also obvious from the editing. There was the occasional typo (e.g., "*Henri was building a physical trust between them before any more happened*") or repetition. For instance, I noticed how Nikolai's stomach "*was boiling with acid*", or "*digesting itself with all the acid*," or how coffee "*hit his stomach like battery acid*." Also, he had a "*really weird feeling in the pit of his stomach*," "*a hollow, sinking feeling in the pit of his stomach*," or "*dread collecting like dark, cold liquid in the pit of his stomach*." All these could have easily been avoided.

#### The bottom line:

This may be a Special Forces spinoff but it's one of Mr Voinov's more mellow and sweet stories. Much as I prefer his "darker" work, I enjoyed it very much and, as a contemporary m/m romance, it put a smile on my face. It's three stars for the story plus an extra one for Vadim (I know I'm biased. There's no need to point it out to me. We're talking Vadim Petrovich Krasnorada here.)

In fact, I wouldn't mind reading a sequel to make sure everything went all right with Nikolai and Henri, and—why not—read about another gay marriage in the Krasnorada family. And yes, to take another glimpse into the life of my beloved Vadim.

# Rosalinda \*KRASNORADA\* says

#### 3.5 stars

I know I should have not read this book right after SOLDIERS but I needed something light before starting MERCENARIES because... well, you know what I mean, right?

But I guess this can be read as a stand alone so I didn't do it terribly wrong.

I really enjoyed this story, Henri's sense of humour & stalkering skills, even if I liked them, that's stalking ;)

And Nikolay was a very interesting character. I am really curious about his sister, she's like Vadim with a vagina...I'd love to read more about her.

And then, there were parts of the book where I was smiling like a fool. Why you ask? Because my fave man EVER was there and just reading his name makes my legs feel weak.

What I didn't love? Oh well, that (view spoiler) end, I guess Nikolay saw it all clear after that (view spoiler), but still...

Those long paragraphs about Cybele because let's admit it, I got lost sometimes.

Anyway Voinov is still the f@cking best and I'll always kiss the ground he walks on.

#### Susan says

I do realize that writing "I think Aleksandr Voinov is a genius and I'm obsessed with him and his books (and the Muse) and that 'Gold Digger' is a yet another work of art" is basically stating something as obvious as "the sky is blue".

So...the sky is blue.

"Gold Digger" is sensual and erotic and romantic and flirtatious and stoic and methodical and touching and powerful and \*sigh\*-inducing.

I love Nikolai and Henri together. I loved their emotional, physical, intellectual, and professional journeys. I loved their banter. There were some classic lines throughout the book (my Kindle is highlighted to w/in an inch of its life). Even so, surprisingly to me, I actually loved Vadim the most (and this is more interesting because I haven't yet been introduced to him in the Special Forces series...but I'm sure to read that soon) Even through just bits and pieces, his complexities have me intrigued and wanting more.

I did get confused how quickly (view spoiler). But I rolled with it...

This book was fan-f'ing-tastic. Duh.

PS - this book works as a stand alone but would definitely, I'm guessing, be enhanced if read after Special Forces.