

*Beyond*  
**EIGHTEEN** a novel



*Wilson Mooney Series*  
GRETCHEN de la O

## Beyond Eighteen

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# Beyond Eighteen

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## **Beyond Eighteen** Gretchen de la O

Max Goldstein has been confronted by death, betrayal, and unwanted expectations. He must work to find the delicate balance of a love that has been tested and a family that has been broken. Returning to the warmth of Wilson's arms, he finds the only place he can be truly healed. Unfortunately, teetering on the edge of losing everything he's ever wanted, Max must make decisions that pull at his sense of responsibility and push at his desire to protect the life he's found with Wilson.

When Wilson Mooney is thrust into adulthood, she never expects her childhood demons to come knocking. Struggling to balance the delicate nature of her relationship with Max and the burning sting of betrayal; Wilson realizes she must dig deep within her soul to find forgiveness. Will she allow circumstances out of her control to shape her future? Or will she find the strength and maturity to go beyond eighteen and have the life she desires with the man she loves?

Will Wilson and Max ever get to have their happily ever after?

## **Beyond Eighteen Details**

Date : Published October 1st 2013 by Gdelao (first published September 30th 2013)

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Author : Gretchen de la O

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## From Reader Review Beyond Eighteen for online ebook

### Sharon Mariampillai says

Perfect ending to a great series. I loved every single minute of it. I think Max and Wilson are made for each other. This book proves it. I love Wilson, she had to grow up so fast because of tragedy. However, she was always so open and honest and I found her very likeable. Max was sexy, confident, and caring. Everything you want for a boyfriend. However, he had to earn her heart back after the ending of Eighteen at Last. He proved to her that he loved her and I am happy that they got their HEA. Definitely one of my favourite series of all time.

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### Peggy Dabney says

WOW!! Gretchen de la O I totally loved this conclusion to a beautiful love story. Your writing had me sucked in right from the start of this series. Your writing is impeccable. I felt every feeling as each character experienced love, pain, guilt, grief..... Thankyou!!!!

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### Nikki says

#### ARC Was Given To Blog For An Honest Review

Nothing can stop a love like Wilson and Max's love. The story continues where Eighteen at Last left off. The title may lead you to believe that the story is set further into the future, but that is not the case.

The fight against all the secrets and obstacles begin to be won, it is just going to take a little while to get there. Wilson's past comes back to haunt her and she learns that there were secrets kept from her and there are consequences to the actions from having a teacher student relationship. Max will realize that some responsibilities can't be ignored.

I could not put this series down; I read all three books right after the other. I loved following this amazing journey of love and getting the HEA I desired. I did not want it to end; I needed more of their story, just a future scene would have been nice. I loved the ending but was not entirely satisfied with it.

Once again the heat is turned up in this story and each and every time is HOT. I will admit that I felt the story did run a bit long and some of it seemed repetitious to me. I found myself skimming over many pages; I felt that in those parts maybe the story could have expanded with more detail of some other more important developments of the story.

Overall I think anyone that reads this series will love it, it is a beautiful story of love that is truly fought for and won. I had heard that this story was based on some real life events for the author, I just want to say if your man loved you this much you are one lucky lady. We should all aspire to find someone to love us with this much conviction and passion.

<http://bookfri-ends.com/beyond-eighte...>

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### **Amz\_Bookz\_Junkie\_4EvEr says**

♥?♥?♥?5 Full Stars♥?♥?♥?

The Story of Max and Wilson, have a great ending! Loved this book.  
Excellent writing and the story line was so so good.  
Great job Gretchen, once again :)

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### **Erin says**

It was a torturous wait to get back to Max and Wilson's story, and I was so excited to finally get my hands on Beyond Eighteen! After seeing Wilson's actions send Max packing in Eighteen at Last, I was so nervous that this was going to be a really painful journey back for them. Thankfully, my heart made it out unscathed and these two great characters didn't lose their way!

Wilson was really torturing herself this time around; after having her heated moment with Nick thrown in Max's face by none other than witch Cindy, she felt guilt from all sides. Both Max and his family had been through something so traumatic, and they needed her to be there, yet she left and allowed herself to be seduced by another man. Yeah, it was a bad situation, but thankfully Max isn't some immature and vindictive boyfriend. I loved that Max didn't hold it against Wilson throughout the whole book, so that she would have to earn his trust back through painful rejections. This was more about them finding their way as a couple, officially.

Max's job situation played a big role, as his father's death left the family business floundering unless he took the reigns. Max is so not the corporate businessman type, but apparently even in death his father wasn't willing to admit that to himself! Poor Max really grappled with a lot of difficult decisions and drama, between working things out with Wilson, his family's loss, and deciding what his role would be (if any) in the company. And Wilson was trying to make up for not being there as he dealt with the loss of his father, but she had family issues of her own popping up that she wasn't expecting. Someone from her past was back to be a part of her life, and in the midst of everything she had to confront her feelings about her grandparents and decisions they had made for her. There was all kinds of emotional baggage on both sides of the relationship, but I loved seeing them just be there for each other!

Since Max and Wilson no longer had anything stopping them from being together, wow oh wow did they take advantage!! And seeing just how dirty Max's mind is now that he could have his way with his girl...mmmmhmmm!! These two had some seriously sexy moments together, and with all that anticipation building up over the course of their time together, it was HOT!

Beyond Eighteen was a great wrap-up to the series, and if you haven't yet met Max and Wilson, I highly recommend you grab up first installment Almost Eighteen and dive right in!!

Quotes:

God, he was my forever. He was every breath I needed to take and every pulse that kept my blood pumping. He was the home I always wanted to have. ~ Loc 162

When I saw her on the stairs I couldn't keep my heart from thundering in my chest, my body surging with need for her; I had to stop myself from collapsing at her feet. I love her, and when I look at her, I see everything I've ever wanted—everything. ~Loc 201

Being with Max again was like finding home. He made every shitty thing I did, every immature and insecure moment of my life disappear. ~ Loc 821

Watch for this and other of my reviews at: <http://www.autumnreview.com/search/la...>

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### **Cristin says**

3.5 stars....Love Max & so glad the story didn't go in the direction that I thought it would. The story was a little slow at times and was heavy overall but the last 30% wrapped it up nicely

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### **Cassie Mae says**

OMGosh! Can't wait for this one!!!

\*fangirling\*

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### **Becky says**

Could be very mildly spoilerish, read on if you aren't too sensitive to spoilers (I literally only graze over things; nothing major to the plot is given away in the slightest).

This book was the amazing conclusion to the trilogy that I unexpectedly found myself falling in love with at the start of 2014. I picked these books up expecting them to be nothing but trashy, but finished them absolutely head over heels with the characters and absolutely adoring the story line.

This book is full of plot twists and suspense - all of which kept me gripped and reading on faster than I expected to. I found that I couldn't put them down, and when I did, I couldn't stop thinking about the possibilities at what could happen next - and even then, everything I assumed was entirely incorrect! I found myself gasping at various points, purely because I was genuinely so surprised (though there was one thing that I wasn't entirely shocked at that occurred during the series, but I shan't ruin that for you - but how they got through it definitely did shock me).

I fell in love with the characters even more; particularly Max. He now has a place in the "fictional boyfriends" part of my brain and I can't imagine him moving from there any time soon. But saying that: I definitely wouldn't want him to. He gets sweeter, more attentive, cuter and sexier in this book - and I just couldn't help but fall devastatingly head over heels with him. His attitude towards Wilson left me shipping these two like never before, and I can safely say I have a new OTP! I loved watching them grow and mature

as people and adjust to the difficult things that their lives were throwing at them. It was truly amazing to see such a high level of character development.

One thing I wasn't fond of, however, was Wilson's friendship with Joanie. I understood a few things of what was happening between them - but I didn't know where the friendship was left. At a few points, I was left wondering if they were mad at each other - because the way I read their behaviour, it seemed like they were mad with each other, but then the next chapter they were pally? I was genuinely so confused by that; but thankfully that isn't a dominating factor of the book and when the action starts up again, it's easy to forget about.

The main focus of this series of books, as you may know, is a teacher/student relationship and the hardships of that and what could potentially go wrong. Needless to say, there is a lot of drama and "wrong doings" in these books, particularly in this one, but they're all beautifully written. To me, none of this was trashy in the slightest and I didn't find myself rolling my eyes at all. Despite how this is a teacher/student relationship trilogy, it isn't like the rest for many reasons - for the most part, it's maturer than most t/s relationship novels that I've seen and have read (and the characters are more mature within it too). The ending is better than most t/s novels, too. I was so genuinely surprised with the ending that I bounced up when I read it and couldn't wipe the shocked look off of my face for hours afterwards (it's a good thing - unpredictability!)

Gretchen de la O couldn't have done this better if she tried - and I very rarely say that about books. She wrote the entire book in a split POV; one chapter would be Wilson's POV, the next would be Max's etc; it was definitely refreshing and fun - it added more dimension to the book and made it even more interesting to read! It also made the book clearer because it was clear who's POV was who's.

I would recommend this if you have ever found yourself getting curious about t/s relationships or have just wanted to try something new. Of course, if you are into these kind of novels (which I admittedly am: they're my guilty pleasure) then definitely check this out for this is the most unique type of t/s novel I have ever read and I thoroughly loved it from start to finish.

If I could rate higher than 5\*'s, I most certainly would. I whole heartedly recommend this and more.

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### **Andrea says**

#### **Fantastic finale!**

This book was a great conclusion to the series!! Max and Wilson stole my heart and I couldn't stop reading it!

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### **Smitten's Book Blog says**

*Review coming soon*

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## Nicole says

[image error]

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## Three Chicks says

4.5 star review by Jen Hagen

When we left off with Max and Wilson at the end of book 2, Max was driving away after being blindsided with the news that Wilson and Nick had kissed, and Wilson's world was crumbling down at the expense of her mistake. Max turned the car around to go back to Wilson and was hesitant to walk through the doors of the house, scared that he would find Wilson seeking solace in the arms of Nick once again. What did he find? His absolute love and willingness to forgive Wilson astounded me.

I love her, and when I look at her, I see everything I've ever wanted—everything.

Even though Wilson and Max are able to profess their love for each other, the hurt still remains of what caused Wilson to seek refuge and comfort from Nick. Max has a hard time forgiving Nick for taking advantage of Wilson in her broken state of mind. Wilson will always have insecurities due to the fact that her mother abandoned her 10 years ago and chose a life of drugs instead of a life with Wilson. Wilson has nobody to rely upon...the grandparents who raised her are now deceased. Max knows that she will constantly have doubts and will need to be reassured that he will never walk away from her.

“Do you think we can find a place where we can bury our mistakes and pick up where we left off?” Max looked at me, his eyes narrow and damp as they wandered up my body to my face. “Wilson, I am so sorry I never came for you. I’m sorry I let you...down.”

Max's father was CEO of Goldstein Petroleum. Max was never interested in the family business and had elected to pursue his interest in being a high school teacher. Now that Max's father has passed away, the company needs somebody to step into his father's shoes and run the company. Max doesn't want to be part of this, but he is forced to become somebody that he is not simply to keep the family business intact. His father always wanted Max at the company and not as a teacher, and now his father finally gets the last word in on making sure that Max is part of the family business.

Whereas the first book was about the chase and the angst, the second book continued with angst and heartbreak, and the third book is all about making certain that the person you care about is put first in your life. Max is faced with a set of challenges. He needs to be in Colorado for the company, but Wilson is back in California dealing with family matters and also the ramifications of her student/teacher romance. Wilson still has 5 months of high school remaining, and Max desperately wants to be there for her, but there is no other way than to let Wilson go back to California without him.

For being a fresh romance of only one month, Wilson and Max have an undying devotion to each other and the refuge they find in each other is comforting. They will find a way to make this work...there is no other option. Max is so free with his beautiful words to Wilson, but Wilson is more guarded with her emotions never wanting to be left alone again.

Wilson continues to show a lot of growth throughout the book. She moves forward in her life letting her insecurities be replaced by the strength of the love from Max. She still has challenges to face but at least she isn't doing these by herself and she is now strong willed and not afraid of the outcome. Max will never let her go through life without knowing that he will always be beside her.

Max realizes that their relationship is not the conventional type...he was her teacher after all. He gave up his teaching position in order for them to be together. He will find a way to accept the critical judgment of others because their love is strong enough to endure anything that is thrown their way.

But at the end of each day, when she walks through the door...she has found her home. At the end of the day, she has found someone who loves her enough to stop the world for her; and no matter what anyone says, thinks, sees, or feels...that's the only thing that will ever matter to me. I've found the person I am going to spend the rest of my life with.

I am going to miss Max and Wilson. I enjoyed seeing Wilson mature throughout the series and the love that Max had for her was never wavering. He was very vocal in his thoughts. The author allowed us to become a bigger part of Max's thinking by allowing him to share his thoughts and words with alternating chapters. The scenes progressed nicely between the alternating points of view. This book was definitely a lot HOTTER than the previous two...and when I say hotter, I mean smoking HOT!! The first half of the book seemed to be more about their reconciliation and the second half was how to handle the curve balls that were being thrown on their path to happiness. This is a must read for all the teacher/student romance readers.

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### **Jenna says**

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- The book starts where book 2 ended, with Max leaving Wilson after finding out she had kissed Nick. Max comes back for Wilson, has a fight with Nick then takes her away. Joanie chooses to stay with Nick.
  - Wilson reunites with
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### **Tia says**

Indescribable Relief! That it does come to an end at the same time so sad to see some fav characters say goodbye. Max is still delicious, Wilson faces a lot of hurdles & finds strength. It's so not the typical teacher student romance (at least not for me) Finding the meaning of true love...thats the ultimate treasure. I adored all the little sayings along the way.."if fishes were wishes we'd have a fish fry"

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### **Ilona says**

I love how Gretchen pulls me into the story making me feel all the emotions of the characters... Great book.

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